Melbourne Institute Consumer Expectations

Inflation expectations chart pack.

January 2014

Westpac

Melbourne Institute

Consumer inflationary expectations January 2014

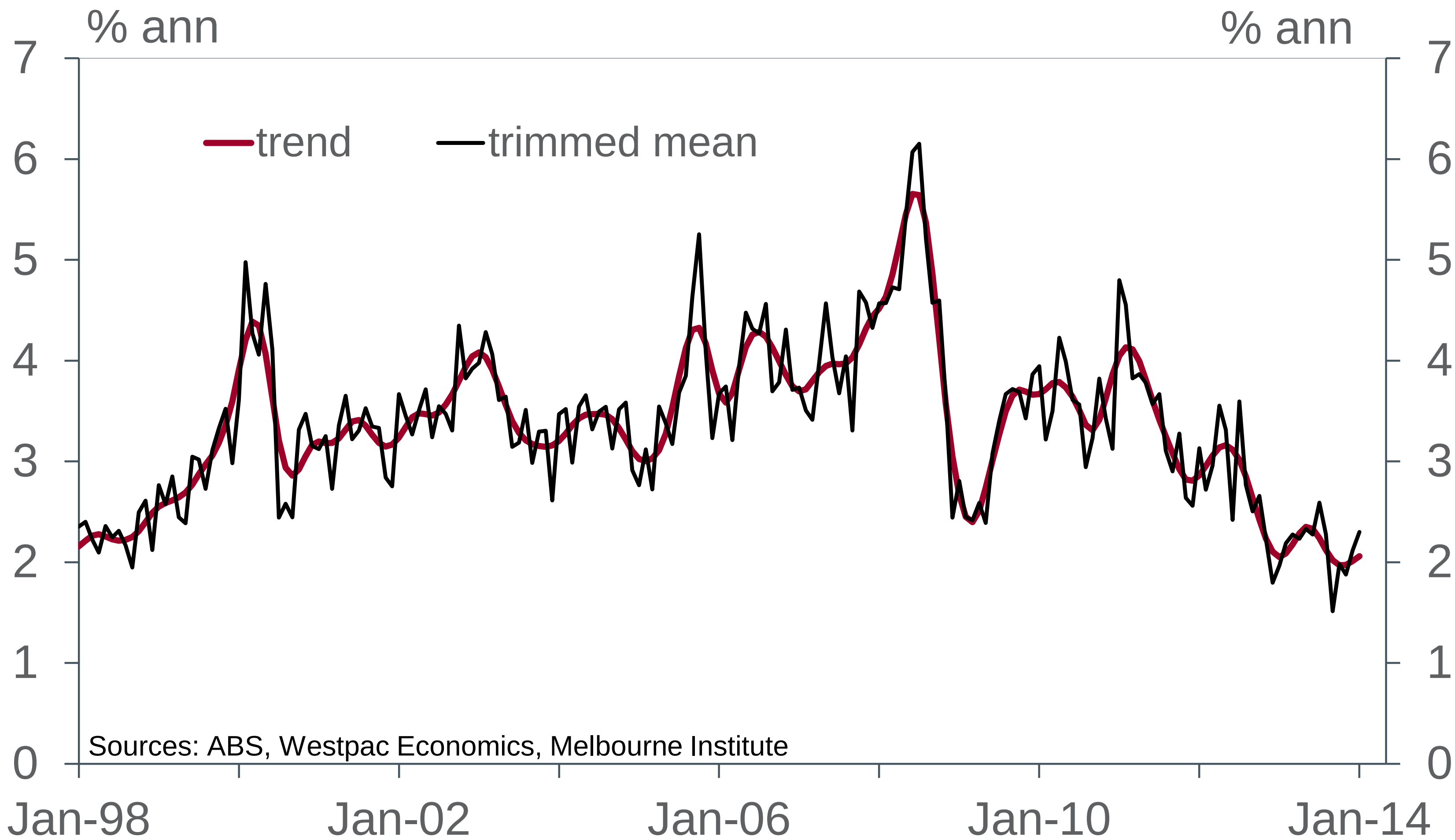
- Trimmed mean consumer inflationary expectations lifted again in Jan to 2.3%yr from 2.1%yr in Dec and 1.9%yr in Nov. Expectations have lifted from the equal record low print of 1.5%yr in Sep 2013.
- The trend is drifting higher; 2.1%yr in Jan from 2.0%yr in Dec (originally 1.9%yr) and is edging back towards the recent peak of 2.4%yr in May 2013.
- The median expectations for managers & professionals also lifted to 2.6%yr in Jan from 2.3%yr in Dec and 2.0%yr in Nov to be almost back at the Aug 2013 print of 2.7%yr. Expectation for managers are higher than the median for all households which is 2.1%yr. The trend for managers & professional has turned up again, to 2.3%yr in Jan from 2.2%yr in Dec, Nov and Oct.
- Overall, we are starting to see a drift higher in inflationary expectations which is consistent with the higher than expected 2013Q4 CPI print. The important question is where to next?

