

SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios

Annual Report

for the year ended 29 February 2024

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## SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios

### Report of the Authorised Corporate Director ('ACD')

Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited, as ACD, presents herewith the Annual Report for SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios for the year ended 29 February 2024.

SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios ('the Company') is an authorised open-ended investment company with variable capital ('ICVC') further to an authorisation order dated 2 January 2007. The Company is incorporated under registration number IC000507. It is a non-UCITS retail scheme ('NURS') complying with the investment and borrowing powers rules in the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook ('COLL') and the Investment Funds sourcebook ('FUND'), as published by the Financial Conduct Authority ('FCA'). As the Company is a NURS, the ACD also acts as Alternative Investment Fund Manager ('AIFM') in order to comply with the Alternative Investment Fund Manager's Directive ('AIFMD').

The Company has been set up as an umbrella company. Provision exists for an unlimited number of sub-funds to be included within the umbrella and additional sub-funds may be established by the ACD with the agreement of the Depositary and the approval of the FCA. The sub-funds represent segregated portfolios of assets and, accordingly, the assets of a sub-fund belong exclusively to that sub-fund and shall not be used or made available to discharge (indirectly or directly) the liabilities of claim against, any other person or body, and any other sub-fund and shall not be available for any such purpose.

The ACD is of the opinion that it is appropriate to continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of the accounts as the assets of the Company consist predominantly of securities which are readily realisable and, accordingly, the Company has adequate financial resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Further, appropriate accounting policies, consistently applied and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates, have been used in the preparation of these accounts and applicable accounting standards have been followed.

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

The Company has no Directors other than the ACD.

The Instrument of Incorporation can be inspected at the offices of the ACD.

Copies of the Prospectus and Key Investor Information Document ('KIID') are available on request free of charge from the ACD.

#### Sub-funds

There are currently seven sub-funds available in the Company:

SVS Saltus Multi Asset Class Fund

SVS Saltus Wealth Fund

SVS Saltus Global Equity Fund

SVS Saltus Fixed Income Fund

SVS Saltus Real Return Fund

SVS Saltus Growth Assets Fund

SVS Saltus Adventurous Fund

#### Cross holdings

Both throughout the year and at the year-end, no sub-fund held shares in any other sub-fund of the umbrella.

#### Investment objective and policy

The investment policy and objective of each sub-fund are disclosed within the Investment Manager's report of the individual sub-funds.

## Report of the Authorised Corporate Director (continued)

### Changes affecting the Company in the year

On 9 November 2023, the company launched the sub-fund SVS Saltus Adventurous Fund.

Further information in relation to the Company is illustrated on page 199.

In accordance with the requirements of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook and the Investment Funds sourcebook, we hereby certify the Annual Report on behalf of the ACD, Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited.

Neil Coxhead

Director

Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited

17 June 2024

## Statement of the Authorised Corporate Director's responsibilities

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

In preparing the financial statements the ACD is responsible for:

- selecting suitable accounting policies and then applying them consistently;
- making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- following UK accounting standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland;
- complying with the disclosure requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice for the Financial Statements of UK Authorised Funds ('the SORP') issued by The Investment Association in May 2014 and amended in June 2017;
- keeping proper accounting records which enable it to demonstrate that the financial statements as prepared comply with the above requirements;
- assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern;
- using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so;
- such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error;
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities; and
- the maintenance and integrity of the Company's information on the ACD's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

COLL also requires the ACD to carry out an Assessment of Value on the Company and publish these assessments within the Annual Report.

























On 9 November 2023, the sub-fund SVS Saltus Adventurous Fund launched. The ACD will complete its first Assessment of Value on 28 February 2025.

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




## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Multi Asset Class Fund

In line with the provisions contained within COLL 6.6.20R, the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited ('EPFL') as Authorised Corporate Director ('ACD'), has carried out an Assessment of Value for SVS Saltus Multi Asset Class Fund ('the sub-fund'). Furthermore, the rules require that EPFL publishes these assessments.

A high-level summary of the outcome of EPFL's rigorous review of the sub-fund, at share class level, for the year ended 29 February 2024, using the seven criteria set by the FCA is set out below:

Criteria	I Class	S Class	X Class
1. Quality of Service			
2. Performance			
3. ACD Costs			
4. Economies of Scale			
5. Comparable Market Rates			
6. Comparable Services			
7. Classes of Shares			
Overall Rating			

EPFL has adopted a traffic light system to show how it rated the sub-fund:

-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has delivered value to shareholders, with no material issues noted.
-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has delivered value to shareholders, but may require some action.
-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has not delivered value to shareholders and significant remedial action is now planned by the Board.

How EPFL assessed each of the seven criteria and the rating arrived at are discussed in greater detail on the following pages.

EPFL has created an Assessment of Value Committee ('AVC'), for the review, challenge and approval of all funds' Assessments of Value. Ultimately the assessments will be subject to scrutiny by the Board (which includes independent directors) to ensure the outcomes of the assessments are clear and fair, before final sign-off by the chair of the Board prior to communicating to investors if the sub-fund has delivered value, and if not, where improvements need to be made.

In carrying out the assessment, the EPFL AVC has separately considered, the following seven criteria stipulated by the FCA. The Committee may also have considered other issues where it was deemed appropriate.

EPFL believes the Assessment of Value can make it easier for investors to both evaluate whether the sub-fund is providing them with value for money and make more informed decisions when choosing investments.

The seven criteria are:

- (1) Quality of service – the quality of every aspect of the service provided, including, for example, accounting, administration, customer services and communications;
- (2) Performance – how the sub-fund performed, including whether it met targets and objectives, kept to relevant policy, followed relevant principles, kept to reasonable timescales;
- (3) ACD costs – the fairness and value of the sub-fund's costs, including entry and exit fees, early redemption fees, administration charges;
- (4) Economies of scale – how costs have been or can be reduced as a result of increased assets-under-management ('AUM'), and whether or not those savings have been passed on to investors;
- (5) Comparable market rates – how the costs of the sub-fund compare with others in the marketplace;
- (6) Comparable services – how the charges applied to the sub-fund compare with those of other funds administered by EPFL;
- (7) Classes of shares – the appropriateness of the classes of shares in the sub-fund for investors.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Multi Asset Class Fund (continued)

### 1. Quality of Service

What was assessed in this section?

#### Internal Factors

EPFL, as ACD, has overall responsibility for the sub-fund. The Board assessed, amongst other things: the day-to-day administration of the sub-fund; the maintenance of scheme documentation (such as prospectuses and key investor information documents ('KIIDs')); the pricing and valuation of shares; the calculation of income and distribution payments; the maintenance of accounting and other records; the preparation of annual audited and half-yearly Report & Accounts; the review of tax provisions and submission of tax computations to HMRC; the maintenance of the register of shareholders; the quality of marketing material sent to shareholders and the dealing and settlement arrangements. EPFL delegates the Investment Management of the sub-fund to a delegated Investment Management firm.

The Board reviewed information provided by EPFL's control functions on the adequacy of its internal services, including governance, operations and monitoring. Elements important to the investor experience such as the timely payment of settlement and distribution monies were also reviewed. Over the past year, EPFL has been audited by internal and external auditors, the sub-fund's Depositary and various EPFL delegated Investment Managers.

#### External Factors

The Board assessed the delegate's skills, processes and experience. Also considered were any results from service review meetings as well as the annual due diligence performed by EPFL on the delegated Investment Manager, Saltus Partners LLP ('Saltus'), where consideration was given to, amongst other things, the delegate's controls around the sub-fund's liquidity management.

The Board also considered the nature, extent and quality of administrative and shareholder services performed under separate agreements covering depositary services, custodians, as well as services provided with regard to both audit and legal functions.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

#### Internal Factors

The Board recognised that all distribution and settlement monies were paid in a timely manner and that there were no significant findings as a result of the various audits performed on EPFL during the year. In addition, EPFL has performed its own independent analysis, using automated systems, of the sub-fund's liquidity. The Board concluded that EPFL had carried out its duties diligently.

#### External Factors

The Board concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the external parties have benefitted and should continue to benefit the sub-fund and its shareholders.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 2. Performance

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the performance of the sub-fund, after the deduction of all payments out of the scheme property as set out in the Prospectus. Performance, against its benchmark, was considered over appropriate timescales having regard to the sub-fund's investment objective, policy and strategy. The Board also considered whether an appropriate level of market risk had been taken.

#### Investment Objective

The sub-fund seeks to generate a combination of income and capital growth over the long term (rolling seven year periods), with a volatility of returns of no more than one third of the volatility level of the MSCI AC World Index (over rolling three year periods). This changed with effect from the 28 February 2023<sup>1</sup> when the investment objective and policy of the sub-fund was amended to make it clearer and more meaningful to investors. The aim was to improve consistency across SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios and to help investors to better understand the sub-fund in which they are invested is trying to achieve.

<sup>1</sup> The objective of the sub-fund prior to 28 February 2023 was to grow capital in excess of inflation with the UK Consumer Price Index ('CPI') over a rolling 12 months period. The sub-fund aims to achieve its objective with a volatility of returns of up to 1/3rd of the Investment Association ('IA') UK All Companies sector volatility level, as measured over rolling three year periods.



## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Multi Asset Class Fund (continued)

### 2. Performance (continued)

#### Benchmark

As ACD, EPFL is required to explain in a fund's scheme documentation why a benchmark is being used or alternatively explain how investors should assess performance of a fund in the absence of a benchmark.

The benchmark for the sub-fund is the IA Mixed Investment 0-35% shares sector (changed from the UK CPI), which is a comparator. A 'comparator' benchmark is an index or similar factor against which an Investment Manager invites investors to compare a fund's performance.

With effect from 28 February 2023, the benchmark of the sub-fund was amended to reflect a more appropriate benchmark that is aligned more closely with the investment strategy of the sub-fund. This change has no impact on the way in which the sub-fund is managed or on the risk profile of the sub-fund.

The table below shows the performance of the sub-fund against the current benchmark and one that represents previous performance.

Cumulative Performance as at 31 January 2024 (%)

	Currency	1 year	3 year	5 year	7 year
IA Mixed Investment 0-35% shares sector	GBP	2.72	(2.99)	7.20	10.47
SVS Saltus Multi Asset I Income	GBX	0.62	1.85	12.05	16.54
SVS Saltus Multi Asset S Income	GBX	0.91	8.23	19.78	23.74
SVS Saltus Multi Asset X Income	GBX	1.40	3.72	15.20	21.16
Hybrid Benchmark*	GBP	5.21	22.01	25.11	31.15

Data provided by FE fundinfo. Care has been taken to ensure that the information is correct but FE fundinfo neither warrants, represents nor guarantees the contents of the information, nor does it accept any responsibility for errors, inaccuracies, omissions or any inconsistencies herein.

Performance shown is representative of all share classes.

Performance is calculated net of fees. Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

#### What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Board assessed the performance of the sub-fund over the recommended minimum holding period of seven years, mindful that the benchmark had changed at the year-end in February 2023.

The use of a hybrid benchmark as a comparator was preferred by the Board as it better reflected the existence of the old benchmark over most of the period under review. When compared against this hybrid benchmark, it was evident that all share classes had underperformed the hybrid benchmark and as a result, all three share classes were given an Amber rating.

Consideration was given to the risk metrics associated with the sub-fund which focused on, amongst other things, volatility and risk adjusted returns where it was noted that volatility was consistently below one third of the MSCI AC World Index, EPFL were comfortable that the outcomes were in line with the sub-fund's performance.

The Board found that the sub-fund is investing in the asset classes permitted by the investment policy and that there have been no breaches of the policy in the last twelve months.

#### Were there any follow up actions?

EPFL will continue to monitor performance through its normal oversight process, at least bi-annually.

### 3. ACD Costs

#### What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed each separate charge to ensure that they were reasonable and reflected the services provided. This included the ACD's periodic charge, Investment Manager's fee, Depositary/Custodian fees and audit fee.

The charges should be transparent and understandable to the investor, with no hidden costs.

#### What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Board received and considered information about the cost of all three share classes, and concluded that they were fair, reasonable and were provided on a competitive basis.

#### Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

\* The Hybrid Benchmark represents returns from the UK CPI between the 31/01/2014 to 28/02/2023 and the Investment Association Mixed Investment 0-35% shares sector between the 28/02/2023 and the 31/01/2024.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Multi Asset Class Fund (continued)

### 4. Economies of Scale

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed each separate fee structure and the AUM of the sub-fund to examine the effect on the sub-fund to potential and existing investors should it increase or decrease in value.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The sub-fund is part of an umbrella structure consisting of seven sub-funds where there is a tiered ACD fee structure calculated on the aggregated AUM, meaning there are savings that can be realised should this increase in the future.

The ancillary charges of the sub-fund represent 11 basis points<sup>2</sup>. Some of these costs are fixed and as the sub-fund grows in size, may result in a small reduction in the basis point cost of these services.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 5. Comparable Market Rates

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the ongoing charges figure ('OCF') of the sub-fund and how those charges affect its returns.

The Board observed that Saltus operate a unique model that includes a portfolio management fee within the OCF. For the purposes of comparing against an appropriate peer group, the notional portfolio management fee has been removed from the OCF of all classes. The OCF of the most expensive class was then compared against the 'market rate' of similar external funds.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The OCF for the share classes<sup>3</sup> were:

I Income	1.56%
S Income	1.16%
X Income	0.96%

The OCFs for all share classes compared favourably with those of similar externally managed funds.

Note that EPFL has not charged an entry fee, exit fee or any other event-based fees on this sub-fund.

Were there any follow up actions?

There was no further action required as the Board were of the opinion that no element within the OCF gave any cause for concern.

### 6. Comparable Services

What was assessed in this section?

The Board compared the Investment Manager's fee with those of other funds administered by EPFL having regard to size, investment objectives and policies.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Investment Manager's fee compared favourably with other EPFL administered funds displaying similar characteristics.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 7. Classes of Shares

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the sub-fund's set-up to ensure that where there are multiple share classes, investors are in the correct share class given the size of their holding.

<sup>2</sup> One basis point is equal to 1/100th of 1%, or 0.01%. Figure calculated at interim report, 31 August 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Figure calculated at interim report, 31 August 2023.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Multi Asset Class Fund (continued)

### 7. Classes of Shares (continued)

What was the outcome of the assessment?

There are three share classes in the sub-fund. EPFL can confirm that investors are in the correct share class.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### Overall Assessment of Value

Notwithstanding the matter discussed in section 2, the Board concluded that SVS Saltus Multi Asset Class Fund had provided value to shareholders.

Dean Buckley

Chairman of the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited

18 May 2024

### Consumer Feedback

On reviewing this Assessment of Value report, we would welcome invaluable feedback from investors via our short questionnaire which can be found online:

<https://www.evelyn.com/services/fund-solutions/assessment-of-value/>

Investors views are invaluable to the development and delivery of this report.

Should you be unable to access the questionnaire online please contact us directly on 0141 222 1151 and we will provide you with a paper copy of the questionnaire.




## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Wealth Fund

In line with the provisions contained within COLL 6.6.20R, the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited ('EPFL') as Authorised Corporate Director ('ACD'), has carried out an Assessment of Value for SVS Saltus Wealth Fund ('the sub-fund'). Furthermore, the rules require that EPFL publishes these assessments.

A high-level summary of the outcome of EPFL's rigorous review of the sub-fund, at share class level, for the year ended 29 February 2024, using the seven criteria set by the FCA is set out below:

	C Class	I Class	S Class	X Class
1. Quality of Service	●	●	●	●
2. Performance	●	●	●	●
3. ACD Costs	●	●	●	●
4. Economies of Scale	●	●	●	●
5. Comparable Market Rates	●	●	●	●
6. Comparable Services	●	●	●	●
7. Classes of Shares	●	●	●	●
Overall Rating	●	●	●	●

EPFL has adopted a traffic light system to show how it rated the sub-fund:

-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has delivered value to shareholders, with no material issues noted.
-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has delivered value to shareholders, but may require some action.
-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has not delivered value to shareholders and significant remedial action is now planned by the Board.

How EPFL assessed each of the seven criteria and the rating arrived at are discussed in greater detail on the following pages.

EPFL has created an Assessment of Value Committee ('AVC'), for the review, challenge and approval of all funds' Assessments of Value. Ultimately the assessments will be subject to scrutiny by the Board (which includes independent directors) to ensure the outcomes of the assessments are clear and fair, before final sign-off by the chair of the Board prior to communicating to investors if the sub-fund has delivered value, and if not, where improvements need to be made.

In carrying out the assessment, the EPFL AVC has separately considered, the following seven criteria stipulated by the FCA. The Committee may also have considered other issues where it was deemed appropriate.

EPFL believes the Assessment of Value can make it easier for investors to both evaluate whether the sub-fund is providing them with value for money and make more informed decisions when choosing investments.

The seven criteria are:

- (1) Quality of service – the quality of every aspect of the service provided, including, for example, accounting, administration, customer services and communications;
- (2) Performance – how the sub-fund performed, including whether it met targets and objectives, kept to relevant policy, followed relevant principles, kept to reasonable timescales;
- (3) ACD costs – the fairness and value of the sub-fund's costs, including entry and exit fees, early redemption fees, administration charges;
- (4) Economies of scale – how costs have been or can be reduced as a result of increased assets-under-management ('AUM'), and whether or not those savings have been passed on to investors;
- (5) Comparable market rates – how the costs of the sub-fund compare with others in the marketplace;
- (6) Comparable services – how the charges applied to the sub-fund compare with those of other funds administered by EPFL;
- (7) Classes of shares – the appropriateness of the classes of shares in the sub-fund for investors.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Wealth Fund (continued)

### 1. Quality of Service

What was assessed in this section?

#### Internal Factors

EPFL, as ACD, has overall responsibility for the sub-fund. The Board assessed, amongst other things: the day-to-day administration of the sub-fund; the maintenance of scheme documentation (such as prospectuses and key investor information documents ('KIIDs')); the pricing and valuation of shares; the calculation of income and distribution payments; the maintenance of accounting and other records; the preparation of annual audited and half-yearly Report & Accounts; the review of tax provisions and submission of tax computations to HMRC; the maintenance of the register of shareholders; the dealing and settlement arrangements; and the quality of marketing material sent to shareholders. EPFL delegates the Investment Management of the sub-fund to a delegated Investment Management firm.

The Board reviewed information provided by EPFL's control functions on the adequacy of its internal services, including governance, operations and monitoring. Elements important to the investor experience such as the timely payment of settlement and distribution monies were also reviewed. Over the past year, EPFL has been audited by internal and external auditors, the sub-fund's Depositary and various EPFL delegated Investment Managers.

#### External Factors

The Board assessed the delegate's skills, processes and experience. Also considered were any results from service review meetings as well as the annual due diligence performed by EPFL on the delegated Investment Manager, Saltus Partners LLP ('Saltus'), where consideration was given to, amongst other things, the delegate's controls around the sub-fund's liquidity management.

The Board also considered the nature, extent and quality of administrative and shareholder services performed under separate agreements covering depositary services, custody, as well as services provided with regard to both audit and legal functions.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

#### Internal Factors

The Board recognised that all distribution and settlement monies were paid in a timely manner and that there were no significant findings as a result of the various audits performed on EPFL during the year. In addition, EPFL has performed its own independent analysis, using automated systems, of the sub-fund's liquidity. The Board concluded that EPFL had carried out its duties diligently.

#### External Factors

The Board concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the external parties have benefitted and should continue to benefit the sub-fund and its shareholders.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 2. Performance

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the performance of the sub-fund, after the deduction of all payments out of the scheme property as set out in the Prospectus. Performance, against its benchmark, was considered over appropriate timescales having regard to the sub-fund's investment objective, policy and strategy. The Board also considered whether an appropriate level of market risk had been taken.

#### Investment Objective

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to generate a combination of income and capital growth over the long term (rolling seven year periods), with a volatility of returns of no more than two thirds of the volatility level of MSCI AC World Index (over rolling three year periods). This changed with effect from the 28 February 2023<sup>1</sup> when the investment objective and policy of the sub-fund was amended to make it clearer and more meaningful to investors. The aim was to improve consistency across SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios and to help investors to better understand the sub-fund in which they are invested is trying to achieve.

#### Benchmark

As ACD, EPFL is required to explain in a fund's scheme documentation why a benchmark is being used or alternatively explain how investors should assess performance of a fund in the absence of a benchmark.

<sup>1</sup> The objective of the sub-fund prior to 28 February 2023 was to generate a return which is the higher of cash (measured by the Bank of England ('BoE') base rate) and inflation (as measured by UK Consumer Price Index ('CPI')). The sub-fund aims to achieve its objective with a target volatility of no more than two thirds of the Investment Association ('IA') UK All Companies Sector volatility over a rolling three year periods irrespective of market conditions.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Wealth Fund (continued)

### 2. Performance (continued)

#### Benchmark (continued)

The benchmark for the sub-fund is the IA Mixed Investment 20-60% shares sector (changed from the BoE base rate and the UK CPI), which is a comparator. A 'comparator' benchmark is an index or similar factor against which an investment manager invites investors to compare a fund's performance.

With effect from 28 February 2023, the benchmark of the sub-fund was amended to reflect a more appropriate benchmark that is aligned more closely with the investment strategy of the sub-fund. This change has no impact on the way in which the sub-fund is managed or on the risk profile of the sub-fund.

The tables below show the performance of the sub-fund against the current benchmark and one that represents previous performance.

#### Cumulative Performance as at 31 January 2024 (%)

Instrument	Currency	1 year	3 year	5 year	7 year
IA Mixed Investment 20-60% shares sector	GBP	3.23	3.61	16.39	21.19
SVS Saltus Wealth I Income	GBX	3.01	6.96	23.03	30.17
SVS Saltus Wealth X Income	GBX	3.57	8.78	26.32	35.41
Hybrid Benchmark A*	GBX	5.34	22.15	25.26	31.31
Hybrid Benchmark B**	GBX	3.88	5.81	6.78	7.78

Instrument	Currency	1 year	3 year	5 year	01/08/2018 to 31/01/2024
IA Mixed Investment 20-60% shares sector	GBP	3.23	3.61	16.39	12.76
SVS Saltus Wealth C Accumulation <sup>^</sup>	GBX	3.23	7.46	23.97	19.04
SVS Saltus Wealth S Income <sup>^</sup>	GBX	3.33	8.27	25.34	20.36
Hybrid Benchmark A***	GBX	5.34	22.15	25.26	25.85
Hybrid Benchmark B****	GBX	3.88	5.81	6.78	7.73

Data provided by FE fundinfo. Care has been taken to ensure that the information is correct but FE fundinfo neither warrants, represents nor guarantees the contents of the information, nor does it accept any responsibility for errors, inaccuracies, omissions or any inconsistencies herein.

Performance shown is representative of all share classes.

Performance is calculated net of fees. Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

#### What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Board assessed the performance of the sub-fund over the recommended minimum holding period of seven years, mindful that the benchmark had changed at the sub-fund's year-end in February 2023.

The use of hybrid benchmarks as a comparator was preferred by the Board as it better reflected the existence of the old benchmarks over most of the period under review. When compared against the hybrid benchmarks, it was evident that the I Income and X Income share classes had outperformed the BoE based hybrid benchmark however the X Income share class was the only share class to outperform the UK CPI based hybrid.

The C Accumulation and S Income share classes, which launched on the 1 August 2018, also outperformed the BoE based hybrid benchmark, but underperformed the UK CPI based hybrid.

Consideration was given to the risk metrics associated with the sub-fund which focused on, amongst other things, volatility and risk adjusted returns and where the Board noted that the volatility was consistently below the target of two thirds of the MSCI AC World Index. EPFL were comfortable that the outcomes were in line with the sub-fund's performance.

The Board found that the sub-fund is investing in the asset classes permitted by the investment policy and that there have been no breaches of the policy in the last twelve months.

\*The Hybrid Benchmark A represents returns from the UK CPI between the 31/01/2014 to 28/02/2023 and the IA Mixed Investment 20-60% shares sector between the 28/02/2023 and the 31/01/2024.

\*\*The Hybrid Benchmark B represents returns from the BoE base rate between the 31/01/2014 to 28/02/2023 and the IA Mixed Investment 20-60% shares sector between the 28/02/2023 and the 31/01/2024.

\*\*\*The Hybrid Benchmark A represents returns from the UK CPI between the 01/08/2018 to 28/02/2023 and the IA Mixed Investment 20-60% shares sector between the 28/02/2023 and the 31/01/2024.

\*\*\*\*The Hybrid Benchmark B represents returns from the BoE base rate between the 01/08/2018 to 28/02/2023 and the IA Mixed Investment 20-60% shares sector between the 28/02/2023 and the 31/01/2024.

<sup>^</sup>The C Accumulation and S Income share classes launched on 1 August 2018.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Wealth Fund (continued)

### 2. Performance (continued)

Were there any follow up actions?

EPFL will continue to monitor performance through its normal oversight process, at least bi-annually.

### 3. ACD Costs

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed each separate charge to ensure that they were reasonable and reflected the services provided. This included the ACD's periodic charge, Investment Manager's fee, Depositary/Custodian fees and audit fee.

The charges should be transparent and understandable to the investor, with no hidden costs.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Board received and considered information about the costs of all three share classes and concluded that they were fair, reasonable and were provided on a competitive basis.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 4. Economies of Scale

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed each separate fee structure and the AUM of the sub-fund to examine the effect on the sub-fund to potential and existing investors should it increase or decrease in value.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The sub-fund is part of an umbrella structure consisting of seven sub-funds where there is a tiered ACD fee structure calculated on the aggregated AUM, meaning there are savings that can be realised should this increase in the future.

The ancillary charges of the sub-fund represent 8 basis points<sup>2</sup>. Some of these costs are fixed and as the sub-fund grows in size, may result in a small reduction in the basis point cost of these services.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 5. Comparable Market Rates

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the ongoing charges figure ('OCF') of the sub-fund and how those charges affect its returns.

The Board observed that Saltus operate a unique model that includes a portfolio management fee within the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). For the purposes of comparing against an appropriate peer group, the notional portfolio management fee has been removed from the OCF of all share classes. The OCF of the most expensive share class was then compared against the 'market rate' of similar external funds.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The OCF for the share classes<sup>3</sup> were:

C Accumulation	1.39%
I Income	1.59%
S Income	1.19%
X Income	0.99%

The OCFs for all share classes compared favourably with those of similar externally managed funds.

Note that EPFL has not charged an entry fee, exit fee or any other event-based fees on this sub-fund.

Were there any follow up actions?

There was no further action required as the Board were of the opinion that no element within the OCF gave any cause for concern.

<sup>2</sup> One basis point is equal to 1/100th of 1%, or 0.01%. Figure calculated at interim report, 31 August 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Figure calculated at interim report, 31 August 2023.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Wealth Fund (continued)

### 6. Comparable Services

What was assessed in this section?

The Board compared the Investment Manager's fee with those of other funds administered by EPFL having regard to size, investment objectives and policies.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Investment Manager's fee compared favourably with other EPFL administered funds displaying similar characteristics.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 7. Classes of Shares

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the sub-fund's set-up to ensure that where there are multiple share classes, investors are in the correct share class given the size of their holding.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

There are four share classes in the sub-fund. EPFL can confirm that investors are in the correct share class.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### Overall Assessment of Value

The Board concluded that SVS Saltus Wealth Fund had provided value to investors.

Dean Buckley

Chairman of the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited

20 May 2024

### Consumer Feedback

On reviewing this Assessment of Value report, we would welcome invaluable feedback from investors via our short questionnaire which can be found online:

<https://www.evelyn.com/services/fund-solutions/assessment-of-value/>

Investors views are invaluable to the development and delivery of this report.

Should you be unable to access the questionnaire online please contact us directly on 0141 222 1151 and we will provide you with a paper copy of the questionnaire.






## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Global Equity Fund

In line with the provisions contained within COLL 6.6.20R, the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited ('EPFL') as Authorised Corporate Director ('ACD'), has carried out an Assessment of Value for SVS Saltus Global Equity Fund ('the sub-fund'). Furthermore, the rules require that EPFL publishes these assessments.

A high-level summary of the outcome of EPFL's rigorous review of the sub-fund, at share class level, for the year ended 29 February 2024, using the seven criteria set by the FCA is set out below:

	I Class	S Class	X Class
1. Quality of Service	●	●	●
2. Performance	●	●	●
3. ACD Costs	●	●	●
4. Economies of Scale	●	●	●
5. Comparable Market Rates	●	●	●
6. Comparable Services	●	●	●
7. Classes of Shares	●	●	●
Overall Rating	●	●	●

EPFL has adopted a traffic light system to show how it rated the sub-fund:

-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has delivered value to shareholders, with no material issues noted.
-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has delivered value to shareholders, but may require some action.
-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has not delivered value to shareholders and significant remedial action is now planned by the Board.

How EPFL assessed each of the seven criteria and the rating arrived at are discussed in greater detail on the following pages.

EPFL has created an Assessment of Value Committee ('AVC'), for the review, challenge and approval of all funds' Assessments of Value. Ultimately the assessments will be subject to scrutiny by the Board (which includes independent directors) to ensure the outcomes of the assessments are clear and fair, before final sign-off by the chair of the Board prior to communicating to investors if the sub-fund has delivered value, and if not, where improvements need to be made.

In carrying out the assessment, the EPFL AVC has separately considered, the following seven criteria stipulated by the FCA. The Committee may also have considered other issues where it was deemed appropriate.

EPFL believes the Assessment of Value can make it easier for investors to both evaluate whether the sub-fund is providing them with value for money and make more informed decisions when choosing investments.

The seven criteria are:

- (1) Quality of service – the quality of every aspect of the service provided, including, for example, accounting, administration, customer services and communications;
- (2) Performance – how the sub-fund performed, including whether it met targets and objectives, kept to relevant policy, followed relevant principles, kept to reasonable timescales;
- (3) ACD costs – the fairness and value of the sub-fund's costs, including entry and exit fees, early redemption fees, administration charges;
- (4) Economies of scale – how costs have been or can be reduced as a result of increased assets-under-management ('AUM'), and whether or not those savings have been passed on to investors;
- (5) Comparable market rates – how the costs of the sub-fund compare with others in the marketplace;
- (6) Comparable services – how the charges applied to the sub-fund compare with those of other funds administered by EPFL;
- (7) Classes of shares – the appropriateness of the classes of shares in the sub-fund for investors.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Global Equity Fund (continued)

### 1. Quality of Service

What was assessed in this section?

#### Internal Factors

EPFL, as ACD, has overall responsibility for the sub-fund. The Board assessed, amongst other things: the day-to-day administration of the sub-fund; the maintenance of scheme documentation (such as prospectuses and key investor information documents ('KIIDs')); the pricing and valuation of shares; the calculation of income and distribution payments; the maintenance of accounting and other records; the preparation of annual audited and half-yearly Report & Accounts; the review of tax provisions and submission of tax computations to HMRC; the maintenance of the register of shareholders; the dealing and settlement arrangements; and the quality of marketing material sent to shareholders. EPFL delegates the Investment Management of the sub-fund to a delegated Investment Management firm.

The Board reviewed information provided by EPFL's control functions on the adequacy of its internal services, including governance, operations and monitoring. Elements important to the investor experience such as the timely payment of settlement and distribution monies were also reviewed. Over the past year, EPFL has been audited by internal and external auditors, the sub-fund's Depositary and various EPFL delegated Investment Managers.

#### External Factors

The Board assessed the delegate's skills, processes and experience. Also considered were any results from service review meetings as well as the annual due diligence performed by EPFL on the delegated Investment Manager, Saltus Partners LLP ('Saltus'), where consideration was given to, amongst other things, the delegate's controls around the sub-fund's liquidity management.

