# **IFSL Marlborough Cautious Fund**

**Interim Report and Unaudited Financial Statements** for the six month period ended 31 October 2022





## CONTACT INFORMATION

## Authorised Fund Manager (AFM) and Registrar

Investment Fund Services Limited (IFSL) Marlborough House 59 Chorley New Road Bolton BL1 4QP

Investor Support: (0808) 178 9321 (FREEPHONE)

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

#### Directors of IFSL

Andrew Staley (Non-Executive) Allan Hamer Helen Derbyshire Helen Redmond Sally Helston - appointed 12 August 2022 Guy Sears (Independent Non-Executive) Sarah Peaston (Independent Non-Executive)

Depositary (in it's capacity as Trustee)

HSBC Bank plc 8 Canada Square London E14 5HQ

Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority.

#### **Investment Manager**

Marlborough Investment Management Limited PO Box 1852 Croxall Lichfield Staffordshire WS13 8XU

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

#### Auditor

Ernst & Young LLP Atria One 144 Morrison Street Edinburgh EH3 8EX

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#### AUTHORISED INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT

for the six month period ended 31 October 2022

#### Percentage change and sector position to 31 October 2022

	<u>Six months</u>	<u>1 year</u>	<u>3 years</u>	<u>5 years</u>
IFSL Marlborough Cautious Fund	(4.97)%	(8.95)%	(0.92)%	(0.51)%
IA Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares	(7.00)%	(10.69)%	(0.60)%	4.06%
External Source of Economic Data: Morningstar (P Income - quoted price to quoted price, net income reinvested).				

The performance figures above are based on quoted prices and will, therefore, differ from the performance in the Comparative Table.

Capital at risk. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance; the value of your investment and any income from it can go down as well as up. Performance returns are based on the net asset value with distributable income reinvested and takes account of all ongoing charges, but not entry charges. The past performance of this unit class is calculated in sterling.

#### Investment commentary

During the period under review the selling price of the class P accumulation units, decreased by 4.97%. The IA Mixed Investment 20-60% sector average fell by 7.00% over the same time frame.

Throughout 2022, investors have agonised over high inflation levels, central banks' policy responses to inflation, and the impact those responses will have on economic growth. With this backdrop, elevated volatility has been a feature of the investment markets all year: both equity and bond markets have enjoyed short, sharp rallies when fresh data hints that inflation may have peaked, or that interest rates may not need to rise as much as feared, but the general trend has been downwards as a recession has become increasingly likely in many regions.

In 2022 so far, we have witnessed 236 rate rises by 80 central banks, versus 123 hikes in all of 2021. Although some inflation measures have now declined slightly, the full effect on the economic growth of these measures has not yet been felt, and the risk of a global recession is rising. Although the US economy has already suffered two consecutive quarters of negative growth, which is widely regarded as the technical definition of a recession, the National Bureau of Economic Research, which are the final arbiter of such matters, has yet to declare a recession, at least in part due to the strength of the jobs market.

To combat rising prices, further interest rate hikes may be inevitable, and a global recession is now the most likely scenario. In fact, a recession is potentially the only way to break the self-fulfilling spiral of higher inflationary expectations. Central bankers are talking tough; we feel they need to do so, to make businesses and consumers take them seriously enough to adjust hiring, wages, and consumption.

While it may sound depressing, a shallow recession now could be better than a deep recession later, and equity prices may already have fully discounted the economic weakness ahead.

Usually, a recessionary environment would be positive for sovereign bond markets, as investors discount the future interest rate cuts that will be needed to re-stimulate economies. But for now, inflation may not have definitively peaked, and this is seen as the greater threat. Inflation eats away at the real value of the fixed future payments that bondholders expect to receive, so bond prices have been declining in response to rising inflation levels.

For UK-based investors, the pain has been eased slightly by the pound's weakness, which has benefited holdings in non-sterling assets. But with both equities and bonds declining, multi-asset portfolios have struggled. Nevertheless, we feel diversification can still be found in areas like commodities and absolute return funds, and we have used these to avoid the worst of the drawdowns.

In the meantime, uncertainty remains, and with it comes volatility, so the cautious stance we have implemented in our portfolios remains in place. In equities we have remained neutral overall: although there may be downside risks, we believe share prices may already reflect this. For most of the reporting period, we held a bias towards the UK at the expense of other regions. This stance supported relative portfolio performance as the UK market strongly outperformed other regions. We moved back to a neutral position over the summer, as inflation and recession risks ramped up. Whilst the leadership in markets has repeatedly switched between growth and value style investing, we have moved to a defensive stance, using core and equity income funds to weather market volatility. Cash levels in the portfolio were increased during the first half of the year, but with better valuations on offer in both equity and fixed income markets, this is now being invested.

