Rathbones
Look forward

Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund

Annual report for the year ended 30 September 2023

Contents

Authorised Fund Manager (the Manager)

Rathbones Asset Management Limited
8 Finsbury Circus
London EC2M 7AZ
Telephone 020 7399 0399
A member of the Rathbones Group
Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and member of The Investment Association

Effective 30 November 2023, Rathbone Unit Trust Management Limited changed its name to Rathbones Asset Management Limited.

Dealing office

SS&C Financial Services Europe Limited
SS&C House
St Nicholas Lane
Basildon
Essex SS15 5FS
Telephone 0330 123 3810
Facsimile 0330 123 3812

Registrar

SS&C Financial Services International Limited
SS&C House
St Nicholas Lane
Basildon
Essex SS15 5FS
Telephone 0330 123 3810
Facsimile 0330 123 3812
Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Independent Auditor

Deloitte LLP
Statutory Auditor
110 Queen Street
Glasgow G1 3BX

Directors of the Manager

RP Stockton – Chairman (resigned 1 December 2023)
MM Webb – Chief Executive Officer (resigned 1 December 2023)
T Carroll – Chief Investment Officer
E Renals – Chief Operating Officer (appointed 3 July 2023)
JA Rogers – Chief Distribution Officer (appointed 1 December 2023)
JM Ardouin – Finance Director (resigned 14 March 2023)
MS Warren – Non-Executive Director
J Lowe – Non-Executive Director

Administrator

HSBC Securities Services
1-2 Lochside Way
Edinburgh Park
Edinburgh EH12 9DT
Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Trustee

NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited
250 Bishopsgate
London EC2M 4AA
Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Investment objective and policy

Investment objective

The objective of the fund is to deliver a greater total return than the IA Sterling Corporate Bond sector, after fees, over any rolling five-year period.

There is no guarantee that this investment objective will be achieved over five years, or any other time period.

We use the IA Sterling Corporate Bond sector as a target for our fund's return because we aim to consistently outperform the average return of our competitors.

When picking our investments, there are three assessments we make. First, we look at the economic environment to determine which industries we want to own and the duration of our investments. Then we use the Four Cs Plus approach to evaluate creditworthiness. We assess:

Character: Whether a company's managers have integrity and competence

Capacity: Ensuring a company isn't over-borrowing and has the cash to pay its debts

Collateral: Are there assets backing the loan, which reduces the risk of a loan

Covenants: These loan agreements set out the terms of the bond and restrictions on the company

Conviction: We think differently to the market; sometimes contrarian, sometimes sceptical of orthodox thinking, but always opinionated

Meanwhile, Rathbone Greenbank, an ethical research division of our company, assesses potential investments against positive and negative social and environmental criteria. Finally, we compare prices to determine the best value bonds to include in our fund.

Investment strategy

To meet the objective, the fund manager will invest at least 80% of our fund in corporate bonds with an investment-grade rating (AAA to BBB-). The remaining 20% of the fund is invested in corporate bonds with a credit rating below BBB- or with no rating at all.

Up to 10% of the fund can be invested directly in contingent convertible bonds.

The fund may invest globally but at least 80% of the portfolio will be invested in sterling denominated assets or hedged back to sterling.

Derivatives may be used by the fund for investment purposes, efficient portfolio management and hedging. The use of derivatives for investment purposes may increase the volatility of the fund's Net Asset Value and may increase its risk profile.

The manager may use all investment powers as permitted by the prospectus, outside the ranges described above, to ensure the fund is managed in the best interest of investors in times of market irregularities or stress.

Investment policy

The fund may invest at the fund manager's discretion in other transferable securities, money market instruments, warrants, cash and near cash and deposits and units in collective investment schemes. Use may be made of stock lending, borrowing, cash holdings, hedging and other investment techniques permitted by the FCA Rules.

The manager will apply ethical criteria and screening in order to avoid investing in companies involved in specific activities or engaged in behaviour that is considered to be of concern to ethical investors. The fund will seek to invest in companies that are aware of their wider responsibilities to society and the environment.

Further details in relation to the current ethical and sustainability criteria may be obtained by contacting Rathbones Asset Management. Investors should be aware that these criteria may change over time. Product reference number: 196624.

Investment report for the year ended 30 September 2023

Performance overview

In the 12 months ended 30 September 2023, the Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund (I-Class units) gained 9.55% compared with the IA Sterling Corporate Bond sector which rose by 7.28%.

Market overview

For the last 18 months or so, global bond markets have borne the brunt of one of the most aggressive interest rate-rising cycles on record as the world's biggest central banks have aggressively hiked rates in a bid to tame persistently high inflation. Central banks made it very clear that they'd keep hiking rates until the prices of goods and services stopped rising too fast, even if that meant engineering an economic slowdown and higher unemployment.

High rates and higher inflation erode the value of bonds' fixed returns so global government bond markets have sold off very sharply (sending yields, which run in the opposite direction to bond prices, soaring to their highest levels in many years). The yield on 10-year gilts stood at 4.10% at the start of October 2022. One year later, it had reached 4.50%, while swinging significantly and often along the way. The yield on 10-year US Treasuries was also very volatile as it rose from 3.83% at the start of the period to 4.58% by its end.

There's an old saying that "Whenever the Fed hits the brakes, someone goes through the windshield." The US Federal Reserve (Fed), the Bank of England (BoE) and the European Central Bank have all hit the brakes very hard. So it's hardly a surprise that signs of stress emerged in the banking sector in March. The sudden collapses of some smaller US banks and Swiss banking giant Credit Suisse suggested sizeable cracks might be appearing in more rate-sensitive parts of the global economy. (One of the key reasons behind the downfall of US Silicon Valley Bank was that it had amassed big losses on fixed income securities as rates had climbed.)

Investors thought these cracks could be warning signs of much broader economic slowdowns to come that would force central banks to stop hiking rates and start cutting them. By late April, it had become clear that San Francisco's First Republic Bank was in trouble too. It had suffered huge outflows as nervy customers rushed to get their money out amid signs that its business model of offering cheap mortgages to its wealthy customers was getting squeezed by higher rates. JPMorgan subsequently took over First Republic in a deal brokered by US regulators.

Notwithstanding the banking sector turmoil, the broader global economy proved remarkably resilient in the face of the sharpest monetary policy tightening in 40 years. The US economy in particular defied gloomy predictions of a looming economic 'hard landing' as much higher borrowing costs squeezed away at businesses and consumers' spending power. US GDP growth slowed in the first quarter of 2023, but picked up a bit in the second quarter, rising to 2.4%. There was other good news too. After several months of successive declines, the US headline rate of inflation had dipped to 3% in June – its lowest rate since March 2021. All this raised hopes that the Fed might be able to pull off a 'soft landing' – the rare feat of taming inflation without triggering a serious economic downturn.

Things were trickier this side of the pond. Inflation proved particularly sticky in the UK, where it was both higher than elsewhere and fell less quickly. It wasn't until mid-year that UK inflation finally began to cool. The reading for June showed the UK's headline rate of inflation had dropped more than expected to 7.9% – its lowest since March 2022 and down from a peak of more than 11% in October. When inflation dropped further over the summer, the BoE opted to keep rates on hold in September. The Fed too paused on hiking in September, though – like the BoE – it signalled very strongly that while rates had likely peaked (or are almost there) for now, they would stay close to their current highs for some time.

The big worry for central banks is the strength of jobs markets because hot jobs markets raise the risk that inflation won't fall back further and might even start to reaccelerate. Annualised pay growth in the UK hit 7.8% in the three months to July: its highest ever three-month rate in records going back to 2001. And in the US, employment increased by the most in eight months in September, with non-farm payrolls numbers double expectations. Central banks want to see jobs markets cooling because this will reduce pressure on businesses to raise pay, which can feed into higher prices.

Economic data has been sending some very confusing signals and there are some nasty warning signs of things that might cause trouble ahead. Rates have jumped from virtually zero to roughly 5% in about 18 months. That's a phenomenally rapid rise and something we think is difficult for households and businesses simply to shrug off. This does seem to suggest that a sharper economic downturn is coming at some point.

As investors have grown less confident in the last few months about the prospect of a 'soft landing', they've grown more concerned about how higher borrowing costs and weaker demand could impact on some corporate borrowers. Nevertheless, credit spreads — the extra yield (or spread) that corporate debt offers relative to government debt for taking on default risks — were still much tighter at the end of the period than at its start. The iTraxx European Crossover Index, which measures this spread, began the period at 639 basis points (bps) and it had narrowed to 426bps by its end.

Portfolio activity

We don't invest in mainstream UK government gilts as the government is involved in some areas prohibited by our screening criteria. Instead, we focus on the UK's green sovereign bonds ('Green Gilts') as an ethical alternative. Throughout the period, investors were repeatedly wrong-footed in their attempts to work out how long central banks would keep raising rates and where they might peak. As we explained earlier, this ensured that government bond markets were exceptionally volatile. Yields soared in periods when investors expected more central bank policy tightening, while government bonds rallied in others when they believed tightening was drawing to a close and central banks might soon pivot to rate-cutting. We traded the Green Gilt 1.5% 2053 and 0.875% 2033 throughout the period. There were times when we felt investors might be pricing in more policy tightening than the BoE would deliver and we sold some of these bonds. But, over the period as a whole, we added to our Green Gilts.

Because governments can generally lock in their borrowing further into the future than most companies — and pay lower coupons into the bargain — government bonds tend to be longer duration than corporate ones (making them more sensitive to changes in interest rates). So, buying more Green Gilts, especially the 2053s, enabled us to add more duration to our fund. Longer duration bond yields are likely to at least stabilise and may even reverse quite a lot if the economic outlook worsens and we start to move into the next phase of the rates and economic cycle. Longer-dated government bonds tend to perform particularly well after the last rate hikes in tightening cycles, as economic growth slows, inflation drops and investors begin forecasting lower rates in coming years. It can be risky to be underweight duration at this point.

We've been pairing our Green Gilts via a 'barbell' structure. In bond investing, a barbell combines significant weightings of short-dated bonds with significant weightings of much longer-dated ones. One end of our barbell tilts towards shorter-dated credit that's less sensitive to interest rate moves. The other end tilts towards Green Gilts: as longer-duration government bonds, we expect them to outperform in a slowing-growth, falling-rate environment in which some corporate bonds could struggle. We think this tilt could give us a nice cushion against any volatility in credit markets if it looks like we're heading towards a harder economic landing and central banks are gearing up for rate cuts.

We felt that the strongest US, European and UK banks did not share the specific weaknesses that triggered the collapses of SVB, its smaller US peers, Credit Suisse and First Republic. We felt that select banks, insurers and financial institutions are well-capitalised and managing their risk exposure carefully. As a result, we continued to add to our exposure to select financials bonds over the year. We bought some Dutch banking group ING 6.25% 2033 bonds, and also some Italian insurer Assicurazioni Generali 6.269% and Coventry Building Society Perpetual 6.875% bonds. These perpetual bonds don't have maturity dates, but they have a feature that allows their issuers to 'call' (redeem) them at specific dates. We think Assicurazioni Generali and Coventry Building Society could call these bonds quite soon and, in the meantime, we like the very attractive yields they offer in compensation for this callability feature.

