# **VT AJ BELL ICVC**

(Sub-funds VT AJ Bell Cautious, VT AJ Bell Balanced, VT AJ Bell Adventurous, VT AJ Bell Moderately Cautious, VT AJ Bell Moderately Adventurous, VT AJ Bell Global Growth, VT AJ Bell Income, VT AJ Bell Income and Growth and VT AJ Bell Responsible Growth)

Annual Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2024

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# Type of Company:

VT AJ Bell ICVC (the 'Company') is an investment company (company number IC001082) with variable capital incorporated in England and Wales under the Open Ended Investment Company Regulations 2001 (SI2001/1228).

The Company was incorporated and authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority on 10 March 2017.

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.

The shareholders are not liable for the debts of the Company.

### STATEMENT OF THE AUTHORISED 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 Auth hereby certify the annual report.	hority's Collective Investment S	scheme's Sourcebook, we
Anne A. Laing CA		
Jonathan Sim MA CA		
Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited Authorised Fund Manager		
Date:		

# STATEMENT OF THE DEPOSITARY'S RESPONSIBILITIES AND REPORT OF THE DEPOSITARY TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF VT AJ BELL ICVC

### For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Depositary must ensure that the Company is managed in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook, the Open-Ended Investment Companies Regulations 2001 (SI 2001/1228) (the OEIC Regulations), as amended, the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended, (together "the Regulations"), and the Company's Instrument of Incorporation and Prospectus (together "the Scheme documents") as detailed below.

The Depositary must in the context of its role act honestly, fairly, professionally, independently and in the interests of the Company and its investors.

The Depositary is responsible for the safekeeping of all custodial assets and maintaining a record of all other assets of the Company in accordance with the Regulations.

The Depositary must ensure that:

- > the Company's cash flows are properly monitored and that cash of the Company is booked into the cash accounts in accordance with the Regulations;
- > the sale, issue, redemption and cancellation of shares are carried out in accordance with the Regulations;
- > the value of shares in the Company is calculated in accordance with the Regulations;
- > any consideration relating to transactions in the Company's assets is remitted to the Company within the usual time limits;
- > the Company's income is applied in accordance with the Regulations; and
- > the instructions of the Authorised Fund Manager ("the AFM") are carried out (unless they conflict with the Regulations).

The Depositary also has a duty to take reasonable care to ensure that the Company is managed in accordance with the Regulations and the Scheme documents in relation to the investment and borrowing powers applicable to the Company.

Having carried out such procedures as we consider necessary to discharge our responsibilities as Depositary of the Company, it is our opinion, based on the information available to us and the explanations provided, that in all material respects the Company, acting through the AFM:

- i) has carried out the issue, sale, redemption and cancellation, and calculation of the price of the Company's shares and application of the Company's income in accordance with the Regulations and the Scheme documents of the Company, and
- ii) has observed the Investment and borrowing powers and restrictions applicable to the Company.

NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited 01 April 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF VT AJ BELL ICVC (SUB-FUNDS VT AJ BELL CAUTIOUS, VT AJ BELL BALANCED, VT AJ BELL ADVENTUROUS, VT AJ BELL MODERATELY CAUTIOUS, VT AJ BELL MODERATELY ADVENTUROUS, VT AJ BELL GLOBAL GROWTH, VT AJ BELL INCOME, VT AJ BELL INCOME AND GROWTH AND VT AJ BELL RESPONSIBLE GROWTH)

### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of VT AJ Bell ICVC (the "Company"):

- > give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company and of the Sub-funds as at 31 March 2024 and of the net revenue and the net capital gains on the scheme property of the Company and of the Sub-funds for the year then ended; and
- > have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law), the Statement of Recommended Practice for UK Authorised Funds, the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook and the Instrument of Incorporation. VT AJ Bell ICVC is an Open Ended Investment Company ('OEIC') with nine Subfunds. The financial statements of the Company comprise the financial statements of the Sub-funds.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report and Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the balance sheet as at 31 March 2024; the statement of total return, and the statement of changes in net assets attributable to shareholders for the year then ended; the distribution tables; the accounting policies; and notes to the financial statements

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Independence

We remained independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

### **Conclusions Relating to Going Concern**

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Company's or the Sub-funds ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date on which the financial statements are authorised for issue.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Authorised Fund Manager's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the Company's or the Sub-funds ability to continue as a going concern.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Authorised Fund Manager with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Authorised Fund Manager is responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

#### Authorised Fund Manager's Report

In our opinion, the information given in the Authorised Fund Manager's Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- > Proper accounting records for the Company have been kept and the accounts are in agreement with those records;
- > We have received all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit; and
- > The information given in the report of the Authorised Fund Manager for the year is consistent with the financial statements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF VT AJ BELL ICVC (SUB-FUNDS VT AJ BELL CAUTIOUS, VT AJ BELL BALANCED, VT AJ BELL ADVENTUROUS, VT AJ BELL MODERATELY CAUTIOUS, VT AJ BELL MODERATELY ADVENTUROUS, VT AJ BELL GLOBAL GROWTH, VT AJ BELL INCOME, VT AJ BELL INCOME AND GROWTH AND VT AJ BELL RESPONSIBLE GROWTH) (Continued)

### Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

### Responsibilities of the Authorised Fund Manager

As explained more fully in the Statement of Authorised Fund Managers' Responsibilities, the Authorised Fund Manager is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Authorised Fund Manager is also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the Authorised Fund Manager is responsible for assessing the Company's and the Sub-funds ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Authorised Fund Manager either intends to wind up or terminate the Company or Sub-funds, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the Company/industry, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to breaches of the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements, in particular those parts of the sourcebook which may directly impact on the determination of amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to increase revenue or to increase the net asset value of the Company or the Sub-funds and judgements and assumptions made by management in their significant accounting estimates. Audit procedures performed included:

- > Discussions with the Authorised Fund Manager, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- > Identifying and testing journal entries, specifically any journals posted as part of the financial year end close process; and
- > Designing audit procedures to incorporate unpredictability around the nature, timing or extent of our testing.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion. A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF VT AJ BELL ICVC (SUB-FUNDS VT AJ BELL CAUTIOUS, VT AJ BELL BALANCED, VT AJ BELL ADVENTUROUS, VT AJ BELL MODERATELY CAUTIOUS, VT AJ BELL MODERATELY ADVENTUROUS, VT AJ BELL GLOBAL GROWTH, VT AJ BELL INCOME, VT AJ BELL INCOME AND GROWTH AND VT AJ BELL RESPONSIBLE GROWTH) (Continued)

#### Use of this Report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the Company's shareholders as a body in accordance with paragraph 4.5.12 of the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook as required by paragraph 67(2) of the Open-Ended Investment Companies Regulations 2001 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

#### Other required reporting

#### Opinions on matters required by the Collective Schemes sourcebook

In our opinion, we have obtained all the information and explanations we consider necessary for the purposes of the audit.

#### Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook exception reporting

Under the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook we are also required to report to you if, in our opinion: >proper accounting records have not been kept; or

>the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Stuart McMartin FCA (senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of Frame Kennedy Ltd Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors Metropolitan House, 31-33 High Street Inverness IV1 1HT

19 July 2024

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### For the year ended 31 March 2024

The principal accounting polices, which have been applied in both the current and prior year, are set out below:

### 1 Accounting policies

- (a) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102, the Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds (SORP) issued by the Investment Association (IA) in May 2014 and the amendments to the SORP issued by the IA in June 2017. The functional currency is Sterling.
- (b) There are no material events that have been identified that may cast significant doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for at least the next twelve months from the date these financial statements are authorised for issue. The AFM believes that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.
- (c) Expenses other than those relating to the purchase and sale of investments, are charged to revenue on an accruals basis.
  - All expenses for VT AJ Bell Moderately Cautious (Income share class only), VT AJ Bell Income and VT AJ Bell Income and Growth are then reallocated to capital, net of any tax effect for distribution purposes. Expenses for VT AJ Bell Responsible Growth are reallocated to capital, net of any tax effect for distribution purposes when there is no income to cover the expenses of the Sub-fund.
- (d) Distributions on collective investment schemes and exchange traded funds are recognised when the security is quoted exdividend. Interest on deposits and debt securities are accounted for on an accrual's basis. In the case of non-index linked debt securities any difference between acquisition cost and maturity value is recognised as revenue over the life of the security using the straight-line basis of calculating amortisation while index linked debt securities any difference between acquisition cost and maturity value is recognised as revenue over the life of the security using effective yield basis of calculating amortisation. Rebates from the investment manager are allocated to revenue on an accrual's basis. For VT AJ Bell Income and VT AJ Bell Income and Growth, Investment manager rebates are then reallocated to capital, net of any tax effect for distribution purposes. Rebates from underlying holdings are recognised on an accruals basis and are allocated to revenue or capital being decided by the allocation of the expense in the underlying funds. Excess Reportable Income is recognised once reported by the relevant funds. Equalisation on distributions from collectives is treated as capital. All equalisation on distributions from collectives is then reallocated to revenue, for distribution purposes.
- (e) The ordinary element of stocks received in lieu of cash dividends is recognised as revenue of the Sub-funds, and where applicable is included in the distribution. In the case of an enhanced stock dividend the value of the enhancement is treated as capital.
- (f) Investments are stated at their fair value at the balance sheet date. In determining fair value, the valuation point is 12 noon on 28 March 2024 with reference to quoted bid prices from reliable external sources. Unlisted collective investment schemes are valued at the closing bid price for dual priced funds and the closing single price for single priced funds.
- (g) All transactions in foreign currencies are converted into Sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the dates of such transactions. Foreign currency assets and liabilities at the end of the accounting period are translated at the exchange rates at 12 noon on 28 March 2024.
- (h) Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events have occurred at that date that will result in an obligation to pay less or receive more tax.
  - Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that the AFM considers that it is more likely than not there will be taxable profits from which underlying timing differences can be deducted.
- (i) Tax is provided using tax rates and laws which have been enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.
- (j) The Sub-fund operates a dilution adjustment also known as swing pricing. This means that the daily price of the Sub-fund is swung up or down, depending on whether there are net inflows or outflows respectively. This means that the costs of transactions in the underlying investments of the Sub-fund are borne by those entering or exiting, rather than affecting the returns of existing shareholders. The dilution adjustment will be calculated by reference to the costs of dealing in the underlying investments of that fund, including any dealing spreads, and these can vary with market conditions. The AFM estimates that the estimated range of this adjustment will typically fall in the range of 0.01% to 0.15% when buying or selling shares, with a maximum of 0.25% expected.

# **ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

(k) The Sub-funds currently issues Accumulation & Income shares. All the Sub-funds with the exception of VT AJ Bell Income and VT AJ Bell Income and Growth go ex dividend semi-annually and pay any income available to the shareholders two months in arrears, as a dividend distribution. VT AJ Bell Income and VT AJ Bell Income and Growth go ex dividend monthly and pay any income available to the shareholders one month in arrears, as a dividend distribution. Any revenue deficit at the year end is funded from capital.

If a distribution remains unclaimed for a period of six years after it has become due, it will be forfeited and will revert to the relevant Sub-fund (or if it no longer exists the AFM). Application to claim distributions that have not been paid should be made to the AFM before this six year period has elapsed.

For the treatment of expenses revert to policy 'c'.

Equalisation applies only to shares purchased during the distribution period (Group 2 shares). It represents the accrued revenue included in the purchase price of the shares. It is returned with the distribution as a capital repayment. It is not liable to income tax but must be deducted from the cost of the shares for capital gains tax purposes.

#### **SUB-FUND OVERVIEW**

Name of Sub-fund

VT AJ Bell Cautious

Size of Sub-fund

£99,114,249

Launch date

18 April 2017

Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of VT AJ Bell Cautious is to achieve long-term capital growth with a high level of exposure (often indirect) to defensive assets such as cash, fixed interest securities, money market funds and collective investment schemes following alternative strategies such as property and commodities and a low level of exposure to higher risk assets such as equities. This is to keep the Sub-fund within a pre-determined risk profile.

Capital is in fact at risk and there is no guarantee that capital growth will be achieved over a 5 year, or any, period.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objective (and so provide exposure to the asset classes noted in the objective) by investing predominantly (80% +), in index-tracking investments or strategies (those instruments and/or investment strategies that aim to track the performance of various financial indices) and which typically consist of collective investment schemes (including those managed or operated by the AFM) as well as equities, bonds and transferable securities.

The Sub-fund may also invest in non-index tracking collective investment schemes, equities, bonds, transferable securities, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus and as such weightings in these may vary as required. The Sub-fund may have exposure to emerging markets through its investments in e.g. collective investment schemes or futures.

The Sub-fund's risk profile is managed by restricting the types of asset held and allocations to those assets. The risk profiles are determined by the external risk rating agency's forward looking volatility assumptions. The Sub-fund aims to operate with a risk rating of 3, on a scale of 1-10 where 1 is an allocation to cash and 10 is an allocation to riskier equity regions such as Asia and emerging markets.

Derivatives (that is sophisticated investment instruments linked to the rise and fall of the price of other assets) are held only for efficient portfolio management purposes.

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives only for efficient portfolio management purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for efficient portfolio management purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Due to its multi-asset nature, no financial instrument or index represents a fair benchmark for the Sub-fund, however it is suggested that the performance of the Sub-fund can be assessed by comparing its total return to funds with similar return and/or risk objectives. The IA (Investment Association) provides the median performance of funds with similar characteristics (IA sectors). The Subfund is assigned to the Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares IA sector. Other providers also provide peer groups, based on asset allocation or historical volatility, of which the Sub-fund may be assigned, these may be a useful guide to assess performance.

The current external risk rating agency of the Sub-fund is Distribution Technology. The Sub-fund may replace the external risk agency from time to time, which will be communicated in any future publications of the Prospectus.

**Derivatives:** 

Additional information:

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

**Ex-distribution dates** 31 March and 30 September

**Distribution dates** 31 May and 30 November

Individual Savings Account (ISA)

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

Share Classes: I (Accumulation)

A (Accumulation)

Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: All share classes = £1,000

Top up: All share classes = £25

Holding: All share classes = £1

Redemption: All share classes = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Switching: All share classes = N/A(provided minimum holding is maintained)

Initial, redemption and switching charges N

### **Annual Management charges**

I (Accumulation) = 0.31% A (Accumulation) = 0.45%

The above percentage being percentage of the net asset value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant Class (plus VAT if applicable).

From the 4 January 2022 an all-in fee was introduced which results in all the operating charges being taken out of the Annual Management charge shown above. This will result in future ongoing charges figures to be the same as the Annual Management charge. For more information about charges, please see sections 3.6 ("Dealing Charges") & 7 ("Fees and Expenses") of the prospectus.

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

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

Over the twelve months, the I Acc share class of the fund returned 6.5% compared to the IA Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares sector, which returned 5.8%. The fund managed the volatility in bond markets well over the year and was well positioned in riskier global high yield bonds. The equity market exposure within the fund is diversified by region. Holdings in US and Japanese equities performed well over the year, whilst those in Emerging markets and the UK were laggards.

Activity in the nine months of 2023 applicable to this report related to the management of the fund's concentration in certain holdings. Within high yield bonds these included the State Street Global High Yield Bond ESG Screened Index Fund, the Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG ETF and the JPMorgan Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor ETF, which was subsequently removed from the fund in July. A new holding in the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF was added to the fund in May. Activity in UK equities also fell into this camp, with a partial sale of Lyxor Core Morningstar UK ETF being replaced with the Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Unit Trust.

The asset allocation of the fund is broken down by asset class and currency. We think of it in terms of; UK (GBP) Cash and Bonds, International (non-GBP) bonds, UK equities, International (non-GBP) equities and Alternatives. In January 2024 the fund was repositioned as part of the annual Strategic Asset Allocation (SAA) project. This also coincided with the implementation of Tactical Asset Allocation (TAA) decisions, aimed at reducing risks we see in markets at present.

Within the GBP Cash and Bonds allocation, cash and cash equivalents were increased to take advantage of current interest rates on offer, this saw the introduction of the BlackRock Institutional Sterling Liquidity fund to the portfolio to sit alongside the cash deposit facility. UK government bonds, which are held via direct gilts, and higher quality corporate bonds (investment grade, held via the Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index Fund) were increased at the expense of global high yield bonds (which have their currency exposure hedged back to sterling). This was conducted via the partial sale of the State Street Global High Yield Bond ESG Screened Index Fund and the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF. The rationale behind this move was that, in our view, the yield premium received for high yield bonds over government and investment grade bonds was not compensating for the risks involved. International bonds were reduced slightly via sales of the iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund and the complete sale of the iShares Core Global Aggregate Bond ETF. The latter was replaced by direct holdings in US Treasury bonds which formed a TAA decision to reduce the default risk inherent in the global bond market (which includes China and Europe).

Within equities, we maintained the allocation to the UK, however within international equities increased the allocation to Japan on valuation grounds, funded by sales in the US. Two other transactions took place to take advantage of cheaper product pricing. Firstly, the Vanguard S&P 500 ETF was entirely replaced with the SPDR S&P 500 ETF (State Street). Secondly, most of the holding in Amundi MSCI Japan DR ETF was replaced by Amundi Prime Japan ETF. In Alternatives, the fund allocates to UK commercial property via a combination of the iShares UK Property ETF and holdings in index-linked gilts (to reduce the volatility and leverage inherent in listed property shares). This was reduced slightly in January as part of the SAA project. Finally, after the SAA project two new holdings were added to the fund in February in order to gain more balanced exposure to UK and US government bonds; the iShares \$ Treasury Bond 20+yr ETF and the iShares Core UK Gilts ETF.

There have been several narratives that look to explain the strong start to the year that equity markets have made. Our observation is that there appears to be an element of 'reacceleration' taking place in the global economy, however, we do not seek to reposition the fund based on short-term trends, sentiment or market narratives. Instead, the fund remains positioned to meet its volatility target and capture returns in a diversified manner.

AJ Bell Asset Management Limited Investment Manager of the Fund 19 June 2024

# **Financial Highlights**

I (Accumulation)		Year ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Changes in net ass	ets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
•	Opening net asset value per share	111.9321	115.6721	113.0074
	Return before operating charges	7.6120	(3.3872)	3.0535
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.3582)	(0.3528)	(0.3888)
	Return after operating charges *	7.2538	(3.7400)	2.6647
	Closing net asset value per share**	119.1859	111.9321	115.6721
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	3.9023	2.2171	1.7212
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	-
	**after dilution adjustment of	(0.06%)	(0.10%)	0.11%
Performance	Return after charges	6.48%	(3.23%)	2.36%
011	3		( /	
Other information	Closing net asset value	£99,492,576	£90,866,528	£54,627,898
	Closing number of shares	83,427,454	81,096,615	47,278,560
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.31%	0.31%	0.34%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Prices				
	Highest share price	119.2012	115.8929	119.2683
	Lowest share price	109.2869	108.9014	112.7551
		Period 22 January 2024 to		
A (Accumulation)		31 March 2024^		
Changes in net ass	ats ner share	GBp		
Onlanges in her ass	Opening net asset value per share	100.0000		
	Return before operating charges	2.7983		
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.0860)		
	Return after operating charges *	2.7123		
	Closing net asset value per share**	102.7123		
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	0.7430		
	*after direct transactions costs of:	_		
	**after dilution adjustment of	(0.06%)		
Performance				
	Return after charges	2.71%		
Other information				
	Closing net asset value	£1,028		
	Closing number of shares	1,000		
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.45%		
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%		

102.7278

99.7735

Highest share price

Lowest share price

Prices

<sup>^</sup> Share class launched 22 January 2024

# Financial Highlights (Continued)

		Period 01 April 2021 to 4
Class Accumulation	on IP2	January 2022^^
Changes in net ass		GBp
	Opening net asset value per share	101.2139
	Return before operating charges	4.8354
	Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *	(0.2639) 4.5715
	Neturn after operating charges	4.57 15
	Closing net asset value per share**	105.7854
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	0.8144
	*after direct transactions costs of:	
	**after dilution adjustment of	(0.12%)
Performance	and anator adjustment of	(0.1270)
	Return after charges	4.52%
Other information		
	Closing net asset value	-
	Closing number of shares	-
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.34%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%
Prices		
	Highest share price	106.8110
	Lowest share price	101.1027
^^ Share class clos	ed 4 January 2022	
		Period 01 April 2021 to 4
Class Accumulation	on IP4	•
		2021 to 4 January 2022^^
Class Accumulation	ets per share	2021 to 4 January 2022^^ GBp
	ets per share Opening net asset value per share	2021 to 4 January 2022^^ GBp 
	ets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254
	ets per share Opening net asset value per share	2021 to 4 January 2022^^ GBp 
	Deets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615
	Deets 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**	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615
	Deets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615
	Deets 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**	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615
	Deets 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	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615
	Deets 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: **after dilution adjustment of	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615  105.8362 0.8289
Changes in net ass	Deets 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:	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615  105.8362 0.8289
Changes in net ass	Deets 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: **after dilution adjustment of	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615  105.8362 0.8289
Changes in net ass	Deets 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: **after dilution adjustment of	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615  105.8362 0.8289
Changes in net ass	Deets 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: **after dilution adjustment of  Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615  105.8362 0.8289
Changes in net ass	Deets 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: **after dilution adjustment of  Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615  105.8362 0.8289  (0.12%) 4.61%
Changes in net ass	Deets 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: **after dilution adjustment of  Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615  105.8362 0.8289  (0.12%) 4.61%
Changes in net ass	Deets 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: **after dilution adjustment of  Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615  105.8362 0.8289  (0.12%) 4.61%
Changes in net ass  Performance  Other information	Deets 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: **after dilution adjustment of  Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615  105.8362 0.8289  (0.12%) 4.61%
Changes in net ass  Performance  Other information	Deets 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: **after dilution adjustment of  Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2) Direct transaction costs	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615  105.8362 0.8289 (0.12%) 4.61%
Changes in net ass  Performance  Other information	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: **after dilution adjustment of  Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2) Direct transaction costs  Highest share price Lowest share price	2021 to 4 January 2022^^  GBp 101.1747 4.9254 (0.2639) 4.6615  105.8362 0.8289 (0.12%) 4.61% 0.34% 0.00%

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# 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 plus the costs of the open-end funds the Sub-fund holds.

### **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 (31 March 2023: ranked 4). The Sub-fund is ranked is ranked 4 because monthly historical performance data indicates that it has experienced averages rises and falls in market prices historically. The higher the rank, the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

Value E   valu	As at 31 Marcl	n 2024		٠, ٠
4.1887 BlackRock ICS Sterling Liquidity Fund 7.745,685 iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund 7.960,899 8.03% 323,355 State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund 2.7286 Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust 4.555,261 4.60% 129,666 Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index 4.555,261 4.60% 35,841,520 36,15%  Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 59.58%)  208,697 Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF 5.091,163 5.14% 603,465 INSEC Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF 2.863,353 2.89% 146.465 Invesco GBP Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF 2.863,353 2.89% 146.455 Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF 2.863,367 0.26% 275,460 IShares S Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF 2.853,070 0.26% 285,933 IShares S Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF 2.850,089 2.80% 139,115 Lyxor Core Momingstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF 2.580,089 2.80% 139,115 Lyxor Core Momingstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF 2.7,351,831 7,42% 27,284,620 27,53%  Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)  1,003,500 UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026 931,952 0.94% 2,240,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-01-2044 1.888,310 1.92% 1,615,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-01-2045 1.433,845 1.45% 2,675,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052 2.365,776 2.41% 2,777,700 UK GILT 1.65% 20-02-025 3.3704 0.94% 1,016,400 UK GILT 1.25% 07-00-6205 3.3704 0.94% 1,016,400 UK GILT 1.25% 07-00-2037 1.854,489 1.878,1149 1,002,000 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1.854,489 1.878,1149 1,002,000 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1.854,489 1.878,1149 1,002,000 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1.878,1149 1,002,000 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1.878,115 1.90% 1,002,000 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1.878,115 1.90% 1,002,000 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1.878,1149 1,002,000	Holding		Value £	,, ,,
4.1887 BlackRock ICS Sterling Liquidity Fund 7.745,685 iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund 7.960,899 8.03% 323,355 State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund 2.7286 Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust 4.555,261 4.60% 129,666 Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index 4.555,261 4.60% 35,841,520 36,15%  Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 59.58%)  208,697 Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF 5.091,163 5.14% 603,465 INSEC Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF 2.863,353 2.89% 146.465 Invesco GBP Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF 2.863,353 2.89% 146.455 Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF 2.863,367 0.26% 275,460 IShares S Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF 2.853,070 0.26% 285,933 IShares S Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF 2.850,089 2.80% 139,115 Lyxor Core Momingstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF 2.580,089 2.80% 139,115 Lyxor Core Momingstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF 2.7,351,831 7,42% 27,284,620 27,53%  Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)  1,003,500 UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026 931,952 0.94% 2,240,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-01-2044 1.888,310 1.92% 1,615,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-01-2045 1.433,845 1.45% 2,675,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052 2.365,776 2.41% 2,777,700 UK GILT 1.65% 20-02-025 3.3704 0.94% 1,016,400 UK GILT 1.25% 07-00-6205 3.3704 0.94% 1,016,400 UK GILT 1.25% 07-00-2037 1.854,489 1.878,1149 1,002,000 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1.854,489 1.878,1149 1,002,000 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1.854,489 1.878,1149 1,002,000 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1.878,1149 1,002,000 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1.878,115 1.90% 1,002,000 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1.878,115 1.90% 1,002,000 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1.878,1149 1,002,000		Collective Investment Schemes (31.03.2023: 27.78%)		
7,45,685   Shares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund 2,785,186 2.81% 323,355   State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund 2,785,186 2.81% 129,666   Vanguard TTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust 4,555,261 4.60% 129,666   Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index 5,586,211 15,808,321 15,95% 36,184,1820   Shares Exchange Traded Funds (31,03,2023; 59,58%)    Exchange Traded Fu	41.887	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	4.731.853	4.76%
323,355       State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund       2,785,186       2,81%         27,266       Vanguard TSE LI, K. All Share Index Unit Trust       4,552,261       4,60%         129,666       Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index       15,808,321       15,95%         Exchange Traded Funds (31,03,2023: 59,58%)         Exchange Traded Funds (31,03,2023: 59,58%)         208,697       Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF       5,091,163       5,14%         603,465       HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF       4,987,638       5,03%         117,664       Invesco GIobal High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF       263,353       2,89%         14,455       Invesco GIobal High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF       1,845,055       1,20%         571,500       IShares S Treasury Bond 20+ry UCITS ETF       253,507       0,26%         565,933       IShares S Treasury Bond 20+ry UCITS ETF       253,507       0,26%         565,933       SPDR SR SR 500 UCITS ETF       253,507       0,26%         732,838       SPDR SR SR 500 UCITS ETF       2,580,089       2,60%         Government Bonds (31,03,2023: 12,70%)         1,035,000       UK GILT 3,75% 22-01-2005       393,1952       0,94%         2,240,000       U		* ' '		
27,286         Vanguard LK Investment Grade Bond Index         4,555,261         4,60%           129,666         Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index         15,808,321         15,90%           Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 59,58%)           Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 59,58%)           208,697         Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF         5,091,163         5,14%           603,465         HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF         4,987,638         5,03%           117,684         Invesco GIbbal High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF         2,863,353         2,88%           146,455         Invesco Giobal High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF         1,184,505         1,20%           57,150         IShares S. High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF         1,184,505         1,20%           565,933         IShares S. Treasury Bond 20-tyr UCITS ETF         255,507         0,26%           565,933         IShares S. Treasury Bond 20-tyr UCITS ETF         2,580,089         2,60%           732,838         SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF         1,557,132         1,56%           732,838         SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF         1,551,132         7,42%           72,284,620         27,53%         27,284,620         27,53%           Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)				
19,666   Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index   15,808,321   15,95%   35,841,520   36,15%   35,841,520   36,15%	,	S .	, ,	
Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 59.58%)   208.697 Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF   5.091,163   5.14%     603,465 HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF   4,987,638   5.03%     117,664 Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF   2,863,353   2.89%     146,455 Invesco GBP Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF   827,471   0.83%     126,883 Ishares I high Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF   1,184,505   1.20%     57,150 Ishares Core UK Gilts UCITS ETF   593,931   0.60%     91,075 Ishares S Treasury Bond 20 Pt UCITS ETF   2,580,089   2.60%     199,115 Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF   2,580,089   2.60%     139,115 Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF   1,551,132   1.56%     732,838 SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF   7,331,831   7,42%     Covernment Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)     1,003,500 UK GILT 3,25% 22-01-2044   1,893,310   1,92%     2,240,000 UK GILT 3,75% 22-10-2053   1,433,845   1,45%     2,675,000 UK GILT 3,75% 22-07-2052   2,385,726   2,41%     977,700 UK GILT 0,625% 07-06-2025   933,704   0.94%     2,675,000 UK GILT 1,25% 22-07-2052   2,385,726   2,41%     977,700 UK GILT 1,25% 22-07-2057   931,429   0.94%     1,016,400 UK GILT 1,25% 22-07-2057   931,429   0.94%     2,496,300 UK GILT 1,25% 22-07-2057   931,429   0.94%     2,496,300 UK GILT 1,25% 10-08-2028   282,670   0.29%     2,496,300 UK GILT 1,55% 07-09-2037   1,878,715   1,90%     3,482,900 UK GILT 1,57% 07-09-2037   1,878,715   1,90%     3,482,900 UK GILT 1,57% 07-09-2037   1,878,715   1,90%     1,906,600 US T Bill 1,875% 15-11-2045   1,400,607   1,41%     1,401,700 US T Bill 3,125% 15-02-2042   927,505   0.94%     2,230,700 US T Bill 3,125% 15-02-2042   927,505   0.94%     1,230,700 US T Bill 3,125% 15-00-2053   21,103,137   21,31%     Portfolio of investments			, , -	
208,697 Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF   5,091,163   5,14%   603,465   HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF   2,863,353   2,89%   146,455   Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF   2,863,353   2,89%   146,455   Invesco GIobal High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF   827,471   0.83%   276,883   iShares & Fligh Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF   1,184,505   1,20%   57,150   iShares Core UK Gilts UCITS ETF   593,931   0,60%   91,075   iShares & Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF   253,507   0,26%   565,933   iShares UK Property UCITS ETF   2,580,089   2,60%   732,838   SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF   1,551,132   1,55%   27,284,620   27,53%   27,284,620   27,53%   27,284,620   27,53%   27,284,620   27,53%   27,284,620   27,53%   27,284,620   27,284,62	,			
208,697 Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF   5,091,163   5,14%   603,465   HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF   2,863,353   2,89%   146,455   Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF   2,863,353   2,89%   146,455   Invesco GIobal High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF   827,471   0.83%   276,883   iShares & Fligh Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF   1,184,505   1,20%   57,150   iShares Core UK Gilts UCITS ETF   593,931   0,60%   91,075   iShares & Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF   253,507   0,26%   565,933   iShares UK Property UCITS ETF   2,580,089   2,60%   732,838   SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF   1,551,132   1,55%   27,284,620   27,53%   27,284,620   27,53%   27,284,620   27,53%   27,284,620   27,53%   27,284,620   27,53%   27,284,620   27,284,62		Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 59.58%)		
603.465   INSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF   4,987,638   5.03%   117,664   Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF   2,863,353   2.89%   146,455   Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF   827,471   0.83%   276,883   Ishares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF   1,184,505   1.20%   57,150   Ishares \$ Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF   593,931   0.60%   50,933   1.60%   50,933   1.60%   565,933   Ishares \$ Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF   2,580,089   2.60%   139,115   Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF   2,580,089   2.60%   732,838   SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF   7,351,831   7,42%   7,284,620   27,53%   7,284,620   27,53%   7,284,620   27,53%   7,284,620   27,53%   7,284,620   27,53%   7,284,620   27,53%   7,284,620   27,53%   7,284,620   27,53%   7,284,620   27,53%   7,284,620   27,53%   7,284,620   27,284,620   27,53%   7,284,620   27,284,620   27,53%   7,284,620   27,284,620	208.697	,	5.091.163	5.14%
117,664       Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF       2,883,353       2.89%         146,455       Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF       827,471       0.83%         276,883       IShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF       1,184,505       1.20%         57,150       IShares Core UK Gilts UCITS ETF       593,931       0.60%         91,075       IShares S Treasury Bond 20-by UCITS ETF       2,580,089       2.60%         565,933       IShares UK Property UCITS ETF       2,580,089       2.60%         732,838       SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF       1,551,132       1.56%         732,838       SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF       7,351,831       7,42%         Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)         Invalidation of Comment Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)         UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026       931,952       0.94%         2,240,000       UK GILT 0.25% 30-01-2026       931,952       0.94%         1,615,000       UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2053       1,838,310       1.92%         1,615,000       UK GILT 0.625% 07-06-2025       933,704       0.94%         977,700       UK GILT 0.625% 07-06-2025       933,704       0.94%         1,804,400       UK GILT 0.625% 07-06-2032       1,854,489       0.85%	·	·		5.03%
146,455       Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF       827,471       0.83%         276,883       Shares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF       593,931       0.60%         91,075       IShares Core UK Gilts UCITS ETF       253,507       0.26%         565,933       IShares UK Property UCITS ETF       2,580,089       2.60%         139,115       Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF       1,551,132       1.56%         732,838       SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF       7,351,831       7.42%         Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)         Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)         UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026       931,952       0.94%         2,240,000       UK GILT 3.75% 22-01-2044       1,898,310       1.92%         1,615,000       UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2053       1,433,845       1.45%         2,675,000       UK GILT 1.75% 22-07-2052       2,385,726       2.41%         977,700       UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027       931,429       0.94%         1,1016,400       UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027       931,429       0.94%         1,802,400       UK GILT 4.25% 07-06-2032       1,854,489       1,87%         81,500       UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037       1,878,715       1,90%				
276,883   Shares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	·	·		
57,150 i Shares Core UK Gilts UCITS ETF       593,931 0.60%         91,075 ishares \$ Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF       253,507 0.26%         565,933 iShares UK Property UCITS ETF       2,580,089 2.60%         139,115 Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF       1,551,132 1.56%         732,838 SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF       7,351,831 7.42%         Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)         UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026         2,240,000 UK GILT 3.25% 22-01-2044       1,898,310 1.92%         1,615,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053       1,433,845 1.45%         2,675,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053       1,433,845 1.45%         2,675,000 UK GILT 0.625% 07-06-2025       933,704 0.94%         1,016,400 UK GILT 1.625% 07-06-2025       933,704 0.94%         1,802,400 UK GILT 1.25% 07-06-2032       1,854,489 1.87%         81,500 UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028       282,670 0.29%         2,496,300 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037       1,878,715 1.90%         3,482,900 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037       1,878,715 1.90%         3,482,900 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037       2,796,769 2.2%         531,200 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029       844,356 0.85%         1,962,600 US T Bill 3.125% 15-11-2051       928,824 0.94%         2,230,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-11-2051       928,824 0.94%         1,835,700 US		·	-	
91,075 iShares \$ Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF 565,933 iShares UK Property UCITS ETF 2,580,089 2,60% 139,115 Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF 7,351,831 7,42% 27,284,620 27,53%    Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)   1,003,500 UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026 931,952 0.94% 2,240,000 UK GILT 3.25% 22-01-2044 1,898,310 1.92% 1,615,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053 1,433,845 1.45% 2,675,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052 2,385,726 2.41% 977,700 UK GILT 1.25% 20-07-2052 933,704 0.94% 1,016,400 UK GILT 1.25% 20-07-2025 1,854,489 1.87% 1,802,400 UK GILT 1.25% 20-07-2030 279,887 0.28% 2,07,900 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 20-07-2030 279,887 0.28% 2,07,900 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1,878,715 1,90% 3,482,900 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 2,796,769 2.82% 531,200 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029 844,356 0.85% 1,962,600 US T Bill 3.105% 15-11-2045 1,400,607 1.41% 1,401,700 US T Bill 3.105% 15-08-2053 10.06%)   Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%)) 14,884,972 15.01%				
Section	91.075	iShares \$ Treasury Bond 20+vr UCITS ETF	-	0.26%
139,115       Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF       1,551,132       1,56%         732,838       SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF       27,284,620       27.53%         Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)         1,003,500       UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026       931,952       0.94%         2,240,000       UK GILT 3.25% 22-01-2044       1,898,310       1.92%         1,615,000       UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053       1,433,845       1.45%         2,675,000       UK GILT 0.625% 07-06-2025       2,385,726       2.41%         977,700       UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027       931,429       0.94%         1,802,400       UK GILT 1.25% 07-06-2025       933,704       0.94%         1,802,400       UK GILT 1.25% 07-06-2025       931,429       0.94%         1,802,400       UK GILT 1.25% 07-06-2032       1,854,489       1.87%         81,500       UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 12-07-2030       279,887       0.28%         207,900       UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037       1,878,715       1.90%         3,482,900       UK GILT 1.375% 22-10-2030       2,796,769       2.82%         531,200       UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029       844,356       0.85%         1,962,600       US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2045       1,400,607			-	
Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)         7,351,831         7,42%           1,003,500 UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026         931,952         0.94%           2,240,000 UK GILT 3.25% 22-01-2044         1,898,310         1.92%           1,615,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053         1,433,845         1.45%           2,675,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052         2,385,726         2.41%           977,700 UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2052         933,704         0.94%           1,016,400 UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027         931,429         0.94%           1,016,400 UK GILT 4.25% 07-06-2032         1,854,489         1.87%           81,500 UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030         279,887         0.28%           207,900 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028         282,670         0.29%           2,496,300 UK GILT 1.375% 07-09-2037         1,878,715         1.90%           3,482,900 UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030         2,796,769         2.82%           531,200 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 12-03-2029         844,356         0.85%           1,962,600 US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051         928,824         0.94%           2,230,700 US T Bill 3.100% 15-11-2045         1,400,607         1.41%           1,835,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042         927,505         0.94%           1,835,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2053			, ,	1.56%
Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 12.70%)  1,003,500 UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026 931,952 0.94% 2,240,000 UK GILT 3.25% 22-01-2044 1,898,310 1.92% 1,615,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053 1,433,845 1.45% 2,675,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052 2,385,726 2.41% 977,700 UK GILT 1.25% 20-07-2052 933,704 0.94% 1,016,400 UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027 931,429 0.94% 1,802,400 UK GILT 1.25% 07-06-2032 1,854,489 1.87% 81,500 UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030 279,887 0.28% 207,900 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028 28,670 0.29% 2,496,300 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1,878,715 1.90% 3,482,900 UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030 2,796,769 2.82% 531,200 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029 844,356 0.85% 1,962,600 US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051 928,824 0.94% 2,230,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042 927,505 0.94% 1,835,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042 927,505 0.94% 1,835,700 US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053 1,394,349 1.41% Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%) 14,884,972 15.01%			, ,	
1,003,500 UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026 2,240,000 UK GILT 3.25% 22-01-2044 1,898,310 1.92% 1,615,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053 1,433,845 1,45% 2,675,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052 2,385,726 2.41% 977,700 UK GILT 0.75% 22-07-2055 933,704 0.94% 1,016,400 UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027 931,429 0.94% 1,802,400 UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027 931,429 0.94% 1,802,400 UK GILT 4.25% 07-06-2032 1,854,489 1.87% 81,500 UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030 279,887 0.28% 207,900 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1,878,715 1,90% 3,482,900 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1,878,715 1,90% 3,482,900 UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030 2,796,769 2.82% 531,200 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029 844,356 0.85% 1,962,600 US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051 928,824 0.94% 2,230,700 US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045 1,400,607 1,41% 1,401,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-08-2053 1,394,349 1,41% Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)  Net other assets (31.03.2023: 100.06%)  Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))  14,884,972 15.01%	,			
1,003,500 UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026 2,240,000 UK GILT 3.25% 22-01-2044 1,898,310 1.92% 1,615,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053 1,433,845 1,45% 2,675,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052 2,385,726 2.41% 977,700 UK GILT 0.75% 22-07-2055 933,704 0.94% 1,016,400 UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027 931,429 0.94% 1,802,400 UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027 931,429 0.94% 1,802,400 UK GILT 4.25% 07-06-2032 1,854,489 1.87% 81,500 UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030 279,887 0.28% 207,900 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1,878,715 1,90% 3,482,900 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1,878,715 1,90% 3,482,900 UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030 2,796,769 2.82% 531,200 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029 844,356 0.85% 1,962,600 US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051 928,824 0.94% 2,230,700 US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045 1,400,607 1,41% 1,401,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-08-2053 1,394,349 1,41% Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)  Net other assets (31.03.2023: 100.06%)  Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))  14,884,972 15.01%		Government Bonds (31 03 2023: 12 70%)		
2,240,000       UK GILT 3.25% 22-01-2044       1,898,310       1.92%         1,615,000       UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053       1,433,845       1.45%         2,675,000       UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052       2,385,726       2.41%         977,700       UK GILT 0.625% 07-06-2025       933,704       0.94%         1,016,400       UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027       931,429       0.94%         1,802,400       UK GILT 1.25% 07-06-2032       1,854,489       1.87%         81,500       UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030       279,887       0.28%         207,900       UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028       282,670       0.29%         2,496,300       UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037       1,878,715       1.90%         3,482,900       UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030       2,796,769       2.82%         531,200       UK O.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029       844,356       0.85%         1,962,600       US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051       928,824       0.94%         2,230,700       US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045       1,400,607       1.41%         1,401,700       US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042       927,505       0.94%         1,835,700       US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053       1,394,349       1.41%         Portfolio of investme	1 003 500	·	931 952	n 94%
1,615,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053 2,675,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052 2,385,726 2,41% 977,700 UK GILT 0.625% 07-06-2025 33,704 0.94% 1,016,400 UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027 1,802,400 UK GILT 4.25% 07-06-2032 81,500 UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030 279,887 207,900 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028 2,496,300 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 3,482,900 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 3,482,900 UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030 2,796,769 2,82% 531,200 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029 844,356 0.85% 1,962,600 US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051 2,230,700 US T Bill 3.105% 15-11-2045 1,401,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042 1,835,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042 1,835,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042 1,835,700 US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053  Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)  Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))  14,884,972 15.01%			•	
2,675,000       UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052       2,385,726       2.41%         977,700       UK GILT 0.625% 07-06-2025       933,704       0.94%         1,016,400       UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027       931,429       0.94%         1,802,400       UK GILT 4.25% 07-06-2032       1,854,489       1.87%         81,500       UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030       279,887       0.28%         207,900       UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028       282,670       0.29%         2,496,300       UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037       1,878,715       1.90%         3,482,900       UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030       2,796,769       2.82%         531,200       UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029       844,356       0.85%         1,962,600       US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051       928,824       0.94%         2,230,700       US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045       1,400,607       1.41%         1,401,700       US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042       927,505       0.94%         1,835,700       US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053       1,394,349       1.41%         Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)       84,229,277       84.99%         Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))       14,884,972       15.01%	, ,		, ,	
977,700 UK GILT 0.625% 07-06-2025 1,016,400 UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027 1,802,400 UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2032 1,854,489 1.87% 81,500 UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030 207,900 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028 20496,300 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 3,482,900 UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030 3,482,900 UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030 3,482,900 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029 844,356 844,356 844,356 85% 1,962,600 US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051 928,824 927,505 1,401,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042 1,835,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042 1,835,700 US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053  Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)  Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))  14,884,972 15.01%	, ,			
1,016,400       UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027       931,429       0.94%         1,802,400       UK GILT 4.25% 07-06-2032       1,854,489       1.87%         81,500       UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030       279,887       0.28%         207,900       UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028       282,670       0.29%         2,496,300       UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037       1,878,715       1.90%         3,482,900       UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030       2,796,769       2.82%         531,200       UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029       844,356       0.85%         1,962,600       US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051       928,824       0.94%         2,230,700       US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045       1,400,607       1.41%         1,401,700       US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042       927,505       0.94%         1,835,700       US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053       1,394,349       1.41%         Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)       84,229,277       84.99%         Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))       14,884,972       15.01%				
1,802,400       UK GILT 4.25% 07-06-2032       1,854,489       1.87%         81,500       UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030       279,887       0.28%         207,900       UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028       282,670       0.29%         2,496,300       UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037       1,878,715       1.90%         3,482,900       UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030       2,796,769       2.82%         531,200       UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029       844,356       0.85%         1,962,600       US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051       928,824       0.94%         2,230,700       US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045       1,400,607       1.41%         1,401,700       US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042       927,505       0.94%         1,835,700       US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053       1,394,349       1.41%         Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)       84,229,277       84.99%         Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))       14,884,972       15.01%	,		•	
81,500 UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030 279,887 0.28% 207,900 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028 282,670 0.29% 2,496,300 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 1,878,715 1.90% 3,482,900 UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030 2,796,769 2.82% 531,200 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029 844,356 0.85% 1,962,600 US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051 928,824 0.94% 2,230,700 US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045 1,400,607 1.41% 1,401,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042 927,505 0.94% 1,835,700 US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053 1,394,349 1.41% 21,103,137 21.31% Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%) 84,229,277 84.99% Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%)) 14,884,972 15.01%	, ,		•	
207,900 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028 2,496,300 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037 3,482,900 UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030 531,200 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029 1,962,600 US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051 2,230,700 US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045 1,401,700 US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042 1,835,700 US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053  Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)  Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))  282,670 2,282,670 2,296,769 2,82% 2,796,769 2,82% 2,92% 2	, ,		, ,	
2,496,300       UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037       1,878,715       1.90%         3,482,900       UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030       2,796,769       2.82%         531,200       UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029       844,356       0.85%         1,962,600       US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051       928,824       0.94%         2,230,700       US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045       1,400,607       1.41%         1,401,700       US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042       927,505       0.94%         1,835,700       US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053       1,394,349       1.41%         Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)       84,229,277       84.99%         Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))       14,884,972       15.01%	,		•	
3,482,900       UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030       2,796,769       2.82%         531,200       UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029       844,356       0.85%         1,962,600       US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051       928,824       0.94%         2,230,700       US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045       1,400,607       1.41%         1,401,700       US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042       927,505       0.94%         1,835,700       US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053       1,394,349       1.41%         Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)       84,229,277       84.99%         Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))       14,884,972       15.01%	•		•	
531,200       UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029       844,356       0.85%         1,962,600       US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051       928,824       0.94%         2,230,700       US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045       1,400,607       1.41%         1,401,700       US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042       927,505       0.94%         1,835,700       US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053       1,394,349       1.41%         Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)       84,229,277       84.99%         Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))       14,884,972       15.01%				
1,962,600       US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051       928,824       0.94%         2,230,700       US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045       1,400,607       1.41%         1,401,700       US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042       927,505       0.94%         1,835,700       US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053       1,394,349       1.41%         Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)       84,229,277       84.99%         Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))       14,884,972       15.01%				
2,230,700       US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045       1,400,607       1.41%         1,401,700       US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042       927,505       0.94%         1,835,700       US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053       1,394,349       1.41%         Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)       84,229,277       84.99%         Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))       14,884,972       15.01%	,		-	
1,401,700       US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042       927,505       0.94%         1,835,700       US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053       1,394,349       1.41%         Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)       84,229,277       84.99%         Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))       14,884,972       15.01%	, ,		•	
1,835,700       US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053       1,394,349       1.41%         Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)       84,229,277       84.99%         Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))       14,884,972       15.01%				
Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)  Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))  21,103,137  21.31%  84,229,277  84.99%  14,884,972  15.01%	, ,		•	
Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%)) 14,884,972 15.01%	1,000,700	00 1 Biii 4.125 // 10-00-2000		
		Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.06%)	84,229,277	84.99%
99,114,249 100.00%		Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.06%))	14,884,972	15.01%
			99,114,249	100.00%

# SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES

	£
Total purchases for the year (note 14)	83,392,654
Insight Liquidity Funds plc	21,201,052
Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF	15,443,951 6,756,547
iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	5,911,465
Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF	4,767,119
BlackRock ICS Sterling Liquidity Fund	4,684,072
Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust	4,139,445
State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund	3,236,309
UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052	2,336,276
iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund Various other purchases	2,113,702 12,802,716
various other purchases	12,002,710
Total calca familia years (mate 4.4)	£
Total sales for the year (note 14)	93,788,801
Insight Liquidity Funds plc	36,774,277
Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF	11,866,337
iShares Global Aggregate Bond	9,634,446
Vanguard S&P 500 UCITS ETF	7,623,683
iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF Amundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF	4,837,373 4,527,468
JPMorgan ETFs (Ireland) ICAV Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor UCITS ETF	4,455,799
Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF	3,773,369
State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund	2,831,761
Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	2,539,346
Various other sales	4,924,942

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

# STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

	r ended 31 March		202	4	2023	3
Income		Notes	£	£	£	£
income	Net capital gains/(losses)	2		2,810,155		(3,336,546)
	Revenue	3	3,805,609		1,916,895	
Expenses		4	(297,617)		(205,419)	
Interest paya	able and similar charges	6 _	(37)		(1)	
Net revenue	e before taxation		3,507,955		1,711,475	
Taxation		5 _	(605,598)	_	(240,139)	
Net revenue	e after taxation		_	2,902,357	_	1,471,336
Total return	before distributions			5,712,512		(1,865,210)
Finance cos	sts: distributions	6	_	(3,258,527)	_	(1,395,462)
•	net assets attributable to ers from investment activities		_	2,453,985	_	(3,260,672
STATEMEN	NT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS A	ATTRIBUTABLE	TO SHAREHOL	.DERS		
For the yea	r ended 31 March			2024		2023
				£		£
Opening ne	et assets attributable to shareholde	rs		90,653,754		54,537,158
Amounts red	ceivable on creation of shares			41,648,108		60,845,789
Amounts pa	yable on cancellation of shares			(38,943,841)		(23,089,662)
Accumulatio	on dividends retained			3,302,243		1,621,141
•	net assets attributable to shareholder	s from				
	activities (see above)			2,453,985		(3,260,672)

99,114,249

Closing net assets attributable to shareholders

90,653,754

# **BALANCE SHEET**

As at		31.03.2	2024	31.03.2	2023
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Investment assets			84,229,277		90,705,596
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	1,513,553		1,083,145	
Cash and bank balances	8	15,192,998	_	1,043,181	
Total current assets		_	16,706,551		2,126,326
Total assets			100,935,828		92,831,922
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors	9	(1,820,308)		(2,174,820)	
Bank overdraft	8 _	(1,271)	_	(3,348)	
Total current liabilities		-	(1,821,579)	_	(2,178,168)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		_	99,114,249	_	90,653,754

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting polices, which have been applied in both the current and prior year, are set out on pages 7-8.

2 Net capital gains/(losses)	2024 £	2023 £
The net capital gains/(losses)comprise:	_	_
Non-derivative securities gains/(losses) Foreign currency (losses)/gains Transaction charges (custodian)	2,813,737 (3,628) 46	(3,337,949) 15 1,388
Total net capital gains/(losses)	2,810,155	(3,336,546)
3 Revenue	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-taxable dividends	479,964	510,778
Interest on non-derivative securities Investment manager rebates	2,510,756 81,700	1,201,461 80,910
Rebates from underlying holdings	7,821	1,570
Stock lending income	1,780	2,074
Bank and other interest	723,588	120,102
Total revenue	3,805,609	1,916,895
		· · · · ·
4 Expenses	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager,		
and agents of either of them:	044 400	466,000
Annual management charge	241,463	166,802
Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee	24,353	16,203
Safe custody fee	12,216	7,578
	36,569	23,781
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	3,513	3,330
FCA fee	22	47
Other expenses	16,050	11,459
·	19,585	14,836
Total expenses	297,617	205,419

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

5	Taxation	2024	2023
		£	£
(a)	Analysis of charge in the year		
. ,	UK corporation tax	605,598	240,139
	Total tax charge for the year (note 5b)	605,598	240,139
(b)	Factors affecting current tax charge for the year The tax assessed for the year is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an open-ended investment company 20.00% (2023: 20.00%) The differences are explained below: Net revenue before UK corporation tax	3,507,955	1,711,475
	Corporation tax at 20.00% (2023: 20.00%)	701,591	342,295
	Effects of:		
	Revenue not subject to UK corporation tax	(95,993)	(102,156)
	Total tax charge for the year (note 5a)	605,598	240,139

# (c) Provision for deferred taxation

At 31 March 2024 there is a potential deferred tax asset of £Nil (31 March 2023: £Nil) in relation to surplus management expenses.

£	£
	D /
Interim dividend distribution 1,392,334 594,98	54
Final dividend distribution 1,909,909 962,47	77
3,302,243 1,557,46	61
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares 332,891 127,99	93
Deduct: Revenue received on issue of shares (376,607) (289,99	2)
Net distribution for the year 3,258,527 1,395,46	62
Interest payable and similar charges 37	1
Total finance costs 3,258,564 1,395,46	63
Reconciliation of distributions	
Net revenue after taxation 2,902,357 1,471,33	36
Equalisation from collectives allocated to revenue 102,553 -	
Balance brought forward 32,665 (43,20	9)
Balance carried forward 220,952 (32,66	5)
Net distribution for the year 3,258,527 1,395,46	62

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

7 Debtors	31.03.2024 £	31.03.2023 £
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	1,180,823	1,014,114
Accrued Revenue:		
Interest on non-derivative securities receivable	325,642	42,088
Investment manager rebates	4,520	24,296
Rebates from underlying holdings	2,540	251
Prepayments Total debtors	<u>28</u> 1,513,553	2,396 1,083,145
Total deptors	1,515,555	1,000,140
8 Cash and bank balances	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Cash and bank balances	15,192,998	1,043,181
Bank overdraft	(1,271)	(3,348)
9 Creditors	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
3 Orealtors	£	£
	~	~
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	1,071,453	734,323
Amounts payable on unsettled trades	112,836	1,147,681
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager,		
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager,		
and agents of either of them:		
Annual management charge	18,180	42,143
Payable to the depositary, associates of the		
depositary, and agents of either of them:		
depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee	3,530	1,759
depositary, and agents of either of them:	3,985	4,281
depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee		,
depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody and other custodian charges  UK corporation tax	3,985 7,515 605,598	4,281
depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody and other custodian charges	3,985 7,515	4,281 6,040

#### 10 Risk management

#### Market price risk

In pursuing its investment objective as stated on page 9, the Sub-fund holds a number of financial instruments. The Sub-fund's financial instruments comprise securities and other investments, cash balances, debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations, for example, in respect of sales and purchases awaiting settlement, amounts receivable for issues and payable for redemptions and debtors for accrued revenue.

The main risks arising from the Sub-fund's financial instruments, those of its underlying holdings and the AFM's policies for managing these risks are summarised below. These policies have been applied throughout the year.

Market price risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices caused by factors other than interest rate or foreign currency movement. Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments the Sub-fund holds. It represents the potential loss the Sub-fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is exposed to market price fluctuations, which are monitored by the AFM in pursuance of the investment objective and policy as set out in the Prospectus.

Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Instrument of Incorporation, the Prospectus and in the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

If market prices at the Balance Sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £8,422,928 (31 March 2023: £9,070,560).

#### Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is invested in funds that are registered overseas and collective investment schemes which invest in overseas securities and the balance sheet can be affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The AFM may seek to manage exposure to currency movements by using forward exchange contracts or by hedging the Sterling value of investments that are priced in other currencies. Revenue received in other currencies is converted to Sterling on or near the date of receipt.

Net currency assets and liabilities consist of:

	Net monetary assets and					
	liabilities		Non-mone	tary assets	Total ne	t assets
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
Sterling	14,841,817	(56,692)	79,577,992	90,001,082	94,419,809	89,944,390
US Dollars	43,155	4,850	4,651,285	704,514	4,694,440	709,364
Total	14,884,972	(51,842)	84,229,277	90,705,596	99,114,249	90,653,754

If foreign exchange rates at the balance sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £469,444 (31 March 2023: £70,936).

#### 10 Risk management (Continued)

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk to portfolio value due to changes in interest rates. The magnitude of the exposure from an adverse change in interest rates depends on the sensitivity of the instrument to changes in interest rates as well as the absolute change in interest rates. In general, values of long-term instruments are more sensitive to interest rate changes than the values of short-term instruments

The Sub-fund takes on interest rate risk when the investment manager believes the expected returns compensate for the risk, limited by the investment objective, policy and any prospectus rules. The investment manager monitors the level of interest rate risk in the Sub-fund on a regular basis. In addition any cash deposits in the Sub-fund are linked to SONIA, ensuring interest income increases as interest rates increase.

The table below details the interest rate risk profile at the balance sheet date:

	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Financial assets floating rate	15,192,998	1,043,181
Financial assets interest bearing instruments	58,112,163	67,686,432
Financial assets non-interest bearing instruments	27,630,667	24,102,309
Financial liabilities non-interest bearing instruments	(1,820,308)	(2,174,820)
Financial liabilities floating rate	(1,271)	(3,348)
	99,114,249	90,653,754

At 31 March 2024, if interest rates increased or decreased by 0.25%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the Sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £90,737 (31 March 2023: £31,353).

### Maturity of financial liabilities

The financial liabilities of the Sub-fund as at 31 March 2024 are payable either within one year or on demand.

### Liquidity risk

The Sub-fund's assets comprise mainly of readily realisable securities. The main liability of the Sub-fund is the redemption of any shares that the investors wish to sell. Assets of the Sub-fund may need to be sold if insufficient cash is available to finance such redemptions.

#### Credit risk

Certain transactions in securities that the Sub-fund enters into expose it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the investment for a purchase, or cash for a sale after the Sub-fund has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Sub-fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the AFM as acceptable counterparties and fund management companies. In addition, limits are set to the exposure to any individual broker that may exist at any time and changes in brokers' financial ratings are reviewed. Indirect credit risk arises from holdings in collectives that invest in debt securities as any default or perceived risk of default will affect the valuation of such holdings.

#### Fair value disclosure

The fair value hierarchy is intended to prioritise the inputs that are used to measure the fair value of assets and liabilities. The highest priority is given to quoted prices and the lowest priority to un-observable inputs. The criteria applied to the fair values levels in these financial statements are as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an identical instrument;

Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other than quoted prices within level 1;

Level 3: Valuation techniques using unobservable inputs.

	31.03.2024		31.03.2023	
	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
Valuation Technique	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)
Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an				
identical instrument	48,387	-	65,522	-
Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other than				
quoted prices within level 1	35,842	-	25,183	-
Total	84,229		90,705	-

### 11 Shares held

I (Net Accumula	tion)	)
<u> </u>		

Opening shares at 01.04.2023	81,096,615
Shares issued during the year	37,128,909
Shares cancelled during the year	(34,798,070)
Shares converted during the year	-
Closing shares as at 31.03.2024	83,427,454
A (Accumulation)	
Opening shares at 22.01.2024	-
Shares issued during the period	1,000
Shares cancelled during the period	-
Shares converted during the period	-
Closing shares as at 31.03.2024	1,000

### 12 Contingent assets and liabilities

At 31 March 2024, the Sub-fund had no contingent liabilities or commitments (31 March 2023: £nil).

### 13 Post balance sheet events

As indicated in the accounting policies in Note 1, the investments have been valued at the closing valuation point on 28 March 2024. Since that date, the Sub-fund's quoted mid-price has moved as follows for each share class:

Share class	Price at 28 March 2024	Price at 18 July 2024
I (Accumulation)	119.1859p	120.2459p
A (Accumulation)	102.7123p	103.5831p

### 14 Direct transactions costs

	2024		2023	
Analysis of total purchase costs	£	%	£	%
Purchases in the year before transaction costs	83,392,604		121,570,783	
Commissions	50	0.00%	44	0.00%
Total purchase costs	50	0.00%	44	0.00%
Total purchases including transaction costs	83,392,654	-	121,570,827	
Analysis of total sale costs Sales in the year before transaction costs	93,788,801		82,145,076	
Commissions	-	(0.00%)	-	(0.00%)
Total sale costs	-	(0.00%)	-	(0.00%)
Total sales net of transaction costs	93,788,801	_	82,145,076	

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the Sub-fund's average net asset value in the year:

,	2024 £	% of average net asset value	2023 £	% of average net asset value
Commissions	50	0.00%	44	0.00%
	50	0.00%	44	0.00%

### 15 Portfolio Dealing Spread

The average portfolio dealing spread at 31 March 2024 is 0.12% (31 March 2023: 0.17%).

# 16 Stock lending

The Sub-fund enters into stock lending arrangements with various counterparties. At the balance sheet date the bid value of securities on loan was £Nil (2023: £Nil). The value of collateral held in respect of securities on loan was £Nil (2023: £Nil).

Analysis of stock lending income	2024 £	2023 £
Gross stock lending income	2,543	2,963
Fees paid to the custodian	(763)	(889)
	1,780	2,074

### 17 Related party transactions

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited, as AFM is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the Sub-fund.

Amounts paid to the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amounts due to the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 9. Amounts received from the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 3. Amounts due from the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 7.

### **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

### Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 April 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 April 2023 and on or before 30 September 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 30.11.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.11.2023	Distribution 30.11.2022
Group 1	1.6130p	-	1.6130p	1.0303p
Group 2	0.7095p	0.9035p	1.6130p	1.0303p

### Final 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 March 2024

I (Accumulation)	Net revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	2.2893p	-	2.2893p	1.1868p
Group 2	2.2893p	1.1761p	2.2893p	1.1868p

A (Accumulation)^	Net revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024
Group 1	0.7430p	•	0.7430p
Group 2	0.7430p	•	0.7430p

<sup>^</sup> for the period from 22 January 2024 to 31 March 2024.

### Information for corporate shareholders

A corporate shareholder receives the distribution shown on the voucher enclosed with this report as follows:

- i) 12.92% of the total dividend allocation together with the tax credit is received as franked investment income.
- ii) 87.08% of the dividend allocation is received as an annual payment received after deduction of income tax at the lower rate and is liable to corporation tax. It is not franked investment income.

# SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS (UNAUDITED)

As at 31 March 202	24							
GLOBAL DATA			_					
Proportion of secu						£	<u>%</u>	
Total lendable asset Securities and comments			i equivalents:			84,229,277 -	0.00%	
Assets engaged in			/aps			£	%	
Fund assets under						99,114,249		
Absolute value of as Securities lending	ssets engage	ed in:				-	0.00%	
CONCENTRATION								
Top 10 Collateral Is Name and value of		ınd commodit	ies received			£		
Top 10 Counterpar	ties							
Name and value of		g transaction	s			£		
Securities lending		<b>9</b>						
AGGREGATE TRA								
Type, Quality and	Currency of							
Type Securities lending		Quality			Currencies	£		
Maturity Tenor of C					Th	<b>A</b> In	0	
	cess than	•	one month	One to three months	Three months to one year	Above one	Open maturity	Total
Type	Offic day		£	£	to one year	year £	filaturity	£
Securities lending		<del>~</del> _					<del>~</del> _	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	=	
Counterparty detai		- Countries of	- Se	ettlement and	<del>-</del>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<del>-</del>
Counterparty detai		Countries of	Se	ettlement and Clearing	<u>-</u>	£	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
• •	(	Counterparty		Clearing	turity)	£	<del>-</del>	<u> </u>
Туре	FTs and To	Counterparty otal Return Sw	vaps (remainin	Clearing g period to ma	turity) Three months	£ Above one	- Open	<del></del>
Type  Maturity Tenor of S	SFTs and To Less than one day	Counterparty  otal Return Sw  One day to  one week	vaps (remaining One week to one month	Clearing g period to ma One to three months	Three months to one year	Above one year	transactions	- Total
Type  Maturity Tenor of S  Type	GFTs and To Less than	Counterparty  otal Return Sw  One day to  one week £	vaps (remainin One week to	Clearing g period to ma One to three	Three months	Above one	•	- Total £
Type  Maturity Tenor of S	SFTs and To Less than one day	Counterparty  otal Return Sw  One day to  one week	vaps (remaining One week to one month	Clearing g period to ma One to three months	Three months to one year	Above one year	transactions	
Type  Type Securities lending	SFTs and To Less than one day £ -	otal Return Sw One day to one week £	vaps (remaining One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	£
Type  Maturity Tenor of S  Type	SFTs and To Less than one day £	otal Return Sw One day to one week £	vaps (remaining One week to one month £ - -	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	£
Type  Maturity Tenor of S  Type  Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLLA  The Sub-fund does	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL not engage i	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co	vaps (remaining One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	£
Type  Maturity Tenor of S  Type  Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLLA The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL not engage i	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co	vaps (remaining One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	£
Type  Maturity Tenor of S  Type  Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLLA  The Sub-fund does	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL not engage i	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co	vaps (remaining One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	£
Type  Maturity Tenor of S  Type  Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLLA The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL not engage i COLLATER of custodian	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co	vaps (remaining One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	£
Type  Maturity Tenor of S  Type  Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLLA The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of Number of custodia	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL not engage i COLLATER of custodian ns safekeepi	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co	vaps (remaining One week to one month £ Illateral.	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	£
Type  Maturity Tenor of S  Type  Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLLA The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of Number of custodia	GFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL not engage i COLLATER of custodian ns safekeepi GT Collective	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co RAL RECEIVE as safekeeping ing collateral	vaps (remaining One week to one month £ Illateral.  D g collateral	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £ - -	transactions £	£
Type  Maturity Tenor of S  Type  Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLLA The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of Number of custodia  RETURN AND COS	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL not engage i COLLATER of custodian ns safekeepi	counterparty  otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co  RAL RECEIVE as safekeeping ing collateral	vaps (remaining One week to one month £ Illateral.  D g collateral	g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £ - - -	transactions £	£
Type  Maturity Tenor of S  Type  Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLLA The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of Number of custodia  RETURN AND COS  Securities Lending	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL not engage i COLLATER of custodian ns safekeepi	counterparty  otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co  RAL RECEIVE as safekeeping ing collateral  e Investment Undertaking £	vaps (remaining One week to one month £ Illateral.  D g collateral	g period to ma One to three months £ r of collective t undertaking	Three months to one year £	Above one year £ aird Parties (e.g. lending agent)	transactions £	£ Total £
Type  Maturity Tenor of S  Type  Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLLA The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of Number of custodia  RETURN AND COS  Securities Lending Gross return	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL not engage i COLLATER of custodian ns safekeepi	counterparty  otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co  RAL RECEIVE as safekeeping ing collateral  e Investment Undertaking £ 1,780	vaps (remaining One week to one month £ Illateral.  D g collateral	g period to ma One to three months £ r of collective t undertaking £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £ sird Parties (e.g. lending agent) £	transactions £	Total £
Type  Maturity Tenor of S  Type  Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLLA The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of Number of custodia  RETURN AND COS  Securities Lending	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL not engage i COLLATER of custodian ns safekeepi	counterparty  otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co  RAL RECEIVE as safekeeping ing collateral  e Investment Undertaking £	vaps (remaining One week to one month £ Illateral.  D g collateral	g period to ma One to three months £ r of collective t undertaking	Three months to one year £	Above one year £ aird Parties (e.g. lending agent)	transactions £	£ Total £

#### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund

VT AJ Bell Balanced

Size of Sub-fund

£943,052,913

Launch date

18 April 2017

Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of VT AJ Bell Balanced is to achieve long-term capital growth with a balanced approach between defensive assets such as cash, fixed interest securities, money-market funds and collective investment schemes following alternative strategies such as property and commodities, and higher risk assets such as equities. This is to keep the Sub-fund within a pre-determined risk profile. Capital is in fact at risk and there is no guarantee that capital growth will be achieved over a 5 year, or any period.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objective (and so provide exposure to the asset classes noted in the objective) by investing predominantly (80% +), in indextracking investments or strategies (those instruments and/or investment strategies that aim to track the performance of various financial indices) and which typically consist of collective investment schemes (including those managed or operated by the AFM) as well as equities, bonds and transferable securities.

The Sub-fund may also invest in non-index tracking collective investment schemes, equities, bonds, transferable securities, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus and as such weightings in these may vary as required. The Sub-fund may have exposure to emerging markets through its investments in e.g. collective investment schemes or futures.

The Sub-fund's risk profile is managed by restricting the types of asset held and allocations to those assets. The risk profiles are determined by the external risk rating agency's forward looking volatility assumptions. The Sub-fund aims to operate with a risk rating of 5, on a scale of 1-10 where 1 is an allocation to cash and 10 is an allocation to riskier equity regions such as Asia and emerging markets.

Derivatives (that is sophisticated investment instruments linked to the rise and fall of the price of other assets) are held only for efficient portfolio management

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives only for efficient portfolio management purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for efficient portfolio management purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Due to its multi-asset nature, no financial instrument or index represents a fair benchmark for the Sub-fund, however it is suggested that the performance of the Sub-fund can be assessed by comparing its total return to funds with similar return and/or risk objectives. The IA (Investment Association) provides the median performance of funds with similar characteristics (IA sectors). The Sub-fund is assigned to the Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares IA sector. Other providers also provide peer groups, based on asset allocation or historical volatility, of which the Sub-fund may be assigned, these may be a useful guide to assess performance.

The current external risk rating agency of the Sub-fund is Distribution Technology. The Sub-fund may replace the external risk agency from time to time, which will be communicated in any future publications of the Prospectus.

Derivatives:

**Additional Information:** 

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

**Ex-distribution dates** 31 March and 30 September

**Distribution dates** 31 May and 30 November

Individual Savings Account (ISA)

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

Share Classes: I (Accumulation)

A (Accumulation)

Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: All share classes = £1,000

Top up: All share classes = £25

Holding: All share classes = £1

Redemption: All share classes = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Switching: All share classes = N/A(provided minimum holding is maintained)

Initial, redemption and switching charges Nil

### **Annual Management charges**

I (Accumulation) = 0.31% A (Accumulation) = 0.45%

The above percentage being percentage of the net asset value of the Sub fund attributable to the relevant Class (plus VAT if applicable).

From the 4 January 2022 an all-in fee was introduced which results in all the operating charges being taken out of the Annual Management charge shown above. This will result in future ongoing charges figures to be the same as the Annual Management charge. For more information about charges, please see sections 3.6 ("Dealing Charges") & 7 ("Fees and Expenses") of the prospectus.

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

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

Over the twelve months, the I Acc share class of the fund returned 9.4% compared to the IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares sector, which returned 10.1%. The fund managed the volatility in bond markets well over the year and was well positioned in riskier global high yield bonds. The equity market exposure within the fund is diversified by region. Holdings in US and Japanese equities performed well over the year, whilst those in Emerging markets and the UK were laggards.

Activity in the nine months of 2023 applicable to this report related to the management of the fund's concentration in certain holdings. Within high yield bonds these included the State Street Global High Yield Bond ESG Screened Index Fund, the Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG ETF and the JPMorgan Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor ETF, which was subsequently removed from the fund in July. A new holding in the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF was consequently added to the fund in June. Activity in UK equities also fell into this camp, with a partial sale of Lyxor Core Morningstar UK ETF being replaced with the Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Unit Trust.

The asset allocation of the fund is broken down by asset class and currency. We think of it in terms of; UK (GBP) Cash and Bonds, International (non-GBP) bonds, UK equities, International (non-GBP) equities and Alternatives. In January 2024 the fund was repositioned as part of the annual Strategic Asset Allocation (SAA) project. This also coincided with the implementation of Tactical Asset Allocation (TAA) decisions, aimed at reducing risks we see in markets at present.

Within the GBP Cash and Bonds allocation, cash and cash equivalents were increased slightly to take advantage of current interest rates on offer. UK government bonds, which are held via direct gilts, and higher quality corporate bonds (investment grade, held via the Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index fund) were increased at the expense of global high yield bonds (which have their currency exposure hedged back to sterling). This was conducted via the partial sale of the State Street Global High Yield Bond ESG Screened Index Fund and the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF. The rationale behind this move was that, in our view, the yield premium received for high yield bonds over government and investment grade bonds was not compensating for the risks involved. International bonds were reduced slightly via sales of the iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index fund.

Within equities, we maintained the allocation to the UK, however within international equities increased the allocation to Japan and introduced Europe on valuation grounds, the latter via the Vanguard FTSE Developed Europe ex UK Equity Index fund. To compensate the US equity allocation was reduced. Two other transactions took place to take advantage of cheaper product pricing in the US and Japan. Firstly, the Vanguard S&P 500 ETF was entirely replaced with the SPDR S&P 500 ETF (State Street). Secondly, most of the holding in Amundi MSCI Japan DR ETF was replaced by Amundi Prime Japan ETF. Turning to Alternatives, the fund allocates to UK commercial property via a combination of the iShares UK Property ETF and holdings in index-linked gilts (to reduce the volatility and leverage inherent in listed property shares). This was reduced slightly in January as part of the SAA project.

Finally, after the SAA project a new holding was added to the fund in February in order to gain more balanced exposure to UK government bonds; the iShares Core UK Gilts ETF.

There have been several narratives that look to explain the strong start to the year that equity markets have made. Our observation is that there appears to be an element of 'reacceleration' taking place in the global economy, however, we do not seek to reposition the fund based on short-term trends, sentiment or market narratives. Instead, the fund remains positioned to meet its volatility target and capture returns in a diversified manner.

AJ Bell Asset Management Limited Investment Manager of the Fund 19 June 2024

# **Financial Highlights**

# I (Accumulation)

,		Year ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Changes in net assets	per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
g	Opening net asset value per share	133.6538	134.6714	125.9209
	Return before operating charges	12.9288	(0.6017)	9.1935
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.4337)	(0.4159)	(0.4430)
	Return after operating charges *	12.4951	(1.0176)	8.7505
	Closing net asset value per share**	146.1489	133.6538	134.6714
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	4.5050	2.9681	2.3135
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	0.0130
Performance	**after dilution adjustment of	0.06%	0.10%	0.15%
renormance	Return after charges	9.35%	(0.76%)	6.95%
Other information				
	Closing net asset value	£945,404,531	£564,324,554	£336,189,365
	Closing number of shares	647,236,915	422,633,551	250,018,667
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.31%	0.31%	0.34%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%
Prices				
	Highest share price	146.1489	138.2399	136.1447
	Lowest share price	130.9794	127.1834	125.6097
A (Accumulation)		Period 22 January 2024		
		to 31 March		
		2024^		
Changes in net assets	ner share	GBp		
Orlanges in fict assets	Opening net asset value per share	100.0000		
	Return before operating charges	5.2360		
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.0870)		
	Return after operating charges *	5.1490		
	Closing net asset value per share**	105.1490		
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	0.3680		
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-		
D (	**after dilution adjustment of	0.06%		
Performance	Return after charges	5.15%		
Other information				
	Closing net asset value	£1,051		
	Closing number of shares	1,000		
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.45%		
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%		
Prices				
	Highest share price	105.1490		
	Lowest share price	100.0000		

<sup>^</sup> Share class launched 22 January 2024

#### **Class Accumulation IP1**

		Period 01 April 2021 to 4 January 2022^^
Changes in net assets	per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *	GBp 99.7150 8.1916 (0.2644) 7.9272
	Closing net asset value per share** Retained distributions on accumulated shares	107.6422 1.0631
Performance	*after direct transactions costs of:  **after dilution adjustment of	0.0104 0.15%
Other information	Return after charges  Closing net asset value	7.95%
	Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2) Direct transaction costs	0.34% 0.01%
Prices	Highest share price Lowest share price	107.8919 99.5051

<sup>^^</sup> Share class closed 4 January 2022

- 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 plus the costs of the open-end funds the Sub-fund holds.

### **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 (31 March 2023: ranked 4). The Sub-fund is ranked 4 because monthly historical performance data indicates that it has experienced average rises and falls in market prices historically. The higher the rank, the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

Collective Investment Schemes (31.03.2023: 24.66%)  64,191,795 iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund 2,423,250 State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund 838,398 Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust 110,408 Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund 125,178 Vanguard FTSE Developed Europe ex-UK Equity Index Fund	Value £  65,975,364 20,872,422 139,966,354 18,325,133 28,365,435 122,569,473 396,074,181  10,659,585 55,234,354	7.00% 2.21% 14.84% 1.94% 3.01% 13.00%
64,191,795 iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund 2,423,250 State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund 838,398 Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust 110,408 Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund	20,872,422 139,966,354 18,325,133 28,365,435 122,569,473 396,074,181	2.21% 14.84% 1.94% 3.01% 13.00% 42.00%
2,423,250 State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund 838,398 Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust 110,408 Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund	20,872,422 139,966,354 18,325,133 28,365,435 122,569,473 396,074,181	2.21% 14.84% 1.94% 3.01% 13.00% 42.00%
2,423,250 State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund 838,398 Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust 110,408 Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund	20,872,422 139,966,354 18,325,133 28,365,435 122,569,473 396,074,181	2.21% 14.84% 1.94% 3.01% 13.00% 42.00%
838,398 Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust 110,408 Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund	139,966,354 18,325,133 28,365,435 122,569,473 396,074,181	14.84% 1.94% 3.01% 13.00% 42.00%
110,408 Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund	18,325,133 28,365,435 122,569,473 396,074,181	1.94% 3.01% 13.00% 42.00%
•	28,365,435 122,569,473 396,074,181 10,659,585	3.01% 13.00% 42.00%
	122,569,473 396,074,181 10,659,585	13.00% 42.00%
1,005,363 Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index	396,074,181 10,659,585	42.00%
	, ,	
Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 69.68%)	, ,	
739,530 Amundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF	55 234 354	1.13%
2,264,167 Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF		5.86%
16,167,698 HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF	133,626,024	14.17%
768,563 Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF	18,702,981	1.98%
928,391 Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	5,245,409	0.56%
2,387,711 iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	10,214,628	1.08%
401,934 iShares Core UK Gilts UCITS ETF	4,177,099	0.44%
1,045,488 iShares Core MSCI EM IMI UCITS ETF	26,921,316	2.85%
5,286,807 iShares UK Property UCITS ETF	24,102,553	2.56%
986,509 Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF	10,999,575	1.17%
9,452,740 SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF	94,829,888	10.06%
847,965 Vanguard USD Emerging Markets Government Bond UCITS ETF	28,288,112	3.00%
	423,001,524	44.86%
Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 4.82%)		
1,982,200 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028	2,695,083	0.29%
5,163,700 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029	8,207,836	0.87%
764,600 UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030	2,625,789	0.28%
2,865,900 UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026	2,661,561	0.28%
9,787,800 UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030	7,859,603	0.83%
2,612,900 UK GILT 0.625% 07-06-2025	2,495,320	0.26%
6,880,300 UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037	5,178,114	0.55%
2,703,800 UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027	2,477,762	0.26%
6,636,500 UK GILT 4.25% 07-06-2032	6,828,295	0.72%
7,166,100 UK GILT 3.25% 22-01-2044	6,072,983	0.64%
3,814,000 UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052	3,401,554	0.36%
6,869,700 UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053	6,099,126	0.65%
	56,603,026	5.99%
Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 99.16%)	875,678,731	92.85%
Net other assets (31.03.2023: 0.84%)	67,374,182	7.15%
<u> </u>	943,052,913	100.00%

# SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES

	£
Total purchases for the year (note 14)	710,174,188
Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust	122,935,082
Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index	89,651,699
SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF	87,261,202
Insight Liquidity Funds plc	67,068,677
Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF	51,756,662
iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	44,547,338
HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF	33,641,707
iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund	29,285,273
Vanguard FTSE Developed Europe ex-UK Equity Index Fund	25,921,014
iShares Core MSCI EM IMI UCITS ETF	25,460,247
Various other purchases	132,645,287
	£
Total sales for the year (note 14)	455,337,789
Vanguard S&P 500 UCITS ETF	116,284,013
Insight Liquidity Funds plc	99,950,400
Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF	72,829,338
Amundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF	44,082,844
iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	35,221,483
Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	18,832,883
JPMorgan ETFs (Ireland) ICAV Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor UCITS ETF	18,237,617
Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF	15,574,343
iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund	14,125,858
State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund	12,107,954
Various other sales	8,091,056

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

# STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the year ended 31 March					
	Notes	202 £	24 £	2023 £	£
Income  Net capital gain/(losses)	2		54,030,274		(12,440,750)
Revenue	3	24,073,971		12,694,696	
Expenses	4	(2,259,374)		(1,291,453)	
Interest payable and similar charges	6	(10)	_	(27)	
Net revenue before taxation		21,814,587		11,403,216	
Taxation	5	(2,731,031)	_	(785,005)	
Net revenue after taxation		-	19,083,556	_	10,618,211
Total return before distributions			73,113,830		(1,822,539)
Finance costs: distributions	6	-	(24,121,981)	_	(9,290,326)
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		-	48,991,849	_	(11,112,865)
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	S ATTRIBUT	TABLE TO SHARE	HOLDERS		
For the year ended 31 March			2024 £		2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to sharehold	ders		563,409,652		335,561,977

	2024 £	2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	563,409,652	335,561,977
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	433,647,218	282,763,243
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(129,886,838)	(54,395,425)
Accumulation dividends retained	26,891,032	10,592,722
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	48,991,849	(11,112,865)
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	943,052,913	563,409,652

# **BALANCE SHEET**

As at		31.03.2024		31.03.2	2023
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Investment assets			875,678,731		558,682,187
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	9,411,788		7,544,933	
Cash and bank balances	8	71,708,526		5,583,734	
Total current assets	_		81,120,314		13,128,667
Total assets			956,799,045		571,810,854
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors	9	(13,746,132)		(8,380,020)	
Bank overdraft	8 _			(21,182)	
Total current liabilities		_	(13,746,132)	_	(8,401,202)
Net assets attributable to shareholders			943,052,913		563,409,652

# For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting polices, which have been applied in both the current and prior year, are set out on pages 7-8.