The Board also considered the nature, extent and quality of administrative and shareholder services performed under separate agreements covering depositary services, custody, as well as services provided with regard to both audit and legal functions.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

#### Internal Factors

The Board recognised that all distribution and settlement monies were paid in a timely manner and that there were no significant findings as a result of the various audits performed on EPFL during the year. In addition, EPFL has performed its own independent analysis, using automated systems, of the sub-fund's liquidity. The Board concluded that EPFL had carried out its duties diligently.

#### External Factors

The Board concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the external parties have benefitted and should continue to benefit the sub-fund and its shareholders.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 2. Performance

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the performance of the sub-fund, after the deduction of all payments out of the scheme property as set out in the Prospectus. Performance, against its benchmark, was considered over appropriate timescales having regard to the sub-fund's investment objective, policy and strategy. The Board also considered whether an appropriate level of market risk had been taken.

#### Investment Objective

The sub-fund seeks to achieve capital growth over the long term (rolling seven-year periods) by investing at least 80% of its assets in other collective investment schemes (including open-ended investment schemes and closed-ended investment schemes), in order to obtain exposure to a broad range of equities.

This changed with effect from the 28 February 2023<sup>1</sup> when the investment objective and policy of the sub-fund was amended to make it clearer and more meaningful to shareholders. The aim was to improve consistency across SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios and to help shareholders to better understand the sub-fund in which they are invested is trying to achieve.

<sup>1</sup> The objective of the sub-fund prior to 28 February 2023 was to achieve long term capital growth by investing in equity markets mainly via collective investment schemes which themselves invest in transferable securities and currencies.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Global Equity Fund (continued)

### 2. Performance (continued)

#### Benchmark

As ACD, EPFL is required to explain in a fund's scheme documentation why a benchmark is being used or alternatively explain how investors should assess performance of a fund in the absence of a benchmark.

The benchmark for the sub-fund is the ARC Sterling Equity Risk PCI which is a comparator. A 'comparator' benchmark is an index or similar factor against which an Investment Manager invites investors to compare a fund's performance.

Details of how the sub-fund had performed against its comparator benchmark over various timescales can be found below.

#### Cumulative Performance as at 31 January 2024 (%)

Instrument	Currency	1 year	3 year	5 year	7 year
ARC Sterling Equity Risk PCI	GBP	4.53	8.55	29.84	40.11
SVS Saltus Global Equity I Income	GBX	7.47	10.31	32.71	44.35
SVS Saltus Global Equity S Income	GBX	7.90	11.70	35.44	48.51

Instrument	Currency	1 year	25/08/2021 to 31/01/2024
ARC Sterling Equity Risk PCI	GBX	4.53	(0.28)
SVS Saltus Global Equity X Income <sup>^</sup>	GBP	8.10	3.24

Data provided by FE fundinfo. Care has been taken to ensure that the information is correct but FE fundinfo neither warrants, represents nor guarantees the contents of the information, nor does it accept any responsibility for errors, inaccuracies, omissions or any inconsistencies herein.

Performance shown is representative of all share classes.

Performance is calculated net of fees. Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

#### What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Board assessed the performance of the sub-fund over the recommended minimum holding period of seven years and observed that the I Income share class, which was rated Amber in 2023, and the S Income share class had outperformed the comparator benchmark, the ARC Sterling Equity Risk PCI. The Board also observed that the X Income share class, which launched on the 25 August 2021, had outperformed its comparator benchmark in the period since launch. As a result, all three share classes were given a Green rating.

Consideration was given to the risk metrics associated with the sub-fund which focused on, amongst other things, volatility and risk adjusted returns where EPFL were comfortable that the outcomes were in line with the sub-fund's performance.

The Board found that the sub-fund is investing in the asset classes permitted by the investment policy and that there have been no breaches of the policy in the last twelve months.

#### Were there any follow up actions?

There was no follow up action required.

<sup>^</sup>The X Income shareclass launched on 25 August 2021.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Global Equity Fund (continued)

### 3. ACD Costs

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed each separate charge to ensure that they were reasonable and reflected the services provided. This included the ACD's periodic charge, Investment Manager's fee, Depositary/Custodian fees and audit fee.

The charges should be transparent and understandable to the investor, with no hidden costs.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Board received and considered information about the costs of all three share classes and concluded that they were fair, reasonable and were provided on a competitive basis.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 4. Economies of Scale

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed each separate fee structure and the AUM of the sub-fund to examine the effect on the sub-fund to potential and existing investors should it increase or decrease in value.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The sub-fund is part of an umbrella structure consisting of seven sub-funds where there is a tiered ACD fee structure calculated on the aggregated AUM, meaning there are savings that can be realised should this increase in the future.

The ancillary charges of the sub-fund represent 3 basis points<sup>2</sup>. Some of these costs are fixed and as the sub-fund grows in size, may result in a small reduction in the basis point cost of these services.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 5. Comparable Market Rates

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the ongoing charges figure ('OCF') of the sub-fund and how those charges affect its returns.

The Board observed that Saltus operate a unique model that includes a portfolio management fee within the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). For the purposes of comparing against an appropriate peer group, the notional portfolio management fee has been removed from the OCF of all share classes. The OCF of the most expensive share class was then compared against the 'market rate' of similar external funds.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The OCF for the share classes<sup>3</sup> were:

I Income	1.70%
S Income	1.30%
X Income	1.10%

The OCFs for all share classes compared favourably with those of similar externally managed funds.

Note that EPFL has not charged an entry fee, exit fee or any other event-based fees on this sub-fund.

Were there any follow up actions?

There was no further action required.

<sup>2</sup> One basis point is equal to 1/100th of 1%, or 0.01%. Figure calculated at interim report, 31 August 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Figure calculated at interim report, 31 August 2023.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Global Equity Fund (continued)

### 6. Comparable Services

What was assessed in this section?

The Board compared the Investment Manager's fee with those of other funds administered by EPFL having regard to size, investment objectives and policies.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

There were no other EPFL administered funds displaying similar characteristics with which to make a meaningful comparison.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 7. Classes of Shares

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the sub-fund's set-up to ensure that where there are multiple share classes, investors are in the correct share class given the size of their holding.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

There are three share classes in the sub-fund. EPFL can confirm that investors are in the correct share class.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### Overall Assessment of Value

The Board concluded that SVS Saltus Global Equity Fund had provided value to investors.

Dean Buckley

Chairman of the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited

20 May 2024

### Consumer Feedback

On reviewing this Assessment of Value report, we would welcome invaluable feedback from investors via our short questionnaire which can be found online:

<https://www.evelyn.com/services/fund-solutions/assessment-of-value/>

























Investors views are invaluable to the development and delivery of this report.

Should you be unable to access the questionnaire online please contact us directly on 0141 222 1151 and we will provide you with a paper copy of the questionnaire.




## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Fixed Income Fund

In line with the provisions contained within COLL 6.6.20R, the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited ('EPFL') as Authorised Corporate Director ('ACD'), has carried out an Assessment of Value for SVS Saltus Fixed Income Fund ('the sub-fund'). Furthermore, the rules require that EPFL publishes these assessments.

A high-level summary of the outcome of EPFL's rigorous review of the sub-fund, at share class level, for the year ended 29 February 2024, using the seven criteria set by the FCA is set out below:

Criteria	I Class	S Class	X Class
1. Quality of Service			
2. Performance			
3. ACD Costs			
4. Economies of Scale			
5. Comparable Market Rates			
6. Comparable Services			
7. Classes of Shares			
Overall Rating			

EPFL has adopted a traffic light system to show how it rated the sub-fund:

-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has delivered value to shareholders, with no material issues noted.
-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has delivered value to shareholders, but may require some action.
-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has not delivered value to shareholders and significant remedial action is now planned by the Board.

How EPFL assessed each of the seven criteria and the rating arrived at are discussed in greater detail on the following pages.

EPFL has created an Assessment of Value Committee ('AVC'), for the review, challenge and approval of all funds' Assessments of Value. Ultimately the assessments will be subject to scrutiny by the Board (which includes independent directors) to ensure the outcomes of the assessments are clear and fair, before final sign-off by the chair of the Board prior to communicating to investors if the sub-fund has delivered value, and if not, where improvements need to be made.

In carrying out the assessment, the EPFL AVC has separately considered, the following seven criteria stipulated by the FCA. The Committee may also have considered other issues where it was deemed appropriate.

EPFL believes the Assessment of Value can make it easier for investors to both evaluate whether the sub-fund is providing them with value for money and make more informed decisions when choosing investments.

The seven criteria are:

- (1) Quality of service – the quality of every aspect of the service provided, including, for example, accounting, administration, customer services and communications;
- (2) Performance – how the sub-fund performed, including whether it met targets and objectives, kept to relevant policy, followed relevant principles, kept to reasonable timescales;
- (3) ACD costs – the fairness and value of the sub-fund's costs, including entry and exit fees, early redemption fees, administration charges;
- (4) Economies of scale – how costs have been or can be reduced as a result of increased assets-under-management ('AUM'), and whether or not those savings have been passed on to investors;
- (5) Comparable market rates – how the costs of the sub-fund compare with others in the marketplace;
- (6) Comparable services – how the charges applied to the sub-fund compare with those of other funds administered by EPFL;
- (7) Classes of shares – the appropriateness of the classes of shares in the sub-fund for investors.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Fixed Income Fund (continued)

### 1. Quality of Service

What was assessed in this section?

#### Internal Factors

EPFL, as ACD, has overall responsibility for the sub-fund. The Board assessed, amongst other things: the day-to-day administration of the sub-fund; the maintenance of scheme documentation (such as prospectuses and key investor information documents ('KIIDs')); the pricing and valuation of shares; the calculation of income and distribution payments; the maintenance of accounting and other records; the preparation of annual audited and half-yearly Report & Accounts; the review of tax provisions and submission of tax computations to HMRC; the maintenance of the register of shareholders; the quality of marketing material sent to shareholders and the dealing and settlement arrangements. EPFL delegates the Investment Management of the sub-fund to a delegated Investment Management firm.

The Board reviewed information provided by EPFL's control functions on the adequacy of its internal services, including governance, operations and monitoring. Elements important to the investor experience such as the timely payment of settlement and distribution monies were also reviewed. Over the past year, EPFL has been audited by internal and external auditors, the sub-fund's Depository and various EPFL delegated Investment Managers.

#### External Factors

The Board assessed the delegate's skills, processes and experience. Also considered were any results from service review meetings as well as the annual due diligence performed by EPFL on the delegated Investment Manager, Saltus Partners LLP ('Saltus'), where consideration was given to, amongst other things, the delegate's controls around the sub-fund's liquidity management.

The Board also considered the nature, extent and quality of administrative and shareholder services performed under separate agreements covering depository services, custodians, as well as services provided with regard to both audit and legal functions.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

#### Internal Factors

The Board recognised that all distribution and settlement monies were paid in a timely manner and that there were no significant findings as a result of the various audits performed on EPFL during the year. In addition, EPFL has performed its own independent analysis, using automated systems, of the sub-fund's liquidity. The Board concluded that EPFL had carried out its duties diligently.

#### External Factors

The Board concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the external parties have benefitted and should continue to benefit the sub-fund and its shareholders.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 2. Performance

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the performance of the sub-fund, after the deduction of all payments out of the scheme property as set out in the Prospectus. Performance, against its benchmark, was considered over appropriate timescales having regard to the sub-fund's investment objective, policy and strategy. The Board also considered whether an appropriate level of market risk had been taken.

#### Investment Objective

The sub-fund seeks to achieve income and capital growth over the medium term (rolling three year periods). This changed with effect from the 28 February 2023<sup>1</sup> when the investment objective and policy of the sub-fund was amended to make it clearer and more meaningful to investors. The aim was to improve consistency across SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios and to help investors to better understand the sub-fund in which they are invested is trying to achieve.

<sup>1</sup> The objective of the sub-fund prior to 28 February 2023 was to generate a return which was the higher of cash (measured by the Bank of England ('BoE') base rate) and inflation (as measured by UK Consumer Price Index ('CPI')), over a rolling three-year period.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Fixed Income Fund (continued)

### 2. Performance (continued)

#### Benchmark

As ACD, EPFL is required to explain in a fund's scheme documentation why a benchmark is being used or alternatively explain how investors should assess performance of a fund in the absence of a benchmark.

The benchmark for the sub-fund is the Investment Association ('IA') Specialist Bond sector (changed from the BoE base rate and the UK CPI) which is a comparator. A 'comparator' benchmark is an index or similar factor against which an investment manager invites investors to compare a fund's performance.

With effect from 28 February 2023, the benchmark of the sub-fund was amended to reflect a more appropriate benchmark that is aligned more closely with the investment strategy of the sub-fund. This change has no impact on the way in which the sub-fund is managed or on the risk profile of the sub-fund.

Details of how the sub-fund had performed against its comparator benchmark over various timescales can be found below.

#### Cumulative Performance as at 31 January 2024 (%)

	Currency	1 year	3 year
IA Specialist Bond sector	GBP	0.75	(4.94)
SVS Saltus Fixed Income I Income	GBX	(0.25)	(8.62)
SVS Saltus Fixed Income S Income	GBX	0.06	(7.77)
SVS Saltus Fixed Income X Income	GBX	0.25	(6.92)

Data provided by FE fundinfo. Care has been taken to ensure that the information is correct but FE fundinfo neither warrants, represents nor guarantees the contents of the information, nor does it accept any responsibility for errors, inaccuracies, omissions or any inconsistencies herein.

Performance shown is representative of all share classes.

Performance is calculated net of fees. Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

#### What was the outcome of the assessment?

As the Board felt that the benchmark that was in place after the 28 February 2023 better reflected the strategy of the sub-fund, the Board assessed its performance using the current comparator benchmark, the IA Specialist Bond sector. The Board observed that over the minimum recommended holding period of three years all three share classes had underperformed this comparator benchmark and as a result, this section was given an Amber rating.

Consideration was given to the risk metrics associated with the sub-fund which focused on, amongst other things, volatility and risk adjusted returns where EPFL were comfortable that the outcomes were in line with the sub-fund's performance.

The Board found that the sub-fund is investing in the asset classes permitted by the investment policy and that there have been no breaches of the policy in the last twelve months.

#### Were there any follow up actions?

EPFL will continue to monitor performance through its normal oversight process, at least bi-annually.

### 3. ACD Costs

#### What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed each separate charge to ensure that they were reasonable and reflected the services provided. This included the ACD's periodic charge, Investment Manager's fee, Depositary/Custodian fees and audit fee.

The charges should be transparent and understandable to the investor, with no hidden costs.

#### What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Board received and considered information about the cost of all three share classes, and concluded that they were fair, reasonable and were provided on a competitive basis.

#### Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.



## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Fixed Income Fund (continued)

### 4. Economies of Scale

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed each separate fee structure and the AUM of the sub-fund to examine the effect on the sub-fund to potential and existing investors should it increase or decrease in value.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The sub-fund is part of an umbrella structure consisting of seven sub-funds where there is a tiered ACD fee structure calculated on the aggregated AUM, meaning there are savings that can be realised should this increase in the future.

The ancillary charges of the sub-fund represent 4 basis points<sup>2</sup>. Some of these costs are fixed and as the sub-fund grows in size, may result in a small reduction in the basis point cost of these services.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 5. Comparable Market Rates

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the ongoing charges figure ('OCF') of the sub-fund and how those charges affect its returns.

The Board observed that Saltus operate a unique model that includes a portfolio management fee within the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). For the purposes of comparing against an appropriate peer group, the notional portfolio management fee has been removed from the OCF of all share classes. The OCF of the most expensive share class was then compared against the 'market rate' of similar external funds.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The OCF for the share classes<sup>3</sup> were:

I Income	1.42%
S Income	1.02%
X Income	0.82%

The OCF for the S Income and X Income share classes compared favourably with those of similar externally managed funds.

The OCF for the I Income share class was found to be more expensive than those of similar externally managed funds and as a result was given an Amber rating.

Note that EPFL has not charged an entry fee, exit fee or any other event-based fees on this sub-fund.

Were there any follow up actions?

EPFL will continue to monitor the sub-fund through its normal oversight process.

### 6. Comparable Services

What was assessed in this section?

The Board compared the Investment Management fee with those of other funds administered by EPFL having regard to size, investment objectives and policies.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

There were no other EPFL administered funds displaying similar characteristics with which to make a meaningful comparison.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 7. Classes of Shares

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the sub-fund's set-up to ensure that where there are multiple share classes, investors are in the correct share class given the size of their holding.

<sup>2</sup> One basis point is equal to 1/100th of 1%, or 0.01%. Figure calculated at interim report, 31 August 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Figure calculated at interim report, 31 August 2023.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Fixed Income Fund (continued)

### 7. Classes of Shares (continued)

What was the outcome of the assessment?

There are three share classes in the sub-fund. EPFL can confirm that investors are in the correct share class.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### Overall Assessment of Value

Notwithstanding the matter discussed in section 2 and 5, the Board concluded that SVS Saltus Fixed Income Fund had provided value to shareholders.

Dean Buckley

Chairman of the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited

18 May 2024

### Consumer Feedback

On reviewing this Assessment of Value report, we would welcome invaluable feedback from investors via our short questionnaire which can be found online:

<https://www.evelyn.com/services/fund-solutions/assessment-of-value/>

























Investors views are invaluable to the development and delivery of this report.

Should you be unable to access the questionnaire online please contact us directly on 0141 222 1151 and we will provide you with a paper copy of the questionnaire.




## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Real Return Fund

In line with the provisions contained within COLL 6.6.20R, the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited ('EPFL') as Authorised Corporate Director ('ACD'), has carried out an Assessment of Value for SVS Saltus Real Return Fund ('the sub-fund'). Furthermore, the rules require that EPFL publishes these assessments.

A high-level summary of the outcome of EPFL's rigorous review of the sub-fund, at share class level, for the year ended 29 February 2024, using the seven criteria set by the FCA is set out below:

	I Class	S Class	X Class
1. Quality of Service			
2. Performance			
3. ACD Costs			
4. Economies of Scale			
5. Comparable Market Rates			
6. Comparable Services			
7. Classes of Shares			
Overall Rating			

EPFL has adopted a traffic light system to show how it rated the sub-fund:

-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has delivered value to shareholders, with no material issues noted.
-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has delivered value to shareholders, but may require some action.
-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has not delivered value to shareholders and significant remedial action is now planned by the Board.

How EPFL assessed each of the seven criteria and the rating arrived at are discussed in greater detail on the following pages.

EPFL has created an Assessment of Value Committee ('AVC'), for the review, challenge and approval of all funds' Assessments of Value. Ultimately the assessments will be subject to scrutiny by the Board (which includes independent directors) to ensure the outcomes of the assessments are clear and fair, before final sign-off by the chair of the Board prior to communicating to investors if the sub-fund has delivered value, and if not, where improvements need to be made.

In carrying out the assessment, the EPFL AVC has separately considered, the following seven criteria stipulated by the FCA. The Committee may also have considered other issues where it was deemed appropriate.

EPFL believes the Assessment of Value can make it easier for investors to both evaluate whether the sub-fund is providing them with value for money and make more informed decisions when choosing investments.

The seven criteria are:

- (1) Quality of service – the quality of every aspect of the service provided, including, for example, accounting, administration, customer services and communications;
- (2) Performance – how the sub-fund performed, including whether it met targets and objectives, kept to relevant policy, followed relevant principles, kept to reasonable timescales;
- (3) ACD costs – the fairness and value of the sub-fund's costs, including entry and exit fees, early redemption fees, administration charges;
- (4) Economies of scale – how costs have been or can be reduced as a result of increased assets-under-management ('AUM'), and whether or not those savings have been passed on to investors;
- (5) Comparable market rates – how the costs of the sub-fund compare with others in the marketplace;
- (6) Comparable services – how the charges applied to the sub-fund compare with those of other funds administered by EPFL;
- (7) Classes of shares – the appropriateness of the classes of shares in the sub-fund for investors.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Real Return Fund (continued)

### 1. Quality of Service

What was assessed in this section?

#### Internal Factors

EPFL, as ACD, has overall responsibility for the sub-fund. The Board assessed, amongst other things: the day-to-day administration of the sub-fund; the maintenance of scheme documentation (such as prospectuses and key investor information documents ('KIIDs')); the pricing and valuation of shares; the calculation of income and distribution payments; the maintenance of accounting and other records; the preparation of annual audited and half-yearly Report & Accounts; the review of tax provisions and submission of tax computations to HMRC; the maintenance of the register of shareholders; the dealing and settlement arrangements; and the quality of marketing material sent to shareholders. EPFL delegates the Investment Management of the sub-fund to a delegated Investment Management firm.

The Board reviewed information provided by EPFL's control functions on the adequacy of its internal services, including governance, operations and monitoring. Elements important to the investor experience such as the timely payment of settlement and distribution monies were also reviewed. Over the past year, EPFL has been audited by internal and external auditors, the sub-fund's Depository and various EPFL delegated Investment Managers.

#### External Factors

The Board assessed the delegate's skills, processes and experience. Also considered were any results from service review meetings as well as the annual due diligence performed by EPFL on the delegated Investment Manager, Saltus Partners LLP ('Saltus'), where consideration was given to, amongst other things, the delegate's controls around the sub-fund's liquidity management.

The Board also considered the nature, extent and quality of administrative and shareholder services performed under separate agreements covering depository services, custody, as well as services provided with regard to both audit and legal functions.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

#### Internal Factors

The Board recognised that all distribution and settlement monies were paid in a timely manner and that there were no significant findings as a result of the various audits performed on EPFL during the year. In addition, EPFL has performed its own independent analysis, using automated systems, of the sub-fund's liquidity. The Board concluded that EPFL had carried out its duties diligently.

#### External Factors

The Board concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the external parties have benefitted and should continue to benefit the sub-fund and its shareholders.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 2. Performance

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the performance of the sub-fund, after the deduction of all payments out of the scheme property as set out in the Prospectus. Performance, against its benchmark, was considered over appropriate timescales having regard to the sub-fund's investment objective, policy and strategy. The Board also considered whether an appropriate level of market risk had been taken.

#### Investment Objective

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to generate a positive absolute return over the medium term (rolling three year periods). This changed with effect from the 28 February 2023<sup>1</sup> when the investment objective and policy of the sub-fund was amended to make it clearer and more meaningful to investors. The aim was to improve consistency across SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios and to help investors to better understand the sub-fund in which they are invested is trying to achieve.

#### Benchmark

As ACD, EPFL is required to explain in a fund's scheme documentation why a benchmark is being used or alternatively explain how investors should assess performance of a fund in the absence of a benchmark.

<sup>1</sup> The objective of the sub-fund prior to 28 February 2023 was to generate a return which is the higher of cash (measured by the Bank of England ('BoE') base rate) and inflation (as measured by UK Consumer Price Index ('CPI')).

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Real Return Fund (continued)

### 2. Performance (continued)

#### Benchmark (continued)

The benchmark for the sub-fund is the IA Targeted Absolute Return Sector, (changed from the BoE base rate and the UK CPI), which is a comparator. A 'comparator' benchmark is an index or similar factor against which an investment manager invites investors to compare a fund's performance.

With effect from 28 February 2023, the benchmark of the sub-fund was amended to reflect a more appropriate benchmark that is aligned more closely with the investment strategy of the sub-fund. This change has no impact on the way in which the sub-fund is managed or on the risk profile of the sub-fund.

The tables below show the performance of the sub-fund against the current benchmark and one that represents previous performance.

#### Cumulative Performance as at 31 January 2024 (%)

Instrument	Currency	1 year	3 year
IA Target Absolute Return Sector	GBP	3.74	8.39
SVS Saltus Real Return I Income	GBX	(1.07)	4.02
SVS Saltus Real Return S Income	GBX	(1.71)	4.08
Hybrid Benchmark A <sup>*</sup>	GBX	5.10	21.87
Hybrid Benchmark B <sup>**</sup>	GBX	4.17	6.10

Instrument	Currency	1 year	15/02/2021 to 31/01/2024
IA Target Absolute Return	GBP	3.74	6.74
SVS Saltus Real Return X Income <sup>^</sup>	GBX	(1.59)	5.54
Hybrid Benchmark A <sup>***</sup>	GBX	5.10	21.76
Hybrid Benchmark B <sup>****</sup>	GBX	4.17	6.09

Data provided by FE fundinfo. Care has been taken to ensure that the information is correct but FE fundinfo neither warrants, represents nor guarantees the contents of the information, nor does it accept any responsibility for errors, inaccuracies, omissions or any inconsistencies herein.

Performance shown is representative of all share classes.

Performance is calculated net of fees. Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

#### What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Board assessed the performance of the sub-fund over the recommended minimum holding period of three years, mindful that the benchmark had changed at the sub-fund's year-end in February 2023.

The use of hybrid benchmarks as a comparator was preferred by the Board as it better reflected the existence of the old benchmarks over most of the period under review. When compared against the hybrid benchmarks, it was evident that the I Income and S Income share classes had underperformed both the Bank of England and CPI (Consumer Price Index) based hybrid benchmarks. The X Income share class, which launched on the 15 February 2021, also underperformed both hybrid benchmarks and therefore it was felt that an Amber rating was appropriate for all three share classes.

Consideration was given to the risk metrics associated with the sub-fund which focused on, amongst other things, volatility and risk adjusted returns. EPFL were comfortable that the outcomes were in line with the sub-fund's performance.

The Board found that the sub-fund is investing in the asset classes permitted by the investment policy and that there have been no breaches of the policy in the last twelve months.

\*The Hybrid Benchmark A represents returns from the UK CPI between the 31/01/2021 to 28/02/2023 and the IA Targeted Absolute Return Sector between the 28/02/2023 and the 31/01/2024.

\*\*The Hybrid Benchmark B represents returns from the BoE base rate between the 31/01/2021 to 28/02/2023 and the IA Targeted Absolute Return Sector between the 28/02/2023 and the 31/01/2024.

\*\*\*The Hybrid Benchmark A represents returns from the UK CPI between the 15/02/2021 to 28/02/2023 and the IA Targeted Absolute Return Sector between the 28/02/2023 and the 31/01/2024.

\*\*\*\*The Hybrid Benchmark B represents returns from the BoE base rate between the 15/02/2021 to 28/02/2023 and the IA Targeted Absolute Return Sector between the 28/02/2023 and the 31/01/2024.

<sup>^</sup>X Income share class launched on 15 February 2021.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Real Return Fund (continued)

### 2. Performance (continued)

Were there any follow up actions?

EPFL will continue to monitor performance through its normal oversight process, at least bi-annually.

### 3. ACD Costs

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed each separate charge to ensure that they were reasonable and reflected the services provided. This included the ACD's periodic charge, Investment Manager's fee, Depositary/Custodian fees and audit fee.

The charges should be transparent and understandable to the investor, with no hidden costs.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Board received and considered information about the costs of all three share classes and concluded that they were fair, reasonable and were provided on a competitive basis.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 4. Economies of Scale

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed each separate fee structure and the AUM of the sub-fund to examine the effect on the sub-fund to potential and existing investors should it increase or decrease in value.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The sub-fund is part of an umbrella structure consisting of seven sub-funds where there is a tiered ACD fee structure calculated on the aggregated AUM, meaning there are savings that can be realised should this increase in the future.

The ancillary charges of the sub-fund represent 5 basis points<sup>2</sup>. Some of these costs are fixed and as the sub-fund grows in size, may result in a small reduction in the basis point cost of these services.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 5. Comparable Market Rates

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the ongoing charges figure ('OCF') of the sub-fund and how those charges affect its returns.

The Board observed that Saltus operate a unique model that includes a portfolio management fee within the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). For the purposes of comparing against an appropriate peer group, the notional portfolio management fee has been removed from the OCF of all share classes. The OCF of the most expensive share class was then compared against the 'market rate' of similar external funds.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The OCF for the share classes<sup>3</sup> were:

I Income	1.59%
S Income	1.19%
X Income	0.99%

The OCFs for the S Income and X Income share classes compared favourably with those of similar externally managed funds.

The OCF for the I Income share class was found to be more expensive than the small number of similar externally managed funds and as a result was given an Amber rating.

Note that EPFL has not charged an entry fee, exit fee or any other event-based fees on this sub-fund.

Were there any follow up actions?

EPFL will continue to monitor the sub-fund through its normal oversight process.

<sup>2</sup> One basis point is equal to 1/100th of 1%, or 0.01%. Figure calculated at interim report, 31 August 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Figure calculated at interim report, 31 August 2023.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Real Return Fund (continued)

### 6. Comparable Services

What was assessed in this section?

The Board compared the Investment Manager's fee with those of other funds administered by EPFL having regard to size, investment objectives and policies.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Investment Manager's fee compared favourably with other EPFL administered funds displaying similar characteristics.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 7. Classes of Shares

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the sub-fund's set-up to ensure that where there are multiple share classes, investors are in the correct share class given the size of their holding.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

There are three share classes in the sub-fund. EPFL can confirm that investors are in the correct share class.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### Overall Assessment of Value

Notwithstanding the matters referenced in sections 2 and 5, the Board concluded that SVS Saltus Real Return Fund had provided value to shareholders.

Dean Buckley

Chairman of the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited

18 May 2024

### Consumer Feedback

On reviewing this Assessment of Value report, we would welcome invaluable feedback from investors via our short questionnaire which can be found online:

<https://www.evelyn.com/services/fund-solutions/assessment-of-value/>

























Investors views are invaluable to the development and delivery of this report.

Should you be unable to access the questionnaire online please contact us directly on 0141 222 1151 and we will provide you with a paper copy of the questionnaire.




## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Growth Assets Fund

In line with the provisions contained within COLL 6.6.20R, the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited ('EPFL') as Authorised Corporate Director ('ACD'), has carried out an Assessment of Value for SVS Saltus Growth Assets Fund ('the sub-fund'). Furthermore, the rules require that EPFL publishes these assessments.

A high-level summary of the outcome of EPFL's rigorous review of the sub-fund, at share class level, for the year ended 29 February 2024 using the seven criteria set by the FCA is set out below:

	I Class	S Class	X Class
1. Quality of Service			
2. Performance			
3. ACD Costs			
4. Economies of Scale			
5. Comparable Market Rates			
6. Comparable Services			
7. Classes of Shares			
Overall Rating			

EPFL has adopted a traffic light system to show how it rated the sub-fund:

-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has delivered value to shareholders, with no material issues noted.
-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has delivered value to shareholders, but may require some action.
-  On balance, the Board believes the sub-fund has not delivered value to shareholders and significant remedial action is now planned by the Board.

How EPFL assessed each of the seven criteria and the rating arrived at are discussed in greater detail on the following pages.

EPFL has created an Assessment of Value Committee ('AVC'), for the review, challenge and approval of all funds' Assessments of Value. Ultimately the assessments will be subject to scrutiny by the Board (which includes independent directors) to ensure the outcomes of the assessments are clear and fair, before final sign-off by the chair of the Board prior to communicating to investors if the sub-fund has delivered value, and if not, where improvements need to be made.

In carrying out the assessment, the EPFL AVC has separately considered, the following seven criteria stipulated by the FCA. The Committee may also have considered other issues where it was deemed appropriate.

EPFL believes the Assessment of Value can make it easier for investors to both evaluate whether the sub-fund is providing them with value for money and make more informed decisions when choosing investments.

The seven criteria are:

- (1) Quality of service – the quality of every aspect of the service provided, including, for example, accounting, administration, customer services and communications;
- (2) Performance – how the sub-fund performed, including whether it met targets and objectives, kept to relevant policy, followed relevant principles, kept to reasonable timescales;
- (3) ACD costs – the fairness and value of the sub-fund's costs, including entry and exit fees, early redemption fees, administration charges;
- (4) Economies of scale – how costs have been or can be reduced as a result of increased assets-under-management ('AUM'), and whether or not those savings have been passed on to investors;
- (5) Comparable market rates – how the costs of the sub-fund compare with others in the marketplace;
- (6) Comparable services – how the charges applied to the sub-fund compare with those of other funds administered by EPFL;
- (7) Classes of shares – the appropriateness of the classes of shares in the sub-fund for investors.



## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Growth Assets Fund (continued)

### 1. Quality of Service

What was assessed in this section?

#### Internal Factors

EPFL, as ACD, has overall responsibility for the sub-fund. The Board assessed, amongst other things: the day-to-day administration of the sub-fund; the maintenance of scheme documentation (such as prospectuses and key investor information documents ('KIIDs')); the pricing and valuation of shares; the calculation of income and distribution payments; the maintenance of accounting and other records; the preparation of annual audited and half-yearly Report & Accounts; the review of tax provisions and submission of tax computations to HMRC; the maintenance of the register of shareholders; the dealing and settlement arrangements; and the quality of marketing material sent to shareholders. EPFL delegates the Investment Management of the sub-fund to a delegated Investment Management firm.

The Board reviewed information provided by EPFL's control functions on the adequacy of its internal services, including governance, operations and monitoring. Elements important to the investor experience such as the timely payment of settlement and distribution monies were also reviewed. Over the past year, EPFL has been audited by internal and external auditors, the sub-fund's Depositary and various EPFL delegated Investment Managers.

#### External Factors

The Board assessed the delegate's skills, processes and experience. Also considered were any results from service review meetings as well as the annual due diligence performed by EPFL on the delegated Investment Manager, Saltus Partners LLP ('Saltus'), where consideration was given to, amongst other things, the delegate's controls around the sub-fund's liquidity management.

The Board also considered the nature, extent and quality of administrative and shareholder services performed under separate agreements covering depositary services, custody, as well as services provided with regard to both audit and legal functions.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

#### Internal Factors

The Board recognised that all distribution and settlement monies were paid in a timely manner and that there were no significant findings as a result of the various audits performed on EPFL during the year. In addition, EPFL has performed its own independent analysis, using automated systems, of the sub-fund's liquidity. The Board concluded that EPFL had carried out its duties diligently.

#### External Factors

The Board concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the external parties have benefitted and should continue to benefit the sub-fund and its shareholders.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 2. Performance

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the performance of the sub-fund, after the deduction of all payments out of the scheme property as set out in the Prospectus. Performance, against its benchmark, was considered over appropriate timescales having regard to the sub-fund's investment objective, policy and strategy. The Board also considered whether an appropriate level of market risk had been taken.

#### Investment Objective

The sub-fund seeks to achieve capital growth with some income over the long term (rolling seven year periods). This changed with effect from the 28 February 2023<sup>1</sup> when the investment objective and policy of the sub-fund was amended to make it clearer and more meaningful to investors. The aim was to improve consistency across SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios and to help investors to better understand the sub-fund in which they are invested is trying to achieve.

#### Benchmark

As ACD, EPFL is required to explain in a fund's scheme documentation why a benchmark is being used or alternatively explain how investors should assess performance of a fund in the absence of a benchmark.

<sup>1</sup> The objective of the sub-fund prior to 28 February 2023 was to prioritise capital growth for investors with the potential for some income flow over a rolling three year periods.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Growth Assets Fund (continued)

### 2. Performance (continued)

#### Benchmark (continued)

The benchmark for the sub-fund is the UK Consumer Price Index ('CPI') (changed from the UK CPI +1%), which is a comparator. A 'comparator' benchmark is an index or similar factor against which an Investment Manager invites investors to compare a fund's performance.

With effect from 28 February 2023, the benchmark of the sub-fund was amended to reflect a more appropriate benchmark that is aligned more closely with the investment strategy of the sub-fund. This change has no impact on the way in which the sub-fund is managed or the risk profile of the sub-fund.

The tables below show the performance of the sub-fund against the current benchmark and one that represents previous performance.

#### Cumulative Performance as at 31 January 2024 (%)

Instrument	Currency	1 year	3 year	5 year	7 year
SVS Saltus Growth Assets I Income	GBX	(2.70)	6.82	23.45	35.33
SVS Saltus Growth Assets S Income	GBX	(2.42)	8.39	25.81	38.30
UK CPI	GBP	4.59	21.28	24.37	30.37
Hybrid Benchmark*	GBP	4.11	23.17	28.83	37.77

Instrument	Currency	1 year	15/02/2021 to 31/01/2024
SVS Saltus Growth Assets X Income <sup>^</sup>	GBX	(2.18)	4.27
UK CPI	GBP	4.59	21.28
Hybrid Benchmark***	GBP	4.11	23.17

Data provided by FE fundinfo. Care has been taken to ensure that the information is correct but FE fundinfo neither warrants, represents nor guarantees the contents of the information, nor does it accept any responsibility for errors, inaccuracies, omissions or any inconsistencies herein.

Performance shown is representative of all share classes.

Performance is calculated net of fees. Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

#### What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Board assessed the performance of the sub-fund over the recommended minimum holding period of seven years, mindful that the benchmark had changed at the year-end in February 2023.

The use of a hybrid benchmark as a comparator was preferred by the Board as it better reflected the existence of the old benchmark over most of the period under review. When compared against this hybrid benchmark, it was evident that the I Income share class had underperformed the hybrid benchmark. The X Income share class, which launched on the 15 February 2021, had also underperformed the hybrid benchmark during this period and as a result, both share classes were given an Amber rating.

The S Income share class outperformed the hybrid benchmark and as such the Board felt that a green rating was appropriate.

Consideration was given to the risk metrics associated with the sub-fund which focused on, amongst other things, volatility and risk adjusted returns where EPFL were comfortable that the outcomes were in line with the sub-fund's performance.

The Board found that the sub-fund is investing in the asset classes permitted by the investment policy and that there have been no breaches of the policy in the last 12 months.

#### Were there any follow up actions?

EPFL will continue to monitor performance through its normal oversight process, at least bi-annually.

\* The Hybrid Benchmark represents returns from the UK CPI +1% between the 31/01/2014 to 28/02/2023 and the UK CPI between the 28/02/2023 and the 31/01/2024.

\*\*\*The Hybrid Benchmark represents returns from the UK CPI between the 15/02/2021 to 28/02/2023 and the UK CPI +1% between the 28/02/2023 and the 31/01/2024.

<sup>^</sup>The X Income shareclass launched on 15 February 2021.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Growth Assets Fund (continued)

### 3. ACD Costs

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed each separate charge to ensure that they were reasonable and reflected the services provided. This included the ACD's periodic charge, Investment Manager's fee, Depositary/Custodian fees and audit fee.

The charges should be transparent and understandable to the investor, with no hidden costs.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Board received and considered information about the costs of all three share classes and concluded that they were fair, reasonable and were provided on a competitive basis.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 4. Economies of Scale

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed each separate fee structure and the AUM of the sub-fund to examine the effect on the sub-fund to potential and existing investors should it increase or decrease in value.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The sub-fund is part of an umbrella structure consisting of seven sub-funds where there is a tiered ACD fee structure calculated on the aggregated AUM, meaning there are savings that can be realised should this increase in the future.

The ancillary charges of the sub-fund represent 5 basis points<sup>2</sup>. Some of these costs are fixed and as the sub-fund grows in size, may result in a small reduction in the basis point cost of these services.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 5. Comparable Market Rates

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the ongoing charges figure ('OCF') of the sub-fund and how those charges affect its returns.

The Board observed that Saltus operate a unique model that includes a portfolio management fee within the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). For the purposes of comparing against an appropriate peer group, the notional portfolio management fee has been removed from the OCF of all share classes. The OCF of the most expensive share class was then compared against the 'market rate' of similar external funds.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The OCF for the share classes<sup>3</sup> were:

I Income	1.76%
S Income	1.36%
X Income	1.16%

The OCFs for all share classes compared favourably with those of similar externally managed funds.

Note that EPFL has not charged an entry fee, exit fee or any other event-based fees on this sub-fund.

Were there any follow up actions?

There was no further action required as the Board were of the opinion that no element within the OCF gave any cause for concern.

<sup>2</sup> One basis point is equal to 1/100th of 1%, or 0.01%. Figure calculated at interim report, 31 August 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Figure calculated at interim report, 31 August 2023.

## Assessment of Value - SVS Saltus Growth Assets Fund (continued)

### 6. Comparable Services

What was assessed in this section?

The Board compared the Investment Manager's fee with those of other funds administered by EPFL having regard to size, investment objectives and policies.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The Investment Manager's fee compared favourably with other EPFL administered funds displaying similar characteristics.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### 7. Classes of Shares

What was assessed in this section?

The Board reviewed the sub-fund's set-up to ensure that where there are multiple share classes, investors are in the correct share class given the size of their holding.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

There are three share classes in the sub-fund. EPFL can confirm that investors are in the correct share class.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### Overall Assessment of Value

Notwithstanding the matter referenced in section 2, the Board concluded that the sub-fund had provided value to investors.

Dean Buckley  
Chairman of the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited  
18 May 2024

### Consumer Feedback

On reviewing this Assessment of Value report, we would welcome invaluable feedback from investors via our short questionnaire which can be found online:

<https://www.evelyn.com/services/fund-solutions/assessment-of-value/>

Investors views are invaluable to the development and delivery of this report.

Should you be unable to access the questionnaire online please contact us directly on 0141 222 1151 and we will provide you with a paper copy of the questionnaire.

## Report of the Depositary to the shareholders of SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios

### Depositary's responsibilities

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

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

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

The Depositary must ensure that:

- the Company's cash flows are properly monitored and that cash of the Company is booked into the cash accounts in accordance with the Regulations;
- the sale, issue, redemption and cancellation of shares are carried out in accordance with the Regulations;
- the value of shares of the Company are calculated in accordance with the Regulations;
- any consideration relating to transactions in the Company's assets is remitted to the Company within the usual time limits;
- the Company's revenue is applied in accordance with the Regulations; and
- the instructions of the Alternative Investment Fund Manager ('AIFM') are carried out (unless they conflict with the Regulations).

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

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

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

NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited  
17 June 2024

## Independent Auditor's report to the shareholders of SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios (the 'Company') for the year ended 29 February 2024 which comprise the Statements of total return, Statements of change in net assets attributable to shareholders, Balance sheets, the related Notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies and the Distribution tables. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 29 February 2024 and of the net revenue/(expense) and the net capital gains/(losses) on the scheme property of the Company for the year then ended;
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with the Investment Association Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds, the rules of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook ('COLL Rules') of the Financial Conduct Authority and the Instrument of Incorporation.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Conclusions Relating to Going Concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Authorised Corporate Director's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Authorised Corporate Director with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Authorised Corporate Director is responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Opinions on Other Matters Prescribed by the COLL Rules

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- Proper accounting records for the Company have been kept and the accounts are in agreement with those records;
- We have received all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit; and
- The information given in the Report of the Authorised Corporate Director for the year is consistent with the financial statements.

## Independent Auditor's report to the shareholders of SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios (continued)

### Responsibilities of the Authorised Corporate Director

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Authorised Corporate Director's responsibilities set out on page 5, the Authorised Corporate Director is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and for such internal control as the Authorised Corporate Director determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Authorised Corporate Director is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Authorised Corporate Director either intends to wind up the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### *Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud*

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

We assessed whether the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence and capabilities to identify or recognise non-compliance with laws and regulations by considering their experience, past performance and support available.

All engagement team members were briefed on relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks at the planning stage of the audit. Engagement team members were reminded to remain alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Company and the sector in which it operates, focusing on those provisions that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The most relevant frameworks we identified include:

- UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice including Financial Reporting Standard 102 and the IA Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds;
- the Financial Conduct Authority's COLL Rules;
- the Financial Conduct Authority's Investment Funds sourcebook; and
- the Company's Prospectus.

We gained an understanding of how the Company is complying with these laws and regulations by making enquiries of the Authorised Corporate Director. We corroborated these enquiries through our review of submitted returns, external inspections, relevant correspondence with regulatory bodies and the Company's breaches register.

## Independent Auditor's report to the shareholders of SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios (continued)

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

#### *Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud (continued)*

We assessed the susceptibility of the Company's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by meeting with management and those charged with governance to understand where it was considered there was susceptibility to fraud. This evaluation also considered how the Authorised Corporate Director was remunerated and whether this provided an incentive for fraudulent activity. We considered the overall control environment and how the Authorised Corporate Director oversees the implementation and operation of controls. In areas of the financial statements where the risks were considered to be higher, we performed procedures to address each identified risk. We identified a heightened fraud risk in relation to:

- Management override of controls; and
- The valuation of material level 3 investments.

In addition to the above, the following procedures were performed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free of material fraud or error:

- Reviewing the level of and reasoning behind the Company's procurement of legal and professional services;
- Performing audit work procedures over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business, review of a pre sign-off Net Asset Valuation (NAV) statement for any unexpected activity and reviewing judgements made by the Authorised Corporate Director in its calculation of accounting estimates for potential management bias;
- Testing how management made the estimate of material level 3 investments, evaluating the methodology adopted and assessing the suitability of data and significant assumptions by reference to supporting evidence;
- Assessing the Company's compliance with the key requirements of the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook, Investment Funds sourcebook and its Prospectus;
- Completion of appropriate checklists and use of our experience to assess the Company's compliance with the IA Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds; and
- Agreement of the financial statement disclosures to supporting documentation.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to the risk of material misstatements in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.

### Use of Our Report

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

Johnston Carmichael LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditor  
Bishop's Court  
29 Albyn Place  
Aberdeen AB10 1YL  
17 June 2024



## Accounting policies of SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### a Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of investments. They have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland ('FRS 102') and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for UK Authorised Funds ('the SORP') published by The Investment Association in May 2014 and amended in June 2017, and the requirements of the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook ('COLL').

The ACD has considered a detailed assessment of the sub-funds' ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due, including liquidity, declines in global capital markets and investor redemption levels. Based on this assessment, the sub-funds continues to be open for trading and the ACD is satisfied the sub-funds have adequate financial resources to continue in operation for at least the next 12 months and accordingly it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

### b Valuation of investments

The purchases and sales of investments are included up to close of business on the last business day of the accounting year.

Purchases and sales of investments are recognised when a legally binding and unconditional right to obtain, or an obligation to deliver an asset arises.

The quoted investments of the sub-fund have been valued at the global closing bid-market prices ruling on the principal markets on which the stocks are quoted on the last business day of the accounting year.

Collective investment schemes are valued at the bid price for dual priced funds and at the single price for single priced funds and are valued at their most recent published price prior to the close of business valuation on 29 February 2024.

Where an observable market price is unreliable or does not exist, investments are valued at the ACD's best estimate of the amount that would be received from an immediate transfer at arm's length. The ACD has appointed the fair value pricing committee to analyse, review and vote on price adjustments/maintenance where no current secondary market exists and/or where there are potential liquidity issues that would affect the disposal of an asset.

### c Foreign exchange

The base currency of the sub-fund is UK sterling which is taken to be the sub-fund's functional currency.

All transactions in foreign currencies are converted into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the dates of such transactions. The resulting exchange differences are disclosed in note 2 of the Notes to the financial statements.

Any foreign currency assets and liabilities at the end of the accounting period are translated at the exchange rate prevailing at the balance sheet date.

### d Revenue

Revenue is recognised in the Statement of total return on the following basis:

Dividends from quoted equity instruments and non equity shares are recognised as revenue, net of attributable tax credits on the date when the securities are quoted ex-dividend.

Overseas dividends are recognised as revenue gross of any withholding tax and the tax consequences are recognised within the tax expense.

Distributions from collective investment schemes are recognised as revenue on the date the securities are quoted ex-dividend. Equalisation on distributions from collective investment schemes is deducted from the cost of the investment and does not form part of the sub-fund's distribution.

Distributions from collective investment schemes which are re-invested on behalf of the sub-fund are recognised as revenue on the date the securities are quoted ex-dividend and form part of the sub-fund's distribution.

Excess reportable income from reporting offshore funds is recognised as revenue when the reported distribution rate is available and forms part of the sub-fund's distribution.

## Accounting policies of SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### d Revenue (continued)

Interest on bank deposits and short term deposits is recognised on an accruals basis.

Management fee rebates agreed in respect of holdings in other collective investment schemes are recognised on an accruals basis and are allocated to revenue or capital being determined by the allocation of the expense in the collective investment scheme held.

### e Expenses

All expenses, other than those relating to the purchase and sale of investments, are charged to the relevant share class against revenue on an accruals basis.

Bank interest paid is charged to revenue.

### f Allocation of revenue and expenses to multiple share classes

All revenue and expenses which are directly attributable to a particular share class are allocated to that class. All revenue and expenses which are attributable to the sub-fund are allocated to the sub-fund and are normally allocated across the share classes pro rata to the net asset value of each shareclass on a daily basis.

### g Taxation

Tax payable on profits is recognised as an expense in the period in which profits arise. The tax effects of tax losses available to carry forward are recognised as an asset when it is probable that future taxable profits will be available, against which these losses can be utilised.

UK corporation tax is provided as amounts to be paid/recovered using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted at the balance sheet date.

Deferred taxation is provided in full on timing differences that result in an obligation at 29 February 2024 to pay more or less tax, at a future date, at rates expected to apply when they crystallise based on current rates and tax laws. Timing differences arise from the inclusion of items of income and expenditure in taxation computations in periods different from those in which they are included in the financial statements. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Provision for deferred tax assets are only made to the extent the timing differences are expected to be of future benefit.

All foreign dividend revenue is recognised as a gross amount which includes any withholding tax deducted at source. Where foreign tax is withheld in excess of the applicable treaty rate a tax debtor is recognised to the extent that the overpayment is considered recoverable.

When a disposal of a holding in a non-reporting offshore fund is made, any gain is an offshore income gain and tax will be charged to capital. There may be instances where tax relief is due to revenue for the utilisation of excess management expenses.

### h Efficient Portfolio Management

Where appropriate, certain permitted instruments such as derivatives or forward currency contracts may be used for Efficient Portfolio Management purposes. Where such instruments are used to protect or enhance revenue, the revenue or expenses derived therefrom are included in the Statement of total return as revenue related items and form part of the distribution. Where such instruments are used to protect or enhance capital, the gains and losses derived therefrom are included in the Statement of total return as capital related items.

### i Dilution adjustment

A dilution adjustment is an adjustment to the share price which is determined by the ACD in accordance with the COLL Sourcebook. The ACD may make a dilution adjustment to the price of a share (which means that the price of a share is above or below that which would have resulted from mid-market valuation) for the purposes of reducing dilution in the sub-fund (or to recover an amount which it has already paid or is reasonably expected to pay in the future) in relation to the issue or cancellation of shares. Please refer to the Prospectus for further information.

## Accounting policies of SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### *j Distribution policies*

#### *i Basis of distribution*

The distribution policy is to distribute all available revenue after deduction of expenses payable from revenue. Distributions attributable to income shares are paid to shareholders. Distributions attributable to accumulation shares are re-invested in the sub-funds on behalf of the shareholders.

#### *ii Unclaimed distributions*

Distributions to shareholders outstanding after 6 years are taken to the capital property of the sub-fund.

#### *iii Revenue*

All revenue is included in the final distribution with reference to policy d.

#### *iv Expenses*

Expenses incurred against the revenue of the sub-fund are included in the final distribution, subject to any expense which may be transferred to capital for the purpose of calculating the distribution, with reference to policy e.

#### *v Equalisation*

Group 2 shares are shares purchased on or after the previous XD date and before the current XD date. Equalisation applies only to group 2 shares. Equalisation is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of group 2 shares and is refunded to holders of these shares as a return of capital. Being capital it is not liable to income tax in the hands of the shareholders but must be deducted from the cost of shares for capital gains tax purposes. Equalisation per share is disclosed in the Distribution table.

## SVS Saltus Multi Asset Class Fund

### Investment Manager's report

#### Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to generate a combination of income and capital growth over the long term (rolling 7 year periods), with a volatility of returns of no more than 1/3rd of the volatility level of MSCI AC World Index (over rolling 3 year periods).

Investors should note that their capital is at risk and that there is no guarantee that either a positive return or the volatility target will be achieved over the stated, or any, time period.

The sub-fund aims to create a widely diversified portfolio, gaining exposure to a range of asset classes, geographies, styles and strategies.

The sub-fund is actively managed and unconstrained as to asset allocation. The sub-fund will hold at least 80% of its portfolio in other collective investment schemes (including open-ended investment schemes and closed-ended investment schemes) providing exposure to a flexible mix of equities and fixed income securities as well as, currencies, gold, money market instruments, property, warrants, cash, near cash, deposits and derivatives.

To the extent that the sub-fund is not fully invested in other collective investment schemes, it may invest directly in the asset classes listed above (with the exception of derivatives which may be used by the sub-fund only for the purposes of efficient portfolio management). The sub-fund may use derivatives and forward transactions for investment purposes on the giving of 60 days' notice to shareholders. The use of derivatives for investment purposes may alter the risk profile of the sub-fund.

In order to achieve the investment objective, the Investment Manager may manage the sub-fund outside the expected low volatility parameters.

The collective investment schemes in which the sub-fund invests may include other funds managed by the ACD, the Investment Manager or an affiliate of the ACD or the Investment Manager.

#### Investment performance\*

Over the year the sub-fund delivered a total return of +1.98% (I Income shares based on mid prices at 5pm) compared to a target benchmark return of +2.72% (Investment Association Mixed Investment 0-35% shares sector total return).

#### Investment activities

Overall, this reporting year was a positive one for world markets, with most of the good news concentrated in the final months of 2023 and the early months of 2024. Prior to that it was a year of frequent large and violent swings in sentiment, caused mainly by the bond markets continual efforts to price in a peak in the inflation and interest rate cycle. Another key feature of the year was the emergence of an Artificial Intelligence ('AI') theme, which manifested itself in very strong performance in a small group of large US technology stocks. Given their relative size in market indices the performance of this group had a big positive influence on the direction of travel of equity markets overall.

A remarkably quick worldwide rally began in late October 2023, one which had enough power to erase the losses of previous periods across multiple asset classes. The rally was catalysed by a reassessment of the inflation outlook, particularly in the crucial US economy. Prior to this point a series of relatively 'hot' US monthly inflation figures had been weighing on the market mood, as it implied that the painful increases in interest rates which have been absorbed so far, may not be finished. Then, a modest softening in the US labour market followed by a slightly weaker than expected October inflation reading sparked a global rally across asset classes. Investors quickly extrapolated some genuinely good news on US inflation into nearly all markets and geographies, as these US trends were assumed to be front runners for what will inevitably happen elsewhere.

This positive mood continued into the end of the reporting year and although there was some retracement of initial market enthusiasm, it was not significant. There were some areas of concern from a top down perspective, concentrating around the sluggish performance of the Chinese economy and the perception of a lacklustre response to the issue from the Chinese government. Periodically geopolitical events intruded into market thinking (e.g. the war in the Middle East) but they did not have a long lasting effect. Commodity markets were relatively quiet overall reflecting their internal supply and demand dynamics, plus the dampening effect of a sluggish Chinese economy.

\*Source: FE Fundinfo

## Investment Manager's report (continued)

### Investment activities (continued)

Looking ahead we can see clear long term positive signals emerging. The most prominent of these is the return of long term 'real' (or after inflation) interest rates back to pre-financial crisis levels in the US. In other words, after a very short period of time, the long term cost of US dollar has 'normalised' and the fact that this has happened without a spectacular crisis or deep recession is something to celebrate. It is also important to remember that market time horizons have shrunk to align themselves with monthly economic data, putting many longer-term risks out of sight and out of mind. Undoubtedly there will come a point in the months ahead when current positive sentiment is tested.

The major decisions which impacted performance for this reporting period came from (a) a decision to concentrate positions with managers where we had the higher conviction, reducing the overall number of positions and (b) our shift out of broader bond market exposures and into alternative equity strategies. Positions were added or increased substantially in Royal London Equity Funds ICVC - Royal London Global Equity Select Fund and Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund to provide exposure to a high conviction long only global equity manager and US M&A market special situations. Bond positions were slimmed and concentrated mainly in existing credit managers such as Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund.

### Investment strategy and outlook

At the time of writing the outlook remains uncertain, but with a relatively low degree of risk. The glass is likely more 'half full' than 'half empty'. Interest rates are likely hitting their peak for this cycle, which is a significant positive, although there remains some uncertainty if enough has been done to finally subdue inflation. The biggest risks centre around market short termism, which is ignoring big issues around the state of government balance sheets. Political and geopolitical risks, which so far have had limited influence, retain the power to upset the current positive mood. On balance though, we think that shareholders can look forward with some degree of optimism to the future.

Saltus Partners LLP

18 March 2024

## Summary of portfolio changes

for the year ended 29 February 2024

The following represents the major purchases and sales in the year to reflect a clearer picture of the investment activities.

	Cost
	£
Purchases:	
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	5,200,184
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	5,124,710
iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF	4,984,938
iShares USD Treasury Bond 1-3yr UCITS ETF	3,912,420
Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund	3,614,830
iShares USD Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF	2,979,282
Royal London Equity Funds ICVC - Royal London Global Equity Diversified Fund	2,702,010
Federated Hermes Unconstrained Credit Fund	2,003,600
Trium UCITS Platform - Trium Alternative Growth Fund	1,888,250
CG Portfolio Fund - Dollar Fund	1,875,470
Royal London Equity Funds ICVC - Royal London Global Equity Select Fund	1,871,360
Artemis Investment Funds ICVC - Artemis Target Return Bond Fund	1,844,660
Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund	1,840,960
Invesco Tactical Bond Fund UK	1,380,630
MAN Fixed Interest ICVC - Man GLG High Yield Opportunities Fund	1,332,200
iShares Edge MSCI World Minimum Volatility UCITS ETF	1,193,048
Invesco Tactical Bond Fund UK	1,170,060
Amundi US Treasury 1-3Y DR UCITS ETF	1,048,394
iShares S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	995,797
TM RWC Global Equity Income Fund	973,360
	Proceeds
	£
Sales:	
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	3,678,860
iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF	3,156,636
iShares USD Treasury Bond 1-3yr UCITS ETF	2,843,901
Invesco Tactical Bond Fund UK	2,066,578
iShares USD Treasury Bond 7-10yr UCITS ETF	1,905,323
Artemis Investment Funds ICVC - Artemis Target Return Bond Fund	1,904,814
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	1,894,435
Lazard Global Investment Funds - Lazard Rathmore Alternative Fund	1,872,220
CG Portfolio Fund - Dollar Fund	1,630,640
iShares JP Morgan EM Local Government Bond UCITS ETF	1,581,946
Trium UCITS Platform - Trium Alternative Growth Fund	1,230,440
iShares Edge MSCI World Minimum Volatility UCITS ETF	1,192,434
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Index US Fund	1,122,615
Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund	1,122,240
Amundi US Treasury 1-3Y DR UCITS ETF	1,008,109
Allianz UK & European Investment Funds - Allianz Strategic Bond Fund	938,995
TM RWC Global Equity Income Fund	933,580
Capital Gearing Portfolio Fund	926,070
TM Tellworth UK Select	764,278
iShares Edge MSCI World Quality Factor UCITS ETF	714,141

## Portfolio statement

as at 29 February 2024

	Nominal value or holding	Market value £	% of total net assets
Investment			
Closed-Ended Funds 0.00% (3.67%)		-	-
Collective Investment Schemes 85.16% (85.30%)			
UK Authorised Collective Investment Schemes 18.20% (29.01%)			
Invesco Tactical Bond Fund UK	1,180,138	2,499,297	6.02
MAN Fixed Interest ICVC - Man GLG High Yield Opportunities Fund	931,606	1,318,222	3.18
Royal London Equity Funds ICVC			
- Royal London Global Equity Diversified Fund	2,209,330	2,743,987	6.61
TM RWC Global Equity Income Fund	761,469	992,195	2.39
Total UK authorised collective investment schemes		<u>7,553,701</u>	<u>18.20</u>
Offshore Collective Investment Schemes 66.96% (56.29%)			
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	313,380	3,149,469	7.59
CG Portfolio Fund - Dollar Fund	27,491	2,512,089	6.05
Federated Hermes Unconstrained Credit Fund	2,115,558	2,504,820	6.03
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	1,463,443	1,463,443	3.53
Invesco Bloomberg Commodity UCITS ETF	38,310	658,357	1.59
iShares S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	180,520	999,178	2.41
iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF	19,927	2,504,625	6.03
iShares USD Treasury Bond 1-3yr UCITS ETF	756,857	3,553,444	8.56
iShares USD Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF	857,195	2,762,739	6.66
Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund	41,403	3,763,096	9.06
Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund	171,839	1,819,777	4.38
Trium UCITS Platform - Trium Alternative Growth Fund	14,672	1,612,153	3.88
Xtrackers MSCI World Quality UCITS ETF	9,690	493,802	1.19
Total offshore collective investment schemes		<u>27,796,992</u>	<u>66.96</u>
Total collective investment schemes		<u>35,350,693</u>	<u>85.16</u>
Exchange Traded Commodities 4.39% (4.24%)			
iShares Physical Gold	36,895	1,161,455	2.80
WisdomTree Copper	24,400	661,623	1.59
Total exchange traded commodities		<u>1,823,078</u>	<u>4.39</u>
Portfolio of investments		37,173,771	89.55
Other net assets		4,339,932	10.45
Total net assets		<u>41,513,703</u>	<u>100.00</u>

All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities or regulated collective investment schemes within the meaning of the FCA rules unless otherwise stated.

The comparative figures in brackets are as at 28 February 2023.

## Risk and reward profile\*

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

←	Typically lower rewards, lower risk	→	Typically higher rewards, higher risk	→		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

The sub-fund is in a medium category because the price of its investments have risen or fallen to some extent. The category shown is not guaranteed to remain unchanged and may shift over time. Even the lowest category does not mean a risk-free investment.

For full details on risk factors for the sub-fund, please refer to the Prospectus.

There have been no changes to the risk and reward indicator in the year.

\* As per the KIID published 8 May 2024.



## Comparative table

The following disclosures give a shareholder an indication of the performance of a share in the sub-fund. It also discloses the operating charges and direct transaction costs applied to each share. Operating charges are those charges incurred in operating the sub-fund and direct transaction costs are costs incurred when purchasing or selling securities in the portfolio of investments.

