# VT CANTAB FUNDS ICVC (Sub-funds VT Cantab Moderate, VT Cantab Balanced and VT Cantab Sustainable Global Equity Fund)

Unaudited Interim and Financial Statements for the six month period ended 31 January 2024

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# Type of Company:

VT Cantab Funds ICVC ("the Company") is an authorised open-ended investment company with variable capital ("ICVC") further to a Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA") authorisation order dated 27 June 2018. The Company is incorporated under registration number IC0011114. It is a UCITS scheme complying with the investment and borrowing powers rules in the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook ("COLL") issued by the FCA.

The Company has been set up as an umbrella company. The Company has currently three Sub-funds available for investment, VT Cantab Moderate, VT Cantab Balanced and VT Cantab Sustainable Global Equity Fund. Each Sub-fund would be a UCITS scheme if it had a separate authorisation order.

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

#### STATEMENT OF THE AUTHORISED FUND MANAGER'S (AFM's) RESPONSIBILITIES

The rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook require the Authorised Fund Manager to prepare financial statements for each accounting period which give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company at the end of the financial period and its net revenue and net capital gains for the period. In preparing these financial statements the Authorised Fund Manager is required to:

- > comply with the Prospectus, the Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Association in May 2014, the Instrument of Incorporation, generally accepted accounting principles and applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures which are required to be disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- > select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- > make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- > prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in operation for the foreseeable future.

The Authorised Fund Manager is required to keep proper accounting records and to manage the Company in accordance with the COLL regulations, the Instrument of Incorporation and the Prospectus. The Authorised Fund Manager is responsible for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

In accordance with the requirements of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Scheme's Sourcebook, we hereby certify the interim report.

David E. Smith CA

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited Authorised Fund Manager

Date:

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

Name of Sub-fund VT Cantab Moderate

**Size of Sub-fund** £73,552,124

Launch date 03 September 2018

Investment objective and policy The investment objective of the Sub-fund is to provide income and capital growth over

the medium term (3 -5 years).

The Sub-fund aims to achieve its objective by investing at least 80% in collective investment funds (which may include those managed and/or operated by the AFM) which provide exposure to a diversified portfolio of investments, including equities, bonds and alternative assets (such as commodities, property and infrastructure). It is expected that the exposure to equities will typically be between 40% and 75%.

The Sub-fund may also invest directly in equities, fixed income, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

The Sub-fund has no particular emphasis on any geographical areas or any industrial or economic sector.

Performance Comparator: The Sub-fund is not managed to or constrained by a benchmark, and nor does the AFM

use a benchmark in order to assess performance.

However, many funds sold in the UK are grouped into sectors by the Investment Association (the "IA") (the trade body that represents UK investment managers), to help investors to compare funds with broadly similar characteristics.

In order to assess the Sub-fund's performance, investors may find it useful to compare the Sub-fund against the performance of the IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares, which serves as a method of comparing the Sub-fund's performance with other funds which have broadly similar characteristics (and risk/return objectives).

Further information In constructing the portfolio an assessment of the overall risk on a scale of 0 (ultra-

cautious) to 10 (very risky) is undertaken. On this scale, the Sub-fund is expected to be 5 given the weighting of lower risk assets such as cash and fixed income and higher risk

assets such as equities (to which there is a preference).

Derivatives The Sub-fund may use derivatives only for efficient portfolio management purposes. It

is not intended that the use of derivatives for efficient portfolio management purposes

will increase the risk profile of the Sub-fund.

Authorised Fund Manager (AFM) Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited

**Ex-distribution dates** 31 January and 31 July

**Distribution dates** 31 March and 30 September

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

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**Distribution dates** 31 March and 30 September

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

#### Minimum investment<sup>^</sup>

Lump sum subscription: A Income/Accumulation = £1,000

C Income/Accumulation\* = £1,000

Top-up: A Income/Accumulation = £100

C Income/Accumulation\* = £100

Holding: A Income/Accumulation = £1,000

C Income/Accumulation\* = £1,000

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

C Income/Accumulation\* = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

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

C Income/Accumulation\* = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

\*C shares are only available to customers of the investment manager's financial planning

business.

Nil

Initial, redemption and switching

charges^

^The AFM may waive the minimum levels (and initial charge and redemption charge) at its discretion.

#### **Annual management charges**

The annual management charge is comprised of a fixed element which is retained by the AFM for its own account and a variable element which is paid by the AFM to the investment manager.

The fixed element is equal to £27,417 per annum, which shall rise annually in line with the rate of inflation (calculated in accordance with the Consumer Prices Index) on 1 January each year. In the event of negative inflation, the fixed element of the fee will remain unchanged.

The variable charges: A Income/Accumulation = 0.50%

C Income/Accumulation = 0.30%

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

#### Overview

The second half of calendar year 2023 saw continued instability in markets following evolving economic indicators, policy changes, and geopolitical events. Despite a volatile start, positive inflation data was welcomed by investors in the second half of the period which resulted in gains for both equities and bonds.

The 'Magnificent Seven' continued to drive US index returns which presented an ongoing headwind to active managers given high levels of concentration. The fund was overweight in US Healthcare and Financials – typically defensive sectors – and struggled to keep pace with the boom in Technology and Al-related stocks.

Falling inflation figures in November boosted valuations for the fund's UK Equity and Infrastructure holdings – a welcome relief after a very challenging year. Recent political stability also seems to have contributed to some recovery in UK markets which we are hopeful will persist.

Elsewhere in the portfolio, Asia Pacific equities continued to struggle with investor sentiment towards China. Although geopolitical tensions and domestic challenges remain, the world's second largest economy is difficult to ignore for globally diversified investors. We believe that active management remains key in this region for long-term performance.

The VT Cantab Moderate fund lagged the benchmark during this period, although the second half showed some improvement. Considering the factors driving this underperformance, we maintain confidence in our long-term strategy and continue to believe our globally diversified portfolio is positioned well to deliver future outperformance.

To 31 January 2024	6-Month Return	Since Inception (3 Sep 2018)
VT Cantab Moderate*	2.68%	10.74%
IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares	3.53%	20.42%

Source: FE Analytics

\*Class C Acc (SEDOL - BG210J1)

#### Summary of significant changes

Following a period of positive economic news in the US and the UK, we took the opportunity to widen our exposure away from specialist funds (healthcare, US income and infrastructure) and reduce costs by reallocating to FTSE USA and FTSE 100. UK equities continue to trade on attractive valuations compared to their long-term averages and we believe this will be a good complement to our other UK holdings.

Given the attractive bond yields seen following the interest rate hike cycle, we also saw prudent to add to our fixed income allocation by reducing exposure to alternatives.

Date	Sale	Purchase
January 2024	Schroder Global Healthcare	iShares US Equity Index
January 2024	JPM US Equity Income	iShares US Equity Index
February 2024	VT Gravis UK Infrastructure	Vanguard FTSE 100 Index Trust
February 2024	JPM Global Macro Opportunities	Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond

#### Outlook

Markets tend to be forward-looking and experience recovery before the actual economic data. With the UK now officially in recession and the US pointing to a soft landing or mild recession, we hope the worst is behind us and are cautiously optimistic about the future.

Nevertheless, we continue to monitor monetary policy, economic growth trends and geopolitical tensions as important themes in the coming period. The fund is diversified across style, geographies, and asset classes which we believe best equips our investors to navigate the uncertainty ahead.

Cantab Asset Management Limited Investment Manager to the Fund 29 February 2024

# Financial Highlights

A Accumulation	Period ended 31 January 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023	Year ended 31 July 2022
Changes in net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
Opening net asset value per share	107.3116	112.6956	123.3558
Return before operating charges	3.4181	(3.9540)	(9.0428)
Operating charges (note 1)	(0.6522)	(1.4300)	(1.6174)
Return after operating charges*	2.7659	(5.3840)	(10.6602)
Closing net asset value per share	110.0775	107.3116	112.6956
Retained distributions on accumulated shares	0.9413	1.9357	1.2691
*after direct transaction costs of:	-	-	-
Performance			
Return after charges	2.58%	(4.78%)	(8.64%)
Other information			
Closing net asset value	£4,085,926	£12,434,981	£12,961,217
Closing number of shares	3,711,865	11,587,736	11,501,080
Operating charges (note 2)	1.20%	1.30%	1.37%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Prices			
Highest share price	110.0775	116.0343	126.9542
Lowest share price	102.8085	104.5689	107.7246
C Accumulation	Period ended 31 January 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023	Year ended 31 July 2022
	January 2024	2023	2022
Changes in net assets per share	<b>January 2024</b> GBp	<b>2023</b> GBp	<b>2022</b> GBp
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share	<b>January 2024</b> GBp 107.8513	<b>2023</b> GBp  113.0337	<b>2022</b> GBp 123.4786
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges	GBp 107.8513 3.4400	2023 GBp 113.0337 (3.9675)	GBp 123.4786 (9.0613)
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	<b>January 2024</b> GBp 107.8513	2023 GBp 113.0337 (3.9675) (1.2149)	GBp 123.4786 (9.0613) (1.3836)
Changes in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share  Return before operating charges  Operating charges (note 1)  Return after operating charges*	GBp 107.8513 3.4400 (0.5465) 2.8935	GBp 113.0337 (3.9675) (1.2149) (5.1824)	GBp 123.4786 (9.0613) (1.3836) (10.4449)
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Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:	GBp 107.8513 3.4400 (0.5465) 2.8935	GBp 113.0337 (3.9675) (1.2149) (5.1824)	GBp 123.4786 (9.0613) (1.3836) (10.4449) 113.0337
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Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  Performance Return after charges  Other information Closing net asset value	GBp 107.8513 3.4400 (0.5465) 2.8935 110.7448 1.0564 - 2.68%	2023  GBp 113.0337 (3.9675) (1.2149) (5.1824)  107.8513 2.1641  - (4.58%)	GBp 123.4786 (9.0613) (1.3836) (10.4449)  113.0337 1.5099  - (8.46%)
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  Performance Return after charges  Other information Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	GBp 107.8513 3.4400 (0.5465) 2.8935 110.7448 1.0564 - 2.68% £33,607,550 30,346,855	2023  GBp 113.0337 (3.9675) (1.2149) (5.1824)  107.8513 2.1641  - (4.58%)  £32,748,981 30,364,951	GBp 123.4786 (9.0613) (1.3836) (10.4449)  113.0337 1.5099  - (8.46%)  £34,165,122 30,225,603
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  Performance Return after charges  Other information Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 107.8513 3.4400 (0.5465) 2.8935 110.7448 1.0564 - 2.68% £33,607,550 30,346,855 1.00%	2023  GBp 113.0337 (3.9675) (1.2149) (5.1824)  107.8513 2.1641  - (4.58%)  £32,748,981 30,364,951 1.10%	GBp 123.4786 (9.0613) (1.3836) (10.4449)  113.0337 1.5099  - (8.46%)  £34,165,122 30,225,603 1.17%
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# Financial Highlights (Continued)