Melbourne Institute

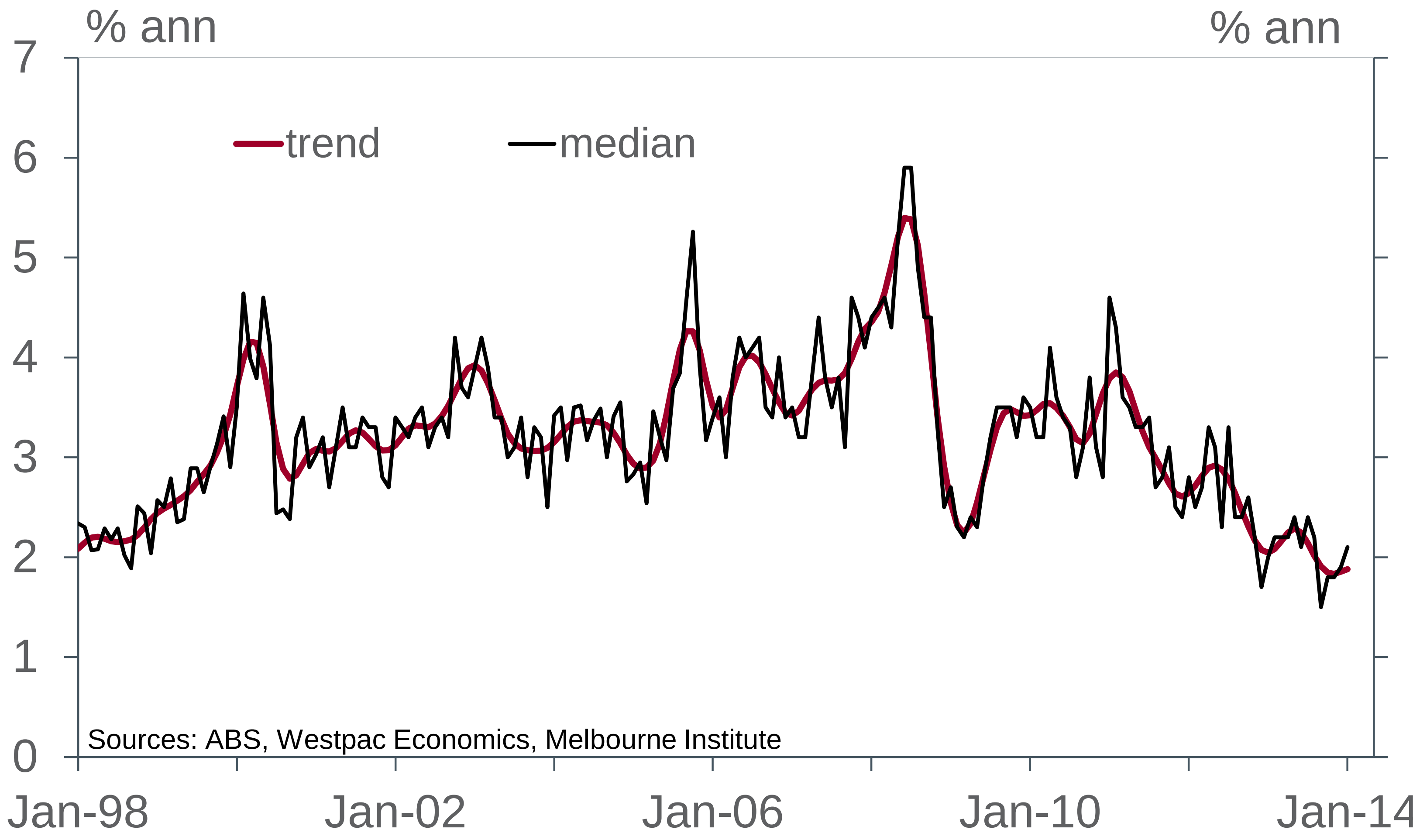
Consumer inflationary expectations (cont)