2 Net capital gains/(losses)	2024 £	2023 £
The net capital gains/(losses) comprise:	_	_
Non-derivative securities gains/(losses) Foreign exchange (losses)/gains	54,050,765 (22,590)	(12,444,892) 80
Transaction charges (custodian)	2,099	4,062
Total net capital gains/(losses)	54,030,274	(12,440,750)
0 Parray	0004	2022
3 Revenue	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-taxable dividends	8,159,431	7,478,192
Interest on non-derivative securities	12,925,775	4,313,108
Investment manager rebates	768,387	579,375
Rebates from underlying holdings	33,022	7,433
Stock lending income	15,359	32,554
Bank and other interest	2,171,997	284,034
Total revenue	24,073,971	12,694,696
4 Expenses	2024	2023
·	£	£
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager,		
and agents of either of them:		
Annual management charge	1,995,460	1,134,937
Payable to the depositary, associates of the		
depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee	136,877	83,071
Safe custody fee	95,834	54,077
	232,711	137,148
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	3,513	3,330
FCA fee	22	47
Other expenses	27,668	15,991
	31,203	19,368
Total expenses	2,259,374	1,291,453

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

5 Taxation	2024	2023
J Taxation	£	£
(a) Analysis of charge in the year		
UK corporation tax	2,731,031	785,005
•		
Total tax charge for the year (note 5b)	2,731,031	785,005
(b) Factors affecting current tax charge for the year		
The tax assessed for the year is lower than the		
standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an		
open-ended investment company 20.00%		
(2023: 20.00%) The differences are explained below:		
,	24 044 507	11 102 216
Net revenue before UK corporation tax	21,814,587	11,403,216
Corporation tax at 20.00% (2023: 20.00%)	4,362,917	2,280,643
Effects of:		
Revenue not subject to UK corporation tax	(1,631,886)	(1,495,638)
Total tax charge for the year (note 5a)	2,731,031	785,005

## (c) Provision for deferred taxation

At 31 March 2024 there is a potential deferred tax asset of £Nil (31 March 2023: £Nil) in relation to surplus management expenses.

6 Finance costs	2024 £	2023 £
Interim dividend distribution	10,576,458	5,198,728
Final dividend distribution	16,314,574	5,393,994
	26,891,032	10,592,722
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares	1,294,750	293,443
Deduct: Revenue received on issue of shares	(4,063,801)	(1,595,839)
Net distribution for the year	24,121,981	9,290,326
Interest payable and similar charges	10	27
Total finance costs	24,121,991	9,290,353
Reconciliation of distributions		
Net revenue after taxation	19,083,556	10,618,211
Equalisation from collectives allocated to revenue	2,782,172	-
Balance brought forward	1,379,193	51,308
Balance carried forward	877,060	(1,379,193)
Net distribution for the year	24,121,981	9,290,326

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

7 Debtors	31.03.2024 £	31.03.2023 £
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	7,650,364	7,307,581
Accrued Revenue:		
Interest on non-derivative securities receivable	1,702,550	79,618
Investment manager rebates	54,943	151,079
Rebates from underlying holdings	3,903	1,025
Stock lending income receivable	-	3,259
Prepayments	28	2,371
Total debtors	9,411,788	7,544,933
0 Cook and bank balances	24.02.2024	31.03.2023
8 Cash and bank balances	31.03.2024 £	\$1.03.2023 £
	Z	L
Cash and bank balances	71,708,526	5,583,734
Bank overdraft	-	(21,182)
9 Creditors	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	3,351,448	678,531
Amounts payable on unsettled trades	7,801,085	6,536,798
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:		
Annual management charge	198,006	331,094
Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee	12,961	8,845
Safe custody and other custodian charges	37,713	34,554
	50,674	43,399
UK corporation tax	2,338,529	785,005
Other accrued expenses	6,390	5,193
Total creditors	13,746,132	8,380,020

#### 11 Risk management

In pursuing its investment objective as stated on page 28, the Sub-fund holds a number of financial instruments. The Sub-fund's financial instruments comprise securities and other investments, cash balances, debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations, for example, in respect of sales and purchases awaiting settlement, amounts receivable for issues and payable for redemptions and debtors for accrued revenue.

The main risks arising from the Sub-funds financial instruments, those of its underlying holdings and the AFM's policies for managing these risks are summarised below. These policies have been applied throughout the year.

### Market price risk

Market price risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices caused by factors other than interest rate or foreign currency movement. Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments the Sub-fund holds. It represents the potential loss the Sub-fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is exposed to market price fluctuations, which are monitored by the AFM in pursuance of the investment objective and policy as set out in the Prospectus.

Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Instrument of Incorporation, the Prospectus and in the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

If market prices at the Balance Sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £87,567,873 (31 March 2023: £55,868,219).

#### Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is invested in funds that are registered overseas and collective investment scheme which invest in overseas securities and the balance sheet can be affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The AFM may seek to manage exposure to currency movements by using forward exchange contracts or by hedging the Sterling value of investments that are priced in other currencies. Revenue received in other currencies is converted to Sterling on or near the date of receipt.

Net currency assets and liabilities consist of:

	Net monetar	y assets and				
	liabilities		Non-mone	tary assets	Total ne	t assets
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
Sterling	67,241,363	4,712,807	875,678,731	558,682,187	942,920,094	563,394,994
US Dollar	132,819	14,658	-	-	132,819	14,658
Total	67,374,182	4,727,465	875,678,731	558,682,187	943,052,913	563,409,652

If foreign exchange rates at the balance sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £13,282 (31 March 2023: £1,465).

### 11 Risk management (Continued)

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk to portfolio value due to changes in interest rates. The magnitude of the exposure from an adverse change in interest rates depends on the sensitivity of the instrument to changes in interest rates as well as the absolute change in interest rates. In general, values of long-term instruments are more sensitive to interest rate changes than the values of short-term instruments

The Sub-fund takes on interest rate risk when the investment manager believes the expected returns compensate for the risk, limited by the investment objective, policy and any prospectus rules. The investment manager monitors the level of interest rate risk in the Sub-fund on a regular basis. In addition any cash deposits in the Sub-fund are linked to SONIA, ensuring interest income increases as interest rates increase.

The table below details the interest rate risk profile at the balance sheet date:

	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Financial assets floating rate	71,708,526	5,583,734
Financial assets interest bearing instruments	332,648,514	231,735,566
Financial assets non-interest bearing instruments	552,442,005	334,491,554
Financial liabilities non-interest bearing instruments	(13,746,132)	(8,380,020)
Financial liabilities floating rate	-	(21,182)
	943,052,913	563,409,652

At 31 March 2024, if interest rates increased or decreased by 0.25%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the Sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £320,779 (31 March 2023: £82,047).

## Maturity of financial liabilities

The financial liabilities of the Sub-fund as at 31 March 2024 are payable either within one year or on demand.

#### Liquidity risk

The Sub-fund's assets comprise mainly of readily realisable securities. The main liability of the Sub-fund is the redemption of any shares that the investors wish to sell. Assets of the Sub-fund may need to be sold if insufficient cash is available to finance such redemptions.

#### Credit risk

Certain transactions in securities that the Sub-fund enters into expose it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the investment for a purchase, or cash for a sale after the Sub-fund has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Sub-fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the AFM as acceptable counterparties and fund management companies. In addition, limits are set to the exposure to any individual broker that may exist at any time and changes in brokers' financial ratings are reviewed. Indirect credit risk arises from holdings in collectives that invest in debt securities as any default or perceived risk of default will affect the valuation of such holdings.

### Fair value disclosure

The fair value hierarchy is intended to prioritise the inputs that are used to measure the fair value of assets and liabilities. The highest priority is given to quoted prices and the lowest priority to un-observable inputs. The criteria applied to the fair values levels in these financial statements are as follows:

- Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an identical instrument;
- Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other than quoted prices within level 1;
- Level 3: Valuation techniques using unobservable inputs.

	31.03.2024		31.03	.2023
	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
Valuation Technique	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)
Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an				
identical instrument	479,605	-	419,825	-
Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other				
than quoted prices within level 1	396,074	-	138,857	-
Total	875,679	-	558,682	-

## 11 Shares held

1 (	(Accumulation)

Opening Shares at 01.04.2023	422,633,551
Shares issued during the year	320,343,112
Shares cancelled during the year	(95,739,748)
Shares converted during the year	-
Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024	647,236,915
A (Accumulation)	
Opening Shares at 22.01.2024	-
Shares issued during the period	1,000
Shares cancelled during the period	-
Shares converted during the period	-

## 12 Contingent assets and liabilities

Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024

At 31 March 2024, the Sub-fund had no contingent liabilities or commitments (31 March 2023: £nil).

### 13 Post balance sheet events

As indicated in the accounting policies in Note 1, the investments have been valued at the closing valuation point on 28 March 2024. Since that date, the Sub-fund's quoted mid-price has moved as follows for each share class:

1,000

Share class I (Accumulation) A (Accumulation)	Price at 28	146.1489p 105.1490p	Price at	18 July 2024 148.8973p 107.0827p
4 Direct transactions costs	2024		2023	
	£	%	£	%
Analysis of total purchase costs				
Purchases in the year before transaction costs	710,174,088		664,633,533	
Commissions Total purchase costs	100 100	0.00% 0.00%	896 896	0.00%
Total purchases including transaction costs	710,174,188	_	664,634,429	
Analysis of total sale costs				
Sales in the year before transaction costs	455,337,789		428,463,168	
Commissions Total sale costs	<u> </u>	(0.00%)		(0.00%)
Total sales net of transaction costs	455,337,789		428,463,168	

erage net asset value in the year:

	2024		2023	
	£	% of average net asset value	£	% of average net asset value
Commissions	100	0.00%	896	0.00%
	100	0.00%	896	0.00%

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## 15 Portfolio Dealing Spread

The average portfolio dealing spread at 31 March 2024 is 0.09% (31 March 2023: 0.15%).

#### 16 Stock lending

The Sub-fund enters into stock lending arrangements with various counterparties. At the balance sheet date the bid value of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £4,595,514). The value of collateral held in respect of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £4,825,290).

Counterparty	2024		2023		
	Value of stock on loan	Collateral	Value of stock on loan	Collateral	
	£	£	£	£	
Merrill Lynch International	-	-	4,263,000	4,476,150	
Barclays Capital Securities Ltd	-	-	332,514	349,140	
•		-	4,595,514	4,825,290	
Collateral by asset class		2024		2023	
		£		£	
Government bonds			_	4,825,290	
	_	-	_	4,825,290	
Analysis of stock lending income		2024		2023	
		£		£	
Gross stock lending income		21,941		46,506	
Fees paid to the custodian		(6,582)		(13,952)	
•		15,359	_	32,554	

## 17 Related party transactions

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited, as AFM is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the Sub-fund.

Amounts paid to the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amounts due to the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 9. Amounts received from the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 3. Amounts due from the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 7.

### **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

### Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 April 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 April 2023 and on or before 30 September 2023

I (Net Accumulation)	Net Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
	30.11.2023		30.11.2023	30.11.2022
Group 1	1.9844p	-	1.9844p	1.6918p
Group 2	1.0206p	0.9638p	1.9844p	1.6918p

# Final 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 March 2024

I (Net Accumulation)	Net Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
	31.05.2024		31.05.2024	31.05.2023
Group 1	2.5206p	-	2.5206p	1.2763p
Group 2	0.9739p	1.5467p	2.5206p	1.2763p

A (Accumulation)^	Net revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024
Group 1	0.3680p	-	0.3680p
Group 2	0.3680p	-	0.3680p

<sup>^</sup> for the period from 22 January 2024 to 31 March 2024.

### Information for corporate shareholders

A corporate shareholder receives the distribution shown on the voucher enclosed with this report as follows:

- i) 35.06% of the total dividend allocation together with the tax credit is received as franked investment income.
- ii) 64.94% of the dividend allocation is received as an annual payment received after deduction of income tax at the lower rate and is liable to corporation tax. It is not franked investment income.

# SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS (UNAUDITED)

	24							
GLOBAL DATA								
Proportion of secu						£	%	
Total lendable asse Securities and com	_		n equivalents:			875,678,731 -	0.00%	
Assets engaged in			/aps			£	%	
Fund assets under						943,052,913		
Absolute value of a Securities lending	issets engage	ea in:				-	0.00%	
CONCENTRATION								
Top 10 Collateral   Name and value o		nd commodit	ies received			£		
Top 10 Counterpa	rties							
Name and value o		g transaction	s			£		
Securities lending								
AGGREGATE TRA								
Type, Quality and	•				Currencies	c		
Type Securities lending		Quality			Currencies	£		
Maturity Tenor of					Three months	Above one	Open	
	one day	•	one month	months	to one year	year	maturity	Total
Туре	£		£	£	£	£	£	£
Securities lending								-
ŭ	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Counterparty deta	ile	Countries of	Se	ettlement and				
	1113							
Туре		Counterparty		Clearing		£		
	C		vaps (remainin	Clearing	turity)	£		
Type  Maturity Tenor of	SFTs and To	otal Return Sw		Clearing g period to ma	turity) Three months	£ Above one	Open	
	SFTs and To	otal Return Sw One day to		Clearing g period to ma		Above one	Open transactions	Total
	SFTs and To Less than	otal Return Sw One day to	One week to	Clearing g period to ma One to three	Three months	Above one	•	Total £
Maturity Tenor of	SFTs and To Less than one day	otal Return Sw One day to one week £	One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	
Maturity Tenor of S  Type  Securities lending	SFTs and To Less than one day £	otal Return Sw One day to one week £	One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	
Maturity Tenor of	SFTs and To Less than one day £	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ -	One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	
Maturity Tenor of Type Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLL The Sub-fund does SAFEKEEPING OF	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL a not engage i	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co	One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	
Maturity Tenor of Type Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLL The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL not engage i F COLLATER of custodian	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co	One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	
Maturity Tenor of Type Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLL The Sub-fund does SAFEKEEPING OF	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL not engage i F COLLATER of custodian	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co	One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	
Maturity Tenor of Type Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLL The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value	SFTs and To Less than one day £ ATERAL anot engage i F COLLATER of custodian ans safekeepi	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co RAL RECEIVE is safekeepinging collateral	One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £ - -	transactions £	
Maturity Tenor of Type Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLL The Sub-fund does SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value Number of custodia	SFTs and To Less than one day £	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co RAL RECEIVE is safekeeping ing collateral	One week to one month £	g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £	transactions £	- -
Maturity Tenor of Type Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLL The Sub-fund does SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value Number of custodia	SFTs and To Less than one day £	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co RAL RECEIVE is safekeepinging collateral	One week to one month £	Clearing g period to ma One to three months £	Three months to one year £	Above one year £ - -	transactions £	
Maturity Tenor of Type Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLL The Sub-fund does SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value Number of custodia	SFTs and To Less than one day £  ATERAL not engage i F COLLATER of custodian ans safekeepi ST Collective	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co RAL RECEIVE is safekeeping ing collateral e Investment Undertaking	One week to one month £	g period to ma One to three months £ or of collective at undertaking	Three months to one year £	Above one year £ sird Parties (e.g. lending agent)	transactions £	- - - Total
Maturity Tenor of Type Securities lending  RE-USE OF COLL The Sub-fund does SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value Number of custodia RETURN AND CO	SFTs and To Less than one day £  ATERAL not engage i F COLLATER of custodian ans safekeepi ST Collective	otal Return Sw One day to one week £ in re-use of co RAL RECEIVE is safekeeping ing collateral e Investment Undertaking	One week to one month £	g period to ma One to three months £ or of collective at undertaking	Three months to one year £	Above one year £ sird Parties (e.g. lending agent)	transactions £	- - - Total

#### **SUB-FUND OVERVIEW**

Name of Sub-fund

VT AJ Bell Adventurous

Size of Sub-fund

£525,474,048

Launch date

18 April 2017

Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of VT AJ Bell Adventurous is to achieve long-term capital growth with a preference (often indirect) towards higher risk assets such as equities and less emphasis on defensive assets such as cash, fixed interest securities, money-market funds and collective investment schemes following alternative strategies such as property and commodities. This is to keep the Sub-fund within a pre-determined risk profile. Capital is in fact at risk and there is no guarantee that capital growth will be achieved over a 5 year, or any period.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objective (and so provide exposure to the asset classes noted in the objective) by investing predominantly (80% +), in indextracking investments or strategies (those instruments and/or investment strategies that aim to track the performance of various financial indices) and which typically consist of collective investment schemes (including those managed or operated by the AFM) as well as equities, bonds and transferable securities.

The Sub-fund may also invest in non-index tracking collective investment schemes, equities, bonds, transferable securities, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus and as such weightings in these may vary as required. The Sub-fund may have exposure to emerging markets through its investments in e.g. collective investment schemes or futures.

The Sub-fund's risk profile is managed by restricting the types of asset held and allocations to those assets. The risk profiles are determined by the external risk rating agency's forward looking volatility assumptions. The Sub-fund aims to operate with a risk rating of 7, on a scale of 1-10 where 1 is an allocation to cash and 10 is an allocation to riskier equity regions such as Asia and emerging markets.

Derivatives (that is sophisticated investment instruments linked to the rise and fall of the price of other assets) are held only for efficient portfolio management purposes.

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives only for efficient portfolio management purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for efficient portfolio management purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Due to its multi-asset nature, no financial instrument or index represents a fair benchmark for the Sub-fund, however it is suggested that the performance of the Sub-fund can be assessed by comparing its total return to funds with similar return and/or risk objectives. The IA (Investment Association) provides the median performance of funds with similar characteristics (IA sectors). The Sub-fund is assigned to the Flexible Investment IA sector. Other providers also provide peer groups, based on asset allocation or historical volatility, of which the Sub-fund may be assigned, these may be a useful guide to assess performance.

The current external risk rating agency of the Sub-fund is Distribution Technology. The Sub-fund may replace the external risk agency from time to time, which will be communicated in any future publications of the Prospectus.

Derivatives:

**Additional Information:** 

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

**Ex-distribution dates** 31 March and 30 September

**Distribution dates** 31 May and 30 November

Individual Savings Account (ISA)

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

Share Classes I (Accumulation)

A (Accumulation)

Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: All share classes = £1,000

Top up: All share classes = £25

Holding: All share classes = £1

Redemption: All share classes = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Switching: All share classes = N/A(provided minimum holding is maintained)

Initial, redemption and switching charges Nil

### **Annual Management charges**

I (Net Accumulation) = 0.31%

The above percentage being percentage of the net asset value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant Class (plus VAT if applicable).

From the 4 January 2022 an all-in fee was introduced which results in all the operating charges being taken out of the Annual Management charge shown above. This will result in future ongoing charges figures to be the same as the Annual Management charge. For more information about charges, please see sections 3.6 ("Dealing Charges") & 7 ("Fees and Expenses") of the prospectus.

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

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

Over the twelve months, the I Acc share class of the fund returned 12.5% compared to the IA Flexible Investment sector, which returned 10.1%. The fund managed the volatility in bond markets well over the year and was well positioned in riskier global high yield bonds. The equity market exposure within the fund is diversified by region. Holdings in US and Japanese equities performed well over the year, whilst those in Emerging markets and the UK were laggards.

Activity in the nine months of 2023 applicable to this report related to the management of the fund's concentration in certain holdings. Within high yield bonds these included the State Street Global High Yield Bond ESG Screened Index Fund, the Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG ETF and the JPMorgan Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor ETF, which was subsequently removed from the fund in July. A new holding in the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF was consequently added to the fund in May. Activity in UK equities also fell into this camp, with a partial sale of Lyxor Core Morningstar UK ETF being replaced with the Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Unit Trust.

The asset allocation of the fund is broken down by asset class and currency. We think of it in terms of; UK (GBP) Cash and Bonds, International (non-GBP) bonds, UK equities, International (non-GBP) equities and Alternatives. In January 2024 the fund was repositioned as part of the annual Strategic Asset Allocation (SAA) project.

No changes were made to the allocations to UK (GBP) cash and bonds or international (non-GBP) bonds.

Within equities, we maintained the allocation to the UK, however within international equities increased the allocation to Japan and Europe on valuation grounds, funded by sales in the US. Three other transactions took place, two of which took advantage of cheaper product pricing in the US and Japan. Firstly, there was a partial sale of the Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund and replacement with the iShares Core MSCI EM IMI ETF to better reflect the desired country allocation across Emerging markets and Asia. Secondly, the Vanguard S&P 500 ETF was entirely replaced with the SPDR S&P 500 ETF (State Street). Finally, most of the holding in Amundi MSCI Japan DR ETF was replaced by Amundi Prime Japan ETF.

No changes were made to the allocation to Alternatives.

There have been several narratives that look to explain the strong start to the year that equity markets have made. Our observation is that there appears to be an element of 'reacceleration' taking place in the global economy, however, we do not seek to reposition the fund based on short-term trends, sentiment or market narratives. Instead, the fund remains positioned to meet its volatility target and capture returns in a diversified manner.

AJ Bell Asset Management Limited Investment Manager of the Fund 19 June 2024

## **Financial Highlights**

# I (Accumulation)

		Year ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Changes in net asse	ets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
•	Opening net asset value per share	148.0597	147.8672	132.2772
	Return before operating charges	18.9640	0.6512	16.0662
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.4876)	(0.4587)	(0.4762)
	Return after operating charges *	18.4764	0.1925	15.5900
	Closing net asset value per share**	166.5361	148.0597	147.8672
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	4.5586	3.3587	2.6426
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	0.0140
	**after dilution adjustment of	0.07%	0.09%	0.16%
Performance				
	Return after charges	12.48%	0.13%	11.79%
Other information				
	Closing net asset value	£526,273,655	£323,157,413	£201,453,241
	Closing number of shares	316,217,465	218,464,148	136,455,935
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.31%	0.31%	0.34%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%
Prices		100 5001	450,0005	440 4070
	Highest share price	166.5361	153.9305	148.1376
	Lowest share price	146.4271	136.8664	131.8488
A (Accumulation)				
(		Period 22		
		January 2024 to		
		31 March 2024^		
Changes in net asso	ets per share	GBp		
	Opening net asset value per share	100.0000		
	Return before operating charges	7.4910		
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.0880)		
	Return after operating charges *	7.4030		
	Closing net asset value per share**	107.4030		
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	0.1990		
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-		
Performance	**after dilution adjustment of	0.07%		
renomiance	Return after charges	7.40%		
Other information				
	Closing net asset value	£1,106		
	Closing number of shares	1,030		
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.45%		
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%		
Prices				

107.4030 100.0000

Highest share price Lowest share price

<sup>^</sup> Share class launched 22 January 2024

## **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 plus the costs of the open-end funds the Sub-fund holds.

### **Risk Profile**

Based on past data, the Sub-fund is ranked a '5' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document. (31 March 2023: ranked 5). The Sub-fund is ranked 5 because monthly historical performance data indicates that it has experienced relatively high rises and falls in market prices historically. The higher the rank, the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

As at 31 March 2	2024		0/ 5
Holding		Value £	% of net assets
	Collective Investment Schemes (31.03.2023: 12.40%)		
1,548,359	State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund	13,336,635	2.54%
	Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund	10,470,130	1.98%
53,250	Vanguard FTSE Developed Europe ex-UK Equity Index Fund	12,066,493	2.30%
573,919	Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust	95,812,907	18.23%
		131,686,165	25.05%
	Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 84.68%)		
41,100	Amundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF	592,415	0.11%
1,260,734	Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF	30,755,606	5.85%
10,025,407	HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF	82,859,989	15.77%
23,624	iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF	10,339,752	1.97%
1,880,249	iShares Core MSCI EM IMI UCITS ETF	48,416,412	9.21%
4,899,821	iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	20,961,434	3.99%
2,231,030	iShares UK Property UCITS ETF	10,171,266	1.94%
	Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	1,519,613	0.29%
	Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF	35,447,244	6.75%
9,458,454	SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF	94,887,211	18.06%
471,689	Vanguard USD Emerging Markets Government Bond UCITS ETF	15,735,545	2.99%
399,557	Xtrackers S&P Europe ex UK UCITS ETF	24,620,702	4.69%
		376,307,189	71.62%
	Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 1.27%)		
689,000	UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028	936,793	0.18%
270,800	UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030	929,981	0.18%
2,281,800	UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029	3,626,981	0.69%
		5,493,755	1.05%
	Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 98.35%)	513,487,109	97.72%
	Net other assets (31.03.2023: 1.65%)	11,986,939	2.28%
		525,474,048	100.00%

## **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES**

Total purchases for the year (note 14)	£ 390,577,839
SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF  Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust Insight Liquidity Funds plc iShares Core MSCI EM IMI UCITS ETF  Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF  Vanguard S&P 500 UCITS ETF  State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF	87,307,510 76,794,487 36,875,529 29,177,664 28,700,952 20,321,316 19,832,364 16,317,198 15,801,109 13,921,443
Other various purchases	45,528,267
Total sales for the year (note 14)	£ 241,301,395
Vanguard S&P 500 UCITS ETF Insight Liquidity Funds plc Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF Amundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust JPMorgan ETFs (Ireland) ICAV Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor UCITS ETF Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund Other various purchases	88,776,431 41,264,302 37,037,294 19,925,181 14,317,535 12,101,518 10,859,394 6,556,086 4,347,379 4,309,158 1,807,117

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

# STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

i oi tilo y	ear ended 31 March		202	4	2023	1
I		Notes	£	£	£	£
Income	Net capital gains/(losses)	2		43,543,036		(5,049,382)
	Revenue	3	11,950,627		6,991,465	
Expenses		4	(1,297,823)		(735,800)	
Interest pa	ayable and similar charges	6 _	(4)	_	(2,042)	
Net reveni	ue before taxation		10,652,800		6,253,623	
Taxation		5 _	(650,121)	_	(9,265)	
Net reveni	ue after taxation		_	10,002,679	_	6,244,358
Total retur	rn before distributions			53,545,715		1,194,976
Finance co	osts: distributions	6	_	(12,608,301)	_	(5,576,335)
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			_	40,937,414	_	(4,381,359)
STATEME	ENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	S ATTRIBUTA	ABLE TO SHAREI	HOLDERS		
For the ye	ear ended 31 March			2024		2023
				£		£023
		_		200 000 070		004 400 000

	2024 £	2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	322,930,870	201,188,930
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	231,118,956	152,269,431
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(83,256,667)	(32,384,202)
Accumulation dividends retained	13,743,475	6,238,070
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	40,937,414	(4,381,359)
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	525,474,048	322,930,870

# **BALANCE SHEET**

As at		31.03.2	2024	31.03.2	31.03.2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£	
FIXED ASSETS						
Investment assets			513,487,109		317,599,147	
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	7	5,636,085		6,227,037		
Cash and bank balances	8	14,924,162		2,517,533		
Total current assets			20,560,247		8,744,570	
Total assets			534,047,356		326,343,717	
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Creditors	9	(8,573,308)		(3,398,698)		
Bank overdraft	8	-		(14,149)		
Total current liabilities			(8,573,308)		(3,412,847)	
Net assets attributable to shareholders		_	525,474,048	_	322,930,870	

# For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting polices, which have been applied in both the current and prior year, are set out on pages 7-8.

2 Net capital gains/(losses)	2024 £	2023 £
The net capital gains/(losses) comprise:	_	_
Non-derivative securities gains/(losses) Foreign exchange gains Transaction costs	43,538,713 116 4.207	(5,051,116) 1,734
Total net capital gains/(losses)	43,543,036	(5,049,382)
3 Revenue	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-taxable dividends Interest on non-derivative securities Investment manager rebate Rebates from underlying holdings	7,402,193 3,539,980 460,721 12,469	5,856,503 689,246 293,424 798
Stock lending income Bank and other interest	121,467 413,797	48,672 102,822
Total revenue	11,950,627	6,991,465
4 Expenses	2024 £	2023 £
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:		
Annual management charge	1,132,089	634,186
Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee Safe custody fee	82,379 58,792 141,171	52,982 32,316 85,298
	141,171	65,296
Other expenses:	0.400	0.000
Audit fee FCA fee	3,483 22	3,330 47
Other expenses		
	21,058 24,563	12,939 16,316
Total expenses		

5 Taxation	2024 £	2023 £
	2	~
(a) Analysis of charge in the year		
UK corporation tax	650,121	9,265
Total tax charge for the year (note 5b)	650,121	9,265
(b) Factors affecting current tax charge for the year  The tax assessed for the year is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an		
open-ended investment company 20.00% (2023: 20.00%) The differences are explained below:		
Net revenue before UK corporation tax	10,652,800	6,253,623
Corporation tax at 20.00% (2023: 20.00%) Effects of:	2,130,560	1,250,725
Revenue not subject to UK corporation tax	(1,480,439)	(1,171,301)
Excess management expenses (utilised)	-	(70,159)
Total tax charge for the year (note 5a)	650,121	9,265

# (c) Provision for deferred taxation

At 31 March 2024 there is a potential deferred tax asset of £Nil (31 March 2023: £Nil) in relation to surplus management expenses.

6 Finance costs	2024 £	2023 £
Interim dividend distribution	4,716,424	3,658,945
Final dividend distribution	9,027,051 13,743,475	2,579,125 6,238,070
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares	845,010	188,227
Deduct: Revenue received on issue of shares	(1,980,184)	(849,962)
Net distribution for the year	12,608,301	5,576,335
Interest payable and similar charges	4	2,042
Total finance costs	12,608,305	5,578,377
Reconciliation of distributions		
Net revenue after taxation	10,002,679	6,244,358
Equalisation from collectives allocated to revenue	1,468,018	-
Balance brought forward	1,029,428	361,405
Balance carried forward	108,176	(1,029,428)
Net distribution for the year	12,608,301	5,576,335

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

7 Debtors	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	4,735,367	6,128,731
Accrued Revenue:		
Interest on non-derivative securities receivable	858,871	3,738
Investment manager rebates	39,987	83,356
Rebates from underlying holdings	1,832	441
Stock lending income receivable	-	8,425
Prepayments	28	2,346
Total debtors	5,636,085	6,227,037
8 Cash and bank balances	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Cash and bank balances	14,924,162	2,517,533
Bank overdraft	-	(14,149)
O. Craditara	24 02 2024	24 02 2022
9 Creditors	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	2,245,765	810,797
Amounts payable on unsettled trades	5,536,089	2,364,284
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager,		
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager,		
and agents of either of them:	100 070	105 624
Annual management charge	108,873	185,631
Payable to the depositary, associates of the		
depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee	7,481	5,415
Safe custody and other custodian charges	19,500	18,776
	26,981	24,191
UK corporation tax	650,121	9,265
Other accrued expenses	5,479	4,530
Total creditors	8,573,308	3,398,698

### 11 Risk management

In pursuing its investment objective as stated on page 46, the Sub-fund holds a number of financial instruments. The Sub-fund's financial instruments comprise securities and other investments, cash balances, debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations, for example, in respect of sales and purchases awaiting settlement, amounts receivable for issues and payable for redemptions and debtors for accrued revenue.

The main risks arising from the Sub-fund's financial instruments, those of its underlying holdings and the AFM's policies for managing these risks are summarised below. These policies have been applied throughout the year.

#### Market price risk

Market price risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices caused by factors other than interest rate or foreign currency movement. Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments the Sub-fund holds. It represents the potential loss the Sub-fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is exposed to market price fluctuations, which are monitored by the AFM in pursuance of the investment objective and policy as set out in the Prospectus.

Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Instrument of Incorporation, the Prospectus and in the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

If market prices at the Balance Sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £51,348,711 (31 March 2023: £31,759,915).

#### Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is invested in funds that are registered overseas and collective investment scheme which invest in overseas securities and the balance sheet can be affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The AFM may seek to manage exposure to currency movements by using forward exchange contracts or by hedging the Sterling value of investments that are priced in other currencies. Revenue received in other currencies is converted to Sterling on or near the date of receipt.

Net currency assets and liabilities consist of:

	Net monetary assets and					
	liabilities		Non-monetary assets		Total net assets	
	££		£	£	£	£
	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
Sterling	11,913,429	5,307,248	513,487,109	317,599,147	525,400,538	322,906,395
US Dollar	73,510	24,475	-	-	73,510	24,475
Total	11,986,939	5,331,723	513,487,109	317,599,147	525,474,048	322,930,870

If foreign exchange rates at the balance sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £7,351 (31 March 2023: £2,448).

### 11 Risk management (Continued)

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk to portfolio value due to changes in interest rates. The magnitude of the exposure from an adverse change in interest rates depends on the sensitivity of the instrument to changes in interest rates as well as the absolute change in interest rates. In general, values of long-term instruments are more sensitive to interest rate changes than the values of short-term instruments

The Sub-fund takes on interest rate risk when the investment manager believes the expected returns compensate for the risk, limited by the investment objective, policy and any prospectus rules. The investment manager monitors the level of interest rate risk in the Sub-fund on a regular basis. In addition any cash deposits in the Sub-fund are linked to SONIA, ensuring interest income increases as interest rates increase.

The table below details the interest rate risk profile at the balance sheet date:

	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Financial assets floating rate	14,924,162	2,517,533
Financial assets interest bearing instruments	57,046,982	40,162,621
Financial assets non-interest bearing instruments	462,076,212	283,663,563
Financial liabilities non-interest bearing instruments	(8,573,308)	(3,398,698)
Financial liabilities floating rate	-	(14,149)
	525,474,048	322,930,870

At 31 March 2024, if interest rates increased or decreased by 0.25%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the Sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £51,045 (31 March 2023: £16,429).

#### Maturity of financial liabilities

The financial liabilities of the Sub-fund as at 31 March 2024 are payable either within one year or on demand.

#### Liquidity risk

The Sub-fund's assets comprise mainly of readily realisable securities. The main liability of the Sub-fund is the redemption of any shares that the investors wish to sell. Assets of the Sub-fund may need to be sold if insufficient cash is available to finance such redemptions.

#### Credit risk

Certain transactions in securities that the Sub-fund enters into expose it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the investment for a purchase, or cash for a sale after the Sub-fund has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Sub-fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the AFM as acceptable counterparties and fund management companies. In addition, limits are set to the exposure to any individual broker that may exist at any time and changes in brokers' financial ratings are reviewed. Indirect credit risk arises from holdings in collectives that invest in debt securities as any default or perceived risk of default will affect the valuation of such holdings.

#### Fair value disclosure

The fair value hierarchy is intended to prioritise the inputs that are used to measure the fair value of assets and liabilities. The highest priority is given to quoted prices and the lowest priority to un-observable inputs. The criteria applied to the fair values levels in these financial statements are as follows:

- Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an identical instrument;
- Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other than quoted prices within level 1;
- Level 3: Valuation techniques using unobservable inputs.

	31.03.2024		31.03.2023	
	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
Valuation Technique	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)
Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market				
for an identical instrument	381,801	-	277,546	-
Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs				
other than quoted prices within level 1	131,686	-	40,053	-
Total	513,487	-	317,599	-

## 10 Shares held

I (Accumulation)	
Opening Shares at 01.04.2023	218,464,148
Shares issued during the year	152,522,586
Shares cancelled during the year	(54,769,269)
Shares converted during the year	-
Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024	316,217,465
A (Accumulation)	
Opening Shares at 22.01.2024	-
Shares issued during the period	1,030
Shares cancelled during the period	-
Shares converted during the period	-
Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024	1,030

### 12 Contingent assets and liabilities

At 31 March 2024, the Sub-fund had no contingent liabilities or commitments (31 March 2023: £nil).

### 13 Post balance sheet events

As indicated in the accounting policies in Note 1, the investments have been valued at the closing valuation point on 28 March 2024. Since that date, the Sub-fund's quoted mid-price has moved as follows for each share class:

Share class I (Accumulation) A (Accumulation)	<b>Price at 28 March 2024</b> 166.5361p 107.4030p		<b>Price at 18 July 2024</b> 171.8419p 110.7837p		
14 Direct transactions costs					
		)24	202	-	
Analysis of total purchase costs	£	%	£	%	
Purchases in the year before transaction costs	390,577,839		340,657,750		
Commissions	_	0.00%	611	0.00%	
Total purchase costs	-	0.00%	611	0.00%	
Total purchases including transaction costs	390,577,839	-	340,658,361		
Analysis of total sale costs					
Sales in the year before transaction costs	241,301,395		219,902,115		
Commissions		(0.00%)	-	(0.00%)	
Total sale costs	-	(0.00%)	-	(0.00%)	
Total sales net of transaction costs	241,301,395	_	219,902,115		
The following represents the total of asset value in the year:	each type of trans	saction cost, expres	sed as a percenta	age of the Sub-fur	nd's average net
	2024	% of average net	2023	% of average	
	£	asset value	£	net asset value	
Commissions		0.00%	611	0.00%	

0.00%

611

0.00%

## 15. Portfolio Dealing Spread

The average portfolio dealing spread at 31 March 2024 is 0.09% (31 March 2023: 0.14%).

### 16 Stock lending

The Sub-fund enters into stock lending arrangements with various counterparties. At the balance sheet date the bid value of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £19,330,519). The value of collateral held in respect of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £20,297,177).

Counterparty	2024		2023		
	Value of stock	Collateral	Value of stock	Collateral	
	on loan		on Ioan		
	£	£	£	£	
Barclays Capital Securities Ltd	-	-	15,724,665	16,510,897	
BNP Paribas S.A.	-	-	1,065,750	1,119,169	
Société Générale	-	-	1,064,045	1,117,249	
Morgan Stanley & Co International	-	-	833,945	875,642	
Merrill Lynch International	-	-	537,381	564,250	
Goldman Sachs International	-	-	104,733	109,970	
		-	19,330,519	20,297,177	
Collateral by asset class		2024		2023	
•		£		£	
				10.150.004	
Government bonds		-		18,150,264	
Equities			_	2,146,913	
			_	20,297,177	
Analysis of stock lending income		2024		2023	
		£		£	
Gross stock lending income		173,524		69,531	
Fees paid to the custodian		(52,057)		(20,859)	
,		121,467	_	48,672	

## 17 Related party transactions

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited, as AFM is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the Sub-fund.

Amounts paid to the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amounts due to the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 9. Amounts received from the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 3. Amounts due from the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 7.

### **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

### Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 April 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 April 2023 and on or before 30 September 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 30.11.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.11.2023	Distribution 30.11.2022
Group 1	1.7039p	-	1.7039p	2.1781p
Group 2	0.9056p	0.7983p	1.7039p	2.1781p

# Final 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 March 2024

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	2.8547p	-	2.8547p	1.1806p
Group 2	0.9971p	1.8576p	2.8547p	1.1806p

A (Accumulation)^	Net Revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024
Group 1	0.1990p	-	0.1990p
Group 2	0.1657p	0.0333p	0.1990p

<sup>^</sup> for the period from 22 January 2024 to 31 March 2024.