We sold our Dutch bank Stichting Rabobank 6.5% Perpetual bonds as we felt they looked expensive relative to some of their other debt. Early this year, we also sold some Australasian lender National Australia Bank 1.699% 2031 bonds amid concerns about how long Australia's central bank – the Reserve Bank of Australia – might keep hiking rates. As inflation in Australia continued to rise, the RBA seemed in early 2023 to be reversing the more dovish tone it had previously favoured and signalling it would keep rates hikes coming. This direction of travel suggested that the yields on offer from Australian debt would rise, making the Australian bonds we held look less attractive.

We don't expect all corporate bonds to perform well from here. Some high-yield bond issuers (i.e. companies with lower credit ratings because they're deemed at greater risk of defaulting on their debt repayments) may well come under pressure. Higher quality (investment grade) borrowers are in a stronger position and more likely to be able to cope with economic weakness without debt affordability becoming a significant issue. This suggests to us that we probably aren't going to see a big spike in defaults from higher-quality borrowers even if the broader economic backdrop gets worse. But, as the year has progressed, we've been growing more cautious about the longer-term outlook for some corporate borrowers. As a result we've been selling some of our longer-dated credit. Towards the end of the period, for example, we sold some of our private equity group 3i 3.75% 2040 bonds.

Bond markets will probably stay pretty volatile for a while. Investors may have begun to accept that rates will stay higher for longer. But there's a lot of uncertainty about how high and for how long. And investors are demanding higher yields to compensate for that uncertainty. This is challenging for those trying to time exactly when government yields may peak. But it also opens up opportunities for longer-term investors to lock in income yields at close to once-in-a-generation highs.

Bryn Jones
Fund Manager
24 October 2023

Stuart Chilvers
Fund Manager

Ethical report for the year ended 30 September 2023

In the year to 30 September 2023, the Fund has invested in new bonds issued by the following organisations whose products and services provide benefits to society or the environment and/or who demonstrate good practice in responsible business matters.

Financial institutions

During the year, the Fund invested in a number of bonds issued by insurance and banking groups with strong environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance. These include building societies such as Nationwide, Principality, Skipton and Yorkshire building societies which all have a strong focus on retail banking and promoting access to finance.

The Fund has also invested in bonds issued by larger financial institutions including: Crédit Agricole, a leader in supporting issuance of green and sustainable debt that has ambitious climate goals for its own operations; and Lloyds Banking Group, which displays best practice in employment issues, including diversity and inclusion, training and development and workplace mental health.

Bonds issued by organisations such as Royal London, Quilter and Close Brothers that display good corporate social responsibility practices have also been bought over the year.

In addition to an assessment of how well financial institutions are managing their direct social and environmental impacts, we are placing an increasing focus in our analysis on the management of indirect impacts via financing and investment activities.

Energy and climate

The Fund has invested in a number of bonds issued by companies involved in expanding and upgrading the UK's electricity transmission grid. Upgrading the grid to be able to handle increased volumes of electricity as the country increasingly electrifies transportation and heating is an important step towards net zero emissions. In addition, connecting new projects, including large scale renewable energy projects, to the grid helps to decarbonise our energy system.

The fund has invested in bonds issued by Northern Ireland Electricity Networks and National Grid's electricity distribution operations. It has also invested in Gwynt y Môr OFTO, which owns and operates the offshore transmission infrastructure (cables and substations) that connects a 160 wind farm, located off the north coast of Wales, to the grid.

Connectivity and communication

The fund has invested in bonds issued by BT, Vodafone and Arqiva over the past year. BT and Vodafone operate cabled and mobile communication networks that play a facilitating role in reducing emissions and improving energy efficiency. This is primarily through the roll-out of connected devices – the so-called internet of things – that enable remote monitoring, maintenance and control of things such as building lighting, heating and cooling, energy grids and transportation networks.

Engagement

Greenbank's ethical, sustainable and impact research team (which provides screening services for the fund) has engaged with a number of holdings over the year to 30 Sep 2023.

This has included both thematic engagement on sustainability issues and tactical engagement in response to emerging issues and concerns with investee organisations. Detailed discussions have been held with companies including Legal and General and National Grid on progress towards net zero emissions and setting out investor expectations on this issue in line with the Net Zero Investment Framework. Greenbank has also engaged with a number of financial institutions on biodiversity risks associated with their lending and investment portfolios, specifically the need for due diligence to identify and eliminate illegal deforestation.

Portfolio ethical and sustainability characteristics

Various different terms are used to describe responsible, sustainable and impact investment approaches with no universally accepted definition or terminology for each.

The Fund's style has typically been described as 'ethically balanced', applying both positive and negative screening criteria. However, while not primarily focused on companies addressing sustainability or impact issues, a meaningful proportion (between 15% and 25%) of the Fund has been invested in issuers addressing key sustainability or impact themes in recent years.

The Fund is active across five of the categories below: Traditional, Ethical & Responsible, ESG Leadership, Thematic and, to a lesser extent, Impact First. In practice, the boundaries between the different approaches are gradual rather than clearly delineated.

Spectrum of capital

Financial returns ⟷ **Impact returns**

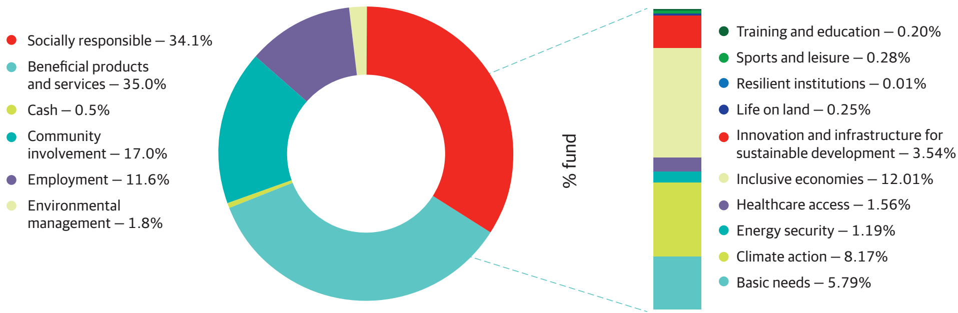
	Traditional	**Ethical and responsible**	**ESG leadership**	**Thematic**	**Impact first**	**Philanthrophy**
	Pure focus on financial returns	Focus on avoidance screening ESG risk management	Best of sector investments Positive selection and avoidance Screening ESG risks and opportunities	Financial returns directly linked with providing solution to social or environmental challenges	Potential trade off between social and environmental returns and financial returns	Limited or usually no focus on financial returns
e.g. Cash	**e.g. Tritax Big Box REIT**	**e.g. Nationwide Building Society**	**e.g. Aviva Plc**	**e.g. Places for People**	**e.g. Thera**	
0.79%	**1.64%**	**51.29%**	**25.72%**	**19.22%**	**1.34%**	

Source: Graphic modified from Bridges Fund Management's *The Bridges Spectrum of Capital*

The positive element of the Fund's ethical research process does, however, also recognise key global sustainable development trends and identifies investee companies' exposure to these. Many of these overlap, but can be broadly divided into two groups: environmental sustainability and social development.

The chart below sets out the portion of the Fund's exposure to companies offering solutions to various sustainability challenges ("beneficial products and services") as well as the primary ethical attributes of the remaining portion of the Fund's portfolio.

While not directly linked to sustainability solutions via the products and services they provide, many holdings also have significant positive attributes associated with the way in which they operate and align with the requirements of the Fund's positive criteria (those classified as "socially responsible" address more than one positive aspect).



Net asset value per unit and comparative tables

R-class income units

	30.09.23 pence per unit	30.09.22 pence per unit	30.09.21 pence per unit
Change in net assets per unit			
Opening net asset value per unit	71.09p	96.70p	95.96p
Return before operating charges*	7.66p	(21.16p)	5.21p
Operating charges	(0.97p)	(1.14p)	(1.26p)
Return after operating charges*	6.69p	(22.30p)	3.95p
Distributions on income units	(3.59p)	(3.31p)	(3.21p)
Closing net asset value per unit	74.19p	71.09p	96.70p
*after direct transaction costs[1] of:	0.00p	0.00p	0.00p

[1] Transaction costs include dealing costs, broker commission, stamp duty and other explicit investment costs.

Performance

Return after charges	9.41%	(23.06%)	4.12%

Other information

Closing net asset value	£4,036,078	£4,845,243	£7,340,655
Closing number of units	5,440,276	6,815,379	7,591,482
Operating charges**	1.28%	1.28%	1.28%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Prices***

Highest unit price	79.84p	97.57p	100.71p
Lowest unit price	69.59p	72.02p	96.35p

** The Operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF) which is calculated in line with the IA SORP.

*** These prices may have been calculated on a different basis to the opening/closing net asset value per unit shown in the comparative table, this may result in the opening/closing net asset value per unit being higher or lower than the published highest or lowest prices for the period.

R-class accumulation units

	30.09.23 pence per unit	30.09.22 pence per unit	30.09.21 pence per unit
Change in net assets per unit			
Opening net asset value per unit	177.45p	231.94p	222.78p
Return before operating charges*	19.24p	(51.72p)	12.13p
Operating charges	(2.47p)	(2.77p)	(2.97p)
Return after operating charges*	16.77p	(54.49p)	9.16p
Distributions on accumulation units	(9.13p)	(8.04p)	(7.56p)
Retained distributions on accumulation units	9.13p	8.04p	7.56p
Closing net asset value per unit	194.22p	177.45p	231.94p
*after direct transaction costs[1] of:	0.00p	0.00p	0.00p

[1] Transaction costs include dealing costs, broker commission, stamp duty and other explicit investment costs.

Performance

Return after charges	9.45%	(23.49%)	4.11%

Other information

Closing net asset value	£11,317,543	£13,883,234	£22,008,508
Closing number of units	5,827,297	7,823,661	9,488,714
Operating charges**	1.28%	1.28%	1.28%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Prices***

Highest unit price	201.56p	234.04p	236.72p
Lowest unit price	173.69p	177.62p	223.70p

** The Operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF) which is calculated in line with the IA SORP.

*** These prices may have been calculated on a different basis to the opening/closing net asset value per unit shown in the comparative table, this may result in the opening/closing net asset value per unit being higher or lower than the published highest or lowest prices for the period.

I-class income units

	30.09.23 pence per unit	30.09.22 pence per unit	30.09.21 pence per unit
Change in net assets per unit			
Opening net asset value per unit	76.33p	103.16p	101.74p
Return before operating charges*	8.22p	(22.67p)	5.53p
Operating charges	(0.53p)	(0.62p)	(0.69p)
Return after operating charges*	7.69p	(23.29p)	4.84p
Distributions on income units	(3.87p)	(3.54p)	(3.42p)
Closing net asset value per unit	80.15p	76.33p	103.16p
*after direct transaction costs[1] of:	0.00p	0.00p	0.00p

[1] Transaction costs include dealing costs, broker commission, stamp duty and other explicit investment costs.

Performance

Return after charges	10.07%	(22.58%)	4.76%

Other information

Closing net asset value	£690,178,845	£582,186,517	£781,199,550
Closing number of units	861,067,119	762,729,809	757,244,490
Operating charges**	0.66%	0.66%	0.66%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Prices***

Highest unit price	85.90p	104.18p	106.95p
Lowest unit price	74.73p	77.32p	102.17p

** The Operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF) which is calculated in line with the IA SORP.

*** These prices may have been calculated on a different basis to the opening/closing net asset value per unit shown in the comparative table, this may result in the opening/closing net asset value per unit being higher or lower than the published highest or lowest prices for the period.