- **The net balance of those expecting price rises, to those expecting price falls, provides a guide to the changes in the spread or depth of inflationary expectations among households. The net balance continues to rise in to 72.1% in Jan from 67.1% in Dec, 65.5% in Nov. The monthly print is narrowing in on the long-run average of 75.3%.**
- **In trend terms, the net balance is drifting higher, up from a low of 64.0% in Sep to 68.9% in Jan.**
- **We are closely watching this series as a widening net balance points to broader price pressures. The fact in is nearing the long-run average is consistent with the recent uptick in inflation – please not this survey was completed before the releases of the 2013Q4 CPI.**
- **Inflationary expectations have picked up but remain modest. This is consistent with the pickup in reported CPI inflation. Nevertheless, expectations remains contained with the RBA's target band and are currently far from a high risk scenario for the inflation outlook.**

Trimmed mean expectations now at 2.3%yr



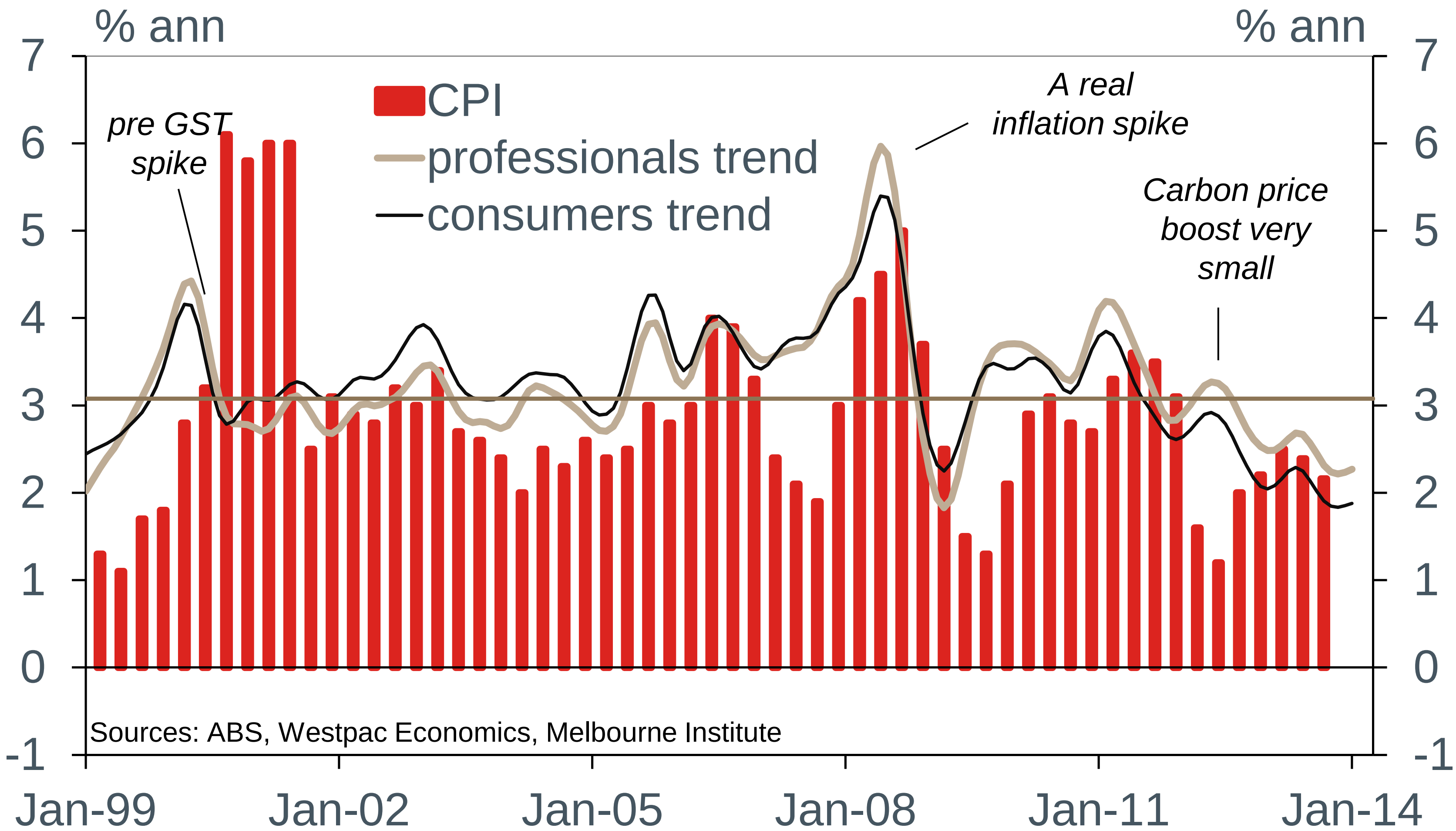
Median inflationary expectations 2.1%yr



Institutional Bank

Westpac

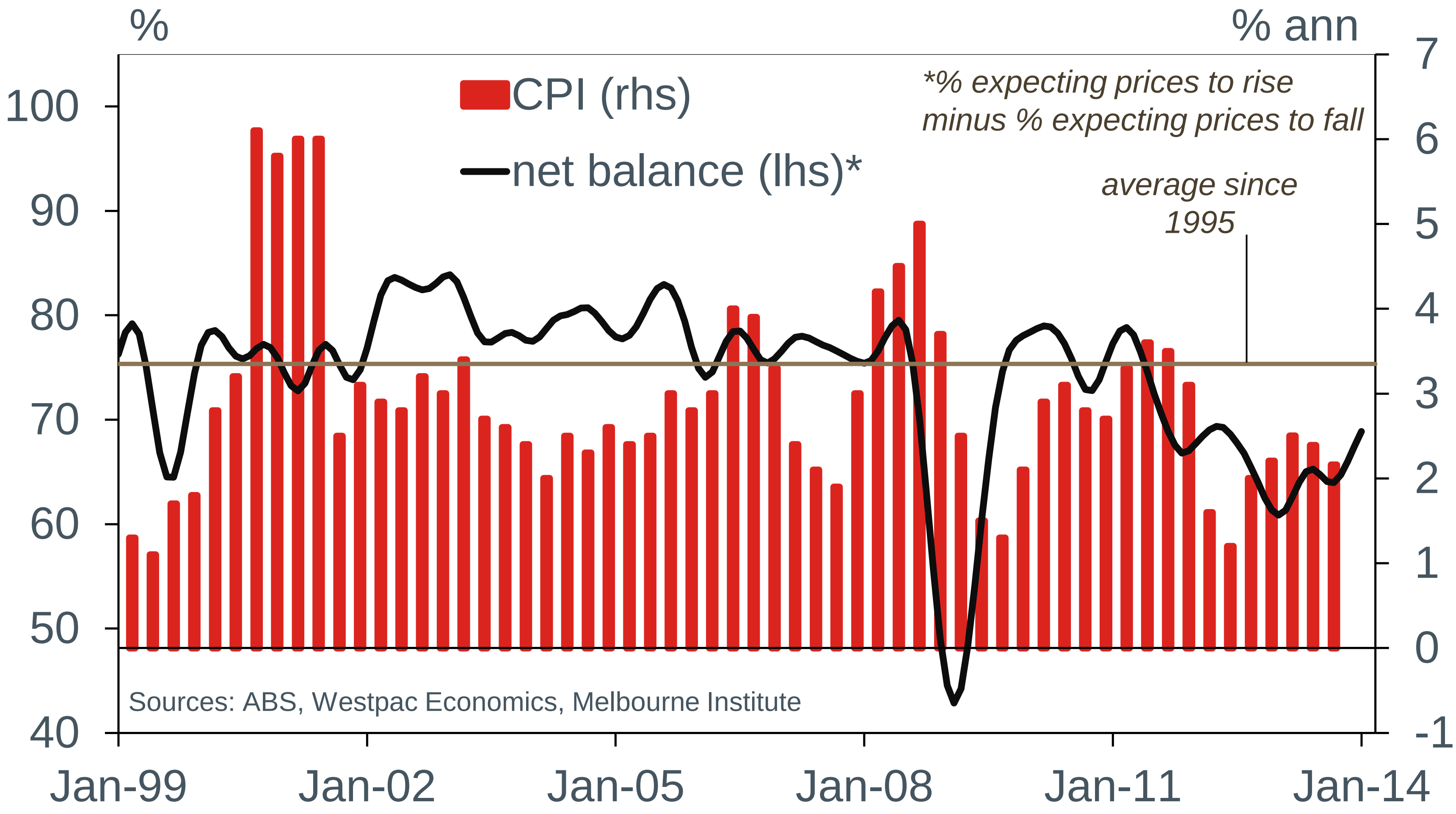
Expectations still below longer run average…



