# **VT FREEDOM UCITS OEIC**

(Sub-funds VT Freedom Defensive, VT Freedom Cautious, VT Freedom Balanced, VT Freedom Long Term Balanced and VT Freedom Long Term Growth)

Interim Report and Financial Statements (Unaudited)
For the six month period ended 31 March 2024

# CONTENTS

	Page
Company Overview	1
Statement of the Authorised Fund Manager's (AFM's) Responsibilities	2
VT Freedom Defensive	
Sub-fund Overview	3
Investment Manager's Review Performance Record	5 6
Portfolio Summary	8
Summary of Material Portfolio Changes	9
Statement of Total Return	10
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders	10
Balance Sheet Distribution Tables	11 12
Distribution Tables	12
VT Freedom Cautious	
Sub-fund Overview	13
Investment Manager's Review Performance Record	15 16
Portfolio Summary	18
Summary of Material Portfolio Changes	19
Statement of Total Return	20
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders	20
Balance Sheet Distribution Tables	21 22
Distribution Tables	22
VT Freedom Balanced	
Sub-fund Overview	23
Investment Manager's Review	25
Performance Record Portfolio Summary	26 28
Summary of Material Portfolio Changes	29
Statement of Total Return	30
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders	30
Balance Sheet	31
Distribution Tables	32
VT Freedom Long Term Balanced	
Sub-fund Overview	33
Investment Manager's Review	35
Performance Record	36
Portfolio Summary Summary of Material Portfolio Changes	38 39
Statement of Total Return	39 40
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders	40
Balance Sheet	41
Distribution Tables	42

# **CONTENTS (Continued)**

	Page
VT Freedom Long Term Growth	
Sub-fund Overview	43
Investment Manager's Review	45
Performance Record	46
Portfolio Summary	48
Summary of Material Portfolio Changes	49
Statement of Total Return	50
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders	50
Balance Sheet	51
Distribution Tables	52
Information for Investors	53
Corporate Directory	54

## **COMPANY OVERVIEW**

# Type of Company:

VT Freedom UCITS OEIC (the Company) is an investment company with variable capital incorporated in England and Wales under the OEIC Regulations with registered number IC031441 and authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority (PRN: 932492) pursuant to an authorisation order dated 20 August 2020. The Company has an unlimited duration.

The Company is a UCITS scheme and is an umbrella company (as defined in the OEIC Regulations). Each Sub-fund would be a UCITS scheme if it had a separate authorisation order.

Shareholders are not liable for the debts of the Company.

## STATEMENT OF THE AUTHORISDED FUND MANAGER'S (AFM's) RESPONSIBILITIES

The rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook require the Authorised Fund Manager to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company at the end of the financial year and its net revenue and net capital gains for the year. In preparing these financial statements the Authorised Fund Manager is required to:

- > comply with the Prospectus, the Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Association in May 2014, the Instrument of Incorporation, generally accepted accounting principles and applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures which are required to be disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- > select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- > make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- > prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in operation for the foreseeable future.

The Authorised Fund Manager is required to keep proper accounting records and to manage the Company in accordance with the COLL regulations, the Instrument of Incorporation, and the Prospectus. The Authorised Fund Manager is responsible for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

In accordance with the requirements of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Scheme's Sourcebook, we hereby certify the interim report.

David E. Smith CA

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited Authorised Fund Manager

Date

#### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund VT Freedom Defensive

**Size of Sub-fund** £15,520,331

Launch date 7 September 2020

Investment objective and

policy

The investment objective of the Sub-fund is to provide a return in excess of the Consumer Prices Index (after deduction of fees) on a 3 year annualised period with an annualised target volatility of 4% over the same period.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objectives by investing at least 80% in collective investment funds (such as OEICS, exchange traded funds and Investment Trusts, and which may include funds managed and/or operated by the AFM or Investment Manager) which will provide exposure to a diversified portfolio but with a high level (more than 60%) of exposure (indirectly) to lower risk assets such as cash, fixed income and select alternative assets such as absolute return strategies and a low level of exposure to higher risk assets such as equities and alternatives such as commodities.

The Sub-fund may invest directly in equities, fixed income, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

As noted in the objective, the portfolio of the Sub-fund will be constructed in such a way that the volatility target for the Sub-fund will be 4%. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not necessarily mean that actual volatility will be at this level as realised volatility may be different from the assumptions made by the Investment Manager.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus and as such weightings in these may vary as required.

**Derivatives** 

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives for Efficient Portfolio Management (EPM) purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for EPM purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Benchmark

A target for the Sub-fund's performance has been set by reference to the UK Consumer Price Index (CPI) (the "Index") over a three year annualised period. The Consumer Price Index is published by the Office for National Statistics, further information for which can be obtained from www.ons.gov.uk.

The Index has been selected as a target to beat as it a common standard which will allow assessment as to whether shareholders' investments are growing in real terms over a time period which is consistent with the Sub-fund's long-term investment horizon.

Performance comparisons against the Index may be least representative during periods of very strong performance (either positive or negative) in particular markets and comparison should be made over periods of at least 3 years in order to reduce the impact of short-term performance.

**Authorised Fund Manager** 

(AFM) Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited

**Ex-distribution dates** 30 September (final), 31 December, 31 March and 30 June (interims)

Distribution dates By 30 November (final), by last day of February, 31 May, 31 August (interims)

**Individual Savings** 

**Account (ISA)** The Sub-fund is a qualifying investment for inclusion in an ISA.

Shares Classes: Class A (Income, Accumulation)<sup>1</sup>

Class B (Income, Accumulation)<sup>1</sup> Class C (Income, Accumulation)

1 Class A shares are available only to the Investment Manager's other clients (and otherwise at the AFM's discretion. Class B shares are only available to IFA contacts of the Investment Manager (and otherwise at the AFM's discretion).

## **SUB-FUND OVERVIEW (Continued)**

## Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: Class A = £500,000

Class B = £100,000 Class C = £1,000

Top-up: Class A = £1,000

Class B = £1,000 Class C = £1,00

Holding: Class A = £500,000

Class B = £100,000 Class C = £1,000

Redemption: N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Switching: N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

# Initial, redemption and switching charges

Nil

\*The AFM may waive the minimum levels (and initial charge and redemption charge) at its discretion.

#### Annual management charges

£41,7961 per annum plus

(A) A variable fee based on the Net Asset Value of the Sub-fund (plus VAT if applicable) as follows:

- Up to £100 million 1.5 bps (0.015%) per annum
- £100 million to £250 million 0.75 bps (0.0075%) per annum
- £250 million to £500 million 0.5 bps (0.005%) per annum
- thereafter 0.25 bps (0.0025%) per annum

PLUS

(B) A variable fee depending on the share class as follows:

Class A - 0.25% per annum Class B - 0.50% per annum Class C - 0.75% per annum

The above percentages being a percentage of the Net Asset Value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant class (plus VAT if applicable).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The fixed element of the fee shall rise annually in line with the rate of inflation (calculated in accordance with the Consumer Prices Index) on 1 January each year (from 1 January 2023)). In the event of negative inflation, this fee will remain unchanged.

#### **INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REVIEW**

Over the reporting period, due to downside surprises in inflation and resilient economic data in developed markets, investors believed that key central banks would be able to cut interest rates quicker than expected and that a soft landing for the economy was more likely. This sparked a rally in risk assets, which continued to gather momentum until the end of the reporting period.

In November, the First Trust Nasdaq Clean Edge Smart Grid Infrastructure ETF was sold due to its relatively disappointing returns. The strategy's underperformance was caused by its exposure to both UK and Europe utility stocks, an area of the market that performed poorly as a consequence of tighter central bank monetary policy and weak industrial demand for energy.

At the beginning of the 2024, the Global X US Infrastructure Developments UCITS ETF was introduced to provide diversified exposure to companies that were likely to benefit from the infrastructure spend triggered by the US's Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The IRA's primary objective is to spur investments in US domestic manufacturing capacity and infrastructure renewal.

In late January, the Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield Fund was introduced. This fixed income strategy was assessed as being able to deliver an attractive income yield, while also offering the potential to deliver an element of capital appreciation through investing in short maturity high yield corporate bonds.

For the foreseeable future investment markets are likely to endure elevated geopolitical risk, which historically has tended to an inflationary experience for investment markets. The fund's multi-asset investment approach provides asset diversification and the opportunity to mitigate an element of the inflationary pressures likely over the short to medium term.

Over the reporting period the fund produced strong absolute and relative returns when compared with its benchmark, the UK Consumer Price Index (CPI). The fund returned 5.96% (A Class Acc) vs 0.76% (CPI) over the period. (FE Analytics as at 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024).

Ascencia Investment Management Limited Investment Manager to the Fund 30 May 2024

Performance is quoted as total return

# PERFORMANCE RECORD

# Financial Highlights

# Class A (Accumulation)

		Six months ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 30 September 2023	Year ended 30 September 2022
Changes in n	et assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
	Opening net asset value per share	106.6066	102.7161	106.9509
	Return before operating charges	6.9452	4.9685	(3.3856)
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.5874)	(1.0780)	(0.8492)
	Return after operating charges *	6.3578	3.8905	(4.2348)
	Closing net asset value per share	112.9644	106.6066	102.7161
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	1.7418	2.8189	1.4150
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	-
Performance				
	Return after charges	5.96%	3.79%	(3.96%)
Other informa	ition			
	Closing net asset value	£15,510,512	£14,835,014	£13,450,777
	Closing number of shares	13,730,445	13,915,657	13,095,100
	Operating charges (note 2)	1.07%	1.03%	0.81%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Prices				
	Highest share price	115.0117	107.3934	108.612
	Lowest share price	105.6852	101.7555	102.7161

# Class B (Accumulation)

		Six months ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 30 September 2023	Year ended 30 September 2022
Changes in n	et assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
•	Opening net asset value per share	99.0314	95.6562	99.8490
	Return before operating charges	6.4489	4.6212	(3.1566)
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.6727)	(1.2460)	(1.0362)
	Return after operating charges *	5.7762	3.3752	(4.1928)
	Closing net asset value per share	104.8076	99.0314	95.6562
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	1.6170	2.6221	1.3192
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	0.0000
Performance				
	Return after charges	5.83%	3.53%	(4.20%)
Other informa	ation			
	Closing net asset value	£11,277	£10,655	£10,243
	Closing number of shares	10,759	10,759	10,708
	Operating charges (note 2)	1.32%	1.28%	1.06%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Prices				
	Highest share price	106.7079	99.7699	101.3671
	Lowest share price	98.1566	94.7531	95.6562

## **PERFORMANCE RECORD (Continued)**

- 1. The operating charges per share figure is calculated by applying the operating charges percentage to the average net asset valuation per share throughout the period.
- 2. The operating charges percentage is based on the expenses incurred during the period annualised, as a proportion of the average net asset value of the Sub-fund together with the ongoing charges included within the underlying Open Ended Investment Companies held within the Sub-fund's holdings.