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
X Income	p	p	p
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	75.51	77.36	75.43
Return before operating charges	2.73	(0.25)	3.92
Operating charges	(0.63)	(0.84)	(1.05)
Return after operating charges *	2.10	(1.09)	2.87
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(1.03)	(0.76)	(0.94)
Closing net asset value per share	76.58	75.51	77.36
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.04	0.04	0.01
Performance			
Return after charges	2.78%	(1.41%)	3.80%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£)	36,568,146	23,606,864	22,711,340
Closing number of shares	47,754,559	31,261,867	29,359,422
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	0.84%	1.09%	1.33%
Direct transaction costs	0.05%	0.05%	0.01%
Published prices			
Highest share price	77.65	78.67	81.34
Lowest share price	73.40	74.92	75.51

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
	p	p	p
<b>X Accumulation</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	94.13	95.53	92.08
Return before operating charges	3.08	(0.37)	4.73
Operating charges	(0.79)	(1.03)	(1.28)
Return after operating charges *	2.29	(1.40)	3.45
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(1.28)	(0.94)	(1.15)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares <sup>^</sup>	1.28	0.94	1.15
Closing net asset value per share	96.42	94.13	95.53
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.05	0.05	0.01
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	2.43%	(1.47%)	3.75%
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	1,336,071	1,611,367	1,184,200
Closing number of shares	1,385,720	1,711,925	1,239,606
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	0.84%	1.09%	1.33%
Direct transaction costs	0.05%	0.05%	0.01%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	96.47	97.09	99.29
Lowest share price	91.29	92.51	92.18

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
	p	p	p
<b>I Income</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	72.40	74.44	72.96
Return before operating charges	2.45	(0.19)	3.86
Operating charges	(1.04)	(1.26)	(1.47)
Return after operating charges *	1.41	(1.45)	2.39
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(0.63)	(0.59)	(0.91)
Closing net asset value per share	73.18	72.40	74.44
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.03	0.02	0.01
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	1.95%	(1.95%)	3.28%
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	3,166,228	4,582,841	17,123,263
Closing number of shares	4,326,843	6,329,530	23,003,925
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.44%	1.69%	1.93%
Direct transaction costs	0.05%	0.03%	0.01%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	73.85	75.62	78.36
Lowest share price	70.02	71.85	73.02

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<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
I Accumulation	p	p	p
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	101.17	103.17	99.91
Return before operating charges	3.42	(0.27)	5.27
Operating charges	(1.45)	(1.73)	(2.01)
Return after operating charges *	1.97	(2.00)	3.26
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(0.89)	(0.81)	(1.24)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares <sup>^</sup>	0.89	0.81	1.24
Closing net asset value per share	103.14	101.17	103.17
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.05	0.05	0.01
Performance			
Return after charges	1.95%	(1.94%)	3.26%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£)	210,693	397,240	445,983
Closing number of shares	204,280	392,655	432,287
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.44%	1.69%	1.93%
Direct transaction costs	0.05%	0.05%	0.01%
Published prices			
Highest share price	103.2	104.8	107.3
Lowest share price	97.85	99.60	100.0

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>^^#</sup>	2022 <sup>^</sup>
	p	p	p
<b>S Income</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	75.62	78.22	70.97
Return before operating charges	2.49	(1.22)	(0.75)
Operating charges	(0.78)	(0.85)	(0.87)
Return after operating charges *	1.71	(2.07)	(1.62)
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(0.90)	(0.53)	-
Closing net asset value per share	76.43	75.62	69.35
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.04	0.04	0.01
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	2.26%	(2.65%)	(2.28%)
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	232,565	150,164	-
Closing number of shares	304,292	198,588	-
Operating charges <sup>^^^^</sup>	1.04%	***1.29%	**1.53%
Direct transaction costs	0.05%	0.05%	0.01%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	77.37	78.33	78.17
Lowest share price	73.27	69.37	69.37

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> For the period 1 March 2021 to 2 December 2021.

<sup>^^</sup> For the period 19 April 2022 to 28 February 2023.

<sup>^^^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

\*\* Annualised based on the expenses incurred during the period 1 March 2021 to 2 December 2021.

\*\*\* Annualised based on the expenses incurred during the period 19 April 2022 to 28 February 2023.

# On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2023 <sup>^</sup>	2022
	p	p
<b>C Accumulation</b>		
Change in net assets per share		
Opening net asset value per share	89.13	86.19
Return before operating charges	1.10	4.50
Operating charges	(0.72)	(1.56)
Return after operating charges *	0.38	2.94
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	-	(1.07)
Retained distributions on		
Retained distributions on accumulation shares <sup>^</sup>	-	1.07
Closing net asset value per share	89.51	89.13
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.01	0.01
<hr/>		
<b>Performance</b>		
Return after charges	0.43%	3.41%
<hr/>		
<b>Other information</b>		
Closing net asset value (£)	-	1,931,141
Closing number of shares	-	2,166,551
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	**1.49%	1.73%
Direct transaction costs	0.01%	0.01%
<hr/>		
<b>Published prices</b>		
Highest share price	90.56	92.69
Lowest share price	86.64	86.28

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup>For the period 1 March 2022 to 14 September 2022.

<sup>^^</sup>Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^^</sup>The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

\*\* Annualised based on expenses incurred during the period 1 March 2022 to 14 September 2022.

## Financial statements - SVS Saltus Multi Asset Class Fund

## Statement of total return

for the year ended 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Income:					
Net capital gains / (losses)	2		202,663		(993,801)
Revenue	3	577,721		530,541	
Expenses	4	<u>(171,174)</u>		<u>(282,208)</u>	
Net revenue before taxation		406,547		248,333	
Taxation	5	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
Net revenue after taxation			<u>406,547</u>		<u>248,333</u>
Total return before distributions			609,210		(745,468)
Distributions	6		(341,863)		(383,370)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			<u><u>267,347</u></u>		<u><u>(1,128,838)</u></u>

## Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders

for the year ended 29 February 2024

		2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders			30,348,476		43,395,927
Amounts receivable on issue of shares		21,438,441		5,260,868	
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares		<u>(10,560,041)</u>		<u>(17,198,782)</u>	
			10,878,400		(11,937,914)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			267,347		(1,128,838)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares			19,480		19,301
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders			<u><u>41,513,703</u></u>		<u><u>30,348,476</u></u>

Balance sheet  
as at 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Assets:			
Fixed assets:			
Investments		37,173,771	28,287,359
Current assets:			
Debtors	7	2,882,158	2,093,534
Cash and cash equivalents	8	2,806,606	2,877,369
Total assets		<u>42,862,535</u>	<u>33,258,262</u>
Liabilities:			
Creditors:			
Distribution payable		(520,139)	(275,237)
Other creditors	9	(828,693)	(2,634,549)
Total liabilities		<u>(1,348,832)</u>	<u>(2,909,786)</u>
Net assets attributable to shareholders		<u>41,513,703</u>	<u>30,348,476</u>



## Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 1. Accounting policies

The accounting policies are disclosed on pages 40 to 42.

## 2. Net capital gains / (losses)

	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-derivative securities - realised gains	742,723	2,149,749
Non-derivative securities - movement in unrealised losses	(534,436)	(3,145,777)
Currency gains	73	8,341
Rebates from collective investment schemes	28	-
Compensation	-	13
Transaction charges	(5,725)	(6,127)
Total net capital gains / (losses)	<u>202,663</u>	<u>(993,801)</u>

## 3. Revenue

	2024	2023
	£	£
UK revenue	62,046	92,682
Unfranked revenue	90,316	177,711
Overseas revenue	415,687	251,560
Bank and deposit interest	9,672	8,588
Total revenue	<u>577,721</u>	<u>530,541</u>

## 4. Expenses

	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable to the ACD and associates		
ACD's periodic charge*	15,373	23,882
Investment Manager's fees*	134,763	227,102
	<u>150,136</u>	<u>250,984</u>
Payable to the Depositary		
Depositary fees	7,131	11,284
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	7,236	6,892
Non-executive directors' fees	1,736	1,533
Safe custody fees	860	1,175
Bank interest	15	1,247
FCA fee	227	440
KIID production fee	1,833	1,953
Listing fee	1,552	-
Legal fee	448	6,700
	<u>13,907</u>	<u>19,940</u>
Total expenses	<u>171,174</u>	<u>282,208</u>

\*For the year ended 29 February 2024, the annual management charge for each share class was as follows:

X Income	0.46%
X Accumulation	0.46%
I Income	1.06%
I Accumulation	1.06%
S Income	0.66%

The annual management charge includes the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fees.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 5. Taxation

	2024	2023
	£	£
<i>a. Analysis of the tax charge for the year</i>		
Total taxation (note 5b)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

*b. Factors affecting the tax charge for the year*

The tax assessed for the year is lower (2023: lower) than the standard rate of UK corporation tax for an authorised collective investment scheme of 20% (2023: 20%). The differences are explained below:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net revenue before taxation	<u>406,547</u>	<u>248,333</u>
Corporation tax @ 20%	81,309	49,667
Effects of:		
UK revenue	(12,409)	(18,536)
Overseas revenue	(4,027)	(14,049)
Capital rebates from collective investment schemes	6	-
Utilisation of excess management expenses	<u>(64,879)</u>	<u>(17,082)</u>
Total taxation (note 5a)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

*c. Provision for deferred taxation*

At the year end, a deferred tax asset has not been recognised in respect of timing differences relating to excess management expenses as there is insufficient evidence that the asset will be recovered. The amount of asset not recognised is £227,232 (2023: £292,111).

## 6. Distributions

The distributions take account of revenue added on the issue of shares and revenue deducted on the cancellation of shares, and comprise:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Final income distribution	520,139	275,237
Final accumulation distribution	<u>19,480</u>	<u>19,301</u>
	539,619	294,538
Equalisation:		
Amounts deducted on cancellation of shares	82,435	109,179
Amounts added on issue of shares	(280,191)	(20,359)
Net equalisation on conversions	-	12
Total net distributions	<u>341,863</u>	<u>383,370</u>

## Reconciliation between net revenue and distributions:

Net revenue after taxation per Statement of total return	406,547	248,333
Undistributed revenue brought forward	193	364
Expenses paid from capital*	127	189,933
Marginal tax relief	(64,899)	(55,067)
Undistributed revenue carried forward	<u>(105)</u>	<u>(193)</u>
Distributions	<u>341,863</u>	<u>383,370</u>

Details of the distribution per share are disclosed in the Distribution table.

\*On 1 October 2022 the sub-fund Fee Agreement changed from all expenses paid from capital account, to all expenses paid from revenue account.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

7. Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts receivable on issue of shares	102,780	160
Sales awaiting settlement	2,764,682	2,054,750
Accrued revenue	1,786	15,519
Prepaid expenses	17	36
Recoverable income tax	12,893	23,069
Total debtors	<u>2,882,158</u>	<u>2,093,534</u>
8. Cash and cash equivalents	2024	2023
	£	£
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>2,806,606</u>	<u>2,877,369</u>
9. Other creditors	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	260,503	214,394
Purchases awaiting settlement	545,040	2,397,530
Accrued expenses:		
Payable to the ACD and associates		
ACD's periodic charge	1,156	1,417
Investment Manager's fees	11,021	12,081
	<u>12,177</u>	<u>13,498</u>
Other expenses:		
Depository fees	615	641
Safe custody fees	126	73
Audit fee	7,236	6,892
Non-executive directors' fees	1,743	1,051
KIID production fee	167	333
Listing fee	558	-
Transaction charges	528	137
	<u>10,973</u>	<u>9,127</u>
Total accrued expenses	<u>23,150</u>	<u>22,625</u>
Total other creditors	<u>828,693</u>	<u>2,634,549</u>

## 10. Commitments and contingent liabilities

At the balance sheet date there are no commitments or contingent liabilities.

## 11. Share classes

The following reflects the change in shares in issue in the year:

	X Income
Opening shares in issue	31,261,867
Total shares issued in the year	27,340,531
Total shares cancelled in the year	(10,847,839)
Closing shares in issue	<u>47,754,559</u>

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 11. Share classes (continued)

	X Accumulation
Opening shares in issue	1,711,925
Total shares issued in the year	5,157
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(331,362)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u>1,385,720</u>
	I Income
Opening shares in issue	6,329,530
Total shares issued in the year	724,010
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(2,726,697)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u>4,326,843</u>
	I Accumulation
Opening shares in issue	392,655
Total shares issued in the year	1,750
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(190,125)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u>204,280</u>
	S Income
Opening shares in issue	198,588
Total shares issued in the year	109,788
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(4,084)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u>304,292</u>

Further information in respect of the return per share is disclosed in the Comparative table.

On the winding up of a sub-fund all the assets of the sub-fund will be realised and apportioned to the share classes in relation to the net asset value on the closure date. Shareholders will receive their respective share of the proceeds, net of liabilities and the expenses incurred in the termination in accordance with the FCA regulations. Each share class has the same rights on winding up.

## 12. Related party transactions

Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited, as ACD is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the sub-fund.

The ACD acts as principal in respect of all transactions of shares in the sub-fund. The aggregate monies received and paid through the creation and cancellation of shares are disclosed in the Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund.

Amounts payable to the ACD and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amount due to the ACD and its associates at the balance sheet date is disclosed in note 9.

## 13. Events after the balance sheet date

Subsequent to the year end, the net asset value per X Income share has increased from 76.58p to 78.54p, the X Accumulation share has increased from 96.42p to 99.04p, the I Income share has increased from 73.18p to 74.96p, the I Accumulation share has increased from 103.1p to 105.4p and the S Income share has increased from 76.43p to 78.19p as at 13 June 2024. This movement takes into account routine transactions but also reflects the market movements of recent months.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 14. Transaction costs

## a Direct transaction costs

Direct transaction costs include fees and commissions paid to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers; levies by regulatory agencies and security exchanges; and transfer taxes and duties.

Commission is a charge which is deducted from the proceeds of the sale of securities and added to the cost of the purchase of securities. This charge is a payment to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers in respect of their services in executing the trades.

Tax is payable on the purchase of securities in the United Kingdom. It may be the case that 'other taxes' will be charged on the purchase of securities in countries other than the United Kingdom.

The total purchases and sales and the related direct transaction costs incurred in these transactions are as follows:

	Purchases before transaction costs		Commission		Taxes		Purchases after transaction costs
	£		£	%	£	%	£
2024							
Closed-Ended Funds	126,921		127	0.10%	1	0.00%	127,049
Collective Investment Schemes	50,774,392		7,076	0.01%	-	-	50,781,468
Exchange Traded Commodities	998,762		300	0.03%	-	-	999,062
Total	51,900,075		7,503	0.14%	1	0.00%	51,907,579

	Purchases before transaction costs		Commission		Taxes		Purchases after transaction costs
	£		£	%	£	%	£
2023							
Equities	294,305		294	0.10%	1	0.00%	294,600
Collective Investment Schemes	36,821,245		8,053	0.02%	-	-	36,829,298
Exchange Traded Commodities	1,551,111		776	0.05%	-	-	1,551,887
Total	38,666,661		9,123	0.17%	1	0.00%	38,675,785

	Sales before transaction costs		Commission		Taxes		Sales after transaction costs
	£		£	%	£	%	£
2024							
Closed-Ended Funds	1,080,799		(1,081)	0.10%	(3)	0.00%	1,079,715
Collective Investment Schemes	41,914,946		(4,519)	0.01%	(1)	0.00%	41,910,426
Exchange Traded Commodities	439,885		(132)	0.03%	-	-	439,753
Total	43,435,630		(5,732)	0.14%	(4)	0.00%	43,429,894

	Sales before transaction costs		Commission		Taxes		Sales after transaction costs
	£		£	%	£	%	£
2023							
Equities	1,911,582		(1,912)	0.10%	(6)	0.00%	1,909,664
Collective Investment Schemes	48,892,674		(5,106)	0.01%	-	-	48,887,568
Exchange Traded Commodities	1,427,170		(714)	0.05%	-	-	1,426,456
Total	52,231,426		(7,732)	0.16%	(6)	0.00%	52,223,688

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 14. Transaction costs (continued)

## a Direct transaction costs (continued)

Summary of direct transaction costs

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the sub-fund's average net asset value in the year:

2024	£	% of average net asset value
Commission	13,235	0.05%
Taxes	5	0.00%
2023	£	% of average net asset value
Commission	16,855	0.04%
Taxes	7	0.00%

## b Average portfolio dealing spread

The average portfolio dealing spread is calculated as the difference between the bid and offer value of the portfolio as a percentage of the offer value.

The average portfolio dealing spread of the investments at the balance sheet date was 0.03% (2023: 0.07%).

## 15. Risk management policies

In pursuing the sub-fund's investment objective, as set out in the Prospectus, the following are accepted by the ACD as being the main risks from the sub-fund's holding of financial instruments, either directly or indirectly through its underlying holdings. These are presented with the ACD's policy for managing these risks. To ensure these risks are consistently and effectively managed these are continually reviewed by the risk committee, a body appointed by the ACD, which sets the risk appetite and ensures continued compliance with the management of all known risks.

## a Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices and comprise three elements: other price risk, currency risk, and interest rate risk.

## (i) Other price risk

The sub-fund's exposure to price risk comprises mainly of movements in the value of investment positions in the face of price movements.

The main elements of the portfolio of investments exposed to this risk are collective investment schemes, closed-ended funds and exchange traded commodities which are disclosed in the Portfolio statement.

This risk is generally regarded as consisting of two elements: stock specific risk and market risk. Through these two factors, the sub-fund is exposed to price fluctuations, which are monitored by the ACD in pursuance of the investment objective and policy.

Adhering to investment guidelines and avoiding excessive exposure to one particular issuer can limit stock specific risk. Subject to compliance with the investment objective of the sub-fund, spreading exposure in the portfolio of investments both globally and across sectors or geography can mitigate market risk.

At 29 February 2024, if the price of the investments held by the sub-fund increased or decreased by 5%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £1,858,689 (2023: £1,414,368).

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## a Market risk (continued)

## (ii) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the value of investments or future cash flows will fluctuate as a result of exchange rate movements. Investment in overseas securities or holdings of foreign currency cash will provide direct exposure to currency risk as a consequence of the movement in foreign exchange rates against sterling. Investments in UK securities investing in overseas securities will give rise to indirect exposure to currency risk. These fluctuations can also affect the profitability of some UK companies, and thus their market prices, as sterling's relative strength or weakness can affect export prospects, the value of overseas earnings in sterling terms, and the prices of imports sold in the UK.

Forward currency contracts may be used to manage the portfolio exposure to currency movements.

The foreign currency risk profile of the sub-fund's financial instruments and cash holdings at the balance sheet date is as follows:

	Financial instruments and cash holdings	Net debtors and creditors	Total net foreign currency exposure
2024	£	£	£
US dollar	661,774	-	661,774
	Financial instruments and cash holdings	Net debtors and creditors	Total net foreign currency exposure
2023	£	£	£
US dollar	1,728,207	-	1,728,207

At 29 February 2024, if the value of sterling increased or decreased by 5% against all other currencies, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £33,089 (2023: £86,410).

## (iii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's investments will fluctuate as a result of interest rate changes.

During the year the sub-fund's direct exposure to interest rates consisted of cash and bank balances. The sub-fund also has indirect exposure to interest rate risk as it invests in bond funds. The amount of revenue receivable from bank balances or payable on bank overdrafts will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates. In the event of a change in interest rates, there would be no material impact upon the net assets of the sub-fund. The sub-fund would not in normal market conditions hold significant cash balances and would have limited borrowing capabilities as stipulated in the COLL rules.

There is no exposure to interest bearing securities at the balance sheet date.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### b Credit risk

This is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. This includes counterparty risk.

The Depositary has appointed the custodian to provide custody services for the assets of the sub-fund. There is a counterparty risk that the custodian could cease to be in a position to provide custody services to the sub-fund. The sub-fund's investments (excluding cash) are ring fenced hence the risk is considered to be negligible.

The sub-fund holds cash and cash deposits with financial institutions which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk. The credit rating of the financial institution is taken into account so as to minimise the risk to the sub-fund of default.

Holdings in collective investment schemes are subject to direct credit risk. The exposure to pooled investment vehicles is unrated.

#### c Liquidity risk

A significant risk is the cancellation of shares which investors may wish to sell and that securities may have to be sold in order to fund such cancellations if insufficient cash is held at the bank to meet this obligation. If there were significant requests for the redemption of shares at a time when a large proportion of the portfolio of investments were not easily tradable due to market volumes or market conditions, the ability to fund those redemptions would be impaired and it might be necessary to suspend dealings in shares in the sub-fund.

Investments in smaller companies at times may prove illiquid, as by their nature they tend to have relatively modest traded share capital. Shifts in investor sentiment, or the announcement of new price sensitive information, can provoke significant movement in share prices, and make dealing in any quantity difficult.

To reduce liquidity risk the ACD will ensure, in line with the limits stipulated within the COLL rules, a substantial portion of the sub-fund's assets consist of readily realisable securities. This is monitored on a monthly basis and reported to the Risk Committee together with historical outflows of the sub-fund.

In addition liquidity is subject to stress testing on an annual basis to assess the ability of the sub-fund to meet large redemptions, while still being able to adhere to its objective guidelines and the FCA investment borrowing regulations.

All of the financial liabilities are payable on demand.

#### d Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities

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

To ensure this, the fair value pricing committee is a body appointed by the ACD to analyse, review and vote on price adjustments/maintenance where no current secondary market exists and/or where there are potential liquidity issues that would affect the disposal of an asset. In addition, the committee may also consider adjustments to the sub-fund's price should the constituent investments be exposed to closed markets during general market volatility or instability.

Basis of valuation	Investment assets	Investment liabilities
	2024	2024
	£	£
Quoted prices	15,944,692	-
Observable market data	21,229,079	-
Unobservable data	-	-
	<u>37,173,771</u>	<u>-</u>



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## d Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities (continued)

Basis of valuation	Investment	Investment
	assets	liabilities
	2023	2023
	£	£
Quoted prices	9,211,717	-
Observable market data	19,075,642	-
Unobservable data	-	-
	<u>28,287,359</u>	<u>-</u>

No securities in the portfolio of investments are valued using valuation techniques.

## e Assets subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature

There are no assets held in the portfolio of investments which are subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature.

## f Derivatives

The sub-fund may employ derivatives with the aim of reducing the sub-fund's risk profile, reducing costs or generating additional capital or revenue, in accordance with Efficient Portfolio Management.

The ACD monitors that any exposure is covered globally to ensure adequate cover is available to meet the sub-fund's total exposure, taking into account the value of the underlying investments, any reasonably foreseeable market movement, counterparty risk, and the time available to liquidate any positions.

For certain derivative transactions cash margins may be required to be paid to the brokers with whom the trades were executed and settled. These balances are subject to daily reconciliations and are held by the broker in segregated cash accounts that are afforded client money protection.

During the year there were no derivative transactions.

## (i) Counterparties

Transactions in securities give rise to exposure to the risk that the counterparties may not be able to fulfil their responsibility by completing their side of the transaction. This risk is mitigated by the sub-fund using a range of brokers for security transactions, thereby diversifying the risk of exposure to any one broker. In addition the sub-fund will only transact with brokers who are subject to frequent reviews with whom transaction limits are set.

The sub-fund may transact in derivative contracts which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk from the counterparty not settling their side of the contract. Transactions involving derivatives are entered into only with investment banks and brokers with appropriate and approved credit rating, which are regularly monitored. Forward currency transactions are only undertaken with the custodians appointed by the Depositary.

At the balance sheet date, there are no securities in the portfolio of investments subject to a repurchase agreement.

## (ii) Leverage

The leverage is calculated as the exposure generated through the use of derivatives (calculated in accordance with the commitment approach) divided by the net asset value.

There have been no leveraging arrangements in the year.

## (iii) Global exposure

Global exposure is a measure designed to limit the leverage generated by a fund through the use of financial derivative instruments, including derivatives with embedded assets.

At the balance sheet date there is no global exposure to derivatives.

There have been no collateral arrangements in the year.

## Distribution table

for the year ended 29 February 2024

Final distributions in pence per share

Group 1 - Shares purchased before 1 March 2023

Group 2 - Shares purchased 1 March 2023 to 29 February 2024

	Net revenue	Equalisation	Total distributions 30 April 2024	Total distributions 30 April 2023
X Income				
Group 1	1.026	-	1.026	0.757
Group 2	0.023	1.003	1.026	0.757
X Accumulation				
Group 1	1.275	-	1.275	0.941
Group 2	0.556	0.719	1.275	0.941
I Income				
Group 1	0.634	-	0.634	0.593
Group 2	0.264	0.370	0.634	0.593
I Accumulation				
Group 1	0.887	-	0.887	0.813
Group 2	0.355	0.532	0.887	0.813
S Income				
Group 1	0.902	-	0.902	0.529
Group 2	0.384	0.518	0.902	0.529

### Equalisation

Equalisation applies only to group 2 shares. It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of group 2 shares and is refunded to holders of these shares as a return of capital. Being capital it is not liable to income tax in the hands of the shareholder but must be deducted from the cost of shares for capital gains tax purposes.

### Accumulation distributions

Holders of accumulation shares should add the distributions received thereon to the cost of the shares for capital gains tax purposes.

## SVS Saltus Wealth Fund

### Investment Manager's report

#### Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to generate a combination of income and capital growth over the long term (rolling 7 year periods), with a volatility of returns of no more than 2/3rd of the volatility level of MSCI AC World Index (over rolling 3 year periods).

Investors should note that their capital is at risk and that there is no guarantee that either a positive return or the volatility target will be achieved over the stated, or any, time period.

The sub-fund aims to create a widely diversified portfolio, gaining exposure to a range of asset classes, geographies, styles and strategies.

The sub-fund is actively managed and unconstrained as to asset allocation. The sub-fund will hold at least 80% of its portfolio in other collective investment schemes (including open-ended investment schemes and closed-ended investment schemes) providing exposure to a flexible mix of equities and fixed income securities as well as currencies, gold, money, property, market instruments, warrants, cash, near cash, deposits and derivatives.

To the extent that the sub-fund is not fully invested in other collective investment schemes, it may invest directly in the asset classes listed above (with the exception of derivatives which may be used by the sub-fund only for the purposes of efficient portfolio management). The sub-fund may use derivatives and forward transactions for investment purposes on the giving of 60 days' notice to shareholders. The use of derivatives for investment purposes may alter the risk profile of the sub-fund.

In order to achieve the investment objective, the Investment Manager may manage the sub-fund outside the expected medium volatility parameters.

The collective investment schemes in which the sub-fund invests may include other funds managed by the ACD, the Investment Manager or an affiliate of the ACD or the Investment Manager.

#### Investment performance\*

Over the year the sub-fund delivered a total return of +5.19% (I Income shares based on mid prices at 5pm) compared to a comparative benchmark return of +3.23% (IA Mixed Investment 20-60% shares).

#### Investment activities

Overall, this reporting year was a positive one for world markets, with most of the good news concentrated in the final months of 2023 and the early months of 2024. Prior to that it was a year of frequent large and violent swings in sentiment, caused mainly by the bond markets continual efforts to price in a peak in the inflation and interest rate cycle. Another key feature of the year was the emergence of an Artificial Intelligence ('AI') theme, which manifested itself in very strong performance in a small group of large US technology stocks. Given their relative size in market indices the performance of this group had a big positive influence on the direction of travel of equity markets overall.

A remarkably quick worldwide rally began in late October 2023, one which had enough power to erase the losses of previous periods across multiple asset classes. The rally was catalysed by a reassessment of the inflation outlook, particularly in the crucial US economy. Prior to this point a series of relatively 'hot' US monthly inflation figures had been weighing on the market mood, as it implied that the painful increases in interest rates which have been absorbed so far, may not be finished. Then, a modest softening in the US labour market followed by a slightly weaker than expected October inflation reading sparked a global rally across asset classes. Investors quickly extrapolated some genuinely good news on US inflation into nearly all markets and geographies, as these US trends were assumed to be front runners for what will inevitably happen elsewhere.

\*Source: FE Fundinfo.

## Investment Manager's report (continued)

### Investment activities (continued)

This positive mood continued into the end of the reporting year and although there was some retracement of initial market enthusiasm, it was not significant. There were some areas of concern from a top down perspective, concentrating around the sluggish performance of the Chinese economy and the perception of a lacklustre response to the issue from the Chinese government. Periodically geopolitical events intruded into market thinking (e.g. the war in the Middle East) but they did not have a long lasting effect. Commodity markets were relatively quiet overall reflecting their internal supply and demand dynamics, plus the dampening effect of a sluggish Chinese economy.

Looking ahead we can see clear long term positive signals emerging. The most prominent of these is the return of long term 'real' (or after inflation) interest rates back to pre-financial crisis levels in the US. In other words, after a very short period of time, the long term cost of US dollar has 'normalised' and the fact that this has happened without a spectacular crisis or deep recession is something to celebrate. It is also important to remember that market time horizons have shrunk to align themselves with monthly economic data, putting many longer-term risks out of sight and out of mind. Undoubtedly there will come a point in the months ahead when current positive sentiment is tested.

The major decisions which impacted performance for this reporting period came from (a) a decision to concentrate positions with managers where we had the higher conviction, reducing the overall number of positions and (b) our shift into more targeted bond market exposures and into alternative equity strategies. Positions were added or increased substantially in Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund and Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund to provide exposure to a high conviction long only global credit manager and US M&A market special situations. Government bond positions were reduced in favour of riskier credit exposures.

### Investment strategy and outlook

At the time of writing the outlook remains uncertain, but with a relatively low degree of risk. The glass is likely more 'half full' than 'half empty'. Interest rates are likely hitting their peak for this cycle, which is a significant positive, although there remains some uncertainty if enough has been done to finally subdue inflation. The biggest risks centre around market short termism, which is ignoring big issues around the state of government balance sheets. Political and geopolitical risks, which so far have had limited influence, retain the power to upset the current positive mood. On balance though, we think that shareholders can look forward with some degree of optimism to the future.

Saltus Partners LLP  
18 March 2024

## Summary of portfolio changes

for the year ended 29 February 2024

The following represents the major purchases and sales in the year to reflect a clearer picture of the investment activities.

	Cost
	£
Purchases:	
Fidelity MSCI World Index Fund	14,683,520
iShares S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	12,567,736
Xtrackers MSCI World Quality UCITS ETF	12,382,871
Royal London Equity Funds ICVC - Royal London Global Equity Diversified Fund	12,211,660
Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund	11,858,600
Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund	11,021,540
Nomura Funds Ireland - Japan Strategic Value Fund	8,625,640
Harrington Cooper Ucits Funds Icaav-HC Snyder US All Cap Equity Fund	7,711,170
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	7,595,823
TM RWC Global Equity Income Fund	7,006,270
iShares USD Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF	6,913,900
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Asia Pacific Opportunities Fund	6,838,610
Brown Advisory Funds - BA Beutel Goodman US Value Fund	6,663,700
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Index US Fund	6,492,380
Federated Hermes Unconstrained Credit Fund	5,998,120
iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF	5,651,492
iShares UK Equity Index Fund UK	5,174,000
MAN Fixed Interest ICVC - Man GLG High Yield Opportunities Fund	5,135,900
Trium UCITS Platform - Trium Alternative Growth Fund	4,880,370
Invesco Bloomberg Commodity UCITS ETF	4,806,660
	Proceeds
	£
Sales:	
Royal London Equity Funds ICVC - Royal London Global Equity Select Fund	3,823,376
iShares Edge MSCI World Quality Factor UCITS ETF	2,743,340
iShares USD Treasury Bond 1-3yr UCITS ETF	2,574,585
iShares Edge MSCI World Minimum Volatility UCITS ETF	1,833,618
MI Chelverton UK Equity Income Fund	1,751,874
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Index US Fund	1,739,930
TM RWC Global Equity Income Fund	1,728,900
Fidelity Investment Funds - Index Japan Fund	1,708,179
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	1,696,015
TM Tellworth UK Select	1,676,297
iShares S&P 500 GBP Hedged UCITS ETF Acc	1,568,444
T Rowe Price Funds OEIC - Global Focused Growth Equity Fund	1,540,853
Harrington Cooper Ucits Funds Icaav-HC Snyder US All Cap Equity Fund	1,427,006
Latitude Global Fund	1,418,704
iShares JP Morgan EM Local Government Bond UCITS ETF	1,398,878
Nomura Funds Ireland - Japan Strategic Value Fund	1,322,602
Liontrust Global Funds - Liontrust GF European Strategic Equity Fund	1,194,019
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	962,870
Lazard Global Investment Funds - Lazard Rathmore Alternative Fund	880,274
iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF	845,485

## Portfolio statement

as at 29 February 2024

	Nominal value or holding	Market value £	% of total net assets
Investment			
Closed-Ended Funds 0.00% (0.98%)			
Speymill Deutsche Immobilien*	400,000	-	-
Collective Investment Schemes 95.10% (88.72%)			
UK Authorised Collective Investment Schemes 23.43% (37.21%)			
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Asia Pacific Opportunities Fund	5,866,536	7,732,094	4.02
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Index US Fund	3,662,324	6,780,427	3.53
iShares UK Equity Index Fund UK	1,843,335	5,153,412	2.68
MAN Fixed Interest ICVC - Man GLG High Yield Opportunities Fund	3,671,984	5,195,857	2.71
Royal London Equity Funds ICVC			
- Royal London Global Equity Diversified Fund	9,968,076	12,380,351	6.44
TM RWC Global Equity Income Fund	5,973,518	7,783,494	4.05
Total UK authorised collective investment schemes		<u>45,025,635</u>	<u>23.43</u>
Offshore Collective Investment Schemes 71.67% (51.51%)			
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	757,050	7,608,353	3.96
Brown Advisory Funds - BA Beutel Goodman US Value Fund	578,339	7,824,931	4.07
CG Portfolio Fund - Dollar Fund	61,368	5,607,812	2.92
Federated Hermes Unconstrained Credit Fund	5,732,161	6,786,878	3.53
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	135,963	135,963	0.07
Fidelity MSCI World Index Fund	1,769,801	14,736,424	7.67
Harrington Cooper Ucits Funds Icaiv-HC Snyder US All Cap Equity Fund	62,598	7,896,719	4.11
Invesco Bloomberg Commodity UCITS ETF	304,295	5,229,310	2.72
iShares Core MSCI EM IMI UCITS ETF	152,750	3,830,970	1.99
iShares S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	2,304,890	12,757,566	6.64
iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF	41,123	5,168,750	2.69
iShares USD Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF	2,146,495	6,918,153	3.60
Jupiter Asset Management Series - Jupiter Gold & Silver Fund	264,493	3,789,309	1.97
Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund	128,217	11,653,610	6.07
Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund	1,097,646	11,624,073	6.05
Nomura Funds Ireland Public Limited Company			
- Japan Strategic Value Fund	67,297	8,760,683	4.56
Trium UCITS Platform - Trium Alternative Growth Fund	43,468	4,776,213	2.49
Xtrackers MSCI World Quality UCITS ETF	247,405	12,607,759	6.56
Total offshore collective investment schemes		<u>137,713,476</u>	<u>71.67</u>
Total collective investment schemes		<u>182,739,111</u>	<u>95.10</u>

\*Speymill Deutsche Immobilien: The fair value pricing committee feels that it is appropriate to include the security in the portfolio of investments with no value as trading in the security is suspended (2023: nil).