Institutional Bank

Westpac

…but the net balance has lifted.



Institutional Bank

Westpac

Disclaimer

Things you should know: Each time someone visits our site, data is captured so that we can accurately evaluate the quality of our content and make improvements for you. We may at times use technology to capture data about you to help us to better understand you and your needs, including potentially for the purposes of assessing your individual reading habits and interests to allow us to provide suggestions regarding other reading material which may be suitable for you.

If you are located in Australia, this material and access to this website is provided to you solely for your own use and in your capacity as a wholesale client of Westpac Institutional Bank being a division of Westpac Banking Corporation ABN 33 007 457 141 AFSL 233714 ('Westpac'). If you are located outside of Australia, this material and access to this website is provided to you as outlined below.

This material and this website contain general commentary only and do not constitute investment advice. Certain **types of transactions, including those involving futures, options and high yield securities give rise to substantial risk** and are not suitable for all investors. We recommend that you seek your own independent legal or financial advice before proceeding with any investment decision. This information has been prepared without taking account of your objectives, financial situation or needs. This material and this website may contain material provided by third parties. While such material is published with the necessary permission none of Westpac or its related entities accepts any responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of any such material. Although we have made every effort to ensure the information is free from error, none of Westpac or its related entities warrants the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of the information, or otherwise endorses it in any way. Except where contrary to law, Westpac and its related entities intend by this notice to exclude liability for the information. The information is subject to change without notice and none of Westpac or its related entities is under any obligation to update the information or correct any inaccuracy which may become apparent at a later date. The information contained in this material and this website does not constitute an offer, a solicitation of an offer, or an inducement to subscribe for, purchase or sell any financial instrument or to enter a legally binding contract. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. The forecasts given in this material and this website are predictive in character. Whilst every effort has been taken to ensure that the assumptions on which the forecasts are based are reasonable, the forecasts may be affected by incorrect assumptions or by known or unknown risks and uncertainties. The ultimate outcomes may differ substantially from these forecasts.

Transactions involving carbon give rise to substantial risk (including regulatory risk) and are not suitable for all investors. We recommend that you seek your own independent legal or financial advice before proceeding with any investment decision. This information has been prepared without taking account of your objectives, financial situation or needs. Statements setting out a concise description of the characteristics of carbon units, Australian carbon credit units and eligible international emissions units (respectively) are available at www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au, as mentioned in section 202 of the Clean Energy Act 2011, section 162 of the Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011 and section 61 of the Australian National Registry of Emissions Units Act 2011. You should consider each such statement in deciding whether to acquire, or to continue to hold, any carbon unit, Australian carbon credit unit or eligible international emissions unit.

Additional information if you are located outside of Australia

New Zealand: The current disclosure statement for the New Zealand division of Westpac Banking Corporation ABN 33 007 457 141 or Westpac New Zealand Limited can be obtained at the internet address www.westpac.co.nz. Westpac Institutional Bank products and services are provided by either Westpac Banking Corporation ABN 33 007 457 141 incorporated in Australia (New Zealand division) or Westpac New Zealand Limited. For further information please refer to the Product Disclosure Statement (available from your Relationship Manager) for any product for which a Product Disclosure Statement is required, or applicable customer agreement. Download the Westpac NZ QFE Group Financial Advisers Act 2008 Disclosure Statement at www.westpac.co.nz.

