



**Barings Korea Trust**

Interim Report & Unaudited Financial  
Statements

for the half year ended 31 October 2024

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**Interim Report and Unaudited Financial Statements**

For the period ended 31 October 2024

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\* These pages comprise the Manager's report.

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## Barings Korea Trust

### Introduction

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This Interim Report and Unaudited Financial Statements covers the period from 1 May 2024 to 31 October 2024 and reviews the performance and market outlook for the Barings Korea Trust (the "Trust") which is managed by Baring Fund Managers Limited (the "Manager").

The functional and presentational currency of the Trust is Pound Sterling ("Sterling").

As an investor in the Trust, your money is pooled with that of other investors and invested by the Manager in the securities of South Korean companies listed on the Korean Stock Exchange. The Trust will also participate in investments such as convertible bonds, fixed interest stocks and mutual funds. As with all funds managed by the Manager, the risk assumed in this portfolio is carefully monitored.

The Trust is authorised by the Securities and Futures Commission ("SFC") pursuant to Section 104 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance of Hong Kong ("SFO") and hence may be offered to the public of Hong Kong.

The SFC's authorisation is not a recommendation or endorsement of a scheme nor does it guarantee the commercial merits of a scheme or its performance. It does not mean the scheme is suitable for all investors nor is it an endorsement of its suitability for any particular investor or class of investors.

#### **Russia/Ukraine Crisis**

In response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the EU, the U.S., the UK and other governmental entities have passed a variety of severe economic sanctions and export controls against Russia, including imposition of sanctions against Russia's Central Bank, largest financial institutions and certain individuals. In addition, a number of businesses have curtailed or suspended activities in Russia or dealings with Russian counterparts for reputational reasons. While current sanctions may not target the Manager, the Trust or the Portfolio Investments and their issuers and industries in which the issuers of the Portfolio Investments operate, these sanctions have had and may continue to have the effect of causing significant economic disruption and may adversely impact the global economy generally, and the Russian economy specifically by, among other things, creating instability in the energy sectors, reducing trade as a result of economic sanctions and increased volatility and uncertainty in financial markets, including Russia's financial sector. Additionally, any new or expanded sanctions that may be imposed by the U.S., EU, UK, or other countries may materially adversely affect the Manager's operations, including the Trust and the Portfolio Investments.

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## Barings Korea Trust

### Investment Objective and Policy and Trust at a Glance

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#### Investment Objective and Policy

The investment objective of the Trust is to provide a total return, including both capital growth and dividend income (after fees have been deducted), in excess of the MSCI Korea (Net Total Return) Index over a rolling five year period, by investing in equity and equity related securities in Korea.

The Trust will seek to achieve its investment objective by investing at least 70% of its Net Asset Value directly and indirectly in equities and equity-related securities of issuers incorporated in, or exercising the predominant part of their economic activity in Korea, or quoted or traded on the stock exchanges in Korea.

For the remainder of its Net Asset Value, the Trust may invest directly or indirectly in equities and equity-related securities outside of Korea as well as in fixed income and cash.

In order to implement the investment policy, the Trust may gain indirect exposure through American Depositary Receipts, Global Depositary Receipts and other equity-related securities including participation notes, structured notes, equity-linked notes and debt securities convertible into equities. The Trust may also obtain indirect exposure through investments in collective investment schemes (including collective investment schemes which are managed by the Manager or an associate of the Manager) and other transferable securities. It may also use derivatives including futures, options, swaps, warrants and forward contracts for efficient portfolio management (including hedging).

Please refer to the Prospectus for the full investment objective and policy.

#### Benchmark

Until 31 October 2024, the target benchmark was the Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI). From 31 October 2024, the target benchmark is the MSCI Korea (Net Total Return) Index. The benchmark has been selected as it measures the performance of the large and mid-cap segments of the South Korean market.

The Trust is actively managed and targets outperformance of the benchmark over a five year period. There is however no guarantee that this objective will be achieved over any time period. The Trust is not constrained by the benchmark and can make investments in securities that are not included in the benchmark. Differences in the performance of the Trust compared to the benchmark may also arise as a result of application of the UK UCITS Rules prescribing portfolio concentration and liquidity limits, which are not applied to the benchmark. The Manager considers the benchmark is appropriate based on the investment policy of the Trust.

#### How the Trust is Managed

At Barings, our equity investment teams share the philosophy of quality “Growth at a Reasonable Price” (GARP). We believe that earnings growth is the principal driver of equity market performance over the medium to long term, and favour high-quality companies for their ability to outperform the market on a risk-adjusted basis. In particular, we believe that structured fundamental research and a disciplined investment process combining quality, growth, upside, and environment, social, governance (“ESG”) considerations can allow us to identify attractively priced, long-term growth issuers which will outperform the market. Our approach emphasises both growth and quality criterion when looking at issuers and a three to five-year time horizon when forecasting issuer earnings. In determining upside, we use consistent and transparent methods to place emphasis on discounted earnings models. We value issuers on a long term-term basis utilizing proprietary valuation models that incorporate ESG analysis and macro considerations.

