



PROSPECTUS

# **RATHBONE HIGH QUALITY BOND FUND**

# PROSPECTUS

This document constitutes the Prospectus for Rathbone High Quality Bond Fund (Company) and has been prepared in accordance with the terms of the rules contained in the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook published by the FCA as part of their handbook of rules made under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Act).

This Prospectus is dated and is valid as at 26 April 2024.

Copies of this Prospectus have been sent to the FCA and the Depositary.

If you are in any doubt about the contents of this Prospectus you should consult your professional adviser.

The Prospectus is based on information, law and practice at the date hereof. The Company is not bound by any out-of-date Prospectus when it has issued a new Prospectus and potential investors should check that they have the most recently published Prospectus.

Target investors for the Company may be retail or professional investors.

Rathbones Asset Management Limited, the ACD of the Company, is the person responsible for the information contained in this Prospectus. To the best of its knowledge and belief (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained herein does not contain any untrue or misleading statement or omit any matters required by the FCA Regulations as defined herein to be included in it.

**Important: if you are in any doubt about the contents of this Prospectus you should consult your professional adviser.**

# DEFINITIONS

"Accumulation Shares"	Shares (of whatever class) in the Company as may be in issue from time to time in respect of which income allocated thereto is credited periodically to capital pursuant to the FCA Regulations net of any tax accounted for by the Company;
"ACD"	Rathbones Asset Management Limited, the Authorised Corporate Director of the Company;
"Approved Bank"	The meaning given in the FCA Regulations;
"Business Day"	Any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or any other day which is a public holiday in England;
"Company"	Rathbone High Quality Bond Fund;
"Dealing Day"	Any Business Day;
"Depositary"	NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited, the depositary of the Company;
"Depositary Agreement"	The Depositary Agreement made between the Company, the ACD and the Depositary dated 9 November 2018 as maybe amended from time to time;
"EEA"	European Economic Area;
"Efficient Portfolio Management"	The meaning given in the FCA Regulations;
"Eligible Institution"	The meaning given in the FCA Regulations;
"FCA"	Financial Conduct Authority, 12 Endeavour Square, London E20 1JN;
"FCA Regulations"	The rules contained in the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook published by the FCA as part of their handbook of the rules made under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as may be amended or updated from time to time;
"Income Shares"	Shares (of whatever class) in the Company as may be in issue from time to time in respect of which income allocated thereto is distributed periodically to the holders thereof pursuant to the FCA Regulations net of any tax accounted for by the Company;
"Instrument"	The instrument of incorporation of the Company, as amended or updated from time to time;
"Large Deal"	Unless otherwise defined, any deal worth 1% or more of the size of the Company or any deal in excess of £15,000 or equivalent in any other currency accepted from time to time by the ACD, or any other amount considered by the ACD, in its absolute discretion to constitute a "large deal" in accordance with the FCA Regulations;
"Net Asset Value or NAV"	The value of the Scheme Property of the Company less the liabilities of the Company as calculated in accordance with the Instrumen;
"OEIC Regulations"	The Open-Ended Investment Companies Regulations 2001;
"PRA"	The Prudential Regulation Authority;
"Prospectus"	This prospectus of the Company as amended or updated from time to time;
"Registrar"	The person appointed by the ACD, from time to time, to act as the Registrar to the Company;
"Scheme Property"	The property of the Company entrusted to the Depositary for safe-keeping, as required by the FCA Regulations;
"Securities Financing Transactions or SFTs"	Securities financing transactions including repurchase transactions, securities lending and securities borrowing, buy-sell back transactions, sell-buy back transactions and margin lending transactions as defined by the Securities Financing Transactions Regulation and does not include commodities lending and commodities borrowing;

"Securities Financing Transactions Regulation"	Regulation (EU) of the European Parliament and the Council of 25 November 2015 on transparency of securities transactions and of reuse and amending Regulation (EU) No 648/2012 as amended or updated from time to time;
"Share"	Where the context dictates, a share in the Company as may be in issue from time to time;
"Share Class"	A particular class of shares as described in Section 3 and Appendix 1;
"Shareholder"	Where the context dictates, a holder of shares in the Company;
"Smaller Denomination"	A smaller denomination share as described in Section 3.1;
"Total Return Swap"	Total return swaps as defined by the Securities Financing Transactions Regulation;
"UCITS"	Undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities that are established in accordance with the UCITS Directive;
"UCITS Directive"	The European Parliament and Council Directive of 13 July 2009 on the coordination of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS) (No 2009/65/EC), as amended;
"Valuation Point"	Noon on each Dealing Day and on any other Business Day as agreed between the Depositary and the ACD.

## **1 The Company**

- 1.1 The Company is a stand-alone open-ended investment company with variable capital ICVC, incorporated in England and Wales under registered number ICO02299 and authorised by the FCA with effect from 7 November 2018.
- 1.2 The Company is an ICVC.
- 1.3 The Company's product reference number is PRN: 825372.
- 1.4 The Head Office of the Company is at 8 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7AZ which is also the address of the place in the United Kingdom for service on the Company of notices or other documents required or authorised to be served on it.
- 1.5 The base currency of the Company is pounds sterling. The value of the Scheme Property attributable to prices of shares of and payments made in respect of the Company shall be calculated or made in the base currency of the Company.
- 1.6 The maximum share capital of the Company is currently £100,000,000,000 and the minimum is £100. Shares in the Company have no par value and therefore the share capital of the Company at all times equals the Company's current Net Asset Value.
- 1.7 Shareholders in the Company are not liable for the debts of the Company.
- 1.8 The Company has been established as a "UCITS scheme".

## **2 Company Structure**

- 2.1 As explained above the Company is a stand-alone scheme and is a UCITS scheme.
- 2.2 Investment of the Scheme Property must comply with the COLL Sourcebook and the investment objective and policy of the Company. Details of the Company's investment objective and policy, are set out in Appendix 1.
- 2.3 A detailed statement of the general investment and borrowing restrictions in respect of the Company is set out in Appendix 2. The eligible securities markets and eligible derivatives markets on which the Company may invest are set out in Appendix 3.

## **3 Shares**

- 3.1 Shares will be issued in larger and smaller denominations. There are 100 smaller denomination shares to each larger denomination share. Smaller denomination shares represent what, in other terms, might be called fractions of a larger share and have proportionate rights.
- 3.2 The Share Classes presently available are set out in the details in Appendix 1. Further Share Classes may be made available in due course, as the ACD may decide.
- 3.3 The minimum initial investment for each Share Class is set out in Appendix 1. These limits may be waived at the discretion of the ACD.
- 3.4 Whether a Share Class is available as Income Shares and/or Accumulation Shares is set out in Appendix 1.
- 3.5 Each share class may attract different charges and expenses and so monies may be deducted from share classes in different proportions. In these circumstances the proportionate interests of the share classes in relation to the Scheme Property will be adjusted accordingly.
- 3.6 When available, shareholders are entitled (subject to certain restrictions) to switch all or part of their shares in a Share Class for shares in another Share Class. Details of this switching facility and the restrictions are set out in paragraph 15.

## 4 Management and administration

### 4.1 Authorised Corporate Director

- 4.1.1 The Authorised Corporate Director of the Company is Rathbones Asset Management Limited which is a private company limited by shares incorporated in England and Wales under the Companies Act 1985. The ACD was incorporated on 26 April 1989. The ultimate holding company of the ACD is Rathbones Group Plc which is incorporated in England.

The names of the directors of the ACD and significant activities of each director not connected with the business of the ACD are as follows:

Name	Activity
J Rogers	Chair of Rathbones Asset Management Ltd
T Carroll	Director of Rathbones Asset Management Ltd
EK Renals	Director of Rathbones Asset Management Ltd
MS Warren (Non-Executive Director)	The Non-Executive Directors hold positions as directors and non-executive directors of other financial services businesses not connected with the Authorised Corporate Director, its ultimate parent company or other affiliated companies
J Lowe (Non-Executive Director)	

- 4.1.2 Registered Office and Head Office:

The registered office and Head Office of the ACD is at 8 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7AZ.

Share capital: Issued £202,223  
Paid up £202,223

- 4.1.3 The ACD is responsible for managing and administering the Company's affairs in compliance with the FCA Regulations.

- 4.1.4 As at the date of this Prospectus, the ACD acts as manager of the following regulated collective investment schemes which are authorised unit trusts:

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

- 4.1.5 As at the date of this Prospectus, the ACD also acts as authorised corporate director of the following regulated collective investment schemes which are authorised open ended investment companies:

Rathbone Greenbank Global Sustainable Portfolios  
Rathbone Greenbank Multi-Asset Portfolios  
Rathbone Multi-Asset Portfolios

## **4.2 Terms of appointment**

- 4.2.1 The ACD was appointed by an agreement between the Company and the ACD dated 14 November 2018 (ACD Agreement). The ACD Agreement provides that the appointment of the ACD may be terminated on six months' written notice by either the ACD or the Company, although in certain circumstances the agreement may be terminated forthwith by notice in writing by the ACD to the Company or the Depositary, or by the Depositary or the Company to the ACD. Copies of the ACD Agreement are available to Shareholders upon request. Termination cannot take effect until the FCA has approved the appointment of another authorised corporate director in place of the retiring ACD.
- 4.2.2 The ACD is entitled to any pro rata fees and expenses to the date of termination and any additional expenses necessarily realised in settling or realising any outstanding obligations. No compensation for loss of office is provided for in the ACD Agreement. The ACD Agreement provides indemnities to the ACD other than for matters arising by reason of its negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in the performance of its duties and obligations but only to the extent allowed by the FCA Regulations and the OEIC Regulations.
- 4.2.3 The ACD is under no obligation to account to the Depositary or the shareholders for any profit it makes on the issue or re-issue of shares or cancellation of shares which it has redeemed. Any fees to which the ACD is entitled are set out in paragraph 34 of this Prospectus.

## **4.3 Duties and responsibilities of the ACD**

- 4.3.1 The ACD has been authorised by the FCA to act as the authorised corporate director of the Company with the ability to delegate certain functions to third parties.
- 4.3.2 The ACD is responsible for the investment management function in respect of the Company which includes portfolio management and risk management.
- 4.3.3 The ACD shall also provide or procure the provision of such administrative, accounting, consultancy, advisory, secretarial and general management services as are necessary to manage the Company and to enable the Company to comply with the requirements of this Prospectus, the FCA Regulations, the OEIC Regulations, the Instrument and any other applicable legislation and regulations. Administrative functions are delegated to HSBC Bank Plc (trading as HSBC Securities Services);
- 4.3.4 The ACD shall provide or procure the provision of the services of a person to act as Registrar of the Company performing all such functions as are usually performed by Registrars. The ACD has appointed SS&C Financial Services International Limited as Registrar.

## **5 Depositary**

NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited is the Depositary of the Company. The Depositary is a private limited company incorporated in England and Wales. Subject to the FCA Regulations and the OEIC Regulations, the Depositary is responsible for the safekeeping of the property of the Company entrusted to it and has a duty to take reasonable care to ensure that the Company is managed in accordance with the provisions of the FCA Regulations relating to the pricing of, and dealing in, shares of the Company and the income of the Company. The appointment of the Depositary has been made under an agreement dated 9 November 2018 between the Company, the ACD and NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited (the Depositary Agreement).

The Depositary will also provide cash monitoring services in respect of the Company's cash flows and subscriptions.

### **5.1 Registered and Head Office**

250 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4AA

### **5.2 Principal business activity**

The principal business of the Depositary is the provision of trustee and depositary services.

### **5.3 Ultimate holding company**

Natwest Group Plc, incorporated in Scotland, is the ultimate holding company of the Depositary.

#### **5.4 Delegation to Sub-custodian**

- 5.4.1 The Depositary is permitted to delegate (and authorise its delegate to sub-delegate) the safekeeping of Scheme Property.
- 5.4.2 The Depositary has delegated safekeeping of the Scheme Property to HSBC Bank Plc (Custodian). In turn, the Custodian has delegated the custody of assets in certain markets in which the Company may invest to various sub-delegates (sub-custodians). A list of sub-custodians is given in Appendix 6. Investors should note that the list of sub-custodians is updated only at each Prospectus review. The Custodian is authorised by the PRA and regulated by the FCA and the PRA in the conduct of its investment business in the United Kingdom.

#### **5.5 Terms of appointment**

- 5.5.1 The Depositary has been appointed as the depositary of the UCITS by virtue of the Depositary Agreement and is a Bank authorised by the Regulator to act as depositary of a UCITS.
- 5.5.2 The powers, duties, rights and obligations of the Depositary, the Company and the ACD under the Depositary Agreement shall, to the extent of any conflict, be overridden by the FCA Regulations.
- 5.5.3 Under the Depositary Agreement the Depositary will be liable to the Company for any loss of financial instruments held in custody or for any liabilities incurred by the Company as a result of the Depositary's negligent or intentional failure to fulfil its obligations.
- 5.5.4 However, the Depositary Agreement excludes the Depositary from any liability except in the case of fraud, wilful default, negligence or failure to exercise due care and diligence in the performance or non-performance of its obligations.
- 5.5.5 It also provides that the Depositary will be entitled to an indemnity from the Scheme Property for any loss suffered in the performance or non-performance of its obligations except in the case of fraud, wilful default, negligence or failure to exercise due care and diligence on its part.
- 5.5.6 The Depositary Agreement may be terminated on 90 days' notice by the ACD or the Depositary or earlier on certain breaches or the insolvency of a party. However, termination of the Depositary Agreement will not take effect, nor may the Depositary retire voluntarily, until the appointment of a new depositary.
- 5.5.7 Details of the fees payable to the Depositary are given in this document under the Depositary's fee section.

#### **5.6 Conflicts of interest**

- 5.6.1 The Depositary may act as the depositary of other open-ended investment companies and as trustee or custodian of other collective investment schemes.
- 5.6.2 It is possible that the Depositary and/or its delegates and sub-delegates may in the course of its or their business be involved in other financial and professional activities which may on occasion have potential conflicts of interest with the UCITS and/or other funds managed by the ACD or other funds for which the Depositary acts as the depositary, trustee or custodian. The Depositary will, however, have regard in such event to its obligations under the Depositary Agreement and the FCA Regulations and, in particular, will use reasonable endeavours to ensure that the performance of its duties will not be impaired by any such involvement it may have and that any conflicts which may arise will be resolved fairly and in the best interests of Shareholders collectively so far as practicable, having regard to its obligations to other clients.
- 5.6.3 Nevertheless, as the Depositary operates independently from the Company, Shareholders, the ACD and its associated suppliers and the Custodian, the Depositary does not anticipate any conflicts of interest with any of the aforementioned parties.

#### **5.7 Updated information**

Up-to-date information regarding the Depositary, its duties, its conflicts of interest and the delegation of its safekeeping functions will be made available to investors on request.

### **6 Investment adviser**

As at the date of this Prospectus, the ACD undertakes management of the assets of the Company and has not appointed any third party adviser to assist it. The ACD nevertheless reserves the right to do so in the future in accordance with its obligations under the FCA Regulations.



## **7 Administrator and Registrar**

- 7.1 The ACD has appointed HSBC Bank plc (trading as HSBC Securities Services) to act as Administrator to the Company to carry out fund accounting and pricing services.
- 7.2 The ACD has appointed SS&C Financial Services International Limited to act as Registrar to the Company.

## **8 Auditor**

- 8.1 The Auditor of the Company is Deloitte LLP.
- 8.2 The Auditor shall, with respect to the assets of the Company, carry out their duties in accordance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations, including the audit of the accounting information contained in the annual report of the Company.

## **9 Register of shareholders**

The register of shareholders is maintained by the Registrar at its office at SS&C House, Saint Nicholas Lane, Basildon, Essex SS15 5FS, and may be inspected at that address during normal business hours by any shareholder or any shareholder's duly authorised agent.

## **10 Shareholders' rights against service providers**

It should be noted that shareholders will only be able to exercise their rights directly against the Company and will not have any direct contractual rights against the service providers of the Company appointed from time to time.

## **11 Conflicts of interest**

The ACD, the Depositary, the Administrators and the Registrar are or may be involved in other financial, investment and professional activities which may, on occasion, cause conflicts of interest with the management of the Company. In addition, the Company may enter into transactions at arm's length with companies in the same group as the ACD.

The Depositary may, from time to time, act as depositary of other companies or funds.

Each of the parties will use their reasonable endeavours to ensure that the performance of their respective duties will not be impaired by any such involvement.

## **12 Buying, selling and switching shares**

The dealing office of the ACD is open from 9.00am until 5.00pm on each Business Day to receive requests for the issue, redemption and switching of shares, which will be effected at prices determined at the next Valuation Point on the Dealing Day following receipt of such request.

## **13 Buying shares**

### **13.1 Procedure**

- 13.1.1 Shares can be bought either by sending a completed application form to the ACD, by telephoning the ACD's order desk on 0330123 3810 between 9.00am and 5.00pm on any Business Day or by electronic means (i.e. straight-through-processing (STP) providers, where available). Application forms may be obtained from the ACD.
- 13.1.2 The ACD has the right to reject, on reasonable grounds relating to the circumstances of the applicant, any application for shares in whole or part, and in this event the ACD will return any money sent, or the balance of such monies, at the risk of the applicant.
- 13.1.3 The ACD has the right, in relation to Large Deals, to defer issuing shares until all subscription monies in relation to such deals are received.
- 13.1.4 Any subscription monies remaining after a whole number of shares has been issued will not be returned to the applicant. Instead, Smaller Denomination shares will be issued in such circumstances.
- 13.1.5 The ACD will not accept in specie payment by applicants for shares.

## **13.2 Documentation**

- 13.2.1 A contract note giving details of the shares purchased and the price used will be issued by the end of the Business Day following the Valuation Point by reference to which the purchase price is determined, together with, where appropriate, a notice of the applicant's right to cancel.
- 13.2.2 Settlement is due on receipt by the purchaser of the contract note.
- 13.2.3 Share certificates will not be issued in respect of shares. Ownership of shares will be evidenced by an entry on the Company's register of shareholders. Statements in respect of periodic distributions of income will show the number of shares held by the recipient in respect of which the distribution is made. Individual statements of a Shareholder's (or, when shares are jointly held, the first named holder's) shares will also be issued at any time on request by the registered holder.

## **13.3 Minimum subscriptions and holdings**

- 13.3.1 The minimum initial and subsequent subscription levels, and minimum holdings, are set out in Appendix 1. The ACD may, at its discretion, accept subscriptions lower than the minimum amount
- 13.3.2 If a holding is below the minimum holding, the ACD has discretion to require redemption of the entire holding.

## **14 Selling shares**

### **14.1 Procedure**

- 14.1.1 Every Shareholder has the right to require that the Company redeem his shares on any Dealing Day unless the value of shares which a shareholder wishes to redeem will mean that the shareholder will hold shares with a value less than the required minimum holding, in which case the shareholder may be required to redeem his entire holding.
- 14.1.2 Requests to redeem shares may be made by telephoning the ACD's order desk on 0330 123 3810 between 9.00am and 5.00pm on any Business Day, or in writing to the ACD at the address set out at the end of this Prospectus or by electronic means (i.e. straight-through-processing (STP) providers, where available).

### **14.2 Documents the seller will receive**

A contract note giving details of the number and price of shares sold will be sent to the selling Shareholder (the first named, in the case of joint Shareholders) together (if sufficient written instructions have not already been given) with a form of renunciation for completion and execution by the Shareholder (and, in the case of a joint holding, by all the joint holders) not later than the end of the Business Day following the Valuation Point by reference to which the redemption price is determined. Cheques in satisfaction of the redemption monies will be issued within four Business Days of the later of:

- 14.2.1 receipt by the ACD of the form of renunciation (or other sufficient written instructions) duly signed by all the relevant Shareholders and completed as to the appropriate number of shares, together with any other appropriate evidence of title; and
- 14.2.2 the Valuation Point following receipt by the ACD of the request to redeem.

### **14.3 Minimum redemption**

Part of a Shareholder's holding may be sold but the ACD reserves the right to refuse a redemption request if the value of the shares to be redeemed is less than any minimum redemption amount set out in Appendix 1.

### **14.4 In specie redemption**

If a Shareholder requests the redemption or cancellation of shares, the ACD may in its discretion arrange for the Company to cancel the shares and transfer a portion of the Scheme Property to the Shareholder instead of paying the price of the shares in cash, or, if required by the Shareholder, pay the net proceeds of sale of the relevant Scheme Property to the shareholder.

Before the proceeds of cancellation of the shares become payable, the ACD will give written notice to the Shareholder that a portion of the Scheme Property (or the proceeds of sale of the relevant Scheme Property) will be transferred to that shareholder.

The ACD will select the property to be transferred (or sold) in consultation with the Depositary. They must ensure that the selection is made with a view to achieving no greater advantage or disadvantage to the redeeming Shareholder than to continuing shareholders. The Company may retain from that property (or proceeds) the value (or amount) of any stamp duty reserve tax estimated to be payable on an in specie redemption of shares.

## 14.5 Client money

14.5.1 In accordance with the Client Asset Sourcebook (CASS) of the Financial Conduct Authority's (FCA) handbook, the ACD has chosen to operate the delivery versus payment exemption (DVP Exemption) with regard to investors' subscriptions and redemptions. This exemption, under the FCA's rules, allows the ACD to not treat investor monies as client money in the following two delivery versus payment scenarios:

- (a) Where money is received from an investor in relation to the ACD's obligation to issue shares in accordance with the FCA Regulations.
- (b) Where money is held by the ACD in the course of shares being redeemed where the proceeds of that redemption are paid to a client within the time specified in the FCA Regulations.

By agreeing to subscribe to any Rathbones Asset Management funds, Shareholders agree to Rathbones Asset Management using such arrangements. Should Rathbones Asset Management cease at any time to use the DVP Exemption, you will be pre-notified in writing ahead of the relevant cessation date.

14.5.2 Where in the scenario described in paragraph 14.5.1 above the ACD has not, by the close of business on the Business Day following the receipt of money, paid that money to the Depositary or to the client as the case may be, then the ACD must stop using the DVP Exemption, for that specific transaction.

14.5.3 Any redemption proceeds to be paid by cheque will be paid from a relevant client money account.

14.5.4 Where the ACD makes use of the DVP Exemption, it is required to obtain the client's consent, and will retain this for the whole period it operates the DVP Exemption. By subscribing to Rathbones Asset Management funds, Shareholders provide their consent.

14.5.5 In the scenarios under paragraph 14.5.1 above where money is not treated as client money, such money is not protected and in the event that the ACD should fail, then the money would be at risk.

14.5.6 Further, in accordance with the CASS regulations the ACD is obliged to obtain Shareholder agreement to use the DVP Exemption within the use of any commercial settlement systems we utilise. By subscribing to Rathbones Asset Management funds, Shareholders confirm agreement to the use of such systems.

14.5.7 In relation to the CASS regulations, by agreeing to purchase shares in any Rathbones Asset Management fund, Shareholders agree for the ACD and any applicable third party to establish a contractual agreement to cover the holding of client money by the third party in a client bank account showing that it is holding the monies on behalf of the ACD's clients.

## 14.6 Initial offer

There will be no initial offer period. The initial price of a share is £1 (shares will not be sold or issued in any other currency). Please note that if in the reasonable opinion of the ACD, the operation of the Company is not viable at any time, the ACD may, subject to compliance with the FCA Regulations and subject to the agreement of the Depositary, wind up the Company or consider any other alternative as may be appropriate in the circumstances.

## 15 Switching

15.1 A Shareholder may, at any time switch all or some of their shares of one Share Class (old shares) for shares of another Share Class (new shares). The number of new shares issued will be determined by reference to the respective prices of new shares and old shares at the Valuation Point applicable at the time the old shares are repurchased and the new shares are issued.

15.2 Switching may be effected either by telephone on 0330 123 3810 or in writing to the ACD and the Shareholder may be required to complete a switching form (which, in the case of joint Shareholders must be signed by all the joint holders). Switching forms may be obtained from the ACD.

15.3 If the switch would result in the Shareholder holding a number of old shares or new shares of a value which is less than the minimum holding for the applicable Share Class, ACD may, if it thinks fit, convert the whole of the applicant's holding of old shares to new shares or refuse to effect any switch of the old shares. No switch will be made during any period when the right of Shareholders to require the redemption of their shares is suspended. The general provision on procedures relating to redemption will apply equally to a switch. A duly completed switching form must be received by the ACD before the Valuation Point on a Dealing Day or at such other date as may be approved by the ACD. Switching requests received after a Valuation Point will be held over until the next day which is a Dealing Day.

15.4 The ACD may adjust the number of new shares to be issued to reflect the imposition of any switching fee together with any other charges or levies in respect of the issue or sale of the new shares or repurchase or cancellation of the old shares as may be permitted pursuant to the FCA Regulations.

15.5 A switch of shares between different Share Classes will not be deemed to be a realisation for the purposes of capital gains taxation.

- 15.6 A shareholder who switches shares in one Share Class for shares in any other Share Class will not be given a right by law to withdraw from or cancel the transaction.

## **16 Conversion of shareholdings**

Where the ACD considers it is in the best interests of shareholders, the ACD may convert/transfer a shareholder's holding in one class of shares to another class of shares in the same sub-fund. The ACD shall give prior written notice to the shareholders concerned of the proposed conversion/transfer, including details of the new class of shares and reminding shareholders of their rights to redeem.

## **17 Dealing charges**

### **17.1 Initial charge**

The ACD may impose a charge on the sale of shares to investors. At present, no initial charge is levied. An increase in the maximum initial charge can only be made in accordance with FCA Regulations.

### **17.2 Redemption charge**

- 17.2.1 The ACD may make a charge on the redemption of shares. At present no redemption charge is levied.
- 17.2.2 The ACD may not introduce a redemption charge on shares unless, not less than 90 days before the introduction, it has given notice in writing to the then current Shareholders of that introduction and has revised and made available the Prospectus to reflect the introduction and the date of its commencement.
- 17.2.3 In the event of a change to the rate or method of calculation of a redemption charge, details of the previous rate or method of calculation will be available from the ACD.

## **18 Other dealing information**

### **18.1 Dilution levy**

- 18.1.1 The basis on which the Company's investments are valued for the purpose of calculating the issue and redemption price of shares as stipulated in the FCA Regulations and the Instrument is summarised later in this Prospectus. The actual cost of purchasing or selling investments may be higher or lower than the mid-market value used in calculating the share price – for example, due to dealing charges, or through dealing at prices other than the mid-market price. Under certain circumstances (for example, large volumes of deals) this may have an adverse effect on the Shareholders' interest. In order to prevent this effect, called "dilution", the ACD has the power to charge a "dilution levy" on the sale and/or redemption of shares. As a dilution levy is not currently charged (except on Large Deals), the cost of purchasing or selling investments subsequent to Shareholder dealing will be borne by the Company with a consequent effect on future growth. If the ACD decides in future to charge a dilution levy on all deals (and not just on Large Deals), it will be calculated by reference to the costs of dealing in the underlying investments of the Company, including any dealing spreads, commission and transfer taxes. If charged, the dilution levy will be paid into the Company and will become part of the property of the Company.
- 18.1.2 The dilution levy will be calculated by reference to the estimated costs of dealing in the underlying investments, including any dealing spreads, commission and transfer taxes. The estimated rate or range of such levy will be 0.5%.
- 18.1.3 The need to charge a dilution levy will depend on the volume of sales or redemptions. The ACD may charge a discretionary dilution levy on the sale and redemption of shares if, in its opinion, the existing shareholders (for sales) or remaining Shareholders (for redemptions) might otherwise be adversely affected, and if charging a dilution levy is, so far as practicable, fair to all shareholders and potential Shareholders. In particular, the dilution levy may be charged in the following circumstances:
- (a) Where, over a dealing period, the Company has experienced a large level of net sales or redemptions relative to its size;
  - (b) on Large Deals; or
  - (c) in any other case where the ACD is of the opinion that the interests of Shareholders require the imposition of a dilution levy.

It is therefore not possible to predict accurately whether dilution would occur at any point in time. If a dilution levy is required then, based on future projections the estimated rate or amount of such levy will be 0.5%.

Except in relation to Large Deals, the ACD has no plans at present to introduce a dilution levy on the purchase or sale of shares. The ACD may alter its dilution policy either by Shareholder consent pursuant to the passing of a resolution to that effect at a properly convened meeting of shareholders and by amending this Prospectus or by giving notice to Shareholders and amending the Prospectus 60 days before the change to the dilution policy is to take effect.

## **19 Money laundering**

As a result of legislation in force in the United Kingdom to prevent money laundering, persons conducting investment business are responsible for compliance with money laundering regulations. In order to implement these procedures, in certain circumstances investors may be asked to provide proof of identity when buying shares. The ACD reserves the right to reverse the transaction or to refuse to sell shares if it is not satisfied as to the identity of the applicant.

## **20 Restrictions and compulsory transfer and redemption**

The ACD may from time to time impose such restrictions as it may think necessary for the purpose of ensuring that no shares are acquired or held by any person in breach of the law or governmental regulation (or any interpretation of a law or regulation by a competent authority) of any country or territory. In this connection, the ACD may, inter alia, reject in its discretion any application for the purchase, sale, transfer or switching of shares.

## **21 Suspension of dealings in shares in the Company**

- 21.1 The ACD may, with the prior agreement of the Depositary or shall, if the Depositary so requires, temporarily suspend the issue, cancellation, purchase and redemption of shares where due to exceptional circumstances it is in the interest of all of the Shareholders.
- 21.2 On suspension, the ACD, or the Depositary if it has required the ACD to suspend dealings in units, must immediately inform the FCA, stating the reason for its action and as soon as practicable give written confirmation to the FCA of the suspension and the reasons for it.
- 21.3 The ACD must ensure that a notification of the suspension is made to Shareholders as soon as practicable after suspension commences. The ACD must ensure that it:
  - 21.3.1 draws Shareholders' particular attention to the exceptional circumstance which resulted in the suspension;
  - 21.3.2 is clear, fair and not misleading; and
  - 21.3.3 informs Shareholders how to obtain sufficient details (either through the Company's website or by other general means) about the suspension including, if known, its likely duration.
- 21.4 The ACD and the Depositary must formally review the suspension at least every 28 days and inform the FCA of the result of this review with a view to ending the suspension as soon as practicable after the exceptional circumstances have ceased.
- 21.5 Re-calculation of the share price for the purpose of sales and purchases will commence on the next relevant Valuation Point following the ending of the suspension.

## **22 Governing law**

- 22.1 By applying for shares, the relevant Shareholder agrees to be bound by this Prospectus. The Company, the Instrument and the Prospectus are governed by the laws of England and Wales. The Company, the ACD and Shareholders will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales to settle any dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with Shareholder's investment in the Company or any related matter.
- 22.2 According to Council Regulation 44/2001 of 22 December 2000 on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters (Council Regulation), a judgement given and enforceable in an EU member state shall in principle be recognised in the other EU member states without any special procedure being required and shall generally be enforceable in the other EU member states on the application of any interested parties, save in certain circumstances. EU regulation 1215/2012 of 12 December 2012 which is designed to improve the application of certain provisions of the Council Regulation shall apply from 10 January 2015.

## **23 Valuation of shares in the Company**

- 23.1 The price of a share in the Company is calculated by reference to the Net Asset Value of the Company. The Net Asset Value per share of the Company is currently calculated at the time set out in Appendix 1.
- 23.2 The ACD may at any time during a Business Day, carry out an additional valuation if the ACD considers it desirable to do so.

## 24 Calculation of the Net Asset Value

- 24.1 The value of the Scheme Property of the Company shall be the value of its assets less the value of its liabilities determined in accordance with the following provisions.
- 24.2 All the Scheme Property (including receivables) of the Company is to be included, subject to the following provisions:
- 24.2.1 property which is not cash (or other assets dealt with below) or a contingent liability transaction shall be valued as follows and the prices used shall (subject as follows) be the most recent prices which it is practicable to obtain:
- (a) units or shares in a collective investment scheme:
    - (i) if a single price for buying and selling units is quoted, at the most recent such price; or
    - (ii) if separate buying or selling prices are quoted, at the average of the two prices provided the buying price has been reduced by any initial charge included therein and the selling price has been increased by any exit or redemption charge attributable thereto; or
    - (iii) if, in the opinion of the ACD, the price obtained is unreliable or no recent traded price is available or if no price exists, at a value which, in the opinion of the ACD, is fair and reasonable;
  - (b) any other transferable security:
    - (i) if a single price for buying and selling the security is quoted, at that price; or
    - (ii) if separate buying and selling prices are quoted, the average of those two prices; or
    - (iii) if, in the opinion of the ACD, the price obtained is unreliable or no recent traded price is available or if no price exists, at a value which in the opinion of the ACD reflects a fair and reasonable price for that investment;
  - (c) property other than that described in paragraphs (a) and (b) above at a value which, in the opinion of the ACD, represents a fair and reasonable mid-market price;
- 24.2.2 cash and amounts held in current, margin and deposit accounts and in other time-related deposits shall be valued at their nominal values;
- 24.2.3 currencies or values in currencies other than sterling shall be converted at the relevant Valuation Point at a rate of exchange that is not likely to result in any material prejudice to the interests of shareholders or potential shareholders;
- 24.2.4 property which is a contingent liability transaction shall be treated as follows:
- (a) If it is a written option (and the premium for writing the option has become part of the Scheme Property), the amount of the net valuation of premium receivable shall be deducted;
  - (b) if it is an off-exchange future, it will be included at the net value of closing out in accordance with a valuation method agreed between the ACD and the Depositary;
  - (c) if the property is an off-exchange derivative, it will be included at a valuation method agreed between the ACD and Depositary; and
  - (d) if it is any other form of contingent liability transaction, it will be included at the net value of margin on closing out (whether as a positive or negative value).
- 24.3 In determining the value of the Scheme Property, all instructions given to issue or cancel shares shall be assumed to have been carried out (and any cash paid or received) whether or not this is the case.
- 24.4 Agreements for the unconditional sale or purchase of property which are in existence but uncompleted will generally be assumed to have been completed and all consequential action required to have been taken. Such unconditional agreements need not be taken into account if made shortly before the valuation takes place and, in the opinion of the ACD, their omission will not materially affect the final net asset amount.
- 24.5 Futures or contracts for differences which are not yet due to be performed and unexpired and unexercised written or purchased options shall not be included under the preceding paragraph.
- 24.6 All agreements will be included in the calculation of Net Asset Value which are, or ought reasonably to have been, known to the person valuing the property.
- 24.7 An estimated amount for anticipated tax liabilities at that point in time including (as applicable and without limitation) capital gains tax, income tax, corporation tax, stamp duty, stamp duty reserve tax and value added tax will be deducted.
- 24.8 An estimated amount for any liabilities payable out of the Scheme Property and any tax thereon treating periodic items as accruing from day to day will be deducted.
- 24.9 The principal amount of any outstanding borrowings whenever repayable and any accrued but unpaid interest on borrowings will be deducted.



- 24.10 An estimated amount for accrued claims for tax of whatever nature which may be recoverable will be added.
- 24.11 Any other credits or amounts due to be paid into the Scheme Property will be added.
- 24.12 A sum representing any interest or any income accrued due or deemed to have accrued but not received.

## **25 Price per share in the share class**

- 25.1 The ACD shall determine the method of allocating the Net Asset Value amongst the classes making such adjustments for subscriptions, redemptions, fees, dividends and any other factor differentiating the classes as appropriate. The Net Asset Value of the Company, as allocated between each class, shall be divided by the number of shares of the relevant class which are in issue or deemed to be in issue and rounding the result as determined by the ACD.
- 25.2 The price per share at which shares are sold is the sum of the Net Asset Value of a share and any initial charge. The price per share at which shares are redeemed is the Net Asset Value per share less any applicable redemption charge. In addition, there may, for both purchases and sales, be a dilution levy, as described above.

## **26 Pricing basis**

Shares in the Company will be single priced. The Company deals on a forward pricing basis. A forward price is the price calculated at the next Valuation Point after the sale or redemption is agreed.

## **27 Publication of prices**

The most recent retail class price of shares are available on [markets.ft.com](http://markets.ft.com), [trustnet.com](http://trustnet.com) and on the Managers website [rathbonesam.com](http://rathbonesam.com). Investors can obtain prices by calling the Registrar, SS&C Financial Services International Limited, on 0330 123 3810.

## **28 Investor profile**

- 28.1 Whether an investment in the Company is appropriate will depend on the investor's own requirements and attitude to risk. The Company is designed for both retail and institutional investors who:
  - 28.1.1 are seeking some income whilst maintaining their capital, who wish to have exposure to high quality corporate bonds;
  - 28.1.2 investors should be comfortable with a three year investment period; and
  - 28.1.3 who understand and are willing to take risks involved in investing in the Company (as detailed under "Risk Factors" set out in paragraph 29 of the Prospectus).

## **29 Receiving financial instrument communication**

The ACD, in accordance with the FCA Regulations, must take all reasonable steps to record telephone conversations and keep a copy of electronic communications where such conversations and communications relate to activities in financial instruments as required by the FCA Regulations. The ACD may keep records of all business transactions for at least five years.

## **30 Risk factors**

Potential investors should consider the following risk factors before investing in the Company.

The following statements are intended to summarise some of the risks, but are not exhaustive, nor do they offer advice on the suitability of investments.

### **30.1 General risks**

Past performance should not be seen as an indication of future performance. The price of shares and the income from them can go down as well as up and an investor may not get back the amount he has invested.

There is no assurance that investment objectives of the Company will actually be achieved.

Shares in the Company should generally be regarded as a medium-term investment.

### **30.2 Equities risk**

Where investments are in the shares of companies (equities), the value of those equities may fluctuate, sometimes dramatically, in response to the activities and results of individual companies or because of general market and economic conditions or other events. Currency exchange rate movements will also cause changes in value when the currency of the investment is other than sterling.

### **30.3 Warrants risk**

Where investments are in warrants, the price per share may fluctuate more than if the Company was invested in the underlying securities because of the greater volatility of the warrant price.

### **30.4 Interest Rate Fluctuations**

Interest rate fluctuations are likely to affect the capital value of investments within bond funds. When long term interest rates use the capital value of shares in bond funds it is likely to fall and vice versa. The effect will be more apparent in funds which invest in long dated securities.

### **30.5 Bonds and debt instruments (including high yielding securities) risk**

Where investments are in bonds or other debt instruments, the value of those investments will depend on market interest rates, the credit quality of the issuer and liquidity considerations. Investments in high yielding debt instruments may have a level of income which is relatively high (compared to investment grade debt instruments); however, the risk of depreciation and realisation of capital losses on such debt instruments held will be significantly higher than on lower yielding debt instruments.

### **30.6 Lower rated/unrated securities risk**

The credit quality of debt instruments is often assessed by rating agencies. Medium and lower rated securities and unrated securities of comparable quality may be subject to wider fluctuations in yield, wider bid-offer spreads, greater liquidity premium and accentuated market expectations, and consequently greater fluctuations in market values, than higher rated securities. Changes in such ratings, or expectation of changes, will be likely to cause changes in yield and market values, at times significantly so.

### **30.7 New issue risk**

The Company may invest in initial public offerings, which frequently are smaller companies. Such securities have no trading history and information about these companies may only be available for limited periods. The prices of securities involved in initial public offerings may be subject to greater price volatility than more established securities.

### **30.8 Derivatives and volatility**

The Company may use derivative instruments for the purposes of Efficient Portfolio Management.

**The use of derivatives for Efficient Portfolio Management should not lead to an increase in the risk profile of the Company.**

To the extent the Company may enter into Total Return Swaps or financial derivative instruments with the same characteristics, the ACD has discretion as to the appointment of counterparties when entering into Total Return Swaps in furtherance of the Company's investment objective and policy, provided that the appointment of such counterparties comply with Appendix 2, paragraph 16.8. It is not possible to comprehensively list in the Prospectus all the counterparties as they may change from time to time. Any such counterparty so appointed is not expected to assume discretion over the composition or management of the Company's investment portfolio or over the underlying of the financial derivative instrument although the ACD reserves the right to permit the granting of such discretion.

### **30.9 Foreign currency risk**

The Company may invest in securities denominated in a number of different currencies other than sterling in which the Company is denominated. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates may adversely affect the value of these investments and the income thereon.



### **30.10 Pricing and valuation risk**

For quoted investments a valuation price can be obtained from an exchange or similarly verifiable source. However, investment in unquoted and/or illiquid investments which are difficult to value may increase the risk of mispricing.

Furthermore, the Company will compute the Net Asset Value when some markets are closed for holidays or other reasons. In these and similar cases a verifiable source of market prices will not be available and the ACD may invoke its fair value process which will determine a fair value price for the relevant investments; this fair value process involves assumptions and subjectivity.

### **30.11 Emerging countries and developing markets risk**

The Company may invest in emerging markets which are undergoing rapid growth and regulatory change. Emerging markets present additional risks to those normally encountered in developed securities markets. These risks may be political, social and economic in nature and may be complicated by inflationary pressures and currency depreciation. The accounting and financial reporting standards, practices and disclosure requirements in some of the countries in which investments may be made may differ from those experienced in more developed markets. Similarly, reliability of the trading and settlement systems in such markets and the liquidity of these markets may not be equal to those available in more developed markets and this could lead to delays in settlement or affect the price at which investments could be realised. Government influence or control of private companies in some countries may be significant and investments may be exposed to the risks of political change, political uncertainty or governmental action. Such assets could be expropriated, nationalised, confiscated or subject to changes in legislation relating to foreign ownership. The value of investments in emerging markets may therefore be adversely affected by political and/or economic conditions, which would, in turn, adversely impact on the performance of the Company and its share price.

### **30.12 Credit risk**

Investments may be adversely affected if any of the institutions with which money is deposited suffers insolvency or other financial difficulties (default). Credit risk also arises from the uncertainty about an issuer's ultimate repayment of principal and interest for bond or other debt instrument investments. The entire deposit or purchase price of the debt instrument is at risk of loss if there is no recovery after default. The risk of default is usually greatest with bonds and debt instruments that are classed as "sub-investment" grade.

### **30.13 Settlement risk**

All security investments are transacted through brokers who have been approved by the Investment Manager as an acceptable counterparty. The list of approved brokers is reviewed regularly. There is a risk of loss if a counterparty fails to perform its financial or other obligations, for example, the possibility that a counterparty may default, by failing to make payments due, or make payments in a timely manner. If settlement never occurs the loss incurred by the Company will be the difference between the price of the original contract and the price of the replacement contract, or, in the case where the contract is not replaced the absolute value of the contract at the time it is voided. Furthermore, in some markets Delivery versus Payment may not be possible in which case the absolute value of the contract is at risk if the Company meets its settlement obligations but the counterparty fails before meeting its obligations.

### **30.14 Tax risk**

Tax laws, currently in place, may change in the future which could affect the Net Asset Value and therefore the shareholder's investments. Refer to paragraph 38 headed "Taxation" for further details.

### **30.15 Inflation risk**

Unless the performance of your investment keeps up with or beats inflation, the real value of your investments will fall over time.

### **30.16 Political and/or environmental risk**

The investee companies may operate in countries where the ownership rights may be uncertain and development of the resources themselves may be subject to disruption due to factors including civil disturbances, industrial action, interruption of power supplies, as well as adverse climatic conditions.

### **30.17 Market risk**

The risk that the entire market of an asset class will decline, thus affecting the prices and the values of the assets.

### **30.18 Charges to capital**

All fees and expenses to be paid out of Scheme Property are allocated to capital instead of against income. This treatment of such fees and expenses will increase the amount of income available for distribution to shareholders, but may erode capital and constrain capital growth.

### **30.19 Liabilities of the Company**

Shareholders are not liable for the debts of the Company. A Shareholder is not liable to make any further payment to the Company after paying the purchase price of shares.

## **31 Risk management process and liquidity management**

- 31.1.1 The ACD employs a risk management process which enables it to identify, measure, manage and monitor at any time the relevant risks of the positions to which the Company is or may be exposed and its contribution to the overall risk profile of the Company and which includes the use of appropriate stress testing procedures.
- 31.1.2 The ACD has established a liquidity management policy which enables it to identify, monitor and manage the liquidity risks of the Company and to ensure the liquidity profile of the investments of the Company will facilitate compliance with its underlying obligations. The ACD's liquidity policy takes into account the investment strategy, the liquidity profile, redemption policy and other underlying obligations of the Company. The liquidity management systems and procedures include appropriate escalation measures to address anticipated or actual liquidity shortages or other distressed situations of the Company. In summary, the liquidity management policy monitors the profile of investments and ensures that such investments are appropriate to the redemption policy as set out in this Prospectus. Further, the liquidity management policy includes details on periodic stress testing carried out by the ACD to manage the Company's liquidity risk in exceptional and extraordinary circumstances.
- 31.1.3 The liquidity management systems and procedures allow the ACD to apply various tools and arrangements necessary to ensure that the Company is sufficiently liquid to respond appropriately to redemption requests normally. In normal circumstances, redemption requests will be processed as set out in paragraph 13.
- 31.1.4 Other arrangements may also be used in response to redemption requests, including the deferral of such redemption requests in certain circumstances will restrict the redemption rights investors benefit from in normal circumstances as set out below in paragraph 13.
- 31.1.5 Upon request the ACD will provide information to shareholders relating to:
  - (a) the quantitative limits applying in the risk management of the Company;
  - (b) the methods used in relation to paragraph (a); and
  - (c) any recent development of the risks and yields of the main categories of investment.
- 31.1.6 It is intended that Shareholders will be notified of any material changes to the liquidity management systems and procedures employed by the ACD and will be notified immediately if redemptions are suspended. It is intended that any changes to the maximum level of Leverage will be provided to Shareholders without undue delay.

### **31.2 Professional liability risks**

The ACD covers its potential liability risks arising from professional liability by holding appropriate professional indemnity insurance.

## **32 Leverage risk**

While leverage presents opportunities for increasing the Company's total return, it has the effect of potentially increasing losses as well. Accordingly, any event that adversely affects the value of an investment, either directly or indirectly could be magnified to the extent that leverage is employed. The cumulative effect of the use of leverage, directly or indirectly, in a market that moves adversely to the investments of the entity employing the leverage, could result in a loss to the Company that would be greater than if leverage were not employed by the Company.

### 33 International tax compliance

- 33.1.1 The US Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) is designed to help the Internal Revenue Service (the IRS) combat US tax evasion. It requires financial institutions, such as the Company, to report on US investors or US holdings, whether or not this is relevant. Failure to comply (or be deemed compliant) with these requirements will subject the Company to US withholding taxes on certain US-sourced income and gains. Under an intergovernmental agreement between the US and the United Kingdom, the Company may be deemed compliant, and therefore not subject to the withholding tax, if it identifies and reports US taxpayer information directly to HMRC.
- 33.1.2 Similar reporting requirements may also apply to the Company in respect of shareholders who are not solely UK tax resident following laws enacted for the OECD Common Reporting Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information (CRS).
- 33.1.3 Accordingly, Shareholders should note that:
- (a) they may be asked to provide additional information (including information regarding their tax residence) to enable the ACD to satisfy these obligations;
  - (b) the ACD may be required to report these details to HMRC; and
  - (c) HMRC may subsequently exchange this information with other governments or tax authorities in other jurisdictions.
- 33.1.4 Institutional Unitholders may be required to provide a Global Intermediary Identifications Number (GIIN).
- 33.1.5 Failure to provide requested information may subject a Shareholder to liability for any resulting withholding taxes, tax information reporting and/or mandatory redemption, transfer or other termination of the Shareholder's interest in its shares.

### 34 Fees and expenses

#### 34.1 General

- 34.1.1 The fees, costs and expenses relating to the authorisation and incorporation and establishment of the Company, the offer of shares, the preparation and printing of this Prospectus, the key investor information documents and the fees of the professional advisers to the Company in connection with the offer will be borne by the Company.
- 34.1.2 The Company may pay out of the Scheme Property charges and expenses incurred by the Company which will include the following expenses:
- (a) any fees and expenses payable to the ACD, the Depositary and the Administrators;
  - (b) broker's commission (where such payment may be made in accordance with the FCA Regulations), fiscal charges (including Stamp Duty and/or Stamp Duty Reserve Tax) and other disbursements which are necessarily incurred in effecting transactions for the Company and normally shown in contract notes, confirmation notes and difference accounts as appropriate;
  - (c) fees and expenses in respect of establishing and maintaining the register of shareholders (as defined in the FCA Regulations). The Registrar's fee is currently subject to the fee cap specified in paragraph 3 of Appendix 1.
  - (d) any costs incurred in modifying the Instrument including costs incurred in respect of meetings of Shareholders convened for purposes which include modifying the Instrument, where the modification is necessary to implement changes in the law or as a direct consequence of any change in the law, or is expedient having regard to any change in the law made by or under any fiscal enactment and which the ACD agrees is in the interest of Shareholders, or to remove obsolete provisions from the Instrument;
  - (e) any costs incurred in or about the listing of shares in the Company on any Stock Exchange, and the creation, conversion and cancellation of shares;
  - (f) any costs incurred in publishing the price of the shares;
  - (g) any costs incurred in producing and dispatching any payments made by the Company, or the yearly and half-yearly reports of the Company;
  - (h) any fees, expenses or disbursements of any legal or other professional adviser of the Company;
  - (i) any costs incurred in taking out and maintaining any insurance policy in relation to the Company;
  - (j) any costs incurred in respect of meetings of Shareholders convened for any purpose including those convened on a requisition by shareholders not including the ACD or an associate of the ACD;

- (k) liabilities on unitisation, amalgamation or reconstruction including certain liabilities arising after transfer of property to the Company in consideration for the issue of shares as more fully detailed in the FCA Regulations;
- (l) interest on permitted borrowings and charges incurred in effecting or terminating such borrowings or in negotiating or varying the terms of such borrowings;
- (m) taxation and duties payable in respect of the property of the Company or the issue or redemption of shares;
- (n) the audit fees of the Auditors (including VAT) and any expenses of the Auditors;
- (o) the fees charged by the FCA together with any corresponding periodic fees of any regulatory authority in a country or territory outside the United Kingdom in which shares in the Company are or may be marketed;
- (p) any expense incurred in relation to company secretarial duties including the cost of maintenance of minute books and other documentation required to be maintained by the Company;
- (q) any payments otherwise due by virtue of the FCA Regulations; and
- (r) any value added or similar tax relating to any charge or expense set out herein.

34.1.3 VAT is payable on these charges where appropriate.

34.1.4 In accordance with the FCA Regulations, the ACD, when executing orders or placing orders with other entities in relation to financial instruments for execution on behalf of the Company, must not accept and retain any fees, commission or monetary benefits from a third party (Thirds Party Payments). If the ACD receives any Third Party Payments, the ACD will return the Third Party Payments to the relevant fund as soon as reasonably possible and will inform unitholders of the amount received which will be set out in the annual reports.

34.1.5 The ACD will not enter into commission arrangements prohibited by the FCA Regulations. In addition, the ACD must not accept any non-monetary benefits when executing orders or placing orders with other entities for execution in relation to financial instruments on behalf of the Company, except those which are capable of enhancing the quality of the service provided to the Company, and which are of a scale and nature such that they could not be judged to impair the ACD's compliance with its duty to act honestly, fairly and professionally in the best interests of the Company.

34.1.6 The ACD conducts its own research and/or uses third party providers of research. The ACD will pay for this research out of its own resources.

34.1.7 All fees and expenses to be paid out of Scheme Property are allocated to capital instead of against income. **This treatment of such fees and expenses will increase the amount of income available for distribution to shareholders, but may erode capital and constrain capital growth.**

## **35 Charges payable to the ACD**

35.1 In payment for carrying out its duties and responsibilities the ACD is entitled to take out of the Company an annual management charge.

35.2 The annual management charge accrues daily and is payable monthly in arrears on the first Dealing Day of each month. The current management charges are set out in Appendix 1.

35.3 The ACD is also entitled to all reasonable, properly vouched, out of pocket expenses incurred in the performance of its duties, including Stamp Duty and Stamp Duty Reserve Tax on transactions in shares.

35.4 The ACD may not increase the current rate or amount of its remuneration payable out of the Scheme Property or the initial charge unless, not less than 60 days before the increase, the ACD gives notice in writing of the introduction or increase and the date of its commencement to all shareholders and has revised and made available the Prospectus to reflect the introduction or new rate and the date of its commencement.

## **36 Administrators' fees**

The fees and expenses of the Administrators in respect of their role as Administrator (plus any VAT thereon) are paid out Scheme Property. Such fees will accrue daily and are payable monthly in arrears on the first Dealing Day of each month. The maximum amount of such fees and expenses chargeable to Scheme Property are currently in line with the fee cap specified in paragraph 3 of Appendix 1.

## 37 Depositary's fees

37.1 The Depositary receives for its own account a periodic fee which will accrue daily and is payable monthly in arrears on the first Dealing Day of each month. The rate of the periodic fee is agreed between the ACD and the Depositary from time to time subject to the rules contained in the FCA Regulations.

37.2 At the date of this Prospectus the Depositary's fee is calculated as per the table below.

	Indicative Depositary Tariff
On the first £50 million value in each fund	0.0175% p.a.
On the next £450 million value in each fund	0.0110% p.a.
On the next £500 million value and above in each fund	0.0075% p.a.

VAT is to be added to these fees at the standard rate (currently 20%).

37.3 These rates can be varied from time to time in accordance with the FCA Regulations.

37.4 In addition to the fees set out above, the Depositary may receive payment out of the Scheme Property in respect of transaction charges and custody charges. Transaction charges vary from country to country, dependent on the markets and the value of the stock involved and are currently subject to a range from £10 to £250 (or equivalent in another currency) per transaction and accrue at the time the transactions are effected and are payable as soon as is reasonably practicable, and in any event not later than the last Business Day of the month when such charges arose or as otherwise agreed between the Depositary and the ACD. The maximum transaction charge that may be charged by the Depositary is £250 per transaction. Custody charges again vary from country to country depending on the markets and the value of the stock involved and are currently subject to a range from 0.01% to 0.5% and accrue and are payable as agreed from time to time by the ACD and the Depositary.

37.5 The Depositary will also be paid by the Company out of the Scheme Property, expenses properly incurred in the performance of, or arranging the performance of, functions conferred on it by the Depositary Agreement, the FCA Regulations or by the general law.

37.6 The Depositary shall be entitled to recover its fees, charges and expenses when the relevant transaction or other dealing is effected or relevant service is provided or as may otherwise be agreed between the Depositary and the Company or the ACD.

37.7 On a winding up of the Company or the redemption of a class of shares, the Depositary will be entitled to its pro rata fees, charges and expenses to the date of winding up, or the redemption (as appropriate) and any additional expenses necessarily realised in settling or receiving any outstanding obligations. No compensation for loss of office is provided for in the agreement with the Depositary.

37.8 Any Value Added Tax on any fees, charges or expenses payable to the Depositary will be added to such fees, charges or expenses.

37.9 In each such case such expenses and disbursements will also be payable if incurred by any person (including the ACD or any associate or nominee of the Depositary or of the ACD) who has had the relevant duty delegated to it pursuant to the FCA Regulations by the Depositary.

## 38 Shareholder meetings and voting rights

### 38.1 Requisitions of meetings

38.1.1 The Company does not hold annual general meetings. The ACD may requisition a general meeting at any time.

38.1.2 Shareholders may also requisition a general meeting of the Company. A requisition by shareholders must state the objects of the meeting, be dated, be signed by Shareholders who, at the date of the requisition, are registered as holding not less than one-tenth in value of all shares then in issue and the requisition must be deposited at the head office of the Company. The ACD must convene a general meeting no later than eight weeks after receipt of such requisition.

### 38.2 Notice of quorum

Shareholders will receive at least 14 days' notice of a Shareholders' meeting and are entitled to be counted in the quorum and vote at such meeting either in person or by proxy. The quorum for a meeting is two shareholders, present in person or by proxy. The quorum for an adjourned meeting is one shareholder present in person or by proxy. Notices of meetings and adjourned meetings will be sent to Shareholders at their registered addresses.

### 38.3 Voting rights

- 38.3.1 At a meeting of Shareholders, on a show of hands every Shareholder who (being an individual) is present in person or (being a corporation) is present by its representative properly authorised in that regard, has one vote.
- 38.3.2 On a poll vote, a Shareholder may vote either in person or by proxy. The voting rights attaching to each share are such proportion of the voting rights attached to all the shares in issue that the price of the share bears to the aggregate price(s) of all the shares in issue at the date seven days before the notice of meeting is deemed to have been served.
- 38.3.3 A Shareholder entitled to more than one vote need not, if he votes, use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses in the same way.
- 38.3.4 Except where the FCA Regulations or the Instrument require an extraordinary resolution (which requires 75% of the votes cast at the meeting to be in favour if the resolution is to be passed) any resolution required by the FCA Regulations will be passed by a simple majority of the votes validly cast for and against the resolution.
- 38.3.5 The ACD may not be counted in the quorum for a meeting and neither the ACD nor any associate (as defined in the FCA Regulations) of the ACD is entitled to vote at any meeting of the Company except in respect of shares which the ACD or associate holds on behalf of or jointly with a person who, if the registered Shareholder, would be entitled to vote and from whom the ACD or associate has received voting instructions.
- 38.3.6 **Shareholders** in this context means shareholders on the date seven days before the notice of the relevant meeting was deemed to have been served but excludes holders who are known to the ACD not to be shareholders at the time of the meeting.

### 38.4 Class meetings

The above provisions, unless the context otherwise requires, apply to Share Class meetings as they apply to general meetings of Shareholders.

### 38.5 Variation of class rights

The rights attached to a class can be varied in accordance with COLL by a resolution passed at a meeting of Shareholders of that Share Class by a 75% majority of those votes validly cast for and against such resolution.

## 39 Taxation

The information below is a general guide based on current United Kingdom law and HM Revenue and Customs practice, both of which are subject to change.

It summarises the tax position of the funds and of investors who are UK resident individuals or companies (except where indicated) and own their shares as investments.

**Important:** We always recommend that, if you are in doubt about your tax position, or if you might be subject to tax outside the United Kingdom, you take professional advice.

### 39.1 Rathbone High Quality Bond Fund

The fund is treated as a separate open-ended investment company for United Kingdom tax purposes.

The fund itself is generally exempt from United Kingdom tax on capital gains realised on the disposal of its investments (including interest-paying securities and derivatives).

Any dividends from UK and non-UK companies and dividend distributions from UK authorised unit trusts and open-ended investment companies (except for any portion which is not derived from dividends) are generally exempt from tax when received by a fund.

The fund will be subject to corporation tax on other types of income but after deducting allowable expenses (including the agreed fees and expenses of Rathbones' management company and the independent depositary as well as interest distributions where these are paid).

If the fund suffers foreign tax on income received, this may normally either be deducted from any UK tax due on that income or else treated as an expense.

## 39.2 Shareholders

### Income

Funds are referred to as equity funds for tax purposes (and pay dividend distributions) except where more than 60% of a fund's investments are interest-bearing and economically equivalent investments in which case, they are referred to as bond funds for tax purposes (and pay interest distributions).

The Rathbone High Quality Bond Fund is classified as a bond fund for tax purposes.

### Income – bond funds

Bond funds pay interest distributions (which will be automatically reinvested in the fund in the case of accumulation shares). No tax is deducted from interest distributions.

Shareholders chargeable to United Kingdom corporation tax must account for their holding in a fund in accordance with the loan relationships tax regime. This requires the shareholder's interest in the fund (including the amount of any distributions received) to be taken into account for corporation tax on a fair value basis.

### Income equalisation

Part of the price on purchase of a share reflects the relevant share of accrued income received or to be received by the fund. This capital sum is returned to shareholders (or where accumulation shares are held, it will be accumulated) with the first allocation of income in respect of a share issued during an accounting period.

The amount representing the income equalisation in the share's price is a return of capital and is not itself taxable in the hands of shareholders, but must be deducted by them from the cost of the shares for the purpose of calculating any liability to capital gains tax.

### Gains

Shareholders who are resident in the United Kingdom for tax purposes may be liable to capital gains tax on gains arising from the redemption, transfer or other disposal of shares (but not on conversions between classes within a fund).

Part of the increase in the price of accumulation shares is due to the accumulation of income allocations (including where applicable income equalisation). These amounts should be added to the acquisition cost of the shares when calculating the capital gain realised on their disposal.

Shareholders in the bond fund who are chargeable to United Kingdom corporation tax must treat their shareholdings as creditor relationships subject to a fair value basis of accounting.

### Reporting requirements

Rathbone High Quality Bond Fund (or its agent) may be required to report information about shareholders and their investments to HM Revenue and Customs to comply with their obligations under United Kingdom legislation relating to the automatic exchange of information for international tax compliance (including the United States provisions commonly known as FATCA, the international common reporting standard, and any other intergovernmental information sharing agreements entered into from time to time).

HM Revenue and Customs will, in turn, pass information on to all relevant foreign tax authorities.

If a shareholder does not provide the necessary information, Rathbone High Quality Bond Fund will be required to report this to HM Revenue and Customs who will in turn pass the information on to all relevant tax authorities including the United States.

## 39.3 Stamp duty reserve tax

Following the abolition of stamp duty reserve tax on management dealings in units in authorised investment funds, there will generally be no charge to stamp duty reserve tax when shareholders surrender or redeem their shares.

However, if the redemption is satisfied by a non-pro rata in specie redemption, then stamp duty reserve tax will apply to any chargeable securities received.



## **40 Income equalisation**

- 40.1 Income equalisation, as explained below, shall apply in relation to the Company.
- 40.2 Part of the purchase price of a share reflects the relevant share of accrued income received or to be received by the Company. This capital sum is returned to a Shareholder with the first allocation of income in respect of a share issued during an accounting period.
- 40.3 The amount of income equalisation is either the actual amount of income included in the issue price of that share or is calculated by dividing the aggregate of the amounts of income included in the price of shares issued or sold to Shareholders in an annual or interim accounting period by the number of those shares and applying the resultant average to each of the shares in question.

## **41 Winding up of the Company**

- 41.1.1 The Company shall not be wound up except as an unregistered company under Part V of the Insolvency Act 1986 or under the FCA Regulations.
- 41.1.2 Where the Company is to be wound up under the FCA Regulations, such winding up may only be commenced following approval by the FCA. The FCA may only give such approval if the ACD provides a statement (following an investigation into the affairs of the Company) either that the Company will be able to meet its liabilities within 12 months of the date of the statement or that the Company will be unable to do so. The Company may not be wound up under the FCA Regulations if there is a vacancy in the position of ACD at the relevant time.
- 41.1.3 The Company may be wound up under the FCA Regulations:
- (a) if an extraordinary resolution to that effect is passed by shareholders; or
  - (b) if the period (if any) fixed for the duration of the Company by the Instrument expires, or an event (if any) occurs on the occurrence of which the Instrument provides that the Company is to be wound up (for example, if the share capital of the Company is below its prescribed minimum); or
  - (c) on the date stated in any agreement by the FCA in response to a request from the ACD for the winding up of the Company; or
  - (d) on the effective date of a duly approved scheme of arrangement which is to result in the Company ceasing to hold any Scheme Property.
- 41.1.4 On the occurrence of any of the above:
- (a) the FCA Regulations relating to pricing and dealing and investment and borrowing will cease to apply to the Company;
  - (b) the Company will cease to issue and cancel shares in the Company and the ACD shall cease to sell or redeem shares or arrange for the Company to issue or cancel them for the Company;
  - (c) no transfer of a share shall be registered and no other change to the register shall be made without the sanction of the ACD;
  - (d) where the Company is being wound up, the Company shall cease to carry on its business except in so far as it is beneficial for the winding up of the Company; and
  - (e) the corporate status and powers of the Company and, subject to the provisions of paragraphs 40.1.4(a) and 40.1.4(d) above, the powers of the ACD shall remain until the Company is dissolved.
- 41.1.5 The ACD shall, as soon as practicable after the Company falls to be wound up, realise the assets and meet the liabilities of the Company and, after paying out or retaining adequate provision for all liabilities properly payable and retaining provision for the costs of winding up, arrange for the Depositary to make one or more interim distributions out of the proceeds remaining (if any) to shareholders proportionately to their rights to participate in the Scheme Property of the Company. When the ACD has caused all of the Scheme Property to be realised and all of the liabilities of the Company to be discharged, the ACD shall arrange for the Depositary to also make a final distribution to shareholders (if any Scheme Property remains to be distributed) on or prior to the date on which the final account is sent to shareholders of any balance remaining in proportion to their holdings in the Company.
- 41.1.6 As soon as reasonably practicable after completion of the winding up of the Company, the ACD shall notify the FCA.
- 41.1.7 On completion of a winding up of the Company, the Company will be dissolved and any money (including unclaimed distributions) standing to the account of the Company, will be paid into court within one month of dissolution.



- 41.1.8 Following the completion of the winding up of the Company, the ACD shall notify the Registrar of Companies and shall notify the FCA that it has done so.
- 41.1.9 Following the completion of a winding up of the Company, the ACD must prepare a final account showing how the winding up took place and how the Scheme Property was distributed. The auditors of the Company shall make a report in respect of the final account stating their opinion as to whether the final account has been properly prepared. This final account and the auditors' report must be sent to the FCA, to each Shareholder and, in the case of the winding up of the Company, to the Registrar of Companies within four months of the completion of the winding up.

## **42 General information**

### **42.1 Accounting periods**

The annual accounting period of the Company ends each year on 30 April (the accounting reference date).

Interim accounting periods end each year on 31 October.

### **42.2 Income distributions and allocations**

- 42.2.1 The income distribution/allocation dates are 30 June, 30 September, 31 December and 31 March.
- 42.2.2 In respect of Income Shares, distributions of income are made quarterly by cheque or direct to a shareholder's duly nominated bank account on or before the income distribution date in respect of the income available for distribution in the relevant period.
- 42.2.3 In respect of Accumulation Shares, as at each allocation date the ACD will reinvest the income allocated, which will be reflected in the price of Accumulation Shares.
- 42.2.4 If a distribution remains unclaimed for a period of six years after it has become due, it will be forfeited and will revert to the Company.
- 42.2.5 The amount available for distribution in any accounting period is calculated by taking the aggregate of the income received or receivable for the account of the Company in respect of that period, and deducting the charges and expenses paid or payable out of income in respect of that accounting period. The ACD then makes such other adjustments as it considers appropriate (and after consulting the auditors as appropriate) in relation to taxation, income equalisation, income unlikely to be received within 12 months following the relevant income allocation date, income which should not be accounted for on an accrual basis because of lack of information as to how it accrues, transfers between the income and capital account and any other adjustments which the ACD considers appropriate after consulting the auditors.

### **42.3 Annual reports and information made available to shareholders**

- 42.3.1 Annual reports of the Company will be published within four months of the end of each annual accounting period ending on 30 April and half-yearly reports will be published within two months of the end of the interim accounting period ending on 31 October; however no half-yearly reports will be published in the Company's first accounting period.
- 42.3.2 Annual and half-yearly reports will be made available free of charge on request to the ACD, and shall be available, without charge, for inspection by the public during normal working hours at the ACD's place of business set out in Appendix 7.
- 42.3.3 In addition, other policies and procedures are available from the ACD including, but not limited to, policies regarding conflicts of interest and order execution.

### **42.4 Documents of the Company**

- 42.4.1 The following documents may be inspected free of charge between 9am and 5.00pm every Business Day at the offices of the ACD at 8 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7AZ and are also available to be sent to Shareholders upon request:
  - (a) the most recent annual and half-yearly reports of the Company; and
  - (b) the most recent Prospectus and the Instrument.
- 42.4.2 The ACD may make a charge at its discretion for copies of documents (other than for the most recent copy of the Prospectus).
- 42.4.3 Copies of the ACD agreement or any contract of service between the Company and its directors can be obtained free or charge on request from the ACD.

#### **42.5 Notices to shareholders**

- 42.5.1 Notices and documents to be sent to Shareholders will be sent by first class post to the address on the register of Shareholders, or by electronic medium, in accordance with the FCA Rules.
- 42.5.2 Notwithstanding the above, where shares are jointly held by two or more persons, in accordance with the FCA Rules certain documents may be sent by first class post only to the first named Shareholder to its address on the register of shareholders.

#### **42.6 Fair treatment of investors**

- 42.6.1 The ACD has established policies and procedures and made arrangements to ensure the fair treatment of Shareholders. Such arrangements include, but are not limited to, ensuring that no one or more Shareholders are given preferential treatment over any rights and obligations in relation to their investment in the Company. All rights and obligations to Shareholders, including those related to subscription and redemption requests, are set out in this Prospectus.
- 42.6.2 The ACD has established fair and transparent pricing models and valuation systems and procedures for the assets of the Company and endeavours to ensure that there are no undue costs being charged to the Shareholders.
- 42.6.3 The ACD has also established procedures to identify, manage and monitor conflicts of interest and, where applicable, disclose those conflicts of interest to prevent them from adversely affecting the interests of the Shareholders. The ACD has established a process for recognising and dealing with complaints fairly.

#### **42.7 Amending the Prospectus**

In accordance with the Instrument and the FCA Regulations, the Prospectus may be revised from time to time by the ACD.

#### **42.8 Complaints**

Complaints concerning the operation or marketing of the Company may be referred to the compliance officer of the ACD at 8 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7AZ or, if preferred, direct to the Financial Ombudsman Service, Exchange Tower, London E14 9SR.

#### **42.9 Remuneration Policy**

The ACD's remuneration policy (Remuneration Policy) is designed to establish and apply a remuneration code that is consistent with and will promote sound and effective risk management in compliance with the UCITS V Directive's Remuneration Code as found in SYSC 19E of the FCA Regulations. The Remuneration Policy does not and must not encourage excessive risk-taking which is inconsistent with the profile of each UCITS, or the prospectus or instrument of incorporation of each UCITS. The Remuneration Policy does not impair the ACD's compliance with its duty to act in the best interests of each UCITS.

The Remuneration Policy will apply to those staff working for the ACD whose professional activities have a material impact on the risk profiles of the ACD or the UCITS under its management.

The ACD must ensure that the Remuneration Policy remains in line with the business strategy, objectives, values and interests of:

- (a) the ACD;
- (b) each UCITS managed; and
- (c) the investors in each UCITS; and includes measures to avoid conflicts of interest.

The assessment of performance is set in a multi-year framework appropriate to any holding period recommended to the investors of each UCITS, to ensure that the:

- (i) assessment process is based on the long-term performance of each UCITS and its investment risks; and
- (ii) actual payment of performance-related components of remuneration is spread over the same period, and where deferred is held in share linked instruments managed by the ACD.

Remuneration and benefits are agreed and awarded by the Rathbones Group Plc Remuneration Committee which operates at a group level and consists of five Non-Executive directors.

Up to date details of the matters set out above are available via the ACD's website at [rathbonesam.com](http://rathbonesam.com), and a paper copy of the website information will be made available free of charge upon request.

**42.10 Best Execution**

The ACD has controls in place to provide Shareholders with the best possible result in accordance with its best execution policy which is available on the ACD's website at [rathbonesam.com](http://rathbonesam.com)

**42.11 Historical Performance**

Historical performance data relating to the Company is set out at Appendix 4.

**42.12 Contact details**

Contact details for the Company, the ACD, the Depositary and other parties involved in the management and/or administration of the Company can be found at Appendix 7.

# APPENDIX 1

## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES, POLICIES AND OTHER DETAILS OF THE COMPANY

Investment of the assets of the Company must comply with the FCA Regulations and its own investment objective and policy. A detailed statement of the investment and borrowing restrictions applicable to the Company is contained in Appendix 2. A list of the eligible securities and derivatives markets on which the Company may invest is contained in Appendix 3.

### 1 Investment objective

The objective of the fund is to preserve capital and pay an income by delivering a greater total return than the Bank of England's Base Rate + 0.5%, after fees, over any rolling three-year period.

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

We use the Bank of England's Base Rate + 0.5% as a target for our fund's return because we aim to provide a return in excess of what you would receive in a UK savings account. This is an investment product, not a cash savings account. Your capital is at risk.

### Investment policy

To meet the objective, the fund manager will invest at least 80% of the fund in government and corporate bonds with high credit ratings (AAA to A-). The remaining 20% of the fund is invested in investment grade government and corporate bonds with lower credit ratings (BBB+ to BBB-) or bonds with no rating at all. Up to 10% of the fund can be invested directly in contingent convertible bonds. If a bond's rating falls below BBB-, otherwise known as high yield, the fund manager will sell it within six months.

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 the purposes of efficient portfolio management and hedging.

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.

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.

We actively manage our fund which means we can choose what we invest in as long as it is in line with the investment objective and policy. Because of this, the fund's performance can diverge significantly from its benchmark.

The fund manager will assess credit ratings of Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch. When credit ratings differ, fund managers will consider the average rating. If the average falls between two notches, the lower credit rating will be applied. Credit rating definitions are as follows:

Moody's	S&P	Fitch	Credit worthiness	
Aaa	AAA	AAA	Prime An obligor has EXTREMELY STRONG capacity to meet its financial commitments	Investment-grade
Aa1	AA+	AA+	High grade	
Aa2	AA	AA	An obligor has VERY STRONG capacity to meet its financial commitments	
Aa3	AA-	AA-	It differs from the highest-rated obligors only to a small degree	
A1	A+	A+	Upper medium grade	
A2	A	A	An obligor has STRONG capacity to meet its financial commitments but is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligors in higher-rated categories	
A3	A-	A-		
Baa1	BBB+	BBB+	Lower medium grade	
Baa2	BBB	BBB	An obligor has ADEQUATE capacity to meet its financial commitments. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitments	
Baa3	BBB-	BBB-		
Ba1, Ba2, Ba3, B1, B2, B3, Caa1, Caa2, Caa3, Ca, C	BB+, BB, BB- B+, B, B-, CCC+, CCC, CCC-, CC, C, D	BB+, BB, BB- B+, B, B-, CCC, DDD, DD, D	Non-investment grade An obligor ranges from LESS VULNERABLE to HIGHLY VULNERABLE	Non-investment grade AKA high-yield bonds AKA junk bonds

## 2 Share classes

	S-class	I-class
<b>Available for investment?</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Classes of shares available</b>	S-class Income Shares S-class Accumulation Shares	I-class Income Shares I-class Accumulation Shares
<b>Currency of denomination</b>	Sterling	Sterling
<b>Initial price of shares</b>	£1	£1
<b>Minimum initial investment*</b>	£100,000,000 or Manager's Discretion	£1,000
<b>Minimum subsequent investment*</b>	£500	£500
<b>Minimum holding*</b>	None	None
<b>Minimum withdrawal*</b>	None	None
<b>Initial charge*</b>	0%	0%
<b>Redemption charge*</b>	0%	0%
<b>ACD's annual management charge</b>	0.20%	0.35%
<b>OCF</b>	Charges other than the ACD's annual management charge, not including transaction costs or the cost of holding any third party products. The ACD's annual management charge, transaction costs and any costs associated with holding third party products will be borne by the Company. Any other charges above 0.15% of the value of Scheme Property per annum will be borne by the Manager. Please note that while the ACD does not intend to use third party products, the Company may hold such products (as set out in the investment policy above.) Costs for this such investments will be calculated and published as directed in accordance with prevailing regulation.	
<b>Valuation Point</b>	Noon on each Dealing Day	
<b>Distribution dates</b>	30 June 30 September 31 December 31 March	

\*Minimum initial and subsequent investment amounts, minimum holding and redemption requirements and the initial and redemption charges may be waived by the ACD at its discretion

## 3 Changes to investment objective and policy

Changes to the investment objective and policy of the Company will normally require approval by Shareholders at a general meeting of the Company if the change alters the nature or risk profile of the Company, or on giving 60 days' notice to Shareholders where these do not alter the nature or risk profile of the Company. In exceptional circumstances, changes may be made to the investment objective and policy of the Company with no minimum period of notice where these are for clarification purposes only. In all cases, changes may only be made to the investment objective and policy of the Company following notification to the FCA pursuant to the Act and confirmation from the FCA that these changes will not affect the ongoing authorisation of the Company.

## 4 Securities Financing Transactions and Total Return Swaps

The disclosures in relation to the Securities Financing Transactions Regulation are found in Appendix 5.

## APPENDIX 2

### INVESTMENT AND BORROWING POWERS OF THE COMPANY

#### 1 Investment and borrowing powers of the Company

These restrictions apply to the Company. The general limits on investment and borrowing are set out in Chapter 5.2 of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook (General investment powers and limits for UCITS schemes).

##### 1.1 Investment restrictions

- 1.1.1 The Company will be invested with the aim of achieving the investment objective of the Company but subject to the limits on investment set out in the FCA Regulations and the Company's investment policy (as set out in Appendix 1).
- 1.1.2 Generally the Company will invest in the investments to which it is dedicated including approved securities which are transferable securities admitted to or dealt on a regulated market or in a market in an EEA state which is regulated, operates regularly and is open to the public, units in collective investment schemes, warrants, money-market instruments and deposits.
- 1.1.3 The investment objective and policy of the Company are subject to the limits on investment in the FCA Regulations applicable to UCITS Retail Schemes, which are summarised below. The ACD must ensure that, taking account of the investment objective and investment policy of the Company, the Company's investments provide a prudent spread of risk.

#### 2 Transferable securities

##### 2.1 Types of transferable security

- 2.1.1 A transferable security is an investment which is a share, a debenture, an alternative debenture, a government and public security a warrant, or a certificate representing certain securities (as such terms are defined in the FCA Regulations).
- 2.1.2 An investment is not a transferable security if the title to it cannot be transferred, or can be transferred only with the consent of a third party.
- 2.1.3 In applying paragraph 2.1.2 to an investment which is issued by a body corporate, and which is a share or a debenture (as such terms are defined in the FCA Regulations), the need for any consent on the part of the body corporate or any members or debenture holders of it may be ignored.
- 2.1.4 An investment is not a transferable security unless the liability of the holder of it to contribute to the debts of the issuer is limited to any amount for the time being unpaid by the holder of it in respect of the investment.

##### 2.2 Criteria for investment in transferable securities

- 2.2.1 The Company may invest in a transferable security only to the extent that the transferable security fulfils the following criteria:
  - (a) the potential loss which the Company may incur with respect to holding the transferable security is limited to the amount paid for it;
  - (b) its liquidity does not compromise the ACD's ability to comply with its obligations to redeem units at the request of any qualifying shareholder;

- (c) reliable valuation is available for it as follows:
    - (i) in the case of a transferable security admitted to or dealt in on an eligible market (see further paragraph 5 below for an explanation of eligible market) where there are accurate, reliable and regular prices which are either market prices or prices made available by valuation systems independent from issuers;
    - (ii) in the case of a transferable security not admitted to or dealt in on an eligible market, where there is a valuation on a periodic basis which is derived from information from the issuer of the transferable security or from competent investment research;
  - (d) appropriate information is available for it as follows:
    - (i) in the case of a transferable security admitted to or dealt in on an eligible market, where there is regular, accurate and comprehensive information available to the market on the transferable security or, where relevant, on the portfolio of the transferable security;
    - (ii) in the case of a transferable security not admitted to or dealt in on an eligible market where there is regular and accurate information available to the ACD on the transferable security or, where relevant, on the portfolio of the transferable security;
  - (e) it is negotiable; and
  - (f) its risks are adequately captured by the risk management process of the ACD.
- 2.2.2 Unless there is information available to the ACD that would lead to a different determination, a transferable security which is admitted to or dealt in on an eligible market shall be presumed:
- (a) not to compromise the ability of the ACD to comply with its obligations to redeem shares at the request of any qualifying shareholder; and
  - (b) to be negotiable.

## 2.3 Closed ended funds constituting transferable securities

A unit in a closed ended fund shall be taken to be a transferable security for the purposes of investment by the Company, provided it fulfils the criteria for transferable securities set out in paragraph 2.2 above and either:

- 2.3.1 where the closed ended fund is constituted as an investment company or a unit trust:
  - (a) it is subject to corporate governance mechanisms applied to companies; and
  - (b) where another person carries out asset management activity on its behalf that person is subject to national regulation for the purpose of investor protection; or
- 2.3.2 where the closed ended fund is constituted under the law of contract:
  - (a) it is subject to corporate governance mechanisms equivalent to those applied to companies; and
  - (b) it is managed by a person who is subject to national regulation for the purpose of investor protection.

## 2.4 Transferable securities linked to other assets

- 2.4.1 The Company may invest in any other investment which shall be taken to be a transferable security for the purposes of investment by the Company provided the investment:
  - (a) fulfils the criteria for transferable securities set out in paragraph 2.2 above; and
  - (b) is backed by or linked to the performance of other assets which may differ from those in which the Company can invest.
- 2.4.2 Where an investment in paragraph 2.4.1 contains an embedded derivative component, the requirements of this Appendix and the FCA Regulations with respect to derivatives and forwards will apply to that component.



### **3 Approved money-market instruments**

- 3.1 An approved money-market instrument is a -money-market instrument which is normally dealt in on the money-market, is liquid and has a value which can be accurately determined at any time.
- 3.2 A money-market instrument shall be regarded as normally dealt in on the money market if it:
- 3.2.1 has a maturity at issuance of up to and including 397 days;
  - 3.2.2 has a residual maturity of up to and including 397 days;
  - 3.2.3 undergoes regular yield adjustments in line with money-market conditions at least every 397 days; or
  - 3.2.4 has a risk profile, including credit and interest rate risks, corresponding to that of an instrument which has a maturity as set out in paragraph 3.2.1 or paragraph 3.2.2 or is subject to yield adjustments as set out in paragraph 3.2.3.
- 3.3 A money-market instrument shall be regarded as liquid if it can be sold at limited cost in an adequately short time frame, taking into account the obligation of the ACD to redeem shares at the request of any qualifying shareholder.
- 3.4 A money-market instrument shall be regarded as having a value which can be accurately determined at any time if accurate and reliable valuation systems, which fulfil the following criteria, are available:
- 3.4.1 enabling the ACD to calculate a Net Asset Value in accordance with the value at which the instrument held in the portfolio could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction; and
  - 3.4.2 based either on market data or on valuation models including systems based on amortised costs.
- 3.5 A money-market instrument that is normally dealt in on the money market and is admitted to or dealt in on an eligible market shall be presumed to be liquid and have a value which can be accurately determined at any time unless there is information available to the ACD that would lead to a different determination.

### **4 Transferable securities and money-market instruments generally to be admitted to or dealt in on an eligible market**

- 4.1 Transferable securities and approved money-market instruments held within the Company must be:
- 4.1.1 admitted to or dealt in on an eligible market (as described in paragraph 5.2.1 or paragraph 5.3); or
  - 4.1.2 dealt in on an eligible market (as described in paragraph 5.2.2); or
  - 4.1.3 for an approved money-market instrument not admitted to or dealt in on an eligible market within paragraph 6; or
  - 4.1.4 recently issued transferable securities provided that:
    - (a) the terms of issue include an undertaking that application will be made to be admitted to an eligible market; and
    - (b) such admission is secured within a year of issue.
- 4.2 The Company may invest up to 10% in transferable securities or money-market instruments other than those referred to in paragraph 4.1.
- 4.3 However, the ability to hold up to 10% of the Scheme Property in ineligible assets under paragraph 4.2 above is subject to the following limitations:
- 4.3.1 for a qualifying money-market fund (as defined in the FCA Regulations), the 10% restriction is limited to high quality money-market instruments with a maturity or residual maturity of not more than 397 days, or regular yield adjustments consistent with such a maturity and with a weighted average maturity of no more than 60 days;
  - 4.3.2 for a short-term money-market fund or a money-market fund (as defined in the FCA Regulations), the 10% restriction is limited to high quality approved money-market instruments as determined under the FCA Regulations at COLL 5.9.6R.

## **5 Eligible markets regime**

- 5.1 To protect investors the markets in which investments of the Company are dealt in or traded on should be of an adequate quality (eligible) at the time of acquisition of the investment and until it is sold. Where a market ceases to be eligible, investments on that market cease to be approved securities. The 10% restriction in paragraph 4.2 on investment in non-approved securities applies and exceeding this limit because a market ceases to be eligible will generally be regarded as an inadvertent breach.
- 5.2 A market is eligible for the purposes of the FCA Regulations if it is:
- 5.2.1 a regulated market (as defined in the FCA Regulations); or
  - 5.2.2 a market in an EEA state which is regulated, operates regularly and is open to the public.
- 5.3 A market not falling within paragraph 5.2 is eligible for the purposes of the FCA Regulations if:
- 5.3.1 the ACD after consultation with and notification to the Depositary decides that market is appropriate for investment of, or dealing in the Scheme Property;
  - 5.3.2 the market is included in a list in the Prospectus; and
  - 5.3.3 the Depositary has taken reasonable care to determine that:
    - (a) adequate custody arrangements can be provided for the investment dealt in on that market; and
    - (b) all reasonable steps have been taken by the ACD in deciding whether that market is eligible.
- 5.4 In paragraph 5.3.1, a market must not be considered appropriate unless it is regulated, operates regularly, is recognised as a market or exchange or as a self-regulating organisation by an overseas regulator, is open to the public, is adequately liquid, and has adequate arrangements for unimpeded transmission of income and capital to or to the order of investors.
- 5.5 The eligible securities and derivatives markets for the Company are set out in Appendix 3.

## **6 Money-market instruments with a regulated issuer**

- 6.1 In addition to instruments admitted to or dealt in on an eligible market, the Company may invest in an approved money-market instrument provided it fulfils the following requirements:
- 6.1.1 the issue or the issuer is regulated for the purposes of protecting investors and savings; and
  - 6.1.2 the instrument is issued or guaranteed in accordance with paragraph 7.
- 6.2 The issue or the issuer of a money-market instrument other than one dealt in on an eligible market, shall be regarded as regulated for the purposes of protecting investors and savings if:
- 6.2.1 the instrument is an approved money-market instrument;
  - 6.2.2 appropriate information is available for the instrument (including information which allows an appropriate assessment of the credit risks related to investments in it) in accordance with paragraph 8 below; and
  - 6.2.3 the instrument is freely transferable.

## **7 Issuers and guarantors of money-market instruments**

- 7.1 The Company may invest in an approved money-market instrument if it is:
- 7.1.1 issued or guaranteed by any one of the following:
    - (a) a central authority of an EEA state or if the EEA state is a federal state, one of the members making up the federation;
    - (b) a regional or local authority of an EEA state;
    - (c) the European Central Bank or a central bank of an EEA state;
    - (d) the EU or the European Investment Bank;
    - (e) a non-EEA state, or in the case of a federal state one of the members making up the federation;
    - (f) a public international body to which one or more EEA states belong; or
  - 7.1.2 issued by a body, any securities of which are dealt in on an eligible market; or
  - 7.1.3 issued or guaranteed by an establishment which is:
    - (a) subject to prudential supervision in accordance with criteria defined by European Union law; or
    - (b) subject to and complies with prudential rules considered by the FCA to be at least as stringent as those laid down by European Union law.
- 7.2 An establishment shall be considered to satisfy the requirement in paragraph 7.1.3(b) if it is subject to and complies with prudential rules, and fulfils one or more of the following criteria:
- 7.2.1 it is located in the EEA;
  - 7.2.2 it is located in an OECD country belonging to the Group of Ten;
  - 7.2.3 it has at least one investment grade rating;
  - 7.2.4 on the basis of an in-depth analysis of the issuer, it can be demonstrated that the prudential rules applicable to that issuer are at least as stringent as those laid down by European community law.

## **8 Appropriate information for money-market instruments**

- 8.1 In the case of an approved money-market instrument within paragraph 7.1.2 or issued by a body referred to in the FCA Regulations at COLL 5.210EG; or which is issued by an authority within paragraph 7.1.1(b) or a public international body within paragraph 7.1.1(f), but is not guaranteed by a central authority within paragraph 7.1.1(a), the following information must be available:
- 8.1.1 information on both the issue or the issuance programme, and the legal and financial situation of the issuer prior to the issue of the instrument, verified by appropriately qualified third parties not subject to instructions from the issuer;
  - 8.1.2 updates of that information on a regular basis and whenever a significant event occurs; and
  - 8.1.3 available and reliable statistics on the issue or the issuance programme.

- 8.2 In the case of an approved money-market instrument issued or guaranteed by an establishment within paragraph 7.1.3 the following information must be available:
- 8.2.1 information on the issue or the issuance programme or on the legal and financial situation of the issuer prior to the issue of the instrument;
  - 8.2.2 updates of that information on a regular basis and whenever a significant event occurs; and
  - 8.2.3 available and reliable statistics on the issue or the issuance programme, or other data enabling an appropriate assessment of the credit risks related to investment in those instruments.
- 8.3 In the case of an approved money-market instrument within paragraph 7.1.1(a), (d) or (e) or which is issued by an authority within paragraph 7.1.1(b) or a public international body within paragraph 7.1.1(f) and is guaranteed by a central authority within paragraph 7.1.1(a); information must be available on the issue or the issuance programme, or on the legal and financial situation of the issuer prior to the issue of the instrument.

## 9 Spread: general

- 9.1 This paragraph, with the exception of paragraph 9.10, does not apply in respect of a transferable security or an approved money-market instrument to which paragraph 11 applies. For the purposes of this paragraph a single body bears the meaning as set out in the FCA Regulations.
- 9.2 Not more than 20% in value of the Scheme Property can consist of deposits with a single body.
- 9.3 Not more than 5% in value of the Scheme Property can consist of transferable securities or approved money-market instruments issued by a single body.
- 9.4 The limit of 5% in paragraph 9.3 is raised to 10% in respect of up to 40% in value of the Scheme Property. Covered bonds (as defined in the FCA Regulations) need not be taken into account for the purpose of applying the limit of 40%.
- 9.5 The limit of 5% paragraph 9.3 is raised to 25% in value of the Scheme Property in respect of covered bonds, provided that where more than 5% of the Scheme Property is invested in covered bonds issued by a single body, the total value of covered bonds must not exceed 80% in value of the Scheme Property.
- 9.6 In applying paragraph 9.3 and paragraph 9.4, certificates representing certain securities (as defined in the FCA Regulations) are to be treated as equivalent to the underlying security.
- 9.7 The exposure to any one counterparty in an OTC derivative transaction must not exceed 5% in value of the Scheme Property. This limit is raised to 10% where the counterparty is an Approved Bank.
- 9.8 Not more than 20% in value of the Scheme Property is to consist of transferable securities and approved money-market instruments issued by the same group under the FCA Regulations at COLL 5.2.11R(2).
- 9.9 Not more than 10% in value of the Scheme Property is to consist of the units of any one collective investment scheme.
- 9.10 In applying the limits in paragraphs 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.6 and 9.7 to investments in a single body and subject to paragraph 9.5, not more than 20% in value of the Scheme Property is to consist of any combination of two or more of the following:
- 9.10.1 transferable securities (including covered bonds) or approved money-market instruments issued by that body; or
  - 9.10.2 deposits made with that body; or
  - 9.10.3 exposures from OTC derivatives transactions made with that body.

## **10 Counterparty risk and issuer concentration**

- 10.1 The ACD must ensure that counterparty risk arising from an OTC derivative transaction is subject to the limits in paragraphs 9.7 and 9.10.
- 10.2 When calculating the exposure of the Company to a counterparty in accordance with the limits in paragraph 9.7, the ACD must use the positive mark-to-market value of the OTC derivative contract with that counterparty.
- 10.3 The ACD may net the OTC derivative positions of a UCITS scheme with the same counterparty, provided:
  - 10.3.1 it is able legally to enforce netting agreements with the counterparty on behalf of the Company; and
  - 10.3.2 the netting agreements in paragraph 10.3.1 do not apply to any other exposures the Company may have with that same counterparty.
- 10.4 The ACD may reduce the exposure of the property of the Scheme Property to a counterparty to an OTC derivative transaction through the receipt of collateral. Collateral received must be sufficiently liquid so that it can be sold quickly at a price that is close to its pre-sale valuation.
- 10.5 The ACD must take collateral into account in calculating exposure to counterparty risk in accordance with paragraph 10.7 when it passes collateral to the counterparty to an OTC derivative transaction on behalf of the Company.
- 10.6 Collateral passed in accordance with paragraph 10.5 may be taken into account on a net basis only if the ACD is able legally to enforce netting arrangements with this counterparty on behalf of the Company.
- 10.7 The ACD must calculate the issuer concentration limits referred to in paragraph 9 on the basis of the underlying exposure created through the use of OTC derivatives in accordance with the commitment approach.
- 10.8 In relation to exposures arising from OTC derivative transactions, as referred to paragraph 9.10, the ACD must include in the calculation of any counterparty risk relating to the OTC derivative transactions.

## **11 Spread: government and public securities**

- 11.1 Where no more than 35% in value of the Scheme Property is invested in:
  - 11.1.1 an EEA state;
  - 11.1.2 a local authority of an EEA state;
  - 11.1.3 a non-EEA state; or
  - 11.1.4 a public international body to which one or more EEA states belongissued by any one body, there is no limit on the amount which may be invested in such securities or in any one issue.
- 11.2 A Fund may invest more than 35% of its Scheme Property in government and public securities issued by or on behalf of or guaranteed by a single named issuer which may be one of the following: the governments of Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, United States of America, United Kingdom, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the Netherlands provided that:
  - 11.2.1 the ACD has before any such investment is made consulted with the Depositary and as a result considers that the issuer of such securities is one which is appropriate in accordance with the investment objectives of the authorised Fund;
  - 11.2.2 no more than 30% in value of the Scheme Property consists of such securities of any one issue;
  - 11.2.3 the Scheme Property of a Fund includes such securities issued by that or another issuer, of at least six different issues;
  - 11.2.4 the disclosures in the Prospectus required by the FCA have been made.

## 12 Collective Investment Schemes

- 12.1 Up to 10% in value of the Scheme Property of the Company may be invested in units in other collective investment schemes. This may include collective investment schemes managed by the ACD, or an associate of the ACD, subject to the rules contained in COLL Rule 5.2.16. Investment may only be made in other collective investment schemes whose maximum annual management charge does not exceed 5%. Any schemes in which the Company invests need to comply with the conditions necessary for them to:
- 12.1.1 enjoy the rights conferred by the UCITS Directive; or
  - 12.1.2 be recognised under the provision of section 272 of the Financial Services and Market Act 2000 that is authorised by the supervisory authorities of Guernsey, Jersey or the Isle of Man (provided the requirements of article 50(1)(e) of the UCITS Directive are met); or
  - 12.1.3 be authorised as a non-UCITS retail scheme (provided that the requirements of article 50(1)(e) of the UCITS Directive are met); or
  - 12.1.4 be authorised in another EEA state (provided that the requirements of article 50(1)(e) of the UCITS Directive are met); or
  - 12.1.5 be authorised by the competent authority of an OECD member country (other than another EEA state) which has:
    - (a) signed the IOSCO Multilateral Memorandum of Understanding; and
    - (b) approved the scheme's management company, rules and depositary/custody rules(provided that the requirements of article 50(1)(e) of the UCITS Directive are met).
- 12.2 Investee schemes must also comply with the rules relating to investment in other group schemes contained in COLL and themselves be schemes which have terms which prohibit more than 10% of their assets consisting of units in other collective investment schemes.
- 12.3 Subject to the limits specified in paragraph 12.1, investment may be made in eligible second schemes, which are managed or operated by the ACD (or one of its associates). However, where such an investment or disposal of units or shares is made and there is a charge in respect of such investment or disposal, the ACD must pay the relevant sub-fund the amount referred to in either paragraph 12.6 or paragraph 12.7 within four Business Days following the date of the agreement to invest or dispose.
- 12.4 When an investment is made, the amount referred to in paragraph 12.3 is either:
- 12.4.1 any amount by which the consideration paid by sub-fund for the units or shares in the second scheme exceeds the price that would have been paid for the benefit of the second scheme had the units or shares been newly issued or sold by it; or
  - 12.4.2 if such price cannot be ascertained by the ACD, the maximum amount of any charge permitted to be made by the seller of units or shares in the second scheme.
- 12.5 When a disposal is made, the amount referred to in paragraph 12.3 is any charge made for the account of the authorised fund manager or operator of the second scheme (or, in relation to a scheme managed or operated by the ACD) or an associate of any of them in respect of the disposal.
- 12.6 Any addition to or deduction from the consideration paid on the acquisition or disposal of units in the second scheme which is applied for the benefit of the second scheme and is, or is like, a dilution levy made in accordance with COLL 6.3.8R or SDRT provision made in accordance with COLL 6.3.7 is to be treated as part of the price of the units and not as part of any change.
- 12.7 Any charge made in respect of an exchange of units in one sub-fund or separate part of the second scheme for units in another sub-fund or separate part of that scheme is to be included as part of the consideration paid for the units.

### **13 Investment in nil and partly paid securities**

A transferable security or an approved money-market instrument on which any sum is unpaid falls within a power of investment only if it is reasonably foreseeable that the amount of any existing and potential call for any sum unpaid could be paid by the Company at the time when payment is required without contravening the COLL Sourcebook in the FCA Regulations.

### **14 Deposits**

Up to 20% in value of the Scheme Property of the Company can consist of deposits with a single body. The Company may only invest in deposits with an Approved Bank and which are repayable on demand, or have the right to be withdrawn, and maturing in no more than 12 months.

### **15 Derivatives and forward transactions**

- 15.1 The Company may use, under certain conditions, options and futures on indices and interest rates, for the purposes of Efficient Portfolio Management. The use of derivatives for Efficient Portfolio Management is not intended to increase the risk profile of the Company.
- 15.2 The FCA Regulations contain detailed provisions related to the transactions which may be carried out for Efficient Portfolio Management, how they may be affected and the cover for them. The main provisions are summarised briefly below.
- 15.3 Efficient Portfolio Management is defined in the FCA Regulations as techniques and instruments which relate to transferable securities and approved money-market instruments and which fulfil the following criteria:
  - 15.3.1 they are economically appropriate in that they are realised in a cost effective way;
  - 15.3.2 they are entered into for one or more of the following specific aims:
    - (a) reduction of risk;
    - (b) reduction of cost;
    - (c) generation of additional capital or income for the Company with a risk level which is consistent with the risk profile of the Company and the risk diversification rules laid down in the FCA Regulations.
- 15.4 For transactions undertaken to reduce risk or cost (or both), the ACD must reasonably believe that the transaction (alone or in combination with one or more others) will diminish a risk or cost of a kind or level which it is sensible to reduce. In this context the ACD may, for example, use the technique of "tactical asset allocation", enabling him to switch exposure through the use of derivatives rather than through the sale and purchase of other investments. However, where the transaction relates to an actual or potential acquisition of transferable securities, such exposure may not be maintained indefinitely and the ACD must intend that the Company should invest directly in transferable securities within a reasonable time and, unless the position is closed out, ensure that the intention is realised within that reasonable time.
- 15.5 Additional capital or income for the Company may be generated with no, or with an acceptably low level of, risk if the ACD reasonably believes that the Company is certain (or certain barring events which are not reasonably foreseeable) to derive a benefit from the transaction, and in this context the Company may:
  - 15.5.1 take advantage of pricing imperfections in relation to the acquisition and disposal (or disposal and acquisition) of rights in relation to the same or equivalent property of a kind that the Company holds or may properly hold;
  - 15.5.2 receive a premium for the writing of a covered call option or a covered put option, even if the benefit is obtained at the expense of surrendering the chance of yet greater benefit; and
  - 15.5.3 use the technique of stocklending under the conditions and limits referred to below
- 15.6 A transaction in derivatives or a forward transaction cannot be effected for the Company unless:
  - 15.6.1 it is a permitted derivatives and forward transaction (broadly a derivative must be effected on or under the rules of any eligible derivatives market and have underlying consisting of any or all of the following: transferable securities, approved money-market instruments, deposits, permitted derivatives, permitted collective investment schemes, permitted financial indices, interest rates, foreign exchange rates, currencies); and
  - 15.6.2 it is covered as required by the FCA Regulations at COLL 5.3.3AR.

- 15.7 The exposure to the underlying assets must not exceed the limits in paragraph 9 and paragraph 11 except as provided in paragraph 15.11.
- 15.8 Where a transferable security or approved money-market instrument embeds a derivative this must be taken into account for the purposes of complying with these investment restrictions.
- 15.9 A transferable security or an approved money-market instrument will embed a derivative if it contains a component which fulfils the following criteria:
  - 15.9.1 by virtue of that component some or all of the cash flows that otherwise would be required by the transferable security or approved money-market instrument which functions as host contract can be modified according to a specified interest rate, financial instrument price, foreign exchange rate, index of prices or rates, credit rating or credit index or other variable, and therefore vary in a way similar to a standalone derivative;
  - 15.9.2 the economic characteristics and risks are not closely related to the economic characteristics and risks of the host contract; and
  - 15.9.3 it has a significant impact on the risk profile and pricing of the transferable security or approved money-market instrument.
- 15.10 A transferable security or an approved money-market instrument does not embed a derivative where it contains a component which is contractually transferable independently of the transferable security or the approved money-market instrument. That component shall be deemed to be a separate instrument.
- 15.11 If the Company invests in an index-based derivative provided the relevant index falls within the FCA Regulations at COLL 5.2.20AR the underlying constituents of the index do not have to be taken into account for the purposes of paragraphs 9 and 11 above, provided the ACD takes account of the requirements in COLL 5.2.3 for a prudent spread of risk.

## **16 Permitted transactions (derivatives and forwards)**

- 16.1 A transaction in a derivative must:
  - 16.1.1 be in an approved derivative; or
  - 16.1.2 be an OTC derivative which complies with paragraph 16.8 and:
- 16.2 In addition:
  - 16.2.1 the underlying must consist of any or all of the following to which the scheme is dedicated: permitted transferable securities; permitted approved money-market instruments; permitted deposits; permitted derivatives; permitted collective investment scheme units; certain financial indices; interest rates; foreign exchange rates and currencies; and
  - 16.2.2 the exposure to the underlying must not exceed the limits set out at paragraphs 9 and 10 above.
- 16.3 A transaction in an approved derivative must be effected on or under the rules of an eligible derivatives market.
- 16.4 A derivatives transaction must not cause the Company to diverge from its investment objectives as stated in the Instrument and the most recently published Prospectus and must not be entered into if the intended effect is to create the potential for an uncovered sale of one or more transferable securities, approved money-market instruments, collective investment scheme units or derivatives.



- 16.5 Any forward transaction must be with an Eligible Institution or an Approved Bank.
- 16.6 A derivative includes an instrument which fulfils the following criteria:
- 16.6.1 it allows the transfer of the credit risk of the underlying independently from the other risks associated with that underlying;
  - 16.6.2 it does not result in the delivery or the transfer of assets other than those referred to in COLL 5.2.6A R (UCITS schemes: permitted types of scheme property) including cash;
  - 16.6.3 in the case of an OTC derivative, it complies with the requirements in COLL 5.2.23 R (OTC transactions in derivatives);
  - 16.6.4 its risks are adequately captured by the risk management process of the ACD, and by its internal control mechanisms in the case of risks of asymmetry of information between the ACD and the counterparty to the derivative, resulting from potential access of the counterparty to non-public information on persons whose assets are used as the underlying by that derivative.
- 16.7 The Company may not undertake transactions in derivatives of commodities.
- 16.8 OTC transactions in under this paragraph 16.8 must be:
- 16.8.1 with an approved counterparty; a counterparty to a transaction in derivatives is approved only if the counterparty is:
    - (a) an Eligible Institution or an Approved Bank; or
    - (b) a person whose permission, (including any requirements or limitations) as published in the Financial Services Register or whose home state authorisation permits it to enter into the transaction as principal off-exchange;
  - 16.8.2 on approved terms, the terms of the transaction in derivatives are approved only if the ACD:
    - (a) carries out, at least daily, a reliable and verifiable valuation in respect of that transaction corresponding to its fair value and which does not rely only on market quotations by the counterparty; and
    - (b) can enter into one or more further transactions to sell, liquidate or close out that transaction at any time at its fair value;
  - 16.8.3 capable of reliable valuation; a transaction in derivatives is capable of reliable valuation only if the ACD having taken reasonable care determines that, throughout the life of the derivative (if the transaction is entered into), it will be able to value the investment concerned with reasonable accuracy:
    - (a) on the basis of an up to date market value which the ACD and the Depositary have agreed is reliable; or
    - (b) if the value referred to in sub-paragraph (a) is not available, on the basis of a pricing model which the ACD and the Depositary have agreed uses an adequate recognised methodology; and
  - 16.8.4 subject to verifiable valuation; a transaction in derivatives is subject to verifiable valuation only if, throughout the life of the derivative (if the transaction is entered into) verification of the valuation is carried out by:
    - (a) an appropriate third party which is independent from the counterparty of the derivative, at an adequate frequency and in such a way that the ACD is able to check it; or
    - (b) a department within the ACD which is independent from the department in charge of managing the Scheme Property and which is adequately equipped for such a purpose.
- 16.9 For the purposes paragraph 16.8.2 fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction.
- 16.10 For the purposes of paragraph 16.8 the ACD must:
- 16.10.1 establish, implement, and maintain arrangements and procedures which ensure appropriate, transparent and fair valuation of the exposure of the Company to OTC derivatives; and
  - 16.10.2 ensure that the fair value of OTC derivatives is subject to adequate, accurate and independent assessment.
- 16.11 The arrangements and procedures referred to in paragraph 16.10 must be adequate and proportionate to the nature and complexity of the OTC derivative concerned and adequately documented.

## **17 Financial indices underlying derivatives**

- 17.1 The financial indices referred to in paragraph 16.2.1 are those where the index is sufficiently diversified, the index represents an adequate benchmark for the market to which it refers, and the index is published in an appropriate manner.
- 17.2 A financial index is sufficiently diversified if:
- 17.2.1 it is composed in such a way that price movements or trading activities regarding one component do not unduly influence the performance of the whole index;
  - 17.2.2 where it is composed of assets in which the Company is permitted to invest, its composition is at least diversified in accordance with the requirements with respect to spread and concentration set out in this Appendix; and
  - 17.2.3 where it is composed of assets in which the Company cannot invest, it is diversified in a way which is equivalent to the diversification achieved by the requirements with respect to spread and concentration set out in this Appendix.
- 17.3 A financial index represents an adequate benchmark for the market to which it refers if:
- 17.3.1 it measures the performance of a representative group of underlyings in a relevant and appropriate way;
  - 17.3.2 it is revised or rebalanced periodically to ensure that it continues to reflect the markets to which it refers, following criteria which are publicly available; and
  - 17.3.3 the underlyings are sufficiently liquid, allowing users to replicate it if necessary.
- 17.4 A financial index is published in an appropriate manner if:
- 17.4.1 its publication process relies on sound procedures to collect prices, and calculate and subsequently publish the index value, including pricing procedures for components where a market price is not available; and
  - 17.4.2 material information on matters such as index calculation, rebalancing methodologies, index changes or any operational difficulties in providing timely or accurate information is provided on a wide and timely basis.
- 17.5 Where the composition of underlyings of a transaction in a derivative does not satisfy the requirements for a financial index, the underlyings for that transaction shall where they satisfy the requirements with respect to other underlyings pursuant to paragraph 16.2.1 be regarded as a combination of those underlyings.
- 17.6 If the composition of an index is not sufficiently diversified in order to avoid undue concentration, its underlying assets should be combined with the other assets of the Company when assessing compliance with the requirements on cover for transactions in derivatives and forward transactions set out in this Appendix.
- 17.7 In order to avoid undue concentration, where derivatives on an index composed of assets in which a UCITS scheme cannot invest are used to track or gain high exposure to the index, the index should be at least diversified in a way which is equivalent to the diversification achieved by the requirements with respect to spread and concentration set out in this section.
- 17.8 If derivatives on that index are used for risk-diversification purposes, provided that the exposure of the Company to that index complies with the 5%, 10% and 40% ratios as set out in paragraphs 9.3 and 9.4, there is no need to look at the underlying components of that index to ensure that it is sufficiently diversified.

## **18 Transactions for the purchase of property**

A derivative or forward transaction which will or could lead to the delivery of property for the account of the Company may be entered into only if:

- 18.1 that property can be held for the account of the Company; and
- 18.2 the ACD, having taken reasonable care, determines that delivery of the property under the transaction will not occur or will not lead to a breach of the FCA Regulations.

## **19 Requirement to cover sales**

No agreement by or on behalf of the Company to dispose of property or rights (except for a deposit) may be made unless:

- 19.1 the obligation to make the disposal and any other similar obligation could immediately be honoured by the Company by delivery of property or the assignment of rights; and
- 19.2 the property and rights at paragraph 19.1 are owned by the Company at the time of the agreement.

## APPENDIX 3

### LIST OF ELIGIBLE SECURITIES AND DERIVATIVES MARKETS

All sub-funds may deal through securities markets established in member states of the European Union and the European Economic Area on which transferable securities admitted to official listing in the member state are dealt in or traded. In addition, up to 10% in value of any sub-fund may be invested in transferable securities which are not approved securities.

Each sub-fund may also deal in the securities and derivatives markets listed below.

Any market established in an EU or EEA country on which transferable securities admitted to the official list in that country are dealt in or traded.

Australia	– Australian Securities Exchange
Brazil	– B3
Canada	– The TSX Venture Exchange The Montreal Stock Exchange
Hong Kong	– The Hong Kong Exchanges
Iceland	– Nasdaq Iceland
Japan	– The Nagoya Stock Exchange Osaka Exchange The Tokyo Stock Exchange
Mexico	– The Mexican Stock Exchange
New Zealand	– The New Zealand Stock Exchange NZSE
Singapore	– The Singapore Exchange
South Africa	– The Johannesburg Stock Exchange
South Korea	– The Korea Stock Exchange Incorporated
Switzerland	– SIX Swiss Exchange
United Kingdom	– The Alternative Investment Market AIM
USA	– NYSE American The NASDAQ Stock Market The New York Stock Exchange

## APPENDIX 4

### HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE

Historical performance (%)	6m	1y	3y	Since launch	Since launch
I-class	6.96	7.61	-3.54	-0.07	—
S-class	7.04	7.78	-3.10	—	3.66
Target: Bank of England Base Rate +0.5%	2.81	5.16	7.86	9.25	10.17

  

Discrete calendar year performance (%)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
I-class	—	2.93	-1.53	-8.97	7.61
S-class	3.37	3.49	-1.38	-8.83	7.78
Target: Bank of England Base Rate +0.5%	1.25	0.73	0.61	1.95	5.16

Data source — FE fundinfo, bid to bid net income re-invested, as at 31.12.2023. Discrete calendar year performance — data source — FE fundinfo, to 31.12.2023.

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.

The Key Investor Information Document (KIID), the Supplementary Information Document (SID) and Application Forms may be obtained from Rathbones Asset Management Limited.

## APPENDIX 5

### SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS AND TOTAL RETURN SWAPS

- 1 The Company is authorised to enter into SFTs and Total Return Swaps. The Company does not currently enter into any SFTs or Total Return Swaps and the ACD has no intention of permitting the Company to enter into SFTs or Total Return Swaps.
- 2 If the ACD intends to permit the Company to enter into SFTs or Total Return Swaps not less than 60 days' written notice will be given to Shareholders and the Prospectus will be updated in accordance with the Securities Financing Transactions Regulation to include the following:
  - 2.1 a general description of the SFTs and Total Return Swaps used and the rationale for their use;
  - 2.2 overall data for each type of SFT and Total Return Swaps including:
    - 2.2.1 the types of assets that can be subject to SFTs and Total Return Swaps;
    - 2.2.2 the maximum and expected proportion of assets under management that will be subject to each type of SFT and Total Return Swaps;
  - 2.3 the criteria used to select counterparties;
  - 2.4 a description of acceptable collateral;
  - 2.5 description of the risks linked to SFTs and Total Return Swaps as well as risks linked to collateral management and, where applicable, the risks arising from its reuse;
  - 2.6 a specification of how assets subject to SFTs and Total Return Swaps and collateral received are safe-kept; and
  - 2.7 a description of the policy on sharing of return generated by SFTs and Total Return Swaps.

# APPENDIX 6

## SUB-CUSTODIAN RELATIONSHIPS

Australia  
HSBC Bank Australia Limited

Austria  
HSBC Continental Europe S.A., Germany

Belgium  
BNP Paribas SA

Brazil  
Banco BNP Paribas Brasil S/A

Canada  
Royal Bank of Canada

Czech Republic  
Ceskoslovenska Obchodni Banka, A.S.

Denmark  
Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (publ)

Estonia  
As SEB Pank

Finland  
Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (publ)

France  
CACEIS Bank France

Germany  
HSBC Continental Europe S.A., Germany

Greece  
BNP Paribas SA, Athens Branch

Hong Kong  
Special Administrative Region The Hong Kong  
& Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Hungary  
Unicredit Bank Hungary ZRT

Iceland  
Landsbankinn HF

Italy  
BNP Paribas SA

Japan  
The Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Latvia  
AS SEB banka

Lithuania  
AB SEB Bankas

Malaysia  
HSBC Bank Malaysia Berhad

Mexico  
Banco B3 Caceis Mexico, S.A., Institucion de Banca Multiple

Netherlands  
BNP Paribas SA

New Zealand  
The Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Norway  
Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (publ)

Philippines  
The Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Poland  
Bank Polska Kasa Opieki SA

Portugal  
BNP Paribas SA

Singapore  
The Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Slovak Republic  
Ceskoslovenska Obchodna Banka AS

Slovenia  
Unicredit Banka Slovenija DD

South Africa  
Standard Bank of South Africa

South Korea  
The Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Spain  
BNP Paribas SA

Sweden  
Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (publ)

Switzerland  
Credit Suisse (Switzerland) Ltd

Taiwan  
HSBC Bank (Taiwan) Limited

Thailand  
The Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

United States of America  
HSBC Bank USA, N.A.

# APPENDIX 7

## DIRECTORY

### The Company and Head Office

Rathbone High Quality Bond Fund  
8 Finsbury Circus  
London  
EC2M 7AZ

### Authorised Corporate Director

Rathbones Asset Management Limited  
8 Finsbury Circus  
London  
EC2M 7AZ

### Administrator

HSBC Securities Services (UK) Limited  
1-2 Lochside Way  
Edinburgh Park  
Edinburgh  
EH12 9DT

### Auditor

Deloitte LLP  
Statutory Auditor  
110 Queen Street  
Glasgow G1 3BX

### Registrar

SS&C Financial Services International Limited  
SS&C House  
Saint Nicholas Lane  
Basildon  
Essex  
SS15 5FS

### Depository

NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited  
250 Bishopsgate  
London  
EC2M 4AA

### Custodian

HSBC Bank Plc  
8 Canada Square  
London  
E14 5HQ





**Rathbones Asset Management**

8 Finsbury Circus  
London EC2M 7AZ  
+44 (0)20 7399 0000  
Information line:  
+44 (0)20 7399 0399  
ram@rathbones.com  
rathbonesam.com

Rathbones Asset Management Limited is authorised  
and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority  
and a member of The Investment Association.  
A member of the Rathbones Group Plc.  
Registered office: 8 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7AZ  
Registered in England No. 02376568.