China, Hong Kong, Singapore and India: Westpac Singapore Branch holds a wholesale banking licence and is subject to supervision by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Westpac Hong Kong Branch holds a banking license and is subject to supervision by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority. Westpac Hong Kong branch also holds a license issued by the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) for Type 1 and Type 4 regulated activity. Westpac Shanghai and Beijing Branches hold banking licenses and are subject to supervision by the China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC). Westpac Mumbai Branch holds a banking license from Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and subject to regulation and supervision by the RBI.

U.K.: Westpac Banking Corporation is registered in England as a branch (branch number BR000106) and is authorised and regulated by The Financial Services Authority. Westpac Europe Limited is a company registered in England (number 05660023) and is authorised and regulated by The Financial Services Authority. This material and this website and any information contained therein is directed at a) persons who have professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within Article 19(1) of the Financial Services Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 or (b) high net worth entities, and other persons to whom it may otherwise be lawfully communicated, falling within Article 49(1) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as "relevant persons"). The investments to which this material and this website relates are only available to and any invitation, offer or agreement to subscribe, purchase or otherwise acquire such investments will be engaged in only with, relevant persons. Any person who is not a relevant person should not act or rely upon this material and this website or any of its contents. In the same way, the information contained in this material and this website is intended for "eligible counterparties" and "professional clients" as defined by the rules of the Financial Services Authority and is not intended for "retail clients". With this in mind, Westpac expressly prohibits you from passing on the information on this material and this website to any third party. In particular this material and this website, website content and, in each case, any copies thereof may not be taken, transmitted or distributed, directly or indirectly into any restricted jurisdiction.

U.S.: Westpac operates in the United States of America as a federally licensed branch, regulated by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. Westpac is also registered with the US Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") as a Swap Dealer, but is neither registered as, or affiliated with, a Futures Commission Merchant registered with the US CFTC. Westpac Capital Markets, LLC ('WCM'), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Westpac, is a broker-dealer registered under the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ('the Exchange Act') and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ('FINRA'). This communication is provided for distribution to U.S. institutional investors in reliance on the exemption from registration provided by Rule 15a-6 under the Exchange Act and is not subject to all of the independence and disclosure standards applicable to debt research reports prepared for retail investors in the United States. WCM is the U.S. distributor of this communication and accepts responsibility for the contents of this communication. All disclaimers set out with respect to Westpac apply equally to WCM. If you would like to speak to someone regarding any security mentioned herein, please contact WCM on +1 212 389 1269. All disclaimers set out with respect to Westpac apply equally to WCM. Investing in any non-U.S. securities or related financial instruments mentioned in this communication may present certain risks. The securities of non-U.S. issuers may not be registered with, or be subject to the regulations of, the SEC in the United States. Information on such non-U.S. securities or related financial instruments may be limited. Non-U.S. companies may not subject to audit and reporting standards and regulatory requirements comparable to those in effect in the United States. The value of any investment or income from any securities or related derivative instruments denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars is subject to exchange rate fluctuations that may have a positive or adverse effect on the value of or income from such securities or related derivative instruments.

The author of this communication is employed by Westpac and is not registered or qualified as a research analyst, representative, or associated person under the rules of FINRA, any other U.S. self-regulatory organisation, or the laws, rules or regulations of any State. Unless otherwise specifically stated, the views expressed herein are solely those of the author and may differ from the information, views or analysis expressed by Westpac and/or its affiliates.

For the purposes of Regulation AC only: Each analyst whose name appears in this report certifies that (1) the views expressed in this report accurately reflect the personal views of the analyst about any and all of the subject companies and their securities and (2) no part of the compensation of the analyst was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly related to the specific views or recommendations in this report.

For XYLO Foreign Exchange clients: This information is provided to you solely for your own use and is not to be distributed to any third parties. XYLO Foreign Exchange is a division of Westpac Banking Corporation ABN 33 007 457 141 and Australian credit licence 233714. Information is current as at date shown on the publication. This information has been prepared without taking account of your objectives, financial situation or needs. Because of this you should, before acting on this information, consider its appropriateness, having regard to your objectives, financial situation or needs. XYLO Foreign Exchange's combined Financial Services Guide and Product Disclosure Statement can be obtained by calling XYLO Foreign Exchange on 1300 995 639, or by emailing customercare@XYLO.com.au.

Institutional Bank

Westpac