## Information for corporate shareholders

A corporate shareholder receives the distribution shown on the voucher enclosed with this report as follows:

- i) 64.49% of the total dividend allocation together with the tax credit is received as franked investment income.
- ii) 35.51% of the dividend allocation is received as an annual payment received after deduction of income tax at the lower rate and is liable to corporation tax. It is not franked investment income.

# SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS (UNAUDITED)

As at 31 March 2024			
GLOBAL DATA			
Proportion of securities and commodities on loan	£	%	
Total lendable assets excluding cash and cash equivalents:	513,487,109		
Securities and commodities on loan	-	0.00%	
Assets engaged in SFTs and total return swaps	£	%	
Fund assets under management (AUM)	525,474,048	70	
Absolute value of assets engaged in:	, ,		
Securities lending	-	0.00%	
CONCENTRATION DATA			
CONCENTRATION DATA Top 10 Collateral Issuers			
Name and value of collateral and commodities received	£		
	_		
Top 10 Counterparties			
Name and value of outstanding transactions	£		
Securities lending			
AGGREGATE TRANSACTION DATA			
Type, Quality and Currency of Collateral			
	encies £		
Securities lending			
Securities lending			
Maturity Tenor of Collateral (remaining period to maturity)  Less than One day to One week to One to three Three	months Above one	Open	
•	one year year	maturity	Total
Type £ £ £ £	£ £	£	£
Securities lending		-	-
<u> </u>		-	
Counterparty details Countries of Settlement and			
Type Counterparty Clearing	£		
Type Counterparty Clearing			
Maturity Tenor of SFTs and Total Return Swaps (remaining period to maturity)			
Less than One day to One week to One to three Three	e months Above one	Open	
•	•	ransactions	Total
Type £ £ £ £ £ Securities lending	££	£	£
Securities lending		-	<del>-</del>
RE-USE OF COLLATERAL			
The Sub-fund does not engage in re-use of collateral.			
SAFEKEEPING OF COLLATERAL RECEIVED			
Names and value of custodians safekeeping collateral	£		
Number of custodians safekeeping collateral	<del>~</del>		
RETURN AND COST			
Collective Investment Manager of collective	Third Parties (e.g.		
Undertaking investment undertaking £	lending agent) £		Total £
Securities Lending	£_		<u>L</u>
Gross return 121,467 52,057	-		173,524
% of total gross return 70.00% 30.00%	0.00%		100.00%

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#### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund

VT AJ Bell Moderately Cautious

Size of Sub-fund

£326,824,507

Launch date

18 April 2017

Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of VT AJ Bell Moderately Cautious is to achieve long-term capital growth with a preference (often indirect) towards defensive assets such as cash, fixed interest securities, money-market funds and collective investment schemes following alternative strategies such as property and commodities and less emphasis on higher risk assets such as equities. This is to keep the Sub-fund within a pre-determined risk profile. Capital is in fact at risk and there is no guarantee that capital growth will be achieved over a 5 year, or any period.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objective (and so provide exposure to the asset classes noted in the objective) by investing predominantly (80% +), in indextracking investments or strategies (those instruments and/or investment strategies that aim to track the performance of various financial indices) and which typically consist of collective investment schemes (including those managed or operated by the AFM) as well as equities, bonds and transferable securities.

The Sub-fund may also invest in non-index tracking collective investment schemes, equities, bonds, transferable securities, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus and as such weightings in these may vary as required. The Sub-fund may have exposure to emerging markets through its investments in e.g. collective investment schemes or futures.

The Sub-fund's risk profile is managed by restricting the types of asset held and allocations to those assets. The risk profiles are determined by the external risk rating agency's forward looking volatility assumptions. The Sub-fund aims to operate with a risk rating of 4, on a scale of 1-10 where 1 is an allocation to cash and 10 is an allocation to riskier equity regions such as Asia and emerging markets

Derivatives (that is sophisticated investment instruments linked to the rise and fall of the price of other assets) are held only for efficient portfolio management purposes.

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives only for efficient portfolio management purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for efficient portfolio management purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Due to its multi-asset nature, no financial instrument or index represents a fair benchmark for the Sub-fund, however it is suggested that the performance of the Sub-fund can be assessed by comparing its total return to funds with similar return and/or risk objectives. The IA (Investment Association) provides the median performance of funds with similar characteristics (IA sectors). The Subfund is assigned to the Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares IA sector. Other providers also provide peer groups, based on asset allocation or historical volatility, of which the Sub-fund may be assigned, these may be a useful guide to assess performance.

The current external risk rating agency of the Sub-fund is Distribution Technology. The Sub-fund may replace the external risk agency from time to time, which will be communicated in any future publications of the Prospectus.

#### **Derivatives**

## Additional information

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

**Ex-distribution dates** 31 March and 30 September

**Distribution dates** 31 May and 30 November

Individual Savings Account (ISA)

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

Share classes I (Accumulation, Income)

Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: All share classes = £1,000

Top up: All share classes = £25

Holding: All share classes = £1

Redemption: All share classes = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Switching: All share classes = N/A(provided minimum holding is maintained)

Initial, redemption and switching charges Nil

### **Annual Management charges**

Class I = 0.31%

The above percentage being percentage of the net asset value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant Class (plus VAT if applicable).

From the 4 January 2022 an all-in fee was introduced which results in all the operating charges being taken out of the Annual Management charge shown above. This will result in future ongoing charges figures to be the same as the Annual Management charge. For more information about charges, please see sections 3.6 ("Dealing Charges") & 7 ("Fees and Expenses") of the prospectus.

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

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

Over the twelve months, the I Acc share class of the fund returned 8.7% compared to the IA Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares sector, which returned 7.8%. The fund managed the volatility in bond markets well over the year and was well positioned in riskier global high yield bonds. The equity market exposure within the fund is diversified by region. Holdings in US and Japanese equities performed well over the year, whilst those in Emerging markets and the UK were laggards.

Activity in the nine months of 2023 applicable to this report related to the management of the fund's concentration in certain holdings. Within high yield bonds these included the State Street Global High Yield Bond ESG Screened Index Fund, the Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG ETF and the JPMorgan Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor ETF, which was subsequently removed from the fund in July. A new holding in the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF was consequently added to the fund in May. Activity in UK equities also fell into this camp, with a partial sale of Lyxor Core Morningstar UK ETF being replaced with the Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Unit Trust.

The asset allocation of the fund is broken down by asset class and currency. We think of it in terms of; UK (GBP) Cash and Bonds, International (non-GBP) bonds, UK equities, International (non-GBP) equities and Alternatives. In January 2024 the fund was repositioned as part of the annual Strategic Asset Allocation (SAA) project. This also coincided with the implementation of Tactical Asset Allocation (TAA) decisions, aimed at reducing risks we see in markets at present.

Within the GBP Cash and Bonds allocation, cash and cash equivalents were increased to take advantage of current interest rates on offer. UK government bonds, which are held via direct gilts, and higher quality corporate bonds (investment grade, held via the Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index Fund) were increased at the expense of global high yield bonds (which have their currency exposure hedged back to sterling). This was conducted via the partial sale of the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF. The rationale behind this move was that, in our view, the yield premium received for high yield bonds over government and investment grade bonds was not compensating for the risks involved. International bonds were reduced slightly via sales of the iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund and the complete sale of the iShares Core Global Aggregate Bond ETF. The latter was replaced by direct holdings in US Treasury bonds which formed a TAA decision to reduce the default risk inherent in the global bond market (which includes China and Europe).

Within equities, we maintained the allocation to the UK, however within international equities increased the allocation to Japan and introduced Europe on valuation grounds, the latter via the Vanguard FTSE Developed Europe ex UK Equity Index fund. To compensate the US equity allocation was reduced. Two other transactions took place to take advantage of cheaper product pricing in the US and Japan. Firstly, the Vanguard S&P 500 ETF was entirely replaced with the SPDR S&P 500 ETF (State Street). Secondly, most of the holding in Amundi MSCI Japan DR ETF was replaced by Amundi Prime Japan ETF. Turning to Alternatives, the fund allocates to UK commercial property via a combination of the iShares UK Property ETF and holdings in index-linked gilts (to reduce the volatility and leverage inherent in listed property shares). This was reduced slightly in January as part of the SAA project.

Finally, after the SAA project two new holdings were added to the fund in February in order to gain more balanced exposure to UK and US government bonds; the iShares \$ Treasury Bond 20+yr ETF and the iShares Core UK Gilts ETF.

There have been several narratives that look to explain the strong start to the year that equity markets have made. Our observation is that there appears to be an element of 'reacceleration' taking place in the global economy, however, we do not seek to reposition the fund based on short-term trends, sentiment or market narratives. Instead, the fund remains positioned to meet its volatility target and capture returns in a diversified manner.

AJ Bell Asset Management Limited Investment Manager of the Fund 19 June 2024

# **Financial Highlights**

# I (Accumulation)

		Year ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Changes in net ass	sets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
ŭ	Opening net asset value per share	120.2762	124.0043	119.0501
	Return before operating charges	10.8303	(3.3495)	5.3674
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.3890)	(0.3786)	(0.4132)
	Return after operating charges *	10.4413	(3.7281)	4.9542
	Closing net asset value per share**	130.7175	120.2762	124.0043
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	4.0849	2.5301	1.9785
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	0.0243
D (	**after dilution adjustment of	0.05%	0.11%	0.14%
Performance	Return after charges	8.68%	(3.01%)	4.16%
011 : ( 11	, and the second		,	
Other information	Closing net asset value	£321,971,178	£208,834,606	£112,239,981
	Closing number of shares	246,441,272	173,820,372	90,635,105
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.31%	0.31%	0.34%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.02%
Prices				
	Highest share price	130.7175	124.4333	127.7912
	Lowest share price	117.8988	115.6337	118.3967
I (Income)				
· ·				
				Period 7 January
		Year ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 31 March 2023	Period 7 January 2022 to 31 March 2022^
Changes in not asset		March 2024	March 2023	2022 to 31 March 2022^
Changes in net ass		March 2024 GBp	March 2023 GBp	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share	<b>March 2024</b> GBp 93.6685	<b>March 2023</b> GBp 98.8570	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges	March 2024  GBp 93.6685 8.4321	March 2023 GBp 98.8570 (2.7081)	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593)
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	GBp 93.6685 8.4321 (0.2978)	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984)	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768)
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *	GBp 93.6685 8.4321 (0.2978) 8.1343	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065)	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361)
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares	GBp 93.6685 8.4321 (0.2978)	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984)	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768)
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**	GBp 93.6685 8.4321 (0.2978) 8.1343 (3.3685)	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065) (2.1820)	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361) (0.4069) 98.8570
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share** *after direct transactions costs of:	GBp 93.6685 8.4321 (0.2978) 8.1343 (3.3685) 98.4343	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065) (2.1820) 93.6685	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361) (0.4069) 98.8570
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**	GBp 93.6685 8.4321 (0.2978) 8.1343 (3.3685)	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065) (2.1820)	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361) (0.4069) 98.8570
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share** *after direct transactions costs of:	GBp 93.6685 8.4321 (0.2978) 8.1343 (3.3685) 98.4343	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065) (2.1820) 93.6685	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361) (0.4069) 98.8570
Performance	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of	GBp 93.6685 8.4321 (0.2978) 8.1343 (3.3685) 98.4343	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065) (2.1820) 93.6685	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361) (0.4069) 98.8570 0.0199 0.14%
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges	GBp 93.6685 8.4321 (0.2978) 8.1343 (3.3685) 98.4343	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065) (2.1820) 93.6685	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361) (0.4069) 98.8570 0.0199 0.14% (0.74%)
Performance	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value	GBp 93.6685 8.4321 (0.2978) 8.1343 (3.3685) 98.4343  - 0.05% 8.68%	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065) (2.1820) 93.6685 - 0.11% (3.04%)	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361) (0.4069) 98.8570 0.0199 0.14% (0.74%)
Performance	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	GBp 93.6685 8.4321 (0.2978) 8.1343 (3.3685) 98.4343	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065) (2.1820) 93.6685	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361) (0.4069) 98.8570 0.0199 0.14% (0.74%)
Performance	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value	GBp 93.6685  8.4321 (0.2978)  8.1343 (3.3685) 98.4343  - 0.05%  8.68%  £5,940,002 6,037,687	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065) (2.1820) 93.6685  - 0.11% (3.04%) £2,341,618 2,502,653	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361) (0.4069) 98.8570 0.0199 0.14% (0.74%) £695,895 704,891
Performance	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 93.6685  8.4321 (0.2978)  8.1343 (3.3685)  98.4343  - 0.05%  8.68%  £5,940,002 6,037,687 0.31%	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065) (2.1820) 93.6685  - 0.11% (3.04%) £2,341,618 2,502,653 0.31%	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361) (0.4069) 98.8570 0.0199 0.14% (0.74%) £695,895 704,891 0.34%
Performance Other information	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 93.6685  8.4321 (0.2978)  8.1343 (3.3685)  98.4343  - 0.05%  8.68%  £5,940,002 6,037,687 0.31%	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065) (2.1820) 93.6685  - 0.11% (3.04%) £2,341,618 2,502,653 0.31%	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361) (0.4069) 98.8570 0.0199 0.14% (0.74%) £695,895 704,891 0.34%
Performance Other information	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2) Direct transaction costs	GBp 93.6685  8.4321 (0.2978)  8.1343 (3.3685) 98.4343  - 0.05%  8.68%  £5,940,002 6,037,687 0.31% 0.00%	GBp 98.8570 (2.7081) (0.2984) (3.0065) (2.1820) 93.6685  - 0.11% (3.04%) £2,341,618 2,502,653 0.31% 0.00%	2022 to 31 March 2022^ GBp 100.0000 (0.6593) (0.0768) (0.7361) (0.4069) 98.8570 0.0199 0.14% (0.74%) £695,895 704,891 0.34% 0.02%

## **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 plus the costs of the open-end funds the Sub-fund holds.

### **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 (31 March 2023: ranked 4). The Sub-fund is ranked 4 because monthly historical performance data indicates that it has experienced average rises and falls in market prices historically. The higher the rank, the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

			% of
ding		Value £	net assets
	Collective Investment Schemes (31.03.2023: 22.33%)		
	iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund	22,778,716	6.96%
	State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund	10,380,400	3.179
	Vanguard FTSE Developed Europe ex-UK Equity Index Fund	9,832,889	3.019
	Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust	37,093,510	11.35%
426,362	Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index	51,980,222	15.90%
		132,065,737	40.39%
	Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 68.78%)		
	Amundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF	3,686,669	1.139
797,058	Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF	19,444,230	5.95%
3,027,673	HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF	25,023,717	7.669
260,730	Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF	6,344,865	1.94%
	Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	3,210,765	0.989
	iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	5,355,414	1.64%
•	iShares \$ Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF	781,540	0.249
227,804	iShares Core UK Gilts UCITS ETF	2,367,453	0.72%
154,777	iShares Core MSCI EM IMI UCITS ETF	3,985,508	1.229
	iShares UK Property UCITS ETF	8,355,722	2.569
	Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF	2,617,808	0.80%
2,986,059	SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF	29,956,144	9.17%
		111,129,835	34.01%
	Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 7.74%)		
1,898,000	UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026	1,762,670	0.54%
1,854,000	UK GILT 0.625% 07-06-2025	1,770,570	0.54%
1,913,700	UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027	1,753,715	0.54%
6,891,800	UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030	5,534,115	1.69%
4,858,800	UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037	3,656,733	1.129
1,770,300	UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029	2,813,938	0.86%
737,900	UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028	1,003,280	0.31%
4,390,300	UK GILT 4.25% 07-06-2032	4,517,180	1.38%
256,100	UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030	879,499	0.27%
3,728,000	UK GILT 3.25% 22-01-2044	3,159,331	0.97%
6,884,000	UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052	6,139,564	1.88%
2,377,000	UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053	2,110,372	0.65%
3,717,700	US T Bill 1.875% 15-11-2051	1,759,447	0.54%
2,655,200	US T Bill 3.125% 15-02-2042	1,756,945	0.54%
4,443,700	US T Bill 3.00% 15-11-2045	2,790,100	0.85%
3,657,500	US T Bill 4.125% 15-08-2053	2,778,140	0.85%
		44,185,599	13.53%
	Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 98.85%)	287,381,171	87.93%
	Net other assets (31.03.2023: 1.15%)	39,443,336	12.07%

# SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES

	£
Total purchases for the year (note 14)	268,085,725
Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index	48,107,832
Insight Liquidity Funds plc	34,693,716
Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust	32,254,781
SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF	27,555,836
iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	21,366,660
Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund	18,203,554 9,550,767
Vanguard FTSE Developed Europe ex-UK Equity Index Fund	8,965,835
iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund	7,456,201
UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052	6,014,081
Various other purchases	53,916,462
Total sales for the year (note 14)	£ 208,443,423
Insight Liquidity Funds plc	54,646,158
Vanguard S&P 500 UCITS ETF	37,771,416
Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF	23,116,163
Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF	20,759,924
iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	16,428,282
Amundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF	15,055,037
iShares Global Aggregate Bond	13,242,797
Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	8,703,054
JPMorgan ETFs (Ireland) ICAV Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor UCITS ETF	8,685,994
State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund	3,769,237
Various other sales	6,265,361

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

# STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the year ended 31 March			202	4	2023	3
I		Notes	£	£	£	£
Income	Net capital gains/(losses)	2		16,178,384		(7,347,191)
	Revenue	3	9,745,318		4,209,016	
Expenses		4	(813,031)		(460,069)	
Interest pa	yable and similar charges	6		_	(4)	
Net revenu	ue before taxation		8,932,287		3,748,943	
Taxation		5	(1,348,639)	_	(412,082)	
Net revenu	ue after taxation		_	7,583,648	_	3,336,861
Total retur	n before distributions			23,762,032		(4,010,330)
Finance co	osts: distributions	6	_	(8,835,032)		(3,222,731)
_	in net assets attributable to lers from investment activities		_	14,927,000		(7,233,061)

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

# For the year ended 31 March

Tot the year ended of March	2024 £	2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	210,723,964	112,685,353
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	155,097,853	130,907,667
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(63,354,795)	(29,390,500)
Accumulation dividends retained	9,430,485	3,754,505
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	14,927,000	(7,233,061)
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	326,824,507	210,723,964

# **BALANCE SHEET**

As at		31.03.2	2024 31.		2023
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Investment assets			287,381,171		208,311,655
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	3,181,477		3,240,708	
Cash and bank balances	8	39,720,610		2,347,336	
Total current assets		_	42,902,087	_	5,588,044
Total assets			330,283,258		213,899,699
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors	9	(3,338,238)		(2,915,416)	
Bank overdraft	8	(1,719)		(232,973)	
Distribution payable on income shares		(118,794)		(27,346)	
Total current liabilities	-		(3,458,751)		(3,175,735)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		_	326,824,507	_	210,723,964

# For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting polices, which have been applied in both the current and prior year, are set out on pages 7-8.

2 Net capital gains/(losses)	2024 £	2023 £
The net capital gains/(losses) comprise:	~	~
Non-derivative securities gains/(losses) Foreign exchange (losses)/gains Transaction costs	16,192,461 (15,519) 1,442	(7,350,756) 3,565 -
Total net capital gains/(losses)	16,178,384	(7,347,191)
3 Revenue	2024 £	2023 £
Non-taxable dividends Interest on non-derivative securities Investment manager rebates Rebates from underlying holdings Stock lending income Bank and other interest Total revenue	2,189,090 6,052,586 247,891 23,432 26,941 1,205,378 9,745,318	1,688,538 2,182,897 187,972 2,289 6,517 140,803 4,209,016
4 Expenses	2024 £	2023 £
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:		
Annual management charge	698,454	389,968
Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee	54,958	34,025
Safe custody fee	33,177 88,135	18,851 52,876
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	3,513	3,330
FCA fee	22	47
Other expenses	<u>22,907</u> 26,442	13,848 17,225
Total expenses	813,031	460,069

5 Taxation	2024	2023
	£	£
(a) Analysis of charge in the year		
UK corporation tax	1,348,639	412,082
Total tax charge for the year (note 5b)	1,348,639	412,082
(b) Factors affecting current tax charge for the year		
The tax assessed for the year is lower than the		
standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an		
open-ended investment company 20.00%		
(2023: 20.00%) The differences are explained below:		
Net revenue before UK corporation tax	8,932,287	3,748,943
Corporation tax at 20.00% (2023: 20.00%)	1,786,457	749,789
Effects of:		
Revenue not subject to UK corporation tax	(437,818)	(337,707)
Total tax charge for the year (note 5a)	1,348,639	412,082

## (c) Provision for deferred taxation

At 31 March 2024 there is a potential deferred tax asset of £Nil (31 March 2023: £Nil) in relation to surplus management expenses.

6 Finance costs	2024 £	2023 £
Interim dividend distribution	3,519,345	1,564,997
Final dividend distribution	6,101,775	2,236,396
•	9,621,120	3,801,393
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares	573,519	149,376
Deduct: Revenue received on issue of shares	(1,359,607)	(728,038)
Net distribution for the year	8,835,032	3,222,731
Interest payable and similar charges	-	4
Total finance costs	8,835,032	3,222,735
Reconciliation of distributions		
Net revenue after taxation	7,583,648	3,336,861
Expenses less rebates paid from capital	9,352	3,053
Equalisation from collectives allocated to revenue	660,689	-
Relief on expenses allocated to capital	(1,870)	(611)
Balance brought forward	81,245	(35,327)
Balance carried forward	501,968	(81,245)
Net distribution for the year	8,835,032	3,222,731

Accrued Revenue: Interest on non-derivative securities receivable Interest on non-derivative securities receivable Interest on non-derivative securities receivable Investment manager rebates 17,261 54,665 Rebates from underlying holding 9,558 495 Stock lending income receivable - 4,541 Prepayment 55 2,371 Total debtors 3,181,477 3,240,708  8 Cash and bank balances 31.03.2024 31.03.2023 £ £ £  Cash and bank balances 39,720,610 2,347,336 Bank overdraft (1,719) (232,973)  9 Creditors 31.03.2024 31.03.2023 £ £ £  Amounts payable on cancellation of shares 795,304 296,680 Amounts payable on unsettled trades 1,309,880 2,070,835  Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge 66,986 115,205  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee 5,010 3,786 Safe custody and other custodian charges 12,758 11,966 Safe custody and other custodian charges 5,701 4,863 Total creditors 3,338,238 2,915,416	7 Debtors	31.03.2024 £	31.03.2023 £
Interest on non-derivative securities receivable   977,002   55,638   Investment manager rebates   17,261   54,665   Rebates from underlying holding   9,558   495   5tock lending income receivable   - 4,541   Prepayment   55   2,371   Total debtors   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   4,863   4,541   4,2599   412,081   4,863   4,665   4,	Amounts receivable on creation of shares	2,177,601	3,122,998
Interest on non-derivative securities receivable   977,002   55,638   Investment manager rebates   17,261   54,665   Rebates from underlying holding   9,558   495   5tock lending income receivable   - 4,541   Prepayment   55   2,371   Total debtors   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   3,181,477   3,240,708   4,863   4,541   4,2599   412,081   4,863   4,665   4,	Accrued Revenue:		
Investment manager rebates		977,002	55,638
Stock lending income receivable   -   4,541     Prepayment   55   2,371     Total debtors   3,181,477   3,240,708     B Cash and bank balances   31.03.2024   31.03.2023     E	Investment manager rebates		54,665
Prepayment Total debtors         55         2,371           Total debtors         3,181,477         3,240,708           3 Cash and bank balances         31,03.2024         31.03.2023           £         £         £           Cash and bank balances         39,720,610         2,347,336           Bank overdraft         (1,719)         (232,973)           9 Creditors         31.03.2024         31.03.2023           £         £         £           Amounts payable on cancellation of shares         795,304         296,680           Amounts payable on unsettled trades         1,309,880         2,070,835           Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:         66,986         115,205           Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:         5,010         3,786           Depositary fee         5,010         3,786           Safe custody and other custodian charges         12,758         11,966           UK corporation tax         1,142,599         412,081           Other accrued expenses         5,701         4,863	Rebates from underlying holding	9,558	495
Total debtors         3,181,477         3,240,708           3 Cash and bank balances         31.03.2024         31.03.2023         £         £           Cash and bank balances         39,720,610         2,347,336         2,347,336         2,347,336         3,3103.2024         31.03.2023         3,3103.2024         31.03.2023         2,273<	Stock lending income receivable	-	4,541
8 Cash and bank balances       31.03.2024       31.03.2023       £       £         Cash and bank balances       39,720,610       2,347,336       232,973         Bank overdraft       (1,719)       (232,973)         9 Creditors       31.03.2024       31.03.2023         £       £       £         Amounts payable on cancellation of shares       795,304       296,680         Amounts payable on unsettled trades       1,309,880       2,070,835         Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:       66,986       115,205         Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:       5,010       3,786         Depositary fee       5,010       3,786         Safe custody and other custodian charges       12,758       11,966         UK corporation tax       1,142,599       412,081         Other accrued expenses       5,701       4,863	Prepayment		
Cash and bank balances       39,720,610       2,347,336         Bank overdraft       (1,719)       (232,973)         Creditors       31.03.2024       31.03.2023         £       £         Amounts payable on cancellation of shares       795,304       296,680         Amounts payable on unsettled trades       1,309,880       2,070,835         Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:         Annual management charge       66,986       115,205         Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:       5,010       3,786         Depositary fee       5,010       3,786       11,966         Safe custody and other custodian charges       12,758       11,966         UK corporation tax       1,142,599       412,081         Other accrued expenses       5,701       4,863	Total debtors	3,181,477	3,240,708
Cash and bank balances       39,720,610       2,347,336         Bank overdraft       (1,719)       (232,973)         Creditors       31.03.2024       31.03.2023         £       £         Amounts payable on cancellation of shares       795,304       296,680         Amounts payable on unsettled trades       1,309,880       2,070,835         Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:         Annual management charge       66,986       115,205         Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:       5,010       3,786         Depositary fee       5,010       3,786       11,966         Safe custody and other custodian charges       12,758       11,966         UK corporation tax       1,142,599       412,081         Other accrued expenses       5,701       4,863			
Cash and bank balances       39,720,610       2,347,336         Bank overdraft       (1,719)       (232,973)         9 Creditors       31.03.2024       31.03.2023         £       £       £         Amounts payable on cancellation of shares       795,304       296,680         Amounts payable on unsettled trades       1,309,880       2,070,835         Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:         Annual management charge       66,986       115,205         Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:         Depositary fee       5,010       3,786         Safe custody and other custodian charges       12,758       11,966         UK corporation tax       1,142,599       412,081         Other accrued expenses       5,701       4,863	3 Cash and bank balances		
Creditors   31.03.2024   31.03.2023   £		£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares 795,304 296,680 Amounts payable on unsettled trades 1,309,880 2,070,835  Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge 66,986 115,205  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee 5,010 3,786 Safe custody and other custodian charges 12,758 11,966 17,768 15,752  UK corporation tax 1,142,599 412,081 Other accrued expenses 5,701 4,863	Cash and bank balances	39,720,610	2,347,336
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares       795,304       296,680         Amounts payable on unsettled trades       1,309,880       2,070,835         Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:         Annual management charge       66,986       115,205         Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:         Depositary fee       5,010       3,786         Safe custody and other custodian charges       12,758       11,966         Safe custody and other custodian charges       17,768       15,752         UK corporation tax       1,142,599       412,081         Other accrued expenses       5,701       4,863	Bank overdraft	(1,719)	(232,973)
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares       795,304       296,680         Amounts payable on unsettled trades       1,309,880       2,070,835         Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:       66,986       115,205         Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:       5,010       3,786         Depositary fee       5,010       3,786         Safe custody and other custodian charges       12,758       11,966         UK corporation tax       1,142,599       412,081         Other accrued expenses       5,701       4,863			
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares Amounts payable on unsettled trades  Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody and other custodian charges  UK corporation tax Other accrued expenses  795,304 296,680 1,309,880 2,070,835  66,986 115,205  115,205  115,205  115,205  117,768 11,966 117,768 15,752	9 Creditors		
Amounts payable on unsettled trades 1,309,880 2,070,835  Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:  Annual management charge 66,986 115,205  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:  Depositary fee 5,010 3,786 Safe custody and other custodian charges 12,758 11,966 17,768 15,752  UK corporation tax 1,142,599 412,081 Other accrued expenses 5,701 4,863		£	£
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:  Annual management charge 66,986 115,205  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:  Depositary fee 5,010 3,786 Safe custody and other custodian charges 12,758 11,966 17,768 15,752  UK corporation tax 1,142,599 412,081 Other accrued expenses 5,701 4,863	Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	795,304	296,680
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager,         and agents of either of them:       Annual management charge       66,986       115,205         Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:         Depositary fee       5,010       3,786         Safe custody and other custodian charges       12,758       11,966         17,768       15,752         UK corporation tax       1,142,599       412,081         Other accrued expenses       5,701       4,863	Amounts payable on unsettled trades	1,309,880	2,070,835
Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:         Depositary fee       5,010       3,786         Safe custody and other custodian charges       12,758       11,966         17,768       15,752         UK corporation tax       1,142,599       412,081         Other accrued expenses       5,701       4,863	associates of the Authorised Fund Manager,		
depositary, and agents of either of them:           Depositary fee         5,010         3,786           Safe custody and other custodian charges         12,758         11,966           17,768         15,752           UK corporation tax         1,142,599         412,081           Other accrued expenses         5,701         4,863	Annual management charge	66,986	115,205
Safe custody and other custodian charges         12,758         11,966           17,768         15,752           UK corporation tax         1,142,599         412,081           Other accrued expenses         5,701         4,863			
UK corporation tax     1,142,599     412,081       Other accrued expenses     5,701     4,863		5,010	3,786
UK corporation tax       1,142,599       412,081         Other accrued expenses       5,701       4,863	Safe custody and other custodian charges		
Other accrued expenses 5,701 4,863		17,768	15,752
	UK corporation tax	1,142,599	412,081
Total creditors 3,338,238 2,915,416	Other accrued expenses		
	Total creditors	3,338,238	2,915,416

### 10 Risk management

In pursuing its investment objective as stated on page 64, the Sub-fund holds a number of financial instruments. The Sub-fund's financial instruments comprise securities and other investments, cash balances, debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations, for example, in respect of sales and purchases awaiting settlement, amounts receivable for issues and payable for redemptions and debtors for accrued revenue.

The main risks arising from the Sub-funds financial instruments, those of its underlying holdings and the AFM's policies for managing these risks are summarised below. These policies have been applied throughout the year.

#### Market price risk

Market price risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices caused by factors other than interest rate or foreign currency movement. Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments the Sub-fund holds. It represents the potential loss the Sub-fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is exposed to market price fluctuations, which are monitored by the AFM in pursuance of the investment objective and policy as set out in the Prospectus.

Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Instrument of Incorporation, the Prospectus and in the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

If market prices at the Balance Sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £28,738,117 (31 March 2023: £20,831,166).

#### Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is invested in funds that are registered overseas and collective investment scheme which invest in overseas securities and the balance sheet can be affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The AFM may seek to manage exposure to currency movements by using forward exchange contracts or by hedging the Sterling value of investments that are priced in other currencies. Revenue received in other currencies is converted to Sterling on or near the date of receipt.

Net currency assets and liabilities consist of:

	Net monetary	' I	Non-monet	arv assets	Total ne	t assets
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
Sterling	39,358,876	2,401,909	278,296,539	208,311,655	317,655,415	210,713,564
US Dollar	84,460	10,400	9,084,632	-	9,169,092	10,400
Total	39,443,336	2,412,309	287,381,171	208,311,655	326,824,507	210,723,964

If foreign exchange rates at the balance sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £916,909 (31 March 2023: £1,040).

### 10 Risk management (Continued)

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk to portfolio value due to changes in interest rates. The magnitude of the exposure from an adverse change in interest rates depends on the sensitivity of the instrument to changes in interest rates as well as the absolute change in interest rates. In general, values of long-term instruments are more sensitive to interest rate changes than the values of short-term instruments

The Sub-fund takes on interest rate risk when the investment manager believes the expected returns compensate for the risk, limited by the investment objective, policy and any prospectus rules. The investment manager monitors the level of interest rate risk in the fund on a regular basis. In addition any cash deposits in the Sub-fund are linked to SONIA, ensuring interest income increases as interest rates increase.

The table below details the interest rate risk profile at the balance sheet date:

	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Financial assets floating rate	39,720,610	2,347,336
Financial assets interest bearing instruments	147,384,974	117,227,020
Financial assets non-interest bearing instruments	143,177,674	94,325,343
Financial liabilities non-interest bearing instruments	(3,457,032)	(2,942,762)
Financial liabilities floating rate	(1,719)	(232,973)
	326,824,507	210,723,964

At 31 March 2024, if interest rates increased or decreased by 0.25%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the Sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £209,761 (31 March 2023: £46,091).

### Maturity of financial liabilities

The financial liabilities of the Sub-fund as at 31 March 2024 are payable either within one year or on demand.

### Liquidity risk

The Sub-fund's assets comprise mainly of readily realisable securities. The main liability of the Sub-fund is the redemption of any shares that the investors wish to sell. Assets of the Sub-fund may need to be sold if insufficient cash is available to finance such redemptions.

### Credit risk

Certain transactions in securities that the Sub-fund enters into expose it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the investment for a purchase, or cash for a sale after the Sub-fund has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Sub-fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the AFM as acceptable counterparties and fund management companies. In addition, limits are set to the exposure to any individual broker that may exist at any time and changes in brokers' financial ratings are reviewed. Indirect credit risk arises from holdings in collectives that invest in debt securities as any default or perceived risk of default will affect the valuation of such holdings.

### Fair value disclosure

The fair value hierarchy is intended to prioritise the inputs that are used to measure the fair value of assets and liabilities. The highest priority is given to quoted prices and the lowest priority to un-observable inputs. The criteria applied to the fair values levels in these financial statements are as follows:

- Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an identical instrument;
- Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other than quoted prices within level 1;
- Level 3: Valuation techniques using unobservable inputs.

	31.03.2024		31.03	.2023
	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
Valuation Technique	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)
Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an				
identical instrument	155,315	-	161,248	-
Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other				
than quoted prices within level 1	132,066	-	47,064	-
Total	287,381	-	208,312	-

### 11 Shares held

I (Net Accumulation)	
Opening Shares at 01.04.2023	173,820,372
Shares issued during the year	124,105,124
Shares cancelled during the year	(51,829,154)
Shares converted during the year	344,930
Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024	246,441,272
I (Income)	
Opening Shares at 01.04.2023	2,502,653
Shares issued during the year	4,451,391
Shares cancelled during the year	(466,827)
Shares converted during the year	(449,530)
Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024	6,037,687

### 12 Contingent assets and liabilities

At 31 March 2024, the Sub-fund had no contingent liabilities or commitments. (31 March 2023: £nil)

### 13 Post balance sheet events

As indicated in the accounting policies in Note 1, the investments have been valued at the closing valuation point on 28 March 2024. Since that date, the Sub-fund's quoted mid-price has moved as follows for each share class:

Share class	Price at 28 March 2024	Price at 18 July 2024
I (Accumulation)	130.7175p	132.3464p
I (Income)	98.4343p	99.5568p

## 14 Direct transactions costs

	2024		2023	
	£	%	£	%
Analysis of total purchase costs				
Purchases in the year before transaction costs	268,085,575		281,300,371	
Commissions	150	0.00%	216	(0.00%)
Total purchase costs	150	0.00%	216	(0.00%)
Total purchases including transaction costs	268,085,725	_	281,300,587	
Analysis of total sale costs				
Sales in the year before transaction costs	208,443,423		177,785,270	
Commissions	-	(0.00%)	-	(0.00%)
Total sale costs	-	(0.00%)	-	(0.00%)
Total sales net of transaction costs	208,443,423	_	177,785,270	

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the Sub-fund's average net asset value in the year:

	2024 £	% of average net asset value	2023 £	% of average net asset value
Commissions	150	0.00%	216	0.00%
	150	0.00%	216	0.00%

## 15 Portfolio Dealing Spread

The average portfolio dealing spread at 31 March 2024 is 0.10% (31 March 2023: 0.18%).

### 16 Stock lending

The Sub-fund enters into stock lending arrangements with various counterparties. At the balance sheet date the bid value of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £4,689,300). The value of collateral held in respect of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £4,923,766).

Counterparty		2024		2023
	Value of stock on loan	Collateral	Value of stock on loan	Collateral
	£	£	£	£
Barclays Capital Securities Ltd		-	4,689,300	4,923,766
	-	-	4,689,300	4,923,766
Collateral by asset class		2024		2023
		£		£
Government bonds		_		4,923,766
	_	-		4,923,766
Analysis of stock lending income		2024		2023
		£		£
Gross stock lending income		38,487		9,310
Fees paid to the custodian		(11,546)		(2,793)
	_	26,941		6,517

### 17 Related party transactions

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited, as AFM is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the Sub-fund.

Amounts paid to the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amounts due to the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 9. Amounts received from the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 3. Amounts due from the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 7.

## **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

### Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 April 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 April 2023 and on or before 30 September 2023

I (Net Accumulation)	Net Revenue 30.11.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.11.2023	Distribution 30.11.2022
Group 1	1.6571p	-	1.6571p	1.2592p
Group 2	0.8039p	0.8532p	1.6571p	1.2592p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 30.11.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.11.2023	Distribution 31.05.2022
Group 1	1.4010p	-	1.4010p	1.0893p
Group 2	0.5553p	0.8457p	1.4010p	1.0893p

## Final 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 March 2024

I (Net Accumulation)	Net Revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	2.4278p	-	2.4278p	1.2709p
Group 2	1.1607p	1.2671p	2.4278p	1.2709p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	1.9675p	-	1.9675p	1.0927p
Group 2	1.1810p	0.7865p	1.9675p	1.0927p

## Information for corporate shareholders

A corporate shareholder receives the distribution shown on the voucher enclosed with this report as follows:

- i) 23.11% of the total dividend allocation together with the tax credit is received as franked investment income.
- ii) 76.89% of the dividend allocation is received as an annual payment received after deduction of income tax at the lower rate and is liable to corporation tax. It is not franked investment income.

# SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS (UNAUDITED)

As at 31 March 202	4							
GLOBAL DATA								
Proportion of secur						£	%	
Total lendable assets			equivalents:			287,381,171	0.000/	
Securities and comm	nodities on Ic	oan				-	0.00%	
Assets engaged in			aps			£	%	
Fund assets under n						326,824,507		
Absolute value of as Securities lending	sets engage	u in.				-	0.00%	
CONCENTRATION	DATA							
Top 10 Collateral Is	suers							
Name and value of	collateral ar	nd commoditi	ies received			£		
Top 10 Counterpart Name and value of		r transactions				£		
Name and value of	outstanding	j transactions	•			<u>L</u>		
AGGREGATE TRAN Type, Quality and C								
Type, Quanty and C	differicy of v	Quality		Currencies		£		
Securities lending								
Securities lending Maturity Tenor of C	ollateral (re	maining perio	od to maturity	)				
•				One to three 1	Three months	Above one	Open	
	one day	one week	one month	months	to one year	year	maturity	Tota
Туре	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Securities lending _	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Counterparty detail	s	Countries of	Se	ettlement and				
Туре	C	Counterparty		Clearing		£		
Maturity Tenor of S	FTs and Tot	tal Return Sw	aps (remainin	g period to ma	turity)			
	Less than	-		One to three 1	Three months	Above one	Open	
_	one day		one month	months	to one year	-	transactions	Tota
Type	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Securities lending _	-			<u>-</u>		<u> </u>	-	-
RE-USE OF COLLA The Sub-fund does r		n re-use of coll	ateral.					
SAFEKEEPING OF	COLLATED	AI RECEIVE	,					
Names and value o			_	£				
Number of custodiar			, conatoral	-				
RETURN AND COS	<u>T</u>							
		Investment	Manage	r of collective	Thir	d Parties (e.g.		
		Undertaking	_	t undertaking		ending agent)		Tota
		Undertaking				00,		
		£		£		£		4
_		£		£				
Securities Lending Gross return % of total gross retur		_		_				38,487 100.00%

### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund

VT AJ Bell Moderately Adventurous

Size of Sub-fund

£690,803,143

Launch date

18 April 2017

Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of VT AJ Bell Moderately Adventurous is to achieve long-term capital growth with a preference towards higher risk assets such as equities and less emphasis on lower risk assets such as cash and fixed income. This is to keep the Sub-fund within a pre-determined risk profile. Capital is in fact at risk and there is no guarantee that capital growth will be achieved over a 5 year, or any period.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objective (and so provide exposure to the asset classes noted in the objective) by investing predominantly (80% +), in indextracking investments or strategies (those instruments and/or investment strategies that aim to track the performance of various financial indices) and which typically consist of collective investment schemes (including those managed or operated by the AFM) as well as equities, bonds and transferable securities.