I-class accumulation units

	30.09.23 pence per unit	30.09.22 pence per unit	30.09.21 pence per unit
Change in net assets per unit			
Opening net asset value per unit	188.55p	244.92p	233.77p
Return before operating charges*	20.45p	(54.87p)	12.75p
Operating charges	(1.34p)	(1.50p)	(1.60p)
Return after operating charges*	19.11p	(56.37p)	11.15p
Distributions on accumulation units	(9.74p)	(8.15p)	(7.96p)
Retained distributions on accumulation units	9.74p	8.15p	7.96p
Closing net asset value per unit	207.66p	188.55p	244.92p
*after direct transaction costs[1] of:	0.00p	0.00p	0.00p

[1] Transaction costs include dealing costs, broker commission, stamp duty and other explicit investment costs.

Performance

Return after charges	10.14%	(23.02%)	4.77%

Other information

Closing net asset value	£1,115,024,795	£1,206,199,895	£1,560,994,789
Closing number of units	536,940,110	639,710,393	637,359,444
Operating charges**	0.66%	0.66%	0.66%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Prices***

Highest unit price	214.64p	247.34p	249.78p
Lowest unit price	184.60p	188.73p	234.75p

** The Operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF) which is calculated in line with the IA SORP.

*** These prices may have been calculated on a different basis to the opening/closing net asset value per unit shown in the comparative table, this may result in the opening/closing net asset value per unit being higher or lower than the published highest or lowest prices for the period.

S-class income units

	30.09.23 pence per unit	30.09.22 pence per unit	30.09.21 pence per unit
Change in net assets per unit			
Opening net asset value per unit	78.50p	105.95p	104.34p
Return before operating charges*	8.47p	(23.31p)	5.68p
Operating charges	(0.44p)	(0.51p)	(0.56p)
Return after operating charges*	8.03p	(23.82p)	5.12p
Distributions on income units	(3.99p)	(3.63p)	(3.51p)
Closing net asset value per unit	82.54p	78.50p	105.95p
*after direct transaction costs[1] of:	0.00p	0.00p	0.00p

[1] Transaction costs include dealing costs, broker commission, stamp duty and other explicit investment costs.

Performance

Return after charges	10.23%	(22.48%)	4.91%

Other information

Closing net asset value	£180,100,230	£175,483,285	£216,072,152
Closing number of units	218,199,253	223,540,743	203,943,333
Operating charges**	0.52%	0.52%	0.52%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Prices***

Highest unit price	88.39p	107.02p	109.73p
Lowest unit price	76.86p	79.53p	104.79p

** The Operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF) which is calculated in line with the IA SORP and includes a synthetic element relating to the expenses paid by any investment funds which the fund holds.

*** These prices may have been calculated on a different basis to the opening/closing net asset value per unit shown in the comparative table, this may result in the opening/closing net asset value per unit being higher or lower than the published highest or lowest prices for the period.

S-class accumulation units

	30.09.23 pence per unit	30.09.22 pence per unit	30.09.21 pence per unit
Change in net assets per unit			
Opening net asset value per unit	93.08p	120.74p	115.09p
Return before operating charges*	10.10p	(27.07p)	6.28p
Operating charges	(0.53p)	(0.59p)	(0.63p)
Return after operating charges*	9.57p	(27.66p)	5.65p
Distributions on accumulation units	(4.81p)	(4.20p)	(3.92p)
Retained distributions on accumulation units	4.81p	4.20p	3.92p
Closing net asset value per unit	102.65p	93.08p	120.74p
*after direct transaction costs[1] of:	0.00p	0.00p	0.00p

[1] Transaction costs include dealing costs, broker commission, stamp duty and other explicit investment costs.

Performance

Return after charges	10.28%	(22.91%)	4.91%

Other information

Closing net asset value	£57,476,847	£35,064,772	£43,111,733
Closing number of units	55,991,603	37,671,723	35,706,450
Operating charges**	0.52%	0.52%	0.52%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Prices***

Highest unit price	106.01p	121.96p	123.12p
Lowest unit price	91.13p	93.17p	115.58p

** The Operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF) which is calculated in line with the IA SORP.

*** These prices may have been calculated on a different basis to the opening/closing net asset value per unit shown in the comparative table, this may result in the opening/closing net asset value per unit being higher or lower than the published highest or lowest prices for the period.

Risk and reward profile

Risk and reward profile as published in the fund's most recent Key Investor Information Document

1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Lower potential risk/reward
(Not risk-free)

Higher potential risk/reward

This indicator is a measure of the fund's past volatility (the extent and rapidity of up-and-down movements of the value of an investment). It may not be a reliable indication of the fund's future risk. The risk category shown is not a target or a guarantee and may change over time.

Discrete annual performance

Quarter ending 30 September 2023

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
R-class units	8.74%	5.02%	4.09%	-23.25%	8.87%
I-class units	9.39%	5.67%	4.74%	-22.77%	9.55%
S-class units	9.60%	5.82%	4.88%	-22.67%	9.69%
IA Sterling Corporate Bond sector	9.02%	4.21%	1.26%	-20.53%	7.28%

Source performance data Financial Express, mid to mid, net income reinvested.

Past performance should not be seen as an indication of future performance.

The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and you may not get back your original investment.

Portfolio and net other assets as at 30 September 2023

Holding (Bonds unless otherwise stated)		Value (note 1e) £	Percentage of total net assets
Bonds (30.09.2022: 97.92%)			
Mortgage Bonds (30.09.2022: 0.47%)			
£9,123,625	Finance for Residential Social Housing 8.369% 2058	6,618,931	0.32
$3,000,000	Goodgreen 2020-1 Trust 2.63% 2055	1,224,902	0.06
$888,000	Hero Funding Trust 3.19% 2048	149,721	0.01
$500,000	Hero Funding Trust 3.28% 2048	88,113	0.00
		8,081,667	**0.39**
Supranational Bonds (30.09.22: 0.08%)			
£4,074,000	EIB 0% 2028	3,195,483	0.16
£4,600,000	EIB 5% 2039	4,622,448	0.22
		7,817,931	**0.38**
Corporate Bonds (30.09.22: 95.84%)			
€8,300,000	ACCIONA Financiacion Filiales 4.25% 2030	6,781,060	0.33
£2,962,700	Aggregate Micro Power Infrastructure 8% 2036	2,793,885	0.14
$2,727,000	American Museum of Natural History 3.121% 2052	1,315,500	0.06
£9,300,000	Anchor Hanover 2% 2051	4,514,080	0.22
£1,400,000	Arqiva Financing 7.21% 2045	1,439,248	0.07
£28,600,000	Assicurazioni Generali 6.269% perp	27,747,626	1.35
€5,827,000	Assicurazioni Generali 5.8% 2032	5,155,163	0.25
£259,000	Aster Treasury 4.5% 2043	223,128	0.01
€12,700,000	Audax Renovables 4.2% 2027	7,234,279	0.35
$15,070,000	Australia and New Zealand Banking FRN perp	12,309,852	0.60
£19,605,000	Aviva 4% VRN 2055	14,666,395	0.71
£13,172,000	Aviva 4.375% VRN 2049	11,444,005	0.56
£11,759,000	Aviva 5.125% VRN 2050	10,393,293	0.50
£9,890,000	Aviva 6.125% VRN 2036	9,818,744	0.48
£41,403,000	Aviva 6.875% VRN 2058	39,324,901	1.91
£12,935,000	Aviva 6.875% VRN perp	11,049,517	0.54
£20,929,000	AXA 6.6862% VRN perp	20,655,615	1.00
€2,000,000	AXA 0% VRN perp	1,407,721	0.07
£32,572,000	AXA 5.453% VRN perp	31,352,179	1.52
$46,800,000	AXA 6.379% VRN perp	41,123,609	2.00
$2,353,000	BAC Capital Trust 4% VRN perp	1,490,204	0.07
£14,500,000	Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argent 3.104% VRN 2031	12,890,313	0.63
€12,380,200	Banco Santander 1% VRN perp	9,911,488	0.48
£39,400,000	Banco Santander 2.25% VRN 2032	32,345,808	1.57

Portfolio and net other assets as at 30 September 2023 *(continued)*

Holding (Bonds unless otherwise stated)		Value (note 1e) £	Percentage of total net assets
£17,300,000	Banco Santander 4.75% VRN 2028	16,464,427	0.80
£7,500,000	Banco Santander 5.125% 2030	7,066,759	0.34
€4,750,000	Banco Santander FRN perp	3,110,845	0.15
€15,520,000	Barclays Bank 4.75% VRN perp	12,010,000	0.58
$18,650,000	Beazley 5.875% 2026	14,585,429	0.71
$19,979,000	Beazley Insurance DAC 5.5% 2029	14,404,588	0.70
$19,570,000	BNP Paribas FRN perp	14,927,426	0.73
£20,400,000	BPCE 2.5% VRN 2032	16,816,165	0.82
AUD8,000,000	BPCE 4.5% 2028	3,867,567	0.19
£18,300,000	BPCE 5.25% 2029	16,848,406	0.82
AUD8,660,000	BPCE 6.3424% VRN 2028	4,551,791	0.22
$5,000,000	Bridge Housing Corporation 3.25% 2030	3,487,024	0.17
£3,300,000	Brit Insurance 6.625% VRN 2030	2,409,000	0.12
£5,000,000	British Telecommunications 5.75% 2041	4,559,374	0.22
£4,242,000	BUPA Finance 4% VRN perp	2,574,512	0.13
£34,395,000	BUPA Finance 4.125% 2035	25,404,567	1.23
£4,297,000	BUPA Finance 5% 2026	4,110,563	0.20
£300,000	Burnham And Weston Energy CIC 5% Index-Linked 2036	221,825	0.01
$4,545,000	California Endowment 2.498% 2051	2,159,224	0.10
£3,448,000	Canal & River Trust 2.85% Series A Senior 2043	2,365,328	0.11
£4,358,000	Channel Link FRN 2050	3,297,887	0.16
£9,900,000	Clarion Funding 1.25% 2032	6,785,491	0.33
£3,225,000	Clarion Funding 1.875% 2035	2,158,292	0.11
£8,754,000	Close Brothers 2% VRN 2031	7,256,278	0.35
£3,636,000	Close Brothers 7.75% 2028	3,692,392	0.18
$7,300,000	Cloverie Plc Swiss Reinsurance 4.5% VRN 2044	5,754,053	0.28
€7,000,000	CNP Assurances 5.25% VRN perp	6,075,457	0.30
£175,000	Coigach Community CIC 5% Index-Linked 2030	150,366	0.01
£23,221,000	Coventry Building Society 6.875% VRN perp	21,943,845	1.07
£2,200,000	Credit Agricole 1.874% VRN 2031	1,873,651	0.09
£7,100,000	Credit Agricole 4.875% 2029	6,749,521	0.33
£5,500,000	Credit Agricole 6.375% VRN 2031	5,522,141	0.27
£8,793,000	CYBG 4% VRN 2026	8,227,444	0.40
£19,700,000	CYBG 4% VRN 2027	18,007,291	0.88
£3,660,000	Direct Line Insurance 4% 2032	2,671,833	0.13
£162,000	Ecology Building Society 9.625% VRN perp	163,166	0.01
£1,975,000	Ellenbrook Developments 3.3894% Index-Linked 2032	1,522,822	0.07
£4,117,000	Fidelity International 7.125% 2024	4,117,049	0.20

Holding (Bonds unless otherwise stated)		Value (note 1e) £	Percentage of total net assets
£1,917,847	Finance for Residential Social Housing 8.569% 2058	1,180,817	0.06
£600,000	Finance for Residential Social Housing 8.569% 2058	447,334	0.02
£195,000	Fixed Rate Unsecured Bonds 4.5% 2026	167,368	0.01
$4,500,000	Ford Foundation 2.415% 2050	2,143,883	0.10
£130,000	Glasgow Together 4% 2022	13,000	–
£12,803,000	Grainger 3% 2030	9,998,185	0.49
£3,589,000	Grainger 3.375% 2028	3,101,756	0.15
£12,674,000	Greater Gabbard 4.137% 2032	7,571,694	0.37
£7,750,000	Gwynt y Mor OFTO 2.778% 2034	4,315,618	0.21
€6,700,000	HBOS 4.5% VRN 2030	5,686,290	0.28
£501,300	Heylo Housing Secured Bond 1.625% Index-Linked 2028	414,826	0.02
£23,917,000	Hiscox 6.125% VRN 2045	23,097,364	1.12
£2,920,000	Hiscox 6% 2027	2,904,431	0.14
£53,729,000	HSBC Bank 5.844% VRN perp	53,506,025	2.60
£4,000,000	ING Groep 6.25% VRN 2033	3,809,372	0.19
$5,000,000	Intesa Sanpaolo Spa 7.7% VRN perp	3,840,714	0.19
£21,014,000	Investec Bank 2.625% VRN 2032	17,169,943	0.83
£29,422,000	Investec Bank 1.875% VRN 2028	24,015,372	1.17
€8,382,000	Investec Bank 1.25% VRN 2026	6,664,755	0.32
£5,100,000	Investec Bank 9.125% VRN 2033	5,180,271	0.25
£29,453,000	Just 9% 2026	31,003,583	1.51
£2,362,000	Jupiter Fund Management 8.875% VRN 2030	2,343,104	0.11
£1,322,000	Just 3.5% 2025	1,239,563	0.06
£12,043,000	Just 5% VRN perp	7,769,662	0.38
£18,680,000	Just 7% VRN 2031	18,039,650	0.88
£7,650,000	Just 8.125% 2029	7,621,710	0.37
£32,191,000	Legal & General 3.75% VRN 2049	26,682,569	1.30
£8,025,000	Legal & General 4.5% VRN 2050	6,814,652	0.33
$2,360,000	Legal & General 5.25% VRN 2047	1,784,052	0.09
£12,839,000	Legal & General 5.375% VRN 2045	12,458,447	0.61
£28,943,000	Legal & General 5.5% VRN 2064	25,316,373	1.23
£20,101,000	Legal & General 5.625% VRN perp	15,878,986	0.77
£165,000	Linton Hydro Limited 5.25% Index-Linked 2030	163,894	0.01
£17,951,000	Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society 6.5% VRN 2043	17,322,356	0.84
£2,850,000	Lloyds Banking 1.875% VRN 2026	2,693,864	0.13
£5,851,000	Lloyds Banking 1.985% VRN 2031	5,016,607	0.24
£12,878,000	Lloyds Banking 2% VRN 2028	11,101,459	0.54
AUD5,050,000	Lloyds Banking 5.3906% VRN 2027	2,644,626	0.13

Portfolio and net other assets as at 30 September 2023 *(continued)*

Holding (Bonds unless otherwise stated)		Value (note 1e) £	Percentage of total net assets
£50,283,000	Lloyds Banking 2.707% VRN 2035	37,221,669	1.81
£8,576,000	Lloyds Banking 6.625% VRN 2033	8,329,366	0.40
$6,000,000	Lloyds Banking 7.5% VRN perp	4,795,997	0.23
£8,000,000	Logicor 2019-1 1.875% 2031	7,056,410	0.34
€5,300,000	Logicor Financing 1.625% 2030	3,468,205	0.17
£5,413,000	London and Quadrant Housing Trust 2% 2032	4,031,595	0.20
£6,102,000	London and Quadrant Housing Trust 2.25% 2029	5,026,823	0.24
£4,054,000	London and Quadrant Housing Trust 2.625% 2028	3,555,048	0.17
£2,955,000	London Merchant Securities 6.5% 2026	2,946,384	0.14
£8,473,000	M&G 3.875% VRN 2049	8,272,529	0.40
£11,212,000	M&G 5% VRN 2055	9,524,308	0.46
£17,443,000	M&G 5.625% VRN 2051	15,512,806	0.75
£6,314,000	M&G 5.7% VRN 2063	5,357,099	0.26
£8,341,000	M&G 6.25% VRN 2068	6,883,081	0.33
$4,593,000	Massachusetts Department of Higher Education 2.673% 2031	2,882,969	0.14
$590,000	MDIF Media Finance 4% 2023	134,277	0.01
£3,263,000	Motability Operations 2.125% 2042	1,945,326	0.09
£4,660,000	Motability Operations 4.875% 2043	4,189,658	0.20
£6,944,000	Motability Operations Group 5.75% 2048	6,899,336	0.34
£4,651,000	National Grid Electricity Distribution 5.818% 2041	4,429,517	0.22
£4,673,000	National Grid Electricity Transportation 5.272% 2043	4,179,777	0.20
$5,000,000	Nationwide Building Society 4.302% VRN 2029	3,760,347	0.18
£4,786,000	Nationwide Building Society 5.75% VRN perp	4,068,100	0.20
£5,570,000	Nationwide Building Society 5.769% perp	5,152,250	0.25
£7,693,000	Nationwide Building Society 6.125% 2028	7,780,392	0.38
£6,140,000	Nationwide Building Society 6.178% VRN 2027	6,079,656	0.30
£1,556,000	Nationwide Building Society 6.25% VRN perp	1,488,513	0.07
£3,000,000	Nationwide Building Society 7.859% VRN perp	2,635,830	0.13
£154,938	Nationwide Building Society 10.25% VRN perp	17,507,994	0.85
$900,000	Nature Conservancy 1.154% 2027	612,475	0.03
$6,875,000	Nature Conservancy 3.957% 2052	4,266,678	0.21
£12,923,000	NatWest 2.057% VRN 2028	10,960,928	0.53
£11,386,000	NatWest 3.619% VRN 2029	10,105,134	0.49
£21,928,000	Royal Bank of Scotland 3.622% VRN 2030	20,573,992	1.00
£10,185,000	NatWest 7.416% VRN 2033	10,112,756	0.49
£3,700,000	NatWest Markets 6.625% 2026	3,749,350	0.18
£3,693,000	NIE Finance 5.875% 2032	3,690,721	0.18

Portfolio and net other assets as at 30 September 2023 *(continued)*

Holding (Bonds unless otherwise stated)		Value (note 1e) £	Percentage of total net assets
£1,998,000	Notting Hill Genesis 2% 2036	1,299,558	0.06
£1,357,000	Notting Hill Housing 3.75% 2032	1,162,754	0.06
£1,033,000	Notting Hill Housing 3.25% 2048	651,966	0.03
£200,000	Nottinghamshire YMCA 6% 2027	160,860	0.01
£1,790,000	Orbit Capital 3.375% 2048	1,168,498	0.06
£1,900,000	Orbit Capital 2% 2038	1,147,406	0.06
£6,971,000	Orsted 2.5% VRN 3021	4,445,581	0.22
£440,000	Our Power Social Purpose 6.5% 2021*	–	–
£150,000	Paces Sheffield 6% 2029	122,175	0.01
£4,625,000	Paragon 4.375% VRN 2031	3,763,483	0.18
£9,758,000	Paragon 6% 2024	9,564,596	0.46
£3,454,000	Paragon 2% 2036	2,217,885	0.11
£4,583,000	Peabody Capital No 2 2.75% 2034	3,470,349	0.17
£15,479,000	PGH Capital 6.625% 2025	15,431,190	0.75
$26,069,000	Phoenix 4.75% VRN 2031	19,446,709	0.94
$12,380,000	Phoenix 5.375% 2027	9,440,583	0.46
£3,000,000	Phoenix 5.625% 2031	2,637,366	0.13
£13,950,000	Phoenix 5.75% VRN perp	10,915,094	0.53
£1,924,300	Places for People Finance 4.25% 2023	1,905,019	0.09
£6,993,000	Places for People Homes 3.625% 2028	6,264,253	0.30
£136,000	Places for People Treasury 2.875% 2026	124,988	0.01
£5,981,000	Places for People Treasury 2.5% 2036	4,074,553	0.20
£6,225,000	Principality Building Society 8.625% 2028	6,461,674	0.31
£3,911,000	Prologis International Funding II 3% 2042	2,549,754	0.12
£5,500,000	QBE Insurance 2.5% VRN 2038	4,385,073	0.21
£920,000	Quadrant Housing 7.93% Step 2033	759,294	0.04
£8,000,000	Quilter 8.625% VRN 2033	8,002,320	0.39
£19,360,000	Rabobank Nederland 4.625% 2029	17,574,501	0.85
£1,297,000	RCB Bonds 3.5% 2033	996,096	0.05
£27,600,000	Reassure 5.867% 2029	25,509,035	1.24
£553,200	Retail Charity Bonds 3.9% 2029	468,660	0.02
£1,331,200	Retail Charity Bonds 4% 2027	1,134,875	0.06
£2,414,800	Retail Charity Bonds 4.25% 2026	2,176,942	0.11
£1,089,800	Retail Charity Bonds 4.25% 2028	977,670.00	0.05
£871,800	Retail Charity Bonds 4.4% 2027	816,083	0.04
£1,598,800	Retail Charity Bonds 4.5% 2026	1,438,280	0.07
£900,000	Retail Charity Bonds 5% 2030	753,795	0.04
£40,570,000	RL Finance Bonds 4.875% VRN 2049	29,599,856	1.44

Holding (Bonds unless otherwise stated)		Value (note 1e) £	Percentage of total net assets
£28,576,000	RL Finance Bonds 6.125% 2028	27,340,834	1.33
£8,527,000	RL Finance Bonds 10.125% VRN perp	8,311,506	0.40
£22,807,000	Rothesay Life 3.375% 2026	20,826,233	1.01
$13,306,000	Rothesay Life 4.875% VRN perp	8,067,216	0.39
£26,700,000	Rothesay Life 5% VRN perp	17,136,861	0.83
£15,723,000	Rothesay Life 5.5% VRN 2029	15,423,666	0.75
£7,370,000	Rothesay Life 6.875% VRN perp	6,153,950	0.30
£14,912,000	Rothesay Life 8% 2025	15,078,542	0.73
£14,027,000	Rothschild 9% perp	14,041,027	0.68
£4,500,000	Royal Bank of Scotland 3.125% VRN 2027	4,151,364	0.20
£21,683,000	Santander UK 2.92% VRN 2026	20,368,286	0.99
£916,000	Santander UK 5.875% 2031	859,811	0.04
£7,345,000	Santander UK 2.421% VRN 2029	6,179,800	0.30
£7,407,000	Santander UK 7.098% VRN 2027	7,468,627	0.36
£10,000,000	Santander UK 7.482% VRN 2029	10,273,720	0.50
€7,200,000	Scatec ASA FRN 2025	5,980,108	0.29
£38,832,000	Scottish Widows 7% 2043	36,951,025	1.80
£14,920,000	Skipton Building Society 2% VRN 2026	13,567,606	0.66
£12,804,000	Skipton Building Society 6.25% VRN 2029	12,384,505	0.60
€1,900,000	Società Cattolica di Assicurazione 4.25% VRN 2047	1,581,101	0.08
$11,900,000	Societe Generale 7.875% VRN perp	9,669,226	0.47
$5,400,000	Societe Generale SA 8% VRN perp	4,320,013	0.21
£91,500	South Bristol Sports Centre 7% 2027	46,615	–
$10,031,000	abrdn 4.25% 2028	6,985,662	0.34
£9,146,000	Stonewater Funding 1.625% 2036	5,771,998	0.28
£7,500,000	Suez SACA 6.625% 2043	7,500,795	0.36
£12,353,000	TC Dudgeon Ofto 3.158% 2038	8,839,690	0.43
£1,117,000	Telereal Securitisation 1.3657% 2033	666,918	0.03
£2,270,000	Telereal Securitisation 1.9632% VRN 2033	2,029,683	0.10
£5,169,000	Telereal Securitisation FRN 2033	4,072,912	0.20
£500,000	Thera Trust 5.5% 2024	476,950	0.02
£750,000	Thrive Renewables 5% 2024	737,925	0.04
£3,690,000	TP ICAP Finance 2.625% 2028	2,823,368	0.14
£2,500,000	TP ICAP Finance 7.875% 2030	2,425,488	0.12
£300,000	Triodos Bank 4% 2030	260,250	0.01
£319,000	Unite 3.5% 2028	280,829	0.01
£20,680,000	Virgin Money UK 2.625% VRN 2031	17,698,761	0.86
£22,969,000	Virgin Money UK 5.125% VRN 2030	21,579,222	1.05

Portfolio and net other assets as at 30 September 2023 *(continued)*

Holding (Bonds unless otherwise stated)		Value (note 1e) £	Percentage of total net assets
£2,727,000	Virgin Money UK 7.625% VRN 2029	2,769,994	0.13
£8,256,000	Vodafone International Financing 5.125% 2052	6,722,624	0.33
£2,043,000	Welltower 4.5% 2034	1,688,964	0.08
£700,000	Welltower 4.8% 2028	654,439	0.03
$12,766,000	WK Kellogg Foundation Trust 2.443% 2050	5,903,712	0.29
£12,023,000	Wods Transmission 3.446% 2034	7,639,849	0.37
£12,586,000	Yorkshire Building Society 1.5% VRN 2029	9,833,681	0.48
£22,614,000	Yorkshire Building Society 3.375% VRN 2028	19,405,553	0.94
£15,846,000	Yorkshire Building Society 3.511% VRN 2030	13,255,234	0.64
£12,869,000	Yorkshire Building Society 6.375% VRN 2028	12,562,468	0.61
£6,000,000	Yorkshire Building Society 7.375% VRN 2027	6,039,576	0.29
$20,520,000	Zurich Finance Ireland Designated 3% VRN 2051	12,948,861	0.63
£10,874,000	Zurich Finance Ireland Designated 5.125% VRN 2052	9,586,668	0.47
		1,885,975,373	**91.64**
Government Bonds (30.09.22: 1.47%)			
£15,000,000	UK Treasury Gilt 0.875% 2033	10,784,850	0.52
£230,605,000	UK Treasury Gilt 1.5% 2053	109,952,464	5.34
		120,737,314	**5.86**
Total Bonds		**2,022,612,285**	**98.27**
Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts (30.09.22: (0.72%))			
	Buy £10,538,287 Sell AUD20,447,595	(296,590)	(0.01)
	Buy £72,472,184 Sell €83,872,275	(510,653)	(0.02)
	Buy £206,582,743 Sell $257,906,366	(4,593,812)	(0.23)
		(5,401,055)	**(0.26)**
Total value of investments (30.09.22: 97.92%)		2,017,211,230	98.01
Net other assets (30.09.22: 2.08%)		40,923,108	1.99
Total value of the fund as at 30 September 2023		**2,058,134,338**	**100.00**

* Delisted

Sectors eliminated since the beginning of the period:	
Corporate Convertibles	0.06%
Equities	0.72%

Summary of portfolio investments

	Value £	Percentage of total net assets
Investment grade	1,898,530,251	92.24
Below investment grade	69,018,711	3.35
Unrated stocks	55,063,323	2.68
Debt Securities	2,022,612,285	98.27
Equity Securities	–	–
Derivatives	(5,401,055)	(0.26)
Total value of investments	**2,017,211,230**	**98.01**

Statement of total return for the year ended 30 September 2023

	Note	30.09.23 £	30.09.23 £	30.09.22 £	30.09.22 £
Income					
Net capital gains /(losses)	3		**114,162,632**		(700,278,691)
Revenue	4	**102,349,350**		95,213,826	
Expenses	5	**(13,837,150)**		(16,475,801)	
Interest payable and similar charges	6	**(7,754)**		(4,171)	
Net revenue before taxation		**88,504,446**		78,733,854	
Taxation	7	**(9,265)**		(5,091)	
Net revenue after taxation			**88,495,181**		78,728,763
Total return before distributions			**202,657,813**		(621,549,928)
Distributions	8		**(101,740,272)**		(94,329,422)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders from investment activities			**100,917,541**		(715,879,350)

Statement of change in net assets attributable to unitholders for the year ended 30 September 2023

	30.09.23 £	30.09.23 £	30.09.22 £	30.09.22 £
Opening net assets attributable to unitholders		**2,017,662,946**		2,630,727,387
Amounts receivable on issue of units	**245,934,400**		378,349,959	
Amounts payable on cancellation of units	**(366,028,022)**		(334,175,924)	
		(120,093,622)		44,174,035
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders from investment activities (see Statement of total return above)		**100,917,541**		(715,879,350)
Retained distributions on accumulation units		**59,647,473**		58,636,052
Unclaimed distributions		**–**		4,822
Closing net assets attributable to unitholders		**2,058,134,338**		2,017,662,946

Balance sheet as at 30 September 2023

	Note	30.09.23 £	30.09.23 £	30.09.22 £	30.09.22 £
Assets					
Fixed assets:					
Investments			**2,022,612,285**		1,990,672,349
Current assets:					
Debtors	*9*	**62,889,465**		44,217,290	
Cash and bank balances		**12,654,787**		15,063,190	
Total current assets			**75,544,252**		59,280,480
Total assets			**2,098,156,537**		2,049,952,829
Liabilities					
Investment liabilities		**(5,401,055)**		(14,976,441)	
Creditors:					
Other creditors	*10*	**(23,387,558)**		(8,114,078)	
Distribution payable on income units		**(11,233,586)**		(9,199,364)	
Total liabilities			**(40,022,199)**		(32,289,883)
Net assets attributable to unitholders			**2,058,134,338**		2,017,662,946

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of accounting

The annual financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of investments and in accordance with FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for Financial Statements of UK Authorised Funds issued by The Investment Association in May 2014, and as amended in June 2017.

As stated in the Statement of the Manager's responsibilities in relation to the report and accounts of the Company on page 45, the Manager continues to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of the financial statements of the fund.

There are no significant judgments or sources of estimation uncertainty.

b) Recognition of revenue

Bank and other interest receivable is accrued up to the accounting date, and this forms part of the distribution.

Revenue on debt securities has been accounted for on an effective interest method.

c) Treatment of scrip and special dividends

Any stock received in lieu of cash dividends is credited to capital in the first instance, followed by a transfer to revenue of the cash equivalent being offered, and this forms part of the distribution made by the fund.

Special dividends are treated as revenue or capital depending on the facts of each particular case.

d) Treatment of expenses

All expenses (other than direct costs of purchase and sale of investments) are charged against revenue.

e) Basis of valuation of investments

The quoted investments of the fund have been valued at the closing bid-market prices excluding any accrued interest in the case of debt securities ruling on the principal markets on which the stocks are quoted on the last business day of the accounting year.

Level 1 structured products are valued daily based upon available market data. For Level 3 structured products where no market price is readily available, daily valuations are obtained from the issuer of the product, via consulting brokers Atlantic House or Fortum Capital. These prices are issuers' quotes and are not resulting from active trading activity. These structures are bespoke to Rathbones Asset Management. We use Markit Valuations Limited as an independent provider to verify the issuer price on a daily basis. Valuations are verified utilising the agreed pricing models within the relevant structured product's prospectus and where applicable pricing supplements. Where prices are outside our accepted tolerance, they are verified with Atlantic House/ Fortem Capital and Markit Valuations Limited. On a quarterly basis Rathbone Asset Management Fair Value Pricing Committee review the daily checks that were performed during the previous quarter to ensure the prices used reflected fair value.

If the Stock Exchange quotation of an investment has been suspended, and in the opinion of the Manager, it is unlikely to be reinstated, this has been indicated in the portfolio of investments. Suspended investments are value based on the latest financial statements of the respective company and agreed with the Trustee.

During the year the fund entered into derivative transactions in the form of forward foreign currency contracts. For forward foreign currency contracts, market value is determined by reference to forward currency exchange rates at the year end.

All assets are recognised and derecognised on trade date. Any trades occurring between valuation point and close of business are included in the financial statements.

Unquoted investments are valued at fair value, which represents the Manager's view of the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable and willing parties in an arm's length transaction. This does not assume that the underlying business is saleable at the reporting date or that its current shareholders have an intention to sell their holding in the near future.

The unquoted investments are valued by the Manager based upon information from an independent valuation firm, taking into account, where appropriate, latest dealing prices, achievement or not of key milestones, valuations from reliable sources, financial performance, and other relevant factors.

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

f) Exchange rates
The functional currency of the fund is pound sterling. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded in sterling at the rate ruling at the date of the transactions. Assets and liabilities expressed in foreign currencies at the end of the accounting year are translated into Sterling at the closing mid exchange rates ruling on that date.

g) Taxation/Deferred Tax
i) Corporation tax is provided for at 20% on taxable revenue, after deduction of expenses.

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

iii) The charge for deferred tax is based on the profit for the year and takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. Deferred tax is provided using the liability method on all timing differences, calculated at the rate at which it is anticipated the timing differences will reverse.

Deferred tax assets are recognised only when, on the basis of available evidence, it is more likely than not that there will be taxable profits in the future against which the deferred tax assets can be offset. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted to reflect the time value of money.

h) Unit classes rights on termination, allocation of tax and distributable income
The fund may be terminated if an order declaring the fund to be an authorised unit trust scheme is revoked, or the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) determines to revoke the order at the request of the Trustee or the Manager. In the case of a reconstruction or an amalgamation of the fund with another body or trust, on the passing of an extraordinary resolution of holders of units approving the amalgamation. The Trustee shall wind up the fund in accordance with that resolution.

On the termination of the fund in any other case, the Trustee shall sell the investments, and out of the proceeds of the sale shall settle the fund's liabilities and pay the costs and expenses of the winding up before distributing the proceeds of the realisation to unitholders and the Manager proportionally to their respective interests in the fund. Any unclaimed proceeds or cash held by the Trustee after the expiration of 12 months from the date on which the same became payable shall be paid by the Trustee into court subject to the Trustee having a right to retain any expenses incurred by it in making such payment into court.

On the completion of the winding-up the trustee must notify the FCA to revoke the relevant authorisation order.

Allocation of tax and distributable income is done proportionally to the unitholders respective interests in the fund.

2 Distribution policy

Revenue arising from the fund's investments accumulates during each accounting period. If, at the end of the accounting period, revenue exceeds expenses, the net revenue of the fund is available to be distributed to unitholders.

For the purpose of calculating the distribution available to unitholders, the Manager's charge (net of any tax relief) is charged to capital, offsetting expenses against capital may constrain future growth in revenue and capital.

For the purpose of calculating the distribution available to unitholders, revenue on debt securities is computed as the higher of the amount determined on an accrual of coupon basis and on an effective yield basis. A reconciliation of the net distribution to the net revenue of the fund as reported total return is shown in note 8.

In order to conduct a controlled dividend flow to unitholders, interim distributions will be made at the Managers' discretion, up to a maximum of the distributable revenue available for the year. All remaining revenue is distributed in accordance with the regulations.

3 Net capital gains/(losses)

	30.09.23 £	30.09.22 £
The net capital gains/(losses) during the year comprise:		
Non-derivative securities	**92,109,952**	(645,934,536)
Currency losses	**(221,428)**	(333,177)
Forward currency contracts	**22,275,910**	(54,006,361)
Transaction charges	**(1,802)**	(4,617)
Net capital gains/(losses)	**114,162,632**	(700,278,691)

4 Revenue

	30.09.23 £	30.09.22 £
Dividends — Overseas	**324,417**	808,559
Interest on debt securities	**100,925,365**	94,332,493
Bank interest	**1,099,537**	72,774
Inland revenue interest received	**31**	—
Total revenue	**102,349,350**	95,213,826

5 Expenses

	30.09.23 £	**30.09.23 £**	30.09.22 £	30.09.22 £
Payable to the Manager, associates of the Manager and agents of either of them:				
Manager's periodic charge		**13,193,447**		15,635,840
Payable to the Trustee, associates of the Trustee and agents of either of them:				
Trustee's fees	**217,913**		274,456	
Safe custody and other bank charges	**211,299**		322,602	
		429,212		597,058
Other expenses:				
Administration fees	**138,076**		172,162	
Audit fee*	**29,400**		29,400	
Printing and publication costs	**3,455**		(3,487)	
Registration fees	**43,560**		44,828	
		214,491		242,903
Total expenses		**13,837,150**		16,475,801

* Audit fees for 2023 are £26,000 excluding VAT (30.09.22: £24,500 excluding VAT).

6 Interest payable and similar charges

	30.09.23 **£**	30.09.22 £
Bank interest payable	**7,754**	4,171
Interest payable and similar charges	**7,754**	4,171

7 Taxation

	30.09.23 **£**	30.09.22 £
a) Analysis of charge in the year		
Irrecoverable overseas tax	**10,365**	4,991
(Recoverable)/Irrecoverable Income tax	**(1,100)**	100
Total tax charge for the year (note 5b)	**9,265**	5,091

b) Factors affecting current tax charge for the year
The tax assessed for the year is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an Authorised Unit Trust (20%) (30.09.22: 20%). The differences are explained below.

	30.09.23 **£**	30.09.22 £
Net revenue before taxation	**88,504,446**	78,733,854
Corporation tax at 20%	**17,700,889**	15,746,771
Effects of:		
Revenue not subject to taxation	**(64,883)**	(161,712)
Tax deductible interest distribution	**(17,636,006)**	(15,585,059)
Irrecoverable overseas tax	**10,365**	4,991
(Recoverable)/Irrecoverable Income tax	**(1,100)**	100
Corporate tax charge	**9,265**	5,091

At the year end the fund had no surplus management expenses (30.09.22: £nil) and no deferred tax asset has been recognised.

8 Distributions

The distributions take account of amounts received on the issue of units and amounts deducted on the cancellation of units, and comprise:

	30.09.23 **£**	30.09.22 £
First Interim	**24,547,619**	23,686,996
Second Interim	**24,670,459**	22,768,837
Third Interim	**25,143,725**	23,595,793
Final	**26,280,047**	24,176,865
	100,641,850	94,228,491
Add: Amounts deducted on cancellation of units	**2,401,822**	1,619,134
Deduct: Amounts received on issue of units	**(1,303,400)**	(1,518,203)
Net distribution for the year	**101,740,272**	94,329,422
Reconciliation of net distribution for the year to net revenue after tax:		
Net distribution for the year	**101,740,272**	94,329,422
Expenses charged to capital:		
Manager's periodic charge	**(13,193,447)**	(15,635,840)
Equalisation on conversions	**(39)**	(19)
Balance brought forward	**(104,959)**	(69,759)
Balance carried forward	**53,354**	104,959
Net revenue after taxation	**88,495,181**	78,728,763

9 Debtors

	30.09.23 **£**	30.09.22 £
Amounts receivable for issue of units	**408,731**	585,314
Sales awaiting settlement	**20,525,267**	2,723,490
Accrued revenue	**41,952,328**	40,904,210
Taxation recoverable	**3,139**	4,276
Total debtors	**62,889,465**	44,217,290

10 Other creditors

	30.09.23 **£**	30.09.22 £
Amounts payable for cancellation of units	**7,215,927**	6,834,030
Purchases awaiting settlement	**14,596,880**	–
Accrued expenses	**509,744**	174,692
Accrued manager's periodic charge	**1,065,007**	1,105,356
Total other creditors	**23,387,558**	8,114,078

11 Reconciliation of units

	R-class income	R-class accumulation	I-class income	I-class accumulation
Opening units issued at 01.10.22	6,815,379	7,823,661	762,729,809	639,710,393
Unit movements 01.10.22 to 30.09.23				
Units issued	348,985	461,582	189,423,320	16,932,698
Units cancelled	(639,830)	(1,961,287)	(91,664,358)	(120,140,636)
Units converted	(1,084,258)	(496,659)	578,348	437,655
Closing units issued at 30.09.23	5,440,276	5,827,297	861,067,119	536,940,110

	S-class income	S-class accumulation
Opening units issued at 01.10.22	223,540,743	37,671,723
Unit movements 01.10.22 to 30.09.23		
Units issued	23,887,995	36,303,728
Units cancelled	(29,673,502)	(18,015,005)
Units converted	444,017	31,157
Closing units issued at 30.09.23	218,199,253	55,991,603

12 Related party transactions

Management fees paid to Rathbones Asset Management Limited (the Manager) are disclosed in note 5 and amounts outstanding at the year end in note 10.

Details of units created and cancelled by the Manager are shown in the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders and note 8.

There were no commissions paid to stockbroking of the Manager in respect of dealings in the investments of Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund during the year (30.09.22: nil).

All other amounts paid to or received from the related parties, together with the outstanding balances are disclosed in the financial statements.

At the year end there were no significant unitholders (30.09.22: nil).

13 Contingent liabilities and commitments

There were no contingent liabilities or outstanding commitments at the balance sheet date (30.09.22: nil).

14 Risk disclosures on financial instruments

In pursuing the investment objective a number of financial instruments are held which may comprise securities and other investments, cash balances and debtors and creditors that arise directly from operations, for example, in respect of sales and purchases awaiting settlement, amounts receivable for creations and payable for liquidations and debtors for accrued revenue.

There is little exposure to credit or cash flow risk. There are no net borrowings and little exposure to liquidity risk because assets can be readily realised to meet redemptions.

The main risks arising from the financial instruments are:

(i) Foreign currency risk, being the risk that the value of assets and liabilities will fluctuate as a result of exchange rate movements. The value of the fund's underlying investments will be affected by movements in exchange rate against sterling, in respect of non-sterling denominated rates.

The table below shows the foreign currency risk profile at the balance sheet date:

	30.09.23 **£**	30.09.22 £
Currency:		
Australian dollar	**355,611**	890,253
Euro	**3,292,236**	(10,518,006)
US dollar	**5,795,546**	4,114,919
Pound sterling	**2,048,687,806**	2,023,171,504
	2,058,131,199	2,017,658,670
Other net assets not categorised as financial instruments	**3,139**	4,276
Net assets	**2,058,134,338**	2,017,662,946

If GBP to foreign currency exchange rates had increased by 10% as at the balance sheet date, the net asset value of the fund would have decreased by £858,490 (30.09.22 increased by: £501,167). If GBP to foreign currency exchange rates had decreased by 10% as at the balance sheet date, the net asset value of the fund would have increased by £1,049,266 (30.09.22 deacreased by: £612,537). These calculations assume all other variables remain constant.

The comparative figures have been restated to better reflect the currency hedging which reduces the currency exposure.

14 Risk disclosures on financial instruments *(continued)*

(ii) Interest rate risk, being the risk that the value of investments will fluctuate as a result of interest rate changes.

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

	30.09.23 **£**	30.09.22 £
Fixed rate assets:		
Australian dollar	**3,867,567**	13,356,229
Euro	**25,749,552**	56,503,646
US dollar	**97,022,021**	123,291,550
Pound sterling	**666,828,579**	605,164,338
	793,467,719	798,315,763
Floating rate assets:		
Australian dollar	**7,196,417**	7,788,190
Euro	**49,316,919**	41,112,952
US dollar	**117,003,889**	121,421,477
Pound sterling	**1,068,282,128**	1,022,161,618
	1,241,799,353	1,192,484,237
Assets on which no interest is paid:		
Australian dollar	**126,504**	689,515
Euro	**1,208,602**	2,033,761
US dollar	**2,946,191**	3,227,959
Pound sterling	**58,605,029**	53,197,318
	62,886,326	59,148,553
Liabilities on which no interest is paid:		
Australian dollar	**(296,590)**	–
Euro	**(510,653)**	(1,362,547)
US dollar	**(4,593,812)**	(13,557,825)
Pound sterling	**(34,621,144)**	(17,369,511)
	(40,022,199)	(32,289,883)
Other net assets not categorised as financial instruments	**3,139**	4,276
Net assets	**2,058,134,338**	2,017,662,946

If interest rates had increased by 1% as at the balance sheet date, the net asset value of the fund would have decreased by £100,930,320 (30.09.22: £113,193,043). If interest rates had decreased by 1% as at the balance sheet date, the net asset value of the fund would have increased by £100,930,320 (30.09.22: £113,193,043). These calculations assume all other variables remain constant.

14 Risk disclosures on financial instruments *(continued)*

(ii) Interest rate risk *(continued)*

The floating rate financial assets and liabilities comprise bank balances, floating rate securities and index linked bonds that earn or pay interest at rates linked to the UK base rate or its international equivalents.

	30.09.23		30.09.22	
Bond credit rating	**Value (note 1e) £**	**Percentage of total net assets**	Value (note 1e) £	Percentage of total net assets
Investment grade	**1,898,530,251**	**92.24**	1,854,001,244	91.88
Below investment grade	**69,018,711**	**3.35**	121,735,566	6.04
Unrated stocks***	**55,063,323**	**2.68**	–	–
Total Bonds	**2,022,612,285**	**98.27**	1,975,736,810	97.92

*** Stocks not rated by S&P, Moody's or Fitch

There are no material amounts of non-interest bearing financial assets and liabilities, other than equities and collective investment schemes, which do not have maturity dates.

(iii) Market price risk, being the risk that the value of investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices caused by factors other than currency or interest rate movements.

The investment portfolio is exposed to market price fluctuations which are monitored by the Manager in pursuance of the investment objective and policy set out in the Prospectus. Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Trust Deed and Prospectus and the rules of the FCA's Collective Investment Scheme Sourcebook mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

If market prices had increased by 10% as at the balance sheet date the net asset value of the fund would have increased by £201,721,123 (30.09.22: £197,569,591). If market prices had decreased by 10% as at the balance sheet date the net asset value of the fund would have decreased by £201,721,123 (30.09.22: £197,569,591). These calculations assume all other variables remain constant.

(iv) Credit risk/Counterparty risk. Credit risk arises firstly from the issuer of a security not being able to pay interest and principal in a timely manner and also from counterparty risk, where the counterparty will not fulfil its obligations or commitments to deliver the investments for a purchase or the cash for a sale after the fund has fulfilled its responsibilities. In order to manage the risk, the fund will only buy and sell investments through brokers which have been approved by the Manager as an acceptable counterparty. Brokers are monitored on an on-going basis for suitability and creditworthiness. In addition, the fund is subject to investment limits for issuers of securities and issuer credit ratings are evaluated periodically.

(v) Fair value. There is no material difference between the carrying value and fair value of the financial instruments disclosed in the balance sheet.

(vi) Leverage. There is no significant leverage in the fund which would increase its exposure.

15 Portfolio transaction cost

For the year ended 30 September 2023

Analysis of total purchase costs

	Value	Commissions		Taxes	
	£	£	%	£	%
Equity transactions	303,838	–	–	–	–
Bond transactions	845,246,737	–	–	–	–
Total purchases before transaction costs	845,550,575	–		–	
Total purchases including commission and taxes	845,550,575				

Analysis of total sales costs

	Value	Commissions		Taxes	
	£	£	%	£	%
Equity transactions	14,893,888	7,519	0.05	29	–
Bond transactions	753,871,345	–	–	–	–
Corporate actions	122,343,259	–	–	–	–
Total sales including transaction costs	891,108,492	7,519		29	
Total sales net of commission and taxes	891,100,944				

The fund had paid £nil as commission on purchases and sale derivative transactions for the year ended 30.09.23.

Commissions and taxes as % of average net assets	
Commissions	0.00%
Taxes	0.00%

15 Portfolio transaction cost *(continued)*

For the year ended 30 September 2022

Analysis of total purchase costs

	Value	Commissions		Taxes	
	£	£	%	£	%
Equity transactions	9,230,261	2,910	0.03	2	–
Bond transactions	775,444,487	–	–	–	–
Corporate actions	306,545	–	–	–	–
Total purchases before transaction costs	784,981,293	2,910		2	
Total purchases including commission and taxes	784,984,205				

Analysis of total sales costs

	Value	Commissions		Taxes	
	£	£	%	£	%
Equity transactions	2,939,797	1,824	0.06	6	–
Bond transactions	584,391,754	–	–	–	–
Corporate actions	97,101,492	–	–	–	–
Total sales including transaction costs	684,433,043	1,824		6	
Total sales net of commission and taxes	684,431,213				

The fund had paid £nil as commission on purchases and sale derivative transactions for the year ended 30.09.22.

Commissions and taxes as % of average net assets	
Commissions	0.00%
Taxes	0.00%

In the case of shares, commissions and taxes are paid by the fund 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 dealing spread. Dealing spreads vary considerably depending on the transaction value and market sentiment. At the balance sheet date the dealing spread was 0.75% (30.09.22: 1.09%).

16 Fair value of investments

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

Level 1 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.

For the year ended 30 September 2023

Category	1	2	3	Total
Investment assets	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Bonds	120,737,314	1,880,889,382	20,985,589	2,022,612,285
	120,737,314	1,880,889,382	20,985,589	2,022,612,285

Category	1	2	3	Total
Investment liabilities	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Derivatives	–	(5,401,055)	–	(5,401,055)
	–	(5,401,055)	–	(5,401,055)

For the year ended 30 September 2022

Category	1	2	3	Total
Investment assets	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Equities	14,434,221	–	–	14,434,221
Bonds	29,633,000	1,923,381,592	22,722,218	1,975,736,810
Derivatives	–	501,318	–	501,318
	44,067,221	1,923,882,910	22,722,218	1,990,672,349

Category	1	2	3	Total
Investment liabilities	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Derivatives	–	(14,976,441)	–	(14,976,441)
	–	(14,976,441)	–	(14,976,441)

17 Post balance sheet event

Following a review of the R-class units in the fund, these classes will be closed and holdings will be converted into other unit classes within the fund which have a lower annual management charge. These conversions will take place on 25 January 2024. There will be no tax implications for investors from this conversion and although investors will receive a different number of units in the new class, the value of their holding will remain the same following the conversion.

Distribution tables for the year ended 30 September 2023

Distribution tables (pence per unit)

First Interim
Group 1 – Units purchased prior to 1 October 2022
Group 2 – Units purchased on or after 1 October 2022 and on or before 31 December 2022

R-class income units	Income	Equalisation	Paid 28.02.23	Paid 28.02.22
Group 1	0.86	–	0.86	0.82
Group 2	0.23	0.63	0.86	0.82

R-class accumulation units	Income	Equalisation	Accumulated 28.02.23	Accumulated 28.02.22
Group 1	2.16	–	2.16	1.97
Group 2	0.97	1.19	2.16	1.97

I-class income units	Income	Equalisation	Paid 28.02.23	Paid 28.02.22
Group 1	0.93	–	0.93	0.87
Group 2	0.43	0.50	0.93	0.87

I-class accumulation units	Income	Equalisation	Accumulated 28.02.23	Accumulated 28.02.22
Group 1	2.29	–	2.29	2.07
Group 2	1.05	1.24	2.29	2.07

S-class income units	Income	Equalisation	Paid 28.02.23	Paid 28.02.22
Group 1	0.96	–	0.96	0.89
Group 2	0.52	0.44	0.96	0.89

S-class accumulation units	Income	Equalisation	Accumulated 28.02.23	Accumulated 28.02.22
Group 1	1.13	–	1.13	1.03
Group 2	0.85	0.28	1.13	1.03

Distribution tables (pence per unit) *(continued)*

Second Interim
Group 1 – Units purchased prior to 1 January 2023
Group 2 – Units purchased on or after 1 January 2023 and on or before 31 March 2023

R-class income units	Income	Equalisation	Paid 31.05.23	Paid 31.05.22
Group 1	0.88	–	0.88	0.79
Group 2	0.28	0.60	0.88	0.79

R-class accumulation units	Income	Equalisation	Accumulated 31.05.23	Accumulated 31.05.22
Group 1	2.21	–	2.21	1.91
Group 2	1.18	1.03	2.21	1.91

I-class income units	Income	Equalisation	Paid 31.05.23	Paid 31.05.22
Group 1	0.94	–	0.94	0.85
Group 2	0.44	0.50	0.94	0.85

I-class accumulation units	Income	Equalisation	Accumulated 31.05.23	Accumulated 31.05.22
Group 1	2.36	–	2.36	2.02
Group 2	1.02	1.34	2.36	2.02

S-class income units	Income	Equalisation	Paid 31.05.23	Paid 31.05.22
Group 1	0.97	–	0.97	0.87
Group 2	0.45	0.52	0.97	0.87

S-class accumulation units	Income	Equalisation	Accumulated 31.05.23	Accumulated 31.05.22
Group 1	1.17	–	1.17	0.99
Group 2	0.44	0.73	1.17	0.99

Distribution tables (pence per unit) *(continued)*

Third Interim
Group 1 – Units purchased prior to 1 April 2023
Group 2 – Units purchased on or after 1 April 2023 and on or before 30 June 2023

R-class income units	Income	Equalisation	Paid 31.08.23	Paid 31.08.22
Group 1	0.90	–	0.90	0.84
Group 2	0.33	0.57	0.90	0.84

R-class accumulation units	Income	Equalisation	Accumulated 31.08.23	Accumulated 31.08.22
Group 1	2.30	–	2.30	2.04
Group 2	1.03	1.27	2.30	2.04

I-class income units	Income	Equalisation	Paid 31.08.23	Paid 31.08.22
Group 1	0.97	–	0.97	0.90
Group 2	0.50	0.47	0.97	0.90

I-class accumulation units	Income	Equalisation	Accumulated 31.08.23	Accumulated 31.08.22
Group 1	2.45	–	2.45	2.17
Group 2	1.26	1.19	2.45	2.17

S-class income units	Income	Equalisation	Paid 31.08.23	Paid 31.08.22
Group 1	1.00	–	1.00	0.92
Group 2	0.52	0.48	1.00	0.92

S-class accumulation units	Income	Equalisation	Accumulated 31.08.23	Accumulated 31.08.22
Group 1	1.21	–	1.21	1.07
Group 2	0.85	0.36	1.21	1.07

Distribution tables (pence per unit) *(continued)*

Final
Group 1 – Units purchased prior to 1 July 2023
Group 2 – Units purchased on or after 1 July 2023 and on or before 30 September 2023

R-class income units	Income	Equalisation	Payable 30.11.23	Paid 30.11.22
Group 1	0.95	–	0.95	0.86
Group 2	0.35	0.60	0.95	0.86

R-class accumulation units	Income	Equalisation	Allocated 30.11.23	Accumulated 30.11.22
Group 1	2.46	–	2.46	2.12
Group 2	1.08	1.38	2.46	2.12

I-class income units	Income	Equalisation	Payable 30.11.23	Paid 30.11.22
Group 1	1.03	–	1.03	0.92
Group 2	0.64	0.39	1.03	0.92

I-class accumulation units	Income	Equalisation	Allocated 30.11.23	Accumulated 30.11.22
Group 1	2.64	–	2.64	2.25
Group 2	1.37	1.27	2.64	2.25

S-class income units	Income	Equalisation	Payable 30.11.23	Paid 30.11.22
Group 1	1.06	–	1.06	0.95
Group 2	0.57	0.49	1.06	0.95

S-class accumulation units	Income	Equalisation	Allocated 30.11.23	Accumulated 30.11.22
Group 1	1.30	–	1.30	1.11
Group 2	0.81	0.49	1.30	1.11

Equalisation
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.

Directors' statement

This report is approved in accordance with the requirements of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook.

JA Rodgers T Carroll
for Rathbones Asset Management Limited
Manager of Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund
25 January 2024

Statement of the Manager's responsibilities in relation to the annual report and accounts of the Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund

The Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook requires the Manager to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the fund and of the net revenue and of the net capital gains or losses on the property of the fund for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the Manager is required to:

1. select suitable accounting policies, as described in the attached financial statements, and then apply them consistently;
2. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. comply with the disclosure requirements of the SORP relating to financial statements of UK authorised funds issued by The Investment Association;
4. follow UK generally accepted accounting principles, including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Statement of Recommended Practice: 'Financial Statements of UK Authorised Funds' issued by The Investment Association in May 2014;
5. prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the fund will continue in operation; and
6. keep proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Scheme and which enable it to demonstrate that the financial statements as prepared comply with the above requirements.

The Manager is responsible for the management of the scheme in accordance with its Trust Deed, Prospectus and the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook, and for the system of internal controls and for safeguarding of the assets of the Scheme. The Manager has general responsibility for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Manager is aware:

1. there is no relevant audit information of which the fund's auditor is unaware; and
2. the Manager has taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information; and
3. the Manager is of the opinion that it is appropriate to continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of the financial statements as the assets of the fund consist predominantly of securities that are readily realisable and, accordingly, the fund has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Additionally, the Manager monitors developments in Ukraine, making adjustments to investments where deemed appropriate and they also monitor sanctions and their implications on individual holdings. Also, the investment processes and risk and compliance procedures continue to operate as normal.

In accordance with COLL 4.5.8 R, the Annual Report and the audited financial statements were approved by the board of directors of the Manager of the Scheme and authorised for issue on 25 January 2024.

Statement of the Trustee's responsibilities and report of the Trustee to the Unitholders of Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund ("the Scheme") for the Period Ended 30 September 2023

The Trustee must ensure that the Scheme 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 Trustee must in the context of its role act honestly, fairly, professionally, independently and in the interests of the Scheme and its investors.

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

The Trustee must ensure that:

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

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

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

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

NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited
Trustee of Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund
25 January 2024

Independent Auditor's Report to the unitholders of Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements of Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund ('the fund'):

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the fund as at 30 September 2023 and of the net revenue and the net capital gains on the property of the fund for the year ended 30 September 2023; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", the Statement of Recommended Practice "Financial Statements of UK Authorised Funds", the rules in the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook and the Trust Deed.

We have audited the financial statements of the fund which comprise:

- the statement of total return;
- the statement of change in net assets attributable to unitholders;
- the balance sheet;
- the distribution table; and
- the notes 1 to 17.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Statement of Recommended Practice: "Financial Statements of UK Authorised Funds" issued by the Investment Association in May 2014, as amended in June 2017, the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook and the Trust Deed.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the Financial Reporting Council's (the 'FRC's') Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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.

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 fund's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The manager is responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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 in this regard.

Responsibilities of trustee and manager

As explained more fully in the trustee's responsibilities statement and the manager's responsibilities statement, the trustee is responsible for the safeguarding the property of the fund and the manager is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the manager determines 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 fund'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 liquidate the fund or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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.

We considered the nature of the fund's industry and its control environment, and reviewed the fund's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to fraud and compliance with laws and regulations. We also enquired of management and the Authorised Fund Manager about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including those that are specific to funds.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the fund operates in, and identified the key laws and regulations that:

- had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. These included the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook and relevant tax legislation; and
- do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the fund's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

We discussed among the audit engagement team including relevant internal specialists such as valuations and IT specialists regarding the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements.

As a result of performing the above, we identified the greatest potential for fraud in the valuation and existence of investments. In response we have: involved our financial instruments specialists to assess the applied valuation methodologies; agreed investment holdings to independent confirmations; and agreed investment valuations to reliable independent sources.

In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluated the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- reviewing financial statement disclosures by testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- enquiring of management and those charged with governance concerning actual and potential litigation and claims, and instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook

In our opinion:

- proper accounting records for the fund have been kept and the financial statements are in agreement with those records;
- we have received all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of our audit; and
- the information disclosed in the annual report for the year ended 30 September 2022 for the purpose of complying with Paragraph 4.5.9R of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook is consistent with the financial statements.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the fund's unitholders, as a body, in accordance with Paragraph 4.5.12R of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook of the Financial Conduct Authority. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the fund's unitholders those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the fund and the fund's unitholders as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Deloitte LLP
Statutory Auditor
Glasgow, United Kingdom
25 January 2024

General information

Manager Name

Effective 30 November 2023, Rathbone Unit Trust Management Limited changed its name to Rathbones Asset Management Limited.

Authorised status

The Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund is an authorised unit trust scheme, authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority on 29 October 2001 and launched in May 2002.

It is a 'UCITS Scheme' authorised under Section 243 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, and the currency of the fund is pound sterling.

Valuation of the fund

The fund is valued on each business day at 12 noon for the purpose of determining prices at which units in the fund may be bought or sold. Valuations may be made at other times on business days with the Trustee's approval.

Stewardship code

Rathbones Asset Management Limited fully supports the UK Stewardship Code sponsored by the Financial Reporting Council.

Buying and selling of units

The Manager is available to receive requests for the buying and selling of units on normal business days between 9.00am and 5.00pm and transactions will be effected at prices determined by the next valuation. Application forms for the purchase of units (obtainable from the Manager) should be completed and sent to the Dealing Office. In respect of telephoned orders, remittances should be sent on receipt of the contract note. Contract notes confirming transactions will be issued by the close of business on the next business day after the dealing date. Purchasers of units are required to enter their registration details on the form supplied with their contract note. Once units are paid for these details will be entered on the unit register.

Units can be sold by telephone, fax or letter followed by despatch to the Dealing Office of the authorisation to sell duly completed by all unitholders.

In the absence of clear written instructions signed by all the registered holders, a Form of Renunciation will be sent out together with the repurchase contract note. This will need to be signed by all registered holders, and returned to our Dealing Office before settlement can be made. Settlement will be made on whichever is the later of four business days after the dealing date or four days after the receipt of written confirmation.

Unitholders may sell units on submitting the purchase contract note and a duly executed Deed of Transfer. The issue and redemption of units will not take place if dealing in the units is suspended by operation of law or any statute for the time being in place.

The minimum initial investment for R-class units is £100,000,000. The minimum initial investment for I-class units is £1,000. The minimum initial investment for the S-class units is £100,000,000.

Thereafter holders may invest additional amounts to the value of £500 or more from time to time as they wish. Any number of units may be subscribed, sold or transferred so long as transaction complies with applicable minimums.

There is no preliminary charge for R-class, I-class or S-class units.

The Manager currently receives an annual remuneration for managing the R-class property of the fund at the rate of 1.25%.

The Manager currently receives an annual remuneration for managing the I-class property of the fund at the rate of 0.625%.

The Manager currently receives an annual remuneration for managing the S-class property of the fund at a rate of 0.49%.

For more information on our charges, please visit the fund-specific pages of our website: rathbonesam.com

Statements

A distribution statement showing the rate per unit and your unit holding will be sent semi-annually on 31 May and 30 November.

The current value of your units is shown on a valuation statement, which shows the number of units bought over the previous six months, the total number of units in your account and their current value.

Twice yearly on 31 March and 30 September, unitholders will receive a consolidated statement showing, where applicable, their Unit Trust, ICVC and ISA holdings for each fund held.

Prices

Prices are available on our website rathbonesam.com

Other information

Copies of the Prospectus, Key Investor Information Document, Supplementary Information Document and the most recent Annual and Interim Reports may be obtained free of charge on application to the Manager or seen by visiting their registered office.

The Register of Unitholders can be inspected during normal business hours at the office of the Registrar, SS&C Financial Services International Limited, SS&C House, St Nicholas Lane, Basildon, Essex SS15 5FS.

Further copies of this report are available upon request, free of charge, from Client Services Department, Rathbones Asset Management Limited, 8 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7AZ.

If you have any queries or complaints about the operation of the fund you should put them to the Compliance Officer, Rathbones Asset Management Limited, 8 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7AZ. Any complaint we receive will be handled in accordance with our internal complaint procedures. A copy of these are available from the Compliance Officer.

If you have occasion to complain, and in the unlikely event that you do not receive a satisfactory response, you may direct your complaint to the Financial Ombudsman Service at Exchange Tower, London E14 9SR. Further details about the Financial Ombudsman Service are available on their website at financial-ombudsman.org.uk.

ISA eligibility

The fund has been managed throughout the year to ensure that it is eligible to qualify and be included in an Individual Savings Account (ISA). The fund will at all times be invested in such a way that the units will constitute 'Qualifying Investments' for the purposes of the Individual Savings Account (ISA) Regulations 1998, as amended from time to time.

Risk factors

An investment in a unit trust should be regarded as a medium to long term investment. Investors should be aware that the price of units and the revenue from them can fall as well as rise and investors may not receive back the full amount invested. Past performance should not be seen as an indication of future performance. Investments denominated in currencies other than the base currency are subject to fluctuation in exchange rates, which can be favourable or unfavourable.

Value assessment

Our regulator, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), has asked us to assess the value of our funds.

Assessing value is much more than just looking at the fees you pay or the performance of your fund in isolation. Considering this, we have designed an assessment which looks at nine criteria.

We have also appointed an independent research firm, Square Mile Investment Consulting & Research, to provide an impartial report on the value our funds offer compared with the market.

It is the responsibility of our board of directors to consider the outcomes of these assessments, ensure they are clear and fair, and then communicate to you, our investors, if we have delivered value or, if not, where we need to improve.

You can view the value assessments for the Funds four months after their period end on our website rathbonesam.com

Other funds

Rathbones Asset Management Limited is also the Manager of the following funds:

Rathbone Active Income and Growth Fund
Rathbone Core Investment Fund for Charities
Rathbone Global Opportunities Fund
Rathbone Income Fund
Rathbone Strategic Bond Fund
Rathbone UK Opportunities Fund

and the Authorised Corporate Director of:

Rathbone Defensive Growth Portfolio
Rathbone Dynamic Growth Portfolio
Rathbone Enhanced Growth Portfolio
Rathbone Greenbank Defensive Growth Portfolio
Rathbone Greenbank Dynamic Growth Portfolio
Rathbone Greenbank Global Sustainability Fund
Rathbone Greenbank Strategic Growth Portfolio
Rathbone Greenbank Total Return Portfolio
Rathbone High Quality Bond Fund
Rathbone Strategic Growth Portfolio
Rathbone Strategic Income Portfolio
Rathbone Total Return Portfolio

Further details

Should you need further details of this fund or any of the other funds managed by Rathbones Asset Management Limited, a Prospectus, Key Investor Information Document and Supplementary Information Document or an application form for the purchase of shares or units, please write to:

Client Services Department
Rathbones Asset Management Limited
8 Finsbury Circus
London EC2M 7AZ

All literature is available free of charge. Information is also available on our website: rathbonesam.com

Data protection

Where relevant, Rathbones' privacy notice for clients, together with our relevant terms of business, sets out how your personal data (as further detailed in the privacy notice) shall be processed by Rathbones. A copy of the privacy notice is available on request or on Rathbones' website.

From time to time Rathbones Asset Management Limited may wish to communicate with you with information on other products and services offered by the Rathbones Group. If you do not wish to receive these communications, please advise us in writing at the following address:

Data Protection Officer
Rathbones Asset Management Limited
8 Finsbury Circus
London EC2M 7AZ

Greenbank and Greenbank Investments are trading names of Rathbones Investment Management Limited

UCITS Remuneration

In line with the requirements of the UCITS Directive, Rathbones Asset Management Limited (the Manager) has adopted a remuneration policy which is consistent with the remuneration principles applicable to UCITS management companies. Its purpose is to ensure that the remuneration of the staff of the Manager is consistent with and promotes sound and effective risk management, does not encourage risk-taking which is inconsistent with the risk profiles of the Manager and the UCITS that it manages and does not impair the Manager's compliance with its duty to act in the best interests of the UCITS it manages. The remuneration policy applies to staff of the Manager whose professional activities have a material impact on the risk profile of the Manager or the UCITS that it manages (known as Remuneration Code Staff).

The aggregate remuneration paid by the Manager to its staff, and to those staff who are identified as Remuneration Code Staff, is disclosed below.

	Fixed remuneration £'000	Variable remuneration £'000	Total remuneration £'000	Headcount
Senior Management	2,198	4,428	6,626	9
Risk takers	2,301	2,386	4,687	16
Control functions	93	31	124	3
Other	153	121	274	1
Total remuneration code staff	4,745	6,966	11,711	29
Non-remuneration code staff	1,360	240	1,601	22
Total for the Manager	**6,105**	**7,206**	**13,312**	**51**

The variable remuneration disclosed in the table above is for the financial year ended 31 December 2022, which is the most recent period for which data are available. Variable remuneration is determined annually based on, inter alia, the results of the Manager and the investment performance of the UCITS that it manages for discrete annual periods ending on 31 December each year. Consequently, it is not possible to apportion the variable award between calendar years.

Rathbones
Look forward

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