## Portfolio statement (continued)

as at 29 February 2024

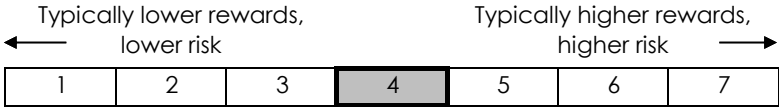
	Nominal value or holding	Market value £	% of total net assets
Investment			
Exchange Traded Commodities 2.00% (3.46%)			
WisdomTree Copper	141,450	3,835,515	2.00
<hr/>			
Portfolio of investments		186,574,626	97.10
Other net assets		5,570,531	2.90
<hr/>			
Total net assets		192,145,157	100.00
<hr/>			

All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities or regulated collective investment schemes within the meaning of the FCA rules unless otherwise stated.

The comparative figures in brackets are as at 28 February 2023.

Risk and reward profile\*

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



The sub-fund is in a medium category because the price of its investments have risen or fallen to some extent. The category shown is not guaranteed to remain unchanged and may shift over time. Even the lowest category does not mean a risk-free investment.

For full details on risk factors for the sub-fund, please refer to the Prospectus.

There have been no changes to the risk and reward indicator in the year.

\* As per the KIID published 8 May 2024.



## Comparative table

The following disclosures give a shareholder an indication of the performance of a share in the sub-fund. It also discloses the operating charges and direct transaction costs applied to each share. Operating charges are those charges incurred in operating the sub-fund and direct transaction costs are costs incurred when purchasing or selling securities in the portfolio of investments.

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
	p	p	p
X Income			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	145.72	145.95	142.85
Return before operating charges	9.76	2.58	6.42
Operating charges	(1.32)	(1.57)	(1.83)
Return after operating charges *	8.44	1.01	4.59
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(1.50)	(1.24)	(1.49)
Closing net asset value per share	152.66	145.72	145.95
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.11	0.05	0.01
Performance			
Return after charges	5.79%	0.69%	3.21%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£)	185,509,619	24,391,876	23,167,317
Closing number of shares	121,519,926	16,738,502	15,873,423
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	0.91%	1.08%	1.22%
Direct transaction costs	0.08%	0.03%	0.01%
Published prices			
Highest share price	154.2	151.3	156.8
Lowest share price	141.8	138.3	142.1

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup>On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
X Accumulation	p	p	p
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	171.49	170.33	164.98
Return before operating charges	11.44	2.99	7.47
Operating charges	(1.60)	(1.83)	(2.12)
Return after operating charges *	9.84	1.16	5.35
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(1.76)	(1.45)	(1.73)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares <sup>^</sup>	1.76	1.45	1.73
Closing net asset value per share	181.33	171.49	170.33
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.07	0.06	0.01
Performance			
Return after charges	5.74%	0.68%	3.24%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£)	855,571	1,217,607	1,225,004
Closing number of shares	471,825	710,006	719,178
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	0.92%	1.08%	1.22%
Direct transaction costs	0.04%	0.03%	0.01%
Published prices			
Highest share price	181.4	176.5	181.1
Lowest share price	166.8	161.4	164.2

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
I Income	p	p	p
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	138.94	139.69	137.45
Return before operating charges	9.34	2.51	6.29
Operating charges	(2.12)	(2.34)	(2.62)
Return after operating charges *	7.22	0.17	3.67
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(0.76)	(0.92)	(1.43)
Closing net asset value per share	145.40	138.94	139.69
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.06	0.04	0.01
Performance			
Return after charges	5.20%	0.12%	2.67%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£)	4,716,809	7,543,590	18,999,431
Closing number of shares	3,243,986	5,429,524	13,601,353
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.52%	1.68%	1.82%
Direct transaction costs	0.04%	0.03%	0.01%
Published prices			
Highest share price	146.2	144.7	150.2
Lowest share price	134.7	132.1	136.8

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
	p	p	p
<b>I Accumulation</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	102.69	102.61	99.93
Return before operating charges	6.91	1.79	4.59
Operating charges	(1.57)	(1.71)	(1.91)
Return after operating charges *	5.34	0.08	2.68
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(0.56)	(0.66)	(1.04)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares <sup>^</sup>	0.56	0.66	1.04
Closing net asset value per share	108.03	102.69	102.61
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.05	0.04	0.01
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	5.20%	0.08%	2.68%
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	275,859	275,159	276,661
Closing number of shares	255,361	267,959	269,632
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.52%	1.68%	1.82%
Direct transaction costs	0.04%	0.03%	0.01%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	108.0	106.3	109.3
Lowest share price	99.54	97.02	99.42

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
	p	p	p
<b>S Income</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	136.23	136.64	133.81
Return before operating charges	9.13	2.38	6.22
Operating charges	(1.53)	(1.72)	(1.99)
Return after operating charges *	7.60	0.66	4.23
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(1.18)	(1.07)	(1.40)
Closing net asset value per share	142.65	136.23	136.64
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.06	0.05	0.01
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	5.58%	0.48%	3.16%
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	585,601	594,055	683,771
Closing number of shares	410,522	436,058	500,408
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.12%	1.28%	1.42%
Direct transaction costs	0.04%	0.03%	0.01%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	143.9	141.7	146.2
Lowest share price	132.4	129.4	133.1

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
	p	p	p
<b>C Accumulation</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	141.25	140.94	137.01
Return before operating charges	9.47	2.39	6.26
Operating charges	(1.87)	(2.08)	(2.33)
Return after operating charges *	7.60	0.31	3.93
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(1.00)	(1.03)	(1.43)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares <sup>^</sup>	1.00	1.03	1.43
Closing net asset value per share	148.85	141.25	140.94
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.06	0.04	0.01
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	5.38%	0.22%	2.87%
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	201,698	260,009	1,021,901
Closing number of shares	135,501	184,076	725,063
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.32%	1.48%	1.62%
Direct transaction costs	0.04%	0.03%	0.01%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	148.9	146.0	150.1
Lowest share price	137.1	133.3	136.3

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Financial statements - SVS Saltus Wealth Fund

## Statement of total return

for the year ended 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Income:					
Net capital gains / (losses)	2		2,300,087		(411,599)
Revenue	3	505,238		464,925	
Expenses	4	<u>(226,445)</u>		<u>(310,779)</u>	
Net revenue before taxation		278,793		154,146	
Taxation	5	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
Net revenue after taxation			<u>278,793</u>		<u>154,146</u>
Total return before distributions			2,578,880		(257,453)
Distributions	6		(266,983)		(344,599)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			<u><u>2,311,897</u></u>		<u><u>(602,052)</u></u>

## Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders

for the year ended 29 February 2024

		2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders			34,282,296		45,374,085
Amounts receivable on issue of shares		169,629,261		7,556,542	
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares		<u>(14,089,371)</u>		<u>(18,060,458)</u>	
			155,539,890		(10,503,916)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			2,311,897		(602,052)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares			11,074		13,955
Unclaimed distributions			-		224
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders			<u><u>192,145,157</u></u>		<u><u>34,282,296</u></u>

Balance sheet  
as at 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Assets:			
Fixed assets:			
Investments		186,574,626	31,936,336
Current assets:			
Debtors	7	3,034,851	3,649,197
Cash and cash equivalents	8	6,830,125	1,054,938
Total assets		<u>196,439,602</u>	<u>36,640,471</u>
Liabilities:			
Creditors:			
Distribution payable		(1,853,354)	(262,418)
Other creditors	9	(2,441,091)	(2,095,757)
Total liabilities		<u>(4,294,445)</u>	<u>(2,358,175)</u>
Net assets attributable to shareholders		<u>192,145,157</u>	<u>34,282,296</u>



## Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 1. Accounting policies

The accounting policies are disclosed on pages 40 to 42.

2. Net capital gains / (losses)	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-derivative securities - realised gains	1,403,183	2,472,148
Non-derivative securities - movement in unrealised gains / (losses)	927,616	(2,881,196)
Currency (losses) / gains	(24,417)	3,851
Rebates from collective investment schemes	204	-
Compensation	-	63
Transaction charges	(6,499)	(6,465)
Total net capital gains / (losses)	<u>2,300,087</u>	<u>(411,599)</u>
3. Revenue	2024	2023
	£	£
UK revenue	146,504	185,956
Unfranked revenue	26,656	71,554
Overseas revenue	314,513	200,011
Bank and deposit interest	17,565	7,404
Total revenue	<u>505,238</u>	<u>464,925</u>
4. Expenses	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable to the ACD and associates		
ACD's periodic charge*	19,045	25,795
Investment Manager's fees*	184,180	254,369
	<u>203,225</u>	<u>280,164</u>
Payable to the Depositary		
Depositary fees	9,374	12,178
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	6,936	6,606
Non-executive directors' fees	1,736	1,533
Safe custody fees	977	1,289
Bank interest	115	-
FCA fee	249	451
KIID production fee	1,833	1,858
Listing fee	1,552	-
Legal fee	448	6,700
	<u>13,846</u>	<u>18,437</u>
Total expenses	<u>226,445</u>	<u>310,779</u>

\* For the year ended 29 February 2024, the annual management charge for each share class was as follows:

X Income	0.46%
X Accumulation	0.46%
I Income	1.06%
I Accumulation	1.06%
S Income	0.66%
C Accumulation	0.86%

The annual management charge includes the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fees.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 5. Taxation

	2024	2023
	£	£
<i>a. Analysis of the tax charge for the year</i>		
Total taxation (note 5b)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>b. Factors affecting the tax charge for the year</i>		
The tax assessed for the year is lower (2023: lower) than the standard rate of UK corporation tax for an authorised collective investment scheme of 20% (2023: 20%). The differences are explained below:		
	2024	2023
	£	£
Net revenue before taxation	<u>278,793</u>	<u>154,146</u>
Corporation tax @ 20%	55,759	30,829
Effects of:		
UK revenue	(29,301)	(37,191)
Overseas revenue	(15,278)	(21,018)
Capital rebates from collective investment schemes	41	-
Excess management expenses	-	27,380
Utilisation of excess management expenses	<u>(11,221)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total taxation (note 5a)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

*c. Provision for deferred taxation*

At the year end, a deferred tax asset has not been recognised in respect of timing differences relating to excess management expenses as there is insufficient evidence that the asset will be recovered. The amount of asset not recognised is £406,751 (2023: £417,972).

## 6. Distributions

The distributions take account of revenue added on the issue of shares and revenue deducted on the cancellation of shares, and comprise:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Final income distribution	1,853,354	262,418
Final accumulation distribution	<u>11,074</u>	<u>13,955</u>
	1,864,428	276,373
Equalisation:		
Amounts deducted on cancellation of shares	83,959	90,481
Amounts added on issue of shares	(1,681,404)	(22,344)
Net equalisation on conversions	-	89
Total net distributions	<u>266,983</u>	<u>344,599</u>
Reconciliation between net revenue and distributions:		
Net revenue after taxation per Statement of total return	278,793	154,146
Undistributed revenue brought forward	34	118
Expenses paid from capital*	127	203,768
Marginal tax relief	(11,207)	(13,399)
Undistributed revenue carried forward	<u>(764)</u>	<u>(34)</u>
Distributions	<u>266,983</u>	<u>344,599</u>

Details of the distribution per share are disclosed in the Distribution table.

\*On 1 October 2022 the sub-fund Fee Agreement changed from all expenses paid from capital account, to all expenses paid from revenue account.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

7. Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts receivable on issue of shares	150,235	-
Sales awaiting settlement	2,880,316	3,632,061
Accrued revenue	214	10,177
Prepaid expenses	19	36
Recoverable income tax	4,067	6,923
Total debtors	<u>3,034,851</u>	<u>3,649,197</u>
8. Cash and cash equivalents	2024	2023
	£	£
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>6,830,125</u>	<u>1,054,938</u>
9. Other creditors	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	1,089,645	16,855
Purchases awaiting settlement	1,303,640	2,053,450
Accrued expenses:		
Payable to the ACD and associates		
ACD's periodic charge	2,716	1,601
Investment Manager's fees	32,682	14,935
	<u>35,398</u>	<u>16,536</u>
Other expenses:		
Depository fees	1,891	728
Safe custody fees	155	85
Audit fee	6,936	6,606
Non-executive directors' fees	1,743	1,051
KIID production fee	167	333
Listing fee	558	-
Transaction charges	958	113
	<u>12,408</u>	<u>8,916</u>
Total accrued expenses	<u>47,806</u>	<u>25,452</u>
Total other creditors	<u>2,441,091</u>	<u>2,095,757</u>
10. Commitments and contingent liabilities		
At the balance sheet date there are no commitments or contingent liabilities.		
11. Share classes		
The following reflects the change in shares in issue in the year:		
		X Income
Opening shares in issue		16,738,502
Total shares issued in the year		111,375,441
Total shares cancelled in the year		(6,594,017)
Closing shares in issue		<u>121,519,926</u>

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 11. Share classes (continued)

	X Accumulation
Opening shares in issue	710,006
Total shares issued in the year	223,762
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(461,943)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u><u>471,825</u></u>
	I Income
Opening shares in issue	5,429,524
Total shares issued in the year	183,275
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(2,368,813)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u><u>3,243,986</u></u>
	I Accumulation
Opening shares in issue	267,959
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(12,598)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u><u>255,361</u></u>
	S Income
Opening shares in issue	436,058
Total shares issued in the year	155,787
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(181,323)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u><u>410,522</u></u>
	C Accumulation
Opening shares in issue	184,076
Total shares issued in the year	4,377
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(52,952)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u><u>135,501</u></u>

Further information in respect of the return per share is disclosed in the Comparative table.

On the winding up of a sub-fund all the assets of the sub-fund will be realised and apportioned to the share classes in relation to the net asset value on the closure date. Shareholders will receive their respective share of the proceeds, net of liabilities and the expenses incurred in the termination in accordance with the FCA regulations. Each share class has the same rights on winding up.

## 12. Related party transactions

Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited, as ACD is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the sub-fund.

The ACD acts as principal in respect of all transactions of shares in the sub-fund. The aggregate monies received and paid through the creation and cancellation of shares are disclosed in the Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund.

Amounts payable to the ACD and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amount due to the ACD and its associates at the balance sheet date is disclosed in note 9.

## 13. Events after the balance sheet date

Subsequent to the year end, the net asset value per X Income share has increased from 152.7p to 158.6p, X Accumulation share has increased from 181.3p to 188.4p, I Income share has increased from 145.4p to 150.9p, I Accumulation share has increased from 108.0p to 112.1p, S Income share has increased from 142.7p to 148.3p and C Accumulation share has increased from 148.9p to 154.5p as at 13 June 2024. This movement takes into account routine transactions but also reflects the market movements of recent months.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 14. Transaction costs

## a Direct transaction costs

Direct transaction costs include fees and commissions paid to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers; levies by regulatory agencies and security exchanges; and transfer taxes and duties.

Commission is a charge which is deducted from the proceeds of the sale of securities and added to the cost of the purchase of securities. This charge is a payment to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers in respect of their services in executing the trades.

Tax is payable on the purchase of securities in the United Kingdom. It may be the case that 'other taxes' will be charged on the purchase of securities in countries other than the United Kingdom.

The total purchases and sales and the related direct transaction costs incurred in these transactions are as follows:

	Purchases before transaction costs	Commission	Taxes	Purchases after transaction costs
	£	£ %	£ %	£
2024				
Collective Investment Schemes	193,275,622	18,524 0.01%	- -	193,294,146
Exchange Traded Commodities	3,239,191	972 0.03%	- -	3,240,163
Total	196,514,813	19,496 0.04%	- -	196,534,309
	Purchases before transaction costs	Commission	Taxes	Purchases after transaction costs
	£	£ %	£ %	£
2023				
Collective Investment Schemes	38,064,348	5,802 0.02%	- -	38,070,150
Exchange Traded Commodities	1,021,071	511 0.05%	- -	1,021,582
Total	39,085,419	6,313 0.07%	- -	39,091,732
	Sales before transaction costs	Commission	Taxes	Sales after transaction costs
	£	£ %	£ %	£
2024				
Closed-Ended Funds	263,955	(264) 0.10%	(1) 0.00%	263,690
Collective Investment Schemes	43,674,738	(4,587) 0.01%	- -	43,670,151
Exchange Traded Commodities	551,240	(165) 0.03%	- -	551,075
Total	44,489,933	(5,016) 0.14%	(1) 0.00%	44,484,916
	Sales before transaction costs	Commission	Taxes	Sales after transaction costs
	£	£ %	£ %	£
2023				
Equities	1,844,103	(1,844) 0.10%	(6) 0.00%	1,842,253
Collective Investment Schemes	49,473,107	(6,024) 0.01%	- -	49,467,083
Exchange Traded Commodities	81,544	(41) 0.05%	- -	81,503
Total	51,398,754	(7,909) 0.16%	(6) 0.00%	51,390,839

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### 14. Transaction costs (continued)

#### a Direct transaction costs (continued)

Summary of direct transaction costs

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the sub-fund's average net asset value in the year:

	£	% of average net asset value
2024		
Commission	24,512	0.07%
Taxes	1	0.00%
2023		
Commission	14,222	0.03%
Taxes	6	0.00%

#### b Average portfolio dealing spread

The average portfolio dealing spread is calculated as the difference between the bid and offer value of the portfolio as a percentage of the offer value.

The average portfolio dealing spread of the investments at the balance sheet date was 0.03% (2023: 0.04%).

### 15. Risk management policies

In pursuing the sub-fund's investment objective, as set out in the Prospectus, the following are accepted by the ACD as being the main risks from the sub-fund's holding of financial instruments, either directly or indirectly through its underlying holdings. These are presented with the ACD's policy for managing these risks. To ensure these risks are consistently and effectively managed these are continually reviewed by the risk committee, a body appointed by the ACD, which sets the risk appetite and ensures continued compliance with the management of all known risks.

#### a Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices and comprise three elements: other price risk, currency risk, and interest rate risk.

##### (i) Other price risk

The sub-fund's exposure to price risk comprises mainly of movements in the value of investment positions in the face of price movements.

The main elements of the portfolio of investments exposed to this risk are collective investment schemes and exchange traded commodities which are disclosed in the Portfolio statement.

This risk is generally regarded as consisting of two elements: stock specific risk and market risk. Through these two factors, the sub-fund is exposed to price fluctuations, which are monitored by the ACD in pursuance of the investment objective and policy.

Adhering to investment guidelines and avoiding excessive exposure to one particular issuer can limit stock specific risk. Subject to compliance with the investment objective of the sub-fund, spreading exposure in the portfolio of investments both globally and across sectors or geography can mitigate market risk.

At 29 February 2024, if the price of the investments held by the sub-fund increased or decreased by 5%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £9,328,731 (2023: £1,596,817).

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## a Market risk (continued)

## (ii) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the value of investments or future cash flows will fluctuate as a result of exchange rate movements. Investment in overseas securities or holdings of foreign currency cash will provide direct exposure to currency risk as a consequence of the movement in foreign exchange rates against sterling. Investments in UK securities investing in overseas securities will give rise to indirect exposure to currency risk. These fluctuations can also affect the profitability of some UK companies, and thus their market prices, as sterling's relative strength or weakness can affect export prospects, the value of overseas earnings in sterling terms, and the prices of imports sold in the UK.

Forward currency contracts may be used to manage the portfolio exposure to currency movements.

The foreign currency risk profile of the sub-fund's financial instruments and cash holdings at the balance sheet date is as follows:

	Financial instruments and cash holdings	Net debtors and creditors	Total net foreign currency exposure
2024	£	£	£
Euro	86	-	86
US dollar	3,835,515	-	3,835,515
Total foreign currency exposure	<u>3,835,601</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,835,601</u>

	Financial instruments and cash holdings	Net debtors and creditors	Total net foreign currency exposure
2023	£	£	£
Euro	88	-	88
US dollar	1,624,194	-	1,624,194
Total foreign currency exposure	<u>1,624,282</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,624,282</u>

At 29 February 2024, if the value of sterling increased or decreased by 5% against all other currencies, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £191,780 (2023: £81,214).

## (iii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's investments will fluctuate as a result of interest rate changes.

During the year the sub-fund's direct exposure to interest rates consisted of cash and bank balances. The sub-fund also has indirect exposure to interest rate risk as it invests in bond funds. The amount of revenue receivable from bank balances or payable on bank overdrafts will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates. In the event of a change in interest rates, there would be no material impact upon the net assets of the sub-fund. The sub-fund would not in normal market conditions hold significant cash balances and would have limited borrowing capabilities as stipulated in the COLL rules.

There is no exposure to interest bearing securities at the balance sheet date.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### b Credit risk

This is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. This includes counterparty risk.

The Depositary has appointed the custodian to provide custody services for the assets of the sub-fund. There is a counterparty risk that the custodian could cease to be in a position to provide custody services to the sub-fund. The sub-fund's investments (excluding cash) are ring fenced hence the risk is considered to be negligible.

The sub-fund holds cash and cash deposits with financial institutions which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk. The credit rating of the financial institution is taken into account so as to minimise the risk to the sub-fund of default.

Holdings in collective investment schemes are subject to direct credit risk. The exposure to pooled investment vehicles is unrated.

#### c Liquidity risk

A significant risk is the cancellation of shares which investors may wish to sell and that securities may have to be sold in order to fund such cancellations if insufficient cash is held at the bank to meet this obligation. If there were significant requests for the redemption of shares at a time when a large proportion of the portfolio of investments were not easily tradable due to market volumes or market conditions, the ability to fund those redemptions would be impaired and it might be necessary to suspend dealings in shares in the sub-fund.

Investments in smaller companies at times may prove illiquid, as by their nature they tend to have relatively modest traded share capital. Shifts in investor sentiment, or the announcement of new price sensitive information, can provoke significant movement in share prices, and make dealing in any quantity difficult.

The sub-fund may also invest in securities that are not listed or traded on any stock exchange. In such situations the sub-fund may not be able to immediately sell such securities.

To reduce liquidity risk the ACD will ensure, in line with the limits stipulated within the COLL rules, a substantial portion of the sub-fund's assets consist of readily realisable securities. This is monitored on a monthly basis and reported to the Risk Committee together with historical outflows of the sub-fund.

In addition liquidity is subject to stress testing on an annual basis to assess the ability of the sub-fund to meet large redemptions, while still being able to adhere to its objective guidelines and the FCA investment borrowing regulations.

All of the financial liabilities are payable on demand.

#### d Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities

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

To ensure this, the fair value pricing committee is a body appointed by the ACD to analyse, review and vote on price adjustments/maintenance where no current secondary market exists and/or where there are potential liquidity issues that would affect the disposal of an asset. In addition, the committee may also consider adjustments to the sub-fund's price should the constituent investments be exposed to closed markets during general market volatility or instability.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## d Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities (continued)

Basis of valuation	Investment assets	Investment liabilities
	2024	2024
	£	£
Quoted prices	57,956,376	-
Observable market data	128,618,250	-
Unobservable data*	-	-
	<u>186,574,626</u>	<u>-</u>
Basis of valuation	Investment assets	Investment liabilities
	2023	2023
	£	£
Quoted prices	7,789,315	-
Observable market data	24,147,021	-
Unobservable data*	-	-
	<u>31,936,336</u>	<u>-</u>

\*The following security is valued in the portfolio of investments using a valuation technique:

*Speymill Deutsche Immobilien: The fair value pricing committee feels that it is appropriate to include the security in the portfolio of investments with no value as trading in the security is suspended (2023: nil).*

## Unobservable data

Unobservable data has been used only where relevant observable market data is not available. Where there was no reputable price source for an investment, the ACD has assessed information available from internal and external sources in order to arrive at an estimated fair value. The fair value is established by using measures of value such as the price of recent transactions, earnings multiple and net assets. The ACD of the Fund also makes judgements and estimates based on their knowledge of recent investment performance, historical experience and other the assumptions used are under continuous review by the ACD with particular attention paid to the carrying value of the investments.

## e Assets subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature

The following assets held in the portfolio of investments are subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature:

	2024	2023
	% of the total net asset value	% of the total net asset value
Speymill Deutsche Immobilien	0.00%	0.00%
Total	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>0.00%</u>

## f Derivatives

The sub-fund may employ derivatives with the aim of reducing the sub-fund's risk profile, reducing costs or generating additional capital or revenue, in accordance with Efficient Portfolio Management.

The ACD monitors that any exposure is covered globally to ensure adequate cover is available to meet the sub-fund's total exposure, taking into account the value of the underlying investments, any reasonably foreseeable market movement, counterparty risk, and the time available to liquidate any positions.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### f Derivatives (continued)

For certain derivative transactions cash margins may be required to be paid to the brokers with whom the trades were executed and settled. These balances are subject to daily reconciliations and are held by the broker in segregated cash accounts that are afforded client money protection.

During the year there were no derivative transactions.

#### (i) Counterparties

Transactions in securities give rise to exposure to the risk that the counterparties may not be able to fulfil their responsibility by completing their side of the transaction. This risk is mitigated by the sub-fund using a range of brokers for security transactions, thereby diversifying the risk of exposure to any one broker. In addition the sub-fund will only transact with brokers who are subject to frequent reviews with whom transaction limits are set.

The sub-fund may transact in derivative contracts which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk from the counterparty not settling their side of the contract. Transactions involving derivatives are entered into only with investment banks and brokers with appropriate and approved credit rating, which are regularly monitored. Forward currency transactions are only undertaken with the custodians appointed by the Depositary.

At the balance sheet date, there are no securities in the portfolio of investments subject to a repurchase agreement.

#### (ii) Leverage

The leverage is calculated as the exposure generated through the use of derivatives (calculated in accordance with the commitment approach) divided by the net asset value.

There have been no leveraging arrangements in the year.

#### (iii) Global exposure

Global exposure is a measure designed to limit the leverage generated by a fund through the use of financial derivative instruments, including derivatives with embedded assets.

At the balance sheet date there is no global exposure to derivatives.

There have been no collateral arrangements in the year.

## Distribution table

for the year ended 29 February 2024

Final distributions in pence per share

Group 1 - Shares purchased before 1 March 2023

Group 2 - Shares purchased 1 March 2023 to 29 February 2024

	Net revenue	Equalisation	Total distributions 30 April 2024	Total distributions 30 April 2023
X Income				
Group 1	1.501	-	1.501	1.242
Group 2	-	1.501	1.501	1.242
X Accumulation				
Group 1	1.759	-	1.759	1.450
Group 2	0.422	1.337	1.759	1.450
I Income				
Group 1	0.755	-	0.755	0.918
Group 2	0.539	0.216	0.755	0.918
I Accumulation				
Group 1	0.558	-	0.558	0.661
Group 2	0.558	-	0.558	0.661
S Income				
Group 1	1.181	-	1.181	1.074
Group 2	0.421	0.760	1.181	1.074
C Accumulation				
Group 1	0.996	-	0.996	1.026
Group 2	-	0.996	0.996	1.026

### Equalisation

Equalisation applies only to group 2 shares. It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of group 2 shares and is refunded to holders of these shares as a return of capital. Being capital it is not liable to income tax in the hands of the shareholder but must be deducted from the cost of shares for capital gains tax purposes.

### Accumulation distributions

Holders of accumulation shares should add the distributions received thereon to the cost of the shares for capital gains tax purposes.

## SVS Saltus Global Equity Fund

### Investment Manager's report

#### Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to achieve capital growth over the long term (rolling 7 year periods).

The investment policy of the sub-fund is to invest at least 80% of its assets in other collective investment schemes (including open-ended investment schemes and closed-ended investment schemes), in order to obtain exposure to a broad range of equities.

The sub-fund is actively managed and has a flexible allocation to the equities to which it gains exposure. These may include companies of any market capitalisation, anywhere in the world and across various industries and sectors.

The sub-fund may also invest in assets which, in the Investment Manager's opinion, have a similar volatility profile to equities, including commodity tracker funds.

To the extent that the sub-fund is not fully invested as set out above, it may invest directly in other transferable securities, equity structured products, currencies, gold, money market instruments, warrants, cash, near cash and deposits.

The sub-fund may use derivatives only for the purposes of efficient portfolio management. The sub-fund may use derivatives and forward transactions for investment purposes on the giving of 60 days' notice to shareholders. The use of derivatives for investment purposes may alter the risk profile of the sub-fund.

The collective investment schemes in which the sub-fund invests may include other funds managed by the ACD, the Investment Manager or an affiliate of the ACD or the Investment Manager.

#### Investment performance\*

Over the period the sub-fund delivered a total return of +10.99% (I Income shares based on mid prices at 5pm) compared to a comparative benchmark return of +4.53% (ARC Sterling Equity Risk PCI TR in GBP).

#### Investment activities

Overall, this reporting year was a positive one for world markets, with most of the good news concentrated in the final months of 2023 and the early months of 2024. Prior to that it was a year of frequent large and violent swings in sentiment, caused mainly by the bond markets continual efforts to price in a peak in the inflation and interest rate cycle. Another key feature of the year was the emergence of an Artificial Intelligence ('AI') theme, which manifested itself in very strong performance in a small group of large US technology stocks. Given their relative size in market indices the performance of this group had a big positive influence on the direction of travel of equity markets overall.

A remarkably quick worldwide rally began in late October 2023, one which had enough power to erase the losses of previous periods across multiple asset classes. The rally was catalysed by a reassessment of the inflation outlook, particularly in the crucial US economy. Prior to this point a series of relatively 'hot' US monthly inflation figures had been weighing on the market mood, as it implied that the painful increases in interest rates which have been absorbed so far, may not be finished. Then, a modest softening in the US labour market followed by a slightly weaker than expected October inflation reading sparked a global rally across asset classes. Investors quickly extrapolated some genuinely good news on US inflation into nearly all markets and geographies, as these US trends were assumed to be front runners for what will inevitably happen elsewhere.

