on creating more value for our members, and because we believe success is better shared, graduate professionals have a partner that understands the value required from experts.

There aren't many companies founded in 1941 that are confidently mutual financial services company

IZAK SMIT

PPS GROUP CEO



PPS delivers a good 2019 performance, adding value to members.

> It is my pleasure to report to our members that, despite the tough trading environment in which we operate and which continued to pose challenges to financial services businesses throughout South Africa in 2019, PPS managed to outperform most of the goals we set for ourselves at the beginning of the year.

> > This result was due to the hard work of our staff and the committed implementation of our strategic agenda, as well as to the enduring strength of our mutual model.

We are often humbled by the niche market we serve, a market segment that includes some of South Africa's and Namibia's most educated and influential individuals in government, the academic world, business and, of course, the various professions. It is both a privilege and a huge responsibility.

Although professionals generally have the education, experience and resources to navigate the changes and challenges in the world around them, they are by no means immune to the effects of the prevailing environment. Our mutual model and the behavioural traits of our professional target

market benefit our business and our members, particularly when trading conditions are tough.

To elaborate on the Group's performance, our main life insurance business achieved the new business growth targets that we had set for ourselves. Expenses were managed within budget. Claims experience developed in line with

Our subsidiaries, still small compared to the life business, will continue to contribute a larger portion of total group revenue and profit as they grow off their low starting bases. All four of our main subsidiaries managed to outperform the profit goals that had been set for the reporting

In the previous period, the Profit-Share allocation to our members was negatively impacted by investment market returns. Our medium-term investment objective is to outperform inflation by a good margin and our approach is to invest in a well-diversified portfolio containing a significant portion of growth assets.

Market returns, especially from growth assets, will

always be volatile by nature. This has again been illustrated since year-end in the market sell-off due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Annual reporting periods and the resulting calendar cut-off points for reporting purposes are somewhat artificial. Events currently unfolding such as the COVID-19 pandemic, will influence both operating profit and investment returns in 2020. But we shall not knee-jerk in our investment approach and will remain focused for the long-term.

With these investment returns added to the operating profit of the business, which is more stable by nature and which recorded positive growth in 2019, members have been able to enjoy good additions to their PPS Profit-Share

At the time of publishing, the COVID-19 pandemic is unfolding

# MAKING INNOVATION WORK FOR **PROFESSIONALS**

community, and explore ways to optimise their

In response to member feedback, we also reviewed

and enhanced some of our risk products. The PPS

Sickness and Permanent Incapacity benefit will

now cover pregnancy-related illnesses in a way that

We enhanced our Disability Provider to include

a Functional Disability benefit which is available

to all members, regardless of their occupation

Business owners will benefit from the new Business

Assurance product which has several cover options

for the range of complex risks that businesses face.

For members in the health professions we developed

PPS Health Professions Indemnity, designed in

response to the increasingly high costs of indemnity

insurance, and meant to provide peace of mind to

Our members with investment products can now

benefit from the PPS Investments Family Network,

which is designed to encourage the aggregation

of individual and family assets. Members on Family

Network will now be able to enjoy lower fees

because of the larger asset base, while creating

Lastly, an exciting change for our Namibian

members is that we have expanded the product

range available to them. This has clearly resonated

with our members, demonstrated by the high take

up of lump sum death, disability and critical illness

benefits, which exceeded our launch targets

intergenerational wealth for their families.

those in clinical practice.

meets the full spectrum of our members' needs.

Profit-Share.

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#### PPS INSURANCE

**SNAPSHOT** 

We believe in persistently innovating according to The new annual premium income of new life the ever-changing needs of graduate professionals. insurance business written in 2019 breached a PRO-FiT is a powerful member engagement guarter of a billion rand for the first time in 2019, platform that lets members take control of their portfolio at PPS, engage with the larger professional

> protection and life solutions we offer. Distribution therefore takes place exclusively through face-toface advisers, both within and independent of PPS.

> Advice is an important aspect of the income

PERFORMANCE

With the continued pressure of the tough economic environment, Life Broker Services (LBS) has outperformed 2018 to deliver growth and results. The business has performed better than competitors

## PPS ADVISORY AND **ENABLEMENT SERVICES**

An internal reorganisation of PPS Advisory Services in 2018 has had a positive impact on business performance, staff morale and member experience. For the better part of 2019, the channel consistently achieved its targets, recording positive growth by

### PPS HEALTHCARE **ADMINISTRATORS**

The year under review was a good one for

This growth was supported by the number of principal members in the Profmed scheme increasing by 4% during 2019, as well as by the addition of three new schemes

# PPS INVESTMENTS

Despite the negative investment market conditions at the end of 2018, the business delivered strong net income growth of 19% in 2019. This was supported by strong gross new business inflows of over R6 billion, 3% up on 2018 and demonstrating that the business is on a strong growth trajectory.

#### PPS SHORT-TERM **INSURANCE**

The PPS Short-Term Insurance business enjoyed a successful year, with its actual loss coming in below that budgeted for in its business plan. This was due to better-than-expected claims performance, with the business achieving a loss ratio of 69.2% which is a decline of 9.4% from the previous year.

