Media Release

8 April 2019

Australian Unity appoints portfolio manager for its healthcare property trust

Australian Unity has appointed Chris Burnell to the role of portfolio manager for its popular $1.57 billion healthcare property trust (HPT).

Mr Burnell joins Australian Unity from Vicinity Centres where he was the finance manager – planning and analysis and previously acting financial controller for its wholesale funds business.

Mr Chris Smith, head of healthcare property at Australian Unity said Chris’s proven track record in financial management for multi-billion dollar investment funds and his valuable contribution to the delivery of business strategy are both skills that will support HPT in its next phase of growth.

Mr Burnell said he was attracted to the role at Australian Unity because of the organisation’s mutual not shareholder structure, its long-term focus and HPT’s long and impressive track record.

Prior to Vicinity, Mr Burnell was fund accountant for Colonial First State Global Asset Management. He is a member of the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and holds a Bachelor of Business in Accounting and Finance from the University of Technology, Sydney.

Mr Burnell commenced in the role on 8 April 2019.

-ENDS-

Further information:
Jessica Hales
Six O’Clock Advisory
0433 021 181

About the Healthcare Property Trust
The HPT commenced 20 years ago and currently comprises an investor base of more than 12,000 investors and 54 healthcare assets across Australia’s eastern seaboard. During 2017 the Trust raised a total of $430 million in five days. It has delivered investors consistent, regular income distributions since its inception and, in recent years, has achieved positive capital growth. It has produced a net total return of 9.32 percent per annum over the past decade, and net total returns of 8.92 percent over one year, 14.38 percent per annum over three years and 12.96 percent per annum over five years as at 28 February 2019.

1 Gross Asset Value as at 28 February 2019
About Australian Unity
Australian Unity is a national health, wealth and living mutual company providing services to almost one million Australians, including more than 270,000 members. Australian Unity’s history as a trusted mutual organisation dates back to 1840. It has grown organically — by continually evolving to provide the services and products needed by the communities it serves — as well as through successful strategic mergers and diversification in to new business activities.