# LIONTRUST INVESTATE FUNDS IV

Annual Report & Financial Statements

For the period:

1 January 2022

<u>to</u>

**31 December 2022** 

LIONTRUST FUND PARTNERS LLP



#### LIONTRUST INVESTMENT FUNDS IV



# Management and Administration

#### **Management and Administration**

The Authorised Corporate Director ("ACD") of Liontrust Investment Funds IV (the "Company") is:

#### Liontrust Fund Partners LLP

The registered office of the ACD and the Company is 2 Savoy Court, London, WC2R OEZ.

The ACD is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA") and is a member of the Investment Association. The ultimate holding company of the ACD is Liontrust Asset Management PLC ("LAM", "Liontrust" or the "Group") which is incorporated in England.

#### **Depositary**

The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Limited 160 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4LA

Authorised by Prudential Regulation Authority ("PRA") and regulated by the FCA and the PRA.

#### **Independent Auditor**

KPMG LLP 11th Floor 15 Canada Square Canary Wharf London E14 5GL

#### **Administrator and Registrar**

The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Limited 160 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4LA

Authorised by PRA and regulated by the FCA and the PRA.

#### **Company Information**

The Company is an investment company with variable capital under regulation 12 of the Open-Ended Investment Company Regulations 2001, incorporated in England and Wales under registered number IC 001039 and authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority on 4 June 2015. At the year end the Company offered two Sub-funds, the Liontrust Global Technology Fund and the Liontrust lapan Equity Fund (the "Sub-funds").

The Company is a UCITS scheme which complies with the FCA's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook ("COLL") and is structured as an umbrella company so that different Sub-funds may be established from time to time by the ACD with the approval of the FCA and the agreement of the Depositary.

The assets of each Sub-fund will be treated as separate from those of every other Sub-fund and will be invested in accordance with the investment objective and investment policy applicable to that Sub-fund. Each share class has the same rights on a winding up of the Company. Investment of the assets of each of the Sub-funds must comply with the FCA's COLL and the investment objective and policy of the relevant Sub-fund.

#### **Remuneration policy**

Following the implementation of UCITS V in the UK on 18 March 2016, all authorised UCITS Managers are required to comply with the UCITS V Remuneration Code from the start of their next accounting year. Under the UCITS V Directive (2014/91/EU), the ACD is required to disclose information relating to the remuneration paid to its staff for the financial year.

The table below provides an overview of the following for the year ended 31 March 2022:

- Aggregate total remuneration paid by the ACD to its staff (employees and members)
- Aggregate total remuneration paid by the ACD to all relevant UCITS code staff

	Headcount	Total Remuneration (£'000)
ACD UK Staff <sup>1</sup>	83	18,744
of which		
Fixed remuneration	83	8,116
Variable remuneration	83	10,628
UCITS Remuneration Code Staff <sup>1, 2</sup>	13	3,640
of which		
Senior Management	2	55
Other control functions:		
Other code staff/risk takers	11	3,585

The ACD's UK staff costs have been incurred by another Group entity and allocated to the ACD. The most appropriate measure of staff costs are those staff who are members of Liontrust Investment Partners LLP or Group staff who are employed by LAM but have their costs apportioned to the LLP. The information has been disclosed on an annualised basis.

UCITS Aggregate Remuneration Code Staff applies only in respect of the provision of services to UCITS funds rather than their total remuneration in the year. For senior management and control function staff, remuneration is apportioned on the basis of assets under management for UCITS funds versus the total Group assets under management. For portfolio management staff remuneration is apportioned directly to the Sub-funds.

#### Remuneration policy (continued)

Remuneration is made up of fixed pay (i.e. salary and benefits such as pension contributions) and variable pay (annual performance based or linked directly to investment management revenues). Annual incentives are designed to reward performance in line with the business strategy, objectives, values and long term interests of the ACD and LAM PLC Group. The annual incentive earned by an individual is dependent on the achievement of financial and non-financial objectives, including adherence to effective risk management practices. The ACD provides long-term incentives which are designed to link reward with long-term success and recognise the responsibility participants have in driving future success and delivering value. Long-term incentive awards are conditional on the satisfaction of corporate performance measures. The structure of remuneration packages is such that the fixed element is sufficiently large to enable a flexible incentive policy to be operated.

Staff are eligible for an annual incentive based on their individual performance, and depending on their role, the performance of their business unit and/or the group. These incentives are managed within a strict risk framework, and the Directors of LAM retain ultimate discretion to reduce annual incentive outcomes where appropriate.

The ACD actively manages risks associated with delivering and measuring performance. All our activities are carefully managed within our risk appetite, and individual incentive outcomes are reviewed and may be reduced in light of any associated risk management issues.

The Liontrust Group operates a Remuneration Committee (the "Committee"). The Committee reports to the Board. The Committee reviews risk and compliance issues in relation to the vesting of deferred awards for all employees and members. Compliance is monitored throughout the vesting period by the Committee.

These remuneration policies apply also to other entities in the Liontrust Group to which investment management of the Company has been delegated, and those delegates are subject to contractual arrangements to ensure that policies which are regarded as equivalent are applied.

The Board adopts, and reviews annually, the general principles of the applicable remuneration policies, and the implementation of the remuneration policies is, at least annually, subject to central and independent internal review by the Committee for compliance with policies and procedures.

#### Scope of the policy

#### By entity

The ACD is subject to the requirements of the UCITS Remuneration Code as set out in SYSC 19E of the FCA Handbook (the "Code").

The Committee has determined that it is appropriate for it to disapply the rules on retention (SYSC 19E.2.18R), deferral (SYSC 19E.2.20R) and performance adjustment (SYSC 19E.2.22R) of the Code, in view of the size, internal organisation and the nature, scope and complexity of activities of the ACD.

However, the ACD chooses to comply with certain of the above 'payout process rules' on a voluntary basis.

#### By individual

The requirements of the Code are applicable to the remuneration arrangements of individuals who fall within the definition of Code Staff under the Code and this policy sets out the basis on which the rules contained within the Code will be applied to Code Staff. The Committee itself sets the remuneration and has oversight of remuneration arrangements for all other Code Staff together with such other senior employees as the Committee may determine from time to time.

The Committee also reviews the remuneration arrangements of other employees and the operation of the incentive plans to ensure that remuneration arrangements have regard to pay and employment conditions. However, decisions on individual remuneration arrangements are made by management in the area, with oversight by the Human Resources Director.

No hedging or other mitigation arrangements may be entered into by employees as that would undermine risk alignment effects.

#### Approach to the remuneration

The Committee seeks to balance the components of remuneration, namely:

- Base salary,
- Benefits and allowances,
- Annual bonus (both paid immediately in cash and deferrals) and
- Longer-term incentives

In order to ensure proper alignment of the interests with shareholders and investors in the Sub-funds within a framework which discourages excessive risk-taking and ensures that the policy is in line with the business strategy, objectives, values and interests of Liontrust, the Sub-funds and their investors.

The Committee has regard to the LAM Risk Appetite statement and the investment objectives of the Sub-funds (as outlined in the Prospectus) in its determination of the appropriate risk/reward balance.

#### **Securities Financing Transactions Regulation**

The Securities Financing Transactions Regulation, as published by the European Securities and Markets Authority, aims to improve the transparency of the securities financing markets. Disclosures regarding exposure to Securities Financing Transactions (SFTs) or total return swaps are required on all reports & accounts published after 13 January 2017. See pages 73 - 75 for disclosures at 31 December 2022

#### **Assessment of Value**

The regulator - the FCA - has asked every asset manager to assess the value of the funds they run. Assessing value goes beyond performance and costs and encompasses a minimum of seven criteria mandated by the FCA. The assessment of value of the Sub-funds and the other UK-domiciled funds managed by Liontrust will be conducted as at 31 August each year. The assessment of value report can be viewed on the Liontrust website www.liontrust.co.uk/learning/assessment-of-value.

#### Significant events after the year end

The Liontrust Global Equity team became part of the Liontrust Global Fundamental team on 8 February 2023. It was announced at the same time that Robin Geffen, Head of the Global Equity team, will be leaving Liontrust in due course.

#### Holdings in Other Funds of the Company

As at 31 December 2022, there were no shares in any Sub-fund held by other Sub-funds of the Company.

#### Statement of the Authorised Corporate Director's Responsibilities

The Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook published by the FCA, ("the COLL Rules") require the Authorised Corporate Director ("ACD") to prepare financial statements for each annual accounting period which give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company and of the net revenue/expense and net capital gains or losses on the property of the Company for the year.

In preparing the financial statements the ACD is responsible for:

- selecting suitable accounting policies and then applying them consistently;
- making judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- following UK accounting standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland;
- complying with the disclosure requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice for UK Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Management Association in May 2014;

#### Statement of the Authorised Corporate Director's Responsibilities (continued)

- keeping proper accounting records which enable it to demonstrate that the financial statements as prepared comply with the above requirements;
- assessing the Company and its Sub-funds' ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern;
- using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Company or its Sub-funds or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so;
- such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities.

The ACD is responsible for the management of the Company in accordance with its Instrument of Incorporation, the Prospectus and the COLL Rules.

The ACD is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

#### Report of the ACD to the Shareholders

The ACD, as sole director, presents its report and the audited financial statements of the Company for the year from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022.

The Company is a UCITS scheme which complies with the FCA's Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook. The shareholders are not liable for the debts of the Company.

The investment objectives and policies of each Sub-fund of the Company are covered in the section for each Sub-fund. The names and addresses of the ACD, the Depositary and the Auditor are detailed on page 1.

In the future there may be other Sub-funds of the Company.

The ACD is of the opinion that it is appropriate to continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of the financial statements as the assets of the Sub-funds consist predominantly of securities that are readily realisable and, accordingly, the Sub-funds have adequate financial resources to continue in operational existence for at least 12 months.

#### **Liontrust Asset Management PLC**

Liontrust Asset Management PLC (Company) is a specialist fund management company with £32.6 billion in assets under management as at 31 December 2022 and that takes pride in having a distinct culture and approach to managing money. What makes Liontrust distinct?

- The Company launched in 1995 and was listed on the London Stock Exchange in 1999.
- We are an independent business with no corporate parent, our head office is on the Strand in London and we have offices in Edinburgh and Luxembourg.
- We believe in the benefits of active fund management over the long term and all our fund managers are truly active.
- We focus only on those areas of investment in which we have particular expertise. As of 8 February 2023, we have seven fund management teams investing in Global Equities, Global Fixed Income, Sustainable Investment and Multi-Asset portfolios and funds.
- Our fund managers are independent thinkers and have the courage of their convictions in making investment decisions.
- Our fund managers have the freedom to manage their portfolios according to their own investment processes and market views without being distracted by other day-to-day aspects of running a fund management company.

#### **Liontrust Asset Management PLC (continued)**

- Each fund management team applies distinct and rigorous investment processes to the management of funds and portfolios that ensure the way we manage money is predictable and repeatable.
- Staying true to their documented investment processes helps to create an in-built risk control for our fund managers, especially in more challenging environments, by preventing them from investing in companies and funds for the wrong reasons.
- We aim to treat investors, clients, members, employees, suppliers and other stakeholders fairly and with respect. We are committed to the Principles of Treating Customers Fairly (TCF) and they are central to how we conduct business across all our functions.

Liontrust Asset Management PLC is the parent company of Liontrust Investment Partners LLP, Liontrust Fund Partners LLP and Liontrust Portfolio Management Limited which are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Liontrust Asset Management PLC is also the parent company of Liontrust International (Luxembourg) S.A. which is regulated by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier in Luxembourg. All members of the Liontrust Group sell only Liontrust Group products.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the sanctions imposed on Russia as a result and retaliatory action taken by Russia against foreign investors has caused significant volatility in certain financial markets, currency markets and commodities markets worldwide. Economic sanctions and the fallout from the conflict will likely impact companies worldwide operating in a wide variety of sectors, including energy, financial services and defence, amongst others. As a result, the performance of the Sub-funds may also be negatively impacted even if they have no direct exposure to the regions involved in the conflict.

#### Member's Statement

In accordance with COLL 4.5.8BR, we hereby certify the Annual Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the management committee of members of the ACD and authorised for issue on 27 April 2023.

**Antony Morrison** 

Member

27 April 2023

# Statement of the Depositary's Responsibilities and Report of the Depositary

#### To the Shareholders of Liontrust Investment Funds IV ("the Company") for the year ended 31 December 2022.

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

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

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

The Depositary must ensure that:

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

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

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

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

For and on behalf of The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Limited

27 April 2023

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Shareholders of Liontrust Investment Funds IV (the "Company")

#### Report on the audit of the financial statements

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the Statements of Total Return, the Statements of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders, the Balance Sheets, the Related Notes and Distribution Tables for the each of the Company's Sub-funds listed on the Contents page and the accounting polices set out on pages 12 to 13.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view, in accordance with the UK accounting standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, of the financial position of each of the Sub-funds as at 31 December 2022 and of the net expense and the net capital gains/net capital losses on the property of each of the sub-funds for the year than ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Instrument of Incorporation, the Statement of Recommended Practice relating to Authorised Funds, and the COLL Rules.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities are described below. We have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities under, and are independent of the Company in accordance with, UK ethical requirements including the FRC Ethical Standard.

We have received all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit and we believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is a sufficient and appropriate basis for our opinion.

#### **Going Concern**

The ACD has prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis as they do not intend to liquidate the Company or its Subfunds or to cease their operations, and as they have concluded that the Company and its Sub-funds' financial position means that this is realistic. They have also concluded that there are no material uncertainties that could have cast significant doubt over their ability to continue as a going concern for at least a year from the date of approval of the financial statements ("the going concern period").

In our evaluation of the ACD's conclusions, we considered the inherent risks to the Company's and its Sub-funds' business model and analysed how those risks might affect the Company's and its Sub-funds' financial resources or ability to continue operations over the going concern period.

Our conclusions based on this work:

- we consider that the ACD's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate; and
- we have not identified, and concur with the ACD's assessment that there is not, a material uncertainty related to events or
  conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Company's and its Sub-funds' ability to continue as a
  going concern for the going concern period.

However, as we cannot predict all future events or conditions and as subsequent events may result in outcomes that are inconsistent with judgements that were reasonable at the time they were made, the absence of reference to a material uncertainty in this auditor's report is not a guarantee that the Company or its Sub-funds will continue in operation.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Shareholders of Liontrust Investment Funds IV (the "Company") (continued)

#### Report on the audit of the financial statements (continued)

#### Fraud and breaches of laws and regulations - ability to detect

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to fraud

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud ("fraud risks") we assessed events or conditions that could indicate an incentive or pressure to commit fraud or provide an opportunity to commit fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- Enquiring of directors as to the Company's high-level policies and procedures to prevent and detect fraud, as well as whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- Assessing the segregation of duties in place between the ACD, the Depositary, the Administrator and the Investment Manager; and
- Reading ACD board minutes.

As required by auditing standards, we perform procedures to address the risk of management override of controls, in particular the risk that management may be in a position to make inappropriate accounting entries. On this audit we do not believe there is a fraud risk related to revenue recognition because the revenue is principally non-judgemental and based on publicly available information, with limited opportunity for manipulation. We did not identify any additional fraud risks.

We identified and selected a sample of journal entries made at the end of the reporting period and tested those substantively including all material post-closing entries. Based on the results of our risk assessment procedures and understanding of the process, including the segregation of duties between the Directors and the Administrator, no further high-risk journal entries or other adjustments were identified.

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to non-compliance with laws and regulations

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience and through discussion with the ACD and the Administrator (as required by auditing standards) and discussed with the Directors the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations.

The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the Company is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting legislation (including related authorised fund legislation maintained by the Financial Conduct Authority) and taxation legislation and we assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly, the Company is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: money laundering, data protection and bribery and corruption legislation recognising the Company's activities. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Directors and the Administrator and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Therefore, if a breach of operational regulations is not disclosed to us or evident from relevant correspondence, an audit will not detect that breach.

Context of the ability of the audit to detect fraud or breaches of law or regulation

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it.

In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of fraud, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. Our audit procedures are designed to detect material misstatement. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance or fraud and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Shareholders of Liontrust Investment Funds IV (the "Company") (continued)

#### Report on the audit of the financial statements (continued)

#### Other information

The ACD is responsible for the other information presented in the Annual Report together with the financial statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except as explicitly stated below, any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether, based on our financial statements audit work, the information therein is materially misstated or inconsistent with the financial statements or our audit knowledge. Based solely on that work:

- we have not identified material misstatements in the other information; and
- in our opinion the information given in the ACD's Report is consistent with the financial statements.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where under the COLL Rules we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- proper accounting records for the Company have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.

#### **Authorised Corporate Director's responsibilities**

As explained more fully in their statement set out on pages 4 and 5, the ACD is responsible for: the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view; such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities

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

A fuller description of our responsibilities is provided on the FRC's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Shareholders of Liontrust Investment Funds IV (the "Company") (continued)

#### Report on the audit of the financial statements (continued)

#### The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the Company's shareholders, as a body, in accordance with Rule 4.5.12 of the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook ('the COLL Rules') issued by the Financial Conduct Authority under the Open-Ended Investment Companies Regulations 2001. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's shareholders those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's shareholders, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Grant Archer** 

for and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

Grant Archer

KPMG LLP St Vincent Plaza 319 St Vincent Street Glasgow G2 5AS

27 April 2023

# Notes applicable to the financial statements of all Sub-funds

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 1 Accounting Policies

#### a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice ("UK GAAP") and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Financial Statements of UK Authorised Funds" issued by the Investment Association in May 2014 (the "SORP") and updated in June 2017. In applying UK GAAP, the financial statements have been prepared in compliance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland' ("FRS 102").

The ACD has made an assessment of the Company and its Subfunds' ability to continue as a going concern and is satisfied it has the resources to continue in business for at least the next twelve months after the financial statements are signed and is not aware of any material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt on this assessment. This assessment considers liquidity, declines in global capital markets, known redemption levels, expense projections and key service provider's operational resilience.

#### b) Valuation of investments

The valuation of the Sub-funds' listed investments is based on the bid-market prices, excluding any accrued interest in the case of debt securities, at close of business on the last day of the accounting year, in accordance with the provisions of the Prospectus. Unquoted securities are valued by the ACD on a fair value basis taking into account, where appropriate, latest dealing prices, valuations from reliable sources, financial performance and other relevant factors.

#### c) Revenue

Dividends on quoted ordinary shares and preference shares are recognised when the securities are quoted ex-dividend. Where such securities are not quoted, dividends are recognised when they are declared.

Revenue from securities lending is accounted for net of associated costs and is recognised on an accruals basis.

Interest on bank balances and deposits is recognised on an accruals basis.

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

#### d) Expenses

Expenses are recognised on an accruals basis.

#### e) Allocation of income and expenses

The allocation of income and expenses to each share class is based on the proportion of the Sub-funds' assets attributable to each share class on the day the income is earned or the expense is incurred. The ACD's periodic charge is allocated at a fixed rate based on the net asset value (NAV) of the respective share class.

#### f) Taxation

Corporation tax is charged at 20% of the income liable to corporation tax, less expenses. Deferred tax is provided for at the rate at which taxation is likely to become payable in respect of all timing differences between the accounting and taxation treatment of items.

# Notes applicable to the financial statements of all Sub-funds (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

#### g) Exchange rates

For Liontrust Global Technology Fund, transactions in foreign currencies are translated into Sterling at the rate of exchange ruling on the date of the transaction. Investments and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Sterling at the exchange rates applicable at the end of the accounting period. For Liontrust Japan Equity Fund, transactions in foreign currencies are translated into Sterling at the average exchange rate for the period. Investments and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Sterling at the exchange rates applicable at the end of the accounting period.

#### h) Financial instruments

Where appropriate, certain permitted financial instruments such as derivative contracts or forward exchange contracts are used for the purpose of efficient portfolio management and for investment purposes. Where such financial instruments are used to protect or enhance revenue, the revenue and expenses derived there from are included in "Revenue" or "Expenses" in the Statement of Total Return. Where such financial instruments are used to protect or enhance capital, the returns derived there from are included in "Net capital gains/(losses) on investments" in the Statement of Total Return. Any positions in respect of such instruments open at the year end are reflected in the portfolio statement at their market value. Where positions generate total returns, such returns are apportioned between capital and revenue to properly reflect the nature of the transaction. The amounts held at futures clearing houses in respect of these financial instruments are included in the cash and bank balances and detailed in the Notes to the Financial Statements. Transaction costs associated with derivatives are charged to revenue when incurred. All forward contracts outstanding at financial reporting dates are marked to market. Some of the Sub-funds may enter into permitted transactions such as derivative contracts or forward currency transactions as outlined in the relevant Investment Objective and Policy of the Sub-funds. Derivative financial instruments are initially recorded at transaction value on the date on which the derivative contract is entered into. All contracts outstanding at the financial reporting date are carried at a value provided by independent pricing providers.

#### **Distribution Policies**

#### i) Basis of distribution

The net revenue available for distribution at the end of each distribution period will be paid as a dividend distribution. Should the expenses of a Sub-fund (including taxation) exceed the revenue of a Sub-fund, there will be no distribution and the shortfall will be set against the capital of a Sub-fund.

Any revenue attributable to accumulation shareholders is retained within a Sub-fund at the end of the distribution period and represents a reinvestment of income on behalf of the accumulation shareholders.

The ACD's fees and expenses are charged against revenue in respect of all the Sub-funds.

#### j) Special dividends

Special dividends are reviewed on a case by case basis when determining if the dividend is to be treated as revenue or capital. Amounts recognised as revenue will form part of the distribution. The tax accounting treatment follows the treatment of the principal amount.

#### k) Functional currency

The base currency of the Company is Sterling and is taken to be the 'functional currency' of the Company except from the Liontrust Japan Equity Fund which has the 'functional currency' of Japanese Yen.

# Liontrust Global Technology Fund

Report for the year from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

#### **Investment Objective**

The investment objective of Liontrust Global Technology Fund is to generate long term (five years or more) capital growth.

#### **Investment Policy**

The Sub-fund invests at least 80% in shares of technology and telecommunications companies across the world. These are companies which, at the time of purchase, are anywhere within the GICS Information Technology and Communication Services sectors.

The Sub-fund may also invest up to 20% in other companies where technology is an integral element of the business, as well as in other eligible asset classes.

Other eligible asset classes are collective investment schemes (which may include Liontrust managed funds), other transferable securities, cash or near cash, deposits and money market instruments.

Derivatives and forward transactions may be used by the ACD for efficient portfolio management.

It is the intention to be near-fully invested at all times, however, the Sub-fund has the facility to take tactical positions in cash or near cash, and to use efficient portfolio management, should the ACD feel it appropriate.

The portfolio will be managed to ensure that the Sub-fund is at all times eligible to qualify for, and to be included in, an Individual Savings Account.

#### **Investment Strategy**

The Sub-fund invests in securities using a combination of economic, industry and stock specific analysis.

#### Investment review

#### Sub-fund review

The Liontrust Global Technology Fund returned -33.1% (C accumulation) over the year, versus the MSCI World Technology Index's return of -22.1% and IA Technology & Telecommunications sector's -27.5% (both comparator benchmarks).\*

It has been a tough year for global markets. The first half of 2022 saw \$13tn of equity value wiped out from MSCI World, with the S&P 500 Index suffering its worst opening to the year since 1970, pressured by intertwining factors such as high inflation from years of loose monetary policy, meeting the supply shock from Covid along with resurgent post-Covid demand. Additionally, the war in the Ukraine brought geopolitical uncertainty as well as adding scarcity to energy and key raw materials from trade sanctions with Russia. Harsh lockdowns in China have stalled economic growth in the world's second largest economy and impacted global markets as a key link in supply chains. Last, but by no means least, central bank tightening around the world to combat high inflation has negatively affected the performance of the high growth technology stocks around the world.

Despite the aforementioned headwinds, equity markets stabilised and showed some signs of recovery in the last quarter, with hopes of an earlier than expected Federal Reserve pivot, or "soft landing" easing the market as early signs show US inflation beginning to ease.

Technology stocks suffered worse than most, largely due to their high growth (and longer duration) fundamentals causing their higher valuations to be more harshly punished by the rapid and ongoing increase in interest rates.

With regards to Sub-fund performance, payment companies Visa and Mastercard were among a small number of companies that generated a positive return this year as travel continues to normalise post-Covid, seeing a return to form for their higher margin cross-border business. It is also worth noting, as payments platforms that benefit from increased utilisation of their payments rails, these companies offer a unique relative immunity to inflationary pressures, with the associated increase in volume from inflation helping to boost its revenue in excess of its expenses. It's no surprise, therefore, that both these companies' stocks continue to perform well in this inflationary environment.

Motorola has continued its steadier performance as one of the lower growth companies in our portfolio, but one that offers attractive fundamentals due to its excellent business in selling communications equipment to emergency services. Motorola therefore benefits from selling into long-term, high-return government contracts along with increasing scope to sell its additional higher margin software packages on top to secure its place in the emergency response ecosystem. Motorola's consistent execution (evidenced by strong steady margins and high single digits growth) along with its low multiple allowed it to weather the tech drawdown better than most.

Moving to the detractors, mega cap tech had a tough year – most notably Alphabet, Amazon and Meta – the last of which may not even be classified as "Mega" now dropping to a ~\$350bn market cap, down from a high of nearly \$1tn. These companies have faced a range of headwinds and pressures – from slowing ecommerce, to difficulties in advertising post IDFA, worsening economic conditions and a host of regulatory investigations and fines. They do, however, remain outright leaders in their respective fields (or range of fields!) with unique scale advantages and economic moats that make them incredibly profitable and resilient – even in the face of these pressures. Importantly, we continue to believe they still offer ample future return for patient investors.

In terms of portfolio activity, early in 2022, the Sub-fund exited Asana, Dynatrace, Olo and Varonis, Etsy, Block and Okta. These were all smaller positions that were exited after substantial drawdowns (well in excess of the overall market) triggered a review on not just their investment cases, but their short-term market outlook given the current rate environment. It was decided that these high growth, high multiple names did not present enough upside for the substantial near-term risk and were exited in favour of other higher conviction positions.

Later on in the year, we exited positions in Chinese stocks Tencent and Alibaba. Avalara and Zendesk were taken out for cash by private equity buyouts.

In Q4, the Sub-fund entered new positions in Texas Instruments and Topicus.com. Texas Instruments is a fantastic analogue semiconductor company that has carved out a great business in this tricky market segment with an unrivalled catalogue of low cost yet high margin chips for OEMs. This, along with masterful capital allocation, has allowed Texas Instruments to reward its shareholders with a healthy long-term return over the past decade with, we believe, much more still to come.

#### Investment review (continued)

#### Sub-fund review (continued)

Topicus.com is a spinout of our portfolio company Constellation Software (which still retain a healthy % ownership). Topicus, like Constellation, is a serial acquirer of VMS companies, benefitting from the fantastic economics of these businesses and cycling their cash into further high return of investment acquisitions that benefits from an incredible track record of capital discipline and value creation

While 2022 saw a tough year for equities – and an even tougher year for technology equities - it has set the playing field for an interesting 2023.

Markets and economics may look bleak on the surface, but it is hard not to be excited by the current state of affairs for investors in the technology companies. The sector now presents a large number of fantastic companies available for purchase at a cash yield not seen for many years. This, combined with the strong economics, growth opportunities and defensive qualities of these companies as well as a clear lack of current mainstream investor enthusiasm for the space, presents a clear opportunity for medium and long-term outperformance.

While markets do move somewhat at the mercy of large forces like interest rates, inflation and economic health (at least in the short term) – the rewards are looking increasingly asymmetrically favourable for technology investors. We believe the downside scenarios (aggressive rate hikes, high inflation, economic downturn) are fairly priced in, with strong returns likely in the eventuality of a soft landing, tamed inflation and economic rebound.

Now, as ever, it is important to actively seek and discern these high performing companies from those whose value is more speculative. By focusing investment in high quality companies benefiting from strong long term growth trends, a competent management team able to allocate capital effectively for the benefit of long-term owners and a compelling discounted cash flow valuation, we aim to help provide long term outperformance in this exciting sector through careful and attentive active management.

\*Source: Financial Express, as at 31.12.22, total return, net of fees, income reinvested. Please note that total return has been calculated at midday whereas the financial statements are at close of business.

#### Robin Geffen & Will Geffen

Fund Managers

January 2023

Any opinions expressed are those of the Fund Manager. They should not be viewed as a guarantee of a return from an investment in the Sub-fund. The content of the commentary should not be viewed as a recommendation to invest nor buy or sell any securities. The investments of the Sub-fund are subject to normal market fluctuations. Investments can go down as well as up. Investors' capital is at risk and they may get back less than they originally invested.

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of an investment and the income generated from it can fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed. You may get back less than you originally invested.

#### Investment review (continued)

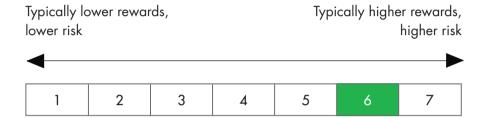
#### Material portfolio changes by value

Purchases	Sales
Topicus.com	Microsoft
Microsoft	Apple
Texas Instruments	NVIDIA
Amazon.com	Zendesk
Apple	Visa 'A'
Visa 'A'	Tencent
	Dynatrace
	Alphabet
	PayPal
	Amazon.com

#### Investment review (continued)

#### Risk and Reward profile

The Risk and Reward Indicator table demonstrates where the Sub-fund ranks in terms of its potential risk and reward. The higher the rank the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money. It is based on past data, may change over time and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the Sub-fund. The shaded area in the table below shows the Sub-fund's ranking on the risk and reward indicator.



- This Synthetic Risk and Reward Indicator (SRRI) is based on historical data and may not be relied upon to gauge the future risk
  profile of the Sub-fund.
- The SRRI shown is not guaranteed to remain the same and may shift over time.
- The lowest category (1) does not mean 'risk free'.
- The Sub-fund's risk and reward category has been calculated using the methodology adopted by the Financial Conduct Authority. It is based upon the rate by which the Sub-fund or a representative fund or Index's value has moved up and down in the past.
- The Sub-fund is categorised 6 primarily for its exposure to global technology equities.
- The SRRI may not fully take into account the following risks:
  - that a company may fail thus reducing its value within the Sub-fund;
  - any overseas investments may carry a higher currency risk. They are valued by reference to their local currency which may
    move up or down when compared to the currency of the Sub-fund.
- This Sub-fund may have a concentrated portfolio, i.e. hold a limited number of investments. If one of these investments falls in value this can have a greater impact on the Sub-fund's value than if it held a larger number of investments.
- The Sub-fund may, under certain circumstances, invest in derivatives, but it is not intended that their use will materially affect volatility. Derivatives are used to protect against currencies, credit and interest rate moves. There is a risk that losses could be made on derivative positions or that the counterparties could fail to complete on transactions. The use of derivatives may create leverage or gearing resulting in potentially greater volatility or fluctuations in the net asset value of the Sub-fund. A relatively small movement in the value of a derivative's underlying investment may have a larger impact, positive or negative, on the value of a Sub-fund than if the underlying investment was held instead. The use of derivative contracts may help us to control Sub-fund volatility in both up and down markets by hedging against the general market.
- The Sub-fund may encounter liquidity constraints from time to time. The spread between the price you buy and sell shares will reflect the less liquid nature of the underlying holdings.
- The Sub-fund may have both Hedged and Unhedged share classes available. The Hedged share classes use forward foreign exchange contracts to protect returns in the base currency of the Sub-fund.
- Outside of normal conditions, the Sub-fund may hold higher levels of cash which may be deposited with several credit
  counterparties (e.g. international banks). A credit risk arises should one or more of these counterparties be unable to return the
  deposited cash.

#### Investment review (continued)

#### Risk and Reward profile (continued)

- Counterparty risk: any derivative contract, including FX hedging, may be at risk if the counterparty fails.
- Environmental Social Governance (ESG) Risk: there may be limitations to the availability, completeness or accuracy of ESG information from third-party providers, or inconsistencies in the consideration of ESG factors across different third party data providers, given the evolving nature of ESG.

For full details of the Sub-fund's risks, please see the prospectus which may be obtained from Liontrust (address on page 1) or online at www.liontrust.co.uk.

#### **Comparative Tables**

for the year ended 31 December 2022

C Accumulation Accounting year ended	31 December 2022 per share (p)	31 December 2021 per share (p)	31 December 2020 per share (p)
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	410.36	335.90	234.49
Return before operating charges	(130.40)	77.74	103.97
Operating charges	(2.86)	(3.28)	(2.56)
Return after operating charges	(133.26)	74.46	101.41
Distributions	_	_	_
Retained distributions on accumulation shares	_	_	_
Closing net asset value per share	277.10	410.36	335.90
After direct transaction costs of*	(0.04)	(0.07)	(0.06)
Performance			
Return after charges	(32.47%)	22.17%	43.25%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£'000)	73,626	134,630	95,505
Closing number of shares	26,570,530	32,808,061	28,432,899
Operating charges * *	0.88%	0.88%	0.90%
Direct transaction costs*	0.01%	0.02%	0.02%
Prices			
Highest share price	411.55	441.04	349.64
Lowest share price	270.52	310.07	205.35

<sup>\*</sup> Direct transaction costs comprise commission and taxes, principally applicable to equity investment purchases and sales. Shareholders should note that additionally there are other transaction costs such as a dilution adjustment and underlying costs with regard to Collective Investment Scheme holdings which will also have reduced the Sub-fund and share class returns before operating charges.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The Operating Charges figure represents the annual operating expenses of the Sub-fund expressed as a percentage of average net assets for the year - it does not include initial charges or performance fees. The Operating Charges figure includes the ACD's periodic charge and all charges which are deducted directly from the Sub-fund. The Operating Charges figure is expressed as an annual percentage rate.

#### **Portfolio Statement**

as at 31 December 2022

Holding/ Nominal value	Stock description	Market value (£'000)	Percentage of total net assets (%)
	EQUITIES (99.03%)	72,423	98.37
	CANADA (3.76%)	4,525	6.15
3,500	Constellation Software	4,525	6.15
	CHINA (1.69%)	0	0.00
	ISRAEL (0.95%)	862	1.17
8,000	CyberArk Software	862	1.17
	JAPAN (1.04%)	808	1.10
3,300	Tokyo Electron	808	1.10
	NETHERLANDS (3.87%)	4,138	5.62
200	Adyen	229	0.31
5,000	ASML	2,235	3.04
40,000	Topicus.com	1,674	2.27
	SOUTH KOREA (0.99%)	1,010	1.37
1,100	Samsung Electronics	1,010	1.37
	TAIWAN (1.85%)	1,734	2.36
28,000	Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	1,734	2.36
	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (84.88%)	59,346	80.60
8,000	Adobe	2,238	3.04
20,000	Advanced Micro Devices	1,077	1.46
53,000	Alphabet	3,909	5.31
50,000	Amazon.com	3,491	4.74
7,000	ANSYS	1,405	1.91
55,000	Apple	5,940	8.07
12,500	Applied Materials	1,012	1.37
3,000	Autodesk	466	0.63
20,000	Cloudflare Crowdstrike	752 875	1.02 1.19
10,000 13,000	Crowdstrike Datadog	873 794	1.19
65,000	Fortinet	2,641	3.59
5,000	HubSpot	1,203	1.63
7,500	Intuit	2,425	3.29

#### **Portfolio Statement (continued)**

as at 31 December 2022

Holding/ Nominal value	Stock description	Market value (£'000)	Percentage of total net assets (%)
	EQUITIES (continued)		
	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (continued)		
8,000	KLA	2,507	3.41
1,300	Lam Research	454	0.62
12,000	Mastercard 'A'	3,469	4.71
11,000	Meta Platforms	1,100	1.49
34,000	Microsoft	6,779	9.21
8,000	Motorola Solutions	1,714	2.33
25,000	NVIDIA	3,037	4.12
16,800	Palo Alto Networks	1,948	2.65
5,000	PayPal	296	0.40
30,000	Rapid7	847	1.15
5,000	RingCentral 'A'	147	0.20
12,000	salesforce.com	1,323	1.80
6,500	ServiceNow	2,100	2.85
5,000	Texas Instruments	687	0.93
10,600	Twilio 'A'	431	0.59
21,000	Visa 'A'	3,628	4.93
7,000	Zscaler	651	0.88
	Portfolio of investments	72,423	98.37
	Net other assets	1,203	1.63
	Total net assets	73,626	100.00

All securities are approved securities traded on eligible securities markets, as defined by the Collective Investment Scheme Sourcebook, unless otherwise stated.

All equity investments are in ordinary shares unless otherwise stated.

Comparative figures shown in brackets relate to 31 December 2021.

#### Statement of Total Return

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	(£′000)	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	(£′000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
Income		(2000)	(2 000)	(2 000)	(2000)
Net capital (losses)/gains	2		(39,971)		22,101
Revenue	3	438	(07,771)	305	22,101
Expenses	4	(835)		(973)	
Interest payable and similar charges	6	_		(1)	
Net expense before taxation		(397)		(669)	
Taxation	5	(65)		(46)	
Net expense after taxation			(462)		(715)
Total return before distributions			(40,433)		21,386
Distributions	7		_		_
Change in net assets attributable to			(40, 422)		01.007
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities  Statement of Change in Net Assets Attended to the year ended 31 December 2022	tributable to Sho	ureholders	(40,433)		21,386
shareholders from investment activities Statement of Change in Net Assets At	tributable to Sho	ereholders (£'000)	(40,433)  1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	(£'000)	21,386 1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
shareholders from investment activities Statement of Change in Net Assets At	tributable to Sha		1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022	(£′000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021
shareholders from investment activities  Statement of Change in Net Assets At for the year ended 31 December 2022	tributable to Sha		1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	<b>(£'000)</b> 65,450	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
Statement of Change in Net Assets At for the year ended 31 December 2022  Opening net assets attributable to sho	tributable to Sha	(£′000)	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	, ,	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£′000)
Statement of Change in Net Assets At for the year ended 31 December 2022  Opening net assets attributable to sho	tributable to Sha	<b>(£'000)</b>	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	65,450	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£′000)
Statement of Change in Net Assets At for the year ended 31 December 2022  Opening net assets attributable to sho	tributable to Sho	<b>(£'000)</b>	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000) 134,630	65,450	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000) 95,505

#### **Balance Sheet**

as at 31 December 2022

		31.12.2022	31.12.2021
	Notes	(£′000)	(£'000)
Assets			
Fixed assets			
Investments		72,423	133,319
Current assets:			
Debtors	8	528	1,617
Cash and bank balances	9	1,364	1,180
Total assets		74,315	136,116
Liabilities			
Creditors:			
Other creditors	10	(689)	(1,486)
Total liabilities		(689)	(1,486)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		73,626	134,630

#### Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 1 Accounting policies

The accounting policies for the Sub-fund are set out on pages 12 to 13.

#### 2 Net capital (losses)/gains

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£′000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
The net capital (losses)/gains comprise:		
Non-derivative securities	(39,931)	22,372
Derivative contracts	_	(166)
Forward currency contracts	(7)	(8)
Foreign currency losses	(33)	(97)
Net capital (losses)/gains	(39,971)	22,101

#### 3 Revenue

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
Bank interest	9	_
Non-taxable overseas dividends	428	302
Stock lending income	1	3
Total revenue	438	305

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 4 Expenses

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
Payable to the ACD or associates of the ACD:		
ACD's charge	713	825
General administration charges*	122	151
	835	976
Payable to the Depositary, associates of the Depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Safe custody fee	_	(2)
	_	(2)
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	_	3
Professional service fees	_	(1)
Registration fee	_	(2)
Other expenses	_	(1)
	_	(1)
Total expenses	835	973

<sup>\*</sup> The audit fee for the year (borne out of the General administration charges), excluding VAT, was £9,200 (2021: £8,400). Where the fee exceeds the General administration charges, the shortfall will be met by the ACD.

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 5 Taxation

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£′000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
a) Analysis of charge in year		
Overseas tax	65	46
Total tax charge [see note(b)]	65	46

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

The taxation assessed for the year is higher (2021: higher) than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an authorised investment company with variable capital. The differences are explained below:

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£′000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
Net expense before taxation	(397)	(669)
Corporation tax at 20% (2021 - 20%) Effects of:	(79)	(134)
Movement in unrecognised tax losses	165	194
Overseas tax	65	46
Revenue not subject to tax	(86)	(60)
Total tax charge [see note(a)]	65	46

Authorised investment companies with variable capital are exempt from UK tax on capital gains. Therefore, any capital return is not included in the above reconciliation.

#### c) Deferred tax

At the year end there is a potential deferred tax asset of £692,000 (2021: £527,000) due to tax losses of £3,459,000 (2021: £2,635,000). It is unlikely that the Sub-fund will generate sufficient taxable profits in the future to utilise these expenses and therefore no deferred tax asset has been recognised in the year or the prior year.

#### 6 Interest payable and similar charges

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£′000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
Overdraft interest	-	1
Total interest payable and similar charges	-	1

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 7 Distributions

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£′000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
Final distribution	-	_
Distributions	-	_
The distributable amount has been calculated as follows:		
Net expense after taxation	(462)	(715)
Shortfall of income taken to capital	462	715
Distributions	_	_

The distribution per share is set out in the table on page 41.

#### 8 Debtors

	31.12.2022 (£′000)	31.12.2021 (£′000)
Accrued revenue	17	17
Amounts receivable for issue of shares	100	216
Currency sales awaiting settlement	408	1,382
Overseas withholding tax	3	2
Total debtors	528	1,617

#### 9 Cash and bank balances

	31.12.2022 (£′000)	31.12.2021 (£'000)
Cash and bank balances	1,364	1,180
Total cash and bank balances	1,364	1,180

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 10 Creditors

	31.12.2022 (£′000)	31.12.2021 (£'000)
Accrued expenses	8	15
Accrued ACD's charge	48	87
Amounts payable for cancellation of shares	224	_
Currency purchases awaiting settlement	409	1,384
Total other creditors	689	1,486

#### 11 Contingent liabilities and outstanding commitments

There were no contingent liabilities or outstanding commitments at the balance sheet date (2021: £nil).

#### 12 Related party transactions

Liontrust Asset Management Plc is regarded as a controlling party by virtue of being the ultimate parent company of the ACD, Liontrust Fund Partners LLP, giving the ability to act in concert in respect of the operations of the Company.

The charges paid to Liontrust Fund Partners LLP and its associates are shown in note 4. Details of shares issued and cancelled by Liontrust Fund Partners LLP are shown in the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders and balances due to/from the ACD at the year end are included within Notes 8 and 10.

The balance due to Liontrust Fund Partners LLP and its associates in respect of expenses at the year end was £56,000 (2021: £102,000).

The total expense due to Liontrust Fund Partners LLP and its associates for the year was £835,000 (2021: £976,000).

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 13 Securities lending

The Sub-fund engages in security lending activities which expose the Sub-fund to counterparty credit risk. The maximum exposure to the Sub-fund is equal to the value of the securities loaned.

Securities lending transactions entered into by the Sub-fund are subject to a written legal agreement between the Sub-fund and the Stock Lending Agent, The Bank of New York Mellon (London Branch), and separately between the Stock Lending Agent and the approved borrowing counterparty. Collateral received in exchange for securities lent is transferred under a title transfer arrangement and is delivered to and held in an account with a tri-party collateral manager in the name of the Depositary on behalf of the Sub-fund. Collateral received is segregated from the assets belonging to the Sub-fund's Depositary or the Stock Lending Agent. All operational costs are borne out of the Stock Lending Agent's share of income earned.

The total income earned from securities lending transactions is split between the relevant Sub-fund and the Stock Lending Agent. The Sub-fund receives 70% while the Stock Lending Agent receives 30% of such income, with all operational costs borne out of the Stock Lending Agent's share.

#### Return and cost

The table below shows the net income earned by the Sub-fund from securities lending activity during the year to 31 December 2022.

	Collective Investment Undertaking (£'000)	ACD of Collective Investment Undertaking (£'000)	Third Parties (e.g. lending agent) (£'000)	Total (£′000)
Liontrust Global Technology Fund Securities lending				
Gross return	1	_	_	1
% of total	70%	0%	30%	100%
Cost	_	_	_	_

The table below shows the net income earned by the Sub-fund from securities lending activity during the year to 31 December 2021.

	Collective Investment Undertaking (£'000)	ACD of Collective Investment Undertaking (£'000)	Third Parties (e.g. lending agent) (£'000)	Total (£′000)
Securities lending				
Gross return	3	_	1	4
% of total	70%	0%	30%	100%
Cost	_	_	_	_

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 13 Securities lending (continued)

#### Securities on loan and collateral received

The following table details the value of securities on loan and associated collateral received, analysed by borrowing counterparty as at the Balance Sheet date.

Counterparty		31 December 2022		31 December 2021	
	Counterparty's country of establishment	Securities on loan (£'000)	Collateral received (£'000)	Securities on loan (£'000)	Collateral received (£'000)
Jeffries LLC	USA	_	_	655	668
Total		_	_	655	668

Collateral accepted is non-cash in the form of sovereign debt rated AA or better from approved governments only, supranational debt obligations rated AAA or better listed on a recognised exchange.

#### Management of counterparty credit risk related to securities lending

To mitigate this risk, the Sub-fund receives either cash or securities as collateral equal to a certain percentage in excess of the fair value of the securities loaned. The Investment Manager monitors the fair value of the securities loaned and additional collateral is obtained, if necessary. At the year end all non-cash collateral received consists of securities admitted to or dealt on a recognised exchange.

The Sub-fund also benefits from a borrower default indemnity provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (London Branch). The indemnity allows for full replacement of securities lent. The Bank of New York Mellon (London Branch) bears the cost of indemnification against borrower default.

#### 14 Risk management policies

In accordance with the investment objectives and policies the Sub-fund can hold certain financial instruments as detailed in the Sub-fund's prospectus. These can comprise of:

- equity, equity related and non-equity shares;
- cash, liquid resources and short-term debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations;
- short-term borrowings used to finance operational cash flows;
- units and shares in collective investment schemes;
- shareholders' funds, which represent investors' monies which are invested on their behalf from overseas investments held;
- derivative transactions for efficient portfolio management in accordance with the Sub-fund's investment policies.

In accordance with the requirements of the rules in the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook, the Sub-fund is not permitted to trade in other financial instruments. The Sub-fund's use of financial instruments during the year satisfies these regulatory requirements.

The main risks arising from the Sub-fund's financial instruments are market price (including "emerging markets price risk"), currency, interest rate, liquidity and counterparty credit risk. The ACD's policies for managing these risks are summarised below.

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 14 Risk management policies (continued)

The Sub-fund, alongside an independent risk function, has used a combination of risk measurements and limits to measure and monitor portfolio risk. This is in line with the Liontrust Group's Risk Management Process.

These policies have remained unchanged since the beginning of the year to which these financial statements relate and during the prior year.

#### Market price risk

Market price risk is the risk that the Sub-fund might suffer potential loss through holding market positions in the face of price movements. It arises mainly due to uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments held. The ACD reviews the portfolio in order to consider the asset allocation implications and to minimise the risk associated with particular countries or industry sectors whilst continuing to follow the Sub-fund's investment objective. An individual Sub-fund ACD has responsibility for monitoring the existing portfolio, in accordance with the overall asset allocation parameters described above and seeks to ensure that individual stocks also meet an acceptable risk reward profile. Futures contracts may be used to hedge against market price risk where deemed appropriate for efficient portfolio management purposes.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is monitored by the ACD in pursuance of its investment objective and policy as set out in the prospectus.

As at 31 December 2022 and 31 December 2021 the overall market exposure for the Sub-fund was as shown in the Portfolio Statement, other than for derivatives where the exposure could be greater. The Sub-fund is exposed to market price risk as the assets and liabilities of the Sub-fund are listed on stock exchanges and their prices are subject to movements both up and down that would result in an appreciation or depreciation in the fair value of that asset. The sensitivity of the Sub-fund to market price risk is estimated below which shows the expected change in the market value of the Sub-fund when a representative market index changes by 10%. These percentage movements are based on the ACD's estimate of reasonably possible market movements over the course of a year and uses an industry standard measure (Beta) to estimate the amount a Sub-fund has previously changed when that corresponding market index has moved taking into account the Sub-fund's historic correlation to the representative index's movements over the last three years using monthly returns. This analysis assumes that the historic relationships between the portfolio's holdings and the representative index are a valid approximation of their future relationship and that the characteristics of the portfolio and the market have been broadly unchanged over the three years.

As at 31 December 2022, had the representative market index increased/decreased by 10.0% the resulting change in the value of the Net Asset Value is expected to have been an increase/a decrease of 9.1%.

As at 31 December 2021, had the representative market index increased/decreased by 10.0% the resulting change in the value of the Net Asset Value is expected to have been an increase/a decrease of 9.6%.

Some limitations of sensitivity analysis are;

- markets and levels of market liquidity in conditions of market stress may bear no relation to historical patterns;
- the market price risk information is a relative estimate of risk rather than a precise and accurate number;
- the market price information represents a hypothetical outcome and is not intended to be predictive; and
- future market conditions could vary significantly from those experienced in the past.

The Sub-fund is required to calculate its exposure to derivatives on a daily basis using one of two alternate methods, the Commitment Approach or Value at Risk (VaR).

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 14 Risk management policies (continued)

#### Market price risk (continued)

The calculation of conversion methods for the commitment approach for standard derivatives is taken from the conversion methodologies listed in the ESMA Guidelines on calculation of Global Exposure and Counterparty Risk. The commitment conversion methodology for standard derivatives is either the notional value or the market value of the equivalent position in the underlying asset. Please refer to the portfolio statement for the notional values of any forwards and futures contracts.

VaR is a method of estimating potential loss due to market risk, rather than a statement of leverage, using a given confidence level, or probability, over a specific time period and assuming normal market conditions. VaR is calculated using a Historical Simulation model carried out in accordance with regulatory guidelines.

The Sub-fund uses a combination of other risk measurements and limits. This is in line with the Liontrust Group's Risk Management Process.

The Sub-fund did not materially use derivatives in the current or prior year and the level of leverage employed by the Sub-fund during the current or prior year is not considered to be significant.

#### **Currency risk**

Currency risk is the risk that the revenue and net asset value of the Sub-fund may be adversely affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The revenue and capital value of the Sub-fund's investments may be significantly affected by currency risk movements as some of the assets and income are denominated in currencies other than Sterling, which is the Company's functional and reporting currency.

The ACD has identified three principal areas where foreign currency risk could impact the Sub-fund:

- Movements in exchange rates affecting the value of investments;
- Movements in exchange rates affecting short-term timing differences; and
- Movements in exchange rates affecting the income received.

Currency exposure is monitored closely and is considered to be part of the overall investment process. Currency hedges via forward exchange contracts will only be used in the event of a specific unwanted currency risk being identified.

The Sub-fund may be subject to short-term exposure to exchange rate movements, for instance, where there is a difference between the date an investment purchase or sale is entered into and the date when settlement of the proceeds occurs. The ACD believes that the impact of such movements is not significant enough to warrant the cost incurred of eliminating them via hedging.

The Sub-fund may receive income in currencies other than Sterling, and the Sterling values of this income can be affected by movements in exchange rates. The Sub-fund converts all receipts of income into Sterling on or near the date of receipt; it does not, however, hedge or otherwise seek to avoid exchange rate risk on income accrued but not received.

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 14 Risk management policies (continued)

#### Currency risk (continued)

At 31 December 2022 the Sub-fund's currency exposure was as shown in the table below:

Currency Profile	Net Foreign Currency Assets			
Currency	Monetary Exposures (£'000)	Non-Monetary Exposures (£'000)	Total (£′000)	
Canadian Dollar	-	6,198	6,198	
Euro	3	2,464	2,467	
Japanese Yen	_	808	808	
United States Dollar	1,381	62,953	64,334	
	1,384	72,423	73,807	

At 31 December 2021 the Sub-fund's currency exposure was as shown in the table below:

Currency Profile	Net Foreign Currency Assets			
Currency	Monetary Exposures (£'000)	Non-Monetary Exposures (£'000)	Total (£'000)	
Canadian Dollar	-	5,065	5,065	
Euro	1	5,215	5,216	
Hong Kong Dollar	_	1,799	1,799	
Japanese Yen	_	1,402	1,402	
United States Dollar	1,197	120,052	121,249	
	1,198	133,533	134,731	

If the exchange rate at 31 December 2022 between the functional currency and all other currencies had increased or decreased by 1% with all other variables held constant, this would have increased or decreased net assets attributable to holders of shares of the Sub-fund by approximately 1.00%/(1.00)% respectively.

If the exchange rate at 31 December 2021 between the functional currency and all other currencies had increased or decreased by 1% with all other variables held constant, this would have increased or decreased net assets attributable to holders of shares of the Sub-fund by approximately 1.00%/(1.00)% respectively.

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the revenue cash flow or the fair value of investments may be adversely affected by movements in market interest rates.

The majority of the Sub-fund's financial assets are equity shares and other investments which neither pay interest nor have a maturity date. As a result, the Sub-fund is not subject to significant amounts of risk due to fluctuations in the prevailing level of market interest rates. Therefore, no interest rate sensitivity analysis has been prepared for these.

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 14 Risk management policies (continued)

### Interest rate risk (continued)

Interest receivable on bank deposits and short-term deposits or payable on bank overdraft positions will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates. The interest rates earned on sterling deposits are earned at a rate in line with overnight bank rates.

#### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Sub-fund will not be able to meet its obligations as they fall due. The Sub-fund's assets comprise mainly of readily realisable securities which can be sold to meet liquidity requirements.

If a Sub-fund is primarily exposed to smaller companies there may be liquidity constraints from time to time, i.e. in certain circumstances, the Sub-fund may not be able to sell a position for full value or at all in the short-term. This may affect performance and could cause the Sub-fund to defer or suspend redemptions of its shares. In addition, the spread between the price you buy and sell units will reflect the less liquid nature of the underlying holdings. Any unquoted investments held by a Sub-fund are by their nature much less liquid than those listed on an exchange. A Sub-fund may not be able to sell a position for full value or at all in the short term.

The equity markets of emerging countries tend to be more volatile than the more developed markets of the world. Standards of disclosure and accounting regimes may not always fully comply with international criteria and can make it difficult to establish accurate estimates of fundamental value. The lack of accurate and meaningful information, and inefficiencies in its distribution, can leave emerging markets prone to sudden and unpredictable changes in sentiment. The resultant investment flows can trigger significant volatility in these relatively small and illiquid markets. At the same time, this lack of liquidity, together with low dealing volumes, can restrict the ACD's ability to execute substantial deals.

The main liquidity risk of the Sub-fund is the redemption of any shares that investors wish to sell, which are redeemable on demand under the Prospectus. Where investments cannot be realised in time to meet any potential liability, the Sub-fund may borrow up to 10% of its value to ensure settlement.

In accordance with the ACD's policy, the ACD monitors the Sub-fund's liquidity on a daily basis.

## Counterparty credit risk

Counterparty credit risk is the risk of suffering loss due to another party not meeting its financial obligation. Investments may be adversely affected if any of the institutions with which money is deposited or invested suffers insolvency or other financial difficulties or the credit rating of the bearers of the bonds held by the Sub-fund are downgraded.

The Sub-fund may enter into transactions in financial instruments (including derivatives) which exposes it to the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

The Sub-fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the ACD as an acceptable counterparty. This list is reviewed at least annually.

The Sub-fund may enter into stock lending activities which exposes it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the stock or cash after the Sub-fund has fulfilled its obligations. The Sub-fund will only enter into stock lending activities with parties that have been approved as acceptable by the ACD and obtaining collateral from counterparties which has a fair value in excess of the related stock on loan.

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 14 Risk management policies (continued)

#### Counterparty credit risk (continued)

At the balance sheet date, there were no counterparties to open derivative contracts. At the year-end collateral of  $\mathfrak L Nil$  (prior year:  $\mathfrak L Nil$ ) was received; collateral pledged was  $\mathfrak L Nil$  (prior year:  $\mathfrak L Nil$ ) and none (prior year: none) of the Sub-fund's financial assets were past due or impaired.

The Depositary is responsible for the safe-keeping of assets and has appointed the Bank of New York Mellon, S.A./N.V., London Branch ("BNYMSA") as its global custodian. The long term credit rating of the parent company of the Depositary and Custodian, The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation, as at 31 December 2022 was A (Standard & Poor's rating).

BNYMSA, in the discharge of its delegated Depositary duties, holds in custody (i) all financial instruments that may be registered in a financial instruments account opened on the books of BNYMSA and (ii) all financial instruments that can be physically delivered to BNYMSA. BNYMSA ensures all financial instruments (held in a financial instruments account on the books of BNYMSA) are held in segregated accounts in the name of the Sub-fund, clearly identifiable as belonging to the Sub-fund, and distinct and separately from the proprietary assets of BNYMSA and BNYM.

In addition BNYMSA, as banker, holds cash of the Sub-fund on deposit. Such cash is held on the balance sheet of BNYMSA. In the event of insolvency of BNYMSA, in accordance with standard banking practice, the Sub-fund will rank as an unsecured creditor of BNYMSA in respect of any cash deposits.

Insolvency of BNYM and or one of its agents or affiliates may cause the Sub-fund's rights with respect to its assets to be delayed or may result in the Sub-fund not receiving the full value of its assets.

## Maturity profile of financial liabilities

All financial liabilities of the Sub-fund at the current and prior year-end are due to settle in one year or less, or on demand.

#### Fair value of financial assets and liabilities

There is no material difference between the value of the financial assets and liabilities, as shown in the balance sheet, and their fair value.

#### Valuation of financial investments

31.12.2022	Assets (£'000)	Liabilities (£'000)
Level 1: Quoted prices		_
	72,423	_
31.12.2021	Assets (£'000)	Liabilities (£'000)
Level 1: Quoted prices	133,319	_

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 14 Risk management policies (continued)

## Valuation of financial investments (continued)

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

#### 15 Share movement

For the year ending 31 December 2022

	Opening shares	Shares issued	Shares redeemed	Shares converted	Closing shares
C Accumulation	32,808,061	5,825,176	(12,062,707)	_	26,570,530

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 16 Portfolio transaction costs

Purchases (excluding derivatives)	Transaction Value (£'000)	Commissions (£'000)	%	Taxes (£'000)	%
Equity instruments (direct)	5,211	2	0.04	-	_
Total purchases	5,211	2		-	
Total purchases including transaction costs	5,213				
Sales (excluding derivatives)	Transaction Value (£′000)	Commissions (£'000)	%	Taxes (£'000)	%
Equity instruments (direct)	26,187	8	0.03	2	0.01
Total sales	26,187	8		2	
Total sales net of transaction costs	26,177				
Total transaction costs		10		2	
Total transaction costs as a % of average net assets		0.01%		-	

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 16 Portfolio transaction costs (continued)

for the year ending 31 December 2021

Purchases (excluding derivatives)	Transaction Value (£'000)	Commissions (£'000)	%	Taxes (£'000)	%
Equity instruments (direct)	38,135	12	0.03	-	_
Total purchases	38,135	12		-	
Total purchases including transaction costs	38,147				
Sales (excluding derivatives)	Transaction Value (£'000)	Commissions (£'000)	%	Taxes (£'000)	%
Equity instruments (direct)	21,194	7	0.03	1	-
Total sales	21,194	7		1	
Total sales net of transaction costs	21,186				
Total transaction costs		19		1	
Total transaction costs as a % of average net assets		0.02%		_	

The above analysis covers any direct transaction costs suffered by the Sub-fund during the year. However it is important to understand the nature of other transaction costs associated with different investment asset classes and instruments types.

Separately identifiable direct transaction costs (commissions & taxes etc.) are attributable to the Sub-fund's purchase and sale of equity shares. Additionally, for equity shares there is a dealing spread cost (the difference between the buying and selling prices) which will be suffered on purchase and sale transactions.

Dealing spread costs suffered by the Sub-fund vary considerably for the different asset/instrument types depending on a number of factors including transaction value and market sentiment.

At the balance sheet date the average portfolio dealing spread (difference between bid and offer prices of all investments expressed as a percentage of the offer price value) was 0.19% (2021: 0.06%).

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 17 Post balance sheet events

The Fund invests in a portfolio of assets, whose values have changed since the year-end, primarily due to market volatility. Since the year-end, the NAV per share of the C Accumulation share class has increased by 20.53% to 19 April 2023. The other share classes in the Sub-fund have moved by a similar magnitude.

## **Distribution Table**

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## Final distribution

Group 1 - Shares purchased prior to 1 January 2022

Group 2 - Shares purchased 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Net Revenue Pence per share	Equalisation* Pence per share	Distribution paid 28.2.2023 Pence per share	Distribution paid 28.2.2022 Pence per share
C Accumulation - Group 1	_	_	_	_
C Accumulation - Group 2	_	_	_	_

<sup>\*</sup> Equalisation only applies to shares purchased during the distribution period (Group 2 shares). It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of all Group 2 shares and is refunded to holders of these shares as a return of capital. Being capital, it is not liable to income tax but must be deducted from the cost of shares for capital gains tax purposes.

# Liontrust Japan Equity Fund

Report for the year from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

#### **Investment Objective**

The investment objective of the Liontrust Japan Equity Fund is to generate long term (five years or more) capital growth.

### **Investment Policy**

The Sub-fund invests at least 80% in shares of Japanese companies. These are companies which, at the time of purchase, are incorporated, domiciled, listed or conduct significant business in Japan.

The Sub-fund may also invest up to 20% in other companies outside of Japan, as well as in other eligible asset classes. Other eligible asset classes are collective investment schemes (which may include Liontrust managed funds), other transferable securities, cash or near cash, deposits and money market instruments.

Derivatives and forward transactions may be used by the ACD for efficient portfolio management to maintain an active currency hedging strategy in respect of the portfolio's hedged share classes.

It is the intention to be near-fully invested at all times, however, the Sub-fund has the facility to take tactical positions in cash or near cash, and to use efficient portfolio management, should the ACD feel it appropriate.

The portfolio will be managed to ensure that the Sub-fund is at all times eligible to qualify for, and to be included in, an Individual Savings Account.

## **Investment Strategy**

The Sub-fund invests in securities using a combination of economic, industry and stock specific analysis.

#### Investment review

#### Sub-fund review

The Liontrust Japan Equity Fund returned -3.0% (C accumulation) over the year, against the -4.5% return from the TOPIX Index comparator benchmark and the -8.1% average return in the IA Japan sector, also a comparator benchmark\*. This performance places the Sub-fund in the top quartile for the period under review.

2022 was another year of significant disruptions, starting with Russia's invasion of the Ukraine, the consequential volatile energy prices, the assassination of ex-Prime Minister Abe and came to a close with a surprise move by the Bank of Japan.

It was yet another year of mixed performance with a strong first half being more than offset by a relatively weak second half. At the end of June, the Sub-fund was showing an overall return of -5.4% in sterling terms against the TOPIX Index's much bigger loss of -10.2% and the IA Japan sector average loss of -13.1%, placing the Fund 13<sup>th</sup> out of the 89 competing funds for the first half of 2022. By the end of the year, this position had been entirely reversed to one where over the second half of the year, the Sub-fund registered a net 2.5 percentage point gain in sterling terms against the TOPIX Index's 6.3% return and the IA Japan sector average appreciation of 5.7%.

TOPIX, having closed 2021 at the level last seen in 1992, almost reached 2,050 before hitting its low of 1,755 on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March after successive declines due firstly to general rising inflation and interest rate concerns and then the start of Russia's invasion of Ukraine at the end of February. Then despite the oil price's sharp concurrent share price rise to above \$120 per barrel, the TOPIX Index regained its composure, rallying to close to 2,000 then steadily falling to just below 1,830 by mid-May as the fallout from the war in the Ukraine did not turn out to be as expected.

Next came a rally to around 1,970 based on little evidence of an immediate recession and the yen's weakness against the US dollar, potentially boosting profits growth. This was followed by a sharp decent to 1,818 ahead of a Federal Reserve rate hike and despite the yen falling to a 24 year low against the US dollar and China beginning to open up before these latter two influences were viewed more positively by investors to see TOPIX recover to the 1,870 level for the June month end.

TOPIX started the year's second half rallying to close just over 2,000 on 17th August as investors again anticipated that the impact of the Ukraine/Russia war was likely not to be as bad as initially expected. Thereafter, concerns that inflation would likely be more persistent resurfaced accompanied by interest rate hikes, which saw the Index resuming its decline down to the 1,835, Having initially disregarded the positive benefits of a weaker yen upon corporate profits, TOPIX reached over 2,018 at the end of November in response to the yen's October weakening to 150. Then the yen combined with the broadening of the Bank of Japan's 10-year bond yield trading band hit the market with the exception of the banking and insurance sectors that were held to benefit from this development seeing the index close 2022 just short of the 1,892.

After the 1<sup>st</sup> July tragic death of former Premier Abe and the LDPs widened "supermajority" in parliament after Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July's Upper House election contest will see government policies remain almost unchanged with only the likely restart of nuclear reactors and repeal of Article 9 of the constitution so permitting the broader use of Japan's Defence Forces being enacted in the near term.

That said, the Bank of Japan's move was most likely driven by Prime Minister Kishida's electoral support collapsing down to only 25% upon resurgent inflation, aided by a weaker yen, undermining real incomes. This "rate hike" reflected what had already happened in the government bond market and helped strengthen the yen back to near the 130 to the US dollar. However, the other monetary targets adopted by the Bank remain unchanged.

This structural asset allocation will remain a real headache for the current administration as it is very likely that further adjustments to the permissible yield band for the 10-year bond will be made. In addition, equity market falls with also undermine the financial position of the GPIF national Pension Fund, almost as big a holder of Japanese stocks as the Bank of Japan, thus creating another issue for the current administration.

Sub-fund performance in the first half benefitted from an overweight energy and property sectors as well as being underweight in information technology, while despite the underlying industrials, materials and consumer discretionary sectoral performance, the stocks actually held did relatively well. Lastly, the portfolio's overall return was hindered by having no utility or telecoms stocks.

#### Investment review (continued)

#### Sub-fund review (continued)

Across the rest of the year, the Sub-fund initially suffered from its lack of classic defensive sectors like consumer staples and healthcare, which all did relatively well while also not holding smaller/mid-sized growth stocks. Later on, returns were limited by poor stock selection in the strongly performing financials sector as well as both in materials, industrials and consumer discretionary categories, while an overweight position in property proved a handicap given it was the worst performing sector.

As usual, across the year, individual stocks showed disparate performance often strongly contrary to the underlying sector's returns. Consumer discretionary stocks in aggregate fell by -14.6% but our positions in Subaru, the auto maker, and Bandai Namco, the toy and games company, fell by only -1.4% and -7.6% respectively. Likewise in the consumer staples space, which rose 1.9%, our convenience store chain Seven & I Holdings gained 12.0%.

Likewise in industrials, which fell 9.1%, saw our stock returns vary between Keyence's -28.9% tumble on the declining outlook for technology products, whilst at the other end of the scale Mitsubishi Heavy Industries almost doubled, gaining 96.8%, as it announced and began to carry out a substantial restructuring program. Materials, down by 11.0%, also displayed a widespread in returns, Kansai Paint falling -35.2% as profit margin deterioration was expected on higher oil prices compared to JFE, the steel and engineering combine that showed a gain of 4.7% for the year.

By contrast, financials, 2022's best performing sector which climbed 24.1%, saw our worst stock selection with none of our holdings matching that figure.

Our investment thesis remains that we expect Japanese equities to do relatively well. Firstly, due to their balance sheets with their no/low debt condition meaning they are better placed to ride out central banks raising rates further and faster than generally expected. Next, the geographic tilt of their operations towards the US and the non-OECD markets with a correspondingly lower one to UK/Europe than their major competitors, particularly their European rivals, so sidestepping the worst of the economic fallout from the Ukrainian invasion.

In addition, the emerging trends of near-shoring and de-globalisation have already been embraced by Japanese firms who began to de-emphasise their Chinese operations and relocated elsewhere should place them at a structural competitive advantage. The renewed demand for capital equipment should also benefit the many Japanese firms in these sectors. As such, the Fund will remain overweight in large and mid-sized, well financed, industry dominant Japanese multinationals.

\*Source: Financial Express, as at 31.12.22, total return, net of fees, income reinvested. Please note that total return has been calculated at midday whereas the financial statements are at close of business.

## **Chris Taylor**

Fund Manager

January 2023

Any opinions expressed are those of the Fund Manager. They should not be viewed as a guarantee of a return from an investment in the Sub-fund. The content of the commentary should not be viewed as a recommendation to invest nor buy or sell any securities. The investments of the Sub-fund are subject to normal market fluctuations. Investments can go down as well as up. Investors' capital is at risk and they may get back less than they originally invested.

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of an investment and the income generated from it can fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed. You may get back less than you originally invested.

## Investment review (continued)

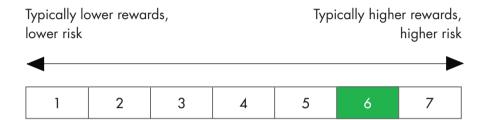
## Material portfolio changes by value

Purchases	Sales
Nintendo	Seven & i
Seven & i	Hitachi
Hitachi	Nintendo
Subaru	Fujitsu
Toyota Motor	Toyota Motor
JFE	Subaru
Fujitsu	SUMCO
Bandai Namco	FANUC
Daikin Industries	Shin-Etsu Chemical
Mitsubishi Heavy Industries	JFE

#### Investment review (continued)

#### Risk and Reward profile

The Risk and Reward Indicator table demonstrates where the Sub-fund ranks in terms of its potential risk and reward. The higher the rank the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money. It is based on past data, may change over time and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the Sub-fund. The shaded area in the table below shows the Sub-fund's ranking on the risk and reward indicator.



- The Synthetic Risk and Reward Indicator (SRRI) is based upon historical data and may not be relied upon to gauge the future risk profile of the Sub-fund.
- The SRRI shown is not guaranteed to remain the same and may shift over time.
- The lowest category (1) does not mean 'risk free'.
- The Sub-fund's risk and reward category has been calculated using the methodology adopted by the Financial Conduct Authority. It is based upon the rate by which the Sub-fund or a representative fund or Index's value has moved up and down in the past.
- The Sub-fund is categorised 6 primarily for its exposure to Japanese equities.
- The SRRI may not fully take into account the following risks:
  - that a company may fail thus reducing its value within the Sub-fund;
  - any overseas investments may carry a higher currency risk. They are valued by reference to their local currency which may
    move up or down when compared to the currency of the Sub-fund.
- The Sub-fund may have a concentrated portfolio, i.e. hold a limited number of investments. If one of these investments falls in value this can have a greater impact on the Sub-fund's value than if it held a larger number of investments.
- The Sub-fund may, under certain circumstances, invest in derivatives, but it is not intended that their use will materially affect volatility. Derivatives are used to protect against currencies, credit and interest rate moves. There is a risk that losses could be made on derivative positions or that the counterparties could fail to complete on transactions. The use of derivatives may create leverage or gearing resulting in potentially greater volatility or fluctuations in the net asset value of the Sub-fund. A relatively small movement in the value of a derivative's underlying investment may have a larger impact, positive or negative, on the value of a Sub-fund than if the underlying investment was held instead. The use of derivative contracts may help us to control Sub-fund volatility in both up and down markets by hedging against the general market.
- The Sub-fund may encounter liquidity constraints from time to time. The spread between the price you buy and sell shares will reflect the less liquid nature of the underlying holdings.
- The Sub-fund has both Hedged and Unhedged share classes available. The Hedged share classes use forward foreign exchange contracts to protect returns in the base currency of the Sub-fund.
- Outside of normal conditions, the Sub-fund may hold higher levels of cash which may be deposited with several credit
  counterparties (e.g.international banks). A credit risk arises should one or more of these counterparties be unable to return the
  deposited cash.

## Investment review (continued)

## Risk and Reward profile (continued)

- Counterparty Risk: any derivative contract, including FX hedging, may be at risk if the counterparty fails.
- Environmental Social Governance (ESG) Risk: there may be limitations to the availability, completeness or accuracy of ESG information from third-party providers, or inconsistencies in the consideration of ESG factors across different third party data providers, given the evolving nature of ESG.

For full details of the Sub-fund's risks, please see the prospectus which may be obtained from Liontrust (address on page 1) or online at www.liontrust.co.uk.

## **Comparative Tables**

B Accumulation Hedged GBP	31 December 2022	31 December 2021+
Accounting year ended	per share (p)	per share (p)
Change in net assets per share		
Opening net asset value per share	96.02	100.00
Return before operating charges	(0.49)	(3.80)
Operating charges	(1.10)	(0.18)
Return after operating charges	(1.59)	(3.98)
Distributions	(1.58)	_
Retained distributions on accumulation shares	1.58	_
Closing net asset value per share	94.43	96.02
After direct transaction costs of*	(0.01)	0.00
Performance		
Return after charges	(1.66%)	(3.98%)
Other information		
Closing net asset value (£'000)	6,389	6,982
Closing number of shares	6,766,362	7,271,760
Operating charges**	1.14%	1.14%
Direct transaction costs*	0.01%	0.01%
Prices		
Highest share price	101.70	101.36
Lowest share price	85.02	93.29

<sup>+</sup> Launched on 3 November 2021.

<sup>\*</sup> Direct transaction costs comprise commission and taxes, principally applicable to equity investment purchases and sales. Shareholders should note that additionally there are other transaction costs such as a dilution adjustment and underlying costs with regard to Collective Investment Scheme holdings which will also have reduced the Sub-fund and share class returns before operating charges.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The Operating Charges figure represents the annual operating expenses of the Sub-fund expressed as a percentage of average net assets for the year - it does not include initial charges or performance fees. The Operating Charges figure includes the ACD's periodic charge and all charges which are deducted directly from the Sub-fund. The Operating Charges figure is expressed as an annual percentage rate.

## **Comparative Tables (continued)**

C Accumulation Hedged GBP Accounting year ended	31 December 2022 per share (p)	31 December 2021 per share (p)	31 December 2020 per share (p)
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	121.57	112.49	103.40
Return before operating charges	(0.60)	10.14	9.99
Operating charges	(1.08)	(1.06)	(0.90)
Return after operating charges	(1.68)	9.08	9.09
Distributions	(2.33)	(1.83)	(1.06)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares	2.33	1.83	1.06
Closing net asset value per share	119.89	121.57	112.49
After direct transaction costs of *	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.03)
Performance			
Return after charges	(1.38%)	8.07%	8.79%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£'000)	34,675	53,355	32
Closing number of shares	28,925,506	43,889,471	28,024
Operating charges**	0.88%	0.86%	0.94%
Direct transaction costs*	0.01%	0.01%	0.03%
Prices			
Highest share price	128.96	132.60	113.46
Lowest share price	107.69	111.67	72.18

<sup>\*</sup> Direct transaction costs comprise commission and taxes, principally applicable to equity investment purchases and sales. Shareholders should note that additionally there are other transaction costs such as a dilution adjustment and underlying costs with regard to Collective Investment Scheme holdings which will also have reduced the Sub-fund and share class returns before operating charges.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The Operating Charges figure represents the annual operating expenses of the Sub-fund expressed as a percentage of average net assets for the year - it does not include initial charges or performance fees. The Operating Charges figure includes the ACD's periodic charge and all charges which are deducted directly from the Sub-fund. The Operating Charges figure is expressed as an annual percentage rate.

## **Comparative Tables (continued)**

C Accumulation GBP	31 December 2022	31 December 2021	31 December 2020
Accounting year ended	per share (p)	per share (p)	per share (p)
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	157.34	159.91	143.62
Return before operating charges	(4.68)	(1.14)	17.56
Operating charges	(1.34)	(1.43)	(1.27)
Return after operating charges	(6.02)	(2.57)	16.29
Distributions	(3.00)	(2.12)	(1.65)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares	3.00	2.12	1.65
Closing net asset value per share	151.32	157.34	159.91
After direct transaction costs of*	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.04)
Performance			
Return after charges	(3.83%)	(1.61%)	11.34%
Other information			
Closing net asset value ( $\mathfrak{L}'000$ )	166,335	184,498	217,711
Closing number of shares	109,931,838	117,258,354	136,147,491
Operating charges * *	0.88%	0.87%	0.91%
Direct transaction costs*	0.01%	0.01%	0.03%
Prices			
Highest share price	162.68	174.77	162.77
Lowest share price	143.47	157.39	110.67

<sup>\*</sup> Direct transaction costs comprise commission and taxes, principally applicable to equity investment purchases and sales. Shareholders should note that additionally there are other transaction costs such as a dilution adjustment and underlying costs with regard to Collective Investment Scheme holdings which will also have reduced the Sub-fund and share class returns before operating charges.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The Operating Charges figure represents the annual operating expenses of the Sub-fund expressed as a percentage of average net assets for the year - it does not include initial charges or performance fees. The Operating Charges figure includes the ACD's periodic charge and all charges which are deducted directly from the Sub-fund. The Operating Charges figure is expressed as an annual percentage rate.

## **Portfolio Statement**

as at 31 December 2022

Holding/ Nominal value	Stock description	Market value (£'000)	Percentage of total net assets (%)
	EQUITIES (98.74%)	205,552	99.11
	JAPAN (98.74%)	205,552	99.11
	Auto Parts & Equipment (1.33%)	3,719	1.79
242,100	NGK Spark Plug	3,719	1.79
	Automobile Manufacturers (7.67%)	14,273	6.88
560,000	Subaru	7,154	3.45
623,400	Toyota Motor	7,119	3.43
	Banks (2.16%)	5,888	2.84
203,700	Sumitomo Mitsui Trust	5,888	2.84
	Building Materials (5.76%)	10,967	5.29
50,400	Daikin Industries	6,413	3.09
222,400	Sumitomo Osaka Cement	4,554	2.20
	Chemicals (13.16%)	25,183	12.15
359,500	Kansai Paint	3,663	1.77
1,066,100	Mitsubishi Chemical	4,596	2.22
493,600	Mitsubishi Gas Chemical	5,666	2.73
52,000 1,281,200	Shin-Etsu Chemical Toray Industries	5,314 5,944	2.56 2.87
	Computers (4.44%)	7,762	3.74
70,000	Fujitsu	7,762	3.74
	Diversified Financial Services (5.77%)	11,444	5.52
540,300	ORIX	7,210	3.48
267,000	SBI	4,234	2.04
	Engineering & Construction (4.98%)	12,056	5.81
854,100	Shimizu	3,783	1.82
1,374,700	Sumitomo Mitsui Construction	3,603	1.74
174,600	Taisei	4,670	2.25

## Portfolio Statement (continued)

as at 31 December 2022

Holding/ Nominal value	Stock description	Market value (£'000)	Percentage of total net assets (%)
	EQUITIES (continued)	· · ·	<u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>
	JAPAN (continued)		
	Food Producers (4.53%)	8,557	4.13
240,000	Seven & i	8,557	4.13
	Hand & Machine Tools (2.18%)	4,547	2.19
699,300	Amada	4,547	2.19
	Home Builders (1.75%)	4,144	2.00
446,800	Haseko	4,144	2.00
	Iron & Steel (3.52%)	8,414	4.06
870,000	JFE	8,414	4.06
	Machinery Construction & Mining (8.25%)	20,885	10.07
200,000	Hitachi	8,414	4.06
272,200	Komatsu	4,932	2.38
228,600	Mitsubishi Heavy Industries	7,539	3.63
	Machinery Diversified (11.24%)	21,137	10.19
41,600	FANUC	5,191	2.50
17,700	Keyence	5,734	2.76
226,500	Nabtesco	4,802	2.32
182,900	OKUMA	5,410	2.61
	Metal & Hardware (3.27%)	7,702	3.71
808,400	NSK	3,570	1.72
2,493,800	NTN	4,132	1.99
	Oil & Gas Producers (2.15%)	5,162	2.49
1,828,800	ENEOS	5,162	2.49
	Private Equity (2.09%)	4,884	2.35
345,000	Jafco	4,884	2.35

## **Portfolio Statement (continued)**

as at 31 December 2022

Holding/ Nominal value	Stock description	Market value (£'000)	Percentage of total net assets (%)
	EQUITIES (continued)	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
	JAPAN (continued)		
	Real Estate Investment & Services (3.21%)	7,910	3.81
334,600	Mitsubishi Estate	3,606	1.74
282,600	Mitsui Fudosan	4,304	2.07
	Semiconductors (4.36%)	6,829	3.29
617,200	SUMCO	6,829	3.29
	Toys, Games & Hobbies (6.92%)	14,089	6.80
122,600	Bandai Namco	6,421	3.10
220,000	Nintendo	7,668	3.70
	DERIVATIVES (0.86%)	(1,980)	(0.96)
	Forward Currency Contracts (0.86%)	(1,980)	(0.96)
¥ 569,017,416	Japanese yen 569,017,416 vs UK sterling 3,482,014	106	0.04
£ 44,681,819	UK sterling 44,681,819 vs Japanese yen 7,416,616,117	(2,086)	(1.00)
	Portfolio of investments	203,572	98.15
	Net other assets	3,827	1.85
	Total net assets	207,399	100.00

All securities are approved securities traded on eligible securities markets, as defined by the Collective Investment Scheme Sourcebook, unless otherwise stated.

All equity investments are in ordinary shares unless otherwise stated.

Comparative figures shown in brackets relate to 31 December 2021.

## **Statement of Total Return**

	N.	(0(000)	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022	(0(000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021
	Notes	(£′000)	(£′000)	(£′000)	(£′000)
Income					
Net capital (losses)/gains	2		(6,406)		14,169
Revenue	3	6,975		5,008	
Expenses	4	(1,972)		(1,848)	
Interest payable and similar charges	6	(16)		(13)	
Net revenue before taxation		4,987		3,147	
Taxation	5	(695)		(499)	
Net revenue after taxation			4,292		2,648
Total return before distributions			(2,114)		16,817
Distributions	7		(4,292)		(2,656)
Notional exchange					
adjustment			(4,849)		(22,266)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities	es		(11,255)		(8,105)
	tributable to Sho	areholders	(11,255)		(8,105)
shareholders from investment activitie  Statement of Change in Net Assets At	tributable to Sho	areholders (£'000)	(11,255) 1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	(£′000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£′000)
shareholders from investment activities Statement of Change in Net Assets At	tributable to Sho		1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022	(£′000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021
Statement of Change in Net Assets Att for the year ended 31 December 2022  Opening net assets attributable to sho	tributable to Sho	(£′000)	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)		1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£′000)
Statement of Change in Net Assets Att for the year ended 31 December 2022  Opening net assets attributable to sho	tributable to Sho		1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	22,849	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£′000)
Statement of Change in Net Assets Att for the year ended 31 December 2022  Opening net assets attributable to sho	tributable to Sho	(£′000)	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)		1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£′000)
Statement of Change in Net Assets Att for the year ended 31 December 2022  Opening net assets attributable to shares  Amounts received on issue of shares In-specie transfer+	tributable to Sho	<b>(£'000)</b> 47,545	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000) 244,835	22,849 64,208	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£′000) 217,743
Statement of Change in Net Assets Att for the year ended 31 December 2022  Opening net assets attributable to shares  Amounts received on issue of shares  In-specie transfer+  Amounts paid on cancellation of shares	tributable to Sho	<b>(£'000)</b> 47,545	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	22,849 64,208	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£′000) 217,743
Statement of Change in Net Assets Att for the year ended 31 December 2022  Opening net assets attributable to shares  Amounts received on issue of shares In-specie transfer+	tributable to Sho	<b>(£'000)</b> 47,545	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000) 244,835	22,849 64,208	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£′000) 217,743
Statement of Change in Net Assets Att for the year ended 31 December 2022  Opening net assets attributable to shares Amounts received on issue of shares In-specie transfer+ Amounts paid on cancellation of shares Dilution adjustment	tributable to Sho	<b>(£'000)</b> 47,545	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000) 244,835	22,849 64,208	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000) 217,743
Statement of Change in Net Assets Att for the year ended 31 December 2022  Opening net assets attributable to shares  Amounts received on issue of shares In-specie transfer+  Amounts paid on cancellation of shares  Dilution adjustment  Change in net assets attributable to shares	tributable to Sho	<b>(£'000)</b> 47,545	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000) 244,835	22,849 64,208	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£′000)

<sup>+</sup> The Liontrust Japan Opportunities Fund merged into the Liontrust Japan Equity Fund on 8 November 2021.

## **Balance Sheet**

as at 31 December 2022

		31.12.2022	31.12.2021
	Notes	(£′000)	(£′000)
Assets			
Fixed assets			
Investments		205,658	243,983
Current assets:			
Debtors	8	278	60,254
Cash and bank balances	9	3,813	1,397
Total assets		209,749	305,634
Liabilities			
Investment liabilities		(2,086)	(121)
Creditors:			
Other creditors	10	(264)	(60,678)
Total liabilities		(2,350)	(60,799)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		207,399	244,835

## Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 1 Accounting policies

The accounting policies for the Sub-fund are set out on pages 12 to 13.

## 2 Net capital (losses)/gains

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
The net capital (losses)/gains comprise:		
Non-derivative securities	(7,984)	13,320
Forward currency contracts	(650)	822
Foreign currency gains	2,228	27
Net capital (losses)/gains	(6,406)	14,169

## 3 Revenue

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
Bank interest	2	1
Non-taxable overseas dividends	6,948	4,988
Stock lending income	25	19
Total revenue	6,975	5,008

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 4 Expenses

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
Payable to the ACD or associates of the ACD:		
ACD's charge	1,685	1,594
General administration charges*	287	307
	1,972	1,901
Payable to the Depositary, associates of the Depositary, and agents of either of them:		
Safe custody fee	_	(15)
	_	(15)
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	_	(3)
Professional service fees	_	(7)
Publication costs	_	(14)
Registration fee	_	(6)
Other expenses	_	(8)
	_	(38)
Total expenses	1,972	1,848

<sup>\*</sup> The audit fee for the year (borne out of the General administration charges), excluding VAT, was £9,200 (2021: £8,400). Where the fee exceeds the General administration charges, the shortfall will be met by the ACD.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 5 Taxation

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
a) Analysis of charge in year		
Overseas tax	695	499
Total tax charge [see note(b)]	695	499

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

The taxation assessed for the year is lower (2021: lower) than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an authorised investment company with variable capital. The differences are explained below:

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£′000)
Net revenue before taxation	4,987	3,147
Corporation tax at 20% (2021 - 20%) Effects of:	997	629
Movement in unrecognised tax losses	392	368
Overseas tax	695	499
Revenue not subject to tax	(1,389)	(997)
Total tax charge [see note(a)]	695	499

Authorised investment companies with variable capital are exempt from UK tax on capital gains. Therefore, any capital return is not included in the above reconciliation.

#### c) Deferred tax

At the year end there is a potential deferred tax asset of £1,538,000 (2021: £1,146,000) due to tax losses of £7,693,000 (2021: £5,732,000). It is unlikely that the Sub-fund will generate sufficient taxable profits in the future to utilise these expenses and therefore no deferred tax asset has been recognised in the year or the prior year.

## 6 Interest payable and similar charges

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£'000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
Overdraft interest	16	13
Total interest payable and similar charges	16	13

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 7 Distributions

	1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022 (£′000)	1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021 (£'000)
Final distribution	3,999	3,395
Amounts deducted on cancellation of shares	702	262
Amounts received on issue of shares	(409)	(1,001)
Distributions	4,292	2,656
The distributable amount has been calculated as follows:		
Net revenue after taxation	4,292	2,648
Shortfall of income taken to capital	_	8
Distributions	4,292	2,656

The distribution per share is set out in the table on page 72.

## 8 Debtors

	31.12.2022 (£′000)	31.12.2021 (£'000)
Accrued revenue	197	132
Amounts receivable for issue of shares	7	13
Currency sales awaiting settlement	74	60,109
Total debtors	278	60,254

## 9 Cash and bank balances

	31.12.2022 (£′000)	31.12.2021 (£'000)
Cash and bank balances	3,813	1,397
Total cash and bank balances	3,813	1,397

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 10 Creditors

	31.12.2022 (£′000)	31.12.2021 (£'000)
Accrued expenses	24	28
Accrued ACD's charge	144	162
Amounts payable for cancellation of shares	22	112
Currency purchases awaiting settlement	74	60,376
Total other creditors	264	60,678

## 11 Contingent liabilities and outstanding commitments

There were no contingent liabilities or outstanding commitments at the balance sheet date (2021: £nil).

## 12 Related party transactions

Liontrust Asset Management Plc is regarded as a controlling party by virtue of being the ultimate parent company of the ACD, Liontrust Fund Partners LLP, giving the ability to act in concert in respect of the operations of the Company.

The charges paid to Liontrust Fund Partners LLP and its associates are shown in note 4. Details of shares issued and cancelled by Liontrust Fund Partners LLP are shown in the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders and balances due to/from the ACD at the year end are included within Notes 8 and 10.

The balance due to Liontrust Fund Partners LLP and its associates in respect of expenses at the year end was £168,000 (2021: £190,000).

The total expense due to Liontrust Fund Partners LLP and its associates for the year was £1,972,000 (2021: £1,901,000).

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 13 Securities lending

The Sub-fund engages in security lending activities which expose the Sub-fund to counterparty credit risk. The maximum exposure to the Sub-fund is equal to the value of the securities loaned.

Securities lending transactions entered into by the Sub-fund are subject to a written legal agreement between the Sub-fund and the Stock Lending Agent, The Bank of New York Mellon (London Branch), and separately between the Stock Lending Agent and the approved borrowing counterparty. Collateral received in exchange for securities lent is transferred under a title transfer arrangement and is delivered to and held in an account with a tri-party collateral manager in the name of the Depositary on behalf of the Sub-fund. Collateral received is segregated from the assets belonging to the Sub-fund's Depositary or the Stock Lending Agent. All operational costs are borne out of the Stock Lending Agent's share of income earned.

The total income earned from securities lending transactions is split between the relevant Sub-fund and the Stock Lending Agent. The Sub-fund receives 70% while the Stock Lending Agent receives 30% of such income, with all operational costs borne out of the Stock Lending Agent's share.

#### Return and cost

The table below shows the net income earned by the Sub-fund from securities lending activity during the year to 31 December 2022.

	Collective Investment Undertaking (£'000)	ACD of Collective Investment Undertaking (£'000)	Third Parties (e.g. lending agent) (£'000)	Total (£′000)
Liontrust Japan Equity Fund Securities lending				
Gross return	25	_	11	36
% of total	70%	0%	30%	100%
Cost	_	_	_	_

The table below shows the net income earned by the Sub-fund from securities lending activity during the year to 31 December 2021.

	Collective Investment Undertaking (£'000)	ACD of Collective Investment Undertaking (£'000)	Third Parties (e.g. lending agent) (£'000)	Total (£′000)
Securities lending				
Gross return	19	_	8	27
% of total	70%	0%	30%	100%
Cost	_	_	_	_

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 13 Securities lending (continued)

#### Securities on loan and collateral received

The following table details the value of securities on loan and associated collateral received, analysed by borrowing counterparty as at the Balance Sheet date.

		31 December 2022		31 December 2021	
Counterparty	Counterparty's country of establishment	Securities on loan (£'000)	Collateral received (£'000)	Securities on loan (£'000)	Collateral received (£'000)
Citigroup Global Markets Limited	UK	3,572	3,943	613	645
J.P. Morgan Securities Plc	UK	6,594	7,176	9,196	10,183
The Bank of Nova Scotia	Canada	]	]	173	190
UBS AG	Switzerland	_	_	3,076	3,515
Total		10,167	11,120	13,058	14,533

Collateral accepted is non-cash in the form of sovereign debt rated AA or better from approved governments only, supranational debt obligations rated AAA or better listed on a recognised exchange.

#### Management of counterparty credit risk related to securities lending

To mitigate this risk, the Sub-fund receives either cash or securities as collateral equal to a certain percentage in excess of the fair value of the securities loaned. The Investment Manager monitors the fair value of the securities loaned and additional collateral is obtained, if necessary. At the year end all non-cash collateral received consists of securities admitted to or dealt on a recognised exchange.

The Sub-fund also benefits from a borrower default indemnity provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (London Branch). The indemnity allows for full replacement of securities lent. The Bank of New York Mellon (London Branch) bears the cost of indemnification against borrower default.

#### 14 Risk management policies

In accordance with the investment objectives and policies the Sub-fund can hold certain financial instruments as detailed in the Sub-fund's prospectus. These can comprise of:

- equity, equity related and non-equity shares;
- cash, liquid resources and short-term debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations;
- short-term borrowings used to finance operational cash flows;
- units and shares in collective investment schemes;
- shareholders' funds, which represent investors' monies which are invested on their behalf from overseas investments held;
- derivative transactions for efficient portfolio management in accordance with the Sub-fund's investment policies.

In accordance with the requirements of the rules in the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook, the Sub-fund is not permitted to trade in other financial instruments. The Sub-fund's use of financial instruments during the year satisfies these regulatory requirements.

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 14 Risk management policies (continued)

The main risks arising from the Sub-fund's financial instruments are market price (including "emerging markets price risk"), currency, interest rate, liquidity and counterparty credit risk. The ACD's policies for managing these risks are summarised below. The Sub-fund, alongside an independent risk function, has used a combination of risk measurements and limits to measure and monitor portfolio risk. This is in line with the Liontrust Group's Risk Management Process.

These policies have remained unchanged since the beginning of the year to which these financial statements relate and during the prior year.

#### Market price risk

Market price risk is the risk that the Sub-fund might suffer potential loss through holding market positions in the face of price movements. It arises mainly due to uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments held. The ACD reviews the portfolio in order to consider the asset allocation implications and to minimise the risk associated with particular countries or industry sectors whilst continuing to follow the Sub-fund's investment objective. An individual Sub-fund ACD has responsibility for monitoring the existing portfolio, in accordance with the overall asset allocation parameters described above and seeks to ensure that individual stocks also meet an acceptable risk reward profile. Futures contracts may be used to hedge against market price risk where deemed appropriate for efficient portfolio management purposes.

The Sub-fund's investment portfolio is monitored by the ACD in pursuance of its investment objective and policy as set out in the prospectus.

As at 31 December 2022 and 31 December 2021 the overall market exposure for the Sub-fund was as shown in the Portfolio Statement, other than for derivatives where the exposure could be greater. The Sub-fund is exposed to market price risk as the assets and liabilities of the Sub-fund are listed on stock exchanges and their prices are subject to movements both up and down that would result in an appreciation or depreciation in the fair value of that asset. The sensitivity of the Sub-fund to market price risk is estimated below which shows the expected change in the market value of the Sub-fund when a representative market index changes by 10%. These percentage movements are based on the ACD's estimate of reasonably possible market movements over the course of a year and uses an industry standard measure (Beta) to estimate the amount a Sub-fund has previously changed when that corresponding market index has moved taking into account the Sub-fund's historic correlation to the representative index's movements over the last three years using monthly returns. This analysis assumes that the historic relationships between the portfolio's holdings and the representative index are a valid approximation of their future relationship and that the characteristics of the portfolio and the market have been broadly unchanged over the three years.

As at 31 December 2022, had the representative market index increased/decreased by 10.0% the resulting change in the value of the Net Asset Value is expected to have been an increase/a decrease of 10.8%.

As at 31 December 2021, had the representative market index increased/decreased by 10.0% the resulting change in the value of the Net Asset Value is expected to have been an increase/a decrease of 10.8%.

Some limitations of sensitivity analysis are;

- markets and levels of market liquidity in conditions of market stress may bear no relation to historical patterns;
- the market price risk information is a relative estimate of risk rather than a precise and accurate number;
- the market price information represents a hypothetical outcome and is not intended to be predictive; and
- future market conditions could vary significantly from those experienced in the past.

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 14 Risk management policies (continued)

## Market price risk (continued)

The Sub-fund is required to calculate its exposure to derivatives on a daily basis using one of two alternate methods, the Commitment Approach or Value at Risk (VaR).

The calculation of conversion methods for the commitment approach for standard derivatives is taken from the conversion methodologies listed in the ESMA Guidelines on calculation of Global Exposure and Counterparty Risk. The commitment conversion methodology for standard derivatives is either the notional value or the market value of the equivalent position in the underlying asset. Please refer to the portfolio statement for the notional values of any forwards and futures contracts.

VaR is a method of estimating potential loss due to market risk, rather than a statement of leverage, using a given confidence level, or probability, over a specific time period and assuming normal market conditions. VaR is calculated using a Historical Simulation model carried out in accordance with regulatory guidelines.

The Sub-fund uses a combination of other risk measurements and limits. This is in line with the Liontrust Group's Risk Management Process.

The Sub-fund did not materially use derivatives in the current or prior year and the level of leverage employed by the Sub-fund during the current or prior year is not considered to be significant.

## **Currency risk**

Currency risk is the risk that the revenue and net asset value of the Sub-fund may be adversely affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The revenue and capital value of the Sub-fund's investments may be significantly affected by currency risk movements as the majority of the assets and income are denominated in currencies other than Sterling, which is the Company's reporting currency.

The ACD has identified three principal areas where foreign currency risk could impact the Sub-fund:

- Movements in exchange rates affecting the value of investments;
- Movements in exchange rates affecting short-term timing differences; and
- Movements in exchange rates affecting the income received.

Currency exposure is monitored closely and is considered to be part of the overall investment process. Currency hedges via forward exchange contracts will be used for the Sub-fund's hedged share classes or in the event of a specific unwanted currency risk being identified.

The Sub-fund may be subject to short-term exposure to exchange rate movements, for instance, where there is a difference between the date an investment purchase or sale is entered into and the date when settlement of the proceeds occurs.

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 14 Risk management policies (continued)

#### Currency risk (continued)

At 31 December 2022 the Sub-fund's currency exposure was as shown in the table below:

Currency Profile	Net Foreign Currency Assets				
	Monetary Exposures (£'000)	Non-Monetary Exposures (£'000)	Total (£'000)		
Japanese Yen	3,803	162,408	166,211		
United Kingdom Pound	16	41,163	41,179		
United States Dollar	9	_	9		
	3,828	203,571	207,399		

At 31 December 2021 the Sub-fund's currency exposure was as shown in the table below:

Currency Profile  Currency	Net Foreign Currency Assets				
	Monetary Exposures (£'000)	Non-Monetary Exposures (£'000)	Total (£'000)		
Japanese Yen	60,626	123,210	183,836		
United Kingdom Pound	(59,669)	120,651	60,982		
United States Dollar	17	_	17		
	974	243,861	244,835		

If the exchange rate at 31 December 2022 between the reporting currency and all other currencies had increased or decreased by 1% with all other variables held constant, this would have increased or decreased net assets attributable to holders of shares of the Sub-fund by approximately 0.20%/(0.20)% respectively.

If the exchange rate at 31 December 2021 between the reporting currency and all other currencies had increased or decreased by 1% with all other variables held constant, this would have increased or decreased net assets attributable to holders of shares of the Sub-fund by approximately 0.25%/(0.25)% respectively.

## Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the revenue cash flow or the fair value of investments may be adversely affected by movements in market interest rates.

The majority of the Sub-fund's financial assets are equity shares and other investments which neither pay interest nor have a maturity date. As a result, the Sub-fund is not subject to significant amounts of risk due to fluctuations in the prevailing level of market interest rates. Therefore, no interest rate sensitivity analysis has been prepared for these.

Interest receivable on bank deposits and short-term deposits or payable on bank overdraft positions will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates. The interest rates earned on sterling deposits are earned at a rate in line with overnight bank rates.

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 14 Risk management policies (continued)

#### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Sub-fund will not be able to meet its obligations as they fall due. The Sub-fund's assets comprise mainly of readily realisable securities which can be sold to meet liquidity requirements.

If a Sub-fund is primarily exposed to smaller companies there may be liquidity constraints from time to time, i.e. in certain circumstances, the Sub-fund may not be able to sell a position for full value or at all in the short-term. This may affect performance and could cause the Sub-fund to defer or suspend redemptions of its shares. In addition, the spread between the price you buy and sell units will reflect the less liquid nature of the underlying holdings. Any unquoted investments held by a Sub-fund are by their nature much less liquid than those listed on an exchange. A Sub-fund may not be able to sell a position for full value or at all in the short term.

The equity markets of emerging countries tend to be more volatile than the more developed markets of the world. Standards of disclosure and accounting regimes may not always fully comply with international criteria and can make it difficult to establish accurate estimates of fundamental value. The lack of accurate and meaningful information, and inefficiencies in its distribution, can leave emerging markets prone to sudden and unpredictable changes in sentiment. The resultant investment flows can trigger significant volatility in these relatively small and illiquid markets. At the same time, this lack of liquidity, together with low dealing volumes, can restrict the ACD's ability to execute substantial deals.

The main liquidity risk of the Sub-fund is the redemption of any shares that investors wish to sell, which are redeemable on demand under the Prospectus. Where investments cannot be realised in time to meet any potential liability, the Sub-fund may borrow up to 10% of its value to ensure settlement.

In accordance with the ACD's policy, the ACD monitors the Sub-fund's liquidity on a daily basis.

#### Counterparty credit risk

Counterparty credit risk is the risk of suffering loss due to another party not meeting its financial obligation. Investments may be adversely affected if any of the institutions with which money is deposited or invested suffers insolvency or other financial difficulties or the credit rating of the bearers of the bonds held by the Sub-fund are downgraded.

The Sub-fund may enter into transactions in financial instruments (including derivatives) which exposes it to the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

The Sub-fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the ACD as an acceptable counterparty. This list is reviewed at least annually.

The Sub-fund may enter into stock lending activities which exposes it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the stock or cash after the Sub-fund has fulfilled its obligations. The Sub-fund will only enter into stock lending activities with parties that have been approved as acceptable by the ACD and obtaining collateral from counterparties which has a fair value in excess of the related stock on loan.

#### Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 14 Risk management policies (continued)

### **Counterparty exposures**

The counterparty exposure of financial derivative transactions at 31 December 2022 is shown below:

Counterparty details Financial Derivative Transactions	Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts (£'000)	Total Exposure (£'000)	
Bank of New York Mellon International	(1,980)	(1,980)	
Total	(1,980)	(1,980)	

The counterparty exposure of financial derivative transactions at 31 December 2021 is shown below:

Counterparty details Financial Derivative Transactions	Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts (£'000)	Total Exposure (£'000)	
Bank of New York Mellon International	2,114	2,114	
Total	2,114	2,114	

At the year-end collateral of £Nil (prior year: £Nil) was received; collateral pledged was £Nil (prior year: £Nil) and none (prior year: none) of the Sub-fund's financial assets were past due or impaired.

The Depositary is responsible for the safe-keeping of assets and has appointed the Bank of New York Mellon, S.A./N.V., London Branch ("BNYMSA") as its global custodian. The long term credit rating of the parent company of the Depositary and Custodian, The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation, as at 31 December 2022 was A (Standard & Poor's rating).

BNYMSA, in the discharge of its delegated Depositary duties, holds in custody (i) all financial instruments that may be registered in a financial instruments account opened on the books of BNYMSA and (ii) all financial instruments that can be physically delivered to BNYMSA. BNYMSA ensures all financial instruments (held in a financial instruments account on the books of BNYMSA) are held in segregated accounts in the name of the Sub-fund, clearly identifiable as belonging to the Sub-fund, and distinct and separately from the proprietary assets of BNYMSA and BNYM.

In addition BNYMSA, as banker, holds cash of the Sub-fund on deposit. Such cash is held on the balance sheet of BNYMSA. In the event of insolvency of BNYMSA, in accordance with standard banking practice, the Sub-fund will rank as an unsecured creditor of BNYMSA in respect of any cash deposits.

Insolvency of BNYM and or one of its agents or affiliates may cause the Sub-fund's rights with respect to its assets to be delayed or may result in the Sub-fund not receiving the full value of its assets.

## Maturity profile of financial liabilities

All financial liabilities of the Sub-fund at the current and prior year-end are due to settle in one year or less, or on demand.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 14 Risk management policies (continued)

## Fair value of financial assets and liabilities

There is no material difference between the value of the financial assets and liabilities, as shown in the balance sheet, and their fair value.

#### Valuation of financial investments

31.12.2022	Assets (£'000)	Liabilities (£′000)
Level 1: Quoted prices	205,552	_
Level 2: Observable market data	106	(2,086)
	205,658	(2,086)
31.12.2021	Assets (£′000)	Liabilities (£'000)
Level 1: Quoted prices	241,748	_
Level 2: Observable market data	2,235	(121)
	243,983	(121)

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

## 15 Share movement

For the year ending 31 December 2022

	Opening shares	Shares issued	Shares redeemed	Shares converted	Closing shares
B Accumulation Hedged GBP	7,271,760	520,216	(1,025,614)	_	6,766,362
C Accumulation Hedged GBP	43,889,471	1,515,204	(16,479,169)	_	28,925,506
C Accumulation GBP	117,258,354	30,211,440	(37,537,956)	_	109,931,838

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

Level 3: Valuation techniques using unobservable inputs.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 16 Portfolio transaction costs

Purchases (excluding derivatives)	Transaction Value (£'000)	Commissions (£'000)	%	Taxes (£'000)	%
Equity instruments (direct)	7,910	5	0.06	-	-
Total purchases	7,910	5		-	
Total purchases including transaction costs	7,915				
Sales (excluding derivatives)	Transaction Value (£'000)	Commissions (£'000)	%	Taxes (£'000)	%
Equity instruments (direct)	31,364	15	0.05	-	_
Total sales	31,364	15		-	
Total sales net of transaction costs	31,349				
Total transaction costs		20		-	
Total transaction costs as a % of average net assets		0.01%		_	

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 16 Portfolio transaction costs (continued)

for the year ending 31 December 2021

Purchases (excluding derivatives)	Transaction Value (£'000)	Commissions (£'000)	%	Taxes (£'000)	%
Equity instruments (direct) In-specie transfers	5,876 62,141	3	0.05	_	_
Total purchases	68,017	3		_	
Total purchases including transaction costs	68,020				
Sales (excluding derivatives)	Transaction Value (£'000)	Commissions (£'000)	%	Taxes (£'000)	%
Equity instruments (direct)	30,893	17	0.06	_	-
Total sales	30,893	17		-	
Total sales net of transaction costs	30,876				
Total transaction costs		20		-	
Total transaction costs as a % of average net assets		0.01%		_	

The above analysis covers any direct transaction costs suffered by the Sub-fund during the year. However it is important to understand the nature of other transaction costs associated with different investment asset classes and instruments types.

Separately identifiable direct transaction costs (commissions & taxes etc.) are attributable to the Sub-fund's purchase and sale of equity shares. Additionally, for equity shares there is a dealing spread cost (the difference between the buying and selling prices) which will be suffered on purchase and sale transactions.

Dealing spread costs suffered by the Sub-fund vary considerably for the different asset/instrument types depending on a number of factors including transaction value and market sentiment.

At the balance sheet date the average portfolio dealing spread (difference between bid and offer prices of all investments expressed as a percentage of the offer price value) was 0.21% (2021: 0.21%).

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 17 Post balance sheet events

The Fund invests in a portfolio of assets, whose values have changed since the year-end, primarily due to market volatility. Since the year-end, the NAV per share of the C Accumulation GBP share class has increased by 3.63% to 19 April 2023. The other share classes in the Sub-fund have moved by a similar magnitude.

## **Distribution Table**

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## Final distribution

Group 1 - Shares purchased prior to 1 January 2022

Group 2 - Shares purchased 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Net Revenue Pence per share	Equalisation* Pence per share	Distribution paid 28.2.2023 Pence per share	Distribution paid 28.2.2022 Pence per share
B Accumulation Hedged GBP - Group 1+	1.5793	_	1.5793	_
B Accumulation Hedged GBP - Group 2+	1.0363	0.5430	1.5793	_
C Accumulation Hedged GBP - Group 1	2.3301	_	2.3301	1.8325
C Accumulation Hedged GBP - Group 2	1.1942	1.1359	2.3301	1.8325
C Accumulation GBP - Group 1	2.9963	_	2.9963	2.1186
C Accumulation GBP - Group 2	0.9351	2.0612	2.9963	2.1186

<sup>+</sup> Launched on 3 November 2021.

<sup>\*</sup> Equalisation only applies to shares purchased during the distribution period (Group 2 shares). It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of all Group 2 shares and is refunded to holders of these shares as a return of capital. Being capital, it is not liable to income tax but must be deducted from the cost of shares for capital gains tax purposes.

# Securities Financing Transactions (unaudited)

as at 31 December 2022

## **Securities Lending**

Securities lending transactions entered into by the Sub-funds are subject to a written legal agreement between the Sub-funds and the Stock Lending Agent, The Bank of New York Mellon (London Branch), a related party to the Sub-funds, and separately between the Stock Lending Agent and the approved borrowing counterparty. Collateral received in exchange for securities lent is transferred under a title transfer arrangement and is delivered to and held in an account with a tri-party collateral manager in the name of The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Limited ("the Depositary") on behalf of the Sub-funds. Collateral received is segregated from the assets belonging to the Sub-funds' Depositary or the Stock Lending Agent.

The total income earned from securities lending transactions is split between the relevant Sub-fund and the Stock Lending Agent. The Sub-fund receives 70% while the Stock Lending Agent receives 30% of such income, with all operational costs borne out of the Stock Lending Agent's share.

The following table details the value of securities on loan as a proportion of the Sub-funds' total lendable assets and Net Asset Value (NAV) as at 31 December 2022. The income earned from securities lending are also shown for the period ended 31 December 2022. Total lendable assets represents the aggregate value of assets forming part of the Sub-funds' securities lending programme. This excludes any assets held by the Sub-funds that are not considered lendable due to any market, regulatory, investment or other restriction.

#### Securities on loan

Fund	% or lendable assets	% of NAV	(£'000)
Liontrust Global Technology Fund	-	-	1
Liontrust Japan Equity Fund	5.00	4.90	25

The following table details the value of securities on loan and associated collateral received, analysed by counterparty as at 31 December 2022.

	Securities Lending				
Counterparty	Counterparty's country of establishment	Amount on loan (£'000)	Collateral received (£'000)		
Liontrust Japan Equity Fund					
Citigroup Global Markets Limited	UK	3,572	3,943		
J.P. Morgan Securities Plc	UK	6,594	7,176		
The Bank of Nova Scotia	Canada	1	1		
Total		10,167	11,120		

All securities on loan have an open maturity tenor as they are recallable or terminable on a daily basis.

## **Collateral**

The Sub-funds engage in activities which may require collateral to be provided to a counterparty ("collateral posted") or may hold collateral received ("collateral received") from a counterparty.

# Securities Financing Transactions (unaudited)(continued)

as at 31 December 2022

## Collateral (continued)

The following table provides an analysis by currency of the underlying cash and non-cash collateral received / posted by way of title transfer collateral arrangement by the Sub-funds, in respect of securities lending transactions, as at 31 December 2022.

Currency	Cash collateral received (£'000)	Cash collateral posted (£'000)	Non-cash collateral received (£'000)	Non-cash collateral posted (£'000)
Liontrust Japan Equity Fund Securities lending transactions				
CAD	-	-	89	-
CHF	-	-	392	-
EUR	-	-	2,160	-
GBP	-	-	711	-
JPY	-	-	3,588	-
USD	-	-	4,180	
Total	-	-	11,120	-

Non-cash collateral received by way of title transfer collateral arrangement in relation to securities lending transactions cannot be sold, re-invested or pledged.

The following table provides an analysis of the type, quality and maturity tenor of non-cash collateral received / posted by the Subfunds by way of title transfer collateral arrangement in respect of securities lending transactions, as at 31 December 2022.

	Maturity Tenor						
Collateral type and quality	1 - 7 days (£'000)	8 - 30 days (£'000)	31 - 90 91 - 365 days days (£'000) (£'000)		More than 365 days (£′000)	Open transactions (£'000)	Total (£′000)
Liontrust Japan Equity F Collateral received - securities lending	und						
Fixed income							
Investment grade	_	_	_	_	1,987	_	1,987
Equities							
Recognised equity index	_	_	-	_	-	9,133	9,133
Total	-	-	-	-	1,987	9,133	11,120

Investment grade securities are those issued by an entity with a minimum investment grade credit rating from at least one globally recognised credit rating agency; Standard & Poor's, Moody's or Fitch.

A recognised equity index contains at least 20 equities where no single equity represents more than 20% of the total index and no five equities combined represent more than 60% of the total index.

The maturity tenor analysis for fixed income securities received as collateral is based on the respective contractual maturity date, while for equity securities and exchange traded funds (ETFs) received as collateral are presented as open transactions as they are not subject to a contractual maturity date.

As at 31 December 2022, all non-cash collateral received by the Sub-funds in respect of securities lending transactions is held by the Sub-funds' Depositary (or through its delegates).

# Securities Financing Transactions (unaudited)(continued)

as at 31 December 2022

## Collateral (continued)

The following table lists the top ten issuers (or all the issuers if less than ten) by value of non-cash collateral received by the Sub-fund by way of the title transfer collateral arrangement across securities lending transactions as at 31 December 2022.

Issuer	Value (£'000)	% of the Sub- fund's NAV
Liontrust Japan Equity Fund		
JP Morgan Securities Plc.	7,176	3.46
Citigroup Global Markets Limited	3,943	1.90
The Bank of Nova Scotia	1	0.00
Total	11,120	5.36

## LIONTRUST INVESTMENT FUNDS IV

# Additional Information (unaudited)

## Important information

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of an investment and the income generated from it can fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed. You may get back less than you originally invested. The issue of shares may be subject to an initial charge and this is likely to have an impact on the realisable value of your investment, particularly in the short term.