Prudent underwriting and good claims management resulted in operating expenses growing by only 6.1% compared to 2018. The value of new premiums written by the whole Short-Term Insurance business (including PPS Health Professions Indemnity) grew

**FOR YOU** 

our healthcare administration business. Revenue increased by 8% on the back of a 9% growth in the number of principal members.

# PPS FOUNDATION

The PPS Foundation uses the shared value of our community of professionals to solve key challenges that we face as a developing economy, particularly with regard to our large youth population. South Africa's education crisis requires all levels of society to collaborate and find solutions. The PPS Foundation's mandate provides for university bursaries to be awarded to deserving students with a focus on the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields of study.

OUR CORPORATE

**RESPONSIBILITY** 

SOCIAL

The Foundation's University Support programme neans that we can also fund other important but often ignored student needs, such as food security and psychosocial support.

### PPS COVID-19 SUPPORT

To contribute to the role that private businesses must play in helping to slow down the spread of COVID-19 in South Africa, the PPS Board has set aside R50 million of 2019's profits to provide support to the healthcare sector currently fighting the pandemic.

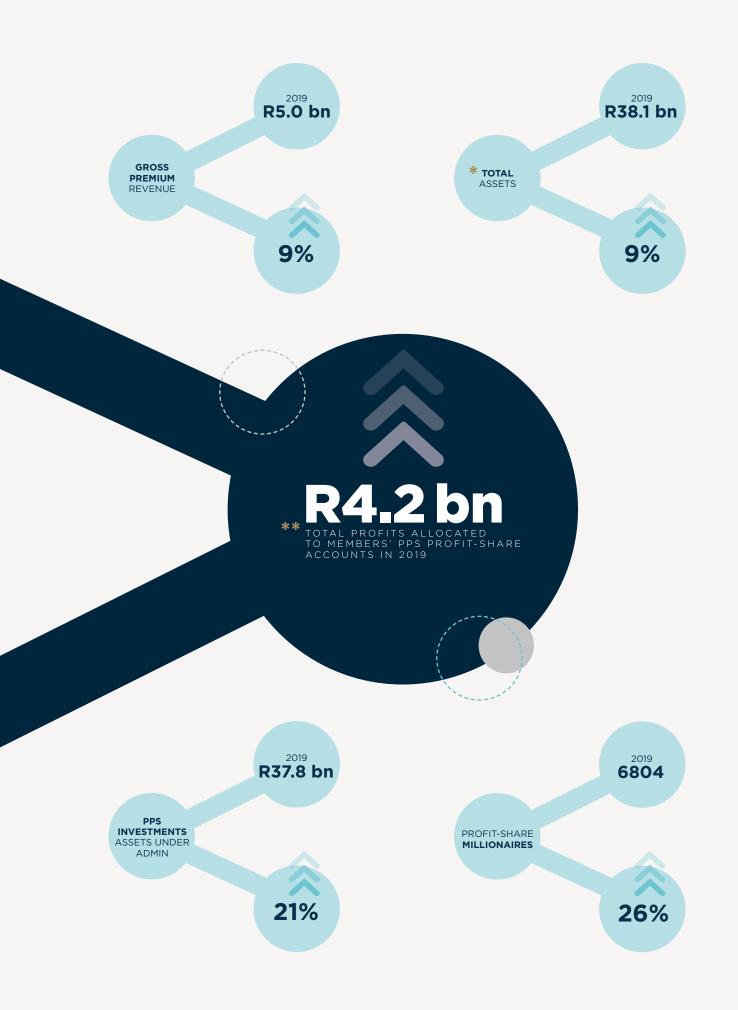
#### PPS ACADEMY

The Academy continues to be a learning institution that makes us immensely proud. In 2019, it raised the bar yet again with regard to its development programmes for young employees of PPS, thereby contributing towards alleviating the skills deficit and unemployment crisis in South Africa.

Our graduate interns and the PPS Young Leadership Forum attended a series of leadership programmes aimed at developing young people into strong leaders for South Africa's future.









**R27.5 billion** cumulatively allocated to members over the last **10 years** 

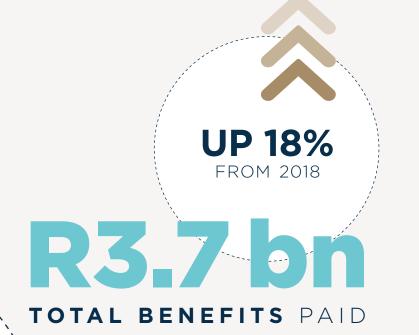
2010 R2.0 billion 2011 **R3.7** billion 2012 **R6.6** billion 2013 R10.8 billion 2014 R14.0 billion 2015 R16.2 billion 2016 R18.9 billion 2017 R22.7 billion

R23.3 billion

R27.5 billion

2018

When we say **there's more for you,** we mean it. The bigger your portfolio with us, the bigger your Profit-Share. With our new PPS PRO-FiT platform, you can use the PLAYZONE to explore how you can get more from PPS with our Profit-Share simulator.



SICKNESS	R619.9 m
PERMANENT INCAPACITY	R541.2 m
LIFE COVER	R618.5 m
CRITICAL ILLNESS	R225.7 m
LUMP SUM DISABLITY	R153.6 m
MOTOR & HOUSEHOLD	R134.7 m

R1.456 bn