The Sub-fund may also invest in non-index tracking collective investment schemes, equities, bonds, transferable securities, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus and as such weightings in these may vary as required. The Sub-fund may have exposure to emerging markets through its investments in e.g. collective investment schemes or futures.

The Sub-fund's risk profile is managed by restricting the types of asset held and allocations to those assets. The risk profiles are determined by the external risk rating agency's forward looking volatility assumptions. The Sub-fund aims to operate with a risk rating of 6, on a scale of 1-10 where 1 is an allocation to cash and 10 is an allocation to riskier equity regions such as Asia and emerging markets.

Derivatives (that is sophisticated investment instruments linked to the rise and fall of the price of other assets) are held only for efficient portfolio management purposes.

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives only for efficient portfolio management purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for efficient portfolio management purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Due to its multi-asset nature, no financial instrument or index represents a fair benchmark for the Sub-fund, however it is suggested that the performance of the Sub-fund can be assessed by comparing its total return to funds with similar return and/or risk objectives. The IA (Investment Association) provides the median performance of funds with similar characteristics (IA sectors). The Sub-fund is assigned to the Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares IA sector. Other providers also provide peer groups, based on asset allocation or historical volatility, of which the Sub-fund may be assigned, these may be a useful guide to assess performance.

The current external risk rating agency of the Sub-fund is Distribution Technology. The Sub-fund may replace the external risk agency from time to time, which will be communicated in any future publications of the Prospectus.

**Ex-distribution dates** 

31 March and 30 September

**Distribution dates** 

**Derivatives** 

Additional information

31 May and 30 November

**Individual Savings Account (ISA)** 

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

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

Share classes I (Accumulation)

Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: I (Accumulation) = £1,000 Top up: I (Accumulation) = £25 Holding: I (Accumulation) = £1

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

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

Initial, redemption and switching charges Ni

## **Annual Management charges**

I (Net Accumulation) = 0.31%

The above percentage being percentage of the net asset value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant Class (plus VAT if applicable).

From the 4 January 2022 an all-in fee was introduced which results in all the operating charges being taken out of the Annual Management charge shown above. This will result in future ongoing charges figures to be the same as the Annual Management charge. For more information about charges, please see sections 3.6 ("Dealing Charges") & 7 ("Fees and Expenses") of the prospectus.

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

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

Over the twelve months, the I Acc share class of the fund returned 11.1% compared to the IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares sector, which returned 10.1%. The fund managed the volatility in bond markets well over the year and was well positioned in riskier global high yield bonds. The equity market exposure within the fund is diversified by region. Holdings in US and Japanese equities performed well over the year, whilst those in Emerging markets and the UK were laggards.

Activity in the nine months of 2023 applicable to this report related to the management of the fund's concentration in certain holdings. Within high yield bonds these included the State Street Global High Yield Bond ESG Screened Index Fund, the Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG ETF and the JPMorgan Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor ETF, which was subsequently removed from the fund in July. A new holding in the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF was consequently added to the fund in May. Activity in UK equities also fell into this camp, with a partial sale of Lyxor Core Morningstar UK ETF being replaced with the Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Unit Trust.

The asset allocation of the fund is broken down by asset class and currency. We think of it in terms of; UK (GBP) Cash and Bonds, International (non-GBP) bonds, UK equities, International (non-GBP) equities and Alternatives. In January 2024 the fund was repositioned as part of the annual Strategic Asset Allocation (SAA) project. This also coincided with the implementation of Tactical Asset Allocation (TAA) decisions, aimed at reducing risks we see in markets at present.

Within the GBP Cash and Bonds allocation, the exposure to investment grade bonds (held via the Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index fund) was increased at the expense of the allocation to global high yield bonds (which have their currency exposure hedged back to sterling). This was conducted via the partial sale of the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF. The rationale behind this move was that, in our view, the yield premium received for high yield bonds over government and investment grade bonds was not compensating for the risks involved. No changes were made to the holdings in international bonds.

Within equities, we maintained the allocation to the UK, however within international equities increased the allocation to Japan and Europe on valuation grounds, funded by sales in the US. Two other transactions took place to take advantage of cheaper product pricing in the US and Japan. Firstly, the Vanguard S&P 500 ETF was entirely replaced with the SPDR S&P 500 ETF (State Street). Secondly, most of the holding in Amundi MSCI Japan DR ETF was replaced by Amundi Prime Japan ETF. No changes were made to the allocation to Alternatives.

There have been several narratives that look to explain the strong start to the year that equity markets have made. Our observation is that there appears to be an element of 'reacceleration' taking place in the global economy, however, we do not seek to reposition the fund based on short-term trends, sentiment or market narratives. Instead, the fund remains positioned to meet its volatility target and capture returns in a diversified manner.

AJ Bell Asset Management Limited Investment Manager of the Fund 19 June 2024

### PERFORMANCE RECORD

### **Financial Highlights**

# I (Accumulation)

		Year ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Changes in net asse	ets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
Opening net asset value per share		139.1823	140.4672	128.4588
	Return before operating charges	15.8806	(0.8514)	12.4656
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.4554)	(0.4335)	(0.4572)
	Return after operating charges *	15.4252	(1.2849)	12.0084
	Closing net asset value per share**	154.6075	139.1823	140.4672
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	4.3866	2.9957	2.4294
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	0.0134
Performance	**after dilution adjustment of	0.06%	0.10%	0.17%
renormance	Return after charges	11.08%	(0.91%)	9.35%
Other information				
	Closing net asset value	£692,090,312	£421,441,739	£260,004,322
	Closing number of shares	447,890,725	303,097,223	185,408,357
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.31%	0.31%	0.34%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%
Prices				
	Highest share price	154.6075	144.2785	142.7370
	Lowest share price	137.0789	130.6362	127.5572

<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 '5' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document (31 March 2023: ranked 5). The Sub-fund is ranked 5 because monthly historical performance data indicates that it has experienced relatively high rises and falls in market prices historically. The higher the rank, the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money.

<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 plus the costs of the open-end funds the Sub-fund holds.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

As at 31 March 202	14		0/ . 5
Holding		Value £	% of net assets
С	collective Investment Schemes (31.03.2023: 19.03%)		
	Shares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund	48,232,878	6.98%
	state Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund	14,458,746	2.09%
	anguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust	124,553,825	18.03%
	anguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund	13,764,597	1.99%
66,815 V	anguard FTSE Developed Europe ex-UK Equity Index Fund	15,140,332	2.19%
615,592 V	anguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index	75,050,330	10.86%
		291,200,708	42.14%
E	exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 79.20%)		
	mundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF	8,098,419	1.17%
	mundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF	39,989,748	5.79%
11,165,957 H	ISBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF	92,286,635	13.36%
312,151 In	nvesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF	7,596,195	1.10%
383,983 In	nvesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	2,169,504	0.31%
•	Shares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	3,102,055	0.45%
	Shares Core MSCI EM IMI UCITS ETF	45,782,238	6.63%
	Shares UK Property UCITS ETF	13,356,429	1.93%
	yxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF	13,410,417	1.94%
	PDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF	110,657,986	16.02%
	anguard USD Emerging Markets Government Bond UCITS ETF	20,686,269	2.99%
313,543 X	trackers S&P Europe ex UK UCITS ETF	19,320,520	2.80%
		376,456,415	54.49%
G	Sovernment Bonds (31.03.2023: 1.27%)		
1,017,400 U	JK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028	1,383,300	0.20%
, ,	JK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029	4,666,372	0.68%
354,900 U	JK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030	1,218,797	0.18%
		7,268,469	1.06%
Р	Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 99.50%)	674,925,592	97.69%
N	let other assets (31.03.2023: (0.50%))	15,877,551	2.31%
		690,803,143	100.00%

# **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES**

Total purchases for the year (note 14)	£ 515,516,053
SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF  Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust  Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index  Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF  Insight Liquidity Funds plc iShares Core MSCI EM IMI UCITS ETF iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index Fund  Vanguard S&P 500 UCITS ETF  HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF  Various other purchases	101,810,032 97,606,521 59,076,137 37,288,752 35,798,620 30,691,442 26,334,048 19,318,107 19,138,888 17,686,944 70,766,562
Total sales for the year (note 14)	£ 315,604,258
Vanguard S&P 500 UCITS ETF Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF Insight Liquidity Funds plc Amundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF JPMorgan ETFs (Ireland) ICAV Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor UCITS ETF State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund Various other sales	104,225,605 53,539,147 44,076,014 25,197,765 23,704,136 17,984,792 16,965,969 15,691,647 8,476,615 4,767,573 974,995

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

# STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the year ended 31 March						
		Notes	202 £	24 £	2023 £	£
Income	Net capital gains/(losses)	2		50,167,495		(9,515,597)
	Revenue	3	15,991,243		9,049,006	
Expenses		4	(1,678,287)		(1,010,425)	
Interest payab	le and similar charges	6 _	(11)	_	(21)	
Net revenues I	before taxation		14,312,945		8,038,560	
Taxation		5 _	(1,381,126)	_	(366,232)	
Net revenue a	fter taxation		_	12,931,819	_	7,672,328
Total return be	efore distributions			63,099,314		(1,843,269)
Finance costs:	: distributions	6	_	(16,720,041)		(6,966,115)
•	et assets attributable to from investment activities		_	46,379,273	_	(8,809,384)

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

For the	vear	ended	31	March
---------	------	-------	----	-------

For the year ended 51 march	2024 £	2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	420,871,390	259,593,091
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	299,183,156	199,805,186
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(94,063,291)	(37,535,868)
Accumulation dividends retained	18,432,615	7,818,365
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	46,379,273	(8,809,384)
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	690,803,143_	420,871,390

# **BALANCE SHEET**

As at	31.03.2024			31.03.2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Investment assets			674,925,592		418,759,869
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	6,986,031		4,527,351	
Cash and bank balances	8	19,442,610		3,684,336	
Total current assets	_	_	26,428,641	_	8,211,687
Total assets			701,354,233		426,971,556
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors	9	(10,551,090)		(5,872,981)	
Bank overdraft	8	-		(227,185)	
Total current liabilities	_	_	(10,551,090)		(6,100,166)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		_	690,803,143	_	420,871,390

# For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting polices, which have been applied in both the current and prior year, are set out on pages 7-8.

2 Net capital gains/(losses)	2024 £	2023 £
The net capital gains/(losses) comprise:		
Non-derivative securities gains/(losses) Foreign exchange gains Transaction costs	50,161,439 261 5,795	(9,515,670) 73
Total net capital gains/(losses)	50,167,495	(9,515,597)
3 Revenue	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-taxable dividends	7,407,313	6,207,401
Interest on non-derivative securities	7,372,943	2,227,539
Investment manager rebates	571,278	446,766
Rebates from underlying holdings	17,493	4,201
Stock lending income	54,880	15,842
Bank and other interest	567,336	147,257
Total revenue	15,991,243	9,049,006
4 Expenses	2024	2023
•	_	•
	£	£
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:	_	
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager,	1,468,306	£ 883,661
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:	1,468,306	883,661
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee	1,468,306 104,017	883,661 66,497
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:	1,468,306 104,017 78,416	883,661 66,497 43,238
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee	1,468,306 104,017	883,661 66,497
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody fee	1,468,306 104,017 78,416	883,661 66,497 43,238
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses:	1,468,306 104,017 78,416 182,433	66,497 43,238 109,735
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses: Audit fee	1,468,306 104,017 78,416 182,433 3,513 22 24,013	66,497 43,238 109,735
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses: Audit fee FCA fee	1,468,306 104,017 78,416 182,433 3,513 22	66,497 43,238 109,735 3,330 47
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses: Audit fee FCA fee	1,468,306 104,017 78,416 182,433 3,513 22 24,013	883,661 66,497 43,238 109,735 3,330 47 13,652

5 Taxation	2024	2023
· raxation	£	£
(a) Analysis of charge in the year		
UK corporation tax	1,381,126	366,232
Total tax charge for the year (note 5b)	1,381,126	366,232
(b) Factors affecting current tax charge for the year		
The tax assessed for the year is lower than the		
standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an		
open-ended investment company 20.00%		
(2023: 20.00%) The differences are explained below:		
Net revenue before UK corporation tax	14,312,945	8,038,560
Corporation tax at 20.00% (2023: 20.00%)	2,862,589	1,607,712
Effects of:		
Revenue not subject to UK corporation tax	(1,481,463)	(1,241,480)
Total tax charge for the year (note 5a)	1,381,126	366,232

## (c) Provision for deferred taxation

At 31 March 2024 there is a potential deferred tax asset of £Nil (31 March 2023: £Nil) in relation to surplus management expenses.

6 Finance costs	2024 £	2023 £
	~	~
Interim dividend distribution	6,809,344	4,290,924
Final dividend distribution	11,623,271	3,527,441
	18,432,615	7,818,365
	000 000	400.004
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares	928,332	188,894
Deduct: Revenue received on issue of shares	(2,640,906)	(1,041,144)
Net distribution for the year	16,720,041	6,966,115
Interest payable and similar charges	11	21
Total finance costs	16,720,052	6,966,136
Reconciliation of distributions		
Net revenue after taxation	12,931,819	7,672,328
Equalisation from collectives allocated to revenue	2,206,092	-
Balance brought forward	999,442	293,229
Balance carried forward	582,688	(999,442)
Net distribution for the year	16,720,041	6,966,115
•		. ,

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

7 Debtors	31.03.2024 £	31.03.2023 £
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	5,981,286	4,404,538
Accrued Revenue:		
Interest on non-derivative securities receivable	955,548	4,894
Investment manager rebates	46,994	108,722
Rebates from underlying holdings	2,175	482
Stock lending income receivable	-	6,369
Prepayment	28	2,346
Total debtors	6,986,031	4,527,351
3 Cash and bank balances	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Cash and bank balances	19,442,610	3,684,336
Bank overdraft	-	(227,185)
9 Creditors	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	1,754,180	519,037
Amounts payable on unsettled trades	7,420,200	4,709,045
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:		
Annual management charge	134,546	241,906
Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee	9,620	6,833
Safe custody and other custodian charges	28,801	25,712
	38,421	32,545
UK corporation tax	1,198,011	366,232
Other accrued expenses	5,732	4,216
Total creditors	10,551,090	5,872,981

### 11 Risk management

In pursuing its investment objective as stated on page 82, the Sub-fund holds a number of financial instruments. The Sub-fund's financial instruments comprise securities and other investments, cash balances, debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations, for example, in respect of sales and purchases awaiting settlement, amounts receivable for issues and payable for redemptions and debtors for accrued revenue.

The main risks arising from the Sub-funds financial instruments, those of its underlying holdings and the AFM's policies for managing these risks are summarised below. These policies have been applied throughout the year.

#### Market price risk

Market price risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices caused by factors other than interest rate or foreign currency movement. Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments the Sub-fund holds. It represents the potential loss the Sub-fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is exposed to market price fluctuations, which are monitored by the AFM in pursuance of the investment objective and policy as set out in the Prospectus.

Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Instrument of Incorporation, the Prospectus and in the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

If market prices at the Balance Sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £67,492,559 (31 March 2023: £41,875,987).

### Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is invested in funds that are registered overseas and collective investment scheme which invest in overseas securities and the balance sheet can be affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The AFM may seek to manage exposure to currency movements by using forward exchange contracts or by hedging the Sterling value of investments that are priced in other currencies. Revenue received in other currencies is converted to Sterling on or near the date of receipt.

Net currency assets and liabilities consist of:

	Net monetary as	sets and liabilities	Non-monet	ary assets	Total net	assets
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
Sterling	15,877,551	2,089,882	674,925,592	418,759,869	690,803,143	420,849,751
US Dollar	-	21,639	-	-	-	21,639
Total	15,877,551	2,111,521	674,925,592	418,759,869	690,803,143	420,871,390

If foreign exchange rates at the balance sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £Nil (31 March 2023: £2,164).

### 11 Risk management (Continued)

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk to portfolio value due to changes in interest rates. The magnitude of the exposure from an adverse change in interest rates depends on the sensitivity of the instrument to changes in interest rates as well as the absolute change in interest rates. In general, values of long-term instruments are more sensitive to interest rate changes than the values of short-term instruments

The Sub-fund takes on interest rate risk when the investment manager believes the expected returns compensate for the risk, limited by the investment objective, policy and any prospectus rules. The investment manager monitors the level of interest rate risk in the fund on a regular basis. In addition any cash deposits in the Sub-fund are linked to SONIA, ensuring interest income increases as interest rates increase.

The table below details the interest rate risk profile at the balance sheet date:

	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Financial assets floating rate	19,442,610	3,684,336
Financial assets interest bearing instruments	157,878,177	117,011,186
Financial assets non-interest bearing instruments	524,033,446	306,276,034
Financial liabilities non-interest bearing instruments	(10,551,090)	(5,872,981)
Financial liabilities floating rate	-	(227,185)
	690,803,143	420,871,390

At 31 March 2024, if interest rates increased or decreased by 0.25%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the Sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £66,778 (31 March 2023: £21,958).

#### Maturity of financial liabilities

The financial liabilities of the Sub-fund as at 31 March 2024 are payable either within one year or on demand.

### Liquidity risk

The Sub-fund's assets comprise mainly of readily realisable securities. The main liability of the Sub-fund is the redemption of any shares that the investors wish to sell. Assets of the Sub-fund may need to be sold if insufficient cash is available to finance such redemptions.

## Credit risk

Certain transactions in securities that the Sub-fund enters into expose it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the investment for a purchase, or cash for a sale after the Sub-fund has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Sub-fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the AFM as acceptable counterparties and fund management companies. In addition, limits are set to the exposure to any individual broker that may exist at any time and changes in brokers' financial ratings are reviewed. Indirect credit risk arises from holdings in collectives that invest in debt securities as any default or perceived risk of default will affect the valuation of such holdings.

### Fair value disclosure

The fair value hierarchy is intended to prioritise the inputs that are used to measure the fair value of assets and liabilities. The highest priority is given to quoted prices and the lowest priority to un-observable inputs. The criteria applied to the fair values levels in these financial statements are as follows:

- Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an identical instrument;
- Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other than quoted prices within level 1;
- Level 3: Valuation techniques using unobservable inputs.

	31.03.2024		31.03.2023	
	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
Valuation Technique	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)
Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market				
for an identical instrument	383,725	-	338,672	-
Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs				
other than quoted prices within level 1	291,201	-	80,088	-
Total	674,926	-	418,760	-

### 11 Shares held

## I (Net Accumulation)

Opening Shares at 01.04.2023
Shares issued during the year
Shares cancelled during the year
Shares converted during the year
Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024
303,097,223
210,896,791
(66,103,289)
447,890,725

### 12 Contingent assets and liabilities

At 31 March 2024, the Sub-fund had no contingent liabilities or commitments. (31 March 2023: £nil)

## 13 Post balance sheet events

As indicated in the accounting policies in Note 1, the investments have been valued at the closing valuation point on 28 March 2024. Since that date, the Sub-fund's quoted mid-price has moved as follows for each share class:

Share class I (Net Accumulation)	<b>Price at 28 March 2024</b> 154.6075p		Price at	<b>18 July 2024</b> 158.2699p
14 Direct transactions costs	2024		2023	
Analysis of total purchase costs	£	%	£	%
Purchases in the year before transaction costs	515,516,053		464,872,381	
Commissions	-	0.00%	797	0.00%
Total purchase costs	-	0.00%	797	0.00%
Total purchases including transaction costs  Analysis of total sale costs	515,516,053	-	464,873,178	
Sales in the year before transaction costs	315,604,258		296,484,976	
Commissions	-	(0.00%)	-	(0.00%)
Total sale costs	-	(0.00%)	-	(0.00%)
Total sales net of transaction costs_	315,604,258	_	296,484,976	

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the Sub-fund's average net asset value in the year:

	2024 £	% of average net asset value	2023 £	% of average net asset value
Commissions	-	0.00%	797	0.00%
	-	0.00%	797	0.00%

## 15 Portfolio Dealing Spread

The average portfolio dealing spread at 31 March 2024 is 0.08% (31 March 2023: 0.15%).

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

### 16 Stock lending

The Sub-fund enters into stock lending arrangements with various counterparties. At the balance sheet date the bid value of securities on loan was £Nil (2023: £5,991,250). The value of collateral held in respect of securities on loan was £Nil (2023: £6,290,810).

Counterparty	2024		2023	
	Value of stock on loan	Collateral	Value of stock on loan	Collateral
	£	£	£	£
Citigroup Global Markets Limited	-	-	5,991,250	6,290,810
Goldman Sachs International	-	-	-	-
	-	-	5,991,250	6,290,810
Collateral by asset class		2024		2023
		£		£
Government bonds		-		6,290,810
		-	_	6,290,810
Analysis of stock lending incom	e	2024		2023
		£		£
Gross stock lending income		78,400		22,631
Fees paid to the custodian		(23,520)		(6,789)
·		54,880		15,842

## 17 Related party transactions

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited, as AFM is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the Sub-fund.

Amounts paid to the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amounts due to the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 9. Amounts received from the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 3. Amounts due from the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 7.

## **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

### Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 April 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 April 2023 and on or before 30 September 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 30.11.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.11.2023	Distribution 30.11.2022
Group 1	1.7915p	-	1.7915p	1.8319p
Group 2	0.9357p	0.8558p	1.7915p	1.8319p

## Final 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 March 2024

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	2.5951p	-	2.5951p	1.1638p
Group 2	0.9612p	1.6339p	2.5951p	1.1638p

## Information for corporate shareholders

A corporate shareholder receives the distribution shown on the voucher enclosed with this report as follows:

- i) 46.53% of the total dividend allocation together with the tax credit is received as franked investment income.
- ii) 53.47% of the dividend allocation is received as an annual payment received after deduction of income tax at the lower rate and is liable to corporation tax. It is not franked investment income.

# SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS (UNAUDITED)

As at 31 March 2024								
GLOBAL DATA								
Proportion of securi						£	%	
Total lendable assets	excluding c	ash and cash	equivalents:			674,925,592		
Securities and commo	odities on lo	an				-	0.00%	
Assets engaged in S	FTs and to	tal return sw	aps			£	%	
Fund assets under ma	anagement	(AUM)				690,803,143		
Absolute value of asse	ets engaged	d in:						
Securities lending						-	0.00%	
CONCENTRATION D	<u>ATA</u>							
Top 10 Collateral Iss								
Name and value of c	ollateral ar	nd commodit	ies received			£	-	
Top 10 Counterpartie	es							
Name and value of o		transactions	5			£	-	
Securities lending								
AGGREGATE TRANS								
Type, Quality and Cu	irrency of C	Collateral						
Туре		Quality			Currencies	£	_	
Securities lending								
Securities lending								
Maturity Tenor of Co	llateral (rei	maining perio	nd to maturity)					
-	•	• .	One week to	One to three T	Three months	Above one	Open	
'	one day	one week		months	to one year	year		Total
Туре	£	£	£	£	£	year £	•	£
Securities lending						~		
<u> </u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Countermorty details		Countries of	Satt	tlement and				
Counterparty details		Counterparty	Sett	Clearing		£		
Туре		ounterparty		Clearing			-	
Maturity Tenor of SF	Ts and Tot	al Return Sw	aps (remaining	period to ma	aturity)			
			One week to			Above one	Open	
	one day	one week	one month	months	to one year	year	transactions	Total
Туре	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Securities lending	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-		<u>-</u>	-	-	-
RE-USE OF COLLAT	FRΔI							
The Sub-fund does no		re-use of coll	lateral.					
SAEEKEEDING OF O	·OLL ATED	AL DECENTE	,					
SAFEKEEPING OF C Names and value of			<del></del>		£			
Number of custodians			,		-			
RETURN AND COST								
INC TOTAL AND COOL		Investment	Manager	of collective	Thir	d Parties (e.g.		
		Undertaking		undertaking		ending agent)		Total
	'	£	mvestinent	£	'	enumy agent) £		£
Securities Lending		~				~		~
Gross return								
		54 880		23 520		-		78 400
% of total gross return	1	54,880 70.00%		23,520 30.00%		- 0.00%		78,400 100.00%

### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund VT AJ Bell Global Growth

**Size of Sub-fund** £230,829,536

Launch date 11 June 2018

Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of VT AJ Bell Global Growth is to achieve long term capital growth with a focus on having exposure (often indirect) to global equities, including higher risk equities such as emerging markets, small cap and technology, with minimal holdings or exposure to defensive assets such as cash, fixed interest securities, money-market Sub-funds and collective investment schemes following alternative strategies such as property and commodities. This is to keep the Sub-fund within a pre-determined risk profile. Capital is in fact at risk and there is no guarantee that capital growth will be achieved over a 5 year, or any, period.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objective (and so provide exposure to the asset classes noted in the objective) by investing predominantly (80% +), in index-tracking investments or strategies (those instruments and/or investment strategies that aim to track the performance of various financial indices) and which typically consist of collective investment schemes (including those managed or operated by the AFM) as well as equities, bonds and transferable securities.

The Sub-fund may also invest in non-index tracking collective investment schemes, equities, bonds, transferable securities, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus and as such weightings in these may vary as required. The Sub-fund may have exposure to emerging markets through its investments in e.g. collective investment schemes, equities or futures.

The Sub-fund's risk profile is managed by restricting the types of asset held and allocations to those assets. The risk profiles are determined by the external risk rating agency's forward looking volatility assumptions. The Sub-fund aims to operate with a risk rating of 8, on a scale of 1-10 where 1 is an allocation to cash and 10 is an allocation to riskier equity regions such as Asia and emerging markets.

Derivatives (that is sophisticated investment instruments linked to the rise and fall of the price of other assets) are held only for efficient portfolio management purposes.

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives only for efficient portfolio management purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for efficient portfolio management purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Due to its multi-asset nature, no financial instrument or index represents a fair benchmark for the Sub-fund, however it is suggested that the performance of the Sub-fund can be assessed by comparing its total return to funds with similar return and/or risk objectives. The IA (Investment Association) provides the median performance of funds with similar characteristics (IA sectors). The Sub-fund is assigned to the Flexible Investment IA sector. Other providers also provide peer groups, based on asset allocation or historical volatility, of which the Sub-fund may be assigned, these may be a useful guide to assess performance.

31 March and 30 September

**Distribution dates** 31 May and 30 November

Individual Savings Account (ISA)

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

Derivatives:

Additional information

Fx-distribution dates

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

Share classes I (Accumulation)

Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: I (Accumulation) = £1,000

Top up: I (Accumulation) = £25

Holding: I (Accumulation) = £1

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

Switching: I (Accumulation) = 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**

I (Accumulation) = 0.31%

The above percentage being percentage of the net asset value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant Class (plus VAT if applicable).

From the 4 January 2022 an all-in fee was introduced which results in all the operating charges being taken out of the Annual Management charge shown above. This will result in future ongoing charges figures to be the same as the Annual Management charge. For more information about charges, please see sections 3.6 ("Dealing Charges") & 7 ("Fees and Expenses") of the prospectus.

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

Over the twelve months, the I Acc share class of the fund returned 9.0% compared to the IA Flexible Investment sector, which returned 10.1%. The fund managed the volatility in bond markets well over the year and was well positioned in riskier global high yield bonds. The equity market exposure within the fund is diversified by region. Holdings in US and Japanese equities performed well over the year, whilst those in Emerging markets and the UK were laggards. The underperformance of the Emerging markets and Asia, principally the Chinese equity market, was particularly impactful on the performance of the fund relative to the IA Flexible sector. The fund has a high allocation to Emerging markets and Asia to position within the volatility band assigned to the fund. These regions are used because they have higher historic volatility than developed markets such as the UK and US.

Activity in the nine months of 2023 applicable to this report related to the management of the fund's concentration in certain holdings. Within high yield bonds these included the State Street Global High Yield Bond ESG Screened Index Fund and the Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG ETF. A new holding in the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF was consequently added to the fund in May. Activity in UK equities also fell into this camp, with a partial sale of Lyxor Core Morningstar UK ETF being replaced with the Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Unit Trust.

The asset allocation of the fund is broken down by asset class and currency. We think of it in terms of; UK (GBP) Cash and Bonds, International (non-GBP) bonds, UK equities, International (non-GBP) equities and Alternatives. In January 2024 the fund was repositioned as part of the annual Strategic Asset Allocation (SAA) project.

No changes were made to the allocations to UK (GBP) cash and bonds or international (non-GBP) bonds.

Within equities, we maintained the allocation to the UK, however within international equities increased the allocation to Japan and Europe on valuation grounds, funded by sales in the US. There were also transactions aimed at matching the desired country level allocation within the regions of Emerging markets and Asia. This involved the partial sales of the Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index fund and the Franklin FTSE China ETF, which funded the purchase of the Vanguard Emerging Markets Index fund.

Two other transactions took place to take advantage of cheaper product pricing in the US and Japan. Firstly, the Vanguard S&P 500 ETF was entirely replaced with the SPDR S&P 500 ETF (State Street). Secondly, most of the holding in Amundi MSCI Japan DR ETF was replaced by Amundi Prime Japan ETF. No changes were made to the allocation to Alternatives.

There have been several narratives that look to explain the strong start to the year that equity markets have made. Our observation is that there appears to be an element of 'reacceleration' taking place in the global economy, however, we do not seek to reposition the fund based on short-term trends, sentiment or market narratives. Instead, the fund remains positioned to meet its volatility target and capture returns in a diversified manner.

AJ Bell Asset Management Limited Investment Manager of the Fund 19 June 2024

### PERFORMANCE RECORD

### **Financial Highlights**

# I (Accumulation)

		Year ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Changes in n	et assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
· ·	Opening net asset value per share	135.1714	135.6510	122.1856
	Return before operating charges	12.6421	(0.0598)	13.9037
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.4379)	(0.4198)	(0.4383)
	Return after operating charges *	12.2042	(0.4796)	13.4654
	Closing net asset value per share**	147.3756	135.1714	135.6510
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	4.6929	2.8559	2.1300
	*after direct transactions costs of:	0.0000	0.0000	0.0129
Performance	**after dilution adjustment of	0.06%	0.10%	0.17%
Periormance	Return after charges	9.03%	(0.35%)	11.02%
Other informa	ation			
	Closing net asset value	£231,145,264	£186,822,497	£132,103,285
	Closing number of shares	156,927,314	138,350,781	97,546,299
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.31%	0.31%	0.34%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%
Prices				
	Highest share price	147.3756	141.0151	137.0087
	Lowest share price	131.3627	125.7185	121.6593

<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 '5' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document (31 March 2023: ranked 5). The Sub-fund is ranked 5 because monthly historical performance data indicates that it has experienced relatively high rises and falls in market prices historically. The higher the rank, the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money.

<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 plus the costs of the open-end funds the Sub-fund holds.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

As at 31 March 2024		0/ . 5
Holding	Value £	% of net assets
Collective Investment Schemes (31.03.2023: 11.47%)		
912,181 State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund	7,856,980	3.40%
59,125 Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index	9,065,908	3.93%
253,926 Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust	42,391,676	18.36%
41,152 Vanguard FTSE Developed Europe ex-UK Equity Index Fund	9,325,076	4.04%
40,387 Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund	6,703,293	2.90%
	75,342,933	32.63%
Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 86.57%)		
293,040 Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF	7,148,711	3.10%
286,759 Franklin FTSE China UCITS ETF	4,603,629	1.99%
4,673,718 HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF	38,628,279	16.73%
304,951 Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	1,722,973	0.75%
1,325,628 iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	5,671,037	2.46%
264,500 iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF	2,052,520	0.89%
1,644,547 iShares Core MSCI EM IMI UCITS ETF	42,347,085	18.35%
975,965 iShares UK Property UCITS ETF	4,449,424	1.93%
780,844 Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF	8,706,411	3.77%
2,109,026 SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF	21,157,749	9.17%
195,593 Xtrackers S&P Europe ex UK UCITS ETF	12,052,441	5.22%
	148,540,259	64.36%
BONDS (31.03.2023: 1.32%)		
318,100 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028	432,502	0.19%
1,017,800 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029	1,617,820	0.70%
123,700 UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030	424,810	0.18%
	2,475,132	1.07%
Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 99.36%)	226,358,324	98.06%
Net other assets (31.03.2023: 0.64%)	4,471,212	1.94%
	230,829,536	100.00%

# SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES

Total purchases for the year (note 14)	£ 126,350,566
Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF Insight Liquidity Funds plc State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund Vanguard FTSE Developed Europe ex-UK Equity Index Fund Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF iShares Core MSCI EM IMI UCITS ETF HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets UCITS ETF Various other purchases	33,861,515 19,444,587 12,443,185 10,243,457 8,497,476 8,426,128 6,718,059 6,374,300 6,360,520 3,916,907 10,064,432
Total sales for the year (note 14)	£ 101,504,592
Vanguard S&P 500 UCITS ETF Lyxor Core Morningstar UK NT (DR) UCITS ETF Insight Liquidity Funds plc Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF Amundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund Franklin FTSE China UCITS ETF iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF Various other sales	29,334,843 26,048,304 15,755,993 11,922,781 6,721,281 4,166,937 2,663,617 2,648,650 1,509,948 403,228 329,010

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

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the ye	ar ended 31 March		<b></b>			
		Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Income	Net capital gains/(losses)	2		13,624,373		(4,279,435)
	Revenue	3	6,186,530		4,477,974	
Expenses		4	(645,344)		(471,929)	
Interest pa	yable and similar charges	6 _	(4)		(21)	
Net revenu	ue before taxation		5,541,182		4,006,024	
Taxation		5	(233,040)			
Net revenu	ue after taxation		_	5,308,142	_	4,006,024
Total returi	n before distributions			18,932,515		(273,411)
Finance co	osts: distributions	6	_	(7,139,990)	_	(3,262,152)
-	n net assets attributable to ers from investment activities		_	11,792,525	_	(3,535,563)
STATEME	NT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSET	S ATTRIBUTAB	LE TO SHAREHO	LDERS		
For the ye	ar ended 31 March			2024 £		2023 £
Opening r	net assets attributable to shareho	lders		186,683,264		131,919,772
Amounts re	eceivable on creation of shares			67,902,264		74,440,036
Amounts p	ayable on cancellation of shares			(42,853,413)		(19,666,532)
Accumulat	ion dividends retained			7,304,896		3,525,551
_	n net assets attributable to sharehol t activities (see above)	ders from		11,792,525		(3,535,563)
	,			<del></del> -	_	/

## **BALANCE SHEET**

As at	31.03.2024			31.03.2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Investment assets			226,358,324		185,496,121
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	1,984,038		1,222,329	
Cash and bank balances	8	4,604,405		1,498,752	
Total current assets	_		6,588,443		2,721,081
Total assets			232,946,767		188,217,202
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors	9	(2,116,640)		(1,451,544)	
Bank overdraft	8	(591)		(82,394)	
Total current liabilities	_		(2,117,231)	_	(1,533,938)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		_	230,829,536	_	186,683,264

## For the year ended 31 March 2024

## 1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting polices, which have been applied in both the current and prior year, are set out on pages 7-8.

2 Net capital gains/(losses)	2024 £	2023 £
The net capital gains/(losses) comprise:		
Non-derivative securities gains/(losses)	13,623,242	(4,279,483)
Foreign exchange gains	269	48
Transaction costs Total net capital gains/(losses)	12 624 272	(4.270.425)
Total het capital gains/(losses)	13,624,373	(4,279,435)
3 Revenue	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-taxable dividends	4,238,478	3,847,935
Interest on non-derivative securities	1,427,058	322,253
Investment manager rebates	255,584	209,833
Rebates from underlying holdings	8,815	1,046
Stock lending income	70,578	28,703
Bank and other interest	186,017	68,204
Total revenue	6,186,530	4,477,974
4 Expenses	2024	2023
·	£	£
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager,		
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager,		
and agents of either of them:		
Annual management charge	555,358	405,119
Payable to the depositary, associates of the		
depositary, and agents of either of them:		
	45 598	35.121
Depositary fee	45,598 30.300	35,121 20.703
	45,598 30,300 75,898	35,121 20,703 55,824
Depositary fee Safe custody fee	30,300	20,703
Depositary fee Safe custody fee Other expenses:	30,300 75,898	20,703 55,824
Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses: Audit fee	30,300	20,703 55,824 3,330
Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses: Audit fee FCA fee	30,300 75,898 3,513 22	20,703 55,824 3,330 47
Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses: Audit fee	30,300 75,898 3,513	20,703 55,824 3,330
Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses: Audit fee FCA fee	30,300 75,898 3,513 22 10,553	20,703 55,824 3,330 47 7,609

5 Taxation	2024	2023
	£	£
(a) Analysis of charge in the year		
UK corporation tax	233,040	-
Total tax charge for the year (note 5b)	233,040	-
(b) Factors affecting current tax charge for the year		
The tax assessed for the year is lower than the		
standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an		
open-ended investment company 20.00%		
(2023: 20.00%) The differences are explained below:		
Net revenue before UK corporation tax	5,541,182	4,006,024
Corporation tax at 20.00% (2023: 20.00%)	1,108,236	801,205
Effects of:		
Revenue not subject to UK corporation tax	(847,695)	(769,587)
Management expenses (utilised)	(27,501)	(31,618)
Total tax charge for the year (note 5a)	233,040	-

## (c) Provision for deferred taxation

At 31 March 2024 there is a potential deferred tax asset of £Nil (31 March 2023: £27,501) in relation to surplus management expenses.

6 Finance costs	2024 £	2023 £
Interim dividend distribution Final dividend distribution	2,567,871 4,737,025 7,304,896	2,070,222 1,455,329 3,525,551
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares Deduct: Revenue received on issue of shares	472,426 (637,332)	110,042 (373,441)
Net distribution for the year Interest payable and similar charges Total finance costs	7,139,990 4 7,139,994	3,262,152 21 3,262,173
Reconciliation of distributions  Net revenue after taxation  Equalisation from collectives allocated to revenue  Balance brought forward  Balance carried forward  Net distribution for the year	5,308,142 777,552 975,654 78,642 7,139,990	4,006,024 - 231,782 (975,654) 3,262,152

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

7 Debtors	31.03.2024 £	31.03.2023 £
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	1,444,953	1,150,869
Accrued Revenue:		
Non-taxable dividends receivable	12,564	-
Interest on non-derivative securities receivable	504,459	2,256
Investment manager rebates	20,647	55,236
Rebates from underlying holdings	1,378	1,289
Stock lending income receivable	-	10,391
Prepayments	37	2,288
Total debtors	1,984,038	1,222,329
8 Cash and bank balances	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
	~	~
Cash and bank balances	4,604,405	1,498,752
Bank overdraft	(591)	(82,394)
2	(00.1)	(02,00.)
9 Creditors	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	1,331,194	198,415
Amounts payable on unsettled trades	487,088	1,130,779
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:	40.050	400.005
Annual management charge	46,356	103,085
Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee	3,747	3,480
Safe custody and other custodian charges	10,703	11,861
	14,450	15,341
UK corporation tax	233,040	-
Other accrued expenses	4,512	3,924
Total creditors	2,116,640	1.451.544

### 10 Risk management

In pursuing its investment objective as stated on page 99, the Sub-fund holds a number of financial instruments. The Sub-fund's financial instruments comprise securities and other investments, cash balances, debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations, for example, in respect of sales and purchases awaiting settlement, amounts receivable for issues and payable for redemptions and debtors for accrued revenue.

The main risks arising from the Sub-funds financial instruments, those of its underlying holdings and the AFM's policies for managing these risks are summarised below. These policies have been applied throughout the year.

#### Market price risk

Market price risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices caused by factors other than interest rate or foreign currency movement. Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments the Sub-fund holds. It represents the potential loss the Sub-fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is exposed to market price fluctuations, which are monitored by the AFM in pursuance of the investment objective and policy as set out in the Prospectus.

Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Instrument of Incorporation, the Prospectus and in the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

If market prices at the Balance Sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £22,635,832 (31 March 2023: £18,549,612).

#### Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is invested in funds that are registered overseas and collective investment scheme which invest in overseas securities and the balance sheet can be affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The AFM may seek to manage exposure to currency movements by using forward exchange contracts or by hedging the Sterling value of investments that are priced in other currencies. Revenue received in other currencies is converted to Sterling on or near the date of receipt.

Net currency assets and liabilities consist of:

					<b>.</b>	
	Net monetary as	sets and liabilities	Non-moneta	ary assets	Total net a	issets
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
Sterling	4,471,212	1,183,005	226,358,324	185,496,121	230,829,536	186,679,126
US Dollar	-	4,138	-		-	4,138
Total	4,471,212	1,187,143	226,358,324	185,496,121	230,829,536	186,683,264

If foreign exchange rates at the balance sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £Nil (31 March 2023: £414).

### 10 Risk management (Continued)

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk to portfolio value due to changes in interest rates. The magnitude of the exposure from an adverse change in interest rates depends on the sensitivity of the instrument to changes in interest rates as well as the absolute change in interest rates. In general, values of long-term instruments are more sensitive to interest rate changes than the values of short-term instruments.

The Sub-fund takes on interest rate risk when the investment manager believes the expected returns compensate for the risk, limited by the investment objective, policy and any prospectus rules. The investment manager monitors the level of interest rate risk in the fund on a regular basis. In addition any cash deposits in the Sub-fund are linked to SONIA, ensuring interest income increases as interest rates increase.

The table below details the interest rate risk profile at the balance sheet date:

	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Financial assets floating rate	4,604,405	1,498,752
Financial assets interest bearing instruments	17,726,122	19,319,902
Financial assets non-interest bearing instruments	210,616,240	167,398,548
Financial liabilities non-interest bearing instruments	(2,116,640)	(1,451,544)
Financial liabilities floating rate	(591)	(82,394)
	230,829,536	186,683,264

At 31 March 2024, if interest rates increased or decreased by 0.25%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the Sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £17,697 (31 March 2023: £9,680).

#### Maturity of financial liabilities

The financial liabilities of the Sub-fund as at 31 March 2024 are payable either within one year or on demand.

#### Liquidity risk

The Sub-fund's assets comprise mainly of readily realisable securities. The main liability of the Sub-fund is the redemption of any shares that the investors wish to sell. Assets of the Sub-fund may need to be sold if insufficient cash is available to finance such redemptions.

#### Credit risk

Certain transactions in securities that the Sub-fund enters into expose it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the investment for a purchase, or cash for a sale after the Sub-fund has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Sub-fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the AFM as acceptable counterparties and fund management companies. In addition, limits are set to the exposure to any individual broker that may exist at any time and changes in brokers' financial ratings are reviewed.

### Fair value disclosure

The fair value hierarchy is intended to prioritise the inputs that are used to measure the fair value of assets and liabilities. The highest priority is given to quoted prices and the lowest priority to un-observable inputs. The criteria applied to the fair values levels in these financial statements are as follows:

- Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an identical instrument;
- Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other than quoted prices within level 1;
- Level 3: Valuation techniques using unobservable inputs.

	31.03.2024		31.03.2	023
	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
Valuation Technique	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)
Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market				
for an identical instrument	151,015	-	164,073	-
Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs				
other than quoted prices within level 1	75,343	-	21,423	-
Total	226,358	-	185,496	-

## 11 Shares held

## I (Accumulation)

Opening Shares at 01.04.2023	138,350,781
Shares issued during the year	50,023,633
Shares cancelled during the year	(31,447,100)
Shares converted during the year	-
Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024	156,927,314

#### 12 Contingent assets and liabilities

At 31 March 2024, the Sub-fund had no contingent liabilities or commitments (31 March 2023: £nil).

### 13 Post balance sheet events

As indicated in the accounting policies in Note 1, the investments have been valued at the closing valuation point on 28 March 2024. Since that date, the Sub-fund's quoted mid-price has moved as follows for each share class:

Share class I (Accumulation)	Price	e at 28 March 2024 147.3756p	Pri	ce at 18 July 2024 152.4947p
14 Direct transactions costs	20	24	20	23
	£	%	£	%
Analysis of total purchase costs				
Purchases in the year before transaction costs	126,350,516		195,521,481	
Commissions	50	0.00%	551	0.00%
Total purchase costs	50	0.00%	551	0.00%
Total purchases including				
transaction costs	126,350,566	_	195,522,032	
Analysis of total sale costs  Sales in the year before transaction costs	101,504,592		137,623,467	
Commissions	-	(0.00%)	(2,387)	(0.00%)
Total sale costs	-	(0.00%)	(2,387)	(0.00%)
Total sales net of transaction costs	101,504,592	_	137,621,080	
The following represents the total casset value in the year:	of each type of tran	saction cost, express	sed as a percenta	age of the Sub-fund's average net
	2024	% of average net	2023	% of average net
	£	asset value	£	asset value
Commissions	50	0.00%	2,938	0.00%
_	50	0.00%	2,938	0.00%

## 15. Portfolio Dealing Spread

The average portfolio dealing spread at 31 March 2024 is 0.07% (31 March 2023: 0.15%).

### 16 Stock lending

The Sub-fund enters into stock lending arrangements with various counterparties. At the balance sheet date the bid value of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £21,844,098). The value of collateral held in respect of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £22,936,302).

Value of stock on loan         Collateral feature         Value of stock on loan feature         Collateral feature         Collateral feature         Collateral feature         Collateral feature         Collateral feature         Collateral feature         Earclays Capital Securities Ltd         -         -         11,658,973 12,241,923 10,694,379 10,694,379 10,694,379 10,694,379 10,694,379 10,694,380 1	Counterparty	2024		2023		
Société Générale         -         -         11,658,973         12,241,923           Barclays Capital Securities Ltd         -         -         10,185,125         10,694,379           -         -         21,844,098         22,936,302           Collateral by asset class         2024         2023           £         £         £           Government bonds         -         10,694,380           Equities         -         12,241,922           -         22,936,302           Analysis of stock lending income         2024         2023           £         £           Gross stock lending income         100,826         41,004           Fees paid to the custodian         (30,248)         (12,301)			Collateral		Collateral	
Barclays Capital Securities Ltd		£	£	£	£	
Collateral by asset class	Société Générale	-	_	11,658,973	12,241,923	
Collateral by asset class         2024 £         2023 £           Government bonds         -         10,694,380 £           Equities         -         12,241,922 £           -         22,936,302 £           Analysis of stock lending income         2024 £         2023 £           Gross stock lending income         100,826 £         41,004 £           Fees paid to the custodian         (30,248) (12,301)	Barclays Capital Securities Ltd		-	10,185,125	10,694,379	
Government bonds         -         10,694,380           Equities         -         12,241,922           -         22,936,302           Analysis of stock lending income         2024         2023           £         £           Gross stock lending income         100,826         41,004           Fees paid to the custodian         (30,248)         (12,301)		-	-	21,844,098	22,936,302	
Government bonds         -         10,694,380           Equities         -         12,241,922           -         22,936,302           Analysis of stock lending income         2024         2023           £         £           Gross stock lending income         100,826         41,004           Fees paid to the custodian         (30,248)         (12,301)	0.11.4		2024		2022	
Government bonds         -         10,694,380           Equities         -         12,241,922           -         22,936,302           Analysis of stock lending income         2024         2023           £         £           Gross stock lending income         100,826         41,004           Fees paid to the custodian         (30,248)         (12,301)	Collateral by asset class					
Equities         -         12,241,922           -         22,936,302           Analysis of stock lending income         2024         2023           £         £           Gross stock lending income         100,826         41,004           Fees paid to the custodian         (30,248)         (12,301)			Ł		£	
Equities         -         12,241,922           -         22,936,302           Analysis of stock lending income         2024         2023           £         £           Gross stock lending income         100,826         41,004           Fees paid to the custodian         (30,248)         (12,301)	Government bonds		_		10 694 380	
Analysis of stock lending income         2024         2023           £         £         £           Gross stock lending income         100,826         41,004           Fees paid to the custodian         (30,248)         (12,301)			_			
£         £           Gross stock lending income         100,826         41,004           Fees paid to the custodian         (30,248)         (12,301)	•	-	-	_		
£         £           Gross stock lending income         100,826         41,004           Fees paid to the custodian         (30,248)         (12,301)		_		_		
Gross stock lending income       100,826       41,004         Fees paid to the custodian       (30,248)       (12,301)	Analysis of stock lending income	е	2024		2023	
Fees paid to the custodian (30,248) (12,301)			£		£	
Fees paid to the custodian (30,248) (12,301)	Gross stock lending income		100,826		41,004	
•	•		•		•	
	•	_		_		

## 17 Related party transactions

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited, as AFM is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the Sub-fund.

Amounts paid to the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amounts due to the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 9. Amounts received from the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 3. Amounts due from the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 7.

## **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

### Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 April 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 April 2023 and on or before 30 September 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 30.11.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.11.2023	Distribution 30.11.2022
Group 1	1.6743p	-	1.6743p	1.8040p
Group 2	0.9035p	0.7708p	1.6743p	1.8040p

# Final 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 March 2024

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 28.05.2023
Group 1	3.0186p	-	3.0186p	1.0519p
Group 2	1.0847p	1.9339p	3.0186p	1.0519p

### Information for corporate shareholders

A corporate shareholder receives the distribution shown on the voucher enclosed with this report as follows:

- i) 71.57% of the total dividend allocation together with the tax credit is received as franked investment income.
- ii) 28.43% of the dividend allocation is received as an annual payment received after deduction of income tax at the lower rate and is liable to corporation tax. It is not franked investment income.

## SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS (UNAUDITED)

As at 31 March 2024								
GLOBAL DATA								
Proportion of securit						£	%	
Total lendable assets	_		equivalents:			226,358,324		
Securities and commo	dities on loa	an				-	0.00%	
Assets engaged in S	FTs and to	tal return sw	aps			£	%	
Fund assets under ma	•	,				230,829,536	_	
Absolute value of asse	ets engaged	l in:						
Securities lending						-	0.00%	
CONCENTRATION D	<u>ATA</u>							
Top 10 Collateral Iss								
Name and value of co	ollateral an	d commodit	ies received			£		
Top 10 Counterpartie	es							
Name and value of o		transactions	3			£		
Securities lending								
AGGREGATE TRANS	ACTION D	ATA						
Type, Quality and Cu								
Туре		Quality			Currencies	£		
Securities lending								
Securities lending								
Maturity Tenor of Co	llateral (ren	naining perio	od to maturity)					
			One week to		Three months	Above one	Open	
	one day	one week	one month	months	to one year	year	maturity	Total
Туре	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Securities lending	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Counterparty details	C	Countries of	Set	tlement and				
Туре		ounterparty		Clearing		£		
Maturity Tenor of SF								
ı		-	One week to			Above one	Open	T-4-1
Turno	one day £	one week £	one month £	months £	to one year £	year £	transactions £	Total £
Type Securities lending	<u>_</u>	<u></u>	<u> </u>	<u>z</u> _	<u>z</u> _	<u>£</u>	<u></u>	
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DE LICE OF COLLAT	EDAL							
The Sub-fund does no		re-use of coll	ateral					
The Gub fund does no	it ongage in	10 450 01 0011	atorai.					
SAFEKEEPING OF C			_		_			
Names and value of on Number of custodians			j collateral		£			
Transpor of Gustouidis	Salokeepill	y solialerai			-			
RETURN AND COST	<b>.</b>				<b></b> -			
		Investment	_	of collective		d Parties (e.g.		
	ι	Jndertaking £	investment	undertaking £	ı	ending agent) £		Total
Securities Lending		£		ž.		£		£
Gross return		70,578		30,248		_		100,826
% of total gross return		70.00%		30.00%		0.00%		100.00%
3								

#### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund VT AJ Bell Income

Size of Sub-fund £48,518,152

Launch date 08 April 2019

Investment objective and policy

**Derivatives:** 

The investment objective of the VT AJ Bell Income is to generate income whilst maintaining capital value over a typical investment cycle (5-10 years) through focus on exposure to a broad range of income generating assets such as bonds and equities. The Sub-fund has a target average yield of 3-5 % per annum (over a trailing three-year period), which is not guaranteed and may be subject to change as the assumptions on which target the target was calculated may change.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objective by investing mainly in other collective investment schemes (especially in the early stages of the Sub-fund's growth) (including those managed or operated by the AFM) and those with both passive and active strategies) and so provide exposure to equities (particularly those which the Investment Manager considers to have dividend yields above the average for the relevant regional stock markets and including investment trusts) and bonds as well as alternative asset classes (such as property and infrastructure). The Sub-fund is also expected to invest directly in equities and bonds. The Sub-fund may also invest in, transferable securities, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus although, as the Sub-fund is targeting higher income distribution, there will be a focus on higher income generating assets, although lower yielding assets will also be used to ensure diversification. The Sub-fund may have exposure to emerging markets through its investments in e.g. collective investment schemes or direct equities.

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives only for efficient portfolio management purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for efficient portfolio management

purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Benchmark: The Sub-fund does not have a specific benchmark. However, the performance of the

Sub-fund can be assessed by considering whether the target average yield (3-5% per

annum over a trailing three year period) is achieved.

**Ex-distribution dates** 31 March, 30 April, 31 May, 30 June, 31 July, 31 August, 30 September, 31 October,

30 November, 31 December, 31 January, Last day of February

Distribution dates 30 April, 31 May, 30 June, 31 July, 31 August, 30 September, 31 October, 30

November, 31 December, 31 January, Last day of February and 31 March

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

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

Share classes I (Accumulation, Income)

Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: All share classes = £1,000

Top up: All share classes = £25

Holding: All share classes = £1

Redemption: All share classes = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Switching: All share classes = 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**

I (Accumulation, Income) = 0.65%

The above percentage being percentage of the net asset value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant Class (plus VAT if applicable).

From the 4 January 2022 an all-in fee was introduced which results in all the operating charges being taken out of the Annual Management charge shown above. This will result in future ongoing charges figures to be the same as the Annual Management charge. For more information about charges, please see sections 3.6 ("Dealing Charges") & 7 ("Fees and Expenses") of the prospectus.

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

In each of the last three years the fund has provided a yield in line with its objective (3-5%); with the I Inc share class delivering 3.9% in 2024, 3.4% in 2023 and 3.1% in 2022 (when measured against the average of the respective opening and closing net asset value per share). Over the twelve months, the I Acc share class of the fund returned 8.35%. The fund managed the volatility in bond markets well over the year and was well positioned in riskier global high yield bonds. The equity market exposure within the fund is diversified by region. Holdings in US and Japanese equities performed well over the year, whilst those in Emerging markets and the UK were laggards. Activity in the nine months of 2023 applicable to this report related to the management of the fund's concentration in certain holdings. Within high yield bonds these included the State Street Global High Yield Bond ESG Screened Index Fund, the Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG ETF and the JPMorgan Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor ETF, which was subsequently removed from the fund in July. A new holding in the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF was consequently added to the fund in May.

The asset allocation of the fund is broken down by asset class and currency. We think of it in terms of; UK (GBP) Cash and Bonds, International (non-GBP) bonds, UK equities, International (non-GBP) equities and Alternatives. In January 2024 the fund was repositioned as part of the annual Strategic Asset Allocation (SAA) project. This also coincided with the implementation of Tactical Asset Allocation (TAA) decisions, aimed at reducing risks we see in markets at present.

Within the GBP Cash and Bonds allocation, cash and cash equivalents were increased slightly to take advantage of current interest rates on offer. UK government bonds, which are held via direct gilts, and higher quality corporate bonds were increased at the expense of global high yield bonds (which have their currency exposure hedged back to sterling). This was conducted via the partial sale of the State Street Global High Yield Bond ESG Screened Index Fund and the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF. The higher quality corporate bonds are now held solely via the Invesco GBP Corporate Bond ETF, after a switch into this cheaper product was made from the iShares Core £ Corporate Bond ETF. International bonds were reduced slightly via sales of the iShares Overseas Corporate Bond Index fund. The overall impact of the changes to the bond allocation was an increase in the sensitivity to interest rates, or duration, to a level we feel will compensate well enough should interest rates fall, but not so high that the fund is overly exposed to any unexpected increases in inflation.

Within equities, we maintained the allocation to the UK, however within international equities increased the allocation to Japan and introduced Europe on valuation grounds, the former via the Amundi Prime Japan ETF and the latter via the iShares MSCI Europe Quality Dividend ETF. To compensate the US equity allocation was reduced via a partial sale of the Invesco S&P 500 High Dividend Low Volatility ETF. Two other switches were made as part of the SAA repositioning. Firstly, we partially sold the Fidelity Emerging Markets Quality Income ETF and Invesco FTSE Emerging Markets High Dividend Low Volatility ETF, using the proceeds to buy the Vanguard Emerging Markets Index Plus fund, to take advantage of cheaper product pricing and to reflect that the higher income of those ETFs is not necessary for the fund to meet its income objective at present. In Asia we sold the Vanguard FTSE Developed Asia Pacific ex Japan ETF and replaced with the Vanguard Pacific ex Japan Index Plus fund, this better reflects the desired country allocation and is a cheaper product. Turning to Alternatives, the fund allocates to UK commercial property via a combination of the iShares UK Property ETF and holdings in index-linked gilts (to reduce the volatility and leverage inherent in listed property shares). This was reduced slightly in January as part of the SAA project.

Finally, after the SAA project a new holding was added to the fund in February in order to gain more balanced exposure to UK government bonds; the iShares Core UK Gilts ETF.

There have been several narratives that look to explain the strong start to the year that equity markets have made. Our observation is that there appears to be an element of 'reacceleration' taking place in the global economy, however, we do not seek to reposition the fund based on short-term trends, sentiment or market narratives. Instead, the fund remains positioned to meet its volatility target and capture returns in a diversified manner.

AJ Bell Asset Management Limited Investment Manager of the Fund 19 June 2024

## PERFORMANCE RECORD

## **Financial Highlights**

# I (Accumulation)

		Year ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Changes in net ass	ets per share Opening net asset value per share	GBp 114.0445	GBp 116.8937	GBp 108.4130
	Return before operating charges	10.2918	(2.0987)	9.3707
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.7722)	(0.7505)	(0.8900)
	Return after operating charges *	9.5196	(2.8492)	8.4807
	Closing net asset value per share**	123.5641	114.0445	116.8937
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	4.5513	3.8991	3.5218
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	0.0115	0.0451
D (	**after dilution adjustment of	0.13%	0.04%	0.15%
Performance	Return after charges	8.35%	(2.44%)	7.82%
Other information				
	Closing net asset value	£15,312,394	£13,057,760	£8,656,998
	Closing number of shares	12,408,308	11,454,346	7,417,312
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.65%	0.65%	0.79%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.01%	0.04%
Prices				
	Highest share price	123.5820	118.5844	116.8937
	Lowest share price	110.9285	108.8204	108.4784
I (Income)				
I (Income)		Year ended 31	Year to 31 March	Year to 31 March
I (Income)		Year ended 31 March 2024	Year to 31 March 2022	Year to 31 March 2021
	ets ner share	March 2024	2022	2021
I (Income) Changes in net ass		March 2024 GBp	<b>2022</b> GBp	<b>2021</b> GBp
	Opening net asset value per share	<b>March 2024</b> GBp 99.5119	<b>2022</b> GBp 105.5473	<b>2021</b> GBp 100.9789
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges	March 2024  GBp 99.5119 8.7288	2022 GBp 105.5473 (1.9019)	GBp 100.9789 8.6162
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604)	GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664)	GBp 100.9789 8.6162 (0.8158)
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604) 8.0684	GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664) (2.5683)	GBp 100.9789 8.6162 (0.8158) 7.8004
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604)	GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664)	GBp 100.9789 8.6162 (0.8158)
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604) 8.0684 (3.9030)	GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664) (2.5683) (3.4671) 99.5119	GBp 100.9789 8.6162 (0.8158) 7.8004 (3.2320) 105.5473
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604) 8.0684 (3.9030)	GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664) (2.5683) (3.4671)	GBp 100.9789 8.6162 (0.8158) 7.8004 (3.2320)
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of:	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604) 8.0684 (3.9030) 103.6773	GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664) (2.5683) (3.4671) 99.5119	GBp 100.9789 8.6162 (0.8158) 7.8004 (3.2320) 105.5473
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604) 8.0684 (3.9030) 103.6773	GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664) (2.5683) (3.4671) 99.5119 0.0103 0.04%	GBp 100.9789 8.6162 (0.8158) 7.8004 (3.2320) 105.5473 0.0413 0.15%
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604) 8.0684 (3.9030) 103.6773  - 0.13% 8.11%	GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664) (2.5683) (3.4671) 99.5119 0.0103 0.04% (2.43%)	2021  GBp 100.9789  8.6162 (0.8158) 7.8004 (3.2320) 105.5473  0.0413 0.15%  7.72%
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604) 8.0684 (3.9030) 103.6773  - 0.13% 8.11%	GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664) (2.5683) (3.4671) 99.5119 0.0103 0.04% (2.43%)	GBp 100.9789 8.6162 (0.8158) 7.8004 (3.2320) 105.5473 0.0413 0.15% 7.72%
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604) 8.0684 (3.9030) 103.6773  - 0.13% 8.11% £33,348,235 32,207,028	2022  GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664) (2.5683) (3.4671) 99.5119  0.0103 0.04% (2.43%)  £23,846,322 23,972,994	GBp 100.9789 8.6162 (0.8158) 7.8004 (3.2320) 105.5473  0.0413 0.15% 7.72%  £18,765,398 17,806,599
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604) 8.0684 (3.9030) 103.6773  - 0.13% 8.11%	GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664) (2.5683) (3.4671) 99.5119 0.0103 0.04% (2.43%)	GBp 100.9789 8.6162 (0.8158) 7.8004 (3.2320) 105.5473 0.0413 0.15% 7.72%
Changes in net ass	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604) 8.0684 (3.9030) 103.6773  - 0.13% 8.11% £33,348,235 32,207,028 0.65%	GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664) (2.5683) (3.4671) 99.5119 0.0103 0.04% (2.43%) £23,846,322 23,972,994 0.65%	GBp 100.9789 8.6162 (0.8158) 7.8004 (3.2320) 105.5473 0.0413 0.15% 7.72% £18,765,398 17,806,599 0.79%
Changes in net ass  Performance  Other information	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2) Direct transaction costs	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604) 8.0684 (3.9030) 103.6773  - 0.13% 8.11% £33,348,235 32,207,028 0.65%	GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664) (2.5683) (3.4671) 99.5119 0.0103 0.04% (2.43%) £23,846,322 23,972,994 0.65%	GBp 100.9789 8.6162 (0.8158) 7.8004 (3.2320) 105.5473 0.0413 0.15% 7.72% £18,765,398 17,806,599 0.79%
Changes in net ass  Performance  Other information	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 99.5119 8.7288 (0.6604) 8.0684 (3.9030) 103.6773  - 0.13% 8.11% £33,348,235 32,207,028 0.65% 0.00%	2022  GBp 105.5473 (1.9019) (0.6664) (2.5683) (3.4671) 99.5119  0.0103 0.04% (2.43%)  £23,846,322 23,972,994 0.65% 0.01%	2021  GBp 100.9789  8.6162 (0.8158) 7.8004 (3.2320) 105.5473  0.0413 0.15%  7.72%  £18,765,398 17,806,599 0.79% 0.04%

## **Financial Highlights (Continued)**

### Class Income IP3

Olass medine ii s		Period to 4 January 2022^^
Changes in net ass	sets per share	GBp
Ü	Opening net asset value per share	101.9402
	Return before operating charges	7.8999
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.6177)
	Return after operating charges *	7.2822
	Distribution on income shares	(2.6504)
	Closing net asset value per share**	106.5720
	*after direct transactions costs of:	0.0417
	**after dilution adjustment of	(0.16%)
Performance	Return after charges	7.14%
Other information		
	Closing net asset value	-
	Closing number of shares	-
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.79%
	Direct transaction costs	0.04%
Prices		
	Highest share price	106.6731

<sup>^^</sup>Share class closed on 4 January 2022

Lowest share price

- 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 plus the costs of the open-end funds the Sub-fund holds.

### **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 (31 March 2023: ranked 4). The Sub-fund is ranked 4 because monthly historical performance data indicates that it has experienced average rises and falls in market prices historically. The higher the rank, the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money.

102.0014

## PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

As at 31 March	2024		
Holding		Value £	% of net assets
	Collective Investment Schemes (31.03.2023: 16.70%)		
2 739 329	iShares Overseas Corporate Bond Index	3,398,116	6.99%
	State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund	1,277,109	2.62%
	Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index	5,422,243	11.18%
	Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust	1,080,294	2.23%
	Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund	975,031	2.01%
0,040	Valigual a Fuolito ox Supul Clook Indox Fulla	12,152,793	25.03%
	Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 78.22%)		
17 024	Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF	437,256	0.90%
,	Fidelity Emerging Markets Quality Income UCITS ETF	2,906,657	5.99%
	Fidelity US Quality Income UCITS ETF		
	Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	2,917,425	6.01%
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	338,085	0.70%
	Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF	7,290,352	15.03%
·	Invesco S&P 500 High Dividend Low Volatility UCITS ETF	2,007,966	4.14%
,	iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF	6,815,662	14.05%
,	iShares Core UK Gilts UCITS ETF	172,516	0.36%
	iShares UK Property UCITS ETF	1,290,794	2.66%
	iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	220,612	0.45%
	iShares MSCI Europe Quality Dividend ESG UCITS ETF	1,466,531	3.02%
,	Vanguard FTSE Japan UCITS ETF	2,962,222	6.11%
44,129	Vanguard USD Emerging Markets Government Bond UCITS ETF	1,472,143	3.03%
		30,298,221	62.45%
	Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 4.75%)		
,	UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028	338,823	0.70%
,	UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030	334,491	0.69%
,	UK GILT 0.125% 30-01-2026	133,733	0.28%
498,100	UK GILT 0.375% 22-10-2030	399,974	0.82%
140,000	UK GILT 0.625% 07-06-2025	133,700	0.28%
358,000	UK GILT 1.75% 07-09-2037	269,431	0.56%
146,000	UK GILT 1.25% 22-07-2027	133,794	0.28%
387,400	UK GILT 4.25% 07-06-2032	398,596	0.82%
161,000	UK GILT 3.25% 22-01-2044	136,441	0.28%
	UK GILT 3.75% 22-07-2052	319,286	0.66%
360,000	UK GILT 3.75% 22-10-2053	319,619	0.66%
		2,917,888	6.03%
	Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 99.67%)	45,368,902	93.51%
	Net other assets (31.03.2023: (0.33%))	3,149,250	6.49%
		48,518,152	100.00%

# SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES

Total purchases for the year (note 14)	£ 31,972,738
Invesco GBP Corporate Bond UCITS ETF  Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index Insight Liquidity Funds plc iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF  State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF iShares MSCI Europe Quality Dividend ESG UCITS ETF iShares Overseas Corporate Bond Index  Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund iShares Core Corporate Bond UCITS ETF  Various other purchases	7,260,760 5,047,323 4,251,044 2,046,860 2,037,005 1,471,250 1,339,806 1,061,802 930,916 850,874 5,675,098
Total sales for the year (note 14)	£ 25,410,203
Insight Liquidity Funds plc iShares Core Corporate Bond UCITS ETF Fidelity Emerging Markets Quality Income UCITS ETF Invesco S&P 500 High Dividend Low Volatility UCITS ETF iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF JPMorgan ETFs (Ireland) ICAV Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor UCITS ETF Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF Invesco FTSE Emerging Markets High Dividend Low Volatility UCITS ETF Vanguard FTSE Developed Asia Pacific ex Japan USD ETF iShares Overseas Corporate Bond Index Various other sales	6,252,193 4,513,748 3,234,235 1,909,082 1,857,554 1,581,601 1,404,066 1,231,446 1,061,491 905,420 1,459,367

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

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

			202	4	2023	3
la a a una		Notes	£	£	£	£
Income	Net capital gains/(losses)	2		2,090,440		(1,833,355)
	Revenue	3	1,865,646		1,324,096	
Expenses		4	(253,718)		(206,998)	
Interest pay	able and similar charges	6 _	(36)	_	(3)	
Net revenue	e before taxation		1,611,892		1,117,095	
Taxation		5 _	(154,360)	_	(66,167)	
Net revenue	e after taxation		_	1,457,532	_	1,050,928
Total return	before distributions			3,547,972		(782,427)
Finance cos	sts: distributions	6	_	(1,671,436)		(1,133,396)
	net assets attributable to ers from investment activities		_	1,876,536	_	(1,915,823)

## For the year ended 31 March

To the year ended of march	2024 £	2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	36,813,490	27,372,969
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	18,515,689	16,532,598
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(9,232,131)	(5,564,526)
Accumulation dividends retained	544,568	388,272
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	1,876,536	(1,915,823)
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	48,518,152	36,813,490

## **BALANCE SHEET**

As at		31.03.2	024	31.03.2	023
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Investment assets			45,368,902		36,693,152
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	275,315		274,616	
Cash and bank balances	8	3,683,171		195,387	
Total current assets			3,958,486	_	470,003
Total assets			49,327,388		37,163,155
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors	9	(541,424)		(186,550)	
Bank overdraft	8	-		(7,095)	
Distribution payable on income shares		(267,812)		(156,020)	
Total current liabilities		_	(809,236)	_	(349,665)
Net assets attributable to shareholders			48,518,152	_	36,813,490

## For the year ended 31 March 2024

## 1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting polices, which have been applied in both the current and prior year, are set out on pages 7-8.

2 Net capital gains/(losses)	2024 £	2023 £
The net capital gains/(losses) comprise:	~	~
Non-derivative securities gains/(losses)	2,090,811	(1,834,005)
Foreign exchange (losses)	(34)	(4)
Transaction costs	(337)	654
Total net capital gains/(losses)	2,090,440	(1,833,355)
3 Revenue	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-taxable dividends	840,093	786,258
Interest on non-derivative securities	833,416	376,774
Investment manager rebates	63,256	122,663
Rebates from underlying holdings	2,363	2,323
Stock lending income	10,376	14,788
Bank and other interest	116,142	21,290
Total revenue	1,865,646	1,324,096
, 5.5	.,,000,010	.,02.,000
4 Expenses	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them.		
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:	229 520	102.762
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager,	228,529	182,762
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge	228,529	182,762
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the	228,529	182,762
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:	<u>228,529</u> 11,926	182,762
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee	11,926	
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:		12,000
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody fee	11,926 4,155	12,000 4,333
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses:	11,926 4,155 16,081	12,000 4,333 16,333
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses: Audit fee	11,926 4,155 16,081	12,000 4,333 16,333
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses: Audit fee FCA fee	11,926 4,155 16,081 3,513 22	12,000 4,333 16,333 3,330 47
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses: Audit fee	11,926 4,155 16,081 3,513 22 5,573	12,000 4,333 16,333 3,330 47 4,526
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses: Audit fee FCA fee	11,926 4,155 16,081 3,513 22	12,000 4,333 16,333 3,330 47
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them: Annual management charge  Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them: Depositary fee Safe custody fee  Other expenses: Audit fee FCA fee	11,926 4,155 16,081 3,513 22 5,573	12,000 4,333 16,333 3,330 47 4,526

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

5 Taxation	2024	2023
	£	£
(a) Analysis of charge in the year		
UK corporation tax	154,360	66,167
Total tax charge for the year (note 5b)	154,360	66,167
(b) Factors affecting current tax charge for the year  The tax assessed for the year is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an open-ended investment company 20.00% (2023: 20.00%) The differences are explained below:		
Net revenue before UK corporation tax	1,611,892	1,117,095
Corporation tax at 20.00% (2023: 20.00%) Effects of:	322,378	223,419
Revenue not subject to UK corporation tax	(168,018)	(157,252)
Total tax charge for the year (note 5a)	154,360	66,167

## (c) Provision for deferred taxation

At 31 March 2024 there is a potential deferred tax asset of £Nil in relation to surplus management expenses (31 March 2023: £Nil).

6 Finance costs	2024 £	2023 £
Interim dividend distributions	1,356,465	971,217
Final dividend distribution	328,144	179,155
	1,684,609	1,150,372
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares	14,275	7,272
Deduct: Revenue received on issue of shares	(27,448)	(24,248)
Net distribution for the period	1,671,436	1,133,396
Interest payable and similar charges	36	3
Total finance costs	1,671,472	1,133,399
Reconciliation of distributions		
Net revenue after taxation	1,457,532	1,050,928
Expenses less rebates paid from capital	190,462	84,335
Equalisation from collectives allocated to revenue	38,196	-
Relief on expenses allocated to capital	(38,092)	(16,867)
Balance brought forward	(39,131)	(24,131)
Balance carried forward	62,469	39,131
Net distribution for the period	1,671,436	1,133,396

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

7 Debtors	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	79,106	187,869
Amounts receivable on orealion of shares	73,100	107,003
Accrued Revenue:		
Non-taxable dividends receivable	23,777	13,946
Interest on non-derivative securities receivable	166,231	47,601
Investment manager rebates	5,666 245	21,860 210
Rebates from underlying holdings Stock lending income receivable	245	685
Prepayment	290	2,445
Total debtors	275,315	274,616
Total desicol	270,010	214,010
8 Cash and bank balances	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Cash and bank balances	3,683,171	195,387
Bank overdraft	-	(7,095)
		( , , ,
9 Creditors	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Amounta navable on concellation of shares	140 157	70 740
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares  Amounts payable on unsettled trades	149,157 212,383	72,740
Amounts payable on unsettled trades	212,303	-
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager,		
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager,		
and agents of either of them:		
Annual management charge	18,693	40,300
Payable to the depositary, associates of the		
depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee	918	1,019
Safe custody and other custodian charges	2,157	2,837
	3,075	3,856
UK corporation tax	154,360	66,167
Other accrued expenses	3,756	3,487
Total creditors	541,424	186,550

### 11 Risk management

In pursuing its investment objective as stated on page 116, the Sub-fund holds a number of financial instruments. The Sub-fund's financial instruments comprise securities and other investments, cash balances, debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations, for example, in respect of sales and purchases awaiting settlement, amounts receivable for issues and payable for redemptions and debtors for accrued revenue.

The main risks arising from the Sub-funds financial instruments, those of its underlying holdings and the AFM's policies for managing these risks are summarised below. These policies have been applied throughout the year.

#### Market price risk

Market price risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices caused by factors other than interest rate or foreign currency movement. Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments the Sub-fund holds. It represents the potential loss the Sub-fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is exposed to market price fluctuations, which are monitored by the AFM in pursuance of the investment objective and policy as set out in the Prospectus.

Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Instrument of Incorporation, the Prospectus and in the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

If market prices at the Balance Sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £4,536,890 (31 March 2023: £3,669,315).

#### Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is invested in funds that are registered overseas and collective investment scheme which invest in overseas securities and the balance sheet can be affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The AFM may seek to manage exposure to currency movements by using forward exchange contracts or by hedging the Sterling value of investments that are priced in other currencies. Revenue received in other currencies is converted to Sterling on or near the date of receipt.

Net currency assets and liabilities consist of:

	Net monetary ass	Net monetary assets and liabilities		Non-monetary assets		t assets
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
Sterling	3,138,130	114,907	45,368,902	36,693,152	48,507,032	36,808,059
US Dollar	11,120	5,431	-	-	11,120	5,431
Total	3,138,130	114,907	45,368,902	36,693,152	48,518,152	36,813,490

If foreign exchange rates at the balance sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £1,112 (31 March 2023: £543).

### 11 Risk management (Continued)

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk to portfolio value due to changes in interest rates. The magnitude of the exposure from an adverse change in interest rates depends on the sensitivity of the instrument to changes in interest rates as well as the absolute change in interest rates. In general, values of long-term instruments are more sensitive to interest rate changes than the values of short-term instruments.

The Sub-fund takes on interest rate risk when the investment manager believes the expected returns compensate for the risk, limited by the investment objective, policy and any prospectus rules. The investment manager monitors the level of interest rate risk in the fund on a regular basis. In addition any cash deposits in the Sub-fund are linked to SONIA, ensuring interest income increases as interest rates increase.

The table below details the interest rate risk profile at the balance sheet date:

	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Financial assets floating rate	3,683,171	195,387
Financial assets interest bearing instruments	17,086,821	15,192,922
Financial assets non-interest bearing instruments	28,557,396	21,774,846
Financial liabilities non-interest bearing instruments	(809,236)	(342,570)
Financial liabilities floating rate	-	(7,095)
	48,518,152	36,813,490

At 31 March 2024, if interest rates increased or decreased by 0.25%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the Sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £16,503 (31 March 2023: £4,874).

### Maturity of financial liabilities

The financial liabilities of the Sub-fund as at 31 March 2024 are payable either within one year or on demand.

#### Liquidity risk

The Sub-fund's assets comprise mainly of readily realisable securities. The main liability of the Sub-fund is the redemption of any shares that the investors wish to sell. Assets of the Sub-fund may need to be sold if insufficient cash is available to finance such redemptions.

#### Credit risk

Certain transactions in securities that the Sub-fund enters into expose it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the investment for a purchase, or cash for a sale after the Sub-fund has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Sub-fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the AFM as acceptable counterparties and fund management companies. In addition, limits are set to the exposure to any individual broker that may exist at any time and changes in brokers' financial ratings are reviewed. Indirect credit risk arises from holdings in collectives that invest in debt securities as any default or perceived risk of default will affect the valuation of such holdings.

#### Fair value disclosure

The fair value hierarchy is intended to prioritise the inputs that are used to measure the fair value of assets and liabilities. The highest priority is given to quoted prices and the lowest priority to un-observable inputs. The criteria applied to the fair values levels in these financial statements are as follows:

- Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an identical instrument;
- Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other than quoted prices within level 1;
- Level 3: Valuation techniques using unobservable inputs.

	31.03.2024		31.03	.2023
	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
Valuation Technique	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)
Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an				
identical instrument	33,216	-	30,549	-
Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other				
than quoted prices within level 1	12,153	1	6,144	-
Total	45,369	•	36,693	-

### 10 Shares held

1 (	Accumu	lation)
_		_

Opening Shares at 01.04.2023	11,454,346
Shares issued during the year	5,079,749
Shares cancelled during the year	(3,646,209)
Shares converted during the year	(479,578)
Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024	12,408,308

I (Income)

Opening Shares at 01.04.202323,972,994Shares issued during the year12,728,244Shares cancelled during the year(5,054,195)Shares converted during the year559,985Closing Shares as at 31.03.202432,207,028

## 12 Contingent assets and liabilities

At 31 March 2024, the Sub-fund had no contingent liabilities or commitments (31 March 2023: £nil).

### 13 Post balance sheet events

As indicated in the accounting policies in Note 1, the investments have been valued at the closing valuation point on 28 March 2024. Since that date, the Sub-fund's quoted mid-price has moved as follows for each share class:

Share class	Price at 28 March 2024	Price at 18 July 2024
I (Accumulation)	123.5641p	125.8402p
I (Income)	103.6773p	104.9757p

#### 14 Direct transactions costs

	2024		2023		
	£	%	£	%	
Analysis of total purchase costs					
Purchases in the year before transaction	31,972,688		48,549,138		
Commissions	50	0.00%	276	0.00%	
Taxes & levies	-	0.00%	504	0.00%	
Total purchase costs	50	0.00%	780	0.00%	
Total purchases including transaction	31,972,738	_	48,549,918		
Analysis of total sale costs					
Sales in the year before transaction costs	25,410,203		37,465,204		
Commissions	-	(0.00%)	(2,348)	(0.01%)	
Total sale costs	-	(0.00%)	(2,348)	(0.01%)	
Total sales net of transaction costs	25,410,203	_	37,462,856		

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the Sub-fund's average net asset value in the year:

	2024	% of average	2023	% of average
	£	net asset value	£	net asset value
Commissions	50	0.00%	2,624	0.01%
Taxes & levies	-	0.00%	504	0.00%
Total	50	0.00%	3.128	0.01%

## 15 Portfolio Dealing Spread

The average portfolio dealing spread at 31 March 2024 is 0.24% (31 March 2023: 0.23%).

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

### 16 Stock lending

The Sub-fund enters into stock lending arrangements with various counterparties. At the balance sheet date the bid value of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £1,464,239). The value of collateral held in respect of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £1,537,454).

Counterparty	2024		202	23
	Value of stock on loan	Collateral	Value of stock on loan	Collateral
	£	£	£	£
Société Générale	-	_	538,045	564,951
Citigroup Global Markets Limited	-	-	926,194	972,503
	-	-	1,464,239	1,537,454
Collateral by asset class		2024 £		2023 £
		L		L
Equities		-		564,950
Government bonds		-		972,504
	_	-	- -	1,537,454
Analysis of stock lending income		2024		2023
, c		£		£
Gross stock lending income		14,823		21,126
Fees paid to the custodian		(4,447)		(6,338)
•	_	10,376	-	14,788

### 17 Related party transactions

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited, as AFM is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the Sub-fund.

Amounts paid to the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amounts due to the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 9. Amounts received from the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 3. Amounts due from the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 7.

## **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

### 1st Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 April 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 April 2023 and on or before 30 April 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 31.05.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2023	Distribution 31.05.2022
Group 1	0.3940p	-	0.3940p	0.1289p
Group 2	0.2314p	0.1626p	0.3940p	0.1289p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 31.05.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2023	Distribution 31.05.2022
Group 1	0.3438p	-	0.3438p	0.1164p
Group 2	0.2355p	0.1083p	0.3438p	0.1164p

### 2nd Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 May 2023

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

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 30.06.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.06.2023	Distribution 30.06.2022
Group 1	0.2955p	-	0.2955p	0.3826p
Group 2	0.1232p	0.1723p	0.2955p	0.3826p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 30.06.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.06.2023	Distribution 30.06.2022
Group 1	0.2570p	-	0.2570p	0.3451p
Group 2	0.1992p	0.0578p	0.2570p	0.3451p

## 3rd Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 June 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 June 2023 and on or before 30 June 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 31.07.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 31.07.2023	Distribution 29.07.2022
Group 1	0.6656p	-	0.6656p	0.4898p
Group 2	0.3926p	0.2730p	0.6656p	0.4898p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 31.07.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 31.07.2023	Distribution 29.07.2022
Group 1	0.5772p	-	0.5772p	0.4403p
Group 2	0.4167p	0.1605p	0.5772p	0.4403p

### 4th Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 July 2023

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

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 31.08.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 31.08.2023	Distribution 31.08.2022
Group 1	-	-	-	0.1876p
Group 2	-	-	-	0.1876p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 31.08.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 31.08.2023	Distribution 31.08.2022
Group 1	-	-	-	0.1679p
Group 2	-	-	-	0.1679p

## 5th Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 August 2023

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

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 29.09.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 29.09.2023	Distribution 30.09.2022
Group 1	0.3236p	-	0.3236p	0.2203p
Group 2	0.1279p	0.1957p	0.3236p	0.2203p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 29.09.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 29.09.2023	Distribution 30.09.2022
Group 1	0.2791p	-	0.2791p	0.1969p
Group 2	0.1292p	0.1499p	0.2791p	0.1969p

### 6th Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 September 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 September 2023 and on or before 30 September 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 31.10.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 31.10.2023	Distribution 31.10.2022
Group 1	0.7784p	-	0.7784p	0.5560p
Group 2	0.4470p	0.3314p	0.7784p	0.5560p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 31.10.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 31.10.2023	Distribution 31.10.2022
Group 1	0.6692p	-	0.6692p	0.4954p
Group 2	0.3391p	0.3301p	0.6692p	0.4954p

### 7th 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 October 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 30.11.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.11.2023	Distribution 30.11.2022
Group 1	0.0393p	-	0.0393p	0.0195p
Group 2	0.0116p	0.0277p	0.0393p	0.0195p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 30.11.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.11.2023	Distribution 30.11.2022
Group 1	0.0336p	-	0.0336p	0.0173p
Group 2	0.0061p	0.0275p	0.0336p	0.0173p

## 8th Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 November 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 November 2023 and on or before 30 November 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 29.12.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 29.12.2023	Distribution 30.12.2022
Group 1	0.4642p	-	0.4642p	0.2967p
Group 2	0.3323p	0.1319p	0.4642p	0.2967p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 29.12.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 29.12.2023	Distribution 30.12.2022
Group 1	0.3962p	-	0.3962p	0.2632p
Group 2	0.0299p	0.3663p	0.3962p	0.2632p

### 9th Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 December 2023

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

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 31.01.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.01.2024	Distribution 31.01.2023
Group 1	0.5365p	-	0.5365p	0.6018p
Group 2	0.2790p	0.2575p	0.5365p	0.6018p
I (Income)	Net Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution

I (Income)	Net Revenue 31.01.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.01.2024	Distribution 31.01.2023
Group 1	0.4561p	-	0.4561p	0.5326p
Group 2	0.1100p	0.3461p	0.4561p	0.5326p

## 10th 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 January 2024

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
	29.02.2024		29.02.2024	28.02.2023
Group 1	0.0669p	-	0.0669p	0.2709p
Group 2	0.0062p	0.0607p	0.0669p	0.2709p
I (Income)	Net Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
,	29.02.2024		29.02.2024	28.02.2023
Group 1	0.0566p	-	0.0566p	0.2385p
Group 2	0.0140p	0.0426p	0.0566p	0.2385p

### 11th Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 February 2024

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 February 2024 and on or before 28 February 2024

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	0.1590p	-	0.1590p	0.1933p
Group 2	0.0464p	0.1126p	0.1590p	0.1933p
I (Income)	Net Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
	28.03.2024		28.03.2024	31.03.2023
Group 1	0.1345p	-	0.1345p	0.1698p
Group 2	0.0655p	0.0690p	0.1345p	0.1698p

### Final distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 March 2024

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

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
	30.04.2024		30.04.2024	28.04.2023
Group 1	0.8283p	-	0.8283p	0.5517p
Group 2	0.3127p	0.5156p	0.8283p	0.5517p
I (Income)	Net Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
	30.04.2024		30.04.2024	28.04.2023
Group 1	0.6997p	-	0.6997p	0.4837p

0.6997p

### Information for corporate shareholders

Group 2

A corporate shareholder receives the distribution shown on the voucher enclosed with this report as follows:

0.3659p

- i) 46.67% of the total dividend allocation together with the tax credit is received as franked investment income.
- ii) 53.33% of the dividend allocation is received as an annual payment received after deduction of income tax at the lower rate and is liable to corporation tax. It is not franked investment income.

0.4837p

## SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS (UNAUDITED)

As at 31 March 202	4							
GLOBAL DATA								
Proportion of secu	rities and c	ommodities o	n loan			£	%	
Total lendable asset	s excluding	cash and cash	equivalents:			45,368,902		
Securities and comm	nodities on l	oan				-	0.00%	
Assets engaged in	SFTs and t	otal return sw	aps			£	%	
Fund assets under n	nanagemen	t (AUM)	-			48,518,152		
Absolute value of as	sets engage	ed in:						
Securities lending						-	0.00%	
CONCENTRATION	DATA							
Top 10 Collateral Is	suers							
Name and value of	collateral a	nd commoditi	ies received			£		
Top 10 Counterpar	ties							
Name and value of		g transactions	<b>S</b>			£		
Securities lending						~		
AGGREGATE TRAI	NSACTION	ΠΔΤΔ						
Type, Quality and C								
Type	anono, o	Quality			Currencies	£		
Securities lending								
Maturity Tenor of C	Less than one day	One day to one week	One week to one month	One to three months	Three months to one year	Above one year	Open maturity	Total
Type	£		£	£	£	£	£	£
Securities lending _	-	-	-	-	<del>-</del>	-	-	
		0	0.	-441				
Counterparty detail		Countries of	50	ettlement and		c		
Туре		Counterparty		Clearing		£		
Maturity Tenor of S							_	
		•			Three months	Above one	Open	T.4.1
Tura	one day		one month	months	to one year	year £	transactions	Total
Type Securities lending	£		£	£	£		£	£
Securilles lending _	-	-	-	-	-	<u>-</u>	-	<u>-</u>
RE-USE OF COLLA	TEDAI							
The Sub-fund does		in re-use of col	lateral.					
			_					
SAFEKEEPING OF					•			
Names and value on Number of custodian			g collateral		£			
		5						
RETURN AND COS		Investment	Manage	er of collective	т	hird Parties (e.g.		
		Undertaking	•	nt undertaking	•	lending agent)		Total
		£		£		£		£
Securities Lending								
Gross return		10,376		4,447		-		14,823
% of total gross retu	rn	70.00%		30.00%		0.00%		100.00%

#### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund

VT AJ Bell Income and Growth

Size of Sub-fund

£59,394,438

Launch date

08 April 2019

Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of the VT AJ Bell Income & Growth is to achieve capital growth in line with the Consumer Prices Index whilst also generating income over a typical investment cycle (5-10 years) through a focus on exposure to equities (particularly those with above average dividend yield). The Sub-fund has a target average yield of 3-5 % per annum (over a trailing three-year period), which is not guaranteed and may be subject to change as the assumptions on which target the target was calculated may change.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objective by investing mainly in other collective investment schemes (especially in the early stages of the Sub-fund's growth) (including those managed or operated by the AFM) and those with both passive and active strategies) and so provide exposure to equities (particularly those which the Investment Manager considers to have dividend yields above the average for the relevant regional stock markets and including investment trusts) and bonds as well as alternative asset classes (such as property and infrastructure). The Sub-fund is also expected to invest directly in equities and bonds. The Sub-fund may also invest in, transferable securities, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

The Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus although, as the Sub-fund has a dual mandate of both capital growth and sustainable income there will be a focus on higher income generating assets as well as those which are expected to generate capital growth. Lower yielding assets will also be used to ensure diversification. The Sub-fund may have exposure to emerging markets through its investments in e.g. collective investment schemes or direct equities.

Derivatives:

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives only for efficient portfolio management purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for efficient portfolio management purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Benchmark:

The Sub-fund does not have a specific benchmark. However, the performance of the Sub-fund can be assessed by considering whether the target average yield (3-5% per annum over a trailing three year period) is achieved.

**Ex-distribution dates** 

31 March, 30 April, 31 May, 30 June, 31 July, 31 August, 30 September, 31 October, 30 November, 31 December, 31 January, Last day of February

**Distribution dates** 

30 April, 31 May, 30 June, 31 July, 31 August, 30 September, 31 October, 30 November, 31 December, 31 January, Last day of February and 31 March

**Individual Savings Account (ISA)** 

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

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

Share classes I (Accumulation, Income)

Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: All share classes = £1,000

Top up: All share classes = £25

Holding: All share classes = £1

Redemption: All share classes = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Switching: All share classes = N/A(provided minimum holding is maintained)

Initial, redemption and switching charges Ni

### **Annual Management charges**

I (Accumulation, Income) = 0.65%

The above percentage being percentage of the net asset value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant Class (plus VAT if applicable).

From the 4 January 2022 an all-in fee was introduced which results in all the operating charges being taken out of the Annual Management charge shown above. This will result in future ongoing charges figures to be the same as the Annual Management charge. For more information about charges, please see sections 3.6 ("Dealing Charges") & 7 ("Fees and Expenses") of the prospectus.

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

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

In each of the last three years the fund has provided a yield in line with its objective (3-5%); with the I Inc share class delivering 3.9% in 2024, 3.8% in 2023 and 3.6% in 2022 (when measured against the average of the respective opening and closing net asset value per share). Over the twelve months, the I Acc share class of the fund returned 10.5%. The fund managed the volatility in bond markets well over the year and was well positioned in riskier global high yield bonds. The equity market exposure within the fund is diversified by region. Holdings in US and Japanese equities performed well over the year, whilst those in Emerging markets and the UK were laggards.

Activity in the nine months of 2023 applicable to this report related to the management of the fund's concentration in certain holdings. Within high yield bonds these included the State Street Global High Yield Bond ESG Screened Index Fund, the Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG ETF and the JPMorgan Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor ETF, which was subsequently removed from the fund in July. A new holding in the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF was consequently added to the fund in May. Activity in UK equities also fell into this camp, with a partial sale of Lyxor Core Morningstar UK ETF being replaced with the Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Unit Trust.

The asset allocation of the fund is broken down by asset class and currency. We think of it in terms of; UK (GBP) Cash and Bonds, International (non-GBP) bonds, UK equities, International (non-GBP) equities and Alternatives. In January 2024 the fund was repositioned as part of the annual Strategic Asset Allocation (SAA) project.

No changes were made to the allocations to UK (GBP) cash and bonds or international (non-GBP) bonds.

Within equities, we maintained the allocation to the UK, however within international equities increased the allocation to Japan and Europe on valuation grounds, funded by sales in the US of the Invesco S&P 500 High Dividend Low Volatility ETF. This also involved a partial sale of the iShares MSCI World Quality Dividend ETF, used to fund the increased allocations to Japan and Europe whilst also maintaining our desired country allocations in other regions.

Two other switches were made as part of the SAA repositioning. Firstly, we partially sold the Fidelity Emerging Markets Quality Income ETF and Invesco FTSE Emerging Markets High Dividend Low Volatility ETF, using the proceeds to buy the Vanguard Emerging Markets Index Plus fund, to take advantage of cheaper product pricing and to reflect that the higher income of those ETFs is not necessary for the fund to meet its income objective at present. In Asia we sold the Vanguard FTSE Developed Asia Pacific ex Japan ETF and replaced with the Vanguard Pacific ex Japan Index Plus fund, this better reflects the desired country allocation and is a cheaper product. No changes were made to the allocation to Alternatives.

There have been several narratives that look to explain the strong start to the year that equity markets have made. Our observation is that there appears to be an element of 'reacceleration' taking place in the global economy, however, we do not seek to reposition the fund based on short-term trends, sentiment or market narratives. Instead, the fund remains positioned to meet its volatility target and capture returns in a diversified manner.

AJ Bell Asset Management Limited Investment Manager of the Fund 19 June 2024

## PERFORMANCE RECORD

## **Financial Highlights**

# I (Accumulation)

		Year ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Changes in net asse	ets per share Opening net asset value per share	GBp 114.5062	GBp 114.8439	GBp 105.6925
	Return before operating charges	12.8065	0.4077	10.0335
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.7834)	(0.7454)	(0.8821)
	Return after operating charges *	12.0231	(0.3377)	9.1514
	Closing net asset value per share**	126.5293	114.5062	114.8439
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	4.6763	4.3201	3.9231
	*after direct transactions costs of:	-	0.0115	0.0331
Performance	**after dilution adjustment of	0.09%	0.16%	0.18%
	Return after charges	10.50%	(0.29%)	8.66%
Other information				
	Closing net asset value	£25,039,864	£20,458,765	£18,537,629
	Closing number of shares	19,807,892	17,894,840	16,171,309
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.65%	0.65%	0.80%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.01%	0.03%
Prices	Highest share price	126.5293	119.0969	115.5781
	Lowest share price	111.5497	106.7765	105.7821
I (Income)		Year ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Changes in net asse	-t			
Onlanges in her assi	ais ner snare	GBn	GBn	GBn
		GBp 99.1519	GBp 103.3447	GBp 98.5176
	Opening net asset value per share	99.1519	GBp 103.3447 0.2881	98.5176
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges		103.3447	
	Opening net asset value per share	99.1519 10.7393	103.3447 0.2881	98.5176 9.2331
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	99.1519 10.7393 (0.6643) 10.0750 (3.9767)	103.3447 0.2881 (0.6581)	98.5176 9.2331 (0.8074)
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *	99.1519 10.7393 (0.6643) 10.0750	103.3447 0.2881 (0.6581) (0.3700)	98.5176 9.2331 (0.8074) 8.4257
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares	99.1519 10.7393 (0.6643) 10.0750 (3.9767)	103.3447 0.2881 (0.6581) (0.3700) (3.8228)	98.5176 9.2331 (0.8074) 8.4257 (3.5986)
Performance	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**	99.1519 10.7393 (0.6643) 10.0750 (3.9767)	103.3447 0.2881 (0.6581) (0.3700) (3.8228) 99.1519	98.5176 9.2331 (0.8074) 8.4257 (3.5986) 103.3447
Performance	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share** *after direct transactions costs of:	99.1519 10.7393 (0.6643) 10.0750 (3.9767) 105.2502	103.3447 0.2881 (0.6581) (0.3700) (3.8228) 99.1519	98.5176 9.2331 (0.8074) 8.4257 (3.5986) 103.3447 0.0303
Performance Other information	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges	99.1519 10.7393 (0.6643) 10.0750 (3.9767) 105.2502	103.3447 0.2881 (0.6581) (0.3700) (3.8228) 99.1519 0.0101 0.16%	98.5176 9.2331 (0.8074) 8.4257 (3.5986) 103.3447 0.0303 0.18%
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value	99.1519 10.7393 (0.6643) 10.0750 (3.9767) 105.2502 - 0.09% 10.16%	103.3447 0.2881 (0.6581) (0.3700) (3.8228) 99.1519 0.0101 0.16% (0.36%)	98.5176 9.2331 (0.8074) 8.4257 (3.5986) 103.3447 0.0303 0.18% 8.55%
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	99.1519 10.7393 (0.6643) 10.0750 (3.9767) 105.2502 - 0.09% 10.16% £34,458,823 32,769,855	103.3447 0.2881 (0.6581) (0.3700) (3.8228) 99.1519 0.0101 0.16% (0.36%) £26,991,919 27,265,318	98.5176 9.2331 (0.8074) 8.4257 (3.5986) 103.3447 0.0303 0.18% 8.55% £23,422,734 22,706,395
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	99.1519 10.7393 (0.6643) 10.0750 (3.9767) 105.2502 0.09% 10.16% £34,458,823 32,769,855 0.65%	103.3447 0.2881 (0.6581) (0.3700) (3.8228) 99.1519 0.0101 0.16% (0.36%) £26,991,919 27,265,318 0.65%	98.5176 9.2331 (0.8074) 8.4257 (3.5986) 103.3447 0.0303 0.18% 8.55% £23,422,734 22,706,395 0.80%
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	99.1519 10.7393 (0.6643) 10.0750 (3.9767) 105.2502 - 0.09% 10.16% £34,458,823 32,769,855	103.3447 0.2881 (0.6581) (0.3700) (3.8228) 99.1519 0.0101 0.16% (0.36%) £26,991,919 27,265,318	98.5176 9.2331 (0.8074) 8.4257 (3.5986) 103.3447 0.0303 0.18% 8.55% £23,422,734 22,706,395
	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	99.1519 10.7393 (0.6643) 10.0750 (3.9767) 105.2502  - 0.09% 10.16% £34,458,823 32,769,855 0.65% 0.00%	103.3447 0.2881 (0.6581) (0.3700) (3.8228) 99.1519 0.0101 0.16% (0.36%) £26,991,919 27,265,318 0.65%	98.5176 9.2331 (0.8074) 8.4257 (3.5986) 103.3447 0.0303 0.18% 8.55% £23,422,734 22,706,395 0.80%
Other information	Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Return after charges  Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	99.1519 10.7393 (0.6643) 10.0750 (3.9767) 105.2502 0.09% 10.16% £34,458,823 32,769,855 0.65%	103.3447 0.2881 (0.6581) (0.3700) (3.8228) 99.1519 0.0101 0.16% (0.36%) £26,991,919 27,265,318 0.65%	98.5176 9.2331 (0.8074) 8.4257 (3.5986) 103.3447 0.0303 0.18% 8.55% £23,422,734 22,706,395 0.80%

## **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 plus the costs of the open-end funds the Sub-fund holds.

### **Risk Profile**

Based on past data, the Sub-fund is ranked a '5' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document (31 March 2023: ranked 5). The Sub-fund is ranked 5 because monthly historical performance data indicates that it has experienced relatively high rises and falls in market prices historically. The higher the rank, the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

# As at 31 March 2024

Holding		Value £	% of net assets
	Collective Investment Schemes (31.03.2023: 7.63%)		
175,832	State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund	1,514,511	2.55%
71,443	Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index	8,786,946	14.79%
31,046	Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust	3,699,404	6.23%
10,307	Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund	1,176,084	1.98%
		15,176,945	25.55%
	Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 89.61%)		
35,837	Amundi Prime Japan UCITS ETF	874,244	1.47%
	Fidelity Emerging Markets Quality Income UCITS ETF	5,906,162	9.94%
	Fidelity US Quality Income UCITS ETF	5,707,410	9.61%
38,506	Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	217,559	0.37%
179,232	Invesco S&P 500 High Dividend Low Volatility UCITS ETF	4,728,140	7.96%
526,610	iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	2,252,838	3.79%
	iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF	10,649,141	17.93%
678,002	iShares MSCI Europe Quality Dividend ESG UCITS ETF	3,557,476	5.99%
607,461	iShares MSCI World Quality Dividend UCITS ETF	3,272,696	5.51%
	iShares UK Property UCITS ETF	1,210,907	2.04%
	Vanguard FTSE Japan UCITS ETF	2,072,243	3.49%
53,478	Vanguard USD Emerging Markets Government Bond UCITS ETF	1,784,026	3.00%
		42,232,842	71.10%
	Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 1.16%)		
239,400	UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028	325,498	0.55%
69,700	UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030	239,364	0.40%
		564,862	0.95%
	Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 100.00%)	57,974,649	97.60%
	Net other assets (31.03.2023: (1.60%))	1,419,789	2.40%
		59,394,438	100.00%

# **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES**

Total purchases for the year (note 14)	£ 27,951,142
Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index Insight Liquidity Funds plc iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF iShares MSCI Europe Quality Dividend ESG UCITS ETF Fidelity Emerging Markets Quality Income UCITS ETF Invesco S&P 500 High Dividend Low Volatility UCITS ETF Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index Fund Vanguard FTSE U.K. All Share Index Unit Trust Various other purchases	8,166,857 3,179,211 2,179,604 2,031,665 1,957,148 1,808,588 1,294,622 1,280,795 1,122,684 810,968 4,119,000
Total sales for the year (note 14)	£ 20,284,863
Fidelity Emerging Markets Quality Income UCITS ETF Insight Liquidity Funds plc Invesco FTSE Emerging Markets High Dividend Low Volatility UCITS ETF Vanguard FTSE Developed Asia Pacific ex Japan USD ETF Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF iShares MSCI World Quality Dividend UCITS ETF Invesco S&P 500 High Dividend Low Volatility UCITS ETF JPMorgan ETFs (Ireland) ICAV Global High Yield Corporate Bond Multi-Factor UCITS ETF State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index Fund iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF Various other sales	4,606,504 4,493,686 2,314,817 2,081,147 1,994,512 1,405,995 1,239,764 1,220,218 539,913 279,147 109,160

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

# STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the ye	ar ended 31 March		2024	4	2023	•
		Notes	£ 2024	£	£ 2023	£
Income	Net capital gains/(losses)	2		3,675,820		(1,709,343)
	Revenue	3	2,213,924		1,935,511	
Expenses		4	(340,974)		(291,057)	
interest pa	yable and similar charges	6 _	(13)		(7)	
Net revenu	ue before taxation		1,872,937		1,644,447	
Taxation		5 _	(62,565)			
Net revenu	ue after taxation		_	1,810,372	_	1,644,447
Total returi	n before distributions			5,486,192		(64,896)
Finance co	osts: distributions	6	_	(2,084,664)	_	(1,705,849)
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		_	3,401,528	_	(1,770,745)	
STATEME	NT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSET	S ATTRIBUTAB	LE TO SHAREHO	OLDERS		
For the ye	ar ended 31 March			2024 £		2023 £
Opening n	net assets attributable to shareho	olders		47,389,541		41,893,812
Amounts receivable on creation of shares			19,928,615		14,353,488	
Amounts p	ayable on cancellation of shares			(12,206,386)		(7,832,019)
Accumulat	ion dividends retained			881,140		745,005
Ū	n net assets attributable to shareho activities (see above)	lders from	_	3,401,528		(1,770,745)

59,394,438

Closing net assets attributable to shareholders

47,389,541

# **BALANCE SHEET**

As at		31.03.2024		31.03.2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Investment assets			57,974,649		46,631,111
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	667,241		836,262	
Cash and bank balances	8	1,238,724		215,216	
Total current assets		_	1,905,965		1,051,478
Total assets			59,880,614		47,682,589
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors	9	(299,444)		(144,557)	
Bank overdraft	8	-		(3,961)	
Distribution payable on income shares		(186,732)		(144,530)	
Total current liabilities	_		(486,176)		(293,048)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		_	59,394,438	_	47,389,541

# For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting polices, which have been applied in both the current and prior year, are set out on pages 7-8.

2 Net capital gains/(losses)	2024 £	2023 £
The net capital gains/(losses) comprise:	L	L
Non-derivative securities gains/(losses)	3,676,010	(1,709,195)
Foreign exchange gains Transaction costs	12	3
Total net capital gains/(losses)	(202) 3,675,820	(151) (1,709,343)
Total Not depital gams/(100000)	0,070,020	(1,700,040)
3 Revenue	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-taxable dividends	1,553,332	1,541,851
Interest on non-derivative securities	455,650	143,957
Investment manager rebates	133,205	209,947
Rebates from underlying holdings	3,033	1,607
Stock lending income Bank and other interest	15,658 53,046	20,356 17,793
Total revenue	2,213,924	1,935,511
Total Potonia		1,000,011
4 Expenses	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:		
Annual management charge	312,878	265,228
Allida management diaige	012,070	200,220
Payable to the depositary, associates of the		
depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee	12,385	12,000
Safe custody fee	6,224	6,055
	18,609	18,055
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	3,513	3,330
FCA fee	21	89
FCA lee		
Other expenses	5,953	4,355
	5,953	4,355

5 Taxation	2024	2023
	£	£
(a) Analysis of charge in the year		
UK corporation tax	62,565	-
Total tax charge for the year (note 5b)	62,565	-
(b) Factors affecting current tax charge for the year		
The tax assessed for the year is lower than the		
standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an		
open-ended investment company 20.00% (2023: 20.00%)		
The differences are explained below:		
Net revenue before UK corporation tax	1,872,937	1,644,447
Corporation tax at 20.00% (2023: 20.00%)	374,587	328,889
Effects of:		
Revenue not subject to UK corporation tax	(310,666)	(308,370)
Management expenses (utilised)	(1,356)	(20,519)
Total tax charge for the year (note 5a)	62,565	-

# (c) Provision for deferred taxation

At 31 March 2024 there is a potential deferred tax asset of £Nil in relation to surplus management expenses (31 March 2023: £1,356).

6 Finance costs	2024 £	2023 £
Interim dividend distributions	1,864,242	1,554,129
Final dividend distribution	229,147	160,277
	2,093,389	1,714,406
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares	23,595	11,485
Deduct: Revenue received on issue of shares	(32,320)	(20,042)
		. ==== =
Net distribution for the year	2,084,664	1,705,849
Interest payable and similar charges	13	7
Total finance costs	2,084,677	1,705,856
Reconciliation of distributions		
Net revenue after taxation	1,810,372	1,644,447
Expenses paid from capital	207,769	81,110
Equalisation from collectives allocated to revenue	30,644	-
Relief on expenses allocated to capital	(41,554)	(16,222)
Balance brought forward	5,209	1,723
Balanced carried forward	72,224	(5,209)
Net distribution for the year	2,084,664	1,705,849

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

7 Debtors	31.03.2024 £	31.03.2023 £
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	528,730	764,931
Accrued Revenue:		
Non-taxable dividends receivable	23,984	32,808
Interest on non-derivative securities receivable	104,621	1,484
Investment manager rebates	9,627	32,731
Rebates from underlying holdings	224	135
Stock lending income receivable	-	1,615
Prepayments	55	2,558
Total debtors	667,241	836,262
8 Cash and bank balances	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Cash and bank balances	1,238,724	215,216
Bank overdraft	-	(3,961)
9 Creditors	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	203,008	79,658
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager, and agents of either of them:		
Annual management charge	26,351	53,263
Payable to the depositary, associates of the depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee	1,039	1,019
Safe custody and other custodian charges	2,516	3,627
	3,555	4,646
UK corporation tax	62,565	-
Other accrued expenses	3,965	6,990
Total creditors	299,444	144,557

## 11 Risk management

In pursuing its investment objective as stated on page 136, the Sub-fund holds a number of financial instruments. The Sub-fund's financial instruments comprise securities and other investments, cash balances, debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations, for example, in respect of sales and purchases awaiting settlement, amounts receivable for issues and payable for redemptions and debtors for accrued revenue.

The main risks arising from the Sub-funds financial instruments, those of its underlying holdings and the AFM's policies for managing these risks are summarised below. These policies have been applied throughout the year.

## Market price risk

Market price risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices caused by factors other than interest rate or foreign currency movement. Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments the Sub-fund holds. It represents the potential loss the Sub-fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is exposed to market price fluctuations, which are monitored by the AFM in pursuance of the investment objective and policy as set out in the Prospectus.

Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Instrument of Incorporation, the Prospectus and in the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

If market prices at the Balance Sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £5,797,465 (31 March 2023: £4,663,111)

#### Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is invested in funds that are registered overseas and collective investment scheme which invest in overseas securities and the balance sheet can be affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The AFM may seek to manage exposure to currency movements by using forward exchange contracts or by hedging the Sterling value of investments that are priced in other currencies. Revenue received in other currencies is converted to Sterling on or near the date of receipt.

Net currency assets and liabilities consist of:

	Net monetary assets and liabilities		etary assets and liabilities Non-monetary assets		Total net assets	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
Sterling	1,408,433	755,625	57,974,649	46,631,111	59,383,082	47,386,736
US Dollar	11,356	2,805	-	-	11,356	2,805
Total	1,419,789	758,430	57,974,649	46,631,111	59,394,438	47,389,541

If foreign exchange rates at the balance sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £1,136 (31 March 2023: £281).

## 11 Risk management (Continued)

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk to portfolio value due to changes in interest rates. The magnitude of the exposure from an adverse change in interest rates depends on the sensitivity of the instrument to changes in interest rates as well as the absolute change in interest rates. In general, values of long-term instruments are more sensitive to interest rate changes than the values of short-term instruments

The Sub-fund takes on interest rate risk when the investment manager believes the expected returns compensate for the risk, limited by the investment objective, policy and any prospectus rules. The investment manager monitors the level of interest rate risk in the fund on a regular basis. In addition any cash deposits in the Sub-fund are linked to SONIA, ensuring interest income increases as interest rates increase.

The table below details the interest rate risk profile at the balance sheet date:

	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Financial assets floating rate	1,238,724	215,216
Financial assets interest bearing instruments	6,333,796	6,172,120
Financial assets non-interest bearing instruments	52,308,094	41,295,253
Financial liabilities non-interest bearing instruments	(486,176)	(289,087)
Financial liabilities floating rate	· - ′	(3,961)
	59,394,438	47,389,541

At 31 March 2024, if interest rates increased or decreased by 0.25%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the Sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £4,509 (31 March 2023: £1,910).

## Maturity of financial liabilities

The financial liabilities of the Sub-fund as at 31 March 2024 are payable either within one year or on demand.

#### Liquidity risk

The Sub-fund's assets comprise mainly of readily realisable securities. The main liability of the Sub-fund is the redemption of any shares that the investors wish to sell. Assets of the Sub-fund may need to be sold if insufficient cash is available to finance such redemptions.

## Credit risk

Certain transactions in securities that the Sub-fund enters into expose it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the investment for a purchase, or cash for a sale after the Sub-fund has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Sub-fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the AFM as acceptable counterparties and fund management companies. In addition, limits are set to the exposure to any individual broker that may exist at any time and changes in brokers' financial ratings are reviewed. Indirect credit risk arises from holdings in collectives that invest in debt securities as any default or perceived risk of default will affect the valuation of such holdings.

#### Fair value disclosure

The fair value hierarchy is intended to prioritise the inputs that are used to measure the fair value of assets and liabilities. The highest priority is given to quoted prices and the lowest priority to un-observable inputs. The criteria applied to the fair values levels in these financial statements are as follows:

- Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an identical instrument;
- Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other than quoted prices within level 1;
- Level 3: Valuation techniques using unobservable inputs.

	31.03.2024		31.03.2023	
	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
Valuation Technique	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)
Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an				
identical instrument	42,798	-	43,012	-
Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other				
than quoted prices within level 1	15,177	-	3,619	-
Total	57,975	•	46,631	-

#### 10 Shares held

I (Accumulation)	
Opening Shares at 01.04.2023	17,894,840
Shares issued during the year	6,567,643
Shares cancelled during the year	(4,748,430)
Shares converted during the year	93,839
Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024	19,807,892
I (Income)	
Opening Shares at 01.04.2023	27,265,318
Shares issued during the year	12,352,790

# 12 Contingent assets and liabilities

Shares cancelled during the year

Shares converted during the year

Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024

At 31 March 2024, the Sub-fund had no contingent liabilities or commitments (31 March 2023: £nil).

#### 13 Post balance sheet events

As indicated in the accounting policies in Note 1, the investments have been valued at the closing valuation point on 28 March 2024. Since that date, the Sub-fund's quoted mid-price has moved as follows for each share class:

(6,735,748)

32,769,855

(112,505)

Share class	Price at 28 March 2024	Price at 18 July 2024
I (Accumulation)	126.5293p	130.3906p
I (Income)	105.2502p	107.6386p

## 14 Direct transactions costs

	31.03.2024		31.03.202	3
	£	%	£	%
Analysis of total purchase costs				
Purchases in the year before transaction $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$	27,951,142		42,396,010	
Commissions	-	0.00%	119	0.01%
Taxes & levies	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Total purchase costs	-	0.00%	119	0.01%
Total purchases including transaction	27,951,142	_	42,396,129	
Analysis of total sale costs				
Sales in the year before transaction costs	20,284,863		36,218,718	
Commissions	-	(0.00%)	(4,428)	(0.01%)
Total sale costs	-	(0.00%)	(4,428)	(0.01%)
Total sales net of transaction costs	20,284,863	_	36,214,290	

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the Sub-fund's average net asset value in the year:

	2024 £	% of average net asset value	2023 £	% of average net asset value
Commissions	-	0.00%	4,547	0.01%
Taxes & levies	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Total	-	0.00%	4,547	0.01%

## 15. Portfolio Dealing Spread

The average portfolio dealing spread at 31 March 2024 is 0.14% (31 March 2023: 0.26%).

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

#### 16 Stock lending

The Sub-fund enters into stock lending arrangements with various counterparties. At the balance sheet date the bid value of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £8,119,082). The value of collateral held in respect of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £8,525,041).

Counterparty		2024		2023
	Value of stock on loan	Collateral	Value of stock on loan	Collateral
	£	£	£	£
Citigroup Global Markets Limited	-	-	5,575,185	5,853,945
Barclays Capital Securities Ltd	-	-	1,420,050	1,491,053
Société Générale		-	1,123,847	1,180,043
		-	8,119,082	8,525,041
Collateral by asset class		2024		2023
		£		£
Government bonds		_		123,837
	_	-	_	123,837
Analysis of stock lending income		2024		2023
		£		£
Gross stock lending income		22,369		29,080
Fees paid to the custodian		(6,711)		(8,724)
	_	15,658	_	20,356

## 17 Related party transactions

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited, as AFM is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the Subfund.

Amounts paid to the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amounts due to the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 9. Amounts received from the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 3. Amounts due from the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 7.

## **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

## 1st Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 April 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 April 2023 and on or before 30 April 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 31.05.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2023	Distribution 31.05.2022
Group 1	0.2772p	-	0.2772p	0.1531p
Group 2	0.2005p	0.0767p	0.2772p	0.1531p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 31.05.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2023	Distribution 31.05.2022
Group 1	0.2400p	-	0.2400p	0.1378p
Group 2	0.1763p	0.0637p	0.2400p	0.1378p

## 2nd Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 May 2023

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

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 30.06.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.06.2023	Distribution 30.06.2022
Group 1	0.5288p	-	0.5288p	0.3509p
Group 2	0.2634p	0.2654p	0.5288p	0.3509p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 30.06.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.06.2023	Distribution 30.06.2021
Group 1	0.4568p	-	0.4568p	0.3154p
Group 2	0.2900p	0.1668p	0.4568p	0.3154p

## 3rd Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 June 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 June 2023 and on or before 30 June 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 30.07.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.07.2023	Distribution 29.07.2022
Group 1	0.6109p	-	0.6109p	0.6914p
Group 2	0.2814p	0.3295p	0.6109p	0.6914p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 30.07.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.07.2023	Distribution 29.07.2022
Group 1	0.5252p	-	0.5252p	0.6195p
Group 2	0.2517p	0.2735p	0.5252p	0.6195p

## 4th Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 July 2023

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

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 31.08.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 31.08.2023	Distribution 31.08.2022
Group 1	0.1117p	-	0.1117p	0.1075p
Group 2	0.0543p	0.0574p	0.1117p	0.1075p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 31.08.2022	Equalisation	Distribution 31.08.2023	Distribution 31.08.2022
Group 1	0.0955p	-	0.0955p	0.0957p
Group 2	0.0735p	0.0220p	0.0955p	0.0957p

# **DISTRIBUTION TABLES (Continued)**

## 5th Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 August 2023

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

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 29.09.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 29.09.2023	Distribution 30.09.2022
Group 1	0.4927p	1	0.4927p	0.4605p
Group 2	0.2929p	0.1998p	0.4927p	0.4605p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 29.09.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 29.09.2023	Distribution 30.09.2022
Group 1	0.4209p	-	0.4209p	0.4097p
Group 2	0.3170p	0.1039p	0.4209p	0.4097p

## 6th Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 September 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 September 2023 and on or before 30 September 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
	31.10.2023		31.10.2023	31.10.2022
Group 1	0.5847p	1	0.5847p	0.8027p
Group 2	0.3295p	0.2552p	0.5847p	0.8027p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 31.10.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 31.10.2023	Distribution 31.10.2022
Group 1	0.4973p	-	0.4973p	0.7111p
Group 2	0.2360p	0.2613p	0.4973p	0.7111p

## 7th 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 October 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 30.11.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.11.2023	Distribution 30.11.2022
Group 1	0.0329p	-	0.0329p	0.0073p
Group 2	0.0114p	0.0215p	0.0329p	0.0073p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 30.11.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.11.2023	Distribution 30.11.2022
Group 1	0.0278p	-	0.0278p	0.0064p
Group 2	0.0123p	0.0155p	0.0278p	0.0064p

## 8th Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 November 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 November 2023 and on or before 30 November 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net revenue 29.12.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 29.12.2023	Distribution 30.12.2022
Group 1	0.8594p	-	0.8594p	0.3938p
Group 2	0.1158p	0.7436p	0.8594p	0.3938p

I (Income)	Net revenue 29.12.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 29.12.2023	Distribution 30.12.2022
Group 1	0.7271p	-	0.7271p	0.3462p
Group 2	0.2495p	0.4776p	0.7271p	0.3462p

## 9th Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 December 2023

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

I (Accumulation)	Net revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
	31.01.2024		31.01.2024	31.01.2023
Group 1	0.4551p	-	0.4551p	0.6491p
Group 2	0.2173p	0.2378p	0.4551p	0.6491p
I (Income)	Net revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
,	31.01.2024		31.01.2024	31.01.2023
Group 1	0.3822p	-	0.3822p	0.5688p
Group 2	0.0639p	0.3183p	0.3822p	0.5688p

## 10th 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 January 2024

I (Accumulation)	Net revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
	29.02.2024		29.02.2024	28.02.2023
Group 1	0.0387p	-	0.0387p	0.0870p
Group 2	0.0121p	0.0266p	0.0387p	0.0870p
I (Income)	Net revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
,	29.02.2024	,	29.02.2024	28.02.2023
Group 1	0.0324p	-	0.0324p	0.0758p
Group 2	0.0155p	0.0169p	0.0324p	0.0758p

## 11th Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 February 2024

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 February 2024 and on or before 29 February 2024

I (Accumulation)	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	0.1984p	-	0.1984p	0.2314p
Group 2	0.1519p	0.0465p	0.1984p	0.2314p
I (Income)	Net revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
	28.03.2024		28.03.2024	31.03.2023
Group 1	0.1659p		0.1659p	0.2015p
Group 2	0.0879p	0.0780p	0.1659p	0.2015p

## Final distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 March 2024

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

I (Accumulation)	Net revenue 30.04.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 30.04.2024	Distribution 28.04.2023
	30.04.2024		30.04.2024	20.04.2023
Group 1	0.4858p	-	0.4858p	0.3854p
Group 2	0.3517p	0.1341p	0.4858p	0.3854p
I (Income)	Net revenue	Equalisation	Distribution	Distribution
(,	30.04.2024		30.04.2024	28.04.2023
Group 1	0.4056p	-	0.4056p	0.3349p
Group 2	0.2436p	0.1620p	0.4056p	0.3349p

## Information for corporate shareholders

A corporate shareholder receives the distribution shown on the voucher enclosed with this report as

- i) 74.76% of the total dividend allocation together with the tax credit is received as franked investment income.
- ii) 25.24% of the dividend allocation is received as an annual payment received after deduction of income tax at the lower rate and is liable to corporation tax. It is not franked investment income.

# SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS (UNAUDITED)

As at 31 March 2024							
GLOBAL DATA							
	ies and commodities on	loan			£	%	
Total lendable assets e	excluding cash and cash e	equivalents:			57,974,649		
Securities and commo	dities on loan				-	0.00%	
	FTs and total return swa	ps			£	%	
Fund assets under ma	• ,				59,394,438		
Absolute value of asse Securities lending	ets engaged in:				-	0.00%	
CONCENTRATION DA	ATA						
Top 10 Collateral Issu							
Name and value of co	ollateral and commoditie	es received			£		
Top 10 Counterpartie							
	utstanding transactions				£		
Securities lending							
AGGREGATE TRANS							
Type, Quality and Cui					•		
Type Securities lending	Quality			Currencies	£	•	
Securities lending							
Securities lending							
	lateral (remaining period						
I	Less than One day to				Above one	Open	
_		one month	months	•	year	maturity	Total
Type	££		£		£	£	£
Securities lending			-	<u>-</u>	<u> </u>	<del>-</del>	
Counterparty details	Countries of		ttlement and				
Туре	Counterparty		Clearing		£	•	
Maturity Tenor of SF1	rs and Total Return Swa	ps (remaining	period to ma	turity)			
I	Less than One day to				Above one	Open	
_		one month	months	,	•	transactions	Total
Type	££	£	£		£	£	£
Securities lending			-	<u> </u>	-		<u> </u>
RE-USE OF COLLATE	=RAL						
	t engage in re-use of colla	teral.					
	OLLATERAL RECEIVED						
Names and value of o	custodians safekeeping safekeeping collateral	collateral		£			
RETURN AND COST	Collective Investment	Manago	r of collective	Third	l Parties (e.g.		
	Undertaking	_	t undertaking		nding agent)		Total
	£		£		£		£
Securities Lending							
Gross return	15,658		6,711		-		22,369
% of total gross return	70.00%		30.00%		0.00%		100.00%

#### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund

VT AJ Bell Responsible Growth

Size of Sub-fund

£115,712,749

Launch date

23 November 2020

Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of VT AJ Bell Responsible Growth is to achieve capital growth over the long-term (5 years) through investment in assets with a responsible strategy that follow a responsible strategy. Capital is in fact at risk and there is no guarantee that capital growth will be achieved over a 5 year, or any, period.

The Sub-fund will seek to achieve its objective by investing at least 80%, in indextracking investments and which consist of collective investment schemes (including those managed or operated by the AFM).

The indexes which the investments of the Sub-fund will track will be those indexes which the Investment Manager considers incorporate environmental, social and governance considerations and more specifically which apply:

- (i) values based exclusions (and so exclude investments with material revenue exposure (more than 15%) to the manufacture or supply of weapons; unconventional extraction of oil, gas and consumable fuels; metals and minerals; the sale or manufacture of tobacco; gambling; alcohol and adult entertainment; and
- (ii) 'norms based screening' to remove companies from the investment universe which do not, for example meet minimum standards of business practice against, (for example, the UN Declaration of Human Rights).

The Sub-fund may also invest (up to 20%) in the following (in respect of which the 'responsible' filters noted above may not apply): non-index tracking collective investment schemes (including those managed and/or advised by the AFM or Investment Manager), equities, bonds, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

Save as noted above (with a focus on responsible investment) the Sub-fund will not have any particular geographic, industry or economic sector focus and as such weightings in these may vary as required. The Sub-fund may have exposure to emerging markets (those markets whose economies are in an emerging growth phase and offer higher potential return with higher risks than developed market countries) through its investments in e.g. collective investment schemes or futures.

Derivatives (that is sophisticated investment instruments linked to the rise and fall of the price of other assets) are held only for efficient portfolio management purposes.

The Sub-fund may hold derivatives only for efficient portfolio management purposes. It is not intended that the use of derivatives for efficient portfolio management purposes will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Due to its multi-asset nature, no financial instrument or index represents a fair benchmark for the Sub-fund. The IA (Investment Association) provides the median performance of funds with similar characteristics (IA sectors). The Sub-fund is assigned to the Flexible Investment IA sector and this can be used as a comparator of performance for the Sub-fund. Other providers also provide peer groups, based on asset allocation or historical volatility, of which the Sub-fund may be assigned, these may also be a useful guide to assess performance. It is important to note that the Sub-fund may not always be assigned to the IA Flexible sector, as inclusion is determined by the Investment Association.

Derivatives:

Benchmark:

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

**Ex-distribution dates** 31 March and 30 September

**Distribution dates** 31 May and 30 November

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

Share Classes: I (Accumulation, Income)

A (Accumulation)

Minimum investment\*

Lump sum subscription: All share classes = £1,000

Top up: All share classes = £25

Holding: All share classes = £1

Redemption: All share classes = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

Switching: All share classes = N/A(provided minimum holding is maintained)

Initial, redemption and switching charges Nil

## **Annual Management charges**

I (Accumulation, Income) = 0.45% A (Accumulation = 0.60%

The above percentage being percentage of the net asset value of the Sub-fund attributable to the relevant Class (plus VAT if applicable).

From the 4 January 2022 an all-in fee was introduced which results in all the operating charges being taken out of the Annual Management charge shown above. This will result in future ongoing charges figures to be the same as the Annual Management charge. For more information about charges, please see sections 3.6 ("Dealing Charges") & 7 ("Fees and Expenses") of the prospectus.

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

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

In seeking to achieve its stated investment objective the fund will employ a responsible investment strategy through the selection of assets that the manager considers incorporating environmental, social and governance considerations. The manager has identified the MSCI SRI (Socially Responsible Investing) methodology as being suitable with the employment of that responsible strategy and uses indices that had adopted that methodology within their objectives, wherever possible. As of the period end 92.0% of the assets of the fund followed a variant of an MSCI SRI index.

Over the twelve months, the I Acc share class of the fund returned 9.9% compared to the IA Flexible Investment sector, which returned 10.1%. The fund managed the volatility in bond markets well over the year and was well positioned in riskier global high yield bonds. The equity market exposure within the fund is diversified by region. The Japanese equity market performed well over the year, however there was a notable underperformance of the responsible implementation. This issue also arose within the allocation to Emerging market equities, although to a lesser degree.

Activity in the nine months of 2023 applicable to this report related to the management of the fund's concentration in the Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG ETF. A new holding in the iShares \$ High Yield Corp Bond ESG ETF was consequently added to the fund in May.

The asset allocation of the fund is broken down by asset class and currency. We think of it in terms of; UK (GBP) Cash and Bonds, International (non-GBP) bonds, UK equities, International (non-GBP) equities and Alternatives. In January 2024 the fund was repositioned as part of the annual Strategic Asset Allocation (SAA) project.

No changes were made to the allocations to UK (GBP) cash and bonds or international (non-GBP) bonds.

Within equities, we maintained the allocation to the UK, however within international equities increased the allocation to Japan and introduced Europe on valuation grounds, the former via the iShares MSCI Japan SRI ETF and the latter via the Amundi Index MSCI Europe SRI ETF. To compensate the US equity allocation was reduced via a partial sale of the iShares MSCI USA SRI ETF and the Xtrackers ESG MSCI USA ETF. In addition, there was a rotation of holdings within the allocation to Emerging markets and Asia Pacific to gain the desired country level allocations; this encompassed the partial sale of the Amundi Index MSCI Pacific ex Japan fund and the Xtrackers ESG MSCI Emerging Markets ETF, which funded the purchase of the iShares MSCI EM SRI ETF.

No changes were made to the allocation to Alternatives.

There have been several narratives that look to explain the strong start to the year that equity markets have made. Our observation is that there appears to be an element of 'reacceleration' taking place in the global economy, however, we do not seek to reposition the fund based on short-term trends, sentiment or market narratives. Instead, the fund remains positioned to meet its volatility target and capture returns in a diversified manner.

AJ Bell Asset Management Limited Investment Manager of the Fund 19 June 2024

# PERFORMANCE RECORD

# **Financial Highlights**

I (Acc	umu	latio	n)
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	Year ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Changes in net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
Opening net asset value per share	108.7407	113.4987	106.0927
Return before operating charges	11.2983	(4.2580)	8.0538
Operating charges (note 1)	(0.5136)	(0.5000)	(0.6478)
Return after operating charges *	10.7847	(4.7580)	7.4060
Closing net asset value per share**	119.5254	108.7407	113.4987
Retained distributions on accumulated shares	2.0611	0.9530	0.2929
*after direct transactions costs of:	-	-	0.0110
**after dilution adjustment of	0.12%	0.16%	0.18%
Performance	0.00%	(4.400/)	C 000/
Return after charges	9.92%	(4.19%)	6.98%
Other information			
Closing net asset value	£109,121,628	£90,849,725	£77,032,862
Closing number of shares	91,409,064	83,680,224	67,990,952
Operating charges (note 2)	0.45%	0.45%	0.59%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%
Prices			
Highest share price Lowest share price	119.5254 104.4914	113.7590 100.0424	118.0769 104.9424
I (Income)	Year ended 31 March 2024	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
I (Income)  Changes in net assets per share			
	2024	2023	2022
Changes in net assets per share	<b>2024</b> GBp	<b>2023</b> GBp	<b>2022</b> GBp
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	GBp 107.3630 11.0310 (0.5023)	2023 GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960)	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462)
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *	GBp 107.3630 11.0310 (0.5023) 10.5287	GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960) (4.7837)	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462) 7.4337
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares	GBp 107.3630 11.0310 (0.5023) 10.5287 (2.0266)	GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960) (4.7837) (0.9463)	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462) 7.4337 (0.2881)
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges *	GBp 107.3630 11.0310 (0.5023) 10.5287	GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960) (4.7837)	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462) 7.4337
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares	GBp 107.3630 11.0310 (0.5023) 10.5287 (2.0266)	GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960) (4.7837) (0.9463)	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462) 7.4337 (0.2881)
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**	GBp 107.3630 11.0310 (0.5023) 10.5287 (2.0266)	GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960) (4.7837) (0.9463)	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462) 7.4337 (0.2881) 113.0930
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of Performance	2024  GBp 107.3630 11.0310 (0.5023) 10.5287 (2.0266) 115.8651  - 0.12%	2023 GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960) (4.7837) (0.9463) 107.3630	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462) 7.4337 (0.2881) 113.0930  0.0110 0.18%
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges * Distribution on income shares Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of: **after dilution adjustment of	2024  GBp 107.3630  11.0310 (0.5023) 10.5287 (2.0266) 115.8651	GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960) (4.7837) (0.9463) 107.3630	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462) 7.4337 (0.2881) 113.0930
Changes in net assets per share     Opening net asset value per share     Return before operating charges     Operating charges (note 1)     Return after operating charges *     Distribution on income shares     Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of:     **after dilution adjustment of  Performance     Return after charges  Other information	2024  GBp 107.3630 11.0310 (0.5023) 10.5287 (2.0266) 115.8651  - 0.12% 9.81%	2023  GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960) (4.7837) (0.9463) 107.3630  - 0.16% (4.23%)	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462) 7.4337 (0.2881) 113.0930  0.0110 0.18% 7.02%
Changes in net assets per share     Opening net asset value per share     Return before operating charges     Operating charges (note 1)     Return after operating charges *     Distribution on income shares     Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of:     **after dilution adjustment of  Performance     Return after charges  Other information     Closing net asset value	2024  GBp 107.3630 11.0310 (0.5023) 10.5287 (2.0266) 115.8651  - 0.12% 9.81%	2023  GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960) (4.7837) (0.9463) 107.3630  - 0.16% (4.23%)	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462) 7.4337 (0.2881) 113.0930  0.0110 0.18% 7.02%
Changes in net assets per share     Opening net asset value per share     Return before operating charges     Operating charges (note 1)     Return after operating charges *     Distribution on income shares     Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of:     **after dilution adjustment of  Performance     Return after charges  Other information     Closing net asset value     Closing number of shares	2024  GBp 107.3630 11.0310 (0.5023) 10.5287 (2.0266) 115.8651  - 0.12% 9.81%  £6,760,288 5,841,860	2023  GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960) (4.7837) (0.9463) 107.3630  - 0.16% (4.23%)  £4,677,601 4,363,750	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462) 7.4337 (0.2881) 113.0930  0.0110 0.18% 7.02% £3,831,392 3,393,804
Changes in net assets per share     Opening net asset value per share     Return before operating charges     Operating charges (note 1)     Return after operating charges *     Distribution on income shares     Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of:     **after dilution adjustment of  Performance     Return after charges  Other information     Closing net asset value     Closing number of shares     Operating charges (note 2)	2024  GBp 107.3630 11.0310 (0.5023) 10.5287 (2.0266) 115.8651  - 0.12% 9.81%  £6,760,288 5,841,860 0.45%	2023  GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960) (4.7837) (0.9463) 107.3630  - 0.16% (4.23%)  £4,677,601 4,363,750 0.45%	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462) 7.4337 (0.2881) 113.0930  0.0110 0.18% 7.02% £3,831,392 3,393,804 0.59%
Changes in net assets per share     Opening net asset value per share     Return before operating charges     Operating charges (note 1)     Return after operating charges *     Distribution on income shares     Closing net asset value per share**  *after direct transactions costs of:     **after dilution adjustment of  Performance     Return after charges  Other information     Closing net asset value     Closing number of shares	2024  GBp 107.3630 11.0310 (0.5023) 10.5287 (2.0266) 115.8651  - 0.12% 9.81%  £6,760,288 5,841,860	2023  GBp 113.0930 (4.2877) (0.4960) (4.7837) (0.9463) 107.3630  - 0.16% (4.23%)  £4,677,601 4,363,750	GBp 105.9474 8.0799 (0.6462) 7.4337 (0.2881) 113.0930  0.0110 0.18% 7.02% £3,831,392 3,393,804

116.4291

101.9537

113.1822

99.0160

Highest share price

Lowest share price

Prices

117.7752

104.6732

A (Accu	ımulation)	
·		Period 22 January 2024 to 31 March 2024
Change	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share	GBp 100.0000
	Return before operating charges	6.9226
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.1170)
	Return after operating charges *	6.8056
	Closing net asset value per share**	106.8056
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	0.1608
	+ 6 1 1 1 1 1 1	
	*after direct transactions costs of:	- 0.400/
Perform	**after dilution adjustment of	0.12%
renom	Return after charges	6.81%
Other in	formation	
	Closing net asset value	£1,108
	Closing number of shares	1,039
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.60%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%
Prices		
. 11003	Highest share price	106.8056
	Lowest share price	100.0000

<sup>^</sup> Share class launched 22 January 2024.

- 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 plus the costs of the open-end funds the Sub-fund holds.

## **Risk Profile**

Based on past data, the Sub-fund is ranked a '5' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document (31 March 2023: ranked 5). The Sub-fund is ranked 5 because monthly historical performance data indicates that it has experienced relatively high rises and falls in market prices historically. The following risks are material in addition to the risks captured by the indicator above:

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

As at 31 March	2024		۰, ۰
Holding		Value £	% of net assets
riolanig		value 2	not abouts
	Collective Investment Schemes (31.03.2023: 2.99%)		
2,147	Amundi Index MSCI Pacific ex Japan SRI	2,248,768	1.94%
		2,248,768	1.94%
	Exchange Traded Funds (31.03.2023: 93.44%)		
115,539	Amundi MSCI Europe SRI UCITS ETF	8,188,249	7.07%
1,334,620	Amundi MSCI UK IMI SRI UCITS ETF	14,840,974	12.82%
541,006	Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	3,056,684	2.63%
1,150,962	iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF	4,923,815	4.26%
1,473,416	iShares MSCI EM SRI UCITS ETF	7,982,231	6.90%
1,189,970	iShares MSCI Japan SRI UCITS ETF	6,610,283	5.71%
193,505	iShares MSCI USA SRI UCITS ETF	2,297,872	1.99%
476,075	iShares UK Property UCITS ETF	2,170,426	1.88%
499,744	L&G ESG Emerging Markets Corporate Bond (USD) UCITS ETF	3,400,758	2.94%
901,731	UBS (IrI) ETF plc - MSCI United Kingdom IMI Socially Responsible UCITS ETF	14,146,356	12.23%
598,517	Xtrackers MSCI Emerging Markets ESG UCITS ETF	20,777,518	17.96%
472,343	Xtrackers MSCI USA ESG UCITS ETF	21,463,266	18.55%
		109,858,432	94.94%
	Government Bonds (31.03.2023: 1.39%)		
55,400	UK 4.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-07-2030	190,255	0.16%
477,200	UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029	758,522	0.66%
159,100	UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028	216,319	0.19%
		1,165,096	1.01%
	Portfolio of investments (31.03.2023: 97.82%)	113,272,296	97.89%
	Net other assets (31.03.2023: 2.18%)	2,440,453	2.11%
		115,712,749	100.00%

# SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES

	£
Total purchases for the year (note 14)	23,320,831
iShares \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF iShares MSCI EM SRI UCITS ETF Xtrackers MSCI Emerging Markets ESG UCITS ETF Amundi MSCI Europe SRI UCITS ETF iShares MSCI Japan SRI UCITS ETF UBS (Irl) ETF plc - MSCI United Kingdom IMI Socially Responsible UCITS ETF Amundi MSCI UK IMI SRI UCITS ETF L&G ESG Emerging Markets Corporate Bond (USD) UCITS ETF iShares MSCI USA SRI UCITS ETF Xtrackers MSCI USA ESG UCITS ETF	4,761,415 3,663,436 3,459,244 2,529,133 2,490,385 2,120,479 1,752,181 582,109 579,612 552,288
Various other purchases  Total sales for the year (note 14)	830,549 £ 12,822,680
Invesco Global High Yield Corporate Bond ESG UCITS ETF iShares MSCI USA SRI UCITS ETF Xtrackers MSCI USA ESG UCITS ETF Amundi Index MSCI Pacific ex Japan SRI Xtrackers MSCI Emerging Markets ESG UCITS ETF UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 22-03-2029 UK 0.125% Index-linked Gilt 10-08-2028	4,134,569 3,786,069 2,823,192 1,021,817 884,063 135,291 37,679

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

# STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the year	ar ended 31 March		2024	1	2023	<b>.</b>
		Notes	£	£	£	£
Income	Net capital gains/(losses)	2		8,949,921		(4,620,384)
	Revenue	3	1,927,718		1,634,814	
Expenses		4	(497,811)		(364,150)	
Interest pay	able and similar charges	6			(10)	
Net revenue	e before taxation		1,429,907		1,270,654	
Taxation		5	(59,596)			
Net revenue	e after taxation		_	1,370,311	_	1,270,654
Total return	before distributions			10,320,232		(3,349,730)
Finance cos	sts: distributions	6		(1,944,484)	_	(771,234)
	n net assets attributable to ers from investment activities		_	8,375,748	_	(4,120,964)
STATEME	NT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	ATTRIBUTAB	LE TO SHAREHO	DLDERS		
For the yea	ar ended 31 March			2024		2023

Tor the year ended of march	2024 £	2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	95,402,186	80,743,011
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	29,709,651	31,974,544
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(19,633,895)	(13,957,391)
Accumulation dividends retained	1,859,059	762,986
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	8,375,748	(4,120,964)
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	115,712,749	95,402,186

# **BALANCE SHEET**

As at		31.03.2	31.03.2024 31.03.2023		023
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Investment assets			113,272,296		93,323,576
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	776,116		508,329	
Cash and bank balances	8	2,332,021		1,973,564	
Total current assets		_	3,108,137	_	2,481,893
Total assets			116,380,433		95,805,469
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Bank overdraft	8	(1,612)		-	
Creditors	9	(621,874)		(391,868)	
Distribution payable on income shares		(44,198)		(11,415)	
Total current liabilities	_	_	(667,684)	_	(403,283)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		_	115,712,749	<u></u>	95,402,186

# For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting polices, which have been applied in both the current and prior year, are set out on pages 7-8.

2 Net capital gains/(losses)	2024	2023
The net capital gains/(losses) comprise:	£	£
Non-derivative securities gains/(losses)	8,950,041	(4,616,381)
Foreign exchange gains/(losses)	82	(4,604)
Transaction costs	(202)	601
Total net capital gains/(losses)	8,949,921	(4,620,384)
3 Revenue	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-taxable dividends	987,057	1,196,441
Interest on non-derivative securities	571,937	141,389
Investment manager rebates	215,114	238,125
Underlying holding rebates	7,022	-
Stock lending income	49,250	36,931
Bank and other interest Total revenue	97,338 1,927,718	21,928
rotal revenue	1,927,716	1,634,814
4 Expenses	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager, associates of the Authorised Fund Manager,		
and agents of either of them:	404.000	204 400
Annual management charge	431,032	321,422
Payable to the depositary, associates of the		
depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee	24,538	20,793
Safe custody fee	12,162	10,650
	36,700	31,443
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	393	3,330
FCA fee		
	22	47
Other expenses	22 29,664	7,908
Other expenses		
Other expenses  Total expenses	29,664	7,908

5 Taxation	2024 £	2023 £
(a) Analysis of charge in the year		
UK corporation tax	59,596	-
Total tax charge for the year (note 5b)	59,596	-
(b) Factors affecting current tax charge for the year		
The tax assessed for the year is lower than the		
standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an		
open-ended investment company 20.00% (2023: 20.00%)		
The differences are explained below:		
Net revenue before UK corporation tax	1,429,907	1,270,654
Corporation tax at 20.00% (2023: 20.00%)	285,981	254,131
Effects of:	•	,
Revenue not subject to UK corporation tax	(197,411)	(239,288)
Excess management expenses (utilised)	(28,974)	(14,843)
Total tax charge for the year (note 5a)	59,596	-

# (c) Provision for deferred taxation

At 31 March 2024 there is a potential deferred tax asset of £Nil (31 March 2023: £28,974) in relation to surplus management expenses.

6 Finance costs	2024 £	2023 £
Interim dividend distribution Final dividend distribution	1,221,156 752,957	568,501
Fillal dividend distribution	1,974,113	232,562 801,063
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares	86,559	19,291
Deduct: Revenue received on issue of shares	(116,188)	(49,120)
Net distribution for the year	1,944,484	771,234
Interest payable and similar charges  Total finance costs	- 1,944,484	771,244
Reconciliation of distributions		
Net revenue after taxation	1,370,311	1,270,654
Expenses paid out of capital	25,947	126,956
Relief on expenses allocated to capital	(5,189)	(25,391)
Balance brought forward	747,491	146,506
Balance carried forward	(194,076)	(747,491)
Net distribution for the year	1,944,484	771,234

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

7 Debtors	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	755,817	453,338
Accrued Revenue:		
Interest on non-derivative securities receivable	1,206	1,205
Investment manager rebates	17,897	48,404
Rebates from underlying holdings	1,108	-
Stock lending income receivable	-	3,027
Prepayments	88	2,355
Total debtors	776,116	508,329
		,
8 Cash and bank balances	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Oach and hambhalanaa	0.000.004	4 070 504
Cash and bank balances	2,332,021	1,973,564
Bank overdraft	(1,612)	-
0.0 - 1%	04 00 0004	04.00.0000
9 Creditors	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	364,934	180,198
Amounts payable on unsettled trades	155,241	156,498
Payable to the Authorised Fund Manager,		
associates of the Authorised Fund Manager,		
and agents of either of them:		
Annual management charge	28,919	37,765
Payable to the depositary, associates of the		
depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Depositary fee	2,018	1,911
Safe custody and other custodian charges	,	,
Sale cusiony and other cusionian charges	4,687	5,889
care outloay and other outloadan charges	C 70E	
Care dustody and other dustodian onlarges	6,705	7,800
UK corporation tax	59,596	-
		7,800 - <u>9,607</u> 391,868

#### 11 Risk management

In pursuing its investment objective as stated on page 156, the Sub-fund holds a number of financial instruments. The Sub-fund's financial instruments comprise securities and other investments, cash balances, debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations, for example, in respect of sales and purchases awaiting settlement, amounts receivable for issues and payable for redemptions and debtors for accrued revenue.

The main risks arising from the Sub-funds financial instruments, those of its underlying holdings and the AFM's policies for managing these risks are summarised below. These policies have been applied throughout the year.

#### Market price risk

Market price risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices caused by factors other than interest rate or foreign currency movement. Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments the Sub-fund holds. It represents the potential loss the Sub-fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is exposed to market price fluctuations, which are monitored by the AFM in pursuance of the investment objective and policy as set out in the Prospectus.

Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Instrument of Incorporation, the Prospectus and in the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

If market prices at the Balance Sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year from 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £11,327,230 (31 March 2023: £9,332,358).

#### Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the value of the Sub-fund's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is invested in funds that are registered overseas and collective investment scheme which invest in overseas securities and the balance sheet can be affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The AFM may seek to manage exposure to currency movements by using forward exchange contracts or by hedging the Sterling value of investments that are priced in other currencies. Revenue received in other currencies is converted to Sterling on or near the date of receipt.

Net currency assets and liabilities consist of:

	Net monetary assets and liabilities		Non-monetary assets		Total net assets	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
Sterling	2,440,453	2,077,828	113,272,296	93,323,576	115,712,749	95,401,404
Euros		782	-	-	-	782
Total	2,440,453	2,078,610	113,272,296	93,323,576	115,712,749	95,402,186

If foreign exchange rates at the balance sheet date had been 10% higher or lower while all other variables remained constant, the return attributable to ordinary shareholders and equity for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have increased/decreased by £Nil (31 March 2023: £78).

## 11 Risk management (Continued)

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk to portfolio value due to changes in interest rates. The magnitude of the exposure from an adverse change in interest rates depends on the sensitivity of the instrument to changes in interest rates as well as the absolute change in interest rates. In general, values of long-term instruments are more sensitive to interest rate changes than the values of short-term instruments

The Sub-fund takes on interest rate risk when the investment manager believes the expected returns compensate for the risk, limited by the investment objective, policy and any prospectus rules. The investment manager monitors the level of interest rate risk in the fund on a regular basis. In addition any cash deposits in the Sub-fund are linked to SONIA, ensuring interest income increases as interest rates increase.

The table below details the interest rate risk profile at the balance sheet date:

	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Financial assets floating rate	2,332,021	1,973,564
Financial assets interest bearing instruments	12,546,353	11,242,722
Financial assets non-interest bearing instruments	101,502,059	82,589,183
Financial liabilities non-interest bearing instruments	(666,072)	(403,283)
Financial liabilities floating rate	(1,612)	-
	115,712,749	95,402,186

At 31 March 2024, if interest rates increased or decreased by 0.25%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the Sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £298,021 (31 March 2023: £246,720).

#### Maturity of financial liabilities

The financial liabilities of the Sub-fund as at 31 March 2024 are payable either within one year or on demand.

## Liquidity risk

The Sub-fund's assets comprise mainly of readily realisable securities. The main liability of the Sub-fund is the redemption of any shares that the investors wish to sell. Assets of the Sub-fund may need to be sold if insufficient cash is available to finance such redemptions.

#### Credit risk

Certain transactions in securities that the Sub-fund enters into expose it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the investment for a purchase, or cash for a sale after the Sub-fund has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Sub-fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the AFM as acceptable counterparties and fund management companies. In addition, limits are set to the exposure to any individual broker that may exist at any time and changes in brokers' financial ratings are reviewed.

#### Fair value disclosure

The fair value hierarchy is intended to prioritise the inputs that are used to measure the fair value of assets and liabilities. The highest priority is given to quoted prices and the lowest priority to un-observable inputs. The criteria applied to the fair values levels in these financial statements are as follows:

- Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an identical instrument;
- Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other than quoted prices within level 1;
- Level 3: Valuation techniques using unobservable inputs.

	31.03.2024		31.03.2023	
	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
Valuation Technique	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)	(£000's)
Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an				
identical instrument	101,621	-	90,474	-
Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other				
than quoted prices within level 1	11,651	-	2,849	-
Total	113,272	-	93,323	-

## 11 Shares held

1 (	Accumu	lation	1
٠,	,		ı

Opening Shares at 01.04.2023	83,680,224
Shares issued during the year	24,222,577
Shares cancelled during the year	(16,535,610)
Shares converted during the year	41,873
Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024	91,409,064
I (Income)	

Opening Shares at 01.04.2023	4,363,750
Shares issued during the year	2,756,911
Shares cancelled during the year	(1,236,368)
Shares converted during the year	(42,433)
Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024	5,841,860

#### A (Accumulation)

(	
Opening Shares at 22.01.2024	-
Shares issued during the period	1,039
Shares cancelled during the period	-
Shares converted during the period	-
Closing Shares as at 31.03.2024	1,039

## 12 Contingent assets and liabilities

At 31 March 2024, the Sub-fund had no contingent liabilities or commitments (31 March 2023: £nil).

## 13 Post balance sheet events

As indicated in the accounting policies in Note 1, the investments have been valued at the closing valuation point on 28 March 2023. Since that date, the Sub-fund's quoted mid-price has moved as follows for each share class:

Share class	Price at 28 March 2024	Price at 18 July 2024
I (Accumulation)	119.5254p	123.4696p
I (Income)	115.8651p	119.6895p
A (Accumulation)	106.8056p	110.3114p

## 14 Direct transactions costs

- Biroot transactions coots	2024		2022	
	2024	_	2023	
	£	£	£	£
Analysis of total purchase costs				
Purchases in the year before transaction	23,320,831		52,065,869	
Commissions	-	0.00%	448	0.00%
Total purchase costs	-	0.00%	448	0.00%
Total purchases including transaction costs	23,320,831		52,066,317	
Analysis of total sale costs				
Sales in the year before transaction costs	12,822,680		33,643,489	
Commissions	-	(0.00%)	-	(0.00%)
Total sale costs	-	(0.00%)	-	(0.00%)
Total sales net of transaction costs	12,822,680		33,643,489	

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the Sub-fund's average net asset value in the year:

	2024	% of average	2023	% of average
	£	net asset value	£	net asset value
Commissions	-	0.00%	448	0.00%
Total	-	0.00%	448	0.00%

## 15. Portfolio Dealing Spread

The average portfolio dealing spread at 31 March 2024 is 0.20% (31 March 2023: 0.27%).

#### 16 Stock lending

The Sub-fund enters into stock lending arrangements with various counterparties. At the balance sheet date the bid value of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £3,408,108). The value of collateral held in respect of securities on loan was £Nil (31 March 2023: £3,578,515).

Counterparty	2024		2023	
	Value of stock	Collateral	Value of stock	Collateral
	on loan		on loan	
	£	£	£	£
Société Générale	-	-	1,100,361	1,155,379
Barclays Capital Securities Ltd	-	-	2,226,480	2,337,805
Goldman Sachs International		-	81,267	85,331
	-	-	3,408,108	3,578,515
Collateral by asset class		2024		2023
		£		£
Equities		-		-
Government bonds		-		3,578,515
	<u> </u>	-		3,578,515
Analysis of stock lending income		2024		2023
		£		£
Gross stock lending income		70,357		52,759
Fees paid to the custodian		(21,107)		(15,828)
·	<u> </u>	49,250		36,931

## 17 Related party transactions

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited, as AFM is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the Sub-fund.

Amounts paid to the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amounts due to the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 9. Amounts received from the AFM and its associates are disclosed in note 3. Amounts due from the AFM and its associates at the balance sheet date are disclosed in note 7.

## **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

## Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 April 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 April 2023 and on or before 30 September 2023

I (Accumulation)	Net Revenue 30.11.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.11.2023	Distribution 30.11.2022
Group 1	1.2857p	-	1.2857p	0.6887p
Group 2	0.8378p	0.4479p	1.2857p	0.6887p

I (Income)	Net Revenue 30.11.2023	Equalisation	Distribution 30.11.2023	Distribution 30.11.2022
Group 1	1.2700p	-	1.2700p	0.6847p
Group 2	1.0725p	0.1975p	1.2700p	0.6847p

## Final distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 30 September 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 30 September 2023 and on or before 31 March 2024

I (Accumulation)	Net revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	0.7754p	-	0.7754p	0.2643p
Group 2	0.3380p	0.4374p	0.7754p	0.2643p

I (Income)	Net revenue 31.05.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 31.05.2024	Distribution 31.05.2023
Group 1	0.7566p	-	0.7566p	0.2616p
Group 2	0.1798p	0.5768p	0.7566p	0.2616p

A (Accumulation)^	Net revenue Equalisation 31.05.2024		Distribution 31.05.2024
Group 1	0.1608p	-	0.1608p
Group 2	0.0312p	0.1296p	0.1608p

<sup>^</sup> for the period from 22 January 2024 to 31 March 2024.

## Information for corporate shareholders

A corporate shareholder receives the distribution shown on the voucher enclosed with this report as follows:

- i) 57.63% of the total dividend allocation together with the tax credit is received as franked investment income.
- ii) 42.37% of the dividend allocation is received as an annual payment received after deduction of income tax at the lower rate and is liable to corporation tax. It is not franked investment income.

# SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS (UNAUDITED)

As at 31 March 202	4							
GLOBAL DATA Proportion of secu						£	%	
Total lendable asset Securities and comr	-		equivalents:			113,272,296 -	0.00%	
Assets engaged in Fund assets under r			aps			£ 115,712,749	%	
Absolute value of as Securities lending						-	0.00%	
CONCENTRATION								
Top 10 Collateral Is Name and value of		ınd commodit	ies received			£		
Top 10 Counterpar Name and value of		g transactions	S			£		
Securities lending								
AGGREGATE TRAIN Type, Quality and C								
Type Securities lending		Quality			Currencies	£		
Maturity Tenor of C							_	
<b>-</b>	one day	one week	one month	months	Three months to one year	Above one year	Open maturity	Total
Type	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Securities lending _	-		<u> </u>	<u>-</u>	<u> </u>	<del>-</del>	<u> </u>	<del></del> -
-				<del>_</del>				
Counterparty detai		Countries of Counterparty	Se	ettlement and Clearing		£		
Maturity Tenor of S			aps (remaining	g period to ma	turity)			
-	Less than	One day to	One week to	One to three	Three months	Above one	Open	
	one day		one month	months	to one year	year	transactions	Total
Туре	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Securities lending _	-	<u>-</u>	-	-	<u>-</u>	<del>-</del>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
RE-USE OF COLLA				-	-			
The Sub-fund does		in re-use of col	llateral.					
The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of	not engage i COLLATER of custodian	RAL RECEIVE	<u>D</u>		£			
The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of Number of custodian	not engage i COLLATER of custodian ns safekeepi	RAL RECEIVE	<u>D</u>		£			
The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of	not engage i  COLLATER  If custodian  ns safekeepi	RAL RECEIVE Is safekeeping ing collateral	<u>D</u> g collateral	w of oalle ski	-	sivel Doubles (s		
The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of Number of custodian	COLLATER  of custodian  ns safekeepi  T  Collective	RAL RECEIVE is safekeeping ing collateral Investment Undertaking	<u>D</u> g collateral Manage	r of collective t undertaking £	-	iird Parties (e.g. lending agent) F		Total £
The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of Number of custodian  RETURN AND COS	not engage i  COLLATER  of custodian  ns safekeepi  T  Collective	RAL RECEIVE as safekeeping ing collateral a Investment	<u>D</u> g collateral Manage		-			Total £
The Sub-fund does  SAFEKEEPING OF Names and value of Number of custodian	not engage i  COLLATER  of custodian  ns safekeepi  T  Collective	RAL RECEIVE is safekeeping ing collateral Investment Undertaking	<u>D</u> g collateral Manage	t undertaking	-	lending agent)		

#### INFORMATION FOR INVESTORS

#### **Taxation**

The Company will pay corporation tax on its profits for the year 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 new, higher rates of 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 9.00am to 5.00pm. 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. (Email:ajbell@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.

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.

#### Value assessment

The AFM conducts an assessment of value for the Sub-funds each year. The assessment of value reports are available on the AFM's website.

#### Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures ("TCFD") reports

The AFM is required to prepare and publish a product TCFD report for each Sub-fund along with an entity level TCFD report. The latest reports can be obtained from https://www.valu-trac.com/administration-services/tcfd reports.

## **INFORMATION FOR INVESTORS (Continued)**

#### Remuneration

The AFM is subject to a remuneration policy which meets the requirements of the Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities Directive (UCITS) as set out in SYSC 19E of the FCA Handbook.

The policy is designed to ensure practices for employee remuneration are consistent with, and promote, sound and effective risk management. It does not encourage risk-taking which is inconsistent with the risk profiles, rules or instrument of incorporation of the funds managed, and does not impair the AFM compliance with its duty to act in the best interests of the funds it manages.

The AFM has reviewed the Remuneration Policy and its application in the last year which has resulted in no material changes to the policy or irregularities to process.

The AFM is required to disclose the total remuneration it pays to its staff during the financial year, split into fixed and variable remuneration, with separate aggregate disclosure for staff whose actions may have a material impact to the risk profile of a fund or the AFM itself. This includes executives, senior risk and compliance staff and certain senior managers.

28.05.2023	Number of Beneficiaries	Fixed Remuneration	Variable Remuneration Paid	Total Remuneration Paid
Total remuneration paid by the AFM during the year	86	£3,462,948	£ nil	£3,462,948
Remuneration paid to employees of the AFM who have a material impact on the risk profile of the UK UCITS	18	£1,043,732	£ nil	£1,043,732
Senior Management	14	£779,584	£ nil	£779,584
Control Functions	4	£264,148	£ nil	£264,148
Employees receiving total remuneration that takes them into the same remuneration brackets as senior management and risk takers	0	£-	£ nil	£-

Further information is available in the AFM's Remuneration Policy document which can be obtained from www.valu-trac.com. A paper copy of the remuneration policy is available on request from the registered office of the Authorised Fund Manager free of charge.

# CORPORATE DIRECTORY

A (1 . )	No. 7
_	Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited
& Registrar	Orton
	Fochabers
	Moray
	IV32 7QE
	Telephone: 01343 880344
	Fax: 01343 880267
	Email: ajbell@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	AJ Bell Asset Management Limited
	4 Exchange Quay
	Salford Quays
	Manchester
	England
	M5 3EE
	Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority
Depositary	NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited
	House A, Floor 0
	Gogarburn
	175 Glasgow Road
	Edinburgh
	EH12 1HQ
	Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority
Auditor	Frame Kennedy Ltd
	Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors
	4th Floor Metropolitan House
	31-33 High Street
	Inverness
	IV1 1HT