#### **Risk Profile**

Based on past data, the Sub-fund is ranked a '4' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document (30 September 2023 ranked '4'). The Sub-fund is ranked '4' because monthly historical performance data indicates that average rises and falls in market prices would have occurred historically.

As at 31 Mar	rch 2024		% of net
Holding	Name	Value £	assets
	Collective Investment Schemes - (30.09.2023: 76.79%)		
22,168	Cohen & Steers Diversified Real Assets	234,051	1.50%
31,862	Fidelity Index Japan	75,704	0.48%
209,804	Fidelity Index World	698,796	4.50%
59,077	Heriot Global	187,356	1.21%
31,887	HSBC Global Investment Funds - Global Infrastructure Equity	269,973	1.74%
55,952	HSBC Global Investment Funds - Global Investment Grade Securitised Credit Bond	620,228	4.00%
324,460	Latitude Horizon	425,691	2.74%
587	Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity	79,572	0.51%
2,713,522	Legal & General Cash	2,866,293	18.47%
31,654	Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield	348,516	2.25%
330,964	Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond	388,551	2.50%
8,007	Neuberger Berman Commodities	72,386	0.47%
10,176	Pacific North of South EM Equity Income Opportunities	113,879	0.73%
10,765	Polar Capital European Ex UK Income	150,166	0.97%
13,078	Polar Capital Global Insurance	156,526	1.01%
207,767	Royal London Global Equity Income	344,269	2.22%
493,124	Royal London Short Duration Credit	464,819	2.99%
281,062	Sanlam International Inflation Linked Bond	271,337	1.75%
11,919	Stewart Investors Global Emerging Markets Leaders	74,992	0.48%
47,823	TB Saracen Global Income and Growth	154,850	1.00%
2,816	Trium Alternative Growth	310,130	2.00%
2,295	Vanguard Global Short-Term Bond Index	225,840	1.46%
58,875	VT Castlebay UK Equity^	111,927	0.72%
2,619,512	WS Canlife Sterling Liquidity	2,866,532	18.47%
64,311	WS Gresham House UK Multi Cap Income	109,123	0.70%
		11,621,507	74.87%
	Exchange Traded Funds - (30.09.2023: 15.09%)		
3 383	Franklin European Dividend UCITS ETF	77,082	0.50%
	Global X US Infrastructure Developments UCITS ETF	157,461	1.01%
	iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF	583,249	3.76%
•	iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF	234,159	1.51%
	iShares Corp Bond 0-5yr UCITS ETF	465,126	3.00%
	iShares MSCI France UCITS ETF	82,301	0.53%
	L&G India INR Government Bond UCITS ETF	77,347	0.50%
	UBS ETF - MSCI World Small Cap Socially Responsible UCITS ETF	80,326	0.52%
	Vanguard FTSE 250 UCITS ETF	75,491	0.49%
	Xtrackers MSCI World Materials UCITS ETF	81,221	0.52%
	Xtrackers Neor World Matchais Corro ETF  Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	550,469	3.55%
7,020	Attackers Star 300 Equal Weight SOFTS ETT	2,464,232	15.89%
		2,404,232	15.09 /6
	Portfolio of investments - (30.09.2023: 91.88%)	14,085,739	90.76%
	Net other assets - (30.09.2023: 8.12%)	1,434,592	9.24%
		15,520,331	100.00%

# **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES**

Total purchases for the period	£ 3,578,368
Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield Sanlam International Inflation Linked Bond	344,716 269,446
HSBC GIF Global Infrastructure Equity  FWU Protection Fund SICAV - Bainbridge equity Anti-Risk Strategy	258,668 257,826
Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF Varguered State I Start Tage Bond Index	256,181 235,073
Vanguard Global Short-Term Bond Index Legal & General Cash WS Conline Starting Liquidity	222,115 175,327 173,783
WS Canlife Sterling Liquidity Polar Capital Global Insurance Other purchases	173,763 154,891 1,230,342
Cital paramace	1,200,012
Total sales for the period	£ 3,983,541
Dodge & Cox Worldwide Global Bond	543,390
Artemis Target Return Bond Fund M&G Global Listed Infrastructure	376,291 312,959
iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF FWU Protection Fund SICAV - Bainbridge equity Anti-Risk Strategy	273,824 252,516
EF Tellsons Endeavour Fund WS Canlife Sterling Liquidity	223,637 160,461
Legal & General Cash iShares Dow Jones Indust Average UCITS ETF	160,387 155,218
HSBC European Index Other sales	152,048 1,372,810

The above transactions represent all purchases and sales during the period.

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the period en	ded 31 March	00	0.4	000	
		20: £	24 £	2023 £	£
Income	Net capital gains		693,678		197,804
	Revenue	272,513		168,217	
Expenses		(56,231)		(46,581)	
Interest payable a	nd similar charges	(5,219)	-		
Net revenue befor	e taxation	211,063		121,636	
Taxation		(17,802)	-	(3,833)	
Net revenue after	taxation		193,261	_	117,803
Total return before	distributions		886,939		315,607
Finance costs: dis	tributions		(235,498)	_	(167,090)
•	ssets attributable to n investment activities		651,441	_	148,517

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

#### For the period ended 31 March

For the period ended 31 March	2024 £	2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	14,815,194	13,450,500
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	1,038,077	1,639,830
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(1,221,335)	(991,428)
Dilution levies	327	478
Accumulation dividends retained	236,627	167,110
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	651,441	148,517
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	15,520,331	14,415,007

The Investment Association SORP requires that comparatives are shown for the above report. As comparatives are shown for the comparable interim period the net asset value at the end of the period will not agree to the net asset value at the start of the period. The Sub-funds net asset value as at 30 September 2023 was £14,815,194.

## **BALANCE SHEET**

As at	31.03.202	24	30.09.20	30.09.2023	
	£	£	£	£	
Assets					
Investment assets		14,085,739		13,613,219	
Current assets					
Debtors	1,538,758		439,190		
Cash and bank balances	1,460,120		1,665,492		
Total current assets		2,998,878		2,104,682	
Total assets		17,084,617		15,717,901	
Current liabilities					
Creditors	(1,050,527)		(338,540)		
Bank overdraft	(513,759)		(564,167)		
Total current liabilities		(1,564,286)		(902,707)	
Net assets attributable to shareholders		15,520,331		14,815,194	

# **Accounting policies**

The accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023 and are described in those financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of investments and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Financial Statements of Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Association in May 2014 and to the amendments to the SORP issued by the IA in June 2017. The functional currency of the Sub-fund is Sterling.

## **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

# Q1 Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 October 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 October 2023 and on or before 31 December 2023

	Net revenue		Distribution	Distribution
Class A (Accumulation)	29.02.2024	Equalisation	29.02.2024	28.02.2023
Group 1	0.8153p	-	0.8153p	0.4093p
Group 2	0.5434p	0.2719p	0.8153p	0.4093p

Class B (Accumulation)	Net revenue 29.02.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 29.02.2024	Distribution 28.02.2023
Group 1	0.7572p		0.7572p	0.3811p
Group 2	0.7572p	-	0.7572p	0.3811p

# Q2 Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 January 2024

Group 2 : Shares purchased on or after 01 January 2024 and on or before 31 March 2024

Class A (Accumulation)	Net revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	0.9265p	-	0.9265p	0.8295p
Group 2	0.0754p	0.8511p	0.9265p	0.8295p

Class B (Accumulation)	Net revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	0.8598p	-	0.8598p	0.7718p
Group 2	0.8598p	-	0.8598p	0.7718p

#### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund VT Freedom Cautious

Size of Sub-fund £60,771,502

7 September 2020 Launch date

Investment objective and

The investment objective of the Sub-fund is to provide a return in excess of the Consumer Prices Index (after deduction of fees) on a 3 year annualised period with an annualised target volatility of 6% over the same period.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objectives by investing at least 80% in collective investment funds (such as OEICS, exchange traded funds and Investment Trusts, and which may include funds managed and/or operated by the AFM or Investment Manager) which will provide exposure to a diversified portfolio but with a preference (more than 50%) towards exposure (indirectly) to lower risk assets such as cash, fixed income and select alternative assets such as absolute return strategies and less emphasis on higher risk assets such as equities and alternatives such as commodities.

The Sub-fund may invest directly in equities, fixed income, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

As noted in the objective, the portfolio of the Sub-fund will be constructed in such a way that the volatility target for the Sub-fund will be 6%. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not necessarily mean that actual volatility will be at this level as realised volatility may be different from the assumptions made by the Investment Manager.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus and as such weightings in these may vary as required.

**Derivatives** 

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives for Efficient Portfolio Management (EPM) purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for EPM purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

**Benchmark** 

A target for the Sub-fund's performance has been set by reference to the UK Consumer Price Index (CPI) (the "Index") over a three year annualised period. The Consumer Price Index is published by the Office for National Statistics, further information for which can be obtained from www.ons.gov.uk.

The Index has been selected as a target to beat as it a common standard which will allow assessment as to whether shareholders' investments are growing in real terms over a time period which is consistent with the Sub-fund's long-term investment horizon.

Performance comparisons against the Index may be least representative during periods of very strong performance (either positive or negative) in particular markets and comparison should be made over periods of at least 3 years in order to reduce the impact of short-term performance.

(AFM)

Authorised Fund Manager Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited

**Ex-distribution dates** 

30 September (final), 31 December, 31 March and 30 June (interims)

**Distribution dates** 

By 30 November (final), by last day of February, 31 May, 31 August (interims)

**Individual Savings** Account (ISA)

The Sub-fund is a qualifying investment for inclusion in an ISA.

**Shares Classes:** 

Class A (Income, Accumulation)<sup>1</sup> Class B (Income, Accumulation)<sup>1</sup> Class C (Income, Accumulation)

1 Class A shares are available only to the Investment Manager's other clients (and otherwise at the AFM's discretion. Class B shares are only available to IFA contacts of the Investment Manager (and otherwise at the AFM's discretion).

## **SUB-FUND OVERVIEW (Continued)**

## Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: Class A = £500,000

Class B = £100,000 Class C = £1,000

Top-up: Class A = £1,000

Class B = £1,000 Class C = £1,00

Holding: Class A = £500,000

Class B = £100,000 Class C = £1,000

Redemption: N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Switching: N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

# Initial, redemption and switching charges

Nil

#### **Annual management charges**

£41,796<sup>1</sup> per annum plus

(A) A variable fee based on the Net Asset Value of the Sub-fund (plus VAT if applicable) as follows:

- Up to £100 million 1.5 bps (0.015%) per annum
- £100 million to £250 million 0.75 bps (0.0075%) per annum
- £250 million to £500 million 0.5 bps (0.005%) per annum
- thereafter 0.25 bps (0.0025%) per annum

**PLUS** 

(B) A variable fee depending on the share class as follows:

Class A - 0.25% per annum Class B - 0.50% per annum Class C - 0.75% per annum

The above percentages being a percentage of the Net Asset Value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant class (plus VAT if applicable).

<sup>\*</sup>The AFM may waive the minimum levels (and initial charge and redemption charge) at its discretion.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The fixed element of the fee shall rise annually in line with the rate of inflation (calculated in accordance with the Consumer Prices Index) on 1 January each year (from 1 January 2023)). In the event of negative inflation, this fee will remain unchanged.