This positive mood continued into the end of the reporting year and although there was some retracement of initial market enthusiasm, it was not significant. There were some areas of concern from a top down perspective, concentrating around the sluggish performance of the Chinese economy and the perception of a lacklustre response to the issue from the Chinese government. Periodically geopolitical events intruded into market thinking (e.g. the war in the Middle East) but they did not have a long lasting effect. Commodity markets were relatively quiet overall reflecting their internal supply and demand dynamics, plus the dampening effect of a sluggish Chinese economy.

\*Source: FE Fundinfo.

## Investment Manager's report (continued)

### Investment activities (continued)

Looking ahead we can see clear long term positive signals emerging. The most prominent of these is the return of long term 'real' (or after inflation) interest rates back to pre-financial crisis levels in the US. In other words, after a very short period of time, the long term cost of US dollar has 'normalised' and the fact that this has happened without a spectacular crisis or deep recession, is something to celebrate. It is also important to remember that market time horizons have shrunk to align themselves with monthly economic data, putting many longer-term risks out of sight and out of mind. Undoubtedly there will come a point in the months ahead when current positive sentiment is tested.

The major decisions which impacted performance for this reporting period came from ongoing outperformance of core positions, particularly Royal London Equity Funds ICVC - Royal London Global Equity Select Fund, which had another excellent year. We added positions in frontier markets with Oaks Emerging Umbrella Fund - Fiera Oaks EM Select Fund, which also performed strongly throughout the period reflecting the general improvement in risk tone. Nomura Funds Ireland - Japan Strategic Value Fund was another notable contributor, reflecting investor enthusiasm for Japan which seems to be convincingly emerging from a long period of deflation. Positions in active US managers were steadily decreased over the latter part of the year and rotated into an equal weight tracker fund, reflecting our view that the narrow index leadership would soon level out. There were no significant influences from sales of positions.

### Investment strategy and outlook

At the time of writing the outlook remains uncertain, but with a relatively low degree of risk. The glass is likely more 'half full' than 'half empty'. Interest rates are likely hitting their peak for this cycle, which is a significant positive, although there remains some uncertainty if enough has been done to finally subdue inflation. The biggest risks centre around market short termism, which is ignoring big issues around the state of government balance sheets. Political and geopolitical risks, which so far have had limited influence, retain the power to upset the current positive mood. On balance though, we think that shareholders can look forward with some degree of optimism to the future.

Saltus Partners LLP  
18 March 2024

## Summary of portfolio changes

for the year ended 29 February 2024

The following represents the major purchases and sales in the year to reflect a clearer picture of the investment activities.

	Cost £
Purchases:	
Xtrackers MSCI World Quality UCITS ETF	80,012,584
iShares S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	59,402,575
T Rowe Price Funds OEIC - Global Focused Growth Equity Fund	51,550,530
iShares Edge MSCI World Minimum Volatility UCITS ETF	50,732,666
iShares Edge MSCI World Quality Factor UCITS ETF	38,482,113
Harrington Cooper Ucits Funds IcaV-HC Snyder US All Cap Equity Fund	26,913,140
Xtrackers S&P 500 UCITS ETF	26,628,090
Royal London Equity Funds ICVC - Royal London Global Equity Select Fund	24,363,769
Oaks Emerging Umbrella Fund - Fiera Oaks EM Select Fund	20,221,110
Liontrust Global Funds - Liontrust GF European Strategic Equity Fund	16,517,633
BennBridge ICAV - Global Emerging Markets Equity Fund	15,323,580
Jupiter Asset Management Series - Jupiter Gold & Silver Fund	15,184,720
TM RWC Global Equity Income Fund	14,282,340
Nomura Funds Ireland - Japan Strategic Value Fund	13,207,820
Nomura Funds Ireland - Nomura Funds Ireland-Japan Small Cap Equity Fund	12,258,860
Nomura Funds Ireland Public Limited Company - Japan Strategic Value Fund	11,404,890
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Asia Pacific Opportunities Fund	11,172,800
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Index US Fund	10,992,750
iShares MSCI World GBP Hedged UCITS ETF Acc	9,727,228
Invesco Bloomberg Commodity UCITS ETF	5,223,736
Proceeds	
£	
Sales:	
iShares Edge MSCI World Minimum Volatility UCITS ETF	51,795,794
TM RWC Global Equity Income Fund	47,673,410
iShares Edge MSCI World Quality Factor UCITS ETF	43,061,775
Harrington Cooper Ucits Funds IcaV	
- HC Snyder US All Cap Equity Fund Founder Hedged Acc	43,048,229
T Rowe Price Funds OEIC - Global Focused Growth Equity Fund	40,069,477
iShares MSCI World GBP Hedged UCITS ETF Acc	36,183,826
T Rowe Price Funds OEIC - US Large Cap Value Equity Fund	32,565,002
iShares S&P 500 GBP Hedged UCITS ETF Acc	28,419,950
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Index US Fund	19,297,030
Liontrust Global Funds - Liontrust GF European Strategic Equity Fund	17,233,822
Brown Advisory Funds - BA Beutel Goodman US Value Fund	15,053,840
Royal London Equity Funds ICVC - Royal London Global Equity Select Fund	13,586,960
Nomura Funds Ireland - Japan Strategic Value Fund	13,510,410
Invesco Bloomberg Commodity UCITS ETF	12,165,433
WisdomTree Copper	11,295,032
Nomura Funds Ireland Public Limited Company - Japan Strategic Value Fund	11,259,978
Harrington Cooper Ucits Funds IcaV	
- HC Snyder US All Cap Equity Fund Founder Acc	11,149,010
iShares MSCI World UCITS ETF	8,093,445
Premier Miton European Opportunities Fund	7,890,122
Xtrackers MSCI World Quality UCITS ETF	6,487,896

## Portfolio statement

as at 29 February 2024

Investment	Nominal value or holding	Market value £	% of total net assets
Collective Investment Schemes 99.78% (94.01%)			
UK Authorised Collective Investment Schemes 41.87% (53.78%)			
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Asia Pacific Opportunities Fund	30,642,752	40,387,147	6.56
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Index US Fund	16,497,425	30,543,332	4.96
MI Chelverton UK Equity Income Fund	9,481,191	9,166,415	1.49
Royal London Equity Funds ICVC			
- Royal London Global Equity Select Fund	56,359,393	89,160,560	14.49
T Rowe Price Funds OEIC - Global Focused Growth Equity Fund	2,308,018	55,286,034	8.99
TM RWC Global Equity Income Fund	25,388,319	33,080,980	5.38
Total UK authorised collective investment schemes		<u>257,624,468</u>	<u>41.87</u>
Offshore Collective Investment Schemes 57.91% (40.23%)			
BennBridge ICAV - Global Emerging Markets Equity Fund	143,803	15,319,395	2.49
Brown Advisory Funds - BA Beutel Goodman US Value Fund	2,044,659	27,664,236	4.50
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	13,108	13,108	-
Harrington Cooper Ucits Funds IcaV-HC Snyder US All Cap Equity Fund	221,311	27,918,415	4.54
iShares S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	11,131,500	61,612,853	10.02
Jupiter Asset Management Series - Jupiter Gold & Silver Fund	638,722	9,150,777	1.49
Latitude Global Fund	14,483,652	15,286,048	2.48
Man UK ICVC - Man GLG Income Fund	4,192,381	15,394,422	2.50
Nomura Funds Ireland			
- Nomura Funds Ireland-Japan Small Cap Equity Fund	118,238	12,488,774	2.03
Nomura Funds Ireland - Japan Strategic Value Fund	330,822	43,066,395	7.00
Oaks Emerging Umbrella Fund - Fiera Oaks EM Select Fund	1,899,239	24,302,662	3.95
Xtrackers MSCI World Quality UCITS ETF	1,560,870	79,541,935	12.93
Xtrackers S&P 500 UCITS ETF	291,965	24,460,828	3.98
Total offshore collective investment schemes		<u>356,219,848</u>	<u>57.91</u>
Total collective investment schemes		<u>613,844,316</u>	<u>99.78</u>
Exchange Traded Commodities 0.00% (2.06%)		-	-
Portfolio of investments		613,844,316	99.78
Other net assets		1,331,266	0.22
Total net assets		<u>615,175,582</u>	<u>100.00</u>

All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges or are approved securities or regulated collective investment schemes within the meaning of the FCA rules unless otherwise stated.

The comparative figures in brackets are as at 28 February 2023.

## Risk and reward profile\*

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

←	Typically lower rewards, lower risk			Typically higher rewards, higher risk			→
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

The sub-fund is in a higher category because the price of its investments have risen or fallen frequently and more dramatically than some other types of investment. The category shown is not guaranteed to remain unchanged and may shift over time. Even the lowest category does not mean a risk-free investment.

For full details on risk factors for the sub-fund, please refer to the Prospectus.

There have been no changes to the risk and reward indicator in the year.

\* As per the KIID published 8 May 2024.



## Comparative table

The following disclosures give a shareholder an indication of the performance of a share in the sub-fund. It also discloses the operating charges and direct transaction costs applied to each share. Operating charges are those charges incurred in operating the sub-fund and direct transaction costs are costs incurred when purchasing or selling securities in the portfolio of investments.

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
	p	p	p
<b>I Income</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	175.68	176.98	175.67
Return before operating charges	22.22	2.42	5.89
Operating charges	(2.96)	(2.91)	(3.21)
Return after operating charges *	19.26	(0.49)	2.68
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(0.01)	(0.81)	(1.37)
Closing net asset value per share	194.93	175.68	176.98
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.04	0.04	0.01
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	10.96%	(0.28%)	1.53%
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	8,306,963	9,212,762	60,361,163
Closing number of shares	4,261,490	5,243,912	34,106,027
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.66%	1.67%	1.74%
Direct transaction costs	0.03%	0.02%	0.01%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	195.0	185.4	195.5
Lowest share price	168.9	160.5	172.3

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
I Accumulation	p	p	p
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	200.61	200.99	198.00
Return before operating charges	25.40	2.89	6.63
Operating charges	(3.38)	(3.27)	(3.64)
Return after operating charges *	22.02	(0.38)	2.99
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(0.01)	(0.91)	(1.54)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares <sup>^</sup>	0.01	0.91	1.54
Closing net asset value per share	222.63	200.61	200.99
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.05	0.05	0.02
Performance			
Return after charges	10.98%	(0.19%)	1.51%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£)	1,056,261	1,595,983	1,518,836
Closing number of shares	474,455	795,550	755,684
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.66%	1.67%	1.74%
Direct transaction costs	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%
Published prices			
Highest share price	222.7	210.5	220.3
Lowest share price	192.7	182.3	194.2

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<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
\$ Income	p	p	p
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	185.53	186.23	184.21
Return before operating charges	23.54	2.73	6.05
Operating charges	(2.38)	(2.30)	(2.59)
Return after operating charges *	21.16	0.43	3.46
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(0.77)	(1.13)	(1.44)
Closing net asset value per share	205.92	185.53	186.23
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.05	0.04	0.02
Performance			
Return after charges	11.41%	0.23%	1.88%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£)	4,102,740	2,289,453	4,098,042
Closing number of shares	1,992,435	1,234,022	2,200,519
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.26%	1.27%	1.34%
Direct transaction costs	0.03%	0.02%	0.01%
Published prices			
Highest share price	206.7	195.1	205.5
Lowest share price	178.4	169.1	181.3

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2023 <sup>^</sup>	2022
C Accumulation	p	p
Change in net assets per share		
Opening net asset value per share	184.35	181.22
Return before operating charges	1.28	6.07
Operating charges	(1.43)	(2.94)
Return after operating charges *	(0.15)	3.13
Distributions <sup>^^</sup>	-	(1.41)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares <sup>^</sup>	-	1.41
Closing net asset value per	184.20	184.35
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.02	0.02
Performance		
Return after charges	(0.08%)	1.73%
Other information		
Closing net asset value (£)	-	4,570,104
Closing number of shares	-	2,479,052
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	**1.47%	1.54%
Direct transaction costs	0.02%	0.01%
Published prices		
Highest share price	193.1	201.9
Lowest share price	167.3	178.1

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup>For the period 1 March 2022 to the share class closure 14 September 2022.

<sup>^^</sup>Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^^</sup>The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

\*\* Annualised based on expenses incurred during the period 1 March 2022 to the share class closure 14 September 2022.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022 <sup>^</sup>
	p	p	p
<b>X Income</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	94.70	94.96	101.10
Return before operating charges	12.03	0.73	(5.25)
Operating charges	(1.02)	(0.99)	(0.58)
Return after operating charges *	11.01	(0.26)	(5.83)
Distributions <sup>^^</sup>	(0.58)	(0.66)	(0.31)
Closing net asset value per share	105.13	94.70	94.96
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.02	0.02	0.06
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	11.63%	(0.27%)	(5.77%)
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	601,709,618	526,596,108	168,179,678
Closing number of shares	572,372,680	556,078,322	177,102,855
Operating charges <sup>^^^</sup>	1.06%	1.07%	1.14%
Direct transaction costs	0.03%	0.02%	0.01%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	105.7	99.51	104.2
Lowest share price	91.09	86.29	92.05

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup>For the period 26 August 2021 to 28 February 2022.

<sup>^^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup>On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Financial statements - SVS Saltus Global Equity Fund

Statement of total return  
for the year ended 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Income:					
Net capital gains	2		62,316,049		8,873,234
Revenue	3	6,215,568		3,447,867	
Expenses	4	<u>(2,845,810)</u>		<u>(2,396,941)</u>	
Net revenue before taxation		3,369,758		1,050,926	
Taxation	5	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
Net revenue after taxation			<u>3,369,758</u>		<u>1,050,926</u>
Total return before distributions			65,685,807		9,924,160
Distributions	6		(3,373,669)		(2,361,248)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			<u>62,312,138</u>		<u>7,562,912</u>

Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders  
for the year ended 29 February 2024

		2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders			539,694,306		238,727,823
Share exchange issues on in specie transfers*		-		180,990,789	
Amounts receivable on issue of shares		82,601,967		165,241,474	
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares		<u>(69,432,853)</u>		<u>(52,835,892)</u>	
			13,169,114		293,396,371
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			62,312,138		7,562,912
Retained distributions on accumulation shares			24		7,200
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders			<u>615,175,582</u>		<u>539,694,306</u>

\* On 31 May 2022 shares were transferred from a private portfolio to the sub-fund.

Balance sheet  
as at 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Assets:			
Fixed assets:			
Investments		613,844,316	518,490,886
Current assets:			
Debtors	7	43,428,448	21,661,858
Cash and cash equivalents	8	12,836,881	3,540,198
Total assets		<u>670,109,645</u>	<u>543,692,942</u>
Liabilities:			
Creditors:			
Distribution payable		(3,358,174)	(3,709,787)
Other creditors	9	(51,575,889)	(288,849)
Total liabilities		<u>(54,934,063)</u>	<u>(3,998,636)</u>
Net assets attributable to shareholders		<u><u>615,175,582</u></u>	<u><u>539,694,306</u></u>

## Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 1. Accounting policies

The accounting policies are disclosed on pages 40 to 42.

2. Net capital gains	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-derivative securities - realised gains / (losses)	23,001,516	(2,422,352)
Non-derivative securities - movement in unrealised gains	39,338,107	11,405,576
Currency losses	(25,103)	(94,427)
Rebates from collective investment schemes	17,633	-
Transaction charges	(16,104)	(15,563)
Total net capital gains	<u>62,316,049</u>	<u>8,873,234</u>
3. Revenue	2024	2023
	£	£
UK revenue	4,264,003	2,431,726
Unfranked revenue	10,064	11,426
Overseas revenue	1,816,848	945,446
Bank and deposit interest	124,653	59,269
Total revenue	<u>6,215,568</u>	<u>3,447,867</u>
4. Expenses	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable to the ACD and associates		
ACD's periodic charge*	329,571	263,456
Investment Manager's fees*	2,356,649	1,998,319
	<u>2,686,220</u>	<u>2,261,775</u>
Payable to the Depositary		
Depositary fees	<u>125,386</u>	<u>101,835</u>
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	7,236	6,892
Non-executive directors' fees	1,736	1,533
Safe custody fees	19,884	14,467
Bank interest	16	-
FCA fee	3,051	1,786
KIID production fee	1,833	1,953
Legal fee	448	6,700
	<u>34,204</u>	<u>33,331</u>
Total expenses	<u>2,845,810</u>	<u>2,396,941</u>

\*For the year ended 29 February 2024, the annual management charge for each share class was as follows:

I Income	1.66%
I Accumulation	1.66%
S Income	1.26%
X Income	1.06%

The annual management charge includes the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fees.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 28 February 2024

5. Taxation	2024 £	2023 £
<i>a. Analysis of the tax charge for the year</i>		
Total taxation (note 5b)	-	-
<i>b. Factors affecting the tax charge for the year</i>		
The tax assessed for the year is lower (2023: lower) than the standard rate of UK corporation tax for an authorised collective investment scheme of 20% (2023: 20%). The differences are explained below:		
	2024 £	2023 £
Net revenue before taxation	3,369,758	1,050,926
Corporation tax @ 20%	673,952	210,185
Effects of:		
UK revenue	(852,801)	(486,345)
Overseas revenue	(363,231)	(189,056)
Capital rebates from collective investment schemes	3,527	-
Excess management expenses	538,553	465,216
Total taxation (note 5a)	-	-

*c. Provision for deferred taxation*

At the year end, a deferred tax asset has not been recognised in respect of timing differences relating to excess management expenses as there is insufficient evidence that the asset will be recovered. The amount of the asset not recognised is £2,517,236 (2023: £1,978,683).

## 6. Distributions

The distributions take account of revenue added on the issue of shares and revenue deducted on the cancellation of shares, and comprise:

	2024 £	2023 £
Final income distribution	3,358,174	3,709,787
Final accumulation distribution	24	7,200
	3,358,198	3,716,987
Equalisation:		
Amounts deducted on cancellation of shares	338,524	297,614
Amounts added on issue of shares	(324,303)	(1,653,567)
Net equalisation on conversions	1,250	214
Total net distributions	3,373,669	2,361,248
Reconciliation between net revenue and distributions:		
Net revenue after taxation per Statement of total return	3,369,758	1,050,926
Undistributed revenue brought forward	2,479	1,081
Expenses paid from capital*	127	1,311,779
Marginal tax relief	3,501	(59)
Undistributed revenue carried forward	(2,196)	(2,479)
Distributions	3,373,669	2,361,248

Details of the distribution per share are disclosed in the Distribution table.

\*On 1 October 2022 the sub-fund Fee Agreement changed from all expenses paid from capital account, to all expenses paid from revenue account.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 28 February 2024

7. Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts receivable on issue of shares	1,163,893	633,210
Sales awaiting settlement	42,136,784	20,892,133
Accrued revenue	123,209	132,674
Prepaid expenses	264	148
Recoverable income tax	4,298	3,693
Total debtors	<u>43,428,448</u>	<u>21,661,858</u>
8. Cash and cash equivalents	2024	2023
	£	£
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>12,836,881</u>	<u>3,540,198</u>
9. Other creditors	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	14,970,178	66,762
Purchases awaiting settlement	36,325,889	-
Currency trades outstanding	26,605	-
Accrued expenses:		
Payable to the ACD and associates		
ACD's periodic charge	27,439	24,691
Investment Manager's fees	202,479	178,155
	<u>229,918</u>	<u>202,846</u>
Other expenses:		
Depositary fees	10,735	9,449
Safe custody fees	3,250	1,339
Audit fee	7,236	6,892
Non-executive directors' fees	1,743	1,051
KIID production fee	167	333
Transaction charges	168	177
	<u>23,299</u>	<u>19,241</u>
Total other creditors	<u>51,575,889</u>	<u>288,849</u>
10. Commitments and contingent liabilities		
At the balance sheet date there are no commitments or contingent liabilities.		

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 28 February 2024

## 11. Share classes

The following reflects the change in shares in issue in the year:

	I Income
Opening shares in issue	5,243,912
Total shares issued in the year	219,397
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(1,201,819)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u>4,261,490</u>
	I Accumulation
Opening shares in issue	795,550
Total shares cancelled in the year	(10,861)
Total shares converted in the year	<u>(310,234)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u>474,455</u>
	S Income
Opening shares in issue	1,234,022
Total shares issued in the year	559,851
Total shares cancelled in the year	(1,404,320)
Total shares converted in the year	<u>1,602,882</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u>1,992,435</u>
	X Income
Opening shares in issue	556,078,322
Total shares issued in the year	85,095,161
Total shares cancelled in the year	(66,319,053)
Total shares converted in the year	<u>(2,481,750)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u>572,372,680</u>

Further information in respect of the return per share is disclosed in the Comparative table.

On the winding up of a sub-fund all the assets of the sub-fund will be realised and apportioned to the share classes in relation to the net asset value on the closure date. Shareholders will receive their respective share of the proceeds, net of liabilities and the expenses incurred in the termination in accordance with the FCA regulations. Each share class has the same rights on winding up.

## 12. Related party transactions

Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited, as ACD is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the sub-fund.

The ACD acts as principal in respect of all transactions of shares in the sub-fund. The aggregate monies received and paid through the creation and cancellation of shares are disclosed in the Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund.

Amounts payable to the ACD and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amount due to the ACD and its associates at the balance sheet date is disclosed in note 9.

## 13. Events after the balance sheet date

Subsequent to the year end, the net asset value per X Income share has increased from 105.1p to 109.1p, I Income share has increased from 194.9p to 201.6p, I Accumulation share has increased from 222.6p to 230.2p and S Income share has increased from 205.9p to 213.2p as at 13 June 2024. This movement takes in to account routine transactions but also reflects the market movements of recent months.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 28 February 2024

## 14. Transaction costs

## a Direct transaction costs

Direct transaction costs include fees and commissions paid to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers; levies by regulatory agencies and security exchanges; and transfer taxes and duties.

Commission is a charge which is deducted from the proceeds of the sale of securities and added to the cost of the purchase of securities. This charge is a payment to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers in respect of their services in executing the trades.

Tax is payable on the purchase of securities in the United Kingdom. It may be the case that 'other taxes' will be charged on the purchase of securities in countries other than the United Kingdom.

The total purchases and sales and the related direct transaction costs incurred in these transactions are as follows:

	Purchases before transaction costs	Commission		Purchases after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£
2024				
Closed-Ended Funds	1,233,920	617	0.05%	1,234,537
Collective Investment Schemes	517,889,663	83,321	0.02%	517,972,984
Total	519,123,583	83,938	0.07%	519,207,521
	Purchases before transaction costs	Commission		Purchases after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£
2023				
Closed-Ended Funds	15,632,161	7,816	0.05%	15,639,977
Collective Investment Schemes	555,422,821	51,058	0.01%	555,473,879
Total	571,054,982	58,874	0.06%	571,113,856

There were no in specie purchases in the current year.

	In specie purchases before transaction costs	Commission		In specie purchases after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£
2023				
Collective Investment Schemes*	181,783,281	-	-	181,783,281

\* No direct transaction costs were incurred in these transactions.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 28 February 2024

## 14. Transaction costs (continued)

## a Direct transaction costs (continued)

	Sales before transaction costs	Commission		Sales after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£
2024				
Closed-Ended Funds	11,298,422	(3,390)	0.03%	11,295,032
Collective Investment Schemes	479,991,826	(57,172)	0.01%	479,934,654
Total	491,290,248	(60,562)	0.04%	491,229,686
	Sales before transaction costs	Commission		Sales after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£
2023				
Closed-Ended Funds	6,089,412	(2,131)	0.04%	6,087,281
Collective Investment Schemes	475,894,121	(39,084)	0.01%	475,855,037
Total	481,983,533	(41,215)	0.05%	481,942,318

## Summary of direct transaction costs

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the sub-fund's average net asset value in the year:

2024	£	% of average net asset value
Commission	144,500	0.03%
2023	£	% of average net asset value
Commission	100,089	0.02%

## b Average portfolio dealing spread

The average portfolio dealing spread is calculated as the difference between the bid and offer value of the portfolio as a percentage of the offer value.

The average portfolio dealing spread of the investments at the balance sheet date was 0.04% (2023: 0.02%).

## 15. Risk management policies

In pursuing the sub-fund's investment objective, as set out in the Prospectus, the following are accepted by the ACD as being the main risks from the sub-fund's holding of financial instruments, either directly or indirectly through its underlying holdings. These are presented with the ACD's policy for managing these risks. To ensure these risks are consistently and effectively managed these are continually reviewed by the risk committee, a body appointed by the ACD, which sets the risk appetite and ensures continued compliance with the management of all known risks.

## a Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices and comprise three elements: other price risk, currency risk, and interest rate risk.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 28 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## a Market risk (continued)

## (i) Other price risk

The sub-fund's exposure to price risk comprises mainly of movements in the value of investment positions in the face of price movements.

The main elements of the portfolio of investments exposed to this risk is collective investment schemes which is disclosed in the Portfolio statement.

This risk is generally regarded as consisting of two elements: stock specific risk and market risk. Through these two factors, the sub-fund is exposed to price fluctuations, which are monitored by the ACD in pursuance of the investment objective and policy.

Adhering to investment guidelines and avoiding excessive exposure to one particular issuer can limit stock specific risk. Subject to compliance with the investment objective of the sub-fund, spreading exposure in the portfolio of investments both globally and across sectors or geography can mitigate market risk.

At 29 February 2024, if the price of the investments held by the sub-fund increased or decreased by 5%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £30,692,216 (2023: £25,924,544).

## (ii) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the value of investments or future cash flows will fluctuate as a result of exchange rate movements. Investment in overseas securities or holdings of foreign currency cash will provide direct exposure to currency risk as a consequence of the movement in foreign exchange rates against sterling. Investments in UK securities investing in overseas securities will give rise to indirect exposure to currency risk. These fluctuations can also affect the profitability of some UK companies, and thus their market prices, as sterling's relative strength or weakness can affect export prospects, the value of overseas earnings in sterling terms, and the prices of imports sold in the UK.

Forward currency contracts may be used to manage the portfolio exposure to currency movements.

The foreign currency risk profile of the sub-fund's financial instruments and cash holdings at the balance sheet date is as follows:

	Financial instruments and cash holdings	Net debtors and creditors	Total net foreign currency exposure
	£	£	£
2024			
US dollar	-	(26,605)	(26,605)
2023			
US dollar	19,182,834	-	19,182,834

At 29 February 2024, if the value of sterling increased or decreased by 5% against all other currencies, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £1,330 (2023: £959,142).

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 28 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### a Market risk (continued)

#### (iii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's investments will fluctuate as a result of interest rate changes.

During the year the sub-fund's direct exposure to interest rates consisted of cash and bank balances. The amount of revenue receivable from floating rate securities and bank balances or payable on bank overdrafts will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates. In the event of a change in interest rates, there would be no material impact upon the net assets of the sub-fund. The sub-fund would not in normal market conditions hold significant cash balances and would have limited borrowing capabilities as stipulated in the COLL rules.

Derivative contracts are not used to hedge against the exposure to interest rate risk.

There is no exposure to interest bearing securities at the balance sheet date.

#### b Credit risk

This is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. This includes counterparty risk.

The Depositary has appointed the custodian to provide custody services for the assets of the sub-fund. There is a counterparty risk that the custodian could cease to be in a position to provide custody services to the sub-fund. The sub-fund's investments (excluding cash) are ring fenced hence the risk is considered to be negligible.

The sub-fund holds cash and cash deposits with financial institutions which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk. The credit rating of the financial institution is taken into account so as to minimise the risk to the sub-fund of default.

Holdings in collective investment schemes are subject to direct credit risk. The exposure to pooled investment vehicles is unrated.

#### c Liquidity risk

A significant risk is the cancellation of shares which investors may wish to sell and that securities may have to be sold in order to fund such cancellations if insufficient cash is held at the bank to meet this obligation. If there were significant requests for the redemption of shares at a time when a large proportion of the portfolio of investments were not easily tradable due to market volumes or market conditions, the ability to fund those redemptions would be impaired and it might be necessary to suspend dealings in shares in the sub-fund.

Investments in smaller companies at times may prove illiquid, as by their nature they tend to have relatively modest traded share capital. Shifts in investor sentiment, or the announcement of new price sensitive information, can provoke significant movement in share prices, and make dealing in any quantity difficult.

The sub-fund may also invest in securities that are not listed or traded on any stock exchange. In such situations the sub-fund may not be able to immediately sell such securities.

To reduce liquidity risk the ACD will ensure, in line with the limits stipulated within the COLL rules, a substantial portion of the sub-fund's assets consist of readily realisable securities. This is monitored on a monthly basis and reported to the Risk Committee together with historical outflows of the sub-fund.

In addition liquidity is subject to stress testing on an annual basis to assess the ability of the sub-fund to meet large redemptions, while still being able to adhere to its objective guidelines and the FCA investment borrowing regulations.

All of the financial liabilities are payable on demand.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 28 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## d Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities

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

To ensure this, the fair value pricing committee is a body appointed by the ACD to analyse, review and vote on price adjustments/maintenance where no current secondary market exists and/or where there are potential liquidity issues that would affect the disposal of an asset. In addition, the committee may also consider adjustments to the sub-fund's price should the constituent investments be exposed to closed markets during general market volatility or instability.

	Investment assets	Investment liabilities
Basis of valuation	2024	2024
	£	£
Quoted prices	165,615,616	-
Observable market data	448,228,700	-
Unobservable data	-	-
	<u>613,844,316</u>	<u>-</u>
	Investment assets	Investment liabilities
Basis of valuation	2023	2023
	£	£
Quoted prices	76,750,563	-
Observable market data	441,740,323	-
Unobservable data	-	-
	<u>518,490,886</u>	<u>-</u>

No securities in the portfolio of investments are valued using valuation techniques.

## e Assets subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature

There are no assets held in the portfolio of investments which are subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature.

## f Derivatives

The sub-fund may employ derivatives with the aim of reducing the sub-fund's risk profile, reducing costs or generating additional capital or revenue, in accordance with Efficient Portfolio Management.

The ACD monitors that any exposure is covered globally to ensure adequate cover is available to meet the sub-fund's total exposure, taking into account the value of the underlying investments, any reasonably foreseeable market movement, counterparty risk, and the time available to liquidate any positions.

For certain derivative transactions cash margins may be required to be paid to the brokers with whom the trades were executed and settled. These balances are subject to daily reconciliations and are held by the broker in segregated cash accounts that are afforded client money protection.

During the year there were no derivative transactions.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 28 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### f Derivatives (continued)

##### (i) Counterparties

Transactions in securities give rise to exposure to the risk that the counterparties may not be able to fulfil their responsibility by completing their side of the transaction. This risk is mitigated by the sub-fund using a range of brokers for security transactions, thereby diversifying the risk of exposure to any one broker. In addition the sub-fund will only transact with brokers who are subject to frequent reviews with whom transaction limits are set.

The sub-fund may transact in derivative contracts which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk from the counterparty not settling their side of the contract. Transactions involving derivatives are entered into only with investment banks and brokers with appropriate and approved credit rating, which are regularly monitored. Forward currency transactions are only undertaken with the custodians appointed by the Depositary.

At the balance sheet date, there are no securities in the portfolio of investments subject to a repurchase agreement.

##### (ii) Leverage

The leverage is calculated as the exposure generated through the use of derivatives (calculated in accordance with the commitment approach) divided by the net asset value.

There have been no leveraging arrangements in the year.

##### (iii) Global exposure

Global exposure is a measure designed to limit the leverage generated by a fund through the use of financial derivative instruments, including derivatives with embedded assets.

At the balance sheet date there is no global exposure to derivatives.