A Income	Period ended 31 January 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023	Year ended 31 July 2022
Changes in net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
Opening net asset value per share	109.1956	116.7497	129.2291
Return before operating charges	3.4765	(4.0899)	(9.4684)
Operating charges (note 1)	(0.6607)	(1.4686)	(1.6854)
Return after operating charges*	2.8158	(5.5585)	(11.1538)
Distributions on income shares	(0.9591)	(1.9956)	(1.3256)
Closing net asset value per share	111.0523	109.1956	116.7497
*after direct transaction costs of:	-	-	-
Performance			
Return after charges	2.58%	(4.76%)	(8.63%)
Other information			
Closing net asset value	£2,862,635	£4,240,635	£5,754,071
Closing number of shares	2,577,735	3,883,521	4,928,553
Operating charges (note 2)	1.20%	1.30%	1.37%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Prices			
Highest share price	111.8647	120.2084	132.9990
Lowest share price	104.6133	107.5013	112.3721
C Income	Period ended 31 January 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023	Year ended 31 July 2022
	January 2024	2023	2022
Changes in net assets per share	<b>January 2024</b> GBp	<b>2023</b> GBp	<b>2022</b> GBp
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Changes in net assets per share     Opening net asset value per share     Return before operating charges     Operating charges (note 1)     Return after operating charges*     Distributions on income shares     Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:  Performance     Return after charges  Other information     Closing net asset value     Closing number of shares     Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 107.9424 3.4400 (0.5443) 2.8957 (1.0571) 109.7810  - 2.68% £33,010,326 30,069,247 1.00%	2023  GBp 115.4059 (4.0363) (1.2284) (5.2647) (2.1988) 107.9424  - (4.56%)  £39,277,475 36,387,438 1.10%	GBp 127.7523 (9.3669) (1.4225) (10.7894) (1.5570) 115.4059  - (8.45%)  £43,695,523 37,862,460 1.17%
Changes in net assets per share     Opening net asset value per share     Return before operating charges     Operating charges (note 1)     Return after operating charges*     Distributions on income shares     Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:  Performance     Return after charges  Other information     Closing net asset value     Closing number of shares	GBp 107.9424 3.4400 (0.5443) 2.8957 (1.0571) 109.7810  - 2.68% £33,010,326 30,069,247	2023  GBp 115.4059 (4.0363) (1.2284) (5.2647) (2.1988) 107.9424  - (4.56%)  £39,277,475 36,387,438	GBp 127.7523 (9.3669) (1.4225) (10.7894) (1.5570) 115.4059  - (8.45%) £43,695,523 37,862,460
Changes in net assets per share	GBp 107.9424 3.4400 (0.5443) 2.8957 (1.0571) 109.7810  - 2.68% £33,010,326 30,069,247 1.00% 0.00%	GBp 115.4059 (4.0363) (1.2284) (5.2647) (2.1988) 107.9424  - (4.56%) £39,277,475 36,387,438 1.10% 0.00%	GBp 127.7523 (9.3669) (1.4225) (10.7894) (1.5570) 115.4059  £43,695,523 37,862,460 1.17% 0.00%
Changes in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:  Performance Return after charges  Other information Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2) Direct transaction costs	GBp 107.9424 3.4400 (0.5443) 2.8957 (1.0571) 109.7810  - 2.68% £33,010,326 30,069,247 1.00%	2023  GBp 115.4059 (4.0363) (1.2284) (5.2647) (2.1988) 107.9424  - (4.56%)  £39,277,475 36,387,438 1.10%	GBp 127.7523 (9.3669) (1.4225) (10.7894) (1.5570) 115.4059  - (8.45%)  £43,695,523 37,862,460 1.17%

# **PERFORMANCE RECORD (Continued)**

- 1. The operating charges per share figure is calculated by applying the operating charges percentage to the average net asset valuation per share throughout the period.
- 2. The operating charges percentage is based on the expenses incurred during the period annualised, as a proportion of the average net asset value of the Sub-fund together with the ongoing charges included within the underlying Open Ended Investment Companies held within the Sub-fund's holdings.

#### **Risk Profile**

Based on past data, the Sub-fund is ranked a '5' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document (31 July 2023: ranked 5). The Sub-fund is ranked '5' because monthly historical performance data indicates that relatively high rises and falls in market prices would have occurred historically.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

As at 31 Janu	uary 2024	Value £	% of net assets
	Collective Investment Schemes (31.07.2023: 99.52%)		
3,890,558	Aegon Strategic Bond	3,998,225	5.44%
1,287,474	Fidelity Asia Pacific Opportunities	3,536,692	4.81%
3,690,014	FP Foresight Global Real Infrastructure	3,713,261	5.05%
1,378,220	iShares US Equity Index (UK)	7,335,923	9.97%
2,206,734	JPM Global Macro Opportunities	3,431,472	4.67%
1,169,811	JPM Japan	3,900,150	5.30%
6,967,288	Jupiter Strategic Bond	3,845,246	5.23%
1,069,315	WS Lindsell Train UK Equity	3,628,506	4.93%
788,667	Liontrust Special Situations Fund	3,809,340	5.18%
401,190	PIMCO GIS Commodity Real Return	3,213,534	4.37%
448,017	Polar Capital Global Insurance	3,600,979	4.90%
3,479,499	Premier Miton Strategic Monthly Income Bond	3,719,584	5.06%
3,911,728	Royal London Short Duration Credit	3,754,476	5.10%
3,052,221	Royal London Global Index Linked	3,635,195	4.94%
317,292	WS Amati UK Listed Smaller Companies	3,522,291	4.79%
21,868	The Dollar Fund	3,463,822	4.71%
34,646	Vanguard Global Sustainable Equity	3,831,988	5.21%
2,773,280	VT Cantab Sustainable Global Equity^	3,862,849	5.25%
3,831,501	VT Gravis UK Infrastructure Income^	3,438,661	4.68%
	Portfolio of investments (31.07.2023: 99.52%)	73,242,194	99.59%
	Net other assets (31.07.2023: 0.48%)	309,930	0.41%
		73,552,124	100.00%

<sup>^</sup>Related security of the AFM

# **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES**

Total purchases for the period	£ 8,958,345
iShares US Equity Index FP Foresight Global Real Infrastructure WS Lindsell Train UK Equity JPM Japan Jupiter Strategic Bond Aegon Strategic Bond Royal London Global Index Linked VT Cantab Sustainable Global Equity Vanguard Global Sustainable Equity Fidelity Asia Pacific Opportunities Other various purchases	7,216,612 407,888 205,408 157,879 149,149 138,708 137,637 115,591 85,587 84,011 259,875
Total sales for the period	£ 25,177,108
JPM US Equity Income Schroder Global Healthcare PIMCO GIS Commodity Real Return Polar Capital Global Insurance JPM Global Macro Opportunities Premier Miton Strategic Monthly Income Bond Royal London Short Duration Liontrust Special Situations The Dollar Fund Royal London Global Index Linked Other various sales	4,500,749 4,431,374 1,305,194 1,208,178 981,509 963,411 859,249 846,946 840,809 839,972 8,399,717

The above transactions represent the top 10 purchases and sales during the period.

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the six	month period ended 31 January	_			
		£	£	202 £	23 £
Income	Net capital gains/(losses)		1,146,177		(2,519,875)
	Revenue	1,212,332		1,033,544	
Expenses		(182,158)		(206,302)	
Interest pay	able and similar charges	(295)	. <u>-</u>	(471)	
Net revenue	e before taxation	1,029,879		826,771	
Taxation		(75,932)		(10,048)	
Net revenue	e after taxation		953,947		816,723
Total return	before distributions		2,100,124		(1,703,152)
Finance cos	ets: distributions		(830,469)		(803,736)
_	net assets attributable to ers from investment activities		1,269,655		(2,506,888)
STATEMEN	IT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABI	LE TO SHARE	HOLDERS		
For the six	month period ended 31 January				
			2024 £		2023 £
Opening ne	et assets attributable to shareholders		88,551,100		96,412,817
Amounts re	ceivable on creation of shares		1,503,873		5,001,988
Amounts pa	ayable on cancellation of shares		(18,131,361)		(3,089,964)
Retained dis	stribution on accumulation shares		355,531		411,235
Dilution Lev	ies		3,326		-
•	net assets attributable to shareholders from activities (see above)		1,269,655		(2,506,888)
Closing ne	t assets attributable to shareholders		73,552,124	_	96,229,188

The Investment Association SORP requires that comparatives are shown for the above report. As comparatives should be for the comparable interim period the net asset value at the end of the period will not agree to the net asset value at the start of the period. The Company net asset value as at 31 July 2023 was £88,551,100.

## **BALANCE SHEET**

As at	31.01	.2024	31.07.2	2023
	£	£	£	£
Assets				
Investment assets		73,242,194		88,130,395
Current assets				
Debtors	4,161,787		332,415	
Cash and bank balances	162,846		829,753	
Total current assets	_	4,324,633		1,162,168
Total assets		77,566,827		89,292,563
Current liabilities				
Creditors	(300,898)		(252,608)	
Bank Overdraft	(3,015,675)		-	
Distribution payable on income shares	(698,130)		(488,855)	
Total current liabilities	_	(4,014,703)		(741,463)
Net assets attributable to shareholders	_	73,552,124		88,551,100

#### **Accounting policies**

The accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 and are described in those financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102 and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds (SORP) issued by the Investment Association (IA) in May 2014 and to the amendments to the SORP issued by the IA in June 2017.

# **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

# Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 August 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 August 2023 and on or before 31 January 2024

A Accumulation	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	0.9413p	-	0.9413p	0.8401p
Group 2	0.3281p	0.6132p	0.9413p	0.8401p

C Accumulation	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	1.0564p	-	1.0564p	0.9555p
Group 2	0.5803p	0.4761p	1.0564p	0.9555p

A Income	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	0.9591p	-	0.9591p	0.8703p
Group 2	0.7322p	0.2269p	0.9591p	0.8703p

C Income	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	1.0571p	-	1.0571p	0.9754p
Group 2	0.5924p	0.4647p	1.0571p	0.9754p

#### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

**Performance Comparator** 

**Further information** 

Derivatives

Name of Sub-fund VT Cantab Balanced

**Size of Sub-fund** £66,564,086

Launch date 03 September 2018

growth over the medium term (3-5 years).

The Sub-fund aims to achieve its objective by investing at least 80% in collective investment funds (which may include those managed and/or operated by the AFM) which provide exposure to a diversified portfolio of investments, including equities, bonds and alternative assets (such as commodities, property and infrastructure). It is expected that the exposure to equities will typically be between 50% and 85%.

The Sub-fund may also invest directly in equities, fixed income, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

The Sub-fund has no particular emphasis on any geographical areas or any industrial or economic sector.

The Sub-fund is not managed to or constrained by a benchmark, and nor does the AFM use a benchmark in order to assess performance.

However, many funds sold in the UK are grouped into sectors by the Investment Association (the "IA") (the trade body that represents UK investment managers), to help investors to compare funds with broadly similar characteristics.

In order to assess the Sub-fund's performance, investors may find it useful to compare the Sub-fund against the performance of the IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares, which serves as a method of comparing the Sub-fund's performance with other funds which have broadly similar characteristics (and risk/return objectives).

In constructing the portfolio an assessment of the overall risk on a scale of 0 (ultra-cautious) to 10 (very risky) is undertaken. On this scale, the Sub-fund is expected to be 6 given a preference towards higher risk assets such as equities as compared with lower risk assets such as cash and fixed income.

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

Authorised Fund Manager (AFM) Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited

**Ex-distribution dates** 31 January and 31 July

**Distribution dates** 31 March and 30 September

Individual Savings Account (ISA)

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

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

#### Minimum investment<sup>^</sup>

Lump sum subscription: A Income/Accumulation = £1,000

C Income/Accumulation\* = £1,000

Top-up: A Income/Accumulation = £100

C Income/Accumulation\* = £100

Holding: A Income/Accumulation = £1,000

C Income/Accumulation\* = £1,000

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

C Income/Accumulation\* = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

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

C Income/Accumulation\* = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

\*C shares are only available to customers of the investment manager's financial

planning business.

#### Initial, redemption and switching charges^ Ni

^The AFM may waive the minimum levels (and initial charge and redemption charge) at its discretion.

#### **Annual management charges**

The annual management charge is comprised of a fixed element which is retained by the AFM for its own account and a variable element which is paid by the AFM to the investment manager.

The fixed element is equal to £27,417 per annum, which shall rise annually in line with the rate of inflation (calculated in accordance with the Consumer Prices Index) on 1 January each year. In the event of negative inflation, the fixed element of the fee will remain unchanged.

The variable charges: A Income/Accumulation = 0.50%

C Income/Accumulation = 0.30%

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

#### Overview

The second half of calendar year 2023 saw continued instability in markets following evolving economic indicators, policy changes, and geopolitical events. Despite a volatile start, positive inflation data was welcomed by investors in the second half of the period which resulted in gains for both equities and bonds.

The 'Magnificent Seven' continued to drive US index returns which presented an ongoing headwind to active managers given high levels of concentration. The fund was overweight in US Healthcare and Financials – typically defensive sectors – and struggled to keep pace with the boom in Technology and Al-related stocks.

Falling inflation figures in November boosted valuations for the fund's UK Equity and Infrastructure holdings – a welcome relief after a very challenging year. Recent political stability also seems to have contributed to some recovery in UK markets which we are hopeful will persist.

Elsewhere in the portfolio, Asia Pacific equities continued to struggle with investor sentiment towards China. Although geopolitical tensions and domestic challenges remain, the world's second largest economy is difficult to ignore for globally diversified investors. We believe that active management remains key in this region for long-term performance.

The VT Cantab Balanced fund lagged the benchmark during this period, although the second half showed some improvement. Considering the factors driving this underperformance, we maintain confidence in our long-term strategy and continue to believe our globally diversified portfolio is positioned well to deliver future outperformance.

To 31 January 2024	6-Month Return	Since Inception (3 Sep 2018)
VT Cantab Balanced*	1.75%	8.78%
IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares	3.53%	20.42%

Source: FE Analytics

#### Summary of significant changes

Following a period of positive economic news in the US and the UK, we took the opportunity to widen our exposure away from specialist funds (healthcare, US income and infrastructure) and reduce costs by reallocating to FTSE USA and FTSE 100. UK equities continue to trade on attractive valuations compared to their long-term averages and we believe this will be a good complement to our other UK holdings.

Given the attractive bond yields seen following the interest rate hike cycle, we also saw prudent to add to our fixed income allocation by reducing exposure to alternatives.

Date	Sale	Purchase
January 2024 Schroder Global Healthcare iShares US Equi		iShares US Equity Index
January 2024	JPM US Equity Income	iShares US Equity Index
February 2024	VT Gravis UK Infrastructure	Vanguard FTSE 100 Index Trust
February 2024	JPM Global Macro Opportunities	Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond

#### Outlook

Markets tend to be forward-looking and experience recovery before the actual economic data. With the UK now officially in recession and the US pointing to a soft landing or mild recession, we hope the worst is behind us and are cautiously optimistic about the future.

Nevertheless, we continue to monitor monetary policy, economic growth trends and geopolitical tensions as important themes in the coming period. The fund is diversified across style, geographies, and asset classes which we believe best equips our investors to navigate the uncertainty ahead.

Cantab Asset Management Limited Investment Manager to the Fund 29 February 2024

<sup>\*</sup>Class C Acc (SEDOL - BG21165)

# PERFORMANCE RECORD

Financi	al Highlights			
A Accu	mulation	Period ended 31 January 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023	Year ended 31 July 2022
Change	s in net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
	Opening net asset value per share	105.8561	109.8971	122.6700
	Return before operating charges	2.3991	(2.5739)	(11.1566)
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.6545)	(1.4671)	(1.6163)
	Return after operating charges*	1.7446	(4.0410)	(12.7729)
	Closing net asset value per share	107.6007	105.8561	109.8971
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	1.0376	1.6429	0.9105
	*after direct transaction costs of:	-	-	-
Perform	ance			
	Return after charges	1.65%	(3.68%)	(10.41%)
Other in	formation			
	Closing net asset value	£10,341,526	£10,391,156	£12,636,329
	Closing number of shares	9,611,024	9,816,300	11,498,326
	Operating charges (note 2)	1.23%	1.36%	1.39%
	Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Prices				
	Highest share price	107.9920	114.2604	127.0367
	Lowest share price	99.9722	102.3877	104.3654
C Accu	mulation	Period ended 31 January 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023	Year ended 31 July 2022
			•	•
	mulation s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share	January 2024	2023	2022
	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges	GBp 106.9088 2.4245	GBp 110.7665 (2.5952)	2022 GBp 123.3931 (11.2334)
	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554)	2023 GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625)	2022 GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932)
	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges	GBp 106.9088 2.4245	GBp 110.7665 (2.5952)	2022 GBp 123.3931 (11.2334)
	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554)	2023 GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625)	2022 GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932)
	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554) 1.8691	2023 GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625) (3.8577)	GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932) (12.6266)
	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554) 1.8691	2023 GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625) (3.8577)	GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932) (12.6266)
	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554) 1.8691	2023 GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625) (3.8577)	GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932) (12.6266)
Change	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554) 1.8691	2023 GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625) (3.8577)	GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932) (12.6266)
Change	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554) 1.8691 108.7779 1.1522	2023  GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625) (3.8577)  106.9088  1.8757	2022  GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932) (12.6266)  110.7665 1.1363
Change	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554) 1.8691 108.7779 1.1522	2023  GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625) (3.8577)  106.9088  1.8757	2022  GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932) (12.6266)  110.7665 1.1363
Change	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  lance Return after charges  formation	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554) 1.8691 108.7779 1.1522	2023  GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625) (3.8577)  106.9088  1.8757  - (3.48%)	2022  GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932) (12.6266)  110.7665 1.1363 - (10.23%)
Change	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  tance Return after charges  Iformation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554) 1.8691 108.7779 1.1522 - 1.75%	2023  GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625) (3.8577)  106.9088  1.8757  - (3.48%)	GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932) (12.6266)  110.7665 1.1363 - (10.23%)
Change	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  tance Return after charges  Iformation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554) 1.8691 108.7779 1.1522 - 1.75%	2023  GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625) (3.8577)  106.9088  1.8757  - (3.48%)  £33,056,112 30,919,914	GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932) (12.6266)  110.7665 1.1363 - (10.23%) £36,349,283 32,816,134
Change Perform Other in	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  tance Return after charges  Iformation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554) 1.8691 108.7779 1.1522 - 1.75% £32,044,704 29,458,830 1.03%	2023  GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625) (3.8577)  106.9088 1.8757 - (3.48%)  £33,056,112 30,919,914 1.16%	2022  GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932) (12.6266)  110.7665 1.1363  - (10.23%) £36,349,283 32,816,134 1.19%
Change	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  tance Return after charges  Iformation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 106.9088 2.4245 (0.5554) 1.8691 108.7779 1.1522 - 1.75% £32,044,704 29,458,830 1.03%	2023  GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625) (3.8577)  106.9088 1.8757 - (3.48%)  £33,056,112 30,919,914 1.16%	2022  GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932) (12.6266)  110.7665 1.1363  - (10.23%) £36,349,283 32,816,134 1.19%
Change Perform Other in	s in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  ance Return after charges  formation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2) Direct transaction costs	GBp 106.9088  2.4245 (0.5554) 1.8691  108.7779 1.1522 - 1.75% £32,044,704 29,458,830 1.03% 0.00%	2023  GBp 110.7665 (2.5952) (1.2625) (3.8577)  106.9088 1.8757 - (3.48%)  £33,056,112 30,919,914 1.16% 0.00%	GBp 123.3931 (11.2334) (1.3932) (12.6266)  110.7665 1.1363 - (10.23%) £36,349,283 32,816,134 1.19% 0.00%

# Financial Highlights (Continued)

A Income	Period ended 31 January 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023	Year ended 31 July 2022
Changes in net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
Opening net asset value per share	108.7954	114.6954	129.0628
Return before operating charges	2.4622	(2.5864)	(11.7318)
Operating charges (note 1)	(0.6694)	(1.5197)	(1.6941)
Return after operating charges*	1.7928	(4.1061)	(13.4259)
Distributions on income shares	(1.0662)	(1.7939)	(0.9415)
Closing net asset value per share	109.5220	108.7954	114.6954
*after direct transaction costs of:	-	-	-
Performance			
Return after charges	1.65%	(3.58%)	(10.40%)
Other information			
Closing net asset value	£1,977,408	£2,534,905	£2,022,376
Closing number of shares	1,805,490	2,329,974	1,763,258
Operating charges (note 2)	1.23%	1.36%	1.39%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Diago			
Prices Highest share price	110.9899	119.2491	133.6567
Lowest share price	102.7482	106.4922	109.4773
C Income	Period ended 31 January 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023	Year ended 31 July 2022
C Income Changes in net assets per share		•	•
	January 2024	2023	2022
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges	GBp 101.7628 2.3051	2023 GBp 107.2818 (2.4975)	<b>2022</b> GBp
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	GBp 101.7628 2.3051 (0.5258)	2023 GBp 107.2818 (2.4975) (1.2125)	GBp 120.7284 (10.9822) (1.3567)
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*	GBp 101.7628 2.3051 (0.5258) 1.7793	2023 GBp 107.2818 (2.4975) (1.2125) (3.7100)	GBp 120.7284 (10.9822) (1.3567) (12.3389)
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares	GBp 101.7628 2.3051 (0.5258) 1.7793 (1.0969)	2023 GBp 107.2818 (2.4975) (1.2125) (3.7100) (1.8090)	GBp 120.7284 (10.9822) (1.3567) (12.3389) (1.1077)
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*	GBp 101.7628 2.3051 (0.5258) 1.7793	2023 GBp 107.2818 (2.4975) (1.2125) (3.7100)	GBp 120.7284 (10.9822) (1.3567) (12.3389)
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares	GBp 101.7628 2.3051 (0.5258) 1.7793 (1.0969)	2023 GBp 107.2818 (2.4975) (1.2125) (3.7100) (1.8090)	GBp 120.7284 (10.9822) (1.3567) (12.3389) (1.1077)
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share	GBp 101.7628 2.3051 (0.5258) 1.7793 (1.0969)	2023 GBp 107.2818 (2.4975) (1.2125) (3.7100) (1.8090)	GBp 120.7284 (10.9822) (1.3567) (12.3389) (1.1077)
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:	GBp 101.7628 2.3051 (0.5258) 1.7793 (1.0969)	2023 GBp 107.2818 (2.4975) (1.2125) (3.7100) (1.8090)	GBp 120.7284 (10.9822) (1.3567) (12.3389) (1.1077)
Changes in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of: Performance	GBp 101.7628 2.3051 (0.5258) 1.7793 (1.0969) 102.4452	2023  GBp 107.2818 (2.4975) (1.2125) (3.7100) (1.8090) 101.7628	GBp 120.7284 (10.9822) (1.3567) (12.3389) (1.1077) 107.2818
Changes in net assets per share     Opening net asset value per share     Return before operating charges     Operating charges (note 1)     Return after operating charges*     Distributions on income shares     Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:  Performance     Return after charges  Other information     Closing net asset value     Closing number of shares     Operating charges (note 2)     Direct transaction costs	GBp 101.7628 2.3051 (0.5258) 1.7793 (1.0969) 102.4452 - 1.75% £22,213,454 21,683,247 1.03%	GBp 107.2818 (2.4975) (1.2125) (3.7100) (1.8090) 101.7628 - (3.46%) £23,205,506 22,803,519 1.16%	GBp 120.7284 (10.9822) (1.3567) (12.3389) (1.1077) 107.2818  - (10.22%) £24,084,773 22,450,015 1.19%
Changes in net assets per share     Opening net asset value per share     Return before operating charges     Operating charges (note 1)     Return after operating charges*     Distributions on income shares     Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:  Performance     Return after charges  Other information     Closing net asset value     Closing number of shares     Operating charges (note 2)     Direct transaction costs  Prices	GBp 101.7628 2.3051 (0.5258) 1.7793 (1.0969) 102.4452 - 1.75% £22,213,454 21,683,247 1.03% 0.00%	GBp 107.2818 (2.4975) (1.2125) (3.7100) (1.8090) 101.7628  - (3.46%) £23,205,506 22,803,519 1.16% 0.00%	GBp 120.7284 (10.9822) (1.3567) (12.3389) (1.1077) 107.2818  - (10.22%) £24,084,773 22,450,015 1.19% 0.00%
Changes in net assets per share     Opening net asset value per share     Return before operating charges     Operating charges (note 1)     Return after operating charges*     Distributions on income shares     Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:  Performance     Return after charges  Other information     Closing net asset value     Closing number of shares     Operating charges (note 2)     Direct transaction costs	GBp 101.7628 2.3051 (0.5258) 1.7793 (1.0969) 102.4452 - 1.75% £22,213,454 21,683,247 1.03%	GBp 107.2818 (2.4975) (1.2125) (3.7100) (1.8090) 101.7628 - (3.46%) £23,205,506 22,803,519 1.16%	GBp 120.7284 (10.9822) (1.3567) (12.3389) (1.1077) 107.2818  - (10.22%) £24,084,773 22,450,015 1.19%

# **PERFORMANCE RECORD (Continued)**

- 1. The operating charges per share figure is calculated by applying the operating charges percentage to the average net asset valuation per share throughout the period.
- 2. The operating charges percentage is based on the expenses incurred during the period annualised, as a proportion of the average net asset value of the Sub-fund together with the ongoing charges included within the underlying Open Ended Investment Companies held within the Sub-fund's holdings.

#### **Risk Profile**

Based on past data, the Sub-fund is ranked a '5' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document (31 July 2023: ranked 5). The Sub-fund is ranked '5' because monthly historical performance data indicates that relatively high rises and falls in market prices would have occurred historically.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

As at 31 Janu	uary 2024	Value £	% of net assets
	Collective Investment Schemes (31.07.2023: 98.94%)		
3,513,935	Aegon Strategic Bond	3,611,180	5.42%
1,130,948	Baillie Gifford Positive Change	3,564,747	5.35%
1,172,104	Fidelity Asia Pacific Opportunities	3,219,769	4.84%
3,344,590	FP Foresight Global Real Infrastructure	3,365,661	5.06%
1,133,688	iShares US Equity Index (UK)	6,034,336	9.07%
1,059,848	JPM Japan	3,533,535	5.31%
2,028,128	JPM Global Macro Opportunities	3,153,739	4.74%
975,586	WS Lindsell Train UK Equity	3,310,456	4.97%
716,618	Liontrust Special Situations Fund	3,461,338	5.20%
410,424	Polar Capital Global Insurance	3,298,821	4.96%
2,778,909	Royal London Global Index Linked	3,309,681	4.97%
372,009	PIMCO GIS Commodity Real Return	2,979,791	4.48%
3,147,402	Premier Miton Strategic Monthly Income Bond	3,364,572	5.05%
20,109	The Dollar Fund	3,185,335	4.79%
292,740	WS Amati UK Listed Smaller Companies	3,249,738	4.88%
31,493	Vanguard Global Sustainable Equity	3,483,317	5.23%
18,015	Vanguard Global Emerging Markets	3,126,267	4.70%
2,515,675	VT Cantab Sustainable Global Equity^	3,504,035	5.26%
3,505,044	VT Gravis UK Infrastructure Income^	3,145,675	4.73%
	Portfolio of investments (31.07.2023: 98.94%)	65,901,993	99.01%
	Net other assets (31.07.2023: 1.06%)	662,093	0.99%
		66,564,086	100.00%

<sup>^</sup> related security of the AFM

# **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES**

Total purchases for the period	£ 6,991,224
Total parenases for the period	0,331,224
iShares US Equity Index	5,936,194
FP Foresight Global Real Infrastructure	287,035
Baillie Gifford Positive Change	247,623
WS Lindsell Train UK Equity	130,024
JPM Japan	95,485
Aegon Strategic Bond	79,269
Royal London Global Index Linked	77,972
VT Cantab Sustainable Global Equity	62,199
Vanguard Global Sustainable Equity	38,289
Fidelity Asia Pacific Opportunities	37,134
	£
Total sales for the period	£ 10,011,608
Total sales for the period  JPM US Equity Income	<del>-</del>
·	10,011,608
JPM US Equity Income	<b>10,011,608</b> 3,477,763
JPM US Equity Income WS Bellevue Healthcare Fund	10,011,608 3,477,763 3,259,564
JPM US Equity Income WS Bellevue Healthcare Fund PIMCO GIS Commodity Real Return	10,011,608 3,477,763 3,259,564 498,758
JPM US Equity Income WS Bellevue Healthcare Fund PIMCO GIS Commodity Real Return Polar Capital Global Insurance	10,011,608 3,477,763 3,259,564 498,758 420,458
JPM US Equity Income WS Bellevue Healthcare Fund PIMCO GIS Commodity Real Return Polar Capital Global Insurance Premier Miton Strategic Monthly Income Bond JPM Global Macro Opportunities Vanguard Global Emerging Markets	10,011,608 3,477,763 3,259,564 498,758 420,458 252,079 245,969 171,314
JPM US Equity Income WS Bellevue Healthcare Fund PIMCO GIS Commodity Real Return Polar Capital Global Insurance Premier Miton Strategic Monthly Income Bond JPM Global Macro Opportunities Vanguard Global Emerging Markets Liontrust Special Situations	10,011,608 3,477,763 3,259,564 498,758 420,458 252,079 245,969 171,314 143,115
JPM US Equity Income WS Bellevue Healthcare Fund PIMCO GIS Commodity Real Return Polar Capital Global Insurance Premier Miton Strategic Monthly Income Bond JPM Global Macro Opportunities Vanguard Global Emerging Markets Liontrust Special Situations The Dollar Fund	10,011,608 3,477,763 3,259,564 498,758 420,458 252,079 245,969 171,314 143,115 137,332
JPM US Equity Income WS Bellevue Healthcare Fund PIMCO GIS Commodity Real Return Polar Capital Global Insurance Premier Miton Strategic Monthly Income Bond JPM Global Macro Opportunities Vanguard Global Emerging Markets Liontrust Special Situations	10,011,608 3,477,763 3,259,564 498,758 420,458 252,079 245,969 171,314 143,115

The above transactions represent the top 10 purchases and sales during the period.

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the six month period ended 31 January				
	£ 2	2024 £	£	023 £
Income  Net capital gains/(losses)		342,374		(1,015,457)
Revenue	864,297	0,0	777,685	(1,010,101)
			·	
Expenses	(148,905)		(165,325)	
Interest payable and similar charges	(678)	_	(583)	
Net revenue before taxation	714,714		611,777	
Taxation	(17,622)	_	-	
Net revenue after taxation		697,092	_	611,777
Total return before distributions		1,039,466		(403,680)
Finance costs: distributions		(710,167)	_	(611,776)
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities	•	329,299	_	(1,015,456)
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTAL	BLE TO SHARE	HOLDERS		
For the six month period ended 31 January		2024 £		2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		69,172,935		74,981,802
Amounts receivable on creation of shares		395,247		2,284,601
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares		(3,772,542)		(4,697,382)
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		439,147		380,428
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		329,299	_	(1,015,456)
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		66,564,086	_	71,933,993

The Investment Association SORP requires that comparatives are shown for the above report. As comparatives should be for the comparable interim period the net asset value at the end of the period will not agree to the net asset value at the start of the period. The Company net asset value as at 31 July 2023 was £69,172,935

## **BALANCE SHEET**

As at	31.01.	2023	31.07.	2023
	£	£	£	£
Assets				
Investment assets		65,901,993		68,440,734
Current assets				
Debtors	789,448		1,011,566	
Cash and bank balances	623,027		66,166	
Total current assets		1,412,475		1,077,732
Total assets		67,314,468		69,518,466
Current liabilities				
Creditors	(54,140)		(67,708)	
Bank overdraft	-		(53,234)	
Distribution payable on income shares	(696,242)		(224,589)	
Total current liabilities		(750,382)		(345,531)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		66,564,086		69,172,935

# **Accounting policies**

The accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 and are described in those financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102 and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds (SORP) issued by the Investment Association (IA) in May 2014 and to the amendments to the SORP issued by the IA in June 2017.

# **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

# Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 August 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 August 2023 and on or before 31 January 2024

A Accumulation	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	1.0376p	-	1.0376p	0.8225p
Group 2	0.2898p	0.7478p	1.0376p	0.8225p

C Accumulation	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	1.1522p	-	1.1522p	0.9405p
Group 2	0.3101p	0.8421p	1.1522p	0.9405p

A Income	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	1.0662p	-	1.0662p	0.8587p
Group 2	0.8144p	0.2518p	1.0662p	0.8587p

C Income	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	1.0969p	-	1.0969p	0.9110p
Group 2	0.3531p	0.7438p	1.0969p	0.9110p

#### SUB-FUND OVERVIEW

Name of Sub-fund

VT Cantab Sustainable Global Equity Fund

Size of Sub-fund

£19,699,711

Launch date

17 December 2019

Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of the Sub-fund is to provide income and capital growth over the long term (5 years +) by gaining exposure to a diversified portfolio of global equities.

The Sub-fund may also invest in other transferable securities, collective investment schemes (including those managed or operated by the AFM), money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

It is expected that the portfolio will be relatively concentrated.

A key element in portfolio construction is an assessment of investee companies' approach to environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues (e.g. whether they pay due attention and consideration to ESG concerns and demonstrate this through ESG policies and practice). Investments will only be made in companies which the Investment Manager considers make a positive contribution to environmental, social and/or governance matters and so help in the development of a sustainable global economy. Companies involved in industries such as the production of fossil fuels, alcohol and tobacco, gambling or controversial weapons are automatically excluded from the investment universe.

The Investment Manager will consider emissions when assessing potential investee companies, but will not use a science-based emissions target in this assessment. The Investment Manager will consider each investment on a case-by-case basis and look for evidence that a company is attempting to reduce its carbon footprint. The Investment Manager places a greater emphasis in decision making on Scope 1 emissions (emissions over which a company has direct control, such as company facilities and company vehicles), rather than Scope 3 emissions (which relate to indirect emissions that occur in the value chain of the reporting company, including both upstream and downstream emissions) which it does not consider to be a fair reflection or not of a company's overall footprint and is less material to the Investment Manager's decision making.

Save as noted above, the Sub-fund has no particular emphasis on any geographical areas or any industrial or economic sector.

**Performance Comparator:** 

The Sub-fund is not managed to or constrained by a benchmark, and nor does the AFM use a benchmark in order to assess performance.

However, the performance of the Sub-fund can be compared against the Refinitiv Global Index (the "Index"). This Index has been selected as it is considered that this index most closely reflects the investments which the Sub-fund will make (and its risk/return objectives). For the avoidance of doubt, the Investment Manager is not bound or influenced by the index when making its decisions and can make investments that are not included in the index.

**Derivatives** 

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

**Authorised Fund Manager (AFM)** 

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited

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

**Ex-distribution dates** 31 January and 31 July

**Distribution dates** 31 March and 30 September

Individual Savings Account (ISA)

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

Minimum investment\*\*

Lump sum subscription: A Income/Accumulation = £1,000

C\* Income/Accumulation = £5,000,000 Z^ Income/Accumulation = £10,000,000

Top-up: A Income/Accumulation = £100

C\* Income/Accumulation = £5,000 Z^ Income/Accumulation = £10,000

Holding: A Income/Accumulation = £1,000

C\* Income/Accumulation = £5,000,000 Z^ Income/Accumulation = £10,000,000

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

 $C^*$  Income/Accumulation = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained) Z^ Income/Accumulation = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

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

 $C^*$  Income/Accumulation = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained) Z^ Income/Accumulation = N/A (provided minimum holding is maintained)

\*C shares will only available to customers of the investment manager's financial planning business as well as institutional investors and financial advisers at the AFM's

discretion

^Z shares will only be available to institutions at the AFM's discretion

Initial, redemption and switching charges Nil

#### **Annual management charges**

The annual management charge is comprised of a fixed element which is retained by the AFM for its own account and a variable element which is paid by the AFM to the investment manager.

The fixed element is equal to £26,853 per annum, which shall rise annually in line with the rate of inflation (calculated in accordance with the Consumer Prices Index) on 1 January each year. In the event of negative inflation, the fixed element of the fee will remain unchanged.

The variable charges: A Income/Accumulation = 0.75%

C Income/Accumulation = 0.50% Z Income/Accumulation = 0.00%

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

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

#### Overview

The VT Cantab Sustainable Global Equity Fund launched in December 2019. The fund seeks to generate superior risk-adjusted equity returns with a robust and disciplined investment process.

The fund is global, large-cap, and long only. We utilise a bottom-up, stock-picking process with a focused portfolio and long-term holding periods. We hunt for responsible companies with sustainable franchises at attractive valuations.

Our approach to ESG investing comes in two parts. First, we apply accepted socially responsible investment standards by excluding any companies involved in the production of alcohol, armaments, gambling, and tobacco, or involved in the extraction of fossil fuels. Secondly, for any company that is a potential candidate for the fund, we conduct an in-house, qualitative assessment of the company from an ESG perspective.

#### Commentary

In the six months to the end of January 2024, the fund returned +7.8%, versus +4.2% for the IA Global Sector, for which the fund is a member, and +5.0% for the FR Global Index\* (C Acc.; source: FE Analytics).

Returns were very much back-end loaded in this period, with dovish comments from US Federal Reserve Chairman Jay Powell at the end of October leading to a more risk-on tone in both bond and equity markets throughout the rest of 2023 and into early 2024. In the space of a year, it seems, investor mood has morphed from being depressed about the prospect of a global recession to a cheery consensus that even a soft landing, particularly in the US, has been avoided.

Key drivers of performance over the period were Trend Micro, Novo Nordisk, Akamai Technologies and Verizon Communications, while the main detractors to performance were The Swatch Group, PayPal Holdings and General Mills. It is noteworthy that, six months ago, some of these names also showed up as key drivers, but in the opposite direction. Typically, share prices do not go up (or down) in a straight line – as long-term, fundamental, investors we are mindful not to attach too much weight to short-term share-price performance.

In terms of activity, we added to positions in Colgate-Palmolive, Verizon Communications, General Mills and Trend Micro; and reduced exposure to Omnicom Group and Novo Nordisk.

Colgate-Palmolive is arguably as robust a franchise as one can find, and with the valuation having de-rated over the past year despite continued impressive top-line growth, we took the opportunity to add to what had been one of the fund's smaller positions.

Colgate-Palmolive is the global no.1 for toothpaste, manual toothbrushes and liquid hand soap; it is the no.2 player for mouthwash, bar soap, liquid body cleansing, liquid fabric conditioners and hand dishwashing; and the no.1 pet nutrition provider to vet clinics in the US.

Colgate-Palmolive's recent efforts have concentrated on reinvigorating innovation in Oral Care, leveraging premiumisation primarily in developed markets and locally tailored ingredients/formulations in developing markets. As part of this strategy, Colgate-Palmolive relaunched its Total toothpaste brand, their second brand reset since 2018 alongside Hill's, helping sales accelerate dramatically from 2019.

Meanwhile, the outlook for Verizon Communications looks better than its recent past. Verizon Communications is the US market mobile leader, and has suffered something of a perfect storm lately. \$53bn of spectrum acquisition costs in 2021 and ramped up infrastructure spend on 5G in 2022 created a big hole in its free cash flow which is now improving at some pace. 5G upgrades will allow for incremental revenue uplift, and the company appears to be gaining share again. With a market cap of \$140bn when we added to the position, free cash flow of \$19bn this year, rising to \$20bn next year, looks highly appealing. Leverage is higher than for our other holdings, but the asset base is larger, while half the debt does not mature for over a decade.

General Mills was a very strong performer for the fund in late 2021 and throughout 2022, so perhaps a less exciting 2023 was always on the cards. Still, we were surprised with the scale of 2023's de-rating given earnings expectations held up so well, and so took advantage of this weakness to top-up the holding.

Trend Micro is Japan's largest, and the world's third largest, specialist software security company. While the company, and industry, is currently suffering from rising labour costs to recruit and retain software engineers, and increased marketing spend as enterprises have looked to scale back security spending recently, the long-term growth potential in the global security market, especially in light of the growing threat from cyberattacks, looks assured. We added to the position at what we believe to be a very attractive valuation.

#### **Commentary (Continued)**

Omnicom Group delivered an in-line earnings result for Q2, but cautious remarks about the outlook for the state of the global advertising industry sent the share price lower. Omnicom has been a good performer for the fund over the past few years, but if key buyers of advertising are becoming more hesitant about their budgets, which appears to be the case, Omnicom has few levers to defend itself against such an environment and we therefore reduced exposure to this name.

Finally, we also reduced the fund's exposure to Novo Nordisk. Maybe Wegovy will turn out to be the greatest thing since, er, sliced bread (something we will no longer want with our suppressed appetites). But our issue with Novo Nordisk is not whether it is a high-quality company with what appear to be excellent growth prospects, but whether this is already being discounted in the current valuation. Trading on a trailing 12-month sales multiple of 12.3x, an all-time high for the company, versus 6.0x just three years ago and 4.0x seven years ago, basic maths informs us, as an illustration, that the company's total sales (not just Wegovy's) must treble over the next seven years just to bring the valuation back to where it was seven years ago.

This is not impossible, but there are a few flies in the ointment that investors are inclined to ignore for now, such as duration of use, any potential health risks to long-term usage, how willing national health systems will be in paying up for these very expensive drugs, and how successful the incumbent drug companies will be in defending themselves from increased competition and patent challenges (which have already begun).

#### Outlook

As bottom-up, fundamental stock-pickers, we are less interested in the macro-economic or geo-political landscape, and more concerned with the operational quality and valuation of the businesses we invest in. While the global equity market in aggregate is currently valued at a premium to where it has tended to trade over time, this is not the case for the median holding in the fund, giving us confidence the fund is well positioned for whatever may happen next.

Cantab Asset Management Limited Investment Manager to the Fund 29 February 2024

\* Previously known as the Refinitiv Global Index.

# PERFORMANCE RECORD

Fina	ncial	Hiah	lights

A Accu	mulation	Period ended 31 January 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023	Year ended 31 July 2022
Change	es in net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
	Opening net asset value per share	127.1742	120.3747	112.1909
	Return before operating charges	10.3065	8.0372	9.3466
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.6139)	(1.2377)	(1.1628)
	Return after operating charges*	9.6926	6.7995	8.1838
	Closing net asset value per share	136.8668	127.1742	120.3747
	Retained distributions on accumulated shares	0.6541	1.1166	0.8187
	*after direct transaction costs of:	0.0264	0.0990	0.2093
Perform	nance			
	Return after charges	7.62%	5.65%	7.29%
Other in	nformation			
	Closing net asset value	£2,415,505	£2,163,154	£1,295,211
	Closing number of shares	1,764,859	1,700,937	1,075,983
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.93%	1.00%	1.00%
	Direct transaction costs	0.02%	0.08%	0.18%
Prices	Highest share price Lowest share price	136.8668 122.7361	128.6353 115.1631	122.1731 111.2997
C Accu	ımulation	Period ended 31 January 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023	Year ended 31 July 2022
		January 2024	2023	2022
	es in net assets per share	January 2024 GBp	<b>2023</b> GBp	<b>2022</b> GBp
	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share	<b>January 2024</b> GBp 128.1826	<b>2023</b> GBp 121.1206	<b>2022</b> GBp 112.8760
	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges	January 2024 GBp 128.1826 10.3951	2023 GBp 121.1206 8.0841	GBp 112.8760 9.4146
	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share	<b>January 2024</b> GBp 128.1826	<b>2023</b> GBp 121.1206	<b>2022</b> GBp 112.8760
	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527) 9.9424	2023 GBp 121.1206 8.0841 (1.0221) 7.0620	GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700) 8.2446
	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527)	2023 GBp 121.1206 8.0841 (1.0221)	GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700)
	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527) 9.9424 138.1250	2023 GBp 121.1206 8.0841 (1.0221) 7.0620	GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700) 8.2446
Change	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527) 9.9424 138.1250 0.8222	2023 GBp 121.1206 8.0841 (1.0221) 7.0620 128.1826 1.4356	GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700) 8.2446  121.1206 0.8415
	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527) 9.9424 138.1250 0.8222	2023 GBp 121.1206 8.0841 (1.0221) 7.0620 128.1826 1.4356	GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700) 8.2446  121.1206 0.8415
Change	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527) 9.9424  138.1250 0.8222 0.0266	2023  GBp 121.1206  8.0841 (1.0221) 7.0620  128.1826  1.4356  0.0997	2022  GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700) 8.2446  121.1206 0.8415 0.2106
Change	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges  nformation Closing net asset value	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527) 9.9424  138.1250 0.8222 0.0266	2023  GBp 121.1206  8.0841 (1.0221) 7.0620  128.1826  1.4356  0.0997	2022  GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700) 8.2446  121.1206 0.8415 0.2106
Change	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527) 9.9424 138.1250 0.8222 0.0266	2023  GBp 121.1206  8.0841 (1.0221) 7.0620  128.1826  1.4356  0.0997  5.83%	2022  GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700) 8.2446  121.1206 0.8415 0.2106  7.30%
Change	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges  iformation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527) 9.9424  138.1250 0.8222 0.0266 7.76%  £18,242,131 13,206,972 0.68%	2023  GBp 121.1206  8.0841 (1.0221) 7.0620  128.1826  1.4356  0.0997  5.83%  £17,695,472 13,804,889 0.82%	GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700) 8.2446  121.1206 0.8415 0.2106  7.30% £11,693,569 9,654,483 1.00%
Change	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges  Information Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527) 9.9424  138.1250 0.8222 0.0266 7.76% £18,242,131 13,206,972	2023  GBp 121.1206  8.0841 (1.0221) 7.0620  128.1826  1.4356  0.0997  5.83%  £17,695,472 13,804,889	GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700) 8.2446  121.1206 0.8415 0.2106  7.30% £11,693,569 9,654,483
Change	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges  iformation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527) 9.9424  138.1250 0.8222 0.0266 7.76%  £18,242,131 13,206,972 0.68%	2023  GBp 121.1206  8.0841 (1.0221) 7.0620  128.1826  1.4356  0.0997  5.83%  £17,695,472 13,804,889 0.82%	GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700) 8.2446  121.1206 0.8415 0.2106  7.30% £11,693,569 9,654,483 1.00%
Change Perform Other in	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges  iformation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527) 9.9424  138.1250 0.8222 0.0266 7.76%  £18,242,131 13,206,972 0.68%	2023  GBp 121.1206  8.0841 (1.0221) 7.0620  128.1826  1.4356  0.0997  5.83%  £17,695,472 13,804,889 0.82%	GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700) 8.2446  121.1206 0.8415 0.2106  7.30% £11,693,569 9,654,483 1.00%
Change Perform Other in	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*  Closing net asset value per share Retained distributions on accumulated shares  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges  oformation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2) Direct transaction costs	GBp 128.1826 10.3951 (0.4527) 9.9424 138.1250 0.8222 0.0266 7.76% £18,242,131 13,206,972 0.68% 0.02%	2023  GBp 121.1206  8.0841 (1.0221) 7.0620  128.1826  1.4356  0.0997  5.83%  £17,695,472 13,804,889 0.82% 0.08%	GBp 112.8760 9.4146 (1.1700) 8.2446  121.1206 0.8415 0.2106  7.30% £11,693,569 9,654,483 1.00% 0.18%

# Financial Highlights (Continued)

A Incon	ne	Period ended 31 January 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023	Year ended 31 July 2022
Change	s in net assets per share	GBp	GBp	GBp
J	Opening net asset value per share	120.0559	114.6792	107.6228
	Return before operating charges	9.7267	7.6131	8.8561
	Operating charges (note 1)	(0.5781)	(1.1737)	(1.1115)
	Return after operating charges*	9.1486	6.4394	7.7446
	Distributions on income shares	(0.6162)	(1.0627)	(0.6882)
	Closing net asset value per share	128.5883	120.0559	114.6792
	*after direct transaction costs of:	0.0249	0.0939	0.2001
Perform	nance			
	Return after charges	7.62%	5.62%	7.20%
Other in	formation			
	Closing net asset value	£204,736	£249,776	£70,798
	Closing number of shares	159,218	208,050	61,736
	Operating charges (note 2)	0.93%	1.00%	1.00%
	Direct transaction costs	0.02%	0.08%	0.18%
Prices	Highest share price Lowest share price	129.1866 115.8648	122.4030 109.7139	117.0006 106.5875
C Incon	ne	Period ended 31	Year ended 31 July	Year ended 31 July
C Incon	ne	Period ended 31 January 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023	Year ended 31 July 2022
	ne s in net assets per share		•	•
	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share	January 2024	2023	<b>2022</b> GBp 116.6260
	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges	January 2024  GBp 130.0361 10.5438	2023 GBp 124.2731 8.2798	2022 GBp 116.6260 9.7404
	es in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1)	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579)	2023 GBp 124.2731 8.2798 (1.0427)	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045)
	os in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859	2023 GBp 124.2731 8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359
	os in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859 (0.8339)	2023 GBp 124.2731 8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371 (1.4741)	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359 (0.8888)
	os in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges*	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859	2023 GBp 124.2731 8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359
	os in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859 (0.8339)	2023 GBp 124.2731 8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371 (1.4741)	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359 (0.8888)
	os in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share *after direct transaction costs of:	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859 (0.8339) 139.2881	2023 GBp 124.2731 8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371 (1.4741) 130.0361	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359 (0.8888) 124.2731
Change	os in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share *after direct transaction costs of:	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859 (0.8339) 139.2881	2023 GBp 124.2731 8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371 (1.4741) 130.0361	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359 (0.8888) 124.2731
Change	os in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859 (0.8339) 139.2881 0.0269	2023  GBp 124.2731  8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371 (1.4741) 130.0361  0.1017	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359 (0.8888) 124.2731 0.2168
Change	os in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges  aformation Closing net asset value	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859 (0.8339) 139.2881 0.0269 7.76%	2023  GBp 124.2731  8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371 (1.4741) 130.0361  0.1017  5.82%	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359 (0.8888) 124.2731 0.2168 7.32%
Change	os in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges  Iformation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859 (0.8339) 139.2881 0.0269 7.76% £17,795,803 12,776,258	2023  GBp 124.2731  8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371 (1.4741) 130.0361  0.1017  5.82%  £18,170,323 13,973,295	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359 (0.8888) 124.2731 0.2168 7.32% £6,638,369 5,341,758
Change	os in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges  aformation Closing net asset value	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859 (0.8339) 139.2881 0.0269 7.76%	2023  GBp 124.2731  8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371 (1.4741) 130.0361  0.1017  5.82%	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359 (0.8888) 124.2731 0.2168 7.32%
Change Perform Other in	opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges  formation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859 (0.8339) 139.2881 0.0269 7.76% £17,795,803 12,776,258 0.68%	2023  GBp 124.2731  8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371 (1.4741) 130.0361  0.1017  5.82%  £18,170,323 13,973,295 0.82%	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359 (0.8888) 124.2731 0.2168 7.32% £6,638,369 5,341,758 1.00%
Change	opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges  formation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2) Direct transaction costs	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859 (0.8339) 139.2881 0.0269 7.76% £17,795,803 12,776,258 0.68% 0.02%	2023  GBp 124.2731  8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371 (1.4741) 130.0361  0.1017  5.82%  £18,170,323 13,973,295 0.82% 0.08%	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359 (0.8888) 124.2731 0.2168 7.32% £6,638,369 5,341,758 1.00% 0.18%
Change Perform Other in	opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges (note 1) Return after operating charges* Distributions on income shares Closing net asset value per share  *after direct transaction costs of:  nance Return after charges  formation Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges (note 2)	GBp 130.0361 10.5438 (0.4579) 10.0859 (0.8339) 139.2881 0.0269 7.76% £17,795,803 12,776,258 0.68%	2023  GBp 124.2731  8.2798 (1.0427) 7.2371 (1.4741) 130.0361  0.1017  5.82%  £18,170,323 13,973,295 0.82%	GBp 116.6260 9.7404 (1.2045) 8.5359 (0.8888) 124.2731 0.2168 7.32% £6,638,369 5,341,758 1.00%

Z Income	Period ended 31 January 2024	Period from 01 February 2023 to 31 July 2023^
Changes in net assets per share	GBp	GBp
Opening net asset value per share	102.7600	100.0000
Return before operating charges	8.3455	4.0608
Operating charges (note 1)	(0.0958)	(0.1005)
Return after operating charges*	8.2497	3.9603
Distributions on income shares	(0.9221)	(1.2003)
Closing net asset value per share	110.0876	102.7600
*after direct transaction costs of:	0.0213	0.0811
Performance	0.000/	0.000/
Return after charges	8.03%	3.96%
Other information		
Closing net asset value	£3,803,129	£1,849,663
Closing number of shares	3,454,640	1,799,983
Operating charges (note 2)	0.18%	0.20%
Direct transaction costs	0.02%	0.08%
Prices		
Highest share price	110.9924	105.0016
Lowest share price	99.3591	98.5908

<sup>^</sup> Share class launched 01 February 2023.

#### **Risk Profile**

Based on past data, the Sub-fund is ranked a '5' on the synthetic risk and reward indicator scale (of 1 to 7) as described fully in the Key Investor Information Document (31 July 2023: ranked 5). The Sub-fund is ranked '5' because monthly historical performance data indicates that relatively high rises and falls in market prices would have occurred historically.

<sup>1.</sup> The operating charges per share figure is calculated by applying the operating charges percentage to the average net asset valuation per share throughout the period.

<sup>2.</sup> The operating charges percentage is based on the expenses incurred during the period annualised, as a proportion of the average net asset value of the Sub-fund together with the ongoing charges included within the underlying Open Ended Investment Companies held within the Sub-fund's holdings.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

As at 31 Janu	ary 2024	Value £	% of net assets	
	Equities (31.07.2023: 82.56%)			
10,117	Amazon.com Inc	1,267,635	2.99%	
19,380	Akamai Technologies Inc	1,903,472	4.48%	
15,367	Alphabet Inc	1,832,531	4.32%	
24,471	Amadeus IT Group SA	1,364,994	3.22%	
5,012	Apple Inc	742,693	1.75%	
	Aviva PLC	770,594	1.82%	
23,499	Colgate-Palmolive Co	1,560,178	3.68%	
21,586	Danone SA	1,146,521	2.70%	
15,056	Emerson Electric Co	1,124,601	2.65%	
24,291	General Mills Inc	1,251,030	2.95%	
64,835	GSK plc	1,019,336	2.40%	
	Johnson & Johnson	1,007,253	2.37%	
	Kimberly-Clark Corp	860,204	2.03%	
	Kurita Water Industries Ltd	524,156	1.23%	
15.873	London Stock Exchange Group PLC	1,425,395	3.36%	
,	Merck & Co Inc	1,245,846	2.93%	
,	MetLife Inc	1,227,745	2.89%	
,	Microsoft Corp	1,042,975	2.46%	
,	Nestle SA	1,000,988	2.36%	
,	Novo Nordisk A/S	816,012	1.92%	
,	Omnicom Group Inc	753,012	1.77%	
	Oracle Corp	770,861	1.82%	
	Pearson PLC	1,327,113	3.13%	
,	Ralph Lauren Corp	1,185,857	2.79%	
	Roche Holding AG	1,160,284	2.73%	
	Sanofi SA	1,326,417	3.12%	
,	Schneider Electric SE	1,563,748	3.68%	
,	Swatch Group SA	1,136,179	2.68%	
,	Swisscom AG	1,019,945	2.40%	
,	Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd	914,286	2.15%	
	Trend Micro Inc	1,838,179	4.33%	
-,	Umicore SA	362,554	0.85%	
•	Verizon Communications Inc	1,347,440	3.17%	
,	Visa Inc	1,293,783	3.05%	
	PayPal Holdings Inc	1,345,136	3.17%	
	Portfolio of investments (31.07.2023: 82.56%)	40,478,953	95.35%	
	Net other assets (31.07.2023: 17.44%)	1,974,829	4.65%	
		42,453,782	100.00%	

# **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES**

	£
Total purchases for the period	6,360,580
Verizon Communications Inc	578,346
Colgate-Palmolive Co	573,315
Trend Micro Inc	371,653
General Mills Inc	370,204
Emerson Electric Co	178,899
Pearson PLC	177,582
Roche Holding AG	177,576
Merck & Co Inc	177,564
Aviva PLC	177,022
Nestle SA	176,984
Other various purchases	3,401,435
	£
Total sales for the period	1,871,103
Omnicom Group Inc	795,074
Novo Nordisk A/S	1,076,029

The above transactions represent the top 10 purchases and all the sales during the period.

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

For the six month period ended 31 January				•
	2024 £	£	202 £	3 £
Income  Net capital gains		2,849,255		629,359
Revenue	429,429		196,063	
Expenses	(134,076)		(112,547)	
Interest payable and similar charges			(170)	
Net revenue before taxation	295,353		83,346	
Taxation	(31,929)	_	(24,491)	
Net revenue after taxation		263,424	_	58,855
Total return before distributions		3,112,679		688,214
Finance costs: distributions	_	(261,966)	_	(65,315)
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities	_	2,850,713	,-	622,899
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUT	ABLE TO SHAREHO	OLDERS		
For the six month period ended 31 January		2024 £		2023 £
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		40,121,362		19,699,711
Amounts receivable on creation of shares		4,456,572		17,149,109
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares		(5,098,196)		(1,237,440)
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		120,134		35,958
Dilution levies		3,197		17,330
Changes in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	_	2,850,713	_	622,899

The Investment Association SORP requires that comparatives are shown for the above report. As comparatives should be for the comparable interim period the net asset value at the end of the period will not agree to the net asset value at the start of the period. The Company net asset value as at 31 July 2023 was £40,121,362.

42,453,782

Closing net assets attributable to shareholders

36,287,567

# **BALANCE SHEET**

As at	31.01.2024		31.07.2023	
	£	£	£	£
Assets				
Investment assets		40,478,953		33,125,896
Current assets				
Debtors	347,865		1,077,212	
Cash and bank balances	1,945,743		6,215,250	
Total current assets		2,293,608	_	7,292,462
Total assets		42,772,561		40,418,358
Current liabilities				
Creditors	(59,335)		(106,444)	
Distribution payable on income shares	(259,444)		(190,552)	
Total current liabilities		(318,779)		(296,996)
Net assets attributable to shareholders	_	42,453,782	_	40,121,362

## **Accounting policies**

The accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 and are described in those financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102 and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds (SORP) issued by the Investment Association (IA) in May 2014 and to the amendments to the SORP issued by the IA in June 2017.

# **DISTRIBUTION TABLES**

# Interim distribution in pence per share

Group 1: Shares purchased prior to 01 August 2023

Group 2: Shares purchased on or after 01 August 2023 and on or before 31 January 2024

A Accumulation	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	0.6541p	-	0.6541p	0.1122p
Group 2	0.2404p	0.4137p	0.6541p	0.1122p

C Accumulation	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	0.8222p	-	0.8222p	0.2683p
Group 2	0.3823p	0.4399p	0.8222p	0.2683p

A Income	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	0.6162p	-	0.6162p	0.1068p
Group 2	0.0512p	0.5650p	0.6162p	0.1068p

C Income	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024	Distribution 31.03.2023
Group 1	0.8339p	-	0.8339p	0.2793p
Group 2	0.4601p	0.3738p	0.8339p	0.2793p

Z Income	Net revenue 28.03.2024	Equalisation	Distribution 28.03.2024
Group 1	0.9221p	-	0.9221p
Group 2	0.5404p	0.3817p	0.9221p

#### Distribution

Distributions of the revenue of the Sub-funds will be made to shareholders on or before 30 September each year and interim allocations of revenue on or before 31 March.

#### Individual shareholders

**Income tax:** Tax-free annual dividend allowance now standing at £1,000 (2023/2024). UK resident shareholders are now subject to new, higher rates of tax on dividend income in excess of the annual allowance. UK resident shareholders are subject to tax on dividend income in excess of the annual allowance.

**Capital gains tax**: Individual shareholders resident in the UK for tax purposes may be liable to capital gains tax on realisation of their shares as with other chargeable assets. The first £6,000 (2023/2024) of gains each year are presently tax free for individuals. Gains in excess of that amount are charged at the rate of tax applicable to the individual tax payer.

#### Taxation

The Company will pay no corporation tax on its profits for the period to 31 January 2024 and capital gains within the Company will not be taxed.

#### Debts of the ICVC fund

Shareholders of the ICVC are not liable for the debts of the ICVC.

#### Corporate shareholders

Companies resident for tax purposes in the UK which hold shares should note that OEIC distributions are streamed into both franked and unfranked income. The unfranked income element will be treated as an annual payment which has been subject to income tax at prevailing rates and will be liable to tax accordingly. On realisation of their shares, UK resident companies may be liable to pay corporation tax on any capital gains.

The above information on taxation is only a general summary, and shareholders should consult their own tax advisors in relation to their own circumstances. Shareholders should also note that the position as outlined may change to reflect future changes in tax legislation.

#### Issue and redemption of shares

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited is the AFM and Registrar. Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited will receive requests for the purchase or sale of shares at any time during normal business hours (8.30am to 5.30pm). Instructions may be given by email to (cantab@valu-trac.com) or by sending an application form to the Registrar. Application forms are available from the Registrar.

The price of shares will be determined by reference to a valuation of the Company's net assets at 12 noon on each dealing day.

The AFM has the right to reject, on reasonable grounds relating to the circumstances of the applicant, any application for shares in whole or part, and in this event the AFM will return any money sent, or the balance of such monies, at the risk of the applicant.

Any subscription monies remaining after a whole number of shares has been issued will not be returned to the applicant. Instead, smaller denomination shares will be issued in such circumstances.

A contract note giving details of the shares purchased and the price used will be issued by the Registrar by the end of the business day following the valuation point by reference to which the purchase price is determined. Settlement is due by the purchaser on the fourth business day from the date of the contract note and should be made to the Authorised Fund Manager's dealing account.

Ownership of shares will be evidenced by an entry on the Company's Register of Shareholders. Certificates will not be issued. Statements in respect of periodic distributions of revenue will show the number of shares held by the recipient in respect of which the distribution is made. Individual statements of a shareholder's shares will also be issued at any time on request by the registered holder.

Where shares are redeemed, payment will be made not later than the close of business on the fourth business day following the next valuation point after receipt by the AFM of a request for redemption. The minimum value of shares that a shareholder may hold varies per sub-fund and share class. The AFM may at its discretion accept subscriptions lower than the minimum amount.

The most recent issue and redemption prices are available from the AFM.

# CORPORATE DIRECTORY

Authorised Fund Manager,	Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited		
Administrator & Registrar	Orton		
Administrator & Registrar	Fochabers		
	Moray		
	IV32 7OE		
	1V32 / QE		
	Telephone: 01343 880344		
	Fax: 01343 880267		
	Email: cantab@valu-trac.com		
	Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority		
	Registered in England No 2428648		
Director	Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited as AFM		
	Value 1140 IIIVOSIIIONI Managomoni Elimikoa ao 711 W		
Investment Manager	Cantab Asset Management Limited		
	50 Station Road		
	Cambridge		
	CB1 2JH		
Depositary	NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited		
	House A		
	Floor 0, 175 Glasgow Road		
	Gogarburn		
	Edinburgh		
	EH12 1HQ		
	Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority		
Auditor	Johnston Carmichael LLP		
	Chartered Accountants		
	Commerce House		
	South Street		
	Elgin		
	IV30 1JE		