#### **INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REVIEW**

Over the reporting period, due to downside surprises in inflation and resilient economic data in developed markets, investors believed that key central banks would be able to cut interest rates quicker than expected and that a soft landing for the economy was more likely. This sparked a rally in risk assets, which continued to gather momentum until the end of the reporting period.

In November, the First Trust Nasdaq Clean Edge Smart Grid Infrastructure ETF was sold due to its relatively disappointing returns. The strategy's underperformance was caused by its exposure to both UK and Europe utility stocks, an area of the market that performed poorly as a consequence of tighter central bank monetary policy and weak industrial demand for energy.

At the beginning of the 2024, the Global X US Infrastructure Developments UCITS ETF was introduced to provide diversified exposure to companies that were likely to benefit from the infrastructure spend triggered by the US's Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The IRA's primary objective is to spur investments in US domestic manufacturing capacity and infrastructure renewal.

In late January, the Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield Fund was introduced. This fixed income strategy was assessed as being able to deliver an attractive income yield, while also offering the potential to deliver an element of capital appreciation through investing in short maturity high yield corporate bonds.

For the foreseeable future investment markets are likely to endure elevated geopolitical risk, which historically as tended to an inflationary experience for investment markets. The fund's multi-asset investment approach provides asset diversification and the opportunity to mitigate an element of the inflationary pressures likely over the short to medium term.

Over the reporting period the fund produced strong absolute and relative returns when compared with its benchmark, the UK Consumer Price Index (CPI). The fund returned 7.40% (A Class Acc) vs 0.76% (CPI) over the period. (FE Analytics as at 29 th May 2024).

Ascencia Investment Management Limited Investment Manager to the Fund 30 May 2024

Performance is quoted as total return

# **Financial Highlights**

01 4 /4				
Class A (A	Accumulation)	Six months ended 31	Year ended 30	Year ended 30
		March 2024	September 2023	September 2022
Changes in	n net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
Changes ii	Opening net asset value per share	110.7702	106.0706	110.4422
	Return before operating charges	8.6096	5.4802	(3.6246)
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.4135)	(0.7806)	(0.7470)
	Return after operating charges *	8.1961	4.6996	(4.3716)
	Closing net asset value per share	118.9663	110.7702	106.0706
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	1.8118	2.7795	1.6314
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	-
Performan	ce			
	Return after charges	7.40%	4.43%	(3.96%)
Other infor	mation			
	Closing net asset value	£60,767,079	£56,532,189	£51,692,945
	Closing number of shares	51,079,224	51,035,560	48,734,491
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.72%	0.72%	0.69%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Prices	History above with	440,0000	444.0004	440.7040
	Highest share price Lowest share price	118.9663 109.4197	111.9094 104.7943	112.7910 105.3812
Class B (A	accumulation)	Six months ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 30 September 2023	Year ended 30 September 2022
Class B (A	Accumulation)	Six months ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 30 September 2023	Year ended 30 September 2022
	n net assets per share	<b>March 2024</b> GBp	September 2023 GBp	September 2022 GBp
	n net assets per share Opening net asset value per share	<b>March 2024</b> GBp 99.7985	<b>September 2023</b> GBp  95.8015	<b>September 2022</b> GBp 99.9998
	n net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533	September 2023  GBp 95.8015 4.9457	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780)
	n net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016)	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487)	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203)
	n net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533	September 2023  GBp 95.8015 4.9457	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780)
	n net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016)	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487)	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203)
	on net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016) 7.2517	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487) 3.9970	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203) (4.1983)
	on net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Closing net asset value per share	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016) 7.2517	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487) 3.9970	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203) (4.1983) 95.8015
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares *after direct transactions costs of:	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016) 7.2517	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487) 3.9970	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203) (4.1983) 95.8015
Changes in	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares *after direct transactions costs of:	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016) 7.2517	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487) 3.9970	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203) (4.1983) 95.8015
Changes in	on net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transactions costs of:  ce Return after charges  mation	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016) 7.2517  107.0502 1.6313	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487) 3.9970 99.7985 2.5059	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203) (4.1983) 95.8015
Changes in	on net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transactions costs of:  ce Return after charges  mation Closing net asset value	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016) 7.2517  107.0502 1.6313 - 7.27% £11,874	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487) 3.9970  99.7985 2.5059 - 4.17% £11,070	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203) (4.1983)  95.8015  1.4751  - (4.20%)
Changes in	on net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transactions costs of:  ce Return after charges  mation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016) 7.2517  107.0502 1.6313 - 7.27%  £11,874 11,092	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487) 3.9970  99.7985 2.5059 - 4.17% £11,070 11,092	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203) (4.1983)  95.8015  1.4751  - (4.20%)  £10,578 11,041
Changes in	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares *after direct transactions costs of:  ce Return after charges  mation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016) 7.2517  107.0502 1.6313 - 7.27%  £11,874 11,092 0.97%	September 2023  GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487) 3.9970  99.7985 2.5059 - 4.17%  £11,070 11,092 0.97%	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203) (4.1983)  95.8015  1.4751  - (4.20%)  £10,578 11,041 0.94%
Changes in	on net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transactions costs of:  ce Return after charges  mation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016) 7.2517  107.0502 1.6313 - 7.27%  £11,874 11,092	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487) 3.9970  99.7985 2.5059 - 4.17% £11,070 11,092	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203) (4.1983)  95.8015  1.4751  - (4.20%)  £10,578 11,041
Changes in	on net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transactions costs of:  CCC Return after charges  mation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2) Direct transaction costs	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016) 7.2517  107.0502 1.6313 - 7.27%  £11,874 11,092 0.97% 0.00%	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487) 3.9970  99.7985 2.5059 - 4.17% £11,070 11,092 0.97% 0.00%	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203) (4.1983)  95.8015  1.4751  - (4.20%)  £10,578 11,041 0.94% 0.00%
Changes in Performant	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares *after direct transactions costs of:  Ce Return after charges  mation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2) Direct transaction costs  Highest share price	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016) 7.2517  107.0502 1.6313 - 7.27%  £11,874 11,092 0.97% 0.00%	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487) 3.9970  99.7985 2.5059 - 4.17% £11,070 11,092 0.97% 0.00%	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203) (4.1983)  95.8015 1.4751 - (4.20%)  £10,578 11,041 0.94% 0.00%
Changes in Performant	on net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transactions costs of:  CCC Return after charges  mation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2) Direct transaction costs	March 2024  GBp 99.7985 7.7533 (0.5016) 7.2517  107.0502 1.6313 - 7.27%  £11,874 11,092 0.97% 0.00%	GBp 95.8015 4.9457 (0.9487) 3.9970  99.7985 2.5059 - 4.17% £11,070 11,092 0.97% 0.00%	GBp 99.9998 (3.2780) (0.9203) (4.1983)  95.8015  1.4751  - (4.20%)  £10,578 11,041 0.94% 0.00%

# **PERFORMANCE RECORD (Continued)**

- 1. The operating charges per share figure is calculated by applying the operating charges percentage to the average net asset valuation per share throughout the period.
- 2. The operating charges percentage is based on the expenses incurred during the period annualised, as a proportion of the average net asset value of the Sub-fund together with the ongoing charges included within the underlying Open Ended Investment Companies held within the Sub-fund's holdings.

#### **Risk Profile**

Based on past data, the Sub-fund is ranked a '4' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document (30 September 2023 ranked '4'). The Sub-fund is ranked '4' because monthly historical performance data indicates that average rises and falls in market prices would have occurred historically.

# As at 31 March 2024

Holding	Name	Value £	% of net assets
J			
	Collective Investment Schemes - (30.09.2023: 74.96%)		
•	Cohen & Steers Diversified Real Assets	1,506,022	2.48%
	Fidelity Index Japan	612,692	1.01%
	Fidelity Index World	3,951,884	6.50%
	Heriot Global	913,955	1.50%
	HSBC Global Investment Funds - Global Infrastructure Equity	1,242,839	2.05%
	HSBC Global Investment Funds - Global Investment Grade Securitised Credit Bond	1,490,490	2.45%
	Latitude Horizon	1,666,548	2.74%
	Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity	595,742	0.98%
	Legal & General Cash	9,856,584	16.22%
	Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield	1,212,489	2.00%
	Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond	1,389,634	2.29%
	Neuberger Berman Commodities	461,561	0.76%
	Pacific North of South EM Equity Income Opportunities	601,885	0.99%
	Polar Capital European Ex UK Income	908,115	1.49%
	Polar Capital Global Insurance	612,781	1.01%
	Royal London Global Equity Income	1,973,075	3.25%
	Royal London Short Duration Credit Sanlam International Inflation Linked Bond	1,824,151	3.00% 1.47%
•		896,172	
	Stewart Investors Global Emerging Markets Leaders	295,577	0.49%
•	TB Saracen Global Income and Growth	916,260	1.51%
,	Trium Alternative Growth	1,214,086	2.00%
	Vanguard Global Short-Term Bond Index	580,702	0.96% 1.01%
	VT Castlebay UK Equity^	616,058 8,767,434	14.43%
	WS Creeken House LIK Multi Can Income	578,717	
341,003	WS Gresham House UK Multi Cap Income	44,685,453	0.95% 73.54%
		11,000,100	10.0170
	Exchange Traded Funds - (30.09.2023: 19.43%)		
19,572	Franklin European Dividend UCITS ETF	445,948	0.73%
21,428	Global X US Infrastructure Developments UCITS ETF	616,269	1.01%
353,098	iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF	2,740,040	4.51%
4,185	iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF	1,831,691	3.01%
15,231	iShares Corp Bond 0-5yr UCITS ETF	1,517,312	2.50%
9,530	iShares MSCI France UCITS ETF	476,214	0.78%
•	L&G India INR Government Bond UCITS ETF	454,203	0.75%
61,036	UBS ETF - MSCI World Small Cap Socially Responsible UCITS ETF	464,057	0.76%
14,894	Vanguard FTSE 250 UCITS ETF	456,129	0.75%
10,058	Xtrackers MSCI World Materials UCITS ETF	479,696	0.79%
42,619	Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	3,078,797	5.07%
		12,560,356	20.66%
	Portfolio of investments - (30.09.2023: 94.39%)	57,245,809	94.20%
	Net other assets - (30.09.2023: 5.61%)	3,525,693	5.80%
		60,771,502	100.00%

<sup>^</sup>related security of the AFM

# SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES

Total purchases for the period	£ 14,323,420
·	, ,
Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	1,228,109
Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield	1,199,368
HSBC GIF Global Infrastructure Equity	1,190,794
FWU Protection Fund SICAV - Bainbridge equity Anti-Risk Strategy	1,051,773
iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF Sanlam International Inflation Linked Bond	929,902
Polar Capital European Ex UK Income	889,767 856,688
iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF	804,660
Legal & General Cash	683,139
Polar Capital Global Insurance	606,381
Other purchases	4,882,839
Total sales for the period	£ 14,535,527
Dodge & Cox Worldwide Global Bond	1,614,823
iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF	1,453,914
M&G Global Listed Infrastructure	1,154,433
FWU Protection Fund SICAV - Bainbridge equity Anti-Risk Strategy	1,033,237
HSBC European Index	884,404
Artemis Target Return Bond Fund	884,238
EF Tellsons Endeavour Fund	843,695
M&G Japan	615,711
First Trust Nasdaq Clean Edge Smart Grid Infrastructure	584,512
iShares Dow Jones Indust Average UCITS ETF Other sales	580,451 4,886,109

The above transactions represent all the purchases and sales during the period.