On the fixed income side of the portfolio, we have maintained an underweight stance versus the peer group, with exposure biased towards shorter-duration bonds with less sensitivity to interest rate movements. The shorter duration funds performed relatively well as inflation was rising sharply. As concerns shift from inflation to the increased likelihood of a recession, we have started to increase our duration position to move closer to the sector average. At the start of the year, we were underweight government bonds and held more corporate bonds. We are now moving towards a neutral stance in both government and corporate bonds, whilst increasing our position in high yield bonds.

Marlborough Investment Management Limited 9 December 2022

## AUTHORISED INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT

for the six month period ended 31 October 2022

Distributions				
	<u>Year 2022</u>	<u>Year 2021</u>	<u>Year 2020</u>	<u>Year 2019</u>
A Income (pence per unit)				
Net income paid 30 June	0.5717	0.5054	0.7796	0.9796
Net income paid 31 December	0.6573	0.7963	1.1255	1.1746
A Accumulation (pence per unit)				
Net accumulation paid 30 June	1.0155	0.8852	1.3349	1.6366
Net accumulation paid 31 December	1.1755	1.3984	1.9448	1.9839
P Income (pence per unit)				
Net income paid 30 June	0.6105	0.5372	0.8209	1.0249
Net income paid 31 December	0.7062	0.8494	1.1914	1.2338
P Accumulation (pence per unit)				
Net accumulation paid 30 June	0.7123	0.6192	0.9249	1.1269
Net accumulation paid 31 December	0.8310	0.9876	1.3546	1.3713

## Portfolio changes

Largest purchases	<u>Cost (£)</u>
Vanguard FTSE UK Equity Income Index 'A' GBP Lyxor Russell 1000 Growth UCITS ETF Janus Henderson European Focus 'I' iShares Core UK Gilts UCITS ETF GBP iShares MSCI USA Quality Dividend UCITS ETF USD iShares Global Govt Bond UCITS ETF USD GQG Partners US Equity 'I' GBP Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond 'Inst' TB Evenlode Income 'C' iShares MSCI Europe Quality Dividend ESG UCITS ETF EUR	323,400 313,776 293,300 282,349 244,172 215,328 198,000 185,400 177,500 151,873
Other purchases	1,000,776
Total purchases for the period	3,385,874
Largest sales	Proceeds (£)
Tabula US Enhanced Inflation UCITS ETF GBP Hedged iShares Edge MSCI USA Value Factor UCITS ETF USD Man GLG UK Income 'D' Vanguard FTSE UK Equity Income Index 'A' GBP LF Lindsell Train UK Equity Schroder Sterling Corporate Bond 'Z' GBP iShares Edge MSCI Europe Value Factor UCITS ETF EUR Fidelity Asia Pacific Opportunities 'W' iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF GBP Royal London Short-Term Money Market 'Y'	322,775 274,051 269,128 251,400 251,312 233,193 232,860 214,995 199,060 134,500
Other sales	1,467,472

Total sales for the period

3,850,746

#### AUTHORISED STATUS

IFSL Marlborough Cautious Fund (the Fund) is an authorised unit trust scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and is a non-UCITS scheme operating under the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook (COLL) and the Investment Fund Sourcebook (FUND) as issued by the Financial Conduct Authority.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### Investment objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to increase the value of your investment over any 5 year period, through a combination of income, that is, money paid out of an investment, such as interest from bonds or dividends from shares and some capital growth, that is, profit on investments. The Fund aims to outperform the average of the IA Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares sector, after charges, over any 5 year period. However, there is no certainty this will be achieved.

#### Investment policy

At least 80% of the Fund will be invested in other funds, including exchange traded funds (which typically track an index) and investment trusts. This may include other funds operated by the Manager or its associates. Through these investments, the Fund will be exposed to a range of asset classes, creating a low to medium risk portfolio.

Between 20-60% of the Fund will be exposed to shares in companies, both UK and overseas, but typically this will be between 40-60%.

At least 30% of the Fund will also be exposed to bonds, which are loans typically issued by companies and governments, and cash. This may include investment grade bonds, where the issuer has a higher capacity to repay the debt, as well as sub-investment grade bonds, which can be more vulnerable to changing market conditions but typically pay a higher rate of interest.

Through investing in funds, the Fund's portfolio may also be exposed to other asset classes such as property, commodities (such as gold and oil), money market instruments, which are shorter term loans, cash and other permitted investments. Funds purchased may also have the ability to use derivatives (investments whose returns are linked to another asset, market or other variable factor) to varying degrees, including funds which aim to deliver positive returns in a range of market conditions, often referred to as absolute return funds.

The Fund may also invest in these asset classes directly (excluding property and commodities) up to a maximum of 20%.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager decides which investments to buy or sell and when. Investments will span a range of developed and emerging markets globally with no maximum or minimum exposure to any one market or geographical region.

Decisions around asset allocation are based on the Investment Manager's research process which considers the potential for loss as well as the overall return expectations for an asset class.

The Fund may invest in derivatives or forward transactions whose returns are linked to exchange rates in order to reduce currency risk (also known as hedging).

#### Performance target

The performance target is the level of performance the Fund aims to deliver after charges and with income reinvested however there is no certainty this will be achieved.

The Investment Association (IA), the trade body for UK investment managers, has created a number of 'sectors' as a way of dividing funds into broad groups with similar characteristics. This Fund aims to be in the top half of all funds included in the IA Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares sector.

#### Rights and terms attaching to each unit class

A unit of each class represents a proportional entitlement to the assets of the Fund. The allocation of income and taxation and the rights of each unit in the event the Fund is wound up are on the same proportional basis.

#### Changes in prospectus

No significant changes have been made since the last report.

Up to date Key Investor Information Documents, Prospectus and Long Reports and Financial Statements for any fund within the AFM's range, can be requested by the investor at any time.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### Leverage

In accordance with the Alternative Investment Fund Manager Directive (AIFMD) we are required to disclose the 'leverage' of the Fund. Leverage is defined as any method by which a Fund increases its exposure through borrowing or the use of derivatives. 'Exposure' is defined in two ways: 'gross method'; and 'commitment method'. The Fund must not exceed maximum exposures under both methods. 'Gross method' exposure is calculated as the sum of all positions of the Fund (both positive and negative), that is, all eligible assets, liabilities and derivatives, including derivatives held for risk reduction purposes. 'Commitment method' is also calculated as the sum of all positions of the Fund (both positive and negative), but after netting off any derivative and security positions as specified by AIFMD rules.

The total amount of leverage calculated as at 31 October 2022 is as follows:

	Gross Method	Commitment Method
IFSL Marlborough Cautious Fund	94.32%	94.32%

The total amount of leverage calculated as at 30 April 2022 is as follows:

	Gross Method	Commitment Method
IFSL Marlborough Cautious Fund	92.60%	92.60%

The maximum level of leverage which may be employed on behalf of the Fund when calculated in accordance with the gross method is 210%.

The maximum level of leverage which may be employed on behalf of the Fund when calculated in accordance with the commitment method is 110%.

## **DIRECTORS' STATEMENT**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook as issued and amended by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Allan Hamer Director