There have been no collateral arrangements in the year.

## Distribution table

for the year ended 29 February 2024

Final distributions in pence per share

Group 1 - Shares purchased before 1 March 2023

Group 2 - Shares purchased 1 March 2023 to 29 February 2024

	Net revenue	Equalisation	Total distributions 30 April 2024	Total distributions 30 April 2023
I Income				
Group 1	0.006	-	0.006	0.808
Group 2	-	0.006	0.006	0.808
I Accumulation				
Group 1	0.005	-	0.005	0.905
Group 2	0.005	-	0.005	0.905
S Income				
Group 1	0.766	-	0.766	1.133
Group 2	0.045	0.721	0.766	1.133
X Income				
Group 1	0.584	-	0.584	0.657
Group 2	0.195	0.389	0.584	0.657

### Equalisation

Equalisation applies only to group 2 shares. It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of group 2 shares and is refunded to holders of these shares as a return of capital. Being capital it is not liable to income tax in the hands of the shareholder but must be deducted from the cost of shares for capital gains tax purposes.

### Accumulation distributions

Holders of accumulation shares should add the distributions received thereon to the cost of the shares for capital gains tax purposes.

## SVS Saltus Fixed Income Fund

### Investment Manager's report

#### Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to achieve income and capital growth over the medium term (rolling 3 year periods).

The investment policy of the sub-fund is to invest at least 80% of its assets in other collective investment schemes (including open-ended investment schemes and closed-ended investment schemes), in order to obtain exposure to a broad range of global fixed income assets.

The sub-fund is actively managed and has a flexible allocation to the fixed income assets to which it gains exposure. These may include investment grade, non-investment grade or high yield bonds from multiple sectors including developed and Emerging Markets, and currency. The bonds may be issued by companies or other entities including supra-nationals, sovereigns and governments.

The issuers may be from anywhere in the world and issues may be denominated in any currency. Non-sterling exposure will normally be hedged back to sterling.

To the extent that the sub-fund is not fully invested in other collective investment schemes, it may invest directly in other transferable securities, credit structured products and money market instruments and in gold, warrants, cash, near cash and deposits.

Derivatives and forward transactions may only be used for the purposes of Efficient Portfolio Management. The sub-fund may use derivatives and forward transactions for investment purposes on the giving of 60 days' notice to shareholders. The use of derivatives for investment purposes may alter the risk profile of the sub-fund.

The collective investment schemes in which the sub-fund invests may include other funds managed by the ACD, the Investment Manager or an affiliate of the ACD or the Investment Manager.

#### Investment performance\*

Over the period the sub-fund delivered a total return of +0.39% (I Income shares based on mid prices at 5pm) compared to a comparative benchmark return of +0.75% (IA Specialist Bond Sector).

#### Investment activities

Overall, this reporting year was a positive one for world markets, with most of the good news concentrated in the final months of 2023 and the early months of 2024. Prior to that it was a year of frequent large and violent swings in sentiment, caused mainly by the bond markets continual efforts to price in a peak in the inflation and interest rate cycle. Another key feature of the year was the emergence of an Artificial Intelligence ('AI') theme, which manifested itself in very strong performance in a small group of large US technology stocks. Given their relative size in market indices the performance of this group had a big positive influence on the direction of travel of equity markets overall.

A remarkably quick worldwide rally began in late October 2023, one which had enough power to erase the losses of previous periods across multiple asset classes. The rally was catalysed by a reassessment of the inflation outlook, particularly in the crucial US economy. Prior to this point a series of relatively 'hot' US monthly inflation figures had been weighing on the market mood, as it implied that the painful increases in interest rates which have been absorbed so far, may not be finished. Then, a modest softening in the US labour market followed by a slightly weaker than expected October inflation reading sparked a global rally across asset classes. Investors quickly extrapolated some genuinely good news on US inflation into nearly all markets and geographies, as these US trends were assumed to be front runners for what will inevitably happen elsewhere.

This positive mood continued into the end of the reporting year and although there was some retracement of initial market enthusiasm, it was not significant. There were some areas of concern from a top down perspective, concentrating around the sluggish performance of the Chinese economy and the perception of a lacklustre response to the issue from the Chinese government. Periodically geopolitical events intruded into market thinking (e.g. the war in the Middle East) but they did not have a long lasting effect. Commodity markets were relatively quiet overall reflecting their internal supply and demand dynamics, plus the dampening effect of a sluggish Chinese economy.

\*Source: FE Fundinfo.

## Investment Manager's report (continued)

### Investment activities (continued)

Looking ahead we can see clear long term positive signals emerging. The most prominent of these is the return of long term 'real' (or after inflation) interest rates back to pre-financial crisis levels in the US. In other words, after a very short period of time, the long term cost of US dollar has 'normalised' and the fact that this has happened without a spectacular crisis or deep recession, is something to celebrate. It is also important to remember that market time horizons have shrunk to align themselves with monthly economic data, putting many longer-term risks out of sight and out of mind. Undoubtedly there will come a point in the months ahead when current positive sentiment is tested.

The major decisions which impacted performance for this reporting period came from our shift into more targeted bond market exposures, specifically by increasing exposure to duration and to credit risk. Positions were added or increased substantially in Federated Hermes Unconstrained Credit Fund and iShares USD Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF to provide exposure to another high conviction long only global credit manager and US government duration in anticipation of an eventual decline in US interest rates.

### Investment strategy and outlook

At the time of writing the outlook remains uncertain, but with a relatively low degree of risk. The glass is likely more 'half full' than 'half empty'. Interest rates are likely hitting their peak for this cycle, which is a significant positive, although there remains some uncertainty if enough has been done to finally subdue inflation. The biggest risks centre around market short termism, which is ignoring big issues around the state of government balance sheets. Political and geopolitical risks, which so far have had limited influence, retain the power to upset the current positive mood. On balance though, we think that shareholders can look forward with some degree of optimism to the future.

Saltus Partners LLP  
18 March 2024

## Portfolio changes

for the year ended 29 February 2024

The following represents the total purchases and sales in the year to reflect a clearer picture of the investment activities.

	Cost
	£
Purchases:	
iShares USD Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF	30,532,879
iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF	28,176,737
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	23,542,888
MAN Fixed Interest ICVC - Man GLG High Yield Opportunities Fund	17,435,170
Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund	13,983,520
Invesco Tactical Bond Fund UK	13,145,250
Artemis Investment Funds ICVC - Artemis Target Return Bond Fund	13,119,840
iShares USD Treasury Bond 1-3yr UCITS ETF	12,284,868
Artemis Investment Funds ICVC - Artemis Target Return Bond Fund	11,396,131
CG Portfolio Fund - Dollar Fund	9,454,681
Federated Hermes Unconstrained Credit Fund	8,533,350
Amundi US Treasury 1-3Y DR UCITS ETF	7,784,152
Invesco US Treasury Bond 7-10 Year UCITS ETF	6,679,426
iShares JP Morgan EM Local Government Bond UCITS ETF	5,588,371
iShares USD Treasury Bond 7-10yr UCITS ETF	5,175,696
Invesco Tactical Bond Fund UK	4,873,920
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	4,540,010
Lazard Rathmore Alternative Fund	2,805,340
Lazard Global Investment Funds - Lazard Rathmore Alternative Fund	2,495,930
	Proceeds
	£
Sales:	
iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF	26,766,568
iShares USD Treasury Bond 1-3yr UCITS ETF	18,738,149
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	16,047,157
Artemis Investment Funds ICVC - Artemis Target Return Bond Fund	14,726,960
Amundi US Treasury 1-3Y DR UCITS ETF	13,670,548
iShares JP Morgan EM Local Government Bond UCITS ETF	13,333,553
iShares USD Treasury Bond 7-10yr UCITS ETF	12,488,396
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	11,165,542
Allianz UK & European Investment Funds - Allianz Strategic Bond Fund	9,805,253
CG Portfolio Fund - Dollar Fund	9,063,921
Invesco Tactical Bond Fund UK	6,912,330
Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund	6,595,530
Invesco US Treasury Bond 7-10 Year UCITS ETF	6,430,852
ARC TIME Commercial Long Income PAIF	4,272,570
Lazard Global Investment Funds - Lazard Rathmore Alternative Fund	4,180,250
Federated Hermes Unconstrained Credit Fund	837,580
MAN Fixed Interest ICVC - Man GLG High Yield Opportunities Fund	519,110

## Portfolio statement

as at 29 February 2024

Investment	Nominal value or holding	Market value £	% of total net assets
Collective Investment Schemes 99.10% (94.54%)			
UK Authorised Collective Investment Schemes 27.78% (18.55%)			
Artemis Investment Funds ICVC - Artemis Target Return Bond Fund	8,726,817	10,001,805	4.99
Invesco Tactical Bond Fund UK	13,296,990	28,160,366	14.04
MAN Fixed Interest ICVC - Man GLG High Yield Opportunities Fund	12,405,034	17,553,123	8.75
Total UK authorised collective investment schemes		<u>55,715,294</u>	<u>27.78</u>
Offshore Collective Investment Schemes 71.32% (75.99%)			
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	1,807,110	18,161,456	9.05
Barak Structured Trade Finance Segregated Portfolio <sup>^</sup>	8,417	1,538,692	0.77
CG Portfolio Fund - Dollar Fund	199,055	18,189,606	9.07
Federated Hermes Unconstrained Credit Fund	16,983,783	20,108,799	10.02
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	49,126	49,126	0.02
iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF	80,196	10,079,835	5.02
iShares USD Treasury Bond 1-3yr UCITS ETF	2,148,398	10,086,729	5.03
iShares USD Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF	8,870,374	28,589,215	14.25
Lazard Rathmore Alternative Fund	93,537	12,111,860	6.04
Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund	266,036	24,180,040	12.05
Total offshore collective investment schemes		<u>143,095,358</u>	<u>71.32</u>
Total collective investment schemes		<u>198,810,652</u>	<u>99.10</u>
Portfolio of investments		198,810,652	99.10
Other net assets		1,806,179	0.90
Total net assets		<u>200,616,831</u>	<u>100.00</u>

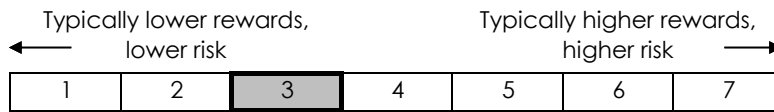
All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities or regulated collective investment schemes within the meaning of the FCA rules unless otherwise stated.

The comparative figures in brackets are as at 28 February 2023.

<sup>^</sup> Barak Structured Trade Finance Segregated Portfolio has been delisted pending liquidation and the fair value pricing committee feels that it is appropriate to value the shares at \$231.24 (2023: \$257.52).

## Risk and reward profile\*

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



The sub-fund is in a medium category because the price of its investments have risen or fallen to some extent. The category shown is not guaranteed to remain unchanged and may shift over time. Even the lowest category does not mean a risk-free investment.

For full details on risk factors for the sub-fund, please refer to the Prospectus.

There have been no changes to the risk and reward indicator in the year.

\* As per the KIID published 8 May 2024.

## Comparative table

The following disclosures give a shareholder an indication of the performance of a share in the sub-fund. It also discloses the operating charges and direct transaction costs applied to each share. Operating charges are those charges incurred in operating the sub-fund and direct transaction costs are costs incurred when purchasing or selling securities in the portfolio of investments.

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
	p	p	p
<b>I Income</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	106.35	114.90	120.59
Return before operating charges	1.85	(5.17)	(1.23)
Operating charges	(1.58)	(1.66)	(2.29)
Return after operating charges *	0.27	(6.83)	(3.52)
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(2.11)	(1.72)	(2.17)
Closing net asset value per share	104.51	106.35	114.90
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.04	0.02	-
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	0.25%	(5.94%)	(2.92%)
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	1,831,124	1,897,415	19,575,071
Closing number of shares	1,752,153	1,784,140	17,036,702
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.50%	1.48%	1.90%
Direct transaction costs	0.04%	0.04%	0.00%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	108.1	115.2	121.4
Lowest share price	101.6	107.2	117.0

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.



## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
	p	p	p
<b>S Income</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	110.91	119.34	125.12
Return before operating charges	1.93	(5.33)	(1.78)
Operating charges	(1.21)	(1.25)	(1.89)
Return after operating charges *	0.72	(6.58)	(3.67)
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(2.64)	(1.85)	(2.11)
Closing net asset value per share	108.99	110.91	119.34
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.04	0.05	-
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	0.65%	(5.51%)	(2.93%)
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	2,212,306	2,228,294	4,038,025
Closing number of shares	2,029,912	2,009,180	3,383,666
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.10%	1.08%	1.50%
Direct transaction costs	0.04%	0.04%	0.00%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	113.1	119.6	126.2
Lowest share price	106.2	111.8	121.6

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<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2023 <sup>^</sup>	2022
	p	p
<b>C Accumulation</b>		
Change in net assets per share		
Opening net asset value per share	124.29	127.78
Return before operating charges	(2.65)	(1.32)
Operating charges	(0.84)	(2.17)
Return after operating charges *	(3.49)	(3.49)
Distributions <sup>^^</sup>	-	(2.31)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares <sup>^^</sup>	-	2.31
Closing net asset value per share	120.80	124.29
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.02	-
<hr/>		
Performance		
Return after charges	(2.81%)	(2.73%)
<hr/>		
Other information		
Closing net asset value (£)	-	1,262,485
Closing number of shares	-	1,015,727
Operating charges <sup>^^^</sup>	**1.28%	1.70%
Direct transaction costs	0.01%	0.00%
<hr/>		
Published prices		
Highest share price	124.6	128.7
Lowest share price	118.6	124.3

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup>For the period 1 March 2022 to 14 September 2022.

<sup>^^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

\*\* Annualised based on the expenses incurred during the period 1 March 2022 to 14 September 2022.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022 <sup>^</sup>
	p	p	p
<b>X Income</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	89.44	96.14	100.10
Return before operating charges	1.56	(4.34)	(2.26)
Operating charges	(0.80)	(0.81)	(0.47)
Return after operating charges *	0.76	(5.15)	(2.73)
Distributions <sup>^^</sup>	(2.31)	(1.55)	(1.23)
Closing net asset value per share	87.89	89.44	96.14
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.04	0.06	-
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	0.85%	(5.36%)	(2.73%)
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	196,573,401	159,075,101	52,757,586
Closing number of shares	223,646,225	177,850,567	54,875,552
Operating charges <sup>^^^</sup>	0.90%	0.88%	**1.30%
Direct transaction costs	0.04%	0.06%	0.00%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	91.35	96.38	100.4
Lowest share price	85.74	90.19	97.32

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> For the period 18 October 2021 to 28 February 2022.

<sup>^^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

\*\* Annualised based on expenses incurred during the period 18 October 2021 to 28 February 2022.

## Financial statements - SVS Saltus Fixed Income Fund

## Statement of total return

for the year ended 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Income:					
Net capital losses	2		(2,741,370)		(7,183,900)
Revenue	3	5,359,587		2,264,996	
Expenses	4	<u>(868,407)</u>		<u>(677,674)</u>	
Net revenue before taxation		4,491,180		1,587,322	
Taxation	5	<u>(29,494)</u>		<u>(31,046)</u>	
Net revenue after taxation			<u>4,461,686</u>		<u>1,556,276</u>
Total return before distributions			1,720,316		(5,627,624)
Distributions	6		(4,461,673)		(1,922,282)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			<u><u>(2,741,357)</u></u>		<u><u>(7,549,906)</u></u>

## Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders

for the year ended 29 February 2024

		2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders			163,200,812		77,633,167
Share exchange issues on in specie transfers*			-		37,960,178
Amounts receivable on issue of shares		56,006,919		66,391,054	
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares		<u>(15,849,543)</u>		<u>(11,233,681)</u>	
			40,157,376		93,117,551
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			(2,741,357)		(7,549,906)
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders			<u><u>200,616,831</u></u>		<u><u>163,200,812</u></u>

\* On 31 May 2022 shares were transferred from a private portfolio to the sub-fund.

Balance sheet  
as at 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Assets:			
Fixed assets:			
Investments		198,810,652	154,293,863
Current assets:			
Debtors	7	24,014,089	267,284
Cash and cash equivalents	8	10,969,720	11,557,822
Total assets		<u>233,794,461</u>	<u>166,118,969</u>
Liabilities:			
Creditors:			
Bank overdrafts	8	(71,645)	-
Distribution payable		(5,258,977)	(2,819,071)
Other creditors	9	(27,847,008)	(99,086)
Total liabilities		<u>(33,177,630)</u>	<u>(2,918,157)</u>
Net assets attributable to shareholders		<u>200,616,831</u>	<u>163,200,812</u>

## Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 1. Accounting policies

The accounting policies are disclosed on pages 40 to 42.

2. Net capital losses	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-derivative securities - realised losses	(5,920,935)	(3,896,390)
Non-derivative securities - movement in unrealised gains / (losses)	3,253,022	(3,322,111)
Currency (losses) / gains	(56,681)	46,472
Transaction charges	(16,776)	(11,871)
Total net capital losses	<u>(2,741,370)</u>	<u>(7,183,900)</u>
3. Revenue	2024	2023
	£	£
UK revenue	30,163	39,147
Unfranked revenue	1,252,209	1,053,525
Overseas revenue	3,991,154	1,134,751
Bank and deposit interest	86,061	37,573
Total revenue	<u>5,359,587</u>	<u>2,264,996</u>
4. Expenses	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable to the ACD and associates		
ACD's periodic charge*	99,603	71,414
Investment Manager's fees*	707,958	547,505
	<u>807,561</u>	<u>618,919</u>
Payable to the Depositary		
Depositary fees	<u>43,062</u>	<u>32,158</u>
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	6,936	6,606
Non-executive directors' fees	1,736	1,533
Safe custody fees	5,652	3,591
Bank interest	293	5,494
FCA fee	886	720
KIID production fee	1,833	1,953
Legal fee	448	6,700
	<u>17,784</u>	<u>26,597</u>
Total expenses	<u>868,407</u>	<u>677,674</u>

\*For the year ended 29 February 2024, the annual management charge for each share class was as follows:

X Income:	0.46%
I Income:	1.06%
S Income:	0.66%

The annual management charge includes the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fees.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

5. Taxation	2024	2023
	£	£
<i>a. Analysis of the tax charge for the year</i>		
UK corporation tax	29,494	31,046
Total taxation (note 5b)	<u>29,494</u>	<u>31,046</u>
 <i>b. Factors affecting the tax charge for the year</i>		
The tax assessed for the year is lower (2023: lower) than the standard rate of UK corporation tax for an authorised collective investment scheme of 20% (2023: 20%). The differences are explained below:		
	2024	2023
	£	£
Net revenue before taxation	<u>4,491,180</u>	<u>1,587,322</u>
Corporation tax @ 20%	898,236	317,464
Effects of:		
UK revenue	(6,033)	(7,829)
Offshore income gains	-	717
Adjustment in respect of prior years	-	(6,322)
Movement in short term timing differences	17	(279)
Tax deductible interest distributions	<u>(862,726)</u>	<u>(272,705)</u>
Total taxation (note 5a)	<u>29,494</u>	<u>31,046</u>
 6. Distributions		
	2024	2023
	£	£
Final income distribution	<u>5,258,977</u>	<u>2,819,071</u>
Equalisation:		
Amounts deducted on cancellation of shares	279,235	84,316
Amounts added on issue of shares	(1,076,539)	(981,400)
Net equalisation on conversions	-	295
Total net distributions	<u>4,461,673</u>	<u>1,922,282</u>
 Reconciliation between net revenue and distributions:		
Net revenue after taxation per Statement of total return	4,461,686	1,556,276
Undistributed revenue brought forward	1,501	138
Expenses paid from capital*	127	367,369
Undistributed revenue carried forward	<u>(1,641)</u>	<u>(1,501)</u>
Distributions	<u>4,461,673</u>	<u>1,922,282</u>

Details of the distribution per share are disclosed in the Distribution table.

\*On 1 October 2022 the sub-fund Fee Agreement changed from all expenses paid from capital account, to all expenses paid from revenue account.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)  
for the year ended 29 February 2024

7. Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts receivable on issue of shares	23,935,944	184,386
Sales awaiting settlement	71,642	-
Accrued revenue	6,428	82,841
Prepaid expenses	75	57
Total debtors	<u>24,014,089</u>	<u>267,284</u>
8. Cash and cash equivalents	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>10,969,720</u>	<u>11,557,822</u>
Bank overdraft	<u>(71,645)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>10,898,075</u>	<u>11,557,822</u>
9. Other creditors	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	156,642	29,502
Purchases awaiting settlement	27,608,750	-
Accrued expenses:		
Payable to the ACD and associates		
ACD's periodic charge	8,258	7,115
Investment Manager's fees	59,623	50,888
	<u>67,881</u>	<u>58,003</u>
Other expenses:		
Depository fees	3,612	3,105
Safe custody fees	995	363
Audit fee	6,936	6,606
Non-executive directors' fees	1,743	1,051
KIID production fee	167	333
Transaction charges	282	123
	<u>13,735</u>	<u>11,581</u>
Total accrued expenses	<u>81,616</u>	<u>69,584</u>
Total other creditors	<u>27,847,008</u>	<u>99,086</u>
10. Commitments and contingent liabilities		
At the balance sheet date there are no commitments or contingent liabilities.		



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 11. Share classes

The following reflects the change in shares in issue in the year:

	I Income
Opening shares in issue	1,784,140
Total shares issued in the year	50,725
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(82,712)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u><u>1,752,153</u></u>
	S Income
Opening shares in issue	2,009,180
Total shares issued in the year	495,121
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(474,389)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u><u>2,029,912</u></u>
	X Income
Opening shares in issue	177,850,567
Total shares issued in the year	63,240,445
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(17,444,787)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u><u>223,646,225</u></u>

Further information in respect of the return per share is disclosed in the Comparative table.

On the winding up of a sub-fund all the assets of the sub-fund will be realised and apportioned to the share classes in relation to the net asset value on the closure date. Shareholders will receive their respective share of the proceeds, net of liabilities and the expenses incurred in the termination in accordance with the FCA regulations. Each share class has the same rights on winding up.

## 12. Related party transactions

Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited, as ACD is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the sub-fund.

The ACD acts as principal in respect of all transactions of shares in the sub-fund. The aggregate monies received and paid through the creation and cancellation of shares are disclosed in the Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund.

Amounts payable to the ACD and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amount due to the ACD and its associates at the balance sheet date is disclosed in note 9.

## 13. Events after the balance sheet date

Subsequent to the year end, the net asset value per X Income share has increased from 87.89p to 89.17p, I Income share has increased from 104.5p to 105.8p and S Income share has increased from 109.0p to 110.5p as at 13 June 2024. This movement takes into account routine transactions but also reflects the market movements of recent months.

## 14. Transaction costs

## a Direct transaction costs

Direct transaction costs include fees and commissions paid to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers; levies by regulatory agencies and security exchanges; and transfer taxes and duties.

Commission is a charge which is deducted from the proceeds of the sale of securities and added to the cost of the purchase of securities. This charge is a payment to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers in respect of their services in executing the trades.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 14. Transaction costs (continued)

## a Direct transaction costs (continued)

Tax is payable on the purchase of securities in the United Kingdom. It may be the case that 'other taxes' will be charged on the purchase of securities in countries other than the United Kingdom.

The total purchases and sales and the related direct transaction costs incurred in these transactions are as follows:

	Purchases before transaction costs	Commission		Taxes		Purchases after transaction costs
2024	£	£	%	£	%	£
Collective Investment Schemes	221,510,978	37,180	0.02%	1	0.00%	221,548,159

	Purchases before transaction costs	Commission		Taxes		Purchases after transaction costs
2023	£	£	%	£	%	£
Collective Investment Schemes	174,544,567	45,201	0.03%	-	-	174,589,768

There were no in specie purchases in the current year.

	In specie purchases before transaction costs	Commission		Taxes		In specie purchases after transaction costs
2023	£	£	%	£	%	£
Collective Investment Schemes*	38,080,501	-	-	-	-	38,080,501

\* No direct transaction costs were incurred in these transactions.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 14. Transaction costs (continued)

## a Direct transaction costs (continued)

2024	Sales before transaction costs	Commission		Taxes		Sales after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£	%	£
Collective Investment Schemes	175,586,522	(32,252)	0.02%	(1)	0.00%	175,554,269

2023	Sales before transaction costs	Commission		Taxes		Sales after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£	%	£
Collective Investment Schemes	124,103,634	(21,907)	0.02%	-	-	124,081,727

Capital events amount of £526,049 (2023: £298,819) is excluded from the total sales as there were no direct transaction costs charged in these transactions.

## Summary of direct transaction costs

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the sub-fund's average net asset value in the year:

2024	£	% of average net asset value
Commission	69,432	0.04%
Taxes	2	0.00%
2023	£	% of average net asset value
Commission	67,108	0.06%

## b Average portfolio dealing spread

The average portfolio dealing spread is calculated as the difference between the bid and offer value of the portfolio as a percentage of the offer value.

The average portfolio dealing spread of the investments at the balance sheet date was 0.02% (2023: 0.04%).

## 15. Risk management policies

In pursuing the sub-fund's investment objective, as set out in the Prospectus, the following are accepted by the ACD as being the main risks from the sub-fund's holding of financial instruments, either directly or indirectly through its underlying holdings. These are presented with the ACD's policy for managing these risks. To ensure these risks are consistently and effectively managed these are continually reviewed by the risk committee, a body appointed by the ACD, which sets the risk appetite and ensures continued compliance with the management of all known risks.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### a Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices and comprise three elements: other price risk, currency risk, and interest rate risk.

#### (i) Other price risk

The sub-fund's exposure to price risk comprises mainly of movements in the value of investment positions in the face of price movements.

The main element of the portfolio of investments which is exposed to this risk is collective investment schemes which are disclosed in the Portfolio statement.

This risk is generally regarded as consisting of two elements: stock specific risk and market risk. Through these two factors, the sub-fund is exposed to price fluctuations, which are monitored by the ACD in pursuance of the investment objective and policy.

Adhering to investment guidelines and avoiding excessive exposure to one particular issuer can limit stock specific risk. Subject to compliance with the investment objective of the sub-fund, spreading exposure in the portfolio of investments both globally and across sectors or geography can mitigate market risk.

At 29 February 2024, if the price of the investments held by the sub-fund increased or decreased by 5%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £9,940,533 (2023: £7,714,693).

#### (ii) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the value of investments or future cash flows will fluctuate as a result of exchange rate movements. Investment in overseas securities or holdings of foreign currency cash will provide direct exposure to currency risk as a consequence of the movement in foreign exchange rates against sterling. Investments in UK securities investing in overseas securities will give rise to indirect exposure to currency risk. These fluctuations can also affect the profitability of some UK companies, and thus their market prices, as sterling's relative strength or weakness can affect export prospects, the value of overseas earnings in sterling terms, and the prices of imports sold in the UK.

Forward currency contracts may be used to manage the portfolio exposure to currency movements.

Forward currency contracts are used to help the sub-fund achieve its investment objective as stated in the Prospectus. The ACD monitors the exposure to these contracts to ensure they are in keeping with the investment objective.

The foreign currency risk profile of the sub-fund's financial instruments and cash holdings at the balance sheet date is as follows:

	Financial instruments and cash holdings	Net debtors and creditors	Total net foreign currency exposure
2024	£	£	£
US dollar	1,467,047	71,642	1,538,689
2023	£	£	£
US dollar	16,998,195	-	16,998,195

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### a Market risk (continued)

At 29 February 2024, if the value of sterling increased or decreased by 5% against all other currencies, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £76,934 (2023: £849,910).

#### (iii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's investments will fluctuate as a result of interest rate changes.

During the year the sub-fund's direct exposure to interest rates consisted of cash and bank balances. The sub-fund also has indirect exposure to interest rate risk as it invests in bond funds. The amount of revenue receivable from bank balances or payable on bank overdrafts will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates. The value of interest bearing securities may be affected by changes in the interest rate environment, either globally or locally. In the event of a change in interest rates, there would be no material impact upon the net assets of the sub-fund.

The sub-fund would not in normal market conditions hold significant cash balances and would have limited borrowing capabilities as stipulated in the COLL rules.

Derivative contracts are not used to hedge against the exposure to interest rate risk.

There is no exposure to interest bearing securities at the balance sheet date.

#### b Credit risk

This is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. This includes counterparty risk and issuer risk.

The Depositary has appointed the custodian to provide custody services for the assets of the sub-fund. There is a counterparty risk that the custodian could cease to be in a position to provide custody services to the sub-fund. The sub-fund's investments (excluding cash) are ring fenced hence the risk is considered to be negligible.

The sub-fund holds cash and cash deposits with financial institutions which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk. The credit rating of the financial institution is taken into account so as to minimise the risk to the sub-fund of default.

Holdings in collective investment schemes are subject to direct credit risk. The exposure to pooled investment vehicles is unrated.

#### c Liquidity risk

A significant risk is the cancellation of shares which investors may wish to sell and that securities may have to be sold in order to fund such cancellations if insufficient cash is held at the bank to meet this obligation. If there were significant requests for the redemption of shares at a time when a large proportion of the portfolio of investments were not easily tradable due to market volumes or market conditions, the ability to fund those redemptions would be impaired and it might be necessary to suspend dealings in shares in the sub-fund.

Investments in smaller companies at times may prove illiquid, as by their nature they tend to have relatively modest traded share capital. Shifts in investor sentiment, or the announcement of new price sensitive information, can provoke significant movement in share prices, and make dealing in any quantity difficult.

The sub-fund may also invest in securities that are not listed or traded on any stock exchange. In such situations the sub-fund may not be able to immediately sell such securities.

To reduce liquidity risk the ACD will ensure, in line with the limits stipulated within the COLL rules, a substantial portion of the sub-fund's assets consist of readily realisable securities. This is monitored on a monthly basis and reported to the Risk Committee together with historical outflows of the sub-fund.

In addition liquidity is subject to stress testing on an annual basis to assess the ability of the sub-fund to meet large redemptions, while still being able to adhere to its objective guidelines and the FCA investment borrowing regulations.

All of the financial liabilities are payable on demand.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## d Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities

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

To ensure this, the fair value pricing committee is a body appointed by the ACD to analyse, review and vote on price adjustments/maintenance where no current secondary market exists and/or where there are potential liquidity issues that would affect the disposal of an asset. In addition, the committee may also consider adjustments to the sub-fund's price should the constituent investments be exposed to closed markets during general market volatility or instability.

Basis of valuation	Investment assets	Investment liabilities
	2024	2024
	£	£
Quoted prices	66,917,235	-
Observable market data	130,354,725	-
Unobservable data*	1,538,692	-
	<u>198,810,652</u>	<u>-</u>

Basis of valuation	Investment assets	Investment liabilities
	2023	2023
	£	£
Quoted prices	58,662,222	-
Observable market data	93,262,891	-
Unobservable data*	2,368,750	-
	<u>154,293,863</u>	<u>-</u>

\*The following security is valued in the portfolio of investments using a valuation technique:

Barak Structured Trade Finance Segregated Portfolio has been delisted pending liquidation and the fair value pricing committee feels that it is appropriate to value the shares at \$231.24 (2023: \$257.52).

## Unobservable data

Unobservable data has been used only where relevant observable market data is not available. Where there was no reputable price source for an investment, the ACD has assessed information available from internal and external sources in order to arrive at an estimated fair value. The fair value is established by using measures of value such as the price of recent transactions, earnings multiple and net assets. The ACD of the Fund also makes judgements and estimates based on their knowledge of recent investment performance, historical experience and other the assumptions used are under continuous review by the ACD with particular attention paid to the carrying value of the investments.