#### Risk Profile

Please see detailed below the key risks applicable to the Trust:

- Changes in exchange rates between the base currency of the Trust and the currencies in which the assets of the Trust are valued can have the effect of increasing or decreasing the value of the Trust and any income generated.
- One of the main risk factors associated with South Korean investments is the proximity to North Korea and the possibility of increased political tension which may mean your money is at greater risk.
- Country-specific funds have a narrower focus than those which invest broadly across markets and are therefore considered to be more risky.

## Barings Korea Trust

### Investment Objective and Policy and Trust at a Glance (continued)

#### Risk Profile (continued)

- Derivative instruments can make a profit or a loss and there is no guarantee that a financial derivative contract will achieve its intended outcome. The use of derivatives can increase the amount by which the Trust's value rises and falls and could expose the Trust to losses that are significantly greater than the cost of the derivative as a relatively small movement may have a larger impact on derivatives than the underlying assets.
- Losses may occur if an organisation through which we buy an asset (such as a bank) fails to meet its obligations.
- Emerging markets or less developed countries may face more political, economic or structural challenges than developed countries. Coupled with less developed regulation, this means your money is at greater risk.
- Liquidity risk exists when a particular security or instrument is difficult to purchase or sell. If the amount of a transaction is particularly large or if the relevant market is illiquid (as is the case with many privately negotiated derivatives, structured products, etc), it may not be possible to initiate a transaction or liquidate a position at an advantageous time or price.

Please refer to the Prospectus for the full risk profile.

#### The Trust at a Glance on 31 October 2024

<b>Total Trust size: 31 October 2024</b>	<b>£55.56 million</b>	
<b>Total Trust size: 30 April 2024</b>	<b>£57.55 million</b>	
<b>OCF*</b>	<b>31/10/2024</b>	<b>30/04/2024</b>
Class A GBP Acc	1.73%	1.71%
Class I GBP Acc	0.98%	0.96%
Class I GBP Inc	0.98%	0.96%
Class I USD Acc	0.98%	0.96%
	<b>Initial charge</b>	<b>Annual charge</b>
Class A GBP Acc	Up to 5.00%	1.50%
Class I GBP Acc	Nil	0.75%
Class I GBP Inc	Nil	0.75%
Class I USD Acc	Nil	0.75%
	<b>Minimum initial investment</b>	<b>Minimum subsequent investment</b>
Class A GBP Acc	£1,000	£500
Class I GBP Acc	£10,000,000	£500
Class I GBP Inc	£10,000,000	£500
Class I USD Acc	US\$10,000,000	US\$2,500

\* The Ongoing Charge Figure ("OCF") reflects the payments and expenses which cover aspects of operating the Trust and is deducted from the assets over the period. It includes fees paid for investment management, trustee and general charges. The OCF figures for the current year have increased due to a decrease in the Trust's average net asset value during the year in comparison to prior year.

<b>Price per unit</b>	<b>(pence/cents per unit)</b>
Class A GBP Acc	321.60p
Class I GBP Acc	351.10p
Class I GBP Inc	337.20p
Class I USD Acc	457.60c

## Barings Korea Trust

### Trust Information

	Class A GBP Acc - Accumulation units			Class I GBP Acc - Accumulation units		
	31/10/2024	30/04/2024	30/04/2023	31/10/2024	30/04/2024	30/04/2023
	(p)	(p)	(p)	(p)	(p)	(p)
<b>Change in net assets per unit</b>						
Opening net asset value per unit	344.13	319.04	380.60	374.29	344.39	407.77
Return before operating charges	(19.84)	30.74	(55.84)	(21.69)	33.34	(59.95)
Operating charges	(3.04)	(5.65)	(5.72)	(1.89)	(3.44)	(3.43)
Return after operating charges	(22.88)	25.09	(61.56)	(23.58)	29.90	(63.38)
Distributions	–	–	(0.13)	–	(2.56)	(2.94)
Retained distributions on accumulation units	–	–	0.13	–	2.56	2.94
Closing net asset value per unit	321.25	344.13	319.04	350.71	374.29	344.39
after direct transaction costs of*	0.36	0.78	0.91	0.39	0.85	0.98
<b>Performance</b>						
Return after charges	(6.65)%	7.86%	(16.17)%	(6.30)%	8.68%	(15.54)%
<b>Other information</b>						
Closing net asset value ('000)	£32,993	£38,245	£38,827	£19,429	£15,692	£13,408
Closing number of units	10,270,349	11,113,435	12,169,764	5,539,964	4,192,530	3,893,246
Operating charges	1.75%	1.71%	1.70%	1.00%	0.96%	0.95%
Direct transaction costs	0.11%	0.24%	0.27%	0.11%	0.24%	0.27%
<b>Prices</b>						
Highest unit price	368.80	356.30	385.30	401.60	387.00	413.00
Lowest unit price	315.40	298.70	303.10	343.70	323.60	326.00

  