Investment Fund Services Limited 20 December 2022

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Helen Redmond Director

## **COMPARATIVE TABLE**

<u>A Income units</u> Change in net assets per unit	Period to 31.10.2022	Year to 30.04.2022	Year to 30.04.2021	Year to 30.04.2020
Opening net asset value per unit	<b>pence</b> 86.48	<b>pence</b> 90.81	<b>pence</b> 81.26	<b>pence</b> 89.19
Return before operating charges*	(3.72)	(1.10)	13.13	(3.99)
Operating charges	(0.88)	(1.86)	(1.95)	(1.99)
Return after operating charges*	(4.60)	(2.96)	11.18	(5.98)
Distributions on income units	(0.66)	(1.37)	(1.63)	(1.95)
Closing net asset value per unit	81.22	86.48	90.81	81.26
	-			
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.05
Performance				
Return after charges <sup>A</sup>	(5.32)%	(3.26)%	13.76%	(6.70)%
Other information				
Closing net asset value (£)	1,725,398	1,836,573	2,088,887	2,925,029
Closing number of units	2,124,228	2,123,765	2,300,389	3,599,680
Operating charges	2.07% <sup>B,C</sup>	2.06% <sup>B</sup>	2.26%	2.23%
Direct transaction costs	0.02% <sup>C</sup>	0.02%	0.04%	0.05%
Prices (pence per unit)				
Highest unit price	86.87	93.17	91.40	93.49
Lowest unit price	80.64	85.35	80.13	76.57
	00.04	00.00	00.10	10.01
A Accumulation units Change in not assets per unit	Period to 31 10 2022	Year to	Year to	Year to
<u>A Accumulation units</u> Change in net assets per unit	31.10.2022	30.04.2022	30.04.2021	30.04.2020
Change in net assets per unit	31.10.2022 pence	30.04.2022 pence	30.04.2021 pence	30.04.2020 pence
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit	<b>31.10.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 154.65	<b>30.04.2022</b> pence 159.93	<b>30.04.2021</b> pence 140.41	<b>30.04.2020</b> pence 150.64
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges*	<b>31.10.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 154.65 (6.63)	<b>30.04.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 159.93 (1.99)	<b>30.04.2021</b> <b>pence</b> 140.41 22.91	<b>30.04.2020</b> <b>pence</b> 150.64 (6.85)
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges	31.10.2022 pence 154.65 (6.63) (1.58)	<b>30.04.2022</b> pence 159.93 (1.99) (3.29)	<b>30.04.2021</b> pence 140.41 22.91 (3.39)	<b>30.04.2020</b> pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38)
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges*	31.10.2022 pence 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21)	30.04.2022 pence 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28)	<b>30.04.2021</b> pence 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23)
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges Return after operating charges*	31.10.2022 pence 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21) (1.18)	<b>30.04.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28) (2.41)	<b>30.04.2021</b> <b>pence</b> 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52 (2.83)	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23) (3.32)
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges Return after operating charges* Distributions on accumulation units	31.10.2022 pence 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21)	30.04.2022 pence 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28)	<b>30.04.2021</b> pence 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23)
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges Return after operating charges* Distributions on accumulation units Retained distributions on accumulation units	31.10.2022 pence 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21) (1.18) 1.18	30.04.2022 pence 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28) (2.41) 2.41	<b>30.04.2021</b> <b>pence</b> 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52 (2.83) 2.83	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23) (3.32) 3.32
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges Return after operating charges* Distributions on accumulation units Retained distributions on accumulation units Closing net asset value per unit	<b>31.10.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21) (1.18) 1.18 146.44	<b>30.04.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28) (2.41) 2.41 154.65	<b>30.04.2021</b> <b>pence</b> 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52 (2.83) 2.83 159.93	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23) (3.32) 3.32 140.41
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges Return after operating charges* Distributions on accumulation units Retained distributions on accumulation units Closing net asset value per unit * after direct transaction costs of:	<b>31.10.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21) (1.18) 1.18 146.44	<b>30.04.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28) (2.41) 2.41 154.65	<b>30.04.2021</b> <b>pence</b> 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52 (2.83) 2.83 159.93	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23) (3.32) 3.32 140.41
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges Return after operating charges* Distributions on accumulation units Retained distributions on accumulation units Closing net asset value per unit * after direct transaction costs of: Performance	<b>31.10.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21) (1.18) 1.18 146.44 0.02	<b>30.04.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28) (2.41) 2.41 154.65 0.03	<b>30.04.2021</b> <b>pence</b> 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52 (2.83) 2.83 159.93 0.06	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23) (3.32) 3.32 140.41 0.08
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges Return after operating charges* Distributions on accumulation units Retained distributions on accumulation units Closing net asset value per unit * after direct transaction costs of: Performance Return after charges A	31.10.2022 pence 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21) (1.18) 1.18 146.44 0.02 (5.31)% 1,725,934	<b>30.04.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28) (2.41) 2.41 154.65 0.03	<b>30.04.2021</b> <b>pence</b> 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52 (2.83) 2.83 159.93 0.06	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23) (3.32) 3.32 140.41 0.08
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges Return after operating charges* Distributions on accumulation units Retained distributions on accumulation units Closing net asset value per unit * after direct transaction costs of: Performance Return after charges <sup>A</sup> Other information	31.10.2022 pence 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21) (1.18) 1.18 146.44 0.02 (5.31)% 1,725,934 1,178,599	<b>30.04.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28) (2.41) 2.41 154.65 0.03 (3.30)% 1,913,622 1,237,372	30.04.2021 pence 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52 (2.83) 2.83 159.93 0.06 13.90% 2,168,888 1,356,115	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23) (3.32) 3.32 140.41 0.08 (6.79)%
Change in net assets per unit         Opening net asset value per unit         Return before operating charges*         Operating charges         Return after operating charges*         Distributions on accumulation units         Retained distributions on accumulation units         Closing net asset value per unit         * after direct transaction costs of:         Performance         Return after charges A         Other information         Closing net asset value (£)	31.10.2022 pence 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21) (1.18) 1.18 146.44 0.02 (5.31)% 1,725,934 1,178,599 2.07% <sup>B,C</sup>	<b>30.04.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28) (2.41) 2.41 154.65 0.03 (3.30)% 1,913,622	30.04.2021 pence 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52 (2.83) 2.83 159.93 0.06 13.90% 2,168,888	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23) (3.32) 3.32 140.41 0.08 (6.79)% 2,337,384
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges Return after operating charges* Distributions on accumulation units Retained distributions on accumulation units Closing net asset value per unit * after direct transaction costs of: Performance Return after charges <sup>A</sup> Other information Closing net asset value (£) Closing number of units	31.10.2022 pence 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21) (1.18) 1.18 146.44 0.02 (5.31)% 1,725,934 1,178,599	<b>30.04.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28) (2.41) 2.41 154.65 0.03 (3.30)% 1,913,622 1,237,372	30.04.2021 pence 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52 (2.83) 2.83 159.93 0.06 13.90% 2,168,888 1,356,115	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23) (3.32) 3.32 140.41 0.08 (6.79)% 2,337,384 1,664,674
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges Return after operating charges* Distributions on accumulation units Retained distributions on accumulation units Closing net asset value per unit * after direct transaction costs of: Performance Return after charges <sup>A</sup> Other information Closing net asset value (£) Closing number of units Operating charges Direct transaction costs	31.10.2022 pence 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21) (1.18) 1.18 146.44 0.02 (5.31)% 1,725,934 1,178,599 2.07% <sup>B,C</sup>	<b>30.04.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28) (2.41) 2.41 154.65 0.03 (3.30)% 1,913,622 1,237,372 2.06% <sup>B</sup>	30.04.2021 pence 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52 (2.83) 2.83 159.93 0.06 13.90% 2,168,888 1,356,115 2.26%	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23) (3.32) 3.32 140.41 0.08 (6.79)% 2,337,384 1,664,674 2.23%
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges Return after operating charges* Distributions on accumulation units Retained distributions on accumulation units Closing net asset value per unit * after direct transaction costs of: Performance Return after charges <sup>A</sup> Other information Closing net asset value (£) Closing number of units Operating charges Direct transaction costs Prices (pence per unit)	31.10.2022 pence 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21) (1.18) 1.18 146.44 0.02 (5.31)% 1,725,934 1,775,934 1,178,599 2.07% <sup>B,C</sup> 0.02% <sup>C</sup>	<b>30.04.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28) (2.41) 2.41 154.65 0.03 (3.30)% 1,913,622 1,237,372 2.06% <sup>B</sup> 0.02%	30.04.2021 pence 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52 (2.83) 2.83 159.93 0.06 13.90% 2,168,888 1,356,115 2.26% 0.04%	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23) (3.32) 3.32 140.41 0.08 (6.79)% 2,337,384 1,664,674 2.23% 0.05%
Change in net assets per unit Opening net asset value per unit Return before operating charges* Operating charges Return after operating charges* Distributions on accumulation units Retained distributions on accumulation units Closing net asset value per unit * after direct transaction costs of: Performance Return after charges <sup>A</sup> Other information Closing net asset value (£) Closing number of units Operating charges Direct transaction costs	31.10.2022 pence 154.65 (6.63) (1.58) (8.21) (1.18) 1.18 146.44 0.02 (5.31)% 1,725,934 1,178,599 2.07% <sup>B,C</sup>	<b>30.04.2022</b> <b>pence</b> 159.93 (1.99) (3.29) (5.28) (2.41) 2.41 154.65 0.03 (3.30)% 1,913,622 1,237,372 2.06% <sup>B</sup>	30.04.2021 pence 140.41 22.91 (3.39) 19.52 (2.83) 2.83 159.93 0.06 13.90% 2,168,888 1,356,115 2.26%	30.04.2020 pence 150.64 (6.85) (3.38) (10.23) (3.32) 3.32 140.41 0.08 (6.79)% 2,337,384 1,664,674 2.23%

<sup>A</sup> The return after charges is calculated using the underlying investments bid prices.
 <sup>B</sup> From 30 April 2021, the Operating Charges (or Ongoing Charges Figure) calculation has been extended to include, where relevant, charges incurred by closed-ended vehicles such as investment trusts.

<sup>c</sup> These figures have been annualised.

## **COMPARATIVE TABLE**

<u>P Income units</u> Change in net assets per unit	Period to 31.10.2022	Year to 30.04.2022	Year to 30.04.2021	Year to 30.04.2020
	pence	pence	pence	pence
Opening net asset value per unit	92.72	96.63	85.82	93.48
Return before operating charges*	(3.98)	(1.19)	13.94	(4.22)
Operating charges	(0.61)	(1.26)	(1.40)	(1.39)
Return after operating charges*	(4.59)	(2.45)	12.54	(5.61)
Distributions on income units	(0.71)	(1.46)	(1.73)	(2.05)
Closing net asset value per unit	87.42	92.72	96.63	85.82
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.05
Performance				
Return after charges <sup>A</sup>	(4.95)%	(2.54)%	14.61%	(6.00)%
Other information				
Closing net asset value (£)	1,387,437	1,537,653	1,639,025	563,085
Closing number of units	1,587,085	1,658,354	1,696,176	656,104
Operating charges	1.32% <sup>B,C</sup>	1.31% <sup>B</sup>	1.51%	1.48%
Direct transaction costs	0.02% <sup>C</sup>	0.02%	0.04%	0.05%
Prices (pence per unit)				
Highest unit price	93.35	99.41	97.25	98.18
Lowest unit price	86.76	91.41	84.63	80.81
P Accumulation units	Period to	Year to	Year to	Year to
Change in net assets per unit	31.10.2022	30.04.2022	30.04.2021	30.04.2020
- <b>3</b> -	pence	pence	pence	pence
Opening net asset value per unit	109.11	112.00	97.59	103.92
Return before operating charges*	(4.69)	(1.42)	16.00	(4.78)
Operating charges	(0.71)	(1.47)	(1.59)	(1.55)
Return after operating charges*	(5.40)	(2.89)	14.41	(6.33)
Distributions on accumulation units	(0.83)	(1.70)	(1.97)	(2.30)
Retained distributions on accumulation units	0.83	1.70	1.97	2.30
Closing net asset value per unit	103.71	109.11	112.00	97.59
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.05
Performance				
Return after charges <sup>A</sup>	(4.95)%	(2.58)%	14.77%	(6.09)%
_	(4.95)%	(2.58)%	14.77%	(6.09)%
Return after charges ^ <b>Other information</b> Closing net asset value (£)	(4.95)% 938,210	(2.58)% 1,446,837	14.77% 1,444,737	(6.09)% 852,875
Other information				
Other information Closing net asset value (£)	938,210	1,446,837	1,444,737	852,875
Other information Closing net asset value (£) Closing number of units	938,210 904,639	1,446,837 1,325,983	1,444,737 1,289,983	852,875 873,935
Other information Closing net asset value (£) Closing number of units Operating charges Direct transaction costs	938,210 904,639 1.32% <sup>B.C</sup>	1,446,837 1,325,983 1.31% <sup>B</sup>	1,444,737 1,289,983 1.51%	852,875 873,935 1.48%
Other information         Closing net asset value (£)         Closing number of units         Operating charges         Direct transaction costs         Prices (pence per unit)	938,210 904,639 1.32% <sup>B,C</sup> 0.02% <sup>C</sup>	1,446,837 1,325,983 1.31% <sup>B</sup> 0.02%	1,444,737 1,289,983 1.51%	852,875 873,935 1.48% 0.05%
Other information Closing net asset value (£) Closing number of units Operating charges Direct transaction costs	938,210 904,639 1.32% <sup>B.C</sup>	1,446,837 1,325,983 1.31% <sup>B</sup>	1,444,737 1,289,983 1.51% 0.04%	852,875 873,935 1.48%

<sup>A</sup> The return after charges is calculated using the underlying investments bid prices.

<sup>B</sup> From 30 April 2021, the Operating Charges (or Ongoing Charges Figure) calculation has been extended to include, where relevant, charges incurred by closed-ended vehicles such as investment trusts.

<sup>C</sup> These figures have been annualised.

Operating charges are the same as the ongoing charges and are the total expenses paid by each unit class in the period. Direct transaction costs are the total charges for the period, included in the purchase and sale of investments in the portfolio of the Fund. These amounts are expressed as a percentage of the average net asset value over the period and the average units in issue for the pence per unit figures.

## SYNTHETIC RISK AND REWARD INDICATOR (all unit classes)

Lower risk						Higher risk
Typically lower rew	vards				Туріс	cally higher rewards
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

This indicator aims to give you a measure of the price movement of the Fund based on past data. It uses historic returns over the last five years. If five years' data is not available, simulated data based on a representative portfolio is used.

The Fund has been measured as 4 because its investments have experienced moderate volatility in the past. During the period the synthetic risk and reward indicator has remained unchanged.

## PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

as at 31 October 2022

Holding or nominal value		Bid value £	Percentage of total net assets %
	UK ALL COMPANIES (30 April 2022 - 7.79%)	~	70
8.705	iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF GBP <sup>A</sup>	60,082	1.04
-,	Total UK All Companies	60,082	1.04
210 604		230,481	3.99
	TB Evenlode Income 'C'	176,416	3.05
	Vanguard FTSE UK Equity Income Index 'A' GBP	241,565	4.18
1,000	Total UK Equity Income	648,462	11.22
	UK SMALLER COMPANIES (30 April 2022 - 2.08%)		
60.054	ASIA PACIFIC EXCLUDING JAPAN (30 April 2022 - 4.50%)	101 000	0.44
	Jupiter Asian Income 'U1' GBP Vanguard FTSE Developed Asia Pacific ex. Japan UCITS ETF USD <sup>A</sup>	121,803 119,815	2.11 2.07
5,045	Total Asia Pacific excluding Japan	241,618	4.18
		241,010	4.10
	EUROPE EXCLUDING UK (30 April 2022 - 4.04%)		
84,233	Janus Henderson European Focus 'l'	234,673	4.06
	Total Europe excluding UK	234,673	4.06
35 933	EUROPE INCLUDING UK (30 April 2022 - 3.81%) iShares MSCI Europe Quality Dividend ESG UCITS ETF EUR <sup>A</sup>	154,027	2.67
00,000	Total Europe including UK	154,027	2.67
	=======================================		
	GLOBAL EMERGING MARKETS (30 April 2022 - 2.20%)		
	Brook Global Emerging Markets 'S' GBP	93,367	1.62
426	Vanguard FTSE Emerging Markets UCITS ETF USD <sup>A</sup>	16,848	0.29
	Total Global Emerging Markets	110,215	1.91
	<b>JAPAN</b> (30 April 2022 - 3.52%)		
	JPM Japan 'C' Net	29,087	0.50
	M&G Japan 'l' Sterling	57,271	0.99
251	Man GLG Japan CoreAlpha Equity 'l' GBP	52,276	0.90
	Total Japan	138,634	2.39
	NORTH AMERICA (30 April 2022 - 9.79%)		
25,583	GQG Partners US Equity 'I' GBP	353,302	6.12
	iShares Core S&P 500 UCITS ETF USD <sup>A</sup>	219,468	3.80
	iShares MSCI USA Quality Dividend UCITS ETF USD <sup>A</sup>	240,575	4.16
	Lyxor Russell 1000 Growth UCITS ETF A	227,409	3.94
	Total North America	1,040,754	18.02
18 008	UK GILTS (30 April 2022 - 3.91%) iShares Core UK Gilts UCITS ETF GBP <sup>A</sup>	193,181	3.34
	iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF GBP <sup>A</sup>	61,056	1.06
100	Total UK Gilts	254,237	4.40
	=		
040.005	STERLING CORPORATE BOND (30 April 2022 - 3.91%)	170.054	0.00
212,395	Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond 'Inst'	178,051	3.08
	Total Sterling Corporate Bond	178,051	3.08
	STERLING STRATEGIC BOND (30 April 2022 - 5.17%)		
200,039	FTF Brandywine Global Income Optimiser 'S' GBP	176,234	3.05
	Royal London Short Duration Credit 'Z'	120,255	2.08
	Total Sterling Strategic Bond	296,489	5.13
1 /70	GLOBAL CORPORATE BOND (30 April 2022 - 3.45%) iShares Global High Yield Corp Bond GBP Hedged UCITS ETF <sup>A</sup>	122,091	2.11
	Vanguard Global Credit Bond GBP Hedged	214,490	3.71
2,100	Total Global Corporate Bond	336,581	5.82
	= = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = =	000,001	0.02

## PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

as at 31 October 2022

Holding or nominal value		Bid value £	Percentage of total net assets %
	GLOBAL GOVERNMENT BOND (30 April 2022 - Nil)		
56,782	iShares Global Govt Bond UCITS ETF USD <sup>A</sup>	210,405	3.65
	Total Global Government Bond	210,405	3.65
	GLOBAL MIXED BOND (30 April 2022 - 4.20%)		
224,552	M&G Global Macro Bond 'I' Sterling	337,232	5.84
,	Total Global Mixed Bond	337,232	5.84
00.012	USD CORPORATE BOND (30 April 2022 - 5.87%)	420.020	7.46
99,813	iShares \$ Floating Rate Bond UCITS ETF USD A	430,828	7.46
	Total USD Corporate Bond	430,828	7.46
	TARGETED ABSOLUTE RETURN (30 April 2022 - Nil)		
1,037	TM Fulcrum Diversified Core Absolute Return 'C' GBP	126,744	2.19
	Total Targeted Absolute Return	126,744	2.19
	USD GOVERNMENT BOND (30 April 2022 - 5.14%)		
	COMMODITIES AND NATURAL RESOURCES (30 April 2022 - 3.12%)		0.40
5,501	Xtrackers IE Physical Gold ETC Securities A	120,687	2.10
	Total Commodities and Natural Resources	120,687	2.10
	INFRASTRUCTURE (30 April 2022 - 4.40%)		
115,378	IFSL Marlborough Global Essential Infrastructure 'X'	119,878	2.08
	M&G Global Listed Infrastructure 'I' Sterling	177,958	3.08
	Total Infrastructure	297,836	5.16
	SHORT TERM MONEY MARKET (30 April 2022 - 5.78 %)		
249.850	Royal London Short-Term Money Market 'Y'	257,182	4.45
,	Total Short Term Money Market	257,182	4.45
	Portfolio of investments	5,474,737	94.77
	Net other assets	302,242	5.23
	Total net assets	5,776,979	100.00

All investments are units/shares in ICVCs and unit trusts which are authorised or 'recognised' by the FCA with the exception of <sup>A</sup> which are open ended exchange traded funds.

PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS for the six month period ended 31 October 2022	£
Total purchases costs, including transaction charges	3,385,874
Total sales proceeds, net of transaction charges	3,850,746

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

for the six month period ended 31 October 2022

	31 October 2022		31 Octob	31 October 2021	
	£	£	£	£	
Income:					
Net capital (losses)/gains		(344,118)		80,882	
Revenue	57,882		74,547		
Expenses	(43,088)		(48,374)		
Net revenue before taxation	14,794		26,173		
Taxation					
Net revenue after taxation		14,794		26,173	
		·		<u>, </u> _	
Total return before distributions		(329,324)		107,055	
		(		,	
Distributions		(48,782)		(64,140)	
		( - , - ,			
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders from					
investment activities		(378,106)		42,915	
		(010,100)		12,010	

## STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS

for the six month period ended 31 October 2022

	31 October 2022		31 October 2021	
	£	£	£	£
Opening net assets attributable to unitholders	А	6,734,685		7,343,532
Amounts receivable on issue of units Amounts payable on cancellation of units	27,424 (628,557)	(601,133)	293,457 (308,917)	(15,460)
Dilution adjustment		162		26
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders from investment activities		(378,106)		42,915
Retained distribution on accumulation units		21,371		31,970
Closing net assets attributable to unitholders	-	5,776,979	A	7,402,983

<sup>A</sup> These figures are not the same as the comparatives are taken from the preceding interim period and not the last final accounts.

## **BALANCE SHEET**

as at 31 October 2022

	31 October 2022 £	30 April 2022 £
Assets:		
Fixed Assets:		
Investments	5,474,737	6,256,711
Current Assets:		
Debtors	69,462	15,202
Cash and bank balances	290,343	500,330
Total assets	5,834,542	6,772,243
Liabilities:		
Creditors:		
Distribution payable on income units	25,172	22,267
Other creditors	32,391	15,291
Total liabilities	57,563	37,558
Net assets attributable to unitholders	5,776,979	6,734,685

## NOTES TO THE INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the six month period ended 31 October 2022

#### **Basis for preparation**

The interim financial statements have been prepared in compliance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for UK Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Management Association (renamed to the Investment Association) in May 2014, and amended in June 2017.

The interim financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Fund. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The interim financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of investments and certain financial instruments at fair value.

## Accounting policies

The accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the annual financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2022 and are described in those annual financial statements.

The investments of the Fund have been valued at their fair value at close of business on 31 October 2022.

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