## e Assets subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature

The following assets held in the portfolio of investments are subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature:

	2024 % of the total net asset value	2023 % of the total net asset value
Barak Structured Trade Finance Segregated Portfolio	0.77%	1.45%
Total	<u>0.77%</u>	<u>1.45%</u>

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### f Derivatives

The sub-fund may employ derivatives with the aim of reducing the sub-fund's risk profile, reducing costs or generating additional capital or revenue, in accordance with Efficient Portfolio Management.

The ACD monitors that any exposure is covered globally to ensure adequate cover is available to meet the sub-fund's total exposure, taking into account the value of the underlying investments, any reasonably foreseeable market movement, counterparty risk, and the time available to liquidate any positions.

For certain derivative transactions cash margins may be required to be paid to the brokers with whom the trades were executed and settled. These balances are subject to daily reconciliations and are held by the broker in segregated cash accounts that are afforded client money protection.

Derivatives may be used for investment purposes and as a result could potentially impact upon the risk factors outlined above.

During the year there were no derivative transactions.

#### (i) Counterparties

Transactions in securities give rise to exposure to the risk that the counterparties may not be able to fulfil their responsibility by completing their side of the transaction. This risk is mitigated by the sub-fund using a range of brokers for security transactions, thereby diversifying the risk of exposure to any one broker. In addition the sub-fund will only transact with brokers who are subject to frequent reviews with whom transaction limits are set.

The sub-fund may transact in derivative contracts which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk from the counterparty not settling their side of the contract. Transactions involving derivatives are entered into only with investment banks and brokers with appropriate and approved credit rating, which are regularly monitored. Forward currency transactions are only undertaken with the custodians appointed by the Depositary.

At the balance sheet date, there are no securities in the portfolio of investments subject to a repurchase agreement.

#### (ii) Leverage

The leverage is calculated as the sum of the net asset value and the incremental exposure generated through the use of derivatives (calculated in accordance with the commitment approach) divided by the net asset value.

There have been no leveraging arrangements in the year.

#### (iii) Global exposure

Global exposure is a measure designed to limit the leverage generated by a fund through the use of financial derivative instruments, including derivatives with embedded assets.

At the balance sheet date there is no global exposure to derivatives.

There have been no collateral arrangements in the year.

## Distribution table

for the year ended 29 February 2024

Final distributions in pence per share

Group 1 - Shares purchased before 1 March 2023

Group 2 - Shares purchased 1 March 2023 to 29 February 2024

	Net revenue	Equalisation	Total distributions 30 April 2024	Total distributions 30 April 2023
I Income				
Group 1	2.105	-	2.105	1.717
Group 2	1.553	0.552	2.105	1.717
S Income				
Group 1	2.642	-	2.642	1.846
Group 2	1.184	1.458	2.642	1.846
X Income				
Group 1	2.311	-	2.311	1.547
Group 2	0.731	1.580	2.311	1.547

## Equalisation

Equalisation applies only to group 2 shares. It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of group 2 shares and is refunded to holders of these shares as a return of capital. Being capital it is not liable to income tax in the hands of the shareholder but must be deducted from the cost of shares for capital gains tax purposes.



## SVS Saltus Real Return Fund

### Investment Manager's report

#### Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to generate a positive absolute return over the medium term (rolling 3 year periods).

Investors should note that their capital is at risk and that there is no guarantee that a positive return will be achieved over rolling 3 year periods, or any time period.

The sub-fund aims to create a widely diversified portfolio, gaining exposure to a range of asset classes, geographies, styles and strategies.

The sub-fund is actively managed and unconstrained as to underlying asset allocation. The sub-fund will hold at least 80% of its portfolio in other collective investment schemes (including open-ended investment schemes and closed-ended investment schemes) providing exposure to a flexible mix of equities and fixed income securities as well as, currencies, property, gold, money market instruments, warrants, cash, near cash, deposits and derivatives. The sub-fund focusses on exposure to alternative investments, but seeks to identify opportunities which the Investment Manager considers have a low risk and volatility profile, in keeping with the investment objective of the sub-fund.

To the extent that the sub-fund is not fully invested in other collective investment schemes, it may invest directly in the asset classes listed above (with the exception of derivatives and property).

Derivatives may be used only for the purposes of Efficient Portfolio Management. The sub-fund may use derivatives and forward transactions for investment purposes on the giving of 60 days' notice to shareholders. The use of derivatives for investment purposes may alter the risk profile of the sub-fund.

The collective investment schemes in which the sub-fund invests may include other funds managed by the ACD, the Investment Manager or an affiliate of the ACD or the Investment Manager.

#### Investment performance\*

Over the year the sub-fund delivered a total return of -0.50% (X Income shares, based on mid prices at 5pm) compared to a comparative benchmark return of 3.74% (IA Targeted Absolute Return Sector).

#### Investment activities

Overall, the year was a positive one for world markets, with most of the good news concentrated in the final months of 2023 and the early months of 2024. Prior to the reporting year, it was a year of frequent large and violent swings in sentiment, caused mainly by the bond markets continual efforts to price in a peak in the inflation and interest rate cycle. Another key feature of the year was the emergence of an Artificial Intelligence ('AI') theme, which manifested itself in very strong performance in a small group of large US technology stocks. Given their relative size in market indices the performance of this group had a big positive influence on the direction of travel of equity markets overall.

A remarkably quick worldwide rally began in late October 2023, one which had enough power to erase the losses of previous periods across multiple asset classes. The rally was catalysed by a reassessment of the inflation outlook, particularly in the crucial US economy. Prior to this point a series of relatively 'hot' US monthly inflation figures had been weighing on the market mood, as it implied that the painful increases in interest rates which have been absorbed so far, may not be finished. Then, a modest softening in the US labour market followed by a slightly weaker than expected October inflation reading sparked a global rally across asset classes. Investors quickly extrapolated some genuinely good news on US inflation into nearly all markets and geographies, as these US trends were assumed to be front runners for what will inevitably happen elsewhere.

This positive mood continued into the end of the reporting year and although there was some retracement of initial market enthusiasm, it was not significant. There were some areas of concern from a top down perspective, concentrating around the sluggish performance of the Chinese economy and the perception of a lacklustre response to the issue from the Chinese government. Periodically geopolitical events intruded into market thinking (e.g. the war in the Middle East) but they did not have a long lasting effect. Commodity markets were relatively quiet overall reflecting their internal supply and demand dynamics, plus the dampening effect of a sluggish Chinese economy.

\*Source: FE Fundinfo.

## Investment Manager's report (continued)

### Investment activities (continued)

Looking ahead we can see clear long term positive signals emerging. The most prominent of these is the return of long term 'real' (or after inflation) interest rates back to pre-financial crisis levels in the US. In other words, after a very short period of time, the long term cost of US dollar has 'normalised' and the fact that this has happened without a spectacular crisis or deep recession, is something to celebrate. It is also important to remember that market time horizons have shrunk to align themselves with monthly economic data, putting many longer-term risks out of sight and out of mind. Undoubtedly there will come a point in the months ahead when current positive sentiment is tested.

The major decisions which impacted performance for this reporting year came from our shift out of broader bond market exposures and into alternative equity strategies. Positions were added or increased substantially in Lazard Global Investment Funds - Lazard Rathmore Alternative Fund and Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund to provide exposure to long/short convertible bond opportunities and US mergers and acquisitions market special situations. Commodities were the major detractor to returns as they had weak performance overall, reflecting sluggish end demand and oversupply in key areas. BH Macro also performed weakly over the year as the trust lost its substantial premium to the Net asset value. Positions in long only convertibles were exited at a profit.

### Investment strategy and outlook

At the time of writing the outlook remains uncertain, but with a relatively low degree of risk. The glass is likely more 'half full' than 'half empty'. Interest rates are likely hitting their peak for this cycle, which is a significant positive, although there remains some uncertainty if enough has been done to finally subdue inflation. The biggest risks centre around market short termism, which is ignoring big issues around the state of government balance sheets. Political and geopolitical risks, which so far have had limited influence, retain the power to upset the current positive mood. On balance though, we think that shareholders can look forward with some degree of optimism to the future.

Saltus Partners LLP

18 March 2024

## Summary of portfolio changes

for the year ended 29 February 2024

The following represents the major purchases and sales in the year to reflect a clearer picture of the investment activities.

	Cost
	£
Purchases:	
iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF	14,086,150
iShares USD Treasury Bond 1-3yr UCITS ETF	10,718,756
Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund	8,589,470
iShares Physical Gold	7,312,324
Artemis Investment Funds ICVC - Artemis Target Return Bond Fund	6,942,651
Liontrust Global Funds - Liontrust GF European Strategic Equity Fund	6,161,155
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	6,152,741
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	5,983,180
WisdomTree Physical Swiss Gold	5,416,224
Lazard Global Investment Funds - Lazard Rathmore Alternative Fund	5,363,790
iShares USD Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF	5,014,400
Invesco Tactical Bond Fund UK	4,620,520
Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund	4,580,860
Trium UCITS Platform - Trium Alternative Growth Fund	3,311,960
VT Gravis UK Infrastructure Income Fund	2,748,520
CG Portfolio Fund - Dollar Fund	2,649,760
BH Macro	1,811,322
Amundi US Treasury 1-3Y DR UCITS ETF	1,503,335
iShares JP Morgan EM Local Government Bond UCITS ETF	1,183,517
Invesco Bloomberg Commodity UCITS ETF	1,014,519
	Proceeds
	£
Sales:	
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	12,143,584
iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF	10,792,779
iShares USD Treasury Bond 1-3yr UCITS ETF	10,687,924
CG Portfolio Fund - Dollar Fund	9,667,970
Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund	8,029,649
TM Tellworth UK Select	7,506,528
Artemis Investment Funds ICVC - Artemis Target Return Bond Fund	7,152,585
iShares JP Morgan EM Local Government Bond UCITS ETF	6,653,814
iShares Physical Gold	6,422,256
Amundi US Treasury 1-3Y DR UCITS ETF	6,387,977
Invesco Tactical Bond Fund UK	6,132,458
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	5,972,990
Trojan Investment Funds - Trojan Fund	5,004,465
iShares USD Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF	4,801,764
GemCap Investment Funds Ireland - Calamos Global Convertible Fund	3,782,857
RIT Capital Partners	3,433,057
Capital Gearing Portfolio Fund	3,410,680
Allianz UK & European Investment Funds - Allianz Strategic Bond Fund	3,400,515
Trium UCITS Platform - Trium Alternative Growth Fund	2,445,281
WisdomTree Copper	2,193,057

## Portfolio statement

as at 29 February 2024

Investment	Nominal value or holding	Market value £	% of total net assets
Closed-Ended Funds - United Kingdom 8.60% (9.22%)			
Closed-Ended Funds - incorporated in the United Kingdom 0.00% (2.83%)		-	-
Closed-Ended Funds - incorporated outwith the United Kingdom 8.60% (6.39%)			
BH Macro	2,295,310	7,987,679	8.60
Total closed-ended funds - United Kingdom		7,987,679	8.60
Collective Investment Schemes 74.33% (77.42%)			
UK Authorised Collective Investment Schemes 11.79% (21.42%)			
ARC TIME Commercial Long Income PAIF	4,017,666	3,594,606	3.87
Invesco Tactical Bond Fund UK	2,169,838	4,595,282	4.95
VT Gravis UK Infrastructure Income Fund	3,143,753	2,759,586	2.97
Total UK authorised collective investment schemes		10,949,474	11.79
Offshore Collective Investment Schemes 62.54% (56.00%)			
Barak Structured Trade Finance Segregated Portfolio <sup>^</sup>	9,820	1,795,141	1.93
Capital Gearing Portfolio Fund	20,677	3,661,839	3.94
CG Portfolio Fund - Dollar Fund	30,416	2,779,409	2.99
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	16,784	16,784	0.02
Invesco Bloomberg Commodity UCITS ETF	300,448	5,163,199	5.56
iShares UK Gilts 0-5yr UCITS ETF	28,882	3,630,178	3.91
Kestrel Opportunities	208,351	1,154,388	1.24
Lazard Rathmore Alternative Fund	114,355	14,807,564	15.94
Liontrust Global Funds - Liontrust GF European Strategic Equity Fund	261,807	6,400,707	6.89
Muzinich Funds - Global Tactical Credit Fund	75,700	6,880,379	7.41
Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund	432,565	4,580,860	4.94
Trium UCITS Platform - Trium Alternative Growth Fund	70,411	7,219,246	7.77
Total offshore collective investment schemes		58,089,694	62.54
Total collective investment schemes		69,039,168	74.33
Exchange Traded Commodities 15.34% (9.75%)			
iShares Physical Gold	234,833	7,392,543	7.96
WisdomTree Copper	134,108	3,636,432	3.91
WisdomTree Physical Swiss Gold	20,801	3,225,403	3.47
Total exchange traded commodities		14,254,378	15.34
Portfolio of investments		91,281,225	98.27
Other net assets		1,605,781	1.73
Total net assets		92,887,006	100.00

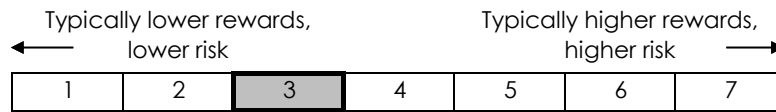
All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities or regulated collective investment schemes within the meaning of the FCA rules unless otherwise stated.

The comparative figures in brackets are as at 28 February 2023.

<sup>^</sup> Barak Structured Trade Finance Segregated Portfolio has been delisted pending liquidation and the fair value pricing committee feels that it is appropriate to value the shares at \$231.24 (2023: \$257.52).

## Risk and reward profile\*

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



The sub-fund is in a medium category because the price of its investments have risen or fallen to some extent. The category shown is not guaranteed to remain unchanged and may shift over time. Even the lowest category does not mean a risk-free investment.

For full details on risk factors for the sub-fund, please refer to the Prospectus.

There have been no changes to the risk and reward indicator in the year.

\* As per the KIID published 8 May 2024.

## Comparative table

The following disclosures give a shareholder an indication of the performance of a share in the sub-fund. It also discloses the operating charges and direct transaction costs applied to each share. Operating charges are those charges incurred in operating the sub-fund and direct transaction costs are costs incurred when purchasing or selling securities in the portfolio of investments.

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
	p	p	p
<b>I Income</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	121.04	119.94	114.98
Return before operating charges	0.16	4.00	8.36
Operating charges	(1.98)	(2.19)	(2.44)
Return after operating charges *	(1.82)	1.81	5.92
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(0.31)	(0.71)	(0.96)
Closing net asset value per share	118.91	121.04	119.94
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.04	0.02	0.04
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	(1.50%)	1.51%	5.15%
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	2,594,273	2,956,031	28,641,974
Closing number of shares	2,181,745	2,442,115	23,879,673
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.66%	1.78%	2.04%
Direct transaction costs	0.04%	0.02%	0.03%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	121.7	123.9	122.9
Lowest share price	116.4	119.4	115.1

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2023 <sup>^</sup>	2022
C Accumulation	p	p
Change in net assets per share		
Opening net asset value per share	124.30	118.01
Return before operating charges	4.39	8.56
Operating charges	(1.09)	(2.27)
Return after operating charges *	3.30	6.29
Distributions <sup>^^</sup>	-	(0.99)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares <sup>^^</sup>	-	0.99
Closing net asset value per share	127.60	124.30
** after direct transaction costs of:	0.01	0.04
Performance		
Return after charges	2.65%	5.33%
Other information		
Closing net asset value (£)	-	4,923,233
Closing number of shares	-	3,960,816
Operating charges <sup>^^^</sup>	** 1.58%	1.84%
Direct transaction costs	0.01%	0.03%
Published prices		
Highest share price	128.4	126.3
Lowest share price	124.9	118.1

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> For the period 1 March 2022 to 14 September 2022.

<sup>^^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

\*\* Annualised based on expenses incurred during the period 1 March 2022 to 14 September 2022.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
\$ Income	p	p	p
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	123.70	124.32	118.04
Return before operating charges	0.21	1.98	9.29
Operating charges	(1.54)	(1.75)	(2.02)
Return after operating charges *	(1.33)	0.23	7.27
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(0.71)	(0.85)	(0.99)
Closing net asset value per share	121.66	123.70	124.32
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.04	0.05	0.03
Performance			
Return after charges	(1.08%)	0.19%	6.16%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£)	1,328,068	1,616,187	2,816,716
Closing number of shares	1,091,589	1,306,490	2,265,691
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.26%	1.38%	1.64%
Direct transaction costs	0.04%	0.04%	0.03%
Published prices			
Highest share price	124.6	128.5	127.2
Lowest share price	119.2	124.3	118.1

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.



## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022 <sup>^</sup>
	p	p	p
<b>X Income</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	99.38	99.92	100.10
Return before operating charges	0.17	1.39	0.66
Operating charges	(1.04)	(1.19)	(0.53)
Return after operating charges *	(0.87)	0.20	0.13
Distributions <sup>^^</sup>	(0.73)	(0.74)	(0.31)
Closing net asset value per share	97.78	99.38	99.92
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.04	0.05	0.02
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	(0.88%)	(0.54%)	0.13%
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	88,964,665	119,309,984	77,007,556
Closing number of shares	90,981,056	120,054,670	77,072,352
Operating charges <sup>^^^</sup>	1.06%	1.18%	**1.44%
Direct transaction costs	0.04%	0.05%	0.03%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	100.2	103.3	101.7
Lowest share price	95.85	100.0	99.73

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> For the period 18 October 2021 to 28 February 2022.

<sup>^^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

\*\* Annualised based on the expenses incurred during the period 18 October 2021 to 28 February 2022.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund. The benchmark also changed.

## Financial statements - SVS Saltus Real Return Fund

Statement of total return  
for the year ended 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Income:					
Net capital losses	2		(2,303,079)		(1,123,647)
Revenue	3	1,591,304		1,429,818	
Expenses	4	<u>(591,874)</u>		<u>(792,310)</u>	
Net revenue before taxation		999,430		637,508	
Taxation	5	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
Net revenue after taxation			<u>999,430</u>		<u>637,508</u>
Total return before distributions			(1,303,649)		(486,139)
Distributions	6		(847,124)		(998,786)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			<u><u>(2,150,773)</u></u>		<u><u>(1,484,925)</u></u>

Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders  
for the year ended 29 February 2024

		2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders			123,882,202		113,389,479
Share exchange issues on in specie transfers*			-		30,226,153
Amounts receivable on issue of shares		6,821,709		23,527,198	
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares		<u>(35,666,132)</u>		<u>(41,775,703)</u>	
			(28,844,423)		11,977,648
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			(2,150,773)		(1,484,925)
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders			<u><u>92,887,006</u></u>		<u><u>123,882,202</u></u>

\* On 31 May 2022 shares were transferred from a private portfolio to the sub-fund.

Balance sheet  
as at 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Assets:			
Fixed assets:			
Investments		91,281,225	119,413,324
Current assets:			
Debtors	7	7,996,864	170,303
Cash and bank balances	8	7,454,830	5,305,889
Total assets		<u>106,732,919</u>	<u>124,889,516</u>
Liabilities:			
Creditors:			
Bank overdrafts	8	(83,585)	-
Distribution payable		(675,913)	(921,592)
Other creditors	9	(13,086,415)	(85,722)
Total liabilities		<u>(13,845,913)</u>	<u>(1,007,314)</u>
Net assets attributable to shareholders		<u>92,887,006</u>	<u>123,882,202</u>

## Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 1. Accounting policies

The accounting policies are disclosed on pages 40 to 42.

## 2. Net capital losses

	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-derivative securities - realised gains	29,513	5,654,375
Non-derivative securities - movement in unrealised losses	(2,228,699)	(6,747,429)
Currency losses	(96,075)	(23,750)
Rebates from collective investment schemes	455	-
Compensation	-	54
Transaction charges	(8,273)	(6,897)
Total net capital losses	<u>(2,303,079)</u>	<u>(1,123,647)</u>

## 3. Revenue

	2024	2023
	£	£
UK revenue	157,006	155,453
Unfranked revenue	427,454	574,876
Overseas revenue	972,878	675,462
Bank and deposit interest	33,966	24,027
Total revenue	<u>1,591,304</u>	<u>1,429,818</u>

## 4. Expenses

	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable to the ACD and associates		
ACD's periodic charge*	66,118	81,309
Investment Manager's fees*	<u>479,408</u>	<u>646,301</u>
	<u>545,526</u>	<u>727,610</u>
Payable to the Depositary		
Depositary fees	<u>29,792</u>	<u>36,004</u>
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	7,236	6,892
Non-executive directors' fees	1,736	1,533
Safe custody fees	3,831	4,143
Bank interest	679	6,410
FCA fee	793	970
KIID production fee	1,833	2,048
Legal fee	448	6,700
	<u>16,556</u>	<u>28,696</u>
Total expenses	<u>591,874</u>	<u>792,310</u>

\*For the year ended 29 February 2024, the annual management charge for each share class was as follows:

I Income:	1.06%
S Income:	0.66%
X Income:	0.46%

The annual management charge includes the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fees.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

5. Taxation	2024	2023
	£	£
<i>a. Analysis of the tax charge for the year</i>		
Total taxation (note 5b)	-	-

*b. Factors affecting the tax charge for the year*

The tax assessed for the year is lower (2023: lower) than the standard rate of UK corporation tax for an authorised collective investment scheme of 20% (2023: 20%). The differences are explained below:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net revenue before taxation	999,430	637,508
Corporation tax @ 20%	199,886	127,502
Effects of:		
UK revenue	(31,401)	(31,091)
Overseas revenue	(15,678)	(59,119)
Capital rebates from collective investment schemes	91	-
Utilisation of excess management expenses	(152,898)	(30,753)
Offshore income gains	-	837
Unrealised gains on non reporting offshore funds	-	(7,376)
Total taxation (note 5a)	-	-

*c. Provision for deferred taxation*

At the year end, a deferred tax asset has not been recognised in respect of timing differences relating to excess management expenses as there is insufficient evidence that the asset will be recovered. The amount of the asset not recognised is £352,917 (2023: £505,815).

## 6. Distributions

The distributions take account of revenue added on the issue of shares and revenue deducted on the cancellation of shares, and comprise:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Final income distribution	675,913	921,592
Equalisation:		
Amounts deducted on cancellation of shares	183,597	225,372
Amounts added on issue of shares	(12,386)	(148,428)
Net equalisation on conversions	-	250
Total net distributions	847,124	998,786
Reconciliation between net revenue and distributions:		
Net revenue after taxation per Statement of total return	999,430	637,508
Undistributed revenue brought forward	1,092	338
Expenses paid from capital*	127	499,153
Marginal tax relief	(152,833)	(137,121)
Undistributed revenue carried forward	(692)	(1,092)
Distributions	847,124	998,786

Details of the distribution per share are disclosed in the Distribution table.

\*On 1 October 2022 the sub-fund Fee Agreement changed from all expenses paid from capital account, to all expenses paid from revenue account.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

7. Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts receivable on issue of shares	60,990	57,158
Sales awaiting settlement	7,814,633	-
Accrued revenue	48,614	56,461
Prepaid expenses	65	75
Recoverable income tax	72,562	56,609
Total debtors	<u>7,996,864</u>	<u>170,303</u>
8. Cash and bank balances	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash and bank balances	<u>7,454,830</u>	<u>5,305,889</u>
Bank overdraft	<u>(83,585)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total cash and bank balances	<u>7,371,245</u>	<u>5,305,889</u>
9. Other creditors	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	5,707,487	29,732
Purchases awaiting settlement	7,329,380	-
Accrued expenses:		
Payable to the ACD and associates		
ACD's periodic charge	4,519	5,505
Investment Manager's fees	33,084	39,384
	<u>37,603</u>	<u>44,889</u>
Other expenses:		
Depositary fees	2,086	2,428
Safe custody fees	561	294
Audit fee	7,236	6,892
Non-executive directors' fees	1,743	1,051
KIID production fee	167	333
Transaction charges	152	103
	<u>11,945</u>	<u>11,101</u>
Total accrued expenses	<u>49,548</u>	<u>55,990</u>
Total other creditors	<u>13,086,415</u>	<u>85,722</u>

## 10. Commitments and contingent liabilities

At the balance sheet date there are no commitments or contingent liabilities.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 11. Share classes

The following reflects the change in shares in issue in the year:

	I Income
Opening shares in issue	2,442,115
Total shares issued in the year	42,573
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(302,943)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u><u>2,181,745</u></u>
	S Income
Opening shares in issue	1,306,490
Total shares issued in the year	139,872
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(354,773)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u><u>1,091,589</u></u>
	X Income
Opening shares in issue	120,054,670
Total shares issued in the year	6,756,724
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(35,830,338)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u><u>90,981,056</u></u>

Further information in respect of the return per share is disclosed in the Comparative table.

On the winding up of a sub-fund all the assets of the sub-fund will be realised and apportioned to the share classes in relation to the net asset value on the closure date. Shareholders will receive their respective share of the proceeds, net of liabilities and the expenses incurred in the termination in accordance with the FCA regulations. Each share class has the same rights on winding up.

## 12. Related party transactions

Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited, as ACD is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the sub-fund.

The ACD acts as principal in respect of all transactions of shares in the sub-fund. The aggregate monies received and paid through the creation and cancellation of shares are disclosed in the Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund.

Amounts payable to the ACD and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amount due to the ACD and its associates at the balance sheet date is disclosed in note 9.

## 13. Events after the balance sheet date

Subsequent to the year end, the net asset value per X Income share has increased from 97.78p to 101.2p, I Income share has increased from 118.9p to 122.8p and S Income share has increased from 121.7p to 125.7p as at 13 June 2024. This movement takes into account routine transactions but also reflects the market movements of recent months.

## 14. Transaction costs

## a Direct transaction costs

Direct transaction costs include fees and commissions paid to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers; levies by regulatory agencies and security exchanges; and transfer taxes and duties.

Commission is a charge which is deducted from the proceeds of the sale of securities and added to the cost of the purchase of securities. This charge is a payment to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers in respect of their services in executing the trades.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 14. Transaction costs (continued)

## a Direct transaction costs (continued)

Tax is payable on the purchase of securities in the United Kingdom. It may be the case that 'other taxes' will be charged on the purchase of securities in countries other than the United Kingdom.

The total purchases and sales and the related direct transaction costs incurred in these transactions are as follows:

	Purchases before transaction costs		Commission		Taxes		Purchases after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£	%	£	
2024							
Closed-Ended Funds	14,950,976	5,752	0.04%	2	0.00%	14,956,730	
Collective Investment Schemes	90,612,000	13,282	0.01%	1	0.00%	90,625,283	
<b>Total</b>	<b>105,562,976</b>	<b>19,034</b>	<b>0.05%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>105,582,013</b>	
	Purchases before transaction costs		Commission		Taxes		Purchases after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£	%	£	
2023							
Closed-Ended Funds	4,048,797	6,304	0.16%	1	0.00%	4,055,102	
Collective Investment Schemes	119,937,597	23,982	0.02%	-	-	119,961,579	
Exchange Traded Commodities	7,893,800	3,947	0.05%	-	-	7,897,747	
<b>Total</b>	<b>131,880,194</b>	<b>34,233</b>	<b>0.23%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>131,914,428</b>	

There were no in specie purchases in the current year.

	In specie purchases before transaction costs		Commission		Taxes		In specie purchases after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£	%	£	
2023							
Collective Investment Schemes*	25,122,937	-	-	-	-	25,122,937	
Exchange Traded Commodities*	5,159,938	-	-	-	-	5,159,938	
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,282,875</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,282,875</b>	
	Sales before transaction costs		Commission		Taxes		Sales after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£	%	£	
2024							
Closed-Ended Funds	14,243,709	(6,679)	0.05%	(1)	0.00%	14,237,029	
Collective Investment Schemes	116,985,756	(15,853)	0.01%	(1)	0.00%	116,969,902	
<b>Total</b>	<b>131,229,465</b>	<b>(22,532)</b>	<b>0.06%</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>131,206,931</b>	

\* No direct transaction costs were incurred in these transactions.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 14. Transaction costs (continued)

## a Direct transaction costs (continued)

	Sales before transaction costs	Commission		Taxes		Sales after transaction costs £
		£	%	£	%	
2023						
Closed-Ended Funds	3,709,775	(3,710)	0.10%	(8)	0.00%	3,706,057
Collective Investment Schemes	137,894,542	(16,548)	0.01%	-	-	137,877,994
Exchange Traded Commodities	6,259,797	(3,130)	0.05%	-	-	6,256,667
Total	147,864,114	(23,388)	0.16%	(8)	0.00%	147,840,718

Capital events amount of £613,723.64 (2023: £nil) is excluded from the total sales as there were no direct transaction costs charged in these transactions.

## Summary of direct transaction costs

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the sub-fund's average net asset value in the year:

2024	£	% of average net asset value
Commission	41,566	0.04%
Taxes	5	0.00%
2023	£	% of average net asset value
Commission	57,621	0.04%
Taxes	9	0.00%

## b Average portfolio dealing spread

The average portfolio dealing spread is calculated as the difference between the bid and offer value of the portfolio as a percentage of the offer value.

The average portfolio dealing spread of the investments at the balance sheet date was 0.04% (2023: 0.16%).

## 15. Risk management policies

In pursuing the sub-fund's investment objective, as set out in the Prospectus, the following are accepted by the ACD as being the main risks from the sub-fund's holding of financial instruments, either directly or indirectly through its underlying holdings. These are presented with the ACD's policy for managing these risks. To ensure these risks are consistently and effectively managed these are continually reviewed by the risk committee, a body appointed by the ACD, which sets the risk appetite and ensures continued compliance with the management of all known risks.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## a Market risk

## (i) Other price risk

The sub-fund's exposure to price risk comprises mainly of movements in the value of investment positions in the face of price movements.

The main elements of the portfolio of investments exposed to this risk are collective investment schemes, closed-ended funds and exchange traded commodities, which are disclosed in the Portfolio statement.

This risk is generally regarded as consisting of two elements: stock specific risk and market risk. Through these two factors, the sub-fund is exposed to price fluctuations, which are monitored by the ACD in pursuance of the investment objective and policy.

Adhering to investment guidelines and avoiding excessive exposure to one particular issuer can limit stock specific risk. Subject to compliance with the investment objective of the sub-fund, spreading exposure in the portfolio of investments both globally and across sectors or geography can mitigate market risk.

At 29 February 2024, if the price of the investments held by the sub-fund increased or decreased by 5%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £4,562,773 (2023: £5,970,666).

## (ii) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the value of investments or future cash flows will fluctuate as a result of exchange rate movements. Investment in overseas securities or holdings of foreign currency cash will provide direct exposure to currency risk as a consequence of the movement in foreign exchange rates against sterling. Investments in UK securities investing in overseas securities will give rise to indirect exposure to currency risk. These fluctuations can also affect the profitability of some UK companies, and thus their market prices, as sterling's relative strength or weakness can affect export prospects, the value of overseas earnings in sterling terms, and the prices of imports sold in the UK.

Forward currency contracts may be used to manage the portfolio exposure to currency movements.

The foreign currency risk profile of the sub-fund's financial instruments and cash holdings at the balance sheet date is as follows:

	Financial instruments and cash holdings	Net debtors and creditors	Total net foreign currency exposure
	£	£	£
2024			
US dollar	5,347,988	83,585	5,431,573

	Financial instruments and cash holdings	Net debtors and creditors	Total net foreign currency exposure
	£	£	£
2023			
US dollar	19,291,208	-	19,291,208

At 29 February 2024, if the value of sterling increased or decreased by 5% against all other currencies, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £271,579 (2023: £964,560).

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### a Market risk (continued)

##### (iii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's investments will fluctuate as a result of interest rate changes.

During the year the sub-fund's direct exposure to interest rates consisted of cash and bank balances. The sub-fund also has indirect exposure to interest rate risk as it invests in bond funds. The amount of revenue receivable from bank balances or payