# Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust

# **Annual Report**

For the year ended 31 January 2024





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 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  The Authorised Fund Manager's Report comprises these items (subsequent references to the Manager's Report).

# **Trust Information**

#### **Trust Status**

The Trustee is HSBC Bank plc which holds the title to the Trust's investments on behalf of unitholders. The Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust (the Trust) is a "wider-range" investment under the Trustee Investments Act 1961. It is an authorised unit trust scheme under section 243 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and is a UCITS Scheme under the Financial Conduct Authority Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook. Copies of the Trust Deed may be inspected at the offices of the Manager: 80 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 4BY.

#### Manager

#### **RLUM Limited**

80 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 4BY
Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

# **Directors of the Manager**

P. Beamish (Resigned 1 April 2024)

P. Bowker (Resigned 1 April 2024)

H.I. Georgeson (Appointed 1 April 2024)

J.M. Brett (Non-executive Director) (Chairman 1 April 2024 onwards)

J.S. Glen (Chairman to 31 March 2024)

A.L. Hunt (Appointed 1 April 2024)

J.M. Jackson (Non-executive Director)

R. Kumar (Appointed 1 April 2024)

S. Spillar (Appointed 1 April 2024)

# **Trustee**

#### **HSBC** Bank plc

8 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5HQ Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

#### **Administrator**

# **HSBC Securities Services (UK) Limited**

1-2 Lochside Way, Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh EH12 9DT Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

#### Registrar

#### **RLUM Limited**

RLUM Limited has delegated responsibility for safekeeping and maintenance of the register to Capita Life and Pensions Regulated Services Limited

The Register may be inspected at:

Churchgate House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU

# **Independent Auditors**

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

7 More London Riverside, London SE1 2RT

#### **Investment Adviser**

**Royal London Asset Management Limited** 

80 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 4BY

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

# **Advisory Committee**

Benjamin Yeoh (Chairman)

Professor Alex Edmans

Tonia Lovell (Resigned 28 February 2023)

Rachel McEwen (Appointed 29 June 2023)

Nicola Parker

# **Manager's Investment Report**

The Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust (the Trust) is an authorised unit trust scheme, the Manager of which is RLUM Limited. The Manager has appointed Royal London Asset Management Limited to undertake the portfolio management for the Trust.

Royal London Asset Management Limited is the fund management arm of The Royal London Group and is independently authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority to provide asset management services.

We have a long and successful history of managing our customers' money and our specialist fund management service offers a distinctive approach to responsible investing across all of the funds that we manage. For example, we fully integrate consideration of financial, environmental, social and governance issues throughout the investment process when selecting companies for investment and we also vote at every Annual General Meeting of companies we hold, the exception being where voting would prevent trading.

# **Investment Objective and Policy**

The Trust's investment objective is to achieve capital growth over the medium term (3-5 years) by investing in fixed income securities and shares, primarily in the UK that are deemed to make a positive contribution to society.

Investments in the Trust will adhere to the Investment Adviser's ethical and sustainable investment policy. Investors can view the current policy at <a href="mailto:myisa.royallondon.com/">myisa.royallondon.com/</a>. The Trust is actively managed.

Effective 20 November 2023, the Trust changed from following RLUM's Ethical & Sustainable Investment Policy to following the Investment Adviser's Ethical and Sustainable Investment Policy.

#### **Risk and Reward Profile**



#### About this indicator

- This Synthetic Risk and Reward Indicator (SRRI) is calculated according to European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) regulations, to allow investors to compare funds on the same basis. According to this methodology the Trust has been classed as category 5.
- The scale shows that the higher the risk, the higher the potential for greater returns. The numerical indicator which is referenced on the scale, is a measure of how much the unit price of this Trust has risen and fallen (over the last five years) and therefore how much the Trust's returns have varied.
- The Trust is shown in risk category 5 because its unit price has shown a medium to high level of volatility historically. As an investment, bonds are typically more volatile than money market instruments but less volatile than shares. This Trust has a mixture of all of these investments.
- The risk rating remains unchanged from the prior year.

#### Investors should note

- The indicator is based on historical data and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of this Trust.
- The lowest rating does not mean 'risk free' and it does not measure the risk that you may suffer a capital loss.
- The risk and reward profile shown is not guaranteed to remain the same and may change over time.

# Manager's Investment Report (continued)

# Cumulative Performance (% change to 31/01/24)

	1 year total return %	3 year total return %	5 year total return %
Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust, Class A Income	7.83	5.61	37.51
Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust, Class B Accumulation	7.97	6.20	39.35
Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust, Class B Income	8.02	6.28	39.56
Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust, Class C Accumulation	8.17	6.83	40.79
Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust, Class C Income	8.20	6.87	40.83
Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust, Class D Accumulation	8.34	7.26	41.67
Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust, Class D Income	8.33	7.26	41.64
IA Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares Total Return	3.27	2.53	15.44

Past performance is not necessarily a reliable indicator of future performance. The value of investments and the income from them is not guaranteed and may go down as well as up, and investors may not get back the amount originally invested.

Source: Royal London Asset Management Limited and Lipper, as at 31 January 2024. Returns are net of management fees. Investors should note that the total return is calculated on the Trust's official midday price whereas the Trust has been valued as at close of business for the Net Asset Value quoted within the Comparative Table. For further information, including ongoing performance and Trust breakdown information, please refer to the latest factsheet at www.rlam.com.

#### **Investment Review and Outlook**

#### Performance overview

The Trust returned 7.83% (A Inc class) outperforming the IA Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares sector.

During the period under review, the Trust's equity security selection was the main driver of performance, with the corporate bond part of portfolio performing broadly in line with broader credit markets.

#### **Market commentary**

Taming inflation was the priority for central banks during the period under review, with interest rate rises from the Federal Reserve (Fed), European Central Bank (ECB) and Bank of England (BoE). As 2023 came to an end, commentary from central banks and downside surprises in economic data led to expectations for rate cuts in 2024 increasing.

#### Portfolio commentary

The Trust is orientated to those companies that have a net benefit to society and create value for investors through their products and services and the way they manage environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues. Areas such as healthcare and technology remain at the core of the equity portfolios, complemented by engineering, utilities, selected financial services, and companies that lead their industries in ESG performance. This means that we do not invest in some sectors, such as oil & gas, extractive industries or tobacco. We believe that the exposure to those sectors which offer a net benefit to society is consistent with outperformance over the medium term.

Within the equity element of the portfolio, Sage, Novo Nordisk and Trane Technologies were the top contributors to performance over the period under review, demonstrating the strong structural trends we see in the digital, human and physical worlds. Sage's outperformance was a combination of its successful cloud migration and being more recognised by the market as software company. Novo Nordisk 's obesity drugs have significantly expanded its value creation opportunity by potentially saving healthcare systems significant amounts of money from related diseases. Trane technologies as a global leading HVAC provider offering efficient and sustainable climate solutions is a key beneficiary of the global decarbonisation trends and infrastructure spend, particularly in the US.

Within credit, we seek out under-researched opportunities. Importantly, the sustainable credit proposition provides access to critical sectors that most investors can't access via equity markets. Key themes in the Trust include social housing, social & environmental infrastructure, community funding (regulated banks and building societies focused on SME and retail lending), financial inclusion & resilience (such as insurance products to support individuals through shocks) and the energy transition.

# Manager's Investment Report (continued)

#### **Investment Review and Outlook – continued**

#### Investment outlook

Inflation came down significantly in 2023 but remains above the Bank of England's target, and now does not have the 'easy' wins of base effects to push this lower. In our view, wage inflation is the key metric to watch: we believe that the Bank will find it hard to start cutting rates if wages continue to rise at 5-6% per annum. Although the economic data remains very mixed, we still believe that past interest rate increases will contribute to a slowdown in the UK. This could impact company earnings and lead to some increase in pressure on credit markets. However, consumer resilience has been greater than expected in both the UK and globally, which has helped support growth and prevent a sharp recession.

We expect supply to weigh on credit markets in the first quarter but think that underlying fundamentals will be supportive of markets.

Given the potential economic challenges, we remain focused on identifying companies with strong balance sheets, favouring issues with security and downside protection. Over the medium term we believe the superior yields available on corporate bonds and the credit risk management undertaken through sector and issuer diversification will support returns.

Mike Fox Trust Manager Royal London Asset Management Limited 31 January 2024

Please note that this commentary is written as at end of the review period. For insights into market events or positioning since then, please go to www.rlam.com.

This report covers investment performance, activity and outlook. For a wider look at the Trust, our RLUM Annual Assessment of Value Report March 2023 (published July 2023) is available on www.rlam.com.

The Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures Report can be found under the relevant Trust name at <a href="https://www.rlam.com/uk/individual-investors/funds">https://www.rlam.com/uk/individual-investors/funds</a>. This report has been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the TCFD, which aims to help the investment community build a more in-depth and consistent picture of the impact of climate change.

The views expressed are the authors' own and do not constitute investment advice and are not an indication of future Trust performance. Portfolio holdings are subject to change, for information only and are not investment recommendations.

Source: Royal London Asset Management Limited, unless otherwise stated.

# **Portfolio Statement**

As at 31 January 2024

£3,500,000		, ,	assets (%)	Holding	Investment	(£'000)	Total r assets (
Commercial Mo £3,500,000	3 <b>–</b> 38 09% /31/01/23 <b>–</b> 38 53%)			£9 745 000	Co-operative Wholesale Society 7.5%		
£3,500,000	3 - 30.0370 (31/31/23 - 30.0370)			20,1 10,000	Step 8/7/2026	9,599	0
	ortgage Backed Securities – 0.61% (31	/01/23 -	0.89%)	£3,750,000	Coventry Building Society 6.875%	,	
£14,336,000	Finance for Residence Social Housing				variable perpetual	3,680	(
£14,336,000	'A1' 8.369% 4/10/2058*	2,595	0.08		CPUK Finance 3.588% 28/2/2042	3,111	0
	Income Contingent Student Loan FRN	005	0.00		CPUK Finance 3.69% 28/2/2047	5,458	C
C42 474 000	24/7/2056	805	0.02	£4,400,000	Credit Agricole 1.874% variable	0.045	
£13,471,000	Income Contingent Student Loan 2 FRN		0.04	CE COO 000	9/12/2031	3,915	0
£2 184 000	24/7/2058 Income Contingent Student Loan 2.5%	1,342	0.04		Credit Agricole 4.875% 23/10/2029	5,636	0
£2,104,000	24/7/2058	1,287	0.04	£5,400,000	Credit Agricole 5.75% variable	E 107	0
£4 322 000	PCL Funding FRN 15/7/2026	4,336	0.13	£4 200 000	29/11/2027 Credit Agricole 7.5% variable perpetual	5,487 4,150	0
	Sage AR Funding FRN 17/11/2030	2,226	0.06		CYBG 3.125% variable 22/6/2025	5,933	0
	Sage AR Funding FRN 17/11/2051	8,054	0.24		Derby Healthcare 5.564% 30/6/2041	10,463	0
		•			Derwent London 1.875% 17/11/2031	4,091	0
Total Commerc	cial Mortgage Backed Securities	20,645	0.61		Dignity Finance 3.5456% 31/12/2034	4,187	0
				£7,634,000	Direct Line Insurance 4% 5/6/2032	6,188	0
Corporate Bon	ds - 36.89% (31/01/23 - 37.14%)			£2,969,000	DWR Cymru Financing 2.375%		
£5,062,000	3i Group 3.75% 5/6/2040	3,999	0.12		31/3/2034	2,183	0.
	3i Group 5.75% 3/12/2032	3,754	0.11		ENW Finance 1.415% 30/7/2030	3,296	0
	A2D Funding II 4.5% 30/9/2026	2,238	0.07		ENW Finance 4.893% 24/11/2032	3,311	0
	AA Bond 3.25% 31/7/2050	2,046	0.06	£5,815,000	Equity Release Funding 5.88%	2 242	_
, ,	AA Bond 5.5% 31/7/2050	4,815	0.14	646 275 000	26/5/2032	3,240	0
	AA Bond 6.269% 2/7/2043	2,159	0.06		Eversholt Funding 2.742% 30/6/2040	11,500 4,586	0. 0.
	AA Bond 7.375% 31/7/2050	6,211	0.18		Eversholt Funding 3.529% 7/8/2042 Eversholt Funding 6.697% 22/2/2035	3,655	0
	Abrdn 5.25% variable perpetual	6,315	0.19		Exchequer Partnership 5.396%	3,033	U
£9,700,000	Akelius Residential Property 2.375% 15/8/2025	9,157	0.27	20,000,000	13/7/2036	4,072	0.
£2 756 000	Anglian Water Osprey Financing 4%	3,137	0.27	£2.070.000	Fidelity National Information 3.36%	.,0. =	
22,700,000	8/3/2026	2,595	0.08	,-:-,	21/5/2031	1,867	0.
£2.296.000	Anglian Water Services Financing 6%	_,000	0.00	£12,296,000	Folio Residential Finance 1.246%	,	
,,	20/6/2039	2,399	0.07		31/10/2037	10,722	0.
£3,954,000	Annington Funding 3.685% 12/7/2034	3,329	0.10	£3,200,000	Freshwater Finance 4.556% 3/4/2036	2,828	0.
	Annington Funding 3.935% 12/7/2047	4,721	0.14	£11,072,000	Freshwater Finance 5.182% 20/4/2035	10,633	0.
	Annington Funding 4.75% 9/8/2033	6,018	0.18	£5,972,000	GB Social Housing 5.193% 12/2/2038	5,805	0.
	Argiva Finance 4.882% 31/12/2032	2,922	0.09	£4,420,000	Genfinance II 6.064% 21/12/2039	4,723	0.
£4,580,000	Arqiva Financing 5.34% 30/12/2037	4,525	0.13		Great Rolling Stock 6.5% 5/4/2031	3,515	0.
£2,400,000	Arqiva Financing 7.21% 30/6/2045	2,572	0.08		Great Rolling Stock 6.875% 27/7/2035	6,001	0.
£8,950,000	Assicurazioni Generali 6.269%			£10,244,000	Greater Gabbard OFTO 4.137%		
	perpetual	9,023	0.27	00 070 000	29/11/2032	6,357	0.
	AT&T 2.9% 4/12/2026	9,474	0.28		GreenSquareAccord 5.25% 30/11/2047		0.
	AT&T 4.25% 1/6/2043	2,585	0.08		Gwynt y Môr OFTO 2.778% 17/2/2034	4,507	0.
	Aviva 6.875% variable 27/11/2053	4,569	0.13		Harbour Funding 5.28% 31/3/2044	3,696	0. 0.0
, ,	Aviva 6.875% variable 20/5/2058	17,279	0.51		Hastoe Capital 5.6% 27/3/2042	1,486 3,098	0.0
	AXA 6.6862% variable perpetual	8,379	0.25		Haven Funding 8.125% 30/9/2037 Hexagon Housing Association 3.625%	3,090	0.
£4,000,000	Banco Santander 2.25% variable 4/10/2032	4,006	0.12	23,314,000	22/4/2048	3,808	0.
£8 200 000	Banque Federative du Credit Mutuel	4,000	0.12	£7 749 000	High Speed Rail Finance 4.375%	0,000	0.
20,200,000	1% 16/7/2026	7,486	0.22	21,110,000	1/11/2038	7,093	0.:
£4 874 000	Bazalgette Finance 2.375% 29/11/2027		0.13	£14.328.000	Housing and Care 3.288% 8/11/2049	10,148	0.3
	Bazalgette Finance 2.75% 10/3/2034	4,301	0.13		HSBC 4.75% 24/3/2046	2,972	0.
£1,007,000	Blend Funding 2.467% 16/6/2063	507	0.01		HSBC 5.844% variable perpetual	12,196	0.3
	Blend Funding 2.922% 5/4/2056	4,249	0.12		HSBC 8.201% variable 16/11/2034	17,201	0.
	Blend Funding 3.459% 21/9/2049	6,811	0.20		ING Groep 1.125% variable 7/12/2028	5,634	0.
	Blend Funding 3.508% 4/5/2059	4,796	0.14		ING Groep 6.25% variable 20/5/2033	7,322	0
	BNP Paribas 1.25% 13/7/2031	4,197	0.12		International Finance Facility for		
	BNP Paribas 2% variable 24/5/2031	4,175	0.12		Immunisation 2.75% 7/6/2025	4,937	0.
	BNP Paribas 2.875% 24/2/2029	3,784	0.11	£500,000	Intu Debenture 5.562% 31/12/2027	175	0.
	BNP Paribas 5.75% 13/6/2032	3,823	0.11	£1,006,000	Intu Metrocentre Finance 4.125%		
	BPCE 2.5% variable 30/11/2032	7,516	0.22		6/12/2028	588	0.
	BPCE 5.25% 16/4/2029	1,076	0.03		Investec 1.875% variable 16/7/2028	10,016	0.
	British Land 5.264% 24/9/2035	4,075	0.12		John Lewis 4.25% 18/12/2034	3,334	0.
	British Land 5.357% 31/3/2028	3,264	0.10	, ,	John Lewis 6.125% 21/1/2025	3,346	0.
	Broadgate Finance 4.821% 5/7/2036	2,405	0.07		JRP Group 9% 26/10/2026	7,004	0.
	BUPA Finance 4.125% 14/6/2035	7,893	0.23		Just Group 7% variable 15/4/2031	3,214	0.
	Cadent Finance 5.625% 11/1/2036	2,262	0.07		Just Group 8.125% 26/10/2029	3,087	0.
	Catalyst Housing 3.125% 31/10/2047	480	0.01	£14,539,000	Juturna Euro Loan Conduit 5.0636%	0.700	_
£3,050,000	Channel Link Enterprises Finance FRN			07 400 000	10/8/2033	9,702	0.:
	30/12/2050	2,252	0.07	£7,423,000	Land Securities Capital Market	0.000	^
£11,902,000	Close Brothers Finance 1.625%			00 000 000	2.375% 29/3/2029	6,869	0.
04 705 000	3/12/2030	9,185	0.27	£2,366,000	Land Securities Capital Market	2 120	0
£1,785,000	Close Brothers Group 2% variable	4 = 4 6		00 454 000	2.399% 8/2/2031	2,129	0.
00 000 000	11/9/2031	1,512	0.04	£6,454,000	Leeds Building Society 1.375%	5 671	^
	Close Brothers Group 7.75% 14/6/2028	2,735	0.08	26 240 000	6/10/2027	5,671	0.
£2,084,000	Close Brothers Group 11.125%	2044	0.00	10,210,000	Legal & General 4.5% variable 1/11/2050	5,701	0.
	variable perpetual Community Finance 5.017% 31/7/2034	2,044	0.06 0.31		1/11/2000	3,701	0.

# Portfolio Statement (continued)

As at 31 January 2024

Bid-market						Rid	market	
Holding	Investment	value	Total net assets (%)	Holding		Investment	value (£'000)	Total net assets (%)
Corporate Bon	ds - 36.89% (31/01/23 - 37.14%) - conti	nued		£5 400 0	00	Phoenix Group 5.625% 28/4/2031	5,091	0.15
	Legal & General 5.5% variable					Phoenix Group 5.867% 13/6/2029	13,691	0.40
	27/6/2064	6,869	0.20	£3,568,0		Places for People Homes 3.625%	0.004	0.40
	Lloyds Bank 4.875% 30/3/2027 Lloyds Bank 6% 8/2/2029	2,018 7,234	0.06 0.21	£4 500 0		22/11/2028 Places for People Homes 5.875%	3,331	0.10
	Lloyds Bank 7.625% 22/4/2025	18,177	0.53	£4,500,0		23/5/2031	4,638	0.14
	Lloyds Banking Group 1.985% variable	.0,	0.00	£2,629,0		Places For People Treasury 6.25%	.,000	0
	15/12/2031	4,954	0.15			6/12/2041	2,763	0.08
£3,585,000	Lloyds Banking Group 2% variable	2 245	0.10	£8,169,0		Poplar Housing & Regeneration	6 002	0.21
£4 373 000	12/4/2028 London & Quadrant Housing Trust 2%	3,245	0.10	£6 117 0		Community 4.843% 30/9/2043 Porterbrook Rail Finance 4.625%	6,983	0.21
21,070,000	31/3/2032	3,490	0.10	20,111,0		4/4/2029	5,963	0.18
	Longstone Finance 4.791% 19/4/2036	4,824	0.14	£4,902,0		Principality Building Society 8.625%		
	M&G 5% variable 20/7/2055	7,922	0.23	CE 004 0		12/7/2028	5,319	0.16
	M&G 5.625% variable 20/10/2051 M&G 5.7% variable 19/12/2063	1,612 15,139	0.05 0.44	£5,021,0		Protective Life Global Funding 5.248% 13/1/2028	5,118	0.15
	M&G 6.25% variable 20/10/2068	11,182	0.33	£7,895,0		PRS Finance 1.5% 24/8/2034	5,956	0.18
	Meadowhall Finance 4.986% 12/1/2032	2,502	0.07			PRS Finance 2% 23/1/2029	4,607	0.14
£10,700,000	Metropolitan Housing Trust 1.875%					Rabobank Nederland 4.625% 23/5/2029		0.09
£10 052 000	28/7/2036 Metropolitan Life Global Funding	7,449	0.22			RAC Bond 8.25% 6/5/2046 Retail Charity Bonds 4.25% 30/3/2026	2,134 1,384	0.06 0.04
£10,032,000	0.625% 8/12/2027	8,664	0.25			Retail Charity Bonds 4.25% 6/7/2028	1,146	0.04
£5,422,000	Metropolitan Life Global Funding	0,001	0.20			Rothesay Life 3.375% 12/7/2026	14,410	0.42
	1.625% 12/10/2028	4,757	0.14	£7,483,0	00	Rothesay Life 5% variable perpetual	5,444	0.16
£3,809,000	Metropolitan Life Global Funding 5%		0.44			Rothesay Life 7.734% 16/5/2033	3,564	0.10
CE E4E 000	10/1/2030 Mizuho Financial 5.628% 13/6/2028	3,867 5,694	0.11 0.17	£7,685,0		RSA Insurance 5.125% variable 10/10/2045	7 5 5 6	0.22
	Morhomes 3.4% 19/2/2040	8,773	0.17	£2 574 0		Saltaire Finance 2.711% 9/5/2054	7,556 1,737	0.22
	Motability Operations Group 5.625%	0,110	0.20			Santander 5.25% 16/2/2029	3,621	0.11
	24/1/2054	3,791	0.11			Santander UK 2.421% variable		
	Myriad Capital 4.75% 20/12/2043	6,178	0.18	044 === 0		17/01/2029	7,018	0.21
£6,000,000	National Australia Bank 1.699% variable 15/9/2031	5,359	0.16	£14,757,0		Santander UK 7.098% variable 16/11/2027	15,271	0.45
£3 647 000	National Express 2.375% 20/11/2028	3,166	0.10	£4 100 0		Saxon Weald Capital 5.375% 6/6/2042	4,072	0.43
	National Express 4.25% variable	0,100	0.00			Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission	1,012	0.12
	perpetual	5,270	0.15			2.125% 24/3/2036	6,605	0.19
£2,280,000	National Grid Electricity 5.75% Step	0.405	0.07	£2,464,0		Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission	0.474	0.07
£4 000 000	10/12/2040 National Grid Electricity Transmission	2,465	0.07	£5 700 0		5.5% 15/1/2044 Scottish Power 6.375% Step 31/5/2041	2,471 6,108	0.07 0.18
24,000,000	2% 17/4/2040	2,531	0.07			Scottish Widows 7% 16/6/2043	10,059	0.30
£9,107,000	Nationwide Building Society FRN	,				Severn Trent 6.25% 7/6/2029	2,793	0.08
	24/2/2031	8,941	0.26	£1,946,0		Severn Trent Utilities Finance 5.25%		
	NatWest 3.619% variable 29/3/2029	8,260	0.24	C1 200 0		4/4/2036 Skandinaviska Enakilda Bankan F 5%	1,956	0.06
£7,414,000	NatWest Group 2.105% variable 28/11/2031	6,639	0.20	£1,369,0		Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken 5.5% 1/6/2026	1,409	0.04
£3,551,000	NatWest Group 7.416% variable	0,000	0.20	£9,283,0		Society of Lloyds 4.875% variable	.,	0.01
	6/6/2033	3,695	0.11			7/2/2047	8,985	0.26
	NatWest Markets 6.375% 8/11/2027	4,354	0.13			South East Water 5.5834% 29/3/2029	7,319	0.22
£5,863,000	New York Life Global Funding 0.75% 14/12/2028	4,928	0.14	£2,688,0		South Eastern Power Networks 6.375% 12/11/2031	2,957	0.09
£8.112.000	New York Life Global Funding 1.5%	7,320	0.14	£1.944.0		South West Water 5.875% 16/7/2040	1,855	0.05
,,	15/7/2027	7,337	0.22			Southern Electric Power Distribution	.,	
£6,523,000	New York Life Global Funding 4.35%					5.5% 7/6/2032	3,261	0.10
040 470 000	16/9/2025	6,462	0.19	£2,533,0		Southern Housing Group 2.375%	4 0 40	0.05
£12,173,000	NGG Finance 5.625% variable 18/6/2073	12,001	0.35	£3 990 0		8/10/2036 SSE 3.74% variable perpetual	1,842 3,792	0.05 0.11
£2.187.000	NIE Finance 5.875% 1/12/2032	2,315	0.07			Stagecoach 4% 29/9/2025	4,166	0.12
	Northumbrian Water Finance 6.375%	,				Svenska Handelsbanken 4.625%	,	
	28/10/2034	2,504	0.07			variable 23/8/2032	4,617	0.14
	Notting Hill Housing Trust 5, 25%	3,117	0.09			Swan Housing Capital 3.625% 5/3/2048		0.14
£2,450,000	Notting Hill Housing Trust 5.25% 7/7/2042	2,374	0.07			TC Dudgeon OFTO 3.158% 12/11/2038 Telereal Secured Finance 4.01%	10,956	0.32
£6,636,000	OP Corporate Bank 1.375% 4/9/2026	6,015	0.18	20,002,0		10/12/2033	3,137	0.09
	OP Corporate Bank 3.375% 14/1/2026	3,442	0.10	£5,700,0		Telereal Securitisation 1.3657%		
	Orbit Capital 2% 24/11/2038	1,824	0.05	00 000 0		10/12/2033	3,390	0.10
	Orbit Capital 3.375% 14/6/2048 Orsted 2.5% variable 18/2/3021	2,890 2,688	0.08 0.08	£2,000,0		Telereal Securitisation 3.507% variable 10/12/2033	1,800	0.05
	Orsted 5.125% 13/9/2034	4,164	0.00	£4.908.8		Telereal Securitisation 3.5625%	1,000	0.03
	OSB Group 8.875% variable 16/1/2030	5,882	0.17	,,-		10/12/2036	4,427	0.13
£5,378,000	OSB Group 9.5% variable 7/9/2028	5,602	0.16	£2,655,6	00	Telereal Securitisation 3.5625%		
	OSB Group 9.993% variable 27/7/2033	5,926	0.17	0=4=: -		10/12/2036	2,382	0.07
£4,376,000	Peabody Capital No Two 2.75% 2/3/2034	3,548	0.10	£1,114,0		Telereal Securitisation 5.3887% 10/12/2033	2,689	0.08
£6,320.000	Penarian Housing Finance 3.212%	5,540	0.10	£4.935.0		Telereal Securitisation 5.4252%	۷,005	0.00
,0,000	7/6/2052	4,486	0.13	,000,0		10/12/2033	3,979	0.12
	Pension Insurance 3.625% 21/10/2032	4,533	0.13	£14,959,0		Telereal Securitisation 6.1645%	10.05	
	Pension Insurance 5.625% 20/9/2030 Pension Insurance 8% 13/11/2033	3,082	0.09 0.13			10/12/2033	12,334	0.36
۷۹, ۱۶۵,000	1 Chalon madidice 0 /0 13/11/2033	4,486	0.13					

# Portfolio Statement (continued)

As at 31 January 2024

Holding	Investment E	sid-market value (£'000)	Total net assets (%)			
Corporate Bonds – 36.89% (31/01/23 – 37.14%) – continued £1,750,000 Telereal Securitisation FRN						
£1,750,000		1.371	0.04			
CC 1EO 000	10/12/2033	, -	0.04			
	Tesco Property 5.4111% 13/7/2044	5,311	0.16			
	Tesco Property 5.6611% 13/10/2041	3,575	0.11			
	Tesco Property 5.744% Sink 13/4/204		0.12			
	Tesco Property 5.8006% 13/10/2040 Tesco Property Finance 7.6227%		0.28			
£8,225,000	13/7/2039 Thames Water Kemble Finance 4.629		0.05			
£3,230,000	19/5/2026 Thames Water Utilities 2.375%	3,122	0.09			
£2,153,000	22/4/2040 Thames Water Utilities 7.738%	1,912	0.06			
£4,128,000	9/4/2058 Thames Water Utilities Finance 7.75%		0.07			
	30/4/2044	4,199	0.12			
	THFC Funding 5.2% 11/10/2043	5,469	0.16			
	THFC Funding 6.35% 8/7/2041	5,918	0.17			
	Uliving@Essex3 2.72% 31/8/2066*	1,453	0.04			
	Unifund 5.32% 7/12/2047	2,333	0.07			
	Unite USAF II 3.921% 30/6/2030	5,156	0.15			
	UPP Bond Issuer 4.9023% 28/2/2040		0.16			
, ,	Vicinity Centres 3.375% 7/4/2026 Virgin Money 3.375% variable	3,488	0.10			
£4,171,000	24/4/2026 Virgin Money 5.125% variable	2,071	0.06			
00 504 000	11/12/2030	4,049	0.12			
	Virgin Money 7.625% variable 23/8/2		0.08			
	Virgin Money 8.25% variable perpetu		0.21			
	Vodafone 3% 12/8/2056	4,332	0.13			
	Vodafone 3.375% 8/8/2049	1,744	0.05			
	Vodafone 4.875% variable 3/10/2078 Yorkshire Building Society 3.511%		0.27			
£6,383,000	variable 11/10/2030 Yorkshire Building Society 6.375%	2,448	0.07			
£4,202,000	variable 15/11/2028 Yorkshire Water Finance 5.5%	6,529	0.19			
£1,300,000	28/4/2035 Yorkshire Water Services 5.5% Step	4,068	0.12			
	28/5/2037	1,274	0.04			
	Welltower 4.5% 1/12/2034	3,366	0.10			
	Welltower 4.8% 20/11/2028	4,759	0.14			
	Wessex Water Services 1.5% 17/9/20 Wessex Water Services Finance 1.25	5%	0.16			
£2,676,000	12/1/2036 Wessex Water Services Finance 5.12	5,649 25%	0.17			
£3,441,000	31/10/2032 Western Power Distribution 1.625%	2,627	0.08			
	7/10/2035 Western Power Distribution 5.5%	2,367	0.07			
	9/5/2025 Western Power Distribution 5.75%	1,765	0.05			
, ,	16/4/2032 Westfield Stratford City 1.642%	12,594	0.37			
20,400,000	4/8/2031	7,597	0.22			
£6,897,000	White City Property 5.1202% 17/4/20		0.15			
£4,045,000	Wods Transmission 3.446% 24/8/203 Yorkshire Building Society 3.375%		80.0			
£5,887,000	variable 13/9/2028 Zurich Finance 5.125% variable	2,725	0.08			
	23/11/2052	5,647	0.17			
Total Corporate	Bonds	1,256,162	36.89			
	onds - 0.58% (31/01/23 - 0.49%) UK Treasury 1% 22/4/2024	19,724	0.58			
Total Governme	_	19,724	0.58			
	onds – 0.01% (31/01/23 – 0.01%) National Grid Electricity 2.671%					
	Index-Linked 1/6/2043	398	0.01			
Total Index-Lin	ked Bonds	398	0.01			