	Class I GBP Inc - Distribution units			Class I USD Acc - Accumulation units		
	31/10/2024	30/04/2024	30/04/2023	31/10/2024	30/04/2024	30/04/2023
	(p)	(p)	(p)	(c)	(c)	(c)
<b>Change in net assets per unit</b>						
Opening net asset value per unit	359.56	333.21	397.90	468.54	431.09	514.79
Return before operating charges	(20.84)	32.26	(58.50)	(8.96)	41.77	(79.40)
Operating charges	(1.82)	(3.33)	(3.36)	(2.46)	(4.32)	(4.30)
Return after operating charges	(22.66)	28.93	(61.86)	(11.42)	37.45	(83.70)
Distributions	–	(2.58)	(2.83)	–	(3.63)	(3.65)
Retained distributions on accumulation units	–	–	–	–	3.63	3.65
Closing net asset value per unit	336.90	359.56	333.21	457.12	468.54	431.09
after direct transaction costs of*	0.38	0.82	0.95	0.51	1.06	1.22
<b>Performance</b>						
Return after charges	(6.30)%	8.68%	(15.55)%	(2.44)%	8.69%	(16.26)%
<b>Other information</b>						
Closing net asset value ('000)	£2,803	£3,250	£2,707	\$435	\$446	\$195
Closing number of units	832,128	903,760	812,481	95,259	95,259	45,259
Operating charges	1.00%	0.96%	0.95%	1.00%	0.96%	0.95%
Direct transaction costs	0.11%	0.24%	0.27%	0.11%	0.24%	0.27%
<b>Prices</b>						
Highest unit price	385.80	374.50	403.00	516.60	495.00	522.30
Lowest unit price	330.20	313.10	318.00	440.40	395.00	362.80

\*Direct transaction costs comprise commission and taxes, principally applicable to equity investment purchases and sales. Unitholders should note that there are other additional transaction costs such as dealing spread and underlying costs with regard to Investment Fund holdings which will also have reduced the Trust and unit class returns before operating charges.

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## Barings Korea Trust

### Report of the Investment Manager

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#### Performance

Over the 6-month period to 31 October 2024, the Barings Korea Trust (the “Trust”) generated a negative return of -6.62% on the A GBP Acc Share Class (net of fees) but outperformed the benchmark, which returned -7.38%. The table below shows the 6 month, 1 year, and 5 year annualized net return for the Class A GBP Acc units against the benchmark.

	6 months	1 year	5 years
Barings Korea Trust	(6.62)%	7.67%	2.83%
Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI)*	(7.38)%	3.65%	0.81%

\*From 31 October 2024, the MSCI Korea (Net Total Return) Index is the target benchmark.

Korean equities went lower over the past 6 months, especially during the second half of the review period as sentiment cooled down regarding AI supply chains on the back of increasing peak cycle concerns, which resulted in profit taking particularly from foreign investors. Uncertainties over the pace of rate cuts as well as election risks in the U.S. also weighed on the Korean equity market performance.

Over the period, stock selection ended as a major contributor to relative outperformance of the Trust, especially within the Information Technology, Industrials and Financials sectors. We had relatively lower exposure in the semiconductor manufacturer Samsung Electronics compared with the benchmark, and this has contributed notably to the Trust’s relative performance over the 6-month period at a company level, as the share price came under pressure on pricing corrections of memory chips in light of weak demand in PC/mobile and elevated inventory. On the other hand, the holding in CJ CheilJedang, a company that engages in food processing, ended the review period as a key detractor to the Trust, largely attributed to the company’s lower-than-expected revenue growth of its core food business over the second quarter.

Significant trades over the review period included purchases of Hyundai Glovis, a leading PCTC (Pure Car and Truck Carriers) logistics services provider, driven by its improving earnings profile with an increasing charter rate and a diversifying customer portfolio, coupled with favourable Value-Up related policies announced by the company. Meanwhile, we eliminated a holding in Korea’s largest zinc smelter, Korea Zinc, to lock in a profit, as the share price appreciated sharply and reached our target price during the proxy battle between its two major shareholders. Elsewhere, we reduced exposure in electric vehicle (EV) battery material supplier LG Energy Solution during the first half of the review period as the EV demand weakened globally, but we increased exposure in the stock during the latter half of the period as expectations of the EV sector outlook seemed to have bottomed out, which should help the company’s earnings revisions.

Over five years, relative performance of the Trust against the benchmark has been positive, driven by strong stock selection especially in the New Economy sectors. This we believe demonstrates effectively the capability of our stock selection process, guided by our GARP (Growth-at-a-Reasonable-Price) approach.

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## Barings Korea Trust

### Report of the Investment Manager (continued)

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#### Performance (continued)

The top ten purchases and sales during the period were as follows:

Purchases	Costs £'000	Sales	Proceeds £'000
Hyundai Glovis	1,433	Korea Zinc	1,607
CJ CheilJedang	1,373	Doosan	1,190
LG Energy Solution	1,179	SK Hynix	1,096
Alteogen	1,049	HD Hyundai Electric	1,073
Samsung Heavy Industries	951	CJ	986
APR	932	Amorepacific	889
Samsung Electronics	905	Hanwha Aerospace	876
Doosan Enerbility	776	Tokai Carbon Korea	768
TECHWING	763	LG Energy Solution	718
LG Innotek	732	Kakao	715

#### Market outlook

Looking forward, commencement of the U.S. interest rate cutting cycle should be broadly supportive for emerging market equities. In October, the central bank of Korea initiated its first policy rate cut since the COVID pandemic and should have the flexibility to continue dovish monetary policies, which is positive for the Korean economy. The recovering economic conditions in the developed markets should also lead to marginal improvement in demand, likely supporting manufacturing and export industries in Asia. On the other hand, with Trump's win for the next U.S. presidency, concerns over global trade tension and inflation increases, which could bring direct and/or indirect impact to Korean companies alongside further market uncertainties in the short run.

We remain constructive on the long-term structural growth story of Korean equities. AI-driven demand is shifting towards commercialization of hardware and software products. Given the country's leading position in the global hardware supply chains, we expect this trend to continue driving corporate earnings due to limited supply capacity in the foreseeable future, and companies with competitive edge are looking to hike prices. While we expect some corrections in these sectors alongside market's adjustment to near-term supply and demand datapoints, we would look to add on any cyclical weakness as long-term thesis continues to be strong. In addition, Korea's EV battery companies are poised to enjoy the secular growth prospects in the medium to longer run amid green transition, driven by their leading edge alongside a favorable position as an ex-China substitute. Beyond tech, the Korean market also offers interesting mid-cap opportunities, such as those in medical aesthetics/cosmetics, biopharmaceutical and K-pop music, where the country shows competitive advantages. Korean government's promotion of corporate Value-Up program, which aims at improving shareholder returns and closing the value discount gap against market peers, also bodes well for investment growth of Korean equities over the long run.

**Baring Asset Management (Asia) Limited, appointed as Sub-Investment Manager; and**

**Barings Singapore Pte. Limited, appointed as delegate of Sub-Investment Manager by**

**Baring Asset Management Limited**

*Baring Asset Management Limited (the "Investment Manager") gives its portfolio managers full authority to manage their funds as they see fit, within the established guidelines set down. This includes the views that managers may take of the markets and sectors they invest in, which may differ from the views of other Barings portfolio managers.*



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## Barings Korea Trust

### Directors' Statement

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The financial statements on pages 13 to 14 were approved by Baring Fund Managers Limited (the "Manager") and signed on its behalf by:

J. ARMSTRONG

Director



9 Dec, 2024 12:56:55 PM GMT

A. BEHEN

Director



London

9 December 2024

9 Dec, 2024 2:59:36 PM GMT

# Barings Korea Trust

## Portfolio Statement

as at 31 October 2024

Holdings	Investments	Bid-Value (£)	Percentage of total net assets (%)
	<b>Equities: 99.14% (99.20%)</b>		
	<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense: 2.66% (2.04%)</b>		
3,140	Hanwha Aerospace	645,219	1.16
155,305	Samsung Heavy Industries	830,770	1.50
		<b>1,475,989</b>	<b>2.66</b>
	<b>Alternative Energy: 1.35% (0.00%)</b>		
66,867	Doosan Enerbility	<b>748,611</b>	<b>1.35</b>
	<b>Auto Manufacturers: 8.38% (9.68%)</b>		
12,715	Hyundai Motor	1,526,458	2.75
15,533	Hyundai Motor 2nd Preference	1,396,404	2.51
33,816	Kia Motors	1,735,272	3.12
		<b>4,658,134</b>	<b>8.38</b>
	<b>Auto Parts &amp; Equipment: 2.26% (1.27%)</b>		
9,041	Hyundai Mobis	<b>1,257,030</b>	<b>2.26</b>
	<b>Biotechnology: 9.35% (4.03%)</b>		
5,349	Alteogen	1,124,521	2.02
6,236	Celltrion	635,475	1.14
6,079	LigaChem Biosciences	437,537	0.79
4,434	Samsung Biologics	2,480,809	4.47
7,842	SK Biopharmaceuticals	516,263	0.93
		<b>5,194,605</b>	<b>9.35</b>
	<b>Chemicals: 3.07% (6.20%)</b>		
9,734	LG Chem	<b>1,703,957</b>	<b>3.07</b>
	<b>Cosmetics/Personal Care: 3.52% (4.16%)</b>		
3,529	Amorepacific	229,763	0.41
23,000	APR	643,421	1.16
27,432	Kolmar Korea	1,084,478	1.95
		<b>1,957,662</b>	<b>3.52</b>
	<b>Diversified Financial Services: 9.93% (8.50%)</b>		
26,126	Hana Financial	873,835	1.58
58,627	KB Financial	2,956,074	5.32
58,805	Shinhan Financial	1,684,463	3.03
		<b>5,514,372</b>	<b>9.93</b>
	<b>Electronics: 6.38% (8.48%)</b>		
6,510	HD Hyundai Electric	1,190,480	2.14
16,053	Korea Electric Power	206,613	0.37
7,860	LG	331,798	0.60
19,746	LG Electronics	986,807	1.78
12,523	Samsung Electro-Mechanics	827,923	1.49
		<b>3,543,621</b>	<b>6.38</b>
	<b>Energy: 3.33% (2.62%)</b>		
8,143	LG Energy Solution	<b>1,850,583</b>	<b>3.33</b>

**Barings Korea Trust**  
**Portfolio Statement** (continued)  
as at 31 October 2024

Holdings	Investments	Bid-Market Value (£)	Percentage of total net assets (%)
	<b>Equities: 99.14% (99.20%)</b> (continued)		
	<b>Engineering &amp; Construction: 1.17% (1.50%)</b>		
9,978	Samsung C&T	<u>651,310</u>	<u>1.17</u>
	<b>Financials: 0.00% (0.23%)</b>		
	<b>Food Producers: 1.20% (2.17%)</b>		
2,748	CJ	157,432	0.28
3,326	CJ CheilJedang	<u>509,794</u>	<u>0.92</u>
		<u><b>667,226</b></u>	<u><b>1.20</b></u>
	<b>Healthcare: 0.00% (0.29%)</b>		
	<b>Industrial: 4.61% (0.00%)</b>		
22,188	Hyundai Glovis	1,512,738	2.72
18,771	Hyundai Rotem	652,988	1.18
4,755	SK Inc	<u>392,954</u>	<u>0.71</u>
		<u><b>2,558,680</b></u>	<u><b>4.61</b></u>
	<b>Industrial Engineering: 0.00% (2.39%)</b>		
	<b>Insurance: 6.97% (5.15%)</b>		
15,505	DB Insurance	946,285	1.70
8,497	Samsung Fire & Marine Insurance	1,596,543	2.87
23,561	Samsung Life Insurance	<u>1,331,386</u>	<u>2.40</u>
		<u><b>3,874,214</b></u>	<u><b>6.97</b></u>
	<b>Internet: 1.98% (3.27%)</b>		
11,578	NAVER	<u>1,099,037</u>	<u>1.98</u>
	<b>Iron/Steel: 1.36% (2.23%)</b>		
4,043	POSCO	<u>757,401</u>	<u>1.36</u>
	<b>Media &amp; Entertainment: 2.60% (3.10%)</b>		
2,512	Big Hit Entertainment	260,192	0.47
13,397	JYP Entertainment	365,054	0.66
4,423	Krafton	<u>816,241</u>	<u>1.47</u>
		<u><b>1,441,487</b></u>	<u><b>2.60</b></u>
	<b>Medical Equipment and Services: 1.12% (1.18%)</b>		
22,026	Classys	<u>622,323</u>	<u>1.12</u>
	<b>Mining: 0.00% (1.07%)</b>		
	<b>Pharmaceuticals: 0.73% (0.00%)</b>		
5,208	Yuhan	<u>403,346</u>	<u>0.73</u>
	<b>Retail: 1.54% (1.04%)</b>		
42,396	Coupang	<u>857,231</u>	<u>1.54</u>
	<b>Semiconductors: 18.29% (21.46%)</b>		
4,342	HANMI Semiconductor	223,053	0.40
143,673	Samsung Electronics	4,749,268	8.55
49,904	SK Hynix	<u>5,191,323</u>	<u>9.34</u>
		<u><b>10,163,644</b></u>	<u><b>18.29</b></u>

**Barings Korea Trust**  
**Portfolio Statement** (continued)  
as at 31 October 2024

Holdings	Investments	Percentage	
		Bid-Market Value (£)	of total net assets (%)
	<b>Equities: 99.14% (99.20%)</b> (continued)		
	<b>Telecommunications: 4.00% (4.21%)</b>		
55,153	KT	1,365,817	2.46
992	Samsung SDI	181,130	0.32
8,491	Samsung SDS	678,466	1.22
		<b>2,225,413</b>	<b>4.00</b>
	<b>Tobacco: 1.38% (0.64%)</b>		
12,488	KT&G	<b>764,944</b>	<b>1.38</b>
	<b>Transportation: 1.96% (2.29%)</b>		
10,692	Hyundai Heavy Industries	<b>1,090,158</b>	<b>1.96</b>
	<b>Portfolio of investments: 99.14% (99.20%)</b> <b>(Cost: £51,686,155)</b>	<b>55,080,978</b>	<b>99.14</b>
	Net other assets	480,231	0.86
	<b>Net assets</b>	<b>55,561,209</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Note: Securities shown on the portfolio statement are ordinary shares admitted to official stock exchange listings or traded on a regulated market, unless otherwise stated.

Comparative figures shown in brackets relate to 30 April 2024.

## Barings Korea Trust

### Statement of Total Return and Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders

for the period ended 31 October 2024

#### Statement of Total Return

	31/10/2024	31/10/2023
	£'000	£'000
Income		
Net capital losses	(3,592)	(3,637)
Revenue	318	259
Expenses	(421)	(414)
Interest payable and other similar charges	—	(1)
Net expense before taxation	(103)	(156)
Taxation	(68)	(55)
Net expense after taxation	(171)	(211)
<b>Total return before distributions</b>	<b>(3,763)</b>	<b>(3,848)</b>
<b>Change in net assets attributable to unitholders from investment activities</b>	<b>(3,763)</b>	<b>(3,848)</b>

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

	31/10/2024	31/10/2023
	£'000	£'000
<b>Opening net assets attributable to unitholders*</b>	<b>57,545</b>	<b>55,099</b>
Amounts receivable on issue of units	8,815	3,899
Amounts payable on cancellation of units	(7,036)	(4,557)
	1,779	(658)
Changes in net assets attributable to unitholders from investment activities	(3,763)	(3,848)
<b>Closing net assets attributable to unitholders</b>	<b>55,561</b>	<b>50,593</b>

\* The opening net assets attributable to unitholders for 31 October 2024 differs to the closing position in 31 October 2023 by the movement between the two interim periods of the Trust.

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**Barings Korea Trust****Balance Sheet**as at 31 October 2024

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	31/10/2024 £'000	30/04/2024 £'000
<b>Assets</b>		
Investment assets	55,081	57,082
Current assets:		
Debtors	334	157
Cash and bank balances	627	619
Total assets	56,042	57,858
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Creditors:		
Distribution payable on income units	–	(23)
Other creditors	(481)	(290)
Total liabilities	(481)	(313)
<b>Net assets attributable to unitholders</b>	55,561	57,545

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**Barings Korea Trust**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
as at 31 October 2024

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**Note to the Financial Statements**  
for the period ended 31 October 2024

The interim financial statements have been prepared on the same basis as the annual audited financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2024. They are in accordance with the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of investments and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Association in May 2014 (the "IMA SORP 2014") and amended in June 2017. The financial statements have been prepared on a going-concern basis.

**Post balance sheet events**

Subsequent to the period end, the net asset value per unit of the A GBP Accumulation unit class decreased from 321.60p to 318.10p, I GBP Accumulation unit class from 351.10p to 347.40p, I GBP Income unit class from 337.20p to 333.80p and I USD Accumulation unit class from 457.60c to 443.50c as at 2 December 2024. These movements take into account routine transactions.

The Manager continues to monitor investment performance in line with investment objectives.

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## Barings Korea Trust

### The Risk and Reward Profile

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	<b>SRRI risk category*</b> <b>31/10/2024</b>	<b>SRRI risk category*</b> <b>30/04/2024</b>
Class A GBP Acc	6	6
Class I GBP Acc	6	6
Class I GBP Inc	6	6
Class I USD Acc	6	6

\* The Synthetic Risk and Reward Indicator ("SRRI") is not a measure of the risk of capital loss, but a measure of the Trust's price movement over time; the higher the number, the greater the price movement both up and down. It is based on historical data and is not a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the Trust. The risk category shown is in line with the Key Information Document ("KID") at period-end, is not guaranteed and may change over time. The risk categories are measured from 1–7 (1 measuring typically lower risk/rewards and 7 measuring typically higher risk/rewards). The lowest category does not mean a risk-free investment. The Trust is classified in the category indicated due to past movements in the Trust's price. There is no capital guarantee. The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and investors may not get back the amount they invest. The SRRI figures shown have not changed during the period.



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## Barings Korea Trust

### Important Information (unaudited)

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#### Constitution

The Barings Korea Trust (the “Trust”) is constituted by a Trust Deed between Baring Fund Managers Limited (the “Manager”) and NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited (the “Trustee”).

The Trust is an authorised unit trust scheme as defined in section 243 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and has been established as an Undertakings for Collective Investments in Transferable Securities (“UCITS”).

This document has been issued by the Manager, which is authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority.

#### Performance

Past performance is no indication of current or future performance. Investment involves risk. The value of any investments and any income generated may go down as well as up and is not guaranteed. Any references in the report to other investments held within the Trust should not be read as a recommendation to the investor to buy or sell the same, but are included as illustration only.

#### Key changes during the period

Rhian Williams was appointed as a Director of the Manager effective 1 October 2024.

The Prospectus of the Trust was updated on 31 October 2024

The material changes to the Prospectus on 31 October 2024 are outlined as follows:

- Change of benchmark from Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI) to MSCI Korea (Net Total Return) Index.
- Necessary ESG language updates.

There are other immaterial changes to the Prospectus that are not listed above.

#### Market timing

Repeatedly purchasing and selling units in the Trust in response to short-term market fluctuations – known as ‘market timing’ – can disrupt the Manager’s investment strategy and increase the Trust’s expenses to the prejudice of all unitholders.

The Trust is not intended for market timing or excessive trading. To deter these activities, the Manager may refuse to accept an application for units from persons that it reasonably believes are engaged in market timing or are otherwise excessive or potentially disruptive to the Trust.

The Manager also reserves the right to redeem units which it reasonably believes have been purchased by unitholders engaged in market timing.

#### Publication of prices

The prices of units are published on the Barings website at [www.baring.com](http://www.baring.com). You can also obtain prices by telephone by calling +44 (0) 333 300 0372.

#### Dealing basis

The Manager’s basis for dealing in purchases and sales of the Trust’s units is “forward”. This means that the price used for any deal will be calculated at the next valuation point following receipt of the investor’s instruction.

#### Fees and expenses

The Manager’s periodic charge is calculated on each business day, based on the value of the property of the Trust on the immediately preceding business day, and is paid to the Manager monthly, in arrears, on the first business day of the calendar month immediately following. The current annual management fees charged to the Trust are shown on page 5.

#### Revenue allocations and reports

Revenue allocations are made on 31 July (final) of each year, where applicable, and forwarded to unitholders together with tax vouchers. The most recent annual report and audited financial statements and interim report and unaudited financial statements will be available on the Baring Asset Management Limited website at [www.baring.com](http://www.baring.com).

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## Barings Korea Trust

Important Information (unaudited) (continued)

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### Prospectus and Manager's reports

Copies of the Prospectus, the Key Information Document(s) ("KID(s)"), and the most recent annual or interim report and financial statements are available to all persons free of charge from the Manager upon request.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (the "Independent Auditors") expresses its opinion on the English version of the annual report and financial statements, and accepts no responsibility for any translations of those financial statements.

### Value Assessment

As part of the FCA's Asset Management Market Study, Authorised Fund Managers are required to produce an annual Value Assessment for all UK authorised funds. The Manager publishes its annual Value Assessment for the Barings funds as part of a broader composite report. This is made available on the Barings website at [www.baring.com](http://www.baring.com).

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## Barings Korea Trust

### Disclosure for Overseas Investors

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#### Special risks resulting from additional German tax publication requirements in Germany

A foreign investment company such as Baring Fund Managers Limited (the "Manager") must provide documentation to the German fiscal authorities upon request, e.g. in order to verify the accuracy of the additional German published tax information. German investors will use this for their tax returns. The basis upon which such figures are calculated is open to interpretation and it cannot be guaranteed that the German fiscal authorities will accept the Manager's calculation methodology in every material respect. In addition, you should be aware that if it transpires that these publications are incorrect, any subsequent correction will, as a general rule, not have retrospective effect and will, as a general rule, only take effect during the current financial period. Consequently, the correction may positively or negatively affect the investors who receive a distribution or an attribution of deemed income distributions in the current financial period.

#### Information for investors in Switzerland

The Manager has appointed BNP PARIBAS, Paris, Zurich branch, Selnaustrasse 16, 8002 Zurich, Switzerland as representative and paying agent for Switzerland. Units are distributed in Switzerland by BNP PARIBAS, Paris at the above address. Investors can obtain free of charge the Prospectus, the Key Information Document(s) ("KID(s)"), the latest annual and interim reports, copies of the Trust Deed (and any amendments thereto) as well as a list of the purchases and sales made on behalf of the Barings Korea Trust (the "Trust") from the representative at the above address. Official publications for the Trust are found on the internet at [www.fundinfo.com](http://www.fundinfo.com). Unit prices (Net Asset Value with the words "plus commissions") are published daily on the internet at [www.fundinfo.com](http://www.fundinfo.com).

#### Important information to the performance tables on page 20

The value of an investment can fall as well as rise as a result of market fluctuations and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Past performance is no indication of current or future performance. The performance data does not take account of the commissions and costs incurred on the issue and redemption of units, nor the effect of the Manager's preliminary charge.

In conformity with a Guideline of the Asset Management Association Switzerland ("AMAS") dated 16 May 2008, the Manager is providing the below additional information regarding performance.

#### Total Expense Ratio ("TER")

Following the Guideline of the Asset Management Association Switzerland ("AMAS") dated 16 May 2008, the Manager is required to publish a total expense ratio ("TER") for the Trust for the 6 months to 31 October 2024. The TER has been established by the Manager and draws upon the data contained in the "Statement of total return" (Manager's management fee, registration fees, trustee fees, safe custody charges, audit fees, Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA") and other regulatory fees and taxation fees as well as any further fees and costs listed in the "Statement of total return" account which do not form part of the aforementioned categories). It is calculated with reference to these numbers and in conformity with the above guideline.

The TERs for each class for the period ended 31 October 2024 and the year ended 30 April 2024 are as follows:

	TER as at 31 October 2024 %	TER as at 30 April 2024 %
Class A GBP Acc	1.73	1.71
Class I GBP Acc	0.98	0.96
Class I GBP Inc	0.98	0.96
Class I USD Acc	0.98	0.96

## Barings Korea Trust

### Disclosure for Overseas Investors (continued)

#### Trailer fees and reimbursements

Trailer fees (Bestandespflegekommissionen) may only be paid to the sales agents/partners indicated below:

- authorised sales agents (distributors) within the meaning of Article 19, Para 1, Collective Investment Schemes Act ("CISA");
- sales agents (distributors) exempted from the authorisation requirement within the meaning of Article 19, Para 4, CISA;
- sales partners who place trust units exclusively with institutional investors with professional treasury facilities; and/or;
- sales partners who place trust units with their clients exclusively on the basis of a written commission-based asset management mandate.

Reimbursements (Rückvergütungen) may only be paid to the institutional investors detailed below who from a commercial perspective are holding the trust units for third parties:

- life insurance companies (in respect of trust units held for the account of insured persons or to cover obligations towards insured persons), pension funds and other retirement provision institutions (in respect of trust units held for the account of beneficiaries);
- investment foundations (in respect of trust units held for the account of in-house funds);
- Swiss fund management companies (in respect of trust units held for the account of the trusts managed); and
- foreign fund management companies and providers (in respect of trust units held for the account of managed trusts and investing unitholders).

#### Performance record to 31 October 2024 (including distribution payments where applicable)

	01/05/2024 - 31/10/2024 %	01/05/2023 - 30/04/2024 %	01/05/2022 - 30/04/2023 %	01/05/2021 - 30/04/2022 %	01/05/2020 - 30/04/2021 %
Barings Korea Trust - Class A GBP Acc (GBP terms)	(6.62)	7.86	(15.84)	(14.93)	63.55
Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI) (GBP terms)*	(7.38)	4.61	(12.99)	(16.38)	61.29
Barings Korea Trust - Class I GBP Acc (GBP terms)	(6.27)	8.67	(15.18)	(14.32)	64.80
Barings Korea Trust - Class I GBP Inc (GBP terms)	(6.28)	8.67	(15.21)	(14.31)	64.84
Barings Korea Trust - Class I USD Acc (USD terms)	(3.01)	9.36	(15.92)	(22.57)	67.10

\* From 31 October 2024, the MSCI Korea (Net Total Return) Index is the target benchmark.

Performance figures are shown net of fees and charges, on a published NAV per unit basis, with gross revenue reinvested.

Source: Morningstar/Barings.

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The Trust was launched on 3 November 1992.

Past performance is no indication of current or future performance. The performance data does not take account of the commissions and costs incurred on the issue and redemption of units. Please note that changes in the rates of exchange may have an adverse effect on the value, price or income of an investment.

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## Barings Korea Trust

### Unit Price History

	A GBP Acc (p)	I GBP Acc (p)	I GBP Inc (p)	I USD Acc† (c)
2024**				
High	368.80	401.60	385.80	516.60
Low	315.40	343.70	330.20	440.40
2023				
High	385.30	413.00	403.00	522.30
Low	303.10	326.00	318.00	362.80
2022				
High	459.90	489.70	479.80	681.70
Low	360.40	385.70	378.00	505.80
2021				
High	476.60	505.80	496.40	695.20
Low	261.30	275.70	270.60	343.30
2020				
High	311.20	326.00	321.19	427.10
Low	211.50	223.00	220.20	258.20
2019				
High	389.50	405.40	400.90	546.90
Low	304.60	318.40	314.90	403.20
2018				
High	381.80	396.20	393.20	555.70
Low	320.00	331.20	328.80	433.80
2017				
High	349.80	361.50	286.50	473.00
Low	271.90	279.80	273.90	359.50
2016				
High	332.30	324.90	324.20	462.30
Low	243.40	248.80	248.30	358.60
2015				
High	331.10	320.50	320.30	493.00
Low	249.00	252.50	252.30	440.00

† The Trust changed its accounting year from 8 August to 30 April starting 2017.

\*\* Interim high low is for the period 1 May 2024 to 31 October 2024.

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## Barings Korea Trust

### Directory

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#### **Manager**

Baring Fund Managers Limited

*Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA").*

#### **Investment Manager**

Baring Asset Management Limited

20 Old Bailey

London, EC4M 7BF

*Authorised and regulated by the FCA.*

#### **Sub-Investment Manager**

Barings Asset Management (Asia) Limited

35th Floor, Gloucester Tower

15 Queen's Road Central

Hong Kong

#### **Delegate of Sub-Investment Manager**

Barings Singapore Pte. Limited

Guoco Tower #25-01

1 Wallich Street

Singapore 078881

#### **Directors**

J. Armstrong (non-executive)

A. Behen

R. Kent

M. Horne

K. Troup (non-executive)

R. Williams (appointed 1 October 2024)

#### **Registered Office**

20 Old Bailey

London, EC4M 7BF

#### **Trustee**

NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited

250 Bishopsgate

London, EC2M 4AA

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

#### **Administrator & Registrar**

Northern Trust Global Services SE

6 rue Lou Hemmer

Senningerberg

Luxembourg, L-1748

#### **The Administrator & Registrar's principal place of business in the United Kingdom:**

Northern Trust Global Services SE UK Branch

50 Bank Street

London, E14 5NT

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

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## Barings Korea Trust

Directory (continued)

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### Independent Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
141 Bothwell Street  
Glasgow, G2 7EQ

### Paying agent

Société Générale Luxembourg  
11, avenue Emile Reuter  
L-2420 Luxembourg  
Operational Centre:  
28/32 Place de la Gare  
L-1616 Luxembourg

### Swiss representative and paying agent

BNP PARIBAS, Paris  
Zurich Branch  
Selnaustrasse 16  
8002 Zurich  
Switzerland

The Prospectus, the Key Information Document(s) ("KID(s)"), a list of portfolio changes, the Trust Deed as well as the annual and the interim reports and financial statements are available on [www.barings.com](http://www.barings.com), or via the office of the paying agent and the Swiss representative and paying agent.

**Address:**

Baring Asset Management Limited  
20 Old Bailey  
London, EC4M 7BF

**Contact:**

Tel: +44 (0)20 7628 6000  
Fax: +44 (0)20 7638 7928  
[www.barings.com](http://www.barings.com)

**BARINGS**

The Barings logo consists of the word "BARINGS" in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font. Below the text is a horizontal line that is green on the left and blue on the right, with a slight upward curve at the ends.