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the period en	ded 31 March	24	202	2	
		£	£	£	£
Income	Net capital gains		3,527,542		853,654
	Revenue	973,888		619,416	
Expenses		(113,418)		(101,485)	
Interest payable ar	nd similar charges	(20,760)	-	-	
Net revenue before	e taxation	839,710		517,931	
Taxation		(64,225)	-	(16,428)	
Net revenue after t	axation		775,485	_	501,503
Total return before	distributions		4,303,027		1,355,157
Finance costs: dist	ributions		(929,853)	_	(629,596)
	ssets attributable to n investment activities		3,373,174	_	725,561

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

## For the period ended 31 March

For the period ended 31 march	2024 £	2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	56,437,085	51,668,918
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	4,419,991	5,565,860
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(4,384,239)	(2,424,689)
Accumulation dividends retained	925,491	637,420
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	3,373,174	725,561
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	60,771,502	56,173,070

The Investment Association SORP requires that comparatives are shown for the above report. As comparatives are shown for the comparable interim period the net asset value at the end of the period will not agree to the net asset value at the start of the period. The Sub-funds net asset value as at 30 September 2023 was £56,437,085.

## **BALANCE SHEET**

As at	31.03.2	024	30.09.20	23
	£	£	£	£
Assets				
Investment assets		57,245,809		53,275,950
Current assets				
Debtors	4,535,852		148,483	
Cash and bank balances	4,016,545		4,984,061	
Total current assets		8,552,397		5,132,544
Total assets		65,798,206		58,408,494
Current liabilities				
Creditors	(3,011,546)		(564,278)	
Bank overdraft	(2,015,158)		(1,407,131)	
Total current liabilities	_	(5,026,704)		(1,971,409)
Net assets attributable to shareholders	_	60,771,502		56,437,085

## **Accounting policies**

The accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023 and are described in those financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of investments and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Financial Statements of Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Association in May 2014 and to the amendments to the SORP issued by the IA in June 2017. The functional currency of the Sub-fund is Sterling.

# **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

# Q1 Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 October 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 October 2023 and on or before 31 December 2023

Class A (Accumulation)	Net revenue 29.02.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 29.02.2024	Distribution 28.02.2023
Group 1	0.7574p	-	0.7574p	0.4159p
Group 2	0.3783p	0.3791p	0.7574p	0.4159p

Class B (Accumulation)	Net revenue 29.02.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 29.02.2024	Distribution 28.02.2023
Group 1	0.6822p	-	0.6822p	0.3745p
Group 2	0.6822p	-	0.6822p	0.3745p

## Q2 Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 January 2024

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 January 2024 and on or before 31 March 2024

	Net revenue		Distribution	Distribution
Class A (Accumulation)	31.05.2024	Equalisation	31.05.2024	31.05.2023
Group 1	1.0544p	-	1.0544p	0.8306p
Group 2	0.6162p	0.4382p	1.0544p	0.8306p

Class B (Accumulation)	Net revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	0.9491p	-	0.9491p	0.7495p
Group 2	0.9491p	-	0.9491p	0.7495p

#### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund VT Freedom Balanced

**Size of Sub-fund** £23,500,966

Launch date 7 September 2020

Investment objective and

policy

The investment objective of the Sub-fund is to provide a return in excess of the Consumer Prices Index (after deduction of fees) on a 3 year annualised period with an annualised target volatility of 8% over the same period.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objectives by investing at least 80% in collective investment funds (such as OEICS, exchange traded funds and Investment Trusts, and which may include funds managed and/or operated by the AFM or Investment Manager) which will provide exposure to a diversified portfolio but with a preference (more than 50%) towards exposure (indirectly) to higher risk assets such as equities and alternatives such as commodities and less emphasis on lower risk assets such as cash, fixed income and select alternative assets such as absolute return strategies. It is expected that the exposure to equities and higher risk assets will typically be between 50-60%.

The Sub-fund may invest directly in equities, fixed income, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

As noted in the objective, the portfolio of the Sub-fund will be constructed in such a way that the volatility target for the Sub-fund will be 8%. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not necessarily mean that actual volatility will be at this level as realised volatility may be different from the assumptions made by the Investment Manager.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus and as such weightings in these may vary as required.

**Derivatives** 

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives for Efficient Portfolio Management (EPM) purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for EPM purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Benchmark

A target for the Sub-fund's performance has been set by reference to the UK Consumer Price Index (CPI) (the "Index") over a three year annualised period. The Consumer Price Index is published by the Office for National Statistics, further information for which can be obtained from www.ons.gov.uk.

The Index has been selected as a target to beat as it a common standard which will allow assessment as to whether shareholders' investments are growing in real terms over a time period which is consistent with the Sub-fund's long-term investment horizon.

Performance comparisons against the Index may be least representative during periods of very strong performance (either positive or negative) in particular markets and comparison should be made over periods of at least 3 years in order to reduce the impact of short-term performance.

**Authorised Fund Manager** 

(AFM) Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited

**Ex-distribution dates** 30 September (final), 31 December, 31 March and 30 June (interims)

**Distribution dates** By 30 November (final), by last day of February, 31 May, 31 August (interims)

**Individual Savings** 

**Account (ISA)** The Sub-fund is a qualifying investment for inclusion in an ISA.

Shares Classes: Class A (Income, Accumulation)<sup>1</sup>

Class B (Income, Accumulation)<sup>1</sup> Class C (Income, Accumulation)

1 Class A shares are available only to the Investment Manager's other clients (and otherwise at the AFM's discretion. Class B shares are only available to IFA contacts of the Investment Manager (and otherwise at the AFM's discretion).

## **SUB-FUND OVERVIEW (Continued)**

## Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: Class A = £500,000

Class B = £100,000 Class C = £1,000

Top-up: Class A = £1,000

Class B = £1,000 Class C = £1,00

Holding: Class A = £500,000

Class B = £100,000 Class C = £1,000

Redemption: N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Switching: N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Initial, redemption and switching charges

Nil

\*The AFM may waive the minimum levels (and initial charge and redemption charge) at its discretion.

## **Annual management charges**

£41,796<sup>1</sup> per annum plus

(A) A variable fee based on the Net Asset Value of the Sub-fund (plus VAT if applicable) as follows:

- Up to £100 million 1.5 bps (0.015%) per annum
- £100 million to £250 million 0.75 bps (0.0075%) per annum
- £250 million to £500 million 0.5 bps (0.005%) per annum
- thereafter 0.25 bps (0.0025%) per annum

**PLUS** 

(B) A variable fee depending on the share class as follows:

Class A - 0.25% per annum Class B - 0.50% per annum Class C - 0.75% per annum

The above percentages being a percentage of the Net Asset Value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant class (plus VAT if applicable).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The fixed element of the fee shall rise annually in line with the rate of inflation (calculated in accordance with the Consumer Prices Index) on 1 January each year (from 1 January 2023)). In the event of negative inflation, this fee will remain unchanged.

#### **INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REVIEW**

Over the reporting period, due to downside surprises in inflation and resilient economic data in developed markets, investors believed that key central banks would be able to cut interest rates quicker than expected and that a soft landing for the economy was more likely. This sparked a rally in risk assets, which continued to gather momentum until the end of the reporting period.

In November, the First Trust Nasdaq Clean Edge Smart Grid Infrastructure ETF was sold due to its relatively disappointing returns. The strategy's underperformance was caused by its exposure to both UK and Europe utility stocks, an area of the market that performed poorly as a consequence of tighter central bank monetary policy and weak industrial demand for energy.

At the beginning of the 2024, the Global X US Infrastructure Developments UCITS ETF was introduced to provide diversified exposure to companies that were likely to benefit from the infrastructure spend triggered by the US's Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The IRA's primary objective is to spur investments in US domestic manufacturing capacity and infrastructure renewal.

In late January, the Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield Fund was introduced. This fixed income strategy was assessed as being able to deliver an attractive income yield, while also offering the potential to deliver an element of capital appreciation through investing in short maturity high yield corporate bonds.

For the foreseeable future investment markets are likely to endure elevated geopolitical risk, which historically as tended to an inflationary experience for investment markets. The fund's multi-asset investment approach provides asset diversification and the opportunity to mitigate an element of the inflationary pressures likely over the short to medium term.

Over the reporting period the fund produced strong absolute and relative returns when compared with its benchmark, the UK Consumer Price Index (CPI). The fund returned 8.09% (A Class Acc) vs 0.76% (CPI) over the period. (FE Analytics as at 29th May 2024).

Ascencia Investment Management Limited Investment Manager to the Fund 30 May 2024

Performance is quoted as total return

# PERFORMANCE RECORD

# **Financial Highlights**

# Class A (Accumulation)

		31 March 2024	September 2023	September 2022
Changes in	net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
	Opening net asset value per share	112.1265	107.2389	111.8258
	Return before operating charges	9.6052	5.9625	(3.6668)
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.5366)	(1.0749)	(0.9201)
	Return after operating charges *	9.0686	4.8876	(4.5869)
	Closing net asset value per share	121.1951	112.1265	107.2389
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	1.6500	2.7580	1.7473
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	-
Performano	ce			
	Return after charges	8.09%	4.56%	(4.10%)
Other inforr	mation			
	Closing net asset value	£23,492,373	£19,076,981	£14,783,437
	Closing number of shares	19,383,936	17,013,805	13,785,520
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.92%	0.98%	0.84%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Prices				
	Highest share price	121.1951	113.4717	114.5953
	Lowest share price	110.4141	105.7524	106.132
Class B (A	ccumulation)			
		Six months ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 30 September 2023	Year ended 30 September 2022
Changes in	net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
	Opening net asset value per share	99.8627	95.7355	100.0645
	Return before operating charges	8.5505	5.3301	(3.2619)
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.6074)	(1.2029) 4.1272	(1.0671)
	Return after operating charges *	7.9431	4.1272	(4.3290)
	Closing net asset value per share	107.8058	99.8627	95.7355
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	1.4687	2.4593	1.5613
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	-
Performano	ce			
	Return after charges	7.95%	4.31%	(4.33%)
Other inforr	mation			
	Closing net asset value	£12,099	£11,208	£30,621
	Closing number of shares	11,223	11,223	31,985
	Operating charges (note 2)	1.17%	1.23%	1.09%

0.00%

107.8058

98.3188

0.00%

101.2220

94.4125

Six months ended

Year ended 30

Year ended 30

Direct transaction costs

Highest share price

Lowest share price

Prices

0.00%

102.5097

94.7984

# **PERFORMANCE RECORD (Continued)**

- 1. The operating charges per share figure is calculated by applying the operating charges percentage to the average net asset valuation per share throughout the period.
- 2. The operating charges percentage is based on the expenses incurred during the period annualised, as a proportion of the average net asset value of the Sub-fund together with the ongoing charges included within the underlying Open Ended Investment Companies held within the Sub-fund's holdings.

#### **Risk Profile**

Based on past data, the Sub-fund is ranked a '4' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document (30 September 2023: ranked '4'). The Sub-fund is ranked '4' because monthly historical performance data indicates that average rises and falls in market prices would have occurred historically.

# As at 31 March 2024

Holding	Name	Value £	% of net assets
	Collective Investment Schemes (30.09.2023: 71.22%)		
55,382	Cohen & Steers Diversified Real Assets	584,719	2.48%
149,218	Fidelity Index Japan	354,543	1.50%
458,390	Fidelity Index World	1,526,761	6.50%
128,013	Heriot Global	405,981	1.73%
62,281	HSBC Global Investment Funds - Global Infrastructure Equity	527,306	2.24%
52,290	HSBC Global Investment Funds - Global Investment Grade Securitised Credit Bond	579,632	2.47%
,	Latitude Horizon	523,759	2.23%
2,576	Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity	349,026	1.49%
	Legal & General Cash	3,339,369	14.21%
37,251	Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield	410,129	1.75%
298,615	Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond	350,575	1.49%
25,779	Neuberger Berman Commodities	233,043	0.99%
26,345	Pacific North of South EM Equity Income Opportunities	294,825	1.25%
34,268	Polar Capital European Ex UK Income	478,034	2.03%
19,781	Polar Capital Global Insurance	236,753	1.01%
495,435	Royal London Global Equity Income	820,936	3.49%
740,317	Royal London Short Duration Credit	697,823	2.97%
300,049	Sanlam International Inflation Linked Bond	289,667	1.23%
36,442	Stewart Investors Global Emerging Markets Leaders	229,296	0.98%
148,108	TB Saracen Global Income and Growth	479,572	2.04%
4,761	Trium Alternative Growth	524,291	2.23%
156,211	VT Castlebay UK Equity^	296,971	1.26%
2,462,900	WS Canlife Sterling Liquidity	2,695,152	11.47%
174,713	WS Gresham House UK Multi Cap Income	296,452	1.26%
		16,524,615	70.30%
	Exchange Traded Funds - (30.09.2023: 23.87%)		
	Franklin European Dividend UCITS ETF	240,929	1.03%
	Global X US Infrastructure Developments UCITS ETF	297,781	1.27%
	iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF	1,352,661	5.76%
	iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF	943,638	4.02%
	iShares Corp Bond 0-5yr UCITS ETF	586,264	2.49%
,	iShares MSCI France UCITS ETF	234,809	1.00%
-, -	L&G India INR Government Bond UCITS ETF	175,479	0.75%
	UBS ETF - MSCI World Small Cap Socially Responsible UCITS ETF	235,549	1.00%
	Vanguard FTSE 250 UCITS ETF	232,383	0.99%
	Xtrackers MSCI World Materials UCITS ETF	240,754	1.02%
21,406	Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	1,546,369 6,086,616	6.58% 25.91%
		6,066,616	25.91%
	Portfolio of investments (30.09.2023: 95.09%)	22,611,231	96.21%
	Net other assets (30.09.2023: 4.91%)	889,735	3.79%
		23,500,966	100.00%

^related security of the AFM

# **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES**

	£
Total purchases for the period	8,570,177
Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	942,024
iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF	757,883
iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF	609,287
Legal & General Cash	567,691 519,517
HSBC GIF Global Infrastructure Equity Polar Capital European Ex UK Income	518,517 452.924
WS Canlife Sterling Liquidity	417,668
Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield	405.935
Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity	343,624
FWU Protection Fund SICAV - Bainbridge equity Anti-Risk Strategy	304,802
Other purchases	3,249,822
Total sales for the period	£ 5,750,434
iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF	921,299
M&G Global Listed Infrastructure	424,836
HSBC European Index	410,019
Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	356,180
Dodge & Cox Worldwide Global Bond	351,427
M&G Japan	314,441
FWU Protection Fund SICAV - Bainbridge equity Anti-Risk Strategy	299,943
iShares Dow Jones Indust Average UCITS ETF	291,723
VT Castlebay UK Equity	255,452
Legal & General Cash	
Other sales	214,238 1,910,876

The above transactions represent all the purchases and sales during the period.

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the period ended 31 March					
		£	24 £	2023 £	£
Income	Net capital gains		1,433,257		276,772
	Revenue	329,706		190,353	
Expenses		(64,805)		(50,695)	
Interest payable ar	nd similar charges		_	(117)	
Net revenue before taxation		264,901		139,541	
Taxation		(11,309)	_	(1,434)	
Net revenue after taxation		_	253,592	_	138,107
Total return before distributions			1,686,849		414,879
Finance costs: distributions		-	(297,381)		(205,797)
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		-	1,389,468	_	209,082

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

For the period ended 31 March

For the period ended 31 March	2024 £	2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	19,064,938	14,805,156
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	4,290,086	3,939,548
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(1,552,772)	(746,303)
Dilution levies	394	665
Accumulation dividends retained	308,852	211,645
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	1,389,468	209,082
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	23,500,966	18,419,793

The Investment Association SORP requires that comparatives are shown for the above report. As comparatives are shown for the comparable interim period the net asset value at the end of the period will not agree to the net asset value at the start of the period. The Sub-funds net asset value as at 30 September 2023 was £19,064,938.

# **BALANCE SHEET**

As at	31.03.	.2024	30.09.20	023
	£	£	£	£
Assets				
Investment assets		22,611,231		18,128,607
Current assets				
Debtors	1,714,621		28,696	
Cash and bank balances	794,996		1,009,074	
Total current assets		2,509,617		1,037,770
Total assets		25,120,848		19,166,377
Current liabilities				
Creditors	(1,494,999)		(101,439)	
Bank overdraft	(124,883)		-	
Total current liabilities		(1,619,882)		(101,439)
Net assets attributable to shareholders	-	23,500,966		19,064,938

## **Accounting policies**

The accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023 and are described in those financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of investments and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Financial Statements of Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Association in May 2014 and to the amendments to the SORP issued by the IA in June 2017. The functional currency of the Sub-fund is Sterling.

# **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

# Q1 Interim Distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 October 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 October 2023 and on or before 31 December 2023

Class A (Accumulation)	Net revenue 29.02.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 29.02.2024	Distribution 28.02.2023
Group 1	0.6951p	-	0.6951p	0.4068p
Group 2	0.3585p	0.3366p	0.6951p	0.4068p

Class B (Accumulation)	Net revenue 29.02.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 29.02.2024	Distribution 28.02.2023
Group 1	0.6189p	-	0.6189p	0.3631p
Group 2	0.6189p	-	0.6189p	0.3631p

## Q2 Interim Distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 January 2024

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 January 2024 and on or before 31 March 2024

Class A (Assumulation)	Net revenue	Familiantian	Distribution	Distribution
Class A (Accumulation)	31.05.2024	Equalisation	31.05.2024	31.05.2023
Group 1	0.9549p	-	0.9549p	0.8761p
Group 2	0.3935p	0.5614p	0.9549p	0.8761p

Class B (Accumulation)	Net revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	0.8498p	-	0.8498p	0.7816p
Group 2	0.8498p	-	0.8498p	0.7816p

#### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund VT Freedom Long Term Balanced

**Size of Sub-fund** £80,855,930

Launch date 7 September 2020

Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of the Sub-fund is to provide a return of 6.0% (after deduction of fees) over the long term (5 years) whilst being manged with an annualised volatility target of between 6% and 8.5%, over the same period.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objective by investing at least 80% in active and passive (that is those investments which aim to track the performance of various financial indices) collective investment schemes (including funds managed and/or operated by the AFM) and exchange traded funds through which it will have exposure to investments including equities, fixed income, alternatives and cash. There is expected to be a balance between exposure to higher risk assets (such as equities) and lower risk assets such as cash, alternatives such as absolute return strategies and fixed income. At least 40% of the exposure of the Sub-fund is expected to be to such lower risk assets.

The Sub-fund may also invest in equities, fixed income, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

As noted in the objective, the portfolio of the Sub-fund will be constructed in such a way that the volatility target for the Fund will be between 6% and 8.5%. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not necessarily mean that actual volatility will be at this level as realised volatility may be different from the assumptions made by the Investment Manager.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus and as such weightings in these may vary as required.

Derivatives

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives for Efficient Portfolio Management (EPM) purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for EPM purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

**Benchmark** 

The performance of the Sub-fund can be measured by considering whether the objective is achieved i.e. whether the yield is, over the medium to long term, 6%.

The Sub-fund is not managed to or constrained by a benchmark, and nor does the AFM use a benchmark in order to assess performance.

However, many funds sold in the UK are grouped into sectors by the Investment Association (the "IA") (the trade body that represents UK investment managers), to help investors to compare funds with broadly similar characteristics.

In order to assess the Sub-fund's performance, investors may find it useful to compare the Sub-fund against the performance of the IA Mixed Investment 20-60% equity portfolio sector, which serves as a method of comparing the Sub-fund's performance with other funds which have broadly similar characteristics.

**Authorised Fund Manager** 

(AFM) Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited

**Ex-distribution dates** 30 September (final), 31 December, 31 March and 30 June (interims)

**Distribution dates** By 30 November (final), by last day of February, 31 May, 31 August (interims)

**Individual Savings** 

Account (ISA) The Sub-fund is a qualifying investment for inclusion in an ISA.

Shares Classes: Class A (Income, Accumulation)<sup>1</sup>

Class B (Income, Accumulation)<sup>1</sup> Class C (Income, Accumulation)

1 Class A shares are available only to the Investment Manager's other clients (and otherwise at the AFM's discretion. Class B shares are only available to IFA contacts of the Investment Manager (and otherwise at the AFM's discretion).

## **SUB-FUND OVERVIEW (Continued)**

#### Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: Class A = £500,000

Class B = £100,000 Class C = £1,000

Top-up: Class A = £1,000

Class B = £1,000 Class C = £1,00

Holding: Class A = £500,000

Class B = £100,000 Class C = £1,000

Redemption: N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Switching: N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Initial, redemption and switching charges

Nil

\*The AFM may waive the minimum levels (and initial charge and redemption charge) at its discretion.

#### **Annual management charges**

£41,7961 per annum plus

(A) A variable fee based on the Net Asset Value of the Sub-fund (plus VAT if applicable) as follows:

- Up to £100 million 1.5 bps (0.015%) per annum
- £100 million to £250 million 0.75 bps (0.0075%) per annum
- £250 million to £500 million 0.5 bps (0.005%) per annum
- thereafter 0.25 bps (0.0025%) per annum

**PLUS** 

(B) A variable fee depending on the share class as follows:

Class A - 0.25% per annum Class B - 0.50% per annum Class C - 0.75% per annum

The above percentages being a percentage of the Net Asset Value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant class (plus VAT if applicable).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The fixed element of the fee shall rise annually in line with the rate of inflation (calculated in accordance with the Consumer Prices Index) on 1 January each year (from 1 January 2023)). In the event of negative inflation, this fee will remain unchanged.

#### **INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REVIEW**

Over the reporting period, due to downside surprises in inflation and resilient economic data in developed markets, investors believed that key central banks would be able to cut interest rates quicker than expected and that a soft landing for the economy was more likely. This sparked a rally in risk assets, which continued to gather momentum until the end of the reporting period.

In November, the First Trust Nasdaq Clean Edge Smart Grid Infrastructure ETF was sold due to its relatively disappointing returns. The strategy's underperformance was caused by its exposure to both UK and Europe utility stocks, an area of the market that performed poorly as a consequence of tighter central bank monetary policy and weak industrial demand for energy.

At the beginning of the 2024, the Global X US Infrastructure Developments UCITS ETF was introduced to provide diversified exposure to companies that were likely to benefit from the infrastructure spend triggered by the US's Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The IRA's primary objective is to spur investments in US domestic manufacturing capacity and infrastructure renewal.

In late January, the Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield Fund was introduced. This fixed income strategy was assessed as being able to deliver an attractive income yield, while also offering the potential to deliver an element of capital appreciation through investing in short maturity high yield corporate bonds.

For the foreseeable future investment markets are likely to endure elevated geopolitical risk, which historically as tended to an inflationary experience for investment markets. The fund's multi-asset investment approach provides asset diversification and the opportunity to mitigate an element of the inflationary pressures likely over the short to medium term.

Over the reporting period the fund produced strong absolute returns, however, slightly underperformed the peer group due to its defensive positioning. The fund returned 8.13% (A Class Acc) vs 8.28% (IA Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares) over the period. (FE Analytics as at 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024).

Ascencia Investment Management Limited Investment Manager to the Fund 30 May 2024

Performance is quoted as total return

# PERFORMANCE RECORD

# **Financial Highlights**

Class A (	Accumulation)			
,	,	Six months ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 30 September 2023	Year ended 30 September 2022
Changes i	n net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
J	Opening net asset value per share	106.2161	102.2382	110.2472
	Return before operating charges	9.0525	4.7283	(7.1909)
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.4145)	(0.7504)	(0.8181)
	Return after operating charges *	8.6380	3.9779	(8.0090)
	Closing net asset value per share	114.8541	106.2161	102.2382
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	1.6195	2.3716	1.4743
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	-
Performar	nce			
	Return after charges	8.13%	3.89%	7.26%
Other info	rmation			
	Closing net asset value	£80,851,459	£76,401,351	£68,973,808
	Closing number of shares	70,394,954	71,930,091	67,463,815
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.75%	0.72%	0.77%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Prices				
	Highest share price	114.8541	108.4523	112.6999
	Lowest share price	103.9011	101.0721	101.7267
Class B (	Accumulation)			
Class D (	Accumulation)	Six months ended 31	Year ended 30	Year ended 30
		March 2024	September 2023	September 2022
Changes i	n net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
Changes	Opening net asset value per share	95.6678	92.3148	99.7951
	Return before operating charges	8.1496	4.2647	(6.5005)
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.4975)	(0.9117)	(0.9798)
	Return after operating charges *	7.6521	3.3530	(7.4803)
	Neturn after operating charges			. ,
	Closing net asset value per share	103.3199	95.6678	92.3148
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	1.4577	2.1383	1.3328
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	0.0000
Performar	nce			
	Return after charges	8.00%	(3.63%)	(7.50%)
Other info	rmation			
	Closing net asset value	£26,382	£24,428	£23,690
	Closing number of shares	25,534	25,534	25,662
	Operating charges (note 2)	1.00%	0.97%	1.02%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Б.				
Prices				
Prices	Highest share price	103.3199	97.8379	101.9835
Prices	Highest share price Lowest share price	103.3199 93.5647	97.8379 91.2512	101.9835 91.9158

#### **Financial Highlights (Continued)**

## Class B (Income)

	Six months ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 30 September 2023^
Changes in net assets per share	GBp	GBp
Opening net asset value per share	101.2984	100.0000
Return before operating charges	8.6004	4.5926
Operating charges (note 1)	(0.5228)	(0.9763)
Return after operating charges *	8.0776	3.6163
Distribution on income shares	(1.5383)	(2.3179)
Closing net asset value per share	107.8377	101.2984
*after direct transactions costs of:	0.0000	0.0000
Performance		
Return after charges	7.97%	3.62%
Other information		
Closing net asset value	£7,161	£9,930
Closing number of shares	6,640	9,803
Operating charges (note 2)	1.00%	0.97%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%
Prices		
Highest share price	108.4548	105.5881
Lowest share price	99.0715	98.8519

<sup>1.</sup> The operating charges per share figure is calculated by applying the operating charges percentage to the average net asset valuation per share throughout the period.

#### **Risk Profile**

Based on past data, the Sub-fund is ranked a '4' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document (30 September 2023 ranked '4'). The Sub-fund is ranked '4' because monthly historical performance data indicates that average rises and falls in market prices would have occurred historically.

<sup>2.</sup> The operating charges percentage is based on the expenses incurred during the period annualised, as a proportion of the average net asset value of the Sub-fund together with the ongoing charges included within the underlying Open Ended Investment Companies held within the Sub-fund's holdings.

## As at 31 March 2024

Holding	Name	Value £	% of net assets
	Collective Investment Schemes (30.09.2023: 49.65%)		
157,660	Artemis US Smaller Companies	609,480	0.74%
	Cohen & Steers Diversified Real Assets	1,400,509	1.72%
,	Fidelity Index Japan	1,422,709	1.75%
	FSSA Indian Subcontinent All-Cap	596,626	0.74%
	Guinness Global Equity Income	813,371	1.01%
	HSBC Global Investment Funds - Global Investment Grade Securitised Credit Bond	3,216,241	3.98%
,	Invesco Emerging Markets ex China	1,612,758	1.99%
•	Latitude Horizon	2,020,929	2.50%
	Lazard Global Listed Infrastructure Equity	1,812,676	2.24%
	Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity	1,423,891	1.76%
	Legal & General Cash	4,839,643	5.99%
238,000	Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield	2,620,385	3.24%
13,122	Man GLG Dynamic Income	1,993,936	2.47%
	Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond	2,615,259	3.23%
2,087	MFS Meridian Funds - Continental European Equity	1,002,408	1.24%
	Neuberger Berman Commodities	586,925	0.73%
	Pacific North of South EM Equity Income Opportunities	1,228,990	1.52%
	Polar Capital Global Insurance	1,222,331	1.51%
	Redwheel Next Generation Emerging Markets Equity	828,077	1.02%
	Regnan Sustainable Water and Waste	825,511	1.02%
	Sanlam International Inflation Linked Bond	1,400,276	1.73%
	Stewart Investors Global Emerging Markets Leaders	395,737	0.49%
	TB Saracen Global Income and Growth	1,034,622	1.28%
	TM Redwheel UK Equity Income	817,376	1.01%
	Vanguard Global Short-Term Bond Index WS Capita Starling Liquidity	2,808,549	3.47% 5.20%
	WS Canlife Sterling Liquidity WS Gresham House UK Multi Cap Income	4,206,839 615,873	0.76%
302,901	WS Greshall Flouse on Multi Cap Income	43,971,927	54.34%
		10,011,021	0 1.0 170
	Exchange Traded Funds - (30.09.2023: 39.74%)		
15,731	First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction & Process ETF	416,950	0.52%
42,620	First Trust Nasdaq Cybersecurity UCITS ETF	1,212,326	1.50%
31,816	First Trust US Equity Income UCITS ETF	838,033	1.04%
54,518	Franklin European Dividend UCITS ETF	1,242,193	1.54%
35,622	Global X US Infrastructure Developments UCITS ETF	1,024,489	1.27%
417,380	iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF	3,238,869	4.01%
•	iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF	4,872,254	6.03%
	iShares Corp Bond 0-5yr UCITS ETF	2,824,924	3.49%
	iShares MSCI EM Latin America UCITS ETF	396,496	0.49%
	iShares MSCI France UCITS ETF	1,202,628	1.49%
,	L&G India INR Government Bond UCITS ETF	805,341	1.00%
•	L&G Multi-Strategy Enhanced Commodities UCITS ETF	1,024,313	1.27%
•	Rize Global Sustainable Infrastructure UCITS ETF	191,909	0.24%
	UBS ETF - MSCI World Small Cap Socially Responsible UCITS ETF	1,056,125	1.31%
	Vanguard FTSE 250 UCITS ETF	814,533 1,621,767	1.01% 2.01%
	Xtrackers MSCI World Energy UCITS ETF Xtrackers MSCI World Health Care UCITS ETF	1,228,484	1.52%
·	Xtrackers MSCI World Materials UCITS ETF	831,240	1.03%
·	Xtrackers MSCF World Materials OCTTS ETF  Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	5,731,955	7.09%
70,010	Third the control of	30,574,829	37.86%
	Portfolio of investments (30.09.2023: 87.09%)	74,546,756	92.20%
	Net other assets (30.09.2023: 10.61%)	6,309,174	7.80%
	,	80,855,930	100.00%

## **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES**

Total purchases for the period	£ 33,500,131
Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF Man GLG Dynamic Income Lazard Global Listed Infrastructure Equity Invesco Emerging Markets ex China Fund Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity Sanlam International Inflation Linked Bond Fidelity Index Japan First Trust Nasdaq Cybersecurity UCITS ETF Other purchases	2,729,586 2,588,168 2,165,502 1,896,683 1,787,487 1,612,758 1,390,268 1,390,268 1,387,516 1,219,545 15,332,350
Total sales for the period	£ 33,142,451
iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF Dodge & Cox Worldwide Global Bond M&G Global Listed Infrastructure GBP FTF Brandywine Global Income Optimiser iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF Rize Environmental Impact 100 UCITS ETF Goldman Sachs Japan Equity Partners Portfolio Artemis Target Return Bond Fund iShares NASDAQ 100 UCITS ETF Other sales	3,425,191 2,645,714 2,400,478 1,930,062 1,893,401 1,808,664 1,741,890 1,635,075 1,598,457 1,368,747 12,694,772

The above transactions represent all the purchases and sales during the period.

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the period ended 31 March					
		£	24 £	2023 £	£
Income	Net capital gains		5,414,658		1,095,224
	Revenue	1,082,304		725,326	
Expenses		(148,188)		(129,297)	
Interest payable ar	nd similar charges	(356)	_	(217)	
Net revenue before	e taxation	933,760		595,812	
Taxation		(68,214)	_	(13,197)	
Net revenue after t	axation		865,546		582,615
Total return before	distributions		6,280,204		1,677,839
Finance costs: dist	ributions		(1,161,238)		(810,881)
•	ssets attributable to n investment activities		5,118,966		866,958

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

#### For the period ended 31 March

For the period ended 31 march	2024 £	2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	76,298,364	68,942,353
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	3,543,239	8,116,190
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(5,254,788)	(3,603,961)
Accumulation dividends retained	1,150,149	824,348
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	5,118,966	866,958
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	80,855,930	75,145,888

The Investment Association SORP requires that comparatives are shown for the above report. As comparatives are shown for the comparable interim period the net asset value at the end of the period will not agree to the net asset value at the start of the period. The Sub-funds net asset value as at 30 September 2023 was £76,298,364.

## **BALANCE SHEET**

As at	31.03.2024 £	£	30.09.202	3 £
Assets				
Investment assets		74,546,756		68,204,464
Current assets				
Debtors	10,636,066		134,667	
Cash and bank balances	4,222,479		8,775,742	
Total current assets		14,858,545		8,910,409
Total assets	;	89,405,301		77,114,873
Current liabilities				
Creditors	(8,314,949)		(816,439)	
Bank overdraft	(234,360)		-	
Distribution payable on income shares	(62)		(70)	
Total current liabilities		(8,549,371)		(816,509)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		80,855,930		76,298,364

## **Accounting policies**

The accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023 and are described in those financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of investments and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Financial Statements of Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Association in May 2014 and to the amendments to the SORP issued by the IA in June 2017. The functional currency of the Sub-fund is Sterling.

## **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

## Q1 Interim Distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 October 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 October 2023 and on or before 31 December 2023

Class A (Accumulation)	Net revenue 29.02.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 29.02.2024	Distribution 28.02.2023
Group 1	0.6261p	-	0.6261p	0.3722p
Group 2	0.3039p	0.3222p	0.6261p	0.3722p

Class B (Accumulation)	Net revenue 29.02.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 29.02.2024	Distribution 28.02.2023
Group 1	0.5638p	-	0.5638p	0.3356p
Group 2	0.5638p	-	0.5638p	0.3356p

	Net revenue		Distribution	Distribution
Class B (Income)	29.02.2024	Equalisation	29.02.2024	28.02.2023
Group 1	0.5971p	-	0.5971p	0.3847p
Group 2	0.5971p	-	0.5971p	0.3847p

## Q2 Interim Distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 January 2024

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 January 2024 and on or before 31 March 2024

	Net revenue		Distribution	Distribution
Class A (Accumulation)	31.05.2024	Equalisation	31.05.2024	31.05.2023
Group 1	0.9934p	-	0.9934p	0.7878p
Group 2	0.3504p	0.6430p	0.9934p	0.7878p

	Net revenue		Distribution	Distribution
Class B (Accumulation)	31.05.2024	Equalisation	31.05.2024	31.05.2023
Group 1	0.8939p	-	0.8939p	0.7108p
Group 2	0.8939p	-	0.8939p	0.7108p

	Net revenue		Distribution	Distribution
Class B (Income)	31.05.2024	Equalisation	31.05.2024	31.05.2023
Group 1	0.9412p	-	0.9412p	0.7670p
Group 2	0.7068p	0.2344p	0.9412p	0.7670p

#### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund VT Freedom Long Term Growth

**Size of Sub-fund** £40,001,878

Launch date 7 September 2020

Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of the Sub-fund is to provide a return (i.e. growth) of 6.5% (after deduction of fees) over the long term (5 years) whilst being manged with an annualised volatility target of between 8% and 10%, over the same period.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objective (and so deliver growth) by investing at least 80% in active and passive (that is those investments which aim to track the performance of various financial indices) collective investment schemes (including funds managed and/or operated by the AFM) and exchange traded funds through which is will gain exposure to investments including equities, fixed income, alternatives and cash. There is expected to be a preference towards exposure to higher risk assets such as equities. However, at least 30% of overall exposure will be to lower risk assets such as cash, alternatives such as absolute return strategies and fixed income.

The Sub-fund may also invest in equities, fixed income, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

As noted in the objective, the portfolio of the Sub-fund will be constructed in such a way that the volatility target for the Fund will be between 8% and 10%. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not necessarily mean that actual volatility will be at this level as realised volatility may be different from the assumptions made by the Investment Manager.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus and as such weightings in these may vary as required.

**Derivatives** 

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives for Efficient Portfolio Management (EPM) purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for EPM purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Benchmark

The performance of the Sub-fund can be measured by considering whether the objective is achieved i.e. whether the yield is, over the medium to long term, 6.5%.

The Sub-fund is not managed to or constrained by a benchmark, and nor does the AFM use a benchmark in order to assess performance.

However, many funds sold in the UK are grouped into sectors by the Investment Association (the "IA") (the trade body that represents UK investment managers), to help investors to compare funds with broadly similar characteristics.

In order to assess the Sub-fund's performance, investors may find it useful to compare the Sub-fund against the performance of the IA Mixed Investment 40-85% equity portfolio sector, which serves as a method of comparing the Sub-fund's performance with other funds which have broadly similar characteristics.

**Authorised Fund Manager** 

(AFM) Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited

Ex-distribution dates 30 September (final), 31 December, 31 March and 30 June (interims)

Distribution dates By 30 November (final), by last day of February, 31 May, 31 August (interims)

**Individual Savings** 

Account (ISA) The Sub-fund is a qualifying investment for inclusion in an ISA.

Shares Classes: Class A (Income, Accumulation)<sup>1</sup>

Class B (Income, Accumulation)<sup>1</sup> Class C (Income, Accumulation)

1 Class A shares are available only to the Investment Manager's other clients (and otherwise at the AFM's discretion. Class B shares are only available to IFA contacts of the Investment Manager (and otherwise at the AFM's discretion).

## **SUB-FUND OVERVIEW (Continued)**

#### Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: Class A = £500,000

Class B = £100,000 Class C = £1,000

Top-up: Class A = £1,000

Class B = £1,000 Class C = £1,00

Holding: Class A = £500,000

Class B = £100,000 Class C = £1,000

Redemption: N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Switching: N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Initial, redemption and switching charges

Nil

\*The AFM may waive the minimum levels (and initial charge and redemption charge) at its discretion.

## Annual management charges

£41,796<sup>1</sup> per annum plus

(A) A variable fee based on the Net Asset Value of the Sub-fund (plus VAT if applicable) as follows:

- Up to £100 million 1.5 bps (0.015%) per annum
- £100 million to £250 million 0.75 bps (0.0075%) per annum
- £250 million to £500 million 0.5 bps (0.005%) per annum
- thereafter 0.25 bps (0.0025%) per annum

**PLUS** 

(B) A variable fee depending on the share class as follows:

Class A - 0.25% per annum Class B - 0.50% per annum Class C - 0.75% per annum

The above percentages being a percentage of the Net Asset Value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant class (plus VAT if applicable).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The fixed element of the fee shall rise annually in line with the rate of inflation (calculated in accordance with the Consumer Prices Index) on 1 January each year (from 1 January 2023)). In the event of negative inflation, this fee will remain unchanged.

#### **INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REVIEW**

Over the reporting period, due to downside surprises in inflation and resilient economic data in developed markets, investors believed that key central banks would be able to cut interest rates quicker than expected and that a soft landing for the economy was more likely. This sparked a rally in risk assets, which continued to gather momentum until the end of the reporting period.

In November, the First Trust Nasdaq Clean Edge Smart Grid Infrastructure ETF was sold due to its relatively disappointing returns. The strategy's underperformance was caused by its exposure to both UK and Europe utility stocks, an area of the market that performed poorly as a consequence of tighter central bank monetary policy and weak industrial demand for energy.

At the beginning of the 2024, the Global X US Infrastructure Developments UCITS ETF was introduced to provide diversified exposure to companies that were likely to benefit from the infrastructure spend triggered by the US's Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The IRA's primary objective is to spur investments in US domestic manufacturing capacity and infrastructure renewal.

In late January, the Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield Fund was introduced. This fixed income strategy was assessed as being able to deliver an attractive income yield, while also offering the potential to deliver an element of capital appreciation through investing in short maturity high yield corporate bonds.

For the foreseeable future investment markets are likely to endure elevated geopolitical risk, which historically as tended to an inflationary experience for investment markets. The Fund's multi-asset investment approach provides asset diversification and the opportunity to mitigate an element of the inflationary pressures likely over the short to medium term.

Over the reporting period the fund produced strong absolute returns, however, slightly underperformed the peer group due to its defensive positioning. The fund returned 9.11% (A Class Acc) vs 10.18% (IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares) over the period. (FE Analytics as at 29th May 2024).

Ascencia Investment Management Limited Investment Manager to the Fund 30 May 2024

Performance is quoted as total return

## PERFORMANCE RECORD

# Financial Highlights

Class A (A	accumulation)	Six months ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 30 September 2023	Year ended 30 September 2022
Changes in	n net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
Changes ii	Opening net asset value per share	109.8355	105.3210	114.1518
	Return before operating charges	10.4974	5.4074	(7.8651)
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.4938)	(0.8929)	(0.9657)
	Return after operating charges *	10.0036	4.5145	(8.8308)
	Closing net asset value per share	119.8391	109.8355	105.3210
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	1.6484	2.3425	1.4474
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	-
Performan	ce			
	Return after charges	9.11%	4.29%	(7.74%)
Other infor	mation			
	Closing net asset value	£39,978,949	£36,488,100	£28,469,627
	Closing number of shares	33,360,510	33,220,688	27,031,284
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.86%	0.83%	0.88%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Prices	High act shows with	440,0004	440.7070	447.0047
	Highest share price Lowest share price	119.8391 106.9379	112.7972 103.9935	117.2847 104.3627
Class B (A	Accumulation)			
		Six months ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 30 September 2023	Year ended 30 September 2022
Changes in	n net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
	Opening net asset value per share	95.6622	91.9637	99.9084
	Return before operating charges	9.1373	4.7117	(6.8606)
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.5547)	(1.0132)	(1.0841)
	Return after operating charges *	8.5826	3.6985	(7.9447)
	Closing net asset value per share	104.2448	95.6622	91.9637
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	1.9612	2.4906	1.4933
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	-
Performan	ce			
	Return after charges	8.97%	4.02%	(7.95%)
Other infor				
	Closing net asset value	£41,465	£80,623	£73,888
	Closing number of shares	39,776	84,279	80,345
	Operating charges (note 2)	1.11%	1.08%	1.13%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Prices	Highest share orige	404.0440	00.4004	400 0470
	Highest share price	104.2448	98.4001	102.6173
	Lowest share price	93.1207	90.7985	91.1888

## **PERFORMANCE RECORD (Continued)**

- 1. The operating charges per share figure is calculated by applying the operating charges percentage to the average net asset valuation per share throughout the period.
- 2. The operating charges percentage is based on the expenses incurred during the period annualised, as a proportion of the average net asset value of the Sub-fund together with the ongoing charges included within the underlying Open Ended Investment Companies held within the Sub-fund's holdings.

#### **Risk Profile**

Based on past data, the Sub-fund is ranked a '4' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document (30 September 2023 ranked '4'). The Sub-fund is ranked '4' because monthly historical performance data indicates that average rises and falls in market prices would have occurred historically.