Holding	Investment	Bid-market value (£'000)	Total net assets (%)
Equition -	59.41% (31/01/23 – 60.24%)		
•	rials – 3.80% (31/01/23 – 3.61%)		
Chemicals – 360 754	Croda International	17,334	0.51
	IMCD Group	49,970	1.47
96,949	Linde	30,809	0.91
141,516 Total Basic		31,103 129,216	0.91 <b>3.80</b>
Total Basic	materials	120,210	0.00
Industrials -	<b>- 15.10% (31/01/23 – 15.34%)</b>		
Construction	& Materials – 1.61%		
275,798	Trane Technologies	54,637	1.61
Electronic &	Electrical Equipment – 4.35%		
	Agilent Technologies	29,027	0.85
	Schneider Electric	77,101	2.26
377,609	TE Connectivity	42,154	1.24
Industrial En	gineering – 3.83%		
220,225	AGCO Corporation	21,146	0.62
	Nordson Corporation	60,277	1.77
4/5,454	Wabtec Corporation	49,097	1.44
Industrial Tra	ansportation – 1.22%		
423,507	Canadian National Railway	41,470	1.22
Support Ser	vices - 4.09%		
483,872	Ashtead Group	25,171	0.74
1,947,951	·	64,204	1.89
12,196,924	Rentokil Initial	49,788	1.46
Total Indust	rials	514,072	15.10
Consumer (	Goods – 2.25% (31/01/23 – 4.34%)		
Personal Go	ods – 1.70%		
112,328		42,609	1.25
	Unilever	15,148	0.45
Leisure Goo	ds – 0.55%		
	Shimano	18,803	0.55
Total Consu		76,560	2.25
	- 7.70% (31/01/23 <b>-</b> 7.71%)		
	Equipment & Services – 3.53%		
74,569 173,033	Intuitive Surgical	22,139 29,750	0.65 0.87
	Thermo Fisher Scientific	68,271	2.01
Pharmacout	icals & Biotechnology – 4.17%		
	AstraZeneca	69,688	2.05
	IQVIA Holding	18,473	0.54
	Novo Nordisk	53,963	1.58
Total Health	care	262,284	7.70
Consumer	Services - 7.53% (31/01/23 - 6.48%)		
	· ·		
_	Retailers – 2.56%		
	Core & Main	21,655	0.64
391,245 292,786	Ferguson Greaas	57,714 7,823	1.69 0.23
		7,020	0.20
	ailers – 2.52%		
	Amazon.com	30,344	0.89
8,252,907 21 460	MercadoLibre	26,533 28,834	0.78 0.85
۱,+٥٥	MOIOGUOLIDIO	20,004	0.00

# Portfolio Statement (continued)

As at 31 January 2024

Holding	Investment	Bid-market value (£'000)	
Consumer	Services - 7.53% (31/01/23 - 6.48%) -	continued	
Media – 0.2 207,249	20% 9 RELX	6,760	0.20
	isure – 2.25% 6 Compass Group	76,732	2.25
	umer Services	256,395	7.53
Utilities –	1.66% (31/01/23 – 2.05%)		
Electricity - 3,361,963		56,649	1.66
Total Utilit			1.66
Total Utilit	les	56,649	1.00
Financials	<b>- 10.22% (31/01/23 – 11.17%)</b>		
Banks – 4.6		00.070	4.07
6,679,443	6 HDFC Bank ADR 3 HSBC	36,279 41,292	1.07 1.21
	Lloyds Banking Group	18,866	0.55
	Standard Chartered	61,327	1.80
Financial S	ervices – 4.41%		
	1 London Stock Exchange	77,069	2.26
340,80	5 Visa 'A'	73,109	2.15
	nce – 1.18%		
4,910,398	5 Prudential	40,187	1.18
TOTAL FILLAL	iciais	348,129	10.22
Technolog	y – 11.15% (31/01/23 – 9.54%)		
Software &	Computer Services – 7.22%		
	O Adobe	25,152	0.74
	4 Alphabet 'A'	24,176	0.71
	1 Autodesk ) Intuit	24,730 28,463	0.73 0.84
	3 Microsoft	72,269	2.12
6,019,96	1 Sage	70,855	2.08
Technology	Hardware & Equipment – 3.93%		
	3 ASML Holding	51,091	1.50
	Broadcom     Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	12,039	0.35
232,200	ADR	20,590	0.61
399,272	2 Texas Instruments	50,181	1.47
Total Tech	nology	379,546	11.15
Core Canif	al Deferred Shares – 0.08% (31/01/23 -	- 0 08%)	
	Nationwide Building Society 10.25%	- 0.00 /0)	
	variable perpetual	2,600	0.08
Total Core	Capital Deferred Shares	2,600	0.08
Total value	e of investments	3,322,380	97.58
Net other a	essets	82,567	2.42
Total net a	ssets	3,404,947	100.00

All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are "approved securities" within the meaning of FCA rules unless otherwise stated.

# **Summary of Material Portfolio Changes**

For the year ended 31 January 2024

# **Significant Purchases**

	Cost £'000
HDFC Bank ADR	41,656
UK Treasury 2.25% 7/9/2023	35,147
Linde	31,132
Standard Chartered	28,247
Haleon	27,189
Ashtead Group	26,603
NatWest Group	26,022
UK Treasury 0.125% 31/1/2024	25,176
IMCD Group	24,725
UK Treasury 1% 22/4/2024	23,868
Subtotal	289,765
Total cost of purchases, including the above, for the year	578,714

# **Significant Sales**

	Proceeds £'000
UK Treasury 2.25% 7/9/2023	50,335
Adidas	45,046
Natwest Group	36,803
Segro	34,400
Ferguson	28,660
Aptiv	28,106
UK Treasury 0.125% 31/1/2024	25,278
Unilever	23,572
Greggs	22,286
Trane Technologies	21,969
Subtotal	316,455
Total proceeds from sales, including the above, for the year	784,849

# **Comparative Tables**

# **Class A Income**

Change in net assets per unit	31/01/24 (p)	31/01/23 (p)	31/01/22 (p)
Opening net asset value per unit	236.15	254.54	241.25
Return before operating charges*	17.90	(13.99)	18.05
Operating charges	(2.84)	(2.37)	(3.26)
Return after operating charges*	15.06	(16.36)	14.79
Distributions on income units	(3.44)	(2.03)	(1.50)
Closing net asset value per unit	247.77	236.15	254.54
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.08	0.11	0.10
Performance Return after charges	6.38%	(6.43)%	6.13%
Other information Closing net asset value (£'000) Closing number of units Operating charges# Direct transaction costs	186,701 75,351,567 1.17% 0.03%	188,439 79,797,242 1.27% 0.05%	212,726 83,573,879 1.27% 0.04%
Prices^ Highest unit price Lowest unit price	251.80 225.30	256.20 209.70	278.10 236.50

 $<sup>^{\</sup>hspace{-0.1cm} \#}$  The AMC was reduced from 1.25% to 1.15% on 1 June 2023.

# **Class B Accumulation**

Change in net assets per unit	31/01/24 (p)	31/01/23 (p)	31/01/22 (p)
Opening net asset value per unit	212.02	226.15	212.64
Return before operating charges*	16.19	(12.28)	15.78
Operating charges	(2.23)	(1.85)	(2.27)
Return after operating charges*	13.96	(14.13)	13.51
Distributions on accumulation units	(4.45)	(3.25)	(2.89)
Retained distributions on accumulation units	4.45	3.25	2.89
Closing net asset value per unit	225.98	212.02	226.15
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.07	0.10	0.09
Performance Return after charges	6.58%	(6.25)%	6.35%
Other information Closing net asset value (£'000) Closing number of units Operating charges Direct transaction costs	1 500 1.02% 0.03%	1 500 1.02% 0.05%	1 500 1.02% 0.04%
Prices^ Highest unit price Lowest unit price	229.00 204.20	227.70 187.40	246.80 208.50

# **Class B Income**

Change in net assets per unit	31/01/24 (p)	31/01/23 (p)	31/01/22 (p)
Opening net asset value per unit	181.07	195.16	184.97
Return before operating charges*	13.68	(10.53)	13.80
Operating charges	(1.74)	(1.59)	(2.13)
Return after operating charges*	11.94	(12.12)	11.67
Distributions on income units	(3.01)	(1.97)	(1.48)
Closing net asset value per unit	190.00	181.07	195.16
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.06	0.08	0.08
Performance Return after charges	6.59%	(6.21)%	6.31%
Other information Closing net asset value (£'000) Closing number of units Operating charges Direct transaction costs	1 500 1.02% 0.03%	1 500 1.02% 0.05%	1 500 1.02% 0.04%
Prices^	193.10	196.50	213.20
Highest unit price Lowest unit price	172.90	160.80	181.40

# **Class C Accumulation**

Change in net assets per unit	31/01/24 (p)	31/01/23 (p)	31/01/22 (p)
Opening net asset value per unit	216.47	230.40	216.23
Return before operating charges*	16.47	(12.31)	15.96
Operating charges	(1.68)	(1.62)	(1.79)
Return after operating charges*	14.79	(13.93)	14.17
Distributions on accumulation units	(3.94)	(2.70)	(2.28)
Retained distributions on accumulation units	3.94	2.70	2.28
Closing net asset value per unit	231.26	216.47	230.40
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.07	0.10	0.09
Performance Return after charges	6.83%	(6.05)%	6.55%
Other information Closing net asset value (£'000) Closing number of units Operating charges Direct transaction costs	1,769,874 765,329,754 0.77% 0.03%	1,871,744 864,654,972 0.77% 0.05%	2,076,052 901,069,046 0.77% 0.04%
Prices^ Highest unit price Lowest unit price	234.30 208.80	231.90 191.20	251.40 212.00

# **Comparative Tables** (continued)

# **Class C Income**

Change in net assets per unit	31/01/24 (p)	31/01/23 (p)	31/01/22 (p)
Opening net asset value per unit	180.93	195.01	184.83
Return before operating charges*	13.56	(10.43)	13.65
Operating charges	(1.39)	(1.37)	(1.52)
Return after operating charges*	12.17	(11.80)	12.13
Distributions on income units	(3.27)	(2.28)	(1.95)
Closing net asset value per unit	189.83	180.93	195.01
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.06	0.08	0.08
Performance Return after charges	6.73%	(6.05)%	6.56%
Other information Closing net asset value (£'000)	334,444	, -	417,616
Closing number of units Operating charges Direct transaction costs	176,178,158 0.77% 0.03%	201,310,093 0.77% 0.05%	214,149,641 0.77% 0.04%
Prices^ Highest unit price Lowest unit price	193.00 172.80	196.30 160.80	213.10 181.30

