# Novacare Solutions Partnership<sup>2</sup>

#### This security is available for Retail and Wholesale Clients

FIIG Factsheet

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#### **Issuer Outline**

The Novacare Solutions Partnership consists of Novacare Solutions Trust and Novacare Health Solutions Trust (Novacare). Novacare, together with Novacare Services Pty Ltd contracted with the NSW Department of Health (NSW Health) to design, build, refurbish and maintain various facilities at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital (Mater Hospital), in Newcastle. NSW Health's obligations under the PPP contract are guaranteed by the New South Wales State Government (State).

Novacare is obligated to provide facilities management for the duration of the concession until it expires in 2033. Novacare has subcontracted its hard facilities management including utilities management, building maintenance and lifecycle capital replacement to Honeywell. All soft facilities management responsibilities have been contracted to Medirest (part of the Fortune Global 500 Compass group, which employs more than 500,000 people in over 50 countries), this includes cleaning, catering and ground maintenance.

To finance the project, Novacare issued two tranches of senior secured bonds: AUD90.19m of nominal annuity floating rate bonds (fully repaid) and AUD85.85m of CPI indexed annuity bonds maturing in April 2033.

#### 24 June 2019

Security AUD86m CPI+3.26% Apr 2033

ISIN AU300NCRE023

Currency AUD

Type Senior secured inflation linked

Coupon Type	CPI Linked	Amount Issued/Outstanding	AUD85.85m/AUD53.41m
Rate	3.26%	Minimum Amount	AUD10,000
Frequency	Quarterly	Denomination	AUD10,000
Domicile	Australia	AU Withholding Tax Exempt	Yes
Key Dates			
Issue Date	30 November 2005	Maturity Date	15 April 2033
Call Dates	n/a		

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#### Strengths

- The project receives fixed availability payments, which are not related to the number of patients that use the hospital's clinical services, but are related to the quality and availability of the Mater Hospital and the services provided by Novacare. As such, cashflows are predictable, and are matched with the timing of debt payments. A portion of the total revenues are indexed to the consumer price index (CPI) mitigating inflation risk.
- Novacare's revenue stream comes from NSW Health and is guaranteed by the NSW State Government, whose credit profile is highly-rated. The strong ratings reflect the rating agencies' views of the State's ability and willingness to make the availability payments.
- The performance of the project to date has been stable, and it is expected to continue to perform well. Both Honeywell and Medirest are experienced facilities management providers and both contracts have parent company guarantees which partly mitigate the risk of increased costs following a subcontractor failure.
- Both Medirest and Honeywell have established histories of successful FM operations in Australia and are one of the leading FM providers in the Australian PPP sector. The obligations of the FM contractors are supported by guarantees from the respective highly rated parent companies, as well as performance bonds from each of the contractor equivalent to six months of the respective gross service payments. This mitigates Novacare's exposure to the risk of unrecoverable and/or increased costs which would be incurred if there is a need to replace any of the FM contractors.
- Offsetting the thin cashflow buffer due to the project's high leverage are a number of protections which exist for bondholders, including security over the project's assets, a six month debt service reserve account, and a cashflow waterfall ensuring periodic senior debt repayments are made in priority to equity distributions. A number of dividend distribution tests have also been incorporated into the project structure, including an equity lock up if the Debt Service Coverage Ratio (DSCR) falls below 1.10x, to ensure that dividends are not made to investors which may otherwise be required to service senior bond cashflows. These tests help preserve cash within the project and reduce the risk of default, and enable the sponsor to remediate the cause of reduced cashflows.
- The Security Trustee has the right to step into key subcontracts following a Novacare event of default, and cure the defaults if Novacare has failed to do so, including replacing the service contractors.
- High recovery expectations: The bondholders are senior secured creditors of Novacare and as such, Moody's recovery expectation for the secured bonds is high. In the unlikely event of project termination, Moody's expects a high recovery rate, based on the project's termination payment regime a further source of credit support.

#### Risks

- Social infrastructure PPP projects are highly geared, with senior gearing levels around the 90% level. These gearing levels are achieved through the predictability of the revenues servicing the bonds, the low operational risk in these projects and the strength of the government counterparties. As such, cash flow buffers and liquidity in social infrastructure projects are very thin.
- Novacare depends on NSW Health to make the availability payments in accordance with the project agreements.
- The project is subject to operational performance risk, with NSW Health able to make deductions to the availability payment. However, these performance deductions are passed through to the operations subcontractor in the event the subcontractor was responsible for the performance failure.
- If performance is excessively poor, PPP projects can be subject to a contractual default termination regime from NSW Health. However, with the project in the mature operational phase, the prospect of a default termination due to poor operating performance is unlikely. In addition, in the event the State becomes entitled to terminate the concession, it is required to give notice to senior creditors and grant them an opportunity to rectify any defaults prior to an actual termination. These step-in rights are critical in projects of these nature as they provide creditors an opportunity to ensure the continuation of the concession and its associated cash flows that ultimately support repayment of the debt.

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#### Other risks

- Call risk: n/a
- Duration risk: n/a
- Interest deferral/cancellation: n/a
- Non-viability trigger: n/a

#### Summary

The Novacare AUD 15 April 2033 senior secured indexed annuity bond suits an investor seeking inflation protection with exposure to an investment grade infrastructure asset and comfortable with a longer dated instrument.

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