## As at 31 March 2024

Holding	Name	Value £	% of net assets
	Collective Investment Schemes (30.09.2023: 47.01%)		
103,879	Artemis US Smaller Companies	401,577	1.01%
65,625	Cohen & Steers Diversified Real Assets	692,858	1.73%
343,270	Fidelity Index Japan	815,609	2.04%
	FSSA Indian Subcontinent All-Cap	387,103	0.97%
	Guinness Global Equity Income	791,357	1.98%
•	HSBC Global Investment Funds - Global Investment Grade Securitised Credit Bond	981,199	2.45%
	Invesco Emerging Markets ex China	996,205	2.49%
•	Latitude Horizon	985,122	2.46%
•	Lazard Global Listed Infrastructure Equity	883,557	2.21%
	Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity	787,817 1,295,431	1.97% 3.24%
	Legal & General Cash Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield	1,195,861	2.99%
	Man GLG Dynamic Income	789,431	1.97%
	Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond	890,187	2.23%
	MFS Meridian Funds - Continental European Equity	592,675	1.48%
•	Neuberger Berman Commodities	391,251	0.98%
	Pacific North of South EM Equity Income Opportunities	690,762	1.73%
	Polar Capital Global Insurance	604,035	1.51%
	Redwheel Next Generation Emerging Markets Equity	399,787	1.00%
	Regnan Sustainable Water and Waste	603,291	1.51%
620,823	Sanlam International Inflation Linked Bond	599,343	1.50%
61,189	Stewart Investors Global Emerging Markets Leaders	385,004	0.96%
•	TB Saracen Global Income and Growth	608,907	1.52%
	TM Redwheel UK Equity Income	605,052	1.51%
	Vanguard Global Short-Term Bond Index	785,166	1.96%
	WS Canlife Sterling Liquidity	1,195,881	2.99%
229,804	WS Gresham House UK Multi Cap Income	389,931	0.97%
		19,744,399	49.36%
	Exchange Traded Funds - (30.09.2023: 45.97%)		
14,986	First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction & Process ETF	397,204	0.99%
21,061	First Trust Nasdaq Cybersecurity UCITS ETF	599,080	1.50%
19,859	First Trust US Equity Income UCITS ETF	523,086	1.31%
	Franklin European Dividend UCITS ETF	599,063	1.50%
	Global X US Infrastructure Developments UCITS ETF	607,814	1.52%
,	iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF	2,000,660	5.00%
•	iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF	3,109,716	7.77%
	iShares Corp Bond 0-5yr UCITS ETF	997,097	2.49%
	iShares MSCI EM Latin America UCITS ETF	395,979	0.99%
•	iShares MSCI France UCITS ETF	602,338	1.51%
	L&G India INR Government Bond UCITS ETF L&G Multi-Strategy Enhanced Commodities UCITS ETF	298,476 613,792	0.75% 1.53%
·	Rize Global Sustainable Infrastructure UCITS ETF	91,472	0.23%
,	UBS ETF - MSCI World Small Cap Socially Responsible UCITS ETF	606,871	1.52%
	Vanguard FTSE 250 UCITS ETF	492,573	1.23%
	Xtrackers MSCI World Energy UCITS ETF	899,163	2.25%
	Xtrackers MSCI World Health Care UCITS ETF	809,441	2.02%
•	Xtrackers MSCI World Materials UCITS ETF	509,790	1.27%
•	Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	3,742,971	9.36%
		17,896,586	44.74%
	Portfolio of investments (30.09.2023: 92.98%)	37,640,985	94.10%
	Net other assets (30.09.2023: 7.02%)	2,360,893	5.90%
		40,001,878	100.00%

## **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES**

Total purchases for the period	£ 20,561,199
Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF Lord Abbett Short Duration High Yield Invesco Emerging Markets ex China Fund Lazard Global Listed Infrastructure Equity Xtrackers MSCI World Health Care UCITS ETF Guinness Global Equity Income Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity Fidelity Index Japan Man GLG Dynamic Income Other purchases	2,190,907 1,620,312 1,206,790 996,205 892,589 806,959 793,412 793,412 792,290 770,318 9,698,005
Total purchases for the period	£ 20,275,578
iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF Xtrackers S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF M&G Global Listed Infrastructure Goldman Sachs Japan Equity Partners Portfolio Rize Environmental Impact 100 UCITS ETF Dodge & Cox Worldwide Global Bond iShares NASDAQ 100 UCITS ETF WS Canlife Sterling Liquidity First Trust Nasdaq Clean Edge Smart Grid Infrastructure Other sales	2,325,585 1,802,448 1,083,003 1,005,888 931,200 914,567 878,977 864,964 814,084 806,411 8,848,451

The above transactions represent all the purchases and sales during the period.

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the period ende	ed 31 March	20	024	202	3
		£	£	£	£
Income	Net capital gains		3,109,260		519,822
	Revenue	484,769		323,392	
Expenses		(89,277)		(72,747)	
Interest payable and	similar charges	(236)		(545)	
Net revenue before to	axation	395,256		250,100	
Taxation		(14,361)			
Net revenue after tax	ration		380,895	_	250,100
Total return before di	stributions		3,490,155		769,922
Finance costs: distrib	outions		(566,915)	<del>-</del>	(377,808)
Changes in net assesshareholders from i	ets attributable to investment activities		2,923,240	_	392,114

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

# For the period ended 31 March

	2024 £	2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	36,527,022	28,524,379
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	3,260,051	8,040,012
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(3,269,348)	(1,787,894)
Dilution levies	-	1,598
Accumulation dividends retained	560,913	392,892
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	2,923,240	392,114
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	40,001,878	35,563,101

The Investment Association SORP requires that comparatives are shown for the above report. As comparatives are shown for the comparable interim period the net asset value at the end of the period will not agree to the net asset value at the start of the period. The Sub-funds net asset value as at 30 September 2023 was £36,527,022.

## **BALANCE SHEET**

As at	31.03.2024		30.09.2023
	£	£	£
Assets			
Investment assets	37	7,640,985	33,961,982
Current assets			
Debtors	5,826,086	3	30,942
Cash and bank balances	1,567,909	2,71	13,465
Total current assets	7	7,393,995	2,744,407
Total assets	45	5,034,980	36,706,389
Current liabilities			
Creditors	(4,883,104)	(179	9,367)
Bank overdraft	(149,998)		-
Total current liabilities	(5,	033,102)	(179,367)
Net assets attributable to shareholders	40	0,001,878	36,527,022

## **Accounting policies**

The accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023 and are described in those financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of investments and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Financial Statements of Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Association in May 2014 and to the amendments to the SORP issued by the IA in June 2017. The functional currency of the Subfund is Sterling.

## **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

## Q1 Interim Distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 October 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 October 2023 and on or before 31 December 2023

Class A (Accumulation)	Net revenue 29.02.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 29.02.2024	Distribution 28.02.2023
Group 1	0.5997p	=	0.5997p	0.4094p
Group 2	0.2861p	0.3136p	0.5997p	0.4094p

	Net revenue		Distribution	Distribution
Class B (Accumulation)	29.02.2024	Equalisation	29.02.2024	28.02.2023
Group 1	0.5222p	-	0.5222p	0.3574p
Group 2	0.5222p	-	0.5222p	0.3574p

# Q2 Interim Distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 January 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 January 2023 and on or before 31 March 2023

Class A (Accumulation)	Net revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	1.0487p	- Equalisation	1.0487p	0.8053p
Group 2	0.3422p	0.7065p	1.0487p	0.8053p

Class B (Accumulation)	Net revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	0.9125p	-	0.9125p	0.7025p
Group 2	0.1435p	0.7690p	0.9125p	0.7025p

#### INFORMATION FOR INVESTORS

#### Taxation

The Company will pay no corporation tax on its profits for the period ended 31 March 2024. Capital gains within the Company will not be taxed.

#### Individual shareholders

**Income tax:** Tax-free annual dividend allowance now standing at £1,000 (2023/24). UK resident shareholders are now subject to tax on dividend income in excess of the annual allowance. UK resident shareholders are subject to tax on dividend income in excess of the annual allowance.

#### Capital gains tax:

Individual shareholders resident in the UK for tax purposes may be liable to capital gains tax on realisation of their shares as with other chargeable assets. However, the first £6,000 (2023/2024) of gains each year are presently tax free for individuals. Gains in excess of that amount are charged at the rate of tax applicable to the individual tax payer.

#### Corporate shareholders

Companies resident for tax purposes in the UK which hold shares should note that OEIC distributions are streamed into both franked and unfranked income. The unfranked income element will be treated as an annual payment which has been subject to income tax at a rate of 20% and will be liable to tax accordingly. On realisation of their shares, UK resident companies may be liable to pay corporation tax on any capital gains.

The above information on taxation is only a general summary, and shareholders should consult their own tax advisors in relation to their own circumstances. Shareholders should also note that the position as outlined may change to reflect future changes in tax legislation.

#### Issue and redemption of shares

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited is the AFM and Registrar. Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited will receive requests for the purchase or sale of shares at any time during 8.30am to 5.30pm. Instructions may be given by email to the below email address or by sending an application form to the Registrar. Application forms are available from the Registrar. (E-mail:Freedom@valu-trac.com).

The price of shares will be determined by reference to a valuation of the Company's net assets at 12 noon on each dealing day.

The AFM has the right to reject, on reasonable grounds relating to the circumstances of the applicant, any application for shares in whole or part, and in this event the AFM will return any money sent, or the balance of such monies, at the risk of the applicant. In addition the AFM may reject any application previously accepted in circumstances where the applicant has paid by cheque and that cheque subsequently fails to be cleared.

Any subscription monies remaining after a whole number of shares has been issued will not be returned to the applicant. Instead, smaller denomination shares will be issued in such circumstances.

A contract note giving details of the shares purchased and the price used will be issued by the Registrar by the end of the business day following the valuation point by reference to which the purchase price is determined.

Ownership of shares will be evidenced by an entry on the Company's Register of Shareholders. Certificates will not be issued. Statements in respect of periodic distributions of revenue will show the number of shares held by the recipient in respect of which the distribution is made. Individual statements of a shareholder's shares will also be issued at any time on request by the registered holder.

Where shares are redeemed, payment will be made not later than the close of business on the fourth business day following the next valuation point after receipt by the AFM of a request for redemption.

The most recent issue and redemption prices are available from the AFM.

# CORPORATE DIRECTORY

Authorised Fund	Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited
Manager & Registrar	Orton
Manager & Registral	Fochabers
	1
	Moray
	IV32 7QE
	Telephone: 01343 880344
	Fax: 01343 880267
	Email: Freedom@valu-trac.com
	Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority
	Registered in England No 2428648
Director	Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited as AFM
Investment Manager	Ascencia Investment Management Limited
Introduction in an age.	Frenkel House
	15 Carolina Way
	Salford
	Manchester
	M50 2ZY
Depositary	NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited
	House A
	Floor 0, 175 Glasgow Road
	Gogarburn
	Edinburgh
	EH12 1HQ
	Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority
Auditor	Johnston Carmichael LLP
Auditor	
	Chartered Accountants
	Commerce House
	South Street
	Elgin
	IV30 1JE