# **Class D Accumulation**

Change in net assets per unit	31/01/24 (p)	31/01/23 (p)	31/01/22 (p)
Opening net asset value per unit	219.23	233.06	218.46
Return before operating charges*	16.63	(12.38)	16.06
Operating charges	(1.37)	(1.45)	(1.46)
Return after operating charges*	15.26	(13.83)	14.60
Distributions on accumulation units	(4.26)	(2.99)	(2.59)
Retained distributions on accumulation units	4.26	2.99	2.59
Closing net asset value per unit	234.49	219.23	233.06
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.07	0.10	0.09
Performance Return after charges	6.96%	(5.93)%	6.68%
Other information Closing net asset value (£'000) Closing number of units Operating charges Direct transaction costs	1,090,013 464,848,184 0.62% 0.03%	973,604 444,093,486 0.62% 0.05%	949,500 407,411,747 0.62% 0.04%
Prices^ Highest unit price Lowest unit price	237.50 211.70	234.60 193.50	254.30 214.30

# **Class D Income**

31/01/24 (p)	31/01/23 (p)	31/01/22 (p)
180.98	195.07	184.88
13.52	(10.40)	13.60
(1.12)	(1.20)	(1.23)
12.40	(11.60)	12.37
(3.49)	(2.49)	(2.18)
189.89	180.98	195.07
0.06	0.08	0.08
6.85%	(5.95)%	6.69%
23,913 12,593,187 0.62% 0.03%	24,174 13,357,339 0.62% 0.05%	23,397 11,994,382 0.62% 0.04%
193.10 172.90	196.40 160.80	213.20 181.30
	(p) 180.98 13.52 (1.12) 12.40 (3.49) 189.89 0.06 6.85% 23,913 12,593,187 0.62% 0.03%	(p)         (p)           180.98         195.07           13.52         (10.40)           (1.12)         (1.20)           12.40         (11.60)           (3.49)         (2.49)           189.89         180.98           0.06         0.08           6.85%         (5.95)%           23,913         24,174           12,593,187         13,357,339           0.62%         0.03%           0.05%           193.10         196.40

 $<sup>^{\</sup>upbeta}$  The high and low prices disclosed are the high and low prices for the accounting period and not the calendar year. The net asset value per unit price is based on the net asset value in the published financial statements and may be different due to the prior year end accounting adjustments.

It should be remembered that past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance and that the value of units, and the income derived from them, can vary.

# Statement of Manager's Responsibilities in Relation to the Report and Financial Statements of the Trust

Financial statements for the year ended 31 January 2024, and this Manager's Report have been prepared in accordance with the rules of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook, published by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

These require the Manager to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which give a true and fair view of the financial affairs of the Trust and of its net revenue and the net capital losses on the property of the Trust for the year.

In preparing the financial statements the Manager is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- comply with the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice relating to Authorised Funds and the Trust Deed;
- follow United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and applicable accounting standards;
- keep proper accounting records which enable it to demonstrate that the financial statements as prepared comply with the above requirements and;
- prepare accounts on a going concern basis unless inappropriate to do so.

The Manager is responsible for the management of the Trust in accordance with its Trust Deed, Prospectus and the FCA's rules. The Manager has general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to him to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

# Statement of the Trustee's Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements of the Trust

The Depositary in its capacity as Trustee of Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust must ensure that the Trust is managed in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook, the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended, (together "the Regulations"), the Trust Deed 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 Trust and its investors. The Depositary is responsible for the safekeeping of all custodial assets and maintaining a record of all other assets of the Trust in accordance with the Regulations.

The Depositary must ensure that:

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

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

# Report of the Trustee to the Unitholders of the Royal London Sustainable **Diversified Trust**

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

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

This report is given on the basis that no breaches are subsequently advised to us by the Auditors before the distribution date. We therefore reserve the right to amend the report in the light of such circumstances.

**HSBC Bank Plc Trustee of Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust** 8 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5HQ 22 May 2024

# Independent Auditors' Report to the Unitholders of Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust

# Report on the audit of the financial statements

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust (the "Trust"):

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Trust as at 31 January 2024 and of the net revenue and the net capital gains on its scheme property for the year then ended;
- 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 Trust Deed.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report, which comprise: the Balance Sheet as at 31 January 2024; the Statement of Total Return and the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders for the year then ended; the Distribution Tables; and the Notes to the Financial Statements, which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

#### **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 Auditors' 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 Trust 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 Trust's 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 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 Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the 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 auditors' report thereon. The 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.

Based on our work undertaken in the course of the audit, the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook requires us also to report certain opinions as described below.

#### Manager's Report

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

# **Independent Auditors' Report to the Unitholders of Royal London** Sustainable Diversified Trust (continued)

# Report on the audit of the financial statements - continued

# Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit Responsibilities of the Manager for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Manager's Responsibilities in Relation to the Report and Financial Statements of the Trust, the 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 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 Manager is responsible for assessing the Trust's 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 Manager either intends to wind up or terminate the Trust, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Auditors' 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 auditors' 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 Trust/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 Trust. Audit procedures performed included:

- · Discussions with the Manager, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- · Reviewing relevant meeting minutes, including those of the Manager's board of directors;
- · 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 auditors' report.

#### Use of this report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the Trust's unitholders as a body in accordance with paragraph 4.5.12 of the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook 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.

# **Independent Auditors' Report to the Unitholders of Royal London** Sustainable Diversified Trust (continued)

#### Other required reporting

# Opinion on matter required by the Collective Investment 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.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP **Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors** London 22 May 2024

# **Financial Statements**

# **Statement of Total Return**

For the year ended 31 January 2024

	Note	£'000	l Jan 2024 £'000	£'000	1 Jan 2023 £'000
Income					
Net capital gains/ (losses)	4		156,653		(280,750)
Revenue	5	93,449		76,044	
Expenses	6	(24,785)		(26,062)	
Interest payable and similar charges		(14)		(4)	
Net revenue before taxation		68,650		49,978	
Taxation	7	(7,862)		(5,498)	
Net revenue after taxation			60,788		44,480
Total return/(deficit) before distributions			217,441		(236,270)
Distributions	8		(60,788)		(44,482)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders from investment activities			156,653		(280,752)

# **Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders**

For the year ended 31 January 2024

	£'000	Jan 2024 £'000	£'000	31 Jan 2023 £'000
Opening net assets attributable to unitholders	;	3,422,186		3,679,293
Amounts receivable on issue of units	204,533		325,364	
Amounts payable on cancellation of units	(429,510)		(339,398)	
		(224,977)		(14,034)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders from investment activities		156,653		(280,752)
Unclaimed distributions		-		1
Retained distribution on accumulation units		51,085		37,678
Closing net assets attributable to unitholders	:	3,404,947		3,422,186

# **Balance Sheet**

As at 31 January 2024

	Note	31 Jan 2024 £'000	31 Jan 2023 £'000
Assets			
Investments		3,322,380	3,382,914
Current assets:			
Debtors	9	34,870	39,013
Cash and bank balances	10	61,327	25,747
Total assets		3,418,577	3,447,674
Liabilities			
Creditors:			
Other creditors	11	11,853	23,832
Distribution payable		1,777	1,656
Total liabilities		13,630	25,488
Net assets attributable to unitholders		3,404,947	3,422,186

The financial statements were approved on 22 May 2024 and signed on behalf of the Board of the Manager by:

R. Kumar (Director)

S. Spillar (Director)

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

For the year ended 31 January 2024

#### 1. Accounting policies

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of investments, in compliance with the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investments Schemes Sourcebook. They have been prepared in accordance with applicable UK accounting standards, Trust Deed and in accordance with the UK Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for Financial Statements of Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Management Association (now referred to as The Investment Association) in May 2014 (the 2014 SORP) and amended in 2017.

As stated in the Statement of the Manager's Responsibilities in relation to the Report and Financial Statements of the Trust on page 14, the Manager continues to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of the financial statements of the Trust.

The accounting policies outlined below have been applied on a consistent basis throughout the year.

#### Basis of valuation of investments

The investments of the Trust have been valued at closing bid price on 31 January 2024 excluding accrued interest for fixed interest securities, the last valuation point in the accounting year.

#### **Exchange rates**

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies have been converted to sterling at the bid-market closing rates of exchange on 31 January 2024. Revenue and expenditure transactions are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of transaction.

# Recognition of revenue

Revenue from equities and non-equity shares is recognised when the security is quoted ex-dividend.

Revenue from stock dividends is treated as distributable.

Interest on debt securities is accounted for on an effective yield basis.

Other revenue is accounted for on an accruals basis.

All revenue is recognised as a gross amount that includes any withholding taxes but excludes any other taxes such as attributable tax credits.

Special dividends are treated as revenue or capital according to the nature of the event giving rise to the payment.

The ordinary element of stock dividends is treated as income and forms part of the distribution.

Dividends from UK REITs are split into PID (Property Income Distributions) and Non-PID components for tax purposes. Revenue arising from UK REITs tax-exempt rental business is colloquially known as PID revenue and is taxable in the hands of the Trust. A UK REIT may also carry out activities that give rise to taxable profits and gains, it is from these that the REIT will make a Non-PID distribution, these are treated for tax purposes in the same way as dividends from UK companies.

# **Treatment of expenses**

RLUM Limited's annual charge (A Income 1.15%; B Income and B Accumulation 1.00%; C Income and C Accumulation 0.75%; D Income and D Accumulation 0.60%) is calculated daily on the total net assets of the Trust. All expenses are charged against revenue, except those relating to the purchase and sale of investments, which are charged against capital.

Expenses include irrecoverable VAT.

#### **Taxation**

Corporation tax is provided at 20% on taxable revenue, after deduction of allowable expenses.

Where overseas tax has been deducted from overseas revenue, then that tax can, in some instances, be set off against the corporation tax payable, by way of double tax relief.

Deferred tax is provided using the liability method on all timing differences arising on the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes, calculated at the rate at which it is anticipated the timing differences will reverse. Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent they are regarded as recoverable.

It should be noted that legislation governing taxation is liable to change. The information contained in this report is based upon RLUM Limited's understanding of the current position.

#### 2. Distribution policy

The excess of revenue over expenses and taxation charged to revenue, as disclosed in the financial statements, is distributable to unitholders. Any revenue deficit is deducted from capital.

Distributions are paid to unitholders quarterly.

For Accumulation units, this revenue is not distributed but automatically reinvested in the Trust and is reflected in the value of the units.

For the purpose of the calculation of distribution, revenue from debt securities is computed on an effective yield basis.

Equalisation applies only to units purchased during the distribution period (Group 2 units). It represents the accrued revenue included in the purchase price of the units. After averaging 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 units for Capital Gains Tax purposes.

For the year ended 31 January 2024

# 3. Risk management policies

In pursuing the Trust's objectives set out on page 4, the Trust holds a number of financial instruments which include:

- Equity shares, Corporate Bonds and Government securities held in accordance with the Trust's investment objectives and policies.
- · Cash, liquid resources and short-term debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations.

The main risks arising from the Trust's financial instruments are market price risk, interest rate risk, foreign currency risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. Numerical disclosures have been made for interest rate risk, foreign currency risk and credit risk. However, these risks are not significant at current levels. These risks remain unchanged from the prior year.

#### Market price risk

Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments held. It represents the potential loss the Trust might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements. The asset allocation of the portfolio is reviewed in order to manage the risk associated with particular industry sectors whilst continuing to follow the investment objective. An individual Fund Manager has responsibility for monitoring the existing portfolio selected in accordance with an overall asset allocation parameter and seeks to ensure that the Trust invests in a diversified fashion. to reduce the risk of exposure to a significant event affecting a single security, or industry, subject to the obligation under the Trust's objective to invest in securities which share certain characteristics.

#### Interest rate risk

The Trust invests in fixed and variable rate securities and any changes to interest rates relevant for particular securities may result in either revenue increasing or decreasing. In general, if interest rates rise the revenue potential of the Trust also rises but the value of fixed rate securities will decline. A fall in interest rates will, in general, have the opposite effect.

#### Foreign currency risk

The value of the Trust's investments may be affected by currency movements since a proportion of the assets are denominated in currencies other than sterling. The Manager may, from time to time, seek to mitigate the effect of these currency exposures by covering a proportion of its investments using forward currency hedges. However, no such arrangements were in place at the year end. The Trust may also be subject to short-term exposure to exchange rate movements, for example where there is a delay between dealing and subsequent settlement. However, the Manager considers that this does not pose a significant risk given the short-term nature of this exposure. The risk of currency movements on the income property of the Trust is minimised by converting income received in foreign currency into sterling on the date of transaction.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. This includes counterparty and issuer risk. Cash is held with reputable credit institutions and credit risk is assessed on a regular basis. Certain transactions in securities that the Trust enters into expose it to the risk that a counterparty will not deliver the investment for a purchase, or cash for a sale after the Trust has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Trust only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the Manager as an acceptable counterparty and these are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

#### Liquidity risk

The Trust's assets comprise mainly readily available realisable securities, which can be sold to meet funding requirements if and when necessary. The main liability of the Trust is the redemption of any units that investors wish to sell. Liquidity risk. mainly derived from the liability to unitholders, is minimised through holding cash and readily realisable securities which can meet the usual requirements of unit redemptions.

#### Other risks

#### Potential implications of an epidemic and/or a pandemic

Epidemics and pandemics such as Covid-19, can seriously disrupt the global economy and markets. Pandemics and similar events could also have an acute effect on individual issuers or related groups of issuers and could adversely affect securities markets, interest rates, auctions, secondary trading, ratings, credit risk, inflation, deflation and other factors relating to a Trust's investments or the Manager's operations and the operations of the Manager and the Company's service providers.

#### **Political Risks**

Political conflicts and their consequences, including economic sanctions on Russia, are having a significant impact on global financial markets and commodity pricing. The Manager is closely monitoring the associated internal political developments in relation to inflation, volatile markets and security pricing. Please refer to the Manager's Investment Reports for commentary on the impact and outlook.

The Trust has no direct exposure to Russian companies and the Manager is complying with all restrictions and sanctions issued by the relevant authorities.

Risk disclosure breakdown is available on pages 24 to 25.

For the year ended 31 January 2024

# 4. Net capital gains/(losses)

	31 Jan 2024 £'000	31 Jan 2023 £'000
The net capital gains/(losses) during the year comprise:		
Non-derivative securities	156,756	(278,655)
Currency losses	(91)	(2,088)
Activity fees	(12)	(7)
Net capital gains/(losses)	156,653	(280,750)

#### 5. Revenue

	31 Jan 2024	31 Jan 2023
	£'000	£'000
UK dividends	21,707	11,040
Overseas dividends	14,189	15,434
Interest on debt securities	54,399	45,811
Bank interest	1,972	521
Stock dividends	1,182	3,238
Total revenue	93,449	76,044

# 6. Expenses

	31 Jan 2024 £'000	31 Jan 2023 £'000
Payable to the Manager, associates of the Manager and their agents:		
Manager's annual charge	24,241	25,498
Payable to the Trustee, associates of the Trustee and their agents:		
Trustee's fee	182	211
Safe custody charges	334	336
	516	547
Other expenses		
Audit fee	22	17
Dividend collection expenses	6	_
	28	17
Total expenses	24,785	26,062

Audit fee £19,711 (31/01/23: £18,772) inclusive of VAT.

#### 7. Taxation

# a) Analysis of charge for the year

	31 Jan 2024 £'000	31 Jan 2023 £'000
Corporation tax	6,314	4,053
Overseas tax	1,166	1,344
Adjustments in respect of prior years	173	_
Windfall overseas tax recoveries	(97)	-
Reclaimable tax written off*	306	101
Current tax charge for the year	7,862	5,498

#### b) Factors affecting current tax charge for the year

The tax assessed for the year is lower (31/01/23: lower) than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for a unit trust of 20%.

The differences are explained below:

Net revenue before taxation	68,650	49,978
Corporation tax 20% (31/01/23: 20%)	13,730	9,996
Effects of:		
Revenue not subject to taxation	(7,416)	(5,943)
Adjustments in respect of prior years	173	-
Irrecoverable overseas tax	1,166	1,344
Windfall overseas tax recoveries	(97)	_
Reclaimable tax written off*	306	101
Current tax charge for the year	7,862	5,498

## c) Factors that may affect future tax charges

At the year end there is no potential deferred tax asset (31/01/23: nil) in relation to surplus management expenses.

<sup>\*</sup> Relates to aged tax reclaims written off as these are unlikely to be recovered, including Norwegian, Danish, German, Dutch, Italian & Swiss tax reclaims.

For the year ended 31 January 2024

# 8. Distributions

The distributions/accumulations take account of income received on the issue of units and income deducted on the cancellation of units and comprise:

	31 Jan 2024 £'000	31 Jan 2023 £'000
Accumulation Units		
First Interim	15,752	8,126
Second Interim	13,383	11,755
Third Interim	11,600	8,494
Final	10,350	9,303
	51,085	37,678
Income Units		
First Interim	2,943	1,459
Second Interim	2,422	2,153
Third Interim	2,079	1,482
Final	1,777	1,656
	9,221	6,750
	60,306	44,428
Add: Amounts deducted on cancellation of units	948	500
Deduct: Amounts received on creation of units	(466)	(446)
Net distribution for the year.	60,788	44,482

The difference between the net revenue after taxation and the distribution paid is as follows:

Net distribution for the year	60,788	44,482
Movement in net income property		1
Equalisation on conversions	_	1
Net revenue after taxation	60,788	44,480

# 9. Debtors

	31 Jan 2024 £'000	31 Jan 2023 £'000
Amount receivable for issue of units	4,787	1,114
Sales awaiting settlement	6,772	14,881
Accrued revenue	22,967	22,569
Overseas tax recoverable	344	449
Total debtors	34,870	39,013

# 10. Cash and bank balances

	31 Jan 2024 £'000	31 Jan 2023 £'000
Cash and bank balances	61,327	25,747
Total cash and bank balances	61,327	25,747

# 11. Other creditors

	31 Jan 2024 £'000	31 Jan 2023 £'000
Amount payable for cancellation of units	2,524	6,679
Purchases awaiting settlement	6,760	14,863
FX purchases awaiting settlement	1	11
Accrued expenses	2,493	2,271
Corporation tax payable	75	8
Total other creditors	11,853	23,832

For the year ended 31 January 2024

#### 12. Reconciliation of number of units

	Class A Income
Opening units at 01/02/23	79,797,242
Units issued	1,645,000
Units cancelled	(6,494,300)
Units converted	403,625
Closing units at 31/01/24	75,351,567

Class B Accumulation	Class B Income
500	500
_	_
_	_
_	_
500	500
	Accumulation 500

	Class C Accumulation	Class C Income
Opening units at 01/02/23	864,654,972	201,310,093
Units issued	2,052,800	3,631,300
Units cancelled	(99,170,200)	(28,710,000)
Units converted	(2,207,818)	(53,235)
Closing units at 31/01/24	765,329,754	176,178,158

	Class D Accumulation	Class D Income
Opening units at 01/02/23	444,093,486	13,357,339
Units issued	84,610,400	689,000
Units cancelled	(65,639,300)	(1,461,400)
Units converted	1,783,598	8,248
Closing units at 31/01/24	464,848,184	12,593,187

All classes within the Unit Trust have the same rights on winding up.

# 13. Contingent liabilities and outstanding capital commitments

There were no contingent liabilities or outstanding commitments at the balance sheet date (31/01/23: same).

# 14. Related party transactions

The Manager is a related party to the Trust as defined by Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102 'Related Party Disclosures' and is named on page 3. Fees received by the Manager are disclosed in note 6 of the financial statements. By virtue of the Regulations governing authorised unit trusts, the Manager is party to every transaction in respect of units of the Trust, which are summarised in the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders and within note 8. Distributions, for the revenue element.

Any amounts due to or from the Manager at the end of the accounting year are disclosed in notes 9 (Debtors) and 11 (Other Creditors).

At the year end £186,000 (31/01/23: £7,672,000) was due to RLUM Limited. These amounts are included in amounts receivable for issue of units in note 9 and amounts payable for cancellation of units and accrued expenses in note 11.

At the year end, 23.36% (31/01/23: 21.23%) of the units in issue were held by RLUM Limited.

The units in issue are held by The Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited. RLUM Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited.

#### 15. Risk disclosures

The policies applied to the management of risk disclosures are set out on page 21.

The fair values of the Trust's assets and liabilities are represented by the values shown in the balance sheet on page 19. There is no material difference between the value of the financial assets and liabilities, as shown in the balance sheet, and their fair value.

The Trust's currency exposure is analysed below:

Currency	31 Jan 2024 £'000	31 Jan 2023 £'000
Sterling	2,098,674	2,219,161
Canadian dollar	41,474	40,954
Danish krone	54,117	53,719
Euro	223,772	224,553
Japanese yen	18,907	-
Norwegian krone	3	3
Swiss franc	31,105	41,313
US dollar	936,895	842,483
Total	3,404,947	3,422,186

For the year ended 31 January 2024

#### 15. Risk disclosures - continued

If sterling to foreign currency exchange rates had increased by 10% as at the balance sheet date, the net asset value of the Trust would have decreased by £130,627,000 (31/01/23: £120,303,000). If sterling to foreign currency exchange rates had decreased by 10% as at the balance sheet date, the net asset value of the Trust would have increased by £130,627,000 (31/01/23: £120,303,000). These calculations assume all other variables remain constant.

If market prices had increased by 10% as at the balance sheet date, the net asset value of the Trust would have increased by £332,238,000 (31/01/23: £338,291,000). If market prices had decreased by 10% as at the balance sheet date, the net asset value of the Trust would have decreased by £332,238,000 (31/01/23: £338,291,000). These calculations assume all other variables remain constant.

# Interest rate risk profile of financial assets and financial liabilities

The interest rate risk profile of the Trust's financial assets and liabilities at 31 January 2024 compared to the previous year end was:

	Floating rate financial assets	Fixed rate financial assets	Financial assets not carrying interest	Total
Currency	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
31 Jan 2024				
Sterling	450,403	898,181	757,563	2,106,147
Canadian dollar	4	-	41,470	41,474
Danish krone	-	-	54,117	54,117
Euro	5,576	-	221,649	227,225
Japanese yen	-	-	18,907	18,907
Norwegian krone	3	-	_	3
Swiss franc	9	-	31,783	31,792
US dollar	6,681	-	932,231	938,912
Total	462,676	898,181	2,057,720	3,418,577
31 Jan 2023				
Sterling	413,309	932,719	898,610	2,244,638
Canadian dollar	122	_	40,832	40,954
Danish krone	6	-	53,713	53,719
Euro	8	_	224,545	224,553
Norwegian krone	3	_	_	3
Swiss franc	127	-	41,186	41,313
US dollar	62	_	845,873	845,935
Total	413,637	932,719	2,104,759	3,451,115

Currency	Floating rate financial liabilities £'000	Financial liabilities not carrying interest £'000	Total £'000
31 Jan 2024			
Sterling	-	(7,473)	(7,473)
Euro	-	(3,453)	(3,453)
Swiss franc	_	(687)	(687)
US dollar	-	(2,017)	(2,017)
Total	-	(13,630)	(13,630)
31 Jan 2023			
Sterling	-	(25,477)	(25,477)
US dollar	-	(3,452)	(3,452)
Total	-	(28,929)	(28,929)

Based on 2023 Bank of England interest rate increases, if the coupon rate of floating rate instruments was to change by 3%, the income attributable to these investments at the year end 31/01/24, would change by £911,000 (31/01/23: £1,170,000). Another possible scenario would be if the coupon rate of floating rate instruments was to change by 1% in the future, the income attributable to these investments at the year end 31/01/24, would change by £304,000 (31/01/23: £390,000).

A change of 3% in the prevailing interest rates would result in a change of 6.71% (31/01/23: 7.47%) to the value of the Trust. Another possible scenario would be if a change of 1% in the prevailing interest rates would result in a change of 2.23% (31/01/23: 2.49%) to the value of the Trust.

These examples represent the ACDs best estimate of possible shifts in interest rates.

Interest rates and bond prices have an inverse relationship. As interest rates rise the value of bonds will decrease and vice versa.

	31 Jan	2024	31 Jan 2023		
Credit breakdown*	Bid-Market value £'000	Total net assets %	Bid-Market value £'000	Total net assets %	
Investments of investment grade	1,139,764	33.48	1,151,291	33.64	
Investments of below investment grade	47,647	1.39	48,965	1.44	
Unrated bonds	109,518	3.22	117,768	3.45	
Equities	2,022,851	59.41	2,062,305	60.24	
Core Capital Deferred Shares	2,600	0.08	2,585	0.08	
Total value of investments	3,322,380	97.58	3,382,914	98.85	

<sup>\*</sup> Ratings supplied by S&P, followed by Moody's

For the year ended 31 January 2024

# **16. Portfolio Transaction Costs**

For the year ended 31 January 2024

Analysis of total purchases costs	Value £000	Commissions £000	%	Taxes £000	%	Other Expenses £000	%	Total £000
Equity transactions	320,035	152	0.05	655	0.20	56	0.02	320,898
Bond transactions	257,816	-	-	-	-	-	-	257,816
Total	577,851	152		655		56		578,714

Analysis of total sales costs	Value £000	Commissions £000	%	Taxes £000	%	Other Expenses £000	%	Total £000
Equity transactions	505,702	234	0.05	_	-	2	-	505,466
Bond transactions	279,383	-	-	_	-	_	-	279,383
Total	785,085	234		_		2		784,849

Commissions, taxes and fees as % of average net assets

Commissions	0.01%
Taxes	0.02%
Other expenses	0.00%

#### For the year ended 31 January 2023

Analysis of total purchases costs	Value £000	Commissions £000	%	Taxes £000	%	Other Expenses £000	%	Total £000
Equity transactions	433,587	194	0.04	971	0.22	215	0.05	434,967
Bond transactions	931,106	-	-	_	-	-	-	931,106
Total	1,364,693	194		971		215		1,366,073

Analysis of total sales costs	Value £000	Commissions £000	%	Taxes £000	%	Other Expenses £000	%	Total £000
Equity transactions	534,358	247	0.05	2	-	7	-	534,102
Bond transactions	691,589	_	_	-	-	-	-	691,589
Corporate actions	97,288	_	_	-	_	_	_	97,288
Total	1,323,235	247		2		7		1,322,979

Commissions, taxes and fees as % of average net assets

Commissions	0.01%
Taxes	0.03%
Other expenses	0.01%

In the case of shares, commissions and taxes are paid by the Trust on each transaction. In addition, there is a dealing spread between the buying and selling prices of the underlying investments. Unlike shares, other types of investments (such as bonds, money market instruments, derivatives) have no separately identifiable transaction costs; these costs form part of the dealing spread. Dealing spreads vary considerably depending on the transaction value and market sentiment.

At the balance sheet date the dealing spread was 0.31% (31/01/23: 0.37%).

For the year ended 31 January 2024

#### 17. Fair value of investments

The fair values of the Trust's assets and liabilities are represented by the values shown in the balance sheet. There is no material difference between the value of the financial assets and liabilities, as shown in the balance sheet, and their fair value.

The fair value of investments has been determined using the following hierarchy:

The unadjusted quoted price in an active market for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable (i.e. developed using market data) for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3 Inputs are unobservable (i.e. for which market data is unavailable) for the asset or liability.

# As at the year ended 31 January 2024

Level	1 £000	2 £000	3 £000	Total £000
Investments				
Equities	2,022,851	-	_	2,022,851
Bonds	_	1,292,881	4,048	1,296,929
Core Capital Deferred Shares	_	2,600	_	2,600
Total	2,022,851	1,295,481	4,048	3,322,380

#### As at the year ended 31 January 2023

Level	1 £000	2 £000	3 £000	Total £000
Investments				
Equities	2,062,305	-	_	2,062,305
Bonds	_	1,313,631	4,393	1,318,024
Core Capital Deferred Shares	-	2,585	-	2,585
Total	2,062,305	1,316,216	4,393	3,382,914

Where a price is unavailable or the price provided is not thought to be a fair reflection of the current market value of the asset, the Manager, at its discretion, may permit some other method of valuation to be used.

At the current year end, the level 3 assets held were the following debt securities: Finance for Residence Social Housing 'A1' 8.368% 4/10/2058 and Uliving@Essex3 2.72% 31/8/2066.

At the prior year Finance for Residence Social Housing 'A1' 8.369% 4/10/2058 and Uliving@Essex3 2.72% 31/8/2066 level 3 assets were held.

The fair value of both securities were based on a single broker quote at the last valuation point in the prior accounting year.

Finance for Residence Social Housing 'A1' 8.368% 4/10/2058, the bond is priced by the Investment Adviser using internal models. To estimate a fair value price for these illiquid assets the model uses several buckets of peer group companies. It then derives a credit spread from this group. Based on this and future cashflows of the bonds, a fair value is derived for

The fair value of Uliving@essex3 LLP NEW ISSUE 2.72% 31/8/2066 FIX securities, current year is based on a single broker quote at the last valuation point of the current accounting year.

#### 18. Events after the balance sheet date

Subsequent to the Trust's year end, 31 January 2024, factors such as inflation and geopolitical events could cause the Trust to be impacted by resulting volatility in stock markets and adverse investor sentiment.

The net asset value (NAV) of the Trust as at 17 May 2024 was £3,643,816,386. The impact of the market movements on the Trust's NAV between the end of the reporting period 31 January 2024 and the date of which the financial statements were authorised for issue was 6.18%.

There have been no significant redemptions during this period.

# **Distribution Tables**

For the year ended 31 January 2024

# Distribution in pence per unit

# First Interim

Group 1: Units purchased prior to 1 February 2023

Group 2: Units purchased between 1 February 2023 and 30 April 2023

	Net		Distribution paid	Distribution paid
	Income	Equalisation	30/06/23	30/06/22
Class A Income				
Group 1	1.0759	_	1.0759	0.3917
Group 2	0.5636	0.5123	1.0759	0.3917
Class B Accumulation				
Group 1	2.1243	-	2.1243	1.5240
Group 2	2.1243	0.0000	2.1243	1.5240
Class B Income				
Group 1	0.9542	-	0.9542	0.3740
Group 2	0.9542	0.0000	0.9542	0.3740
Class C Accumulation				
Group 1	1.1977	-	1.1977	0.5731
Group 2	0.6271	0.5706	1.1977	0.5731
Class C Income				
Group 1	1.0011	-	1.0011	0.4850
Group 2	0.5241	0.4770	1.0011	0.4850
Class D Accumulation				
Group 1	1.2776	-	1.2776	0.6461
Group 2	0.7078	0.5698	1.2776	0.6461
Class D Income				
Group 1	1.0545	-	1.0545	0.5408
Group 2	0.4675	0.5870	1.0545	0.5408
Gloup 2	0.4075	0.5670	1.0545	0.541

# **Distribution Tables** (continued)

For the year ended 31 January 2024

# Distribution in pence per unit

# **Second Interim**

Group 1: Units purchased prior to 1 May 2023

Group 2: Units purchased between 1 May 2023 and 31 July 2023

	Net Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/09/23	Distribution paid 30/09/22
Class A Income				
Group 1	0.9010	_	0.9010	0.6884
Group 2	0.3823	0.5187	0.9010	0.6884
Class B Accumulation				
Group 1	0.8785	_	0.8785	0.7038
Group 2	0.8785	0.0000	0.8785	0.7038
Class B Income				
Group 1	0.7909	-	0.7909	0.6474
Group 2	0.7909	0.0000	0.7909	0.6474
Class C Accumulation	-			
Group 1	1.0206	_	1.0206	0.8368
Group 2	0.4881	0.5325	1.0206	0.8368
Class C Income				
Group 1	0.8482	_	0.8482	0.7062
Group 2	0.4247	0.4235	0.8482	0.7062
Class D Accumulation				
Group 1	1.1006	_	1.1006	0.9112
Group 2	0.5051	0.5955	1.1006	0.9112
Class D Income				
Group 1	0.9033	_	0.9033	0.7603
Group 2	0.3362	0.5671	0.9033	0.7603

# **Distribution Tables** (continued)

For the year ended 31 January 2024

# Distribution in pence per unit

# **Third Interim**

Group 1: Units purchased prior to 1 August 2023

Group 2: Units purchased between 1 August 2023 and 31 October 2023

			Distribution	Distribution	
	Net Income	Equalisation	paid 31/12/23	paid 31/12/22	
Class A Income					
Group 1	0.7907	_	0.7907	0.4335	
Group 2	0.3023	0.4884	0.7907	0.4335	
Class B Accumulation					
Group 1	0.7680	-	0.7680	0.4720	
Group 2	0.7680	0.0000	0.7680	0.4720	
Class B Income					
Group 1	0.7040	_	0.7040	0.4260	
Group 2	0.7040	0.0000	0.7040	0.4260	
Class C Accumulation	-				
Group 1	0.9069	_	0.9069	0.6044	
Group 2	0.3477	0.5592	0.9069	0.6044	
Class C Income					
Group 1	0.7503	_	0.7503	0.5083	
Group 2	0.3127	0.4376	0.7503	0.5083	
Class D Accumulation	-				
Group 1	0.9856	_	0.9856	0.6755	
Group 2	0.4314	0.5542	0.9856	0.6755	
Class D Income					
Group 1	0.8049	_	0.8049	0.5616	
Group 2	0.2502	0.5547	0.8049	0.5616	
-					

# **Distribution Tables** (continued)

For the year ended 31 January 2024

# Distribution in pence per unit

#### **Final**

Group 1: Units purchased prior to 1 November 2023

Group 2: Units purchased between 1 November 2023 and 31 January 2024

	Net Income	Equalisation	Distribution payable 31/03/24	Distribution paid 31/03/23
Class A Income				
Group 1	0.6760	-	0.6760	0.5194
Group 2	0.3721	0.3039	0.6760	0.5194
Class B Accumulation				
Group 1	0.6820	_	0.6820	0.5540
Group 2	0.6820	0.0000	0.6820	0.5540
Class B Income				
Group 1	0.5600	_	0.5600	0.5260
Group 2	0.5600	0.0000	0.5600	0.5260
Class C Accumulation				
Group 1	0.8109	_	0.8109	0.6861
Group 2	0.4204	0.3905	0.8109	0.6861
Class C Income				
Group 1	0.6679	-	0.6679	0.5753
Group 2	0.3043	0.3636	0.6679	0.5753
Class D Accumulation				
Group 1	0.8914	_	0.8914	0.7591
Group 2	0.4915	0.3999	0.8914	0.7591
Class D Income				
Group 1	0.7244	-	0.7244	0.6288
Group 2	0.2388	0.4856	0.7244	0.6288

# **Remuneration Policy (unaudited)**

The Manager of the Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust, RLUM Limited (the "Manager"), is subject to remuneration policies, procedures and practices (together, the "Remuneration Policy"), as required under the UCITS Directive ("UCITS V").

RLUM Limited and Royal London Asset Management Limited ("the Investment Adviser") are wholly-owned subsidiaries of The Royal London Mutual Insurance Society, "the Group". The Group maintains a "Group Remuneration Policy" that RLUM has adopted which is consistent with and promotes sound and effective risk management. It is designed so that risk-taking is not encouraged where this is inconsistent with the risk profile of the Trust. The Group has appointed a Remuneration Committee which is made up of Non-Executive Directors and is advised by independent remuneration consultants. The Committee considers the advice by independent remuneration consultants and the Committee considers implications of remuneration policies across the Group, including for RLUM.

The Group Remuneration Policy adopts performance related pay, with salaries determined by reference to both individual performance and the external market. Total Remuneration comprises a mix of fixed remuneration (including base salary and benefits), and variable remuneration in the form of incentives. The ratio between fixed and variable pay (both short-term and long-term incentives) is set by the Group to ensure that there is appropriate balance between the fixed and variable remuneration components. The Group Remuneration Policy applies to staff of the Manager whose professional activities have a material impact on the risk profile of the Manager or the Trust, and ensures that an individual cannot be involved in determining or approving their own remuneration.

The Group Remuneration Policy is updated annually and reviewed and approved by the Remuneration Committee. The most recent review included increases to the maximum incentive opportunities for executive directors of the Group. updates to reflect the Financial Conduct Authority's (FCA) Consumer Duty principle and supporting rules which came into effect in July 2023, as well as minor wording changes to improve clarity. Details of the Remuneration Policy (provided in the form of the RLUM Limited Summary Remuneration Policy), includes a description on the purpose of the policy, how remuneration and benefits are calculated and the identity of persons responsible for awarding the remuneration and benefits. The RLUM Limited Summary Remuneration Policy will be made available for inspection and a paper copy may be obtained, free of charge, at the registered office of the Manager, upon request.

The Manager delegates investment management of the Trust to Royal London Asset Management Limited (the "Investment Adviser"). In accordance with the Group Remuneration Policy and the requirements of UCITS V, staff working for the Investment Adviser are not remunerated by the Manager, they are subject to remuneration requirements which are equally as effective as those in place under the UCITS Directive.

RLUM has a board of directors (the "Directors"). The Directors of the Company who are also employees of the Group, do not receive any remuneration in respect of their services as directors of RLUM. The other Non-Executive Directors receive fixed remuneration in respect of their services which is set at a level determined by the Group and is not performance related. None of the Directors are currently in receipt of variable remuneration in respect of their services as Directors of RLUM.

RLUM has no employees and therefore there are no other controlled functions, or senior management employed and paid by RLUM. However, for the financial year ending 31 December 2023, total remuneration of £17,127,659 was paid to 25 individuals whose actions may have a material impact on the risk profile of RLUM, of which £6,116,357 related to senior management. The fixed element of the total remuneration mentioned above is £5,745,670 and the variable element is £11,381,989. For the 2022 prior year's comparison, a total remuneration of £11,887,148 was paid to 23 individuals whose actions may have a material impact on the risk profile of RLUM, of which £3,199,729 related to senior management. The fixed element of the total remuneration mentioned above is £4.624.325 and the variable element is £7.262.823.

# **General Information**

# **Pricing and dealing**

The prices of units are determined by reference to the underlying market value of the net assets of the Trust at the relevant valuation point.

Unit prices are normally calculated daily however, if the markets are exceptionally volatile the Manager may conduct more frequent valuations to reflect any significant changes in the value of the Trust's underlying assets.

Dealing prices, yields and details of risks and charges are published on our website, www.rlam.com.

Dealing in units is conducted between 8.00am and 8.00pm Monday to Friday, and 8:00am and 5:00pm on Saturday.

# **Buying units**

Units may be bought on any business day via an authorised intermediary or from the Manager by telephoning the Customer Contact Centre on 0345 605 7777\*. Alternatively, an application form should be completed and sent to the Manager. Units will be allocated at the price ruling at the next valuation point and a contract note confirming the purchase will be issued immediately thereafter.

# **Selling units**

Units may be sold back to the Manager on any business day. Units can be sold by telephone by calling the Customer Contact Centre on 0345 605 7777\* or alternatively by putting your request in writing. The Manager will allocate the price calculated from the next valuation point and issue a contract note as evidence of the sale.

\* In the interest of investors' protection all telephone calls to the Customer Contact Centre are recorded.

# **Cancellation rights**

Where a person purchases units the Conduct of Business Sourcebook Instrument 2001 (as amended from time to time) may give the investor the right to cancel the relevant purchase within 14 days of receipt of the requisite notice of a right to cancel. The right to cancel does not arise if (a) the investor is not a private customer, (b) the investor is not an executiononly customer, (c) the agreement to purchase is entered into through a direct offer financial promotion, or (d) the agreement is entered into under a customer agreement or during negotiations (which are not ISA or PEP related) intended to lead to a client agreement.

#### **UK** taxation

The Trust is not subject to Capital Gains Tax.

Capital gains established when units are sold are subject to tax, but at the present time investors are not liable unless their total gains in any tax year from all disposals of assets exceed the Capital Gains Tax annual exemption.

Investors receive a distribution of net revenue with tax credit equivalent to the lower rate of income tax. Where the distribution is retained within the Trust and not paid out it should be included in investors' Income Tax Return. No further liability exists if they pay at the lower or basic rate, but higher rate tax will be payable as appropriate. If investors are not liable to tax they are unable to claim repayment of the tax credit from HM Revenue & Customs.

The treatment of distributions as received by corporate unit holders is detailed on the reverse of dividend warrants. The first distribution received after purchasing units includes an amount described as 'equalisation'. This is a repayment of capital and is therefore not liable to Income Tax. It should, however, be deducted from the initial cost of units for Capital Gains Tax purposes.

#### **Authorisation**

RLUM Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and is a subsidiary of The Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited.

#### **Trust Reports and Prospectus**

Copies of the latest yearly and half yearly financial statements and copies of the Prospectus may be obtained from RLUM Limited upon request.

# **Advisory Committee**

This is an independent committee providing oversight of both the universe of companies approved for the Sustainable Trusts and general environmental, social and governance issues that may impact it. It provides an independent check that all companies invested in the Trusts meet the stated objectives and criteria.

#### **Transfer of units**

Subject to any restrictions in the Trust's Prospectus, unitholders are entitled to transfer their units to another person or body. All transfers must be in writing in the form of an instrument of transfer approved by the Manager for this purpose.

Completed instruments of transfer must be returned to the Manager in order for the transfer to be registered by the Manager.

The Manager currently accepts transfers of title (including renunciation of title in the case of a redemption) to units on the authority of electronic instructions transmitted via electronic messaging systems.

Please refer to the Trust's Prospectus for further information.

# **Contact Us**

For further information please contact:

Royal London
Asset Management Limited
80 Fenchurch Street,
London EC3M 4BY

020 3272 5950 bdsupport@rlam.co.uk www.rlam.com This report is issued by Royal London Asset Management Limited on behalf of RLUM Limited.

Royal London Asset Management Limited provides asset management services to RLUM Limited which is the authorised Manager of the Royal London Sustainable Diversified Trust.

Royal London Asset Management Limited, registered in England and Wales number 2244297; Royal London Unit Trust Managers Limited, registered in England and Wales number 2372439. RLUM Limited, registered in England and Wales number 2369965. All of these companies are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

The marketing brand also includes Royal London Asset Management Funds Plc, an umbrella company with segregated liability between subfunds, authorised and regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland, registered in Ireland number 364259, and subject to limited regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority. Details about the extent of our regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority are available from us on request. Registered office: 70 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland.

All of these companies are subsidiaries of The Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited, registered in England and Wales number 99064. Registered office: 80 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 4BY.

Ref: SREP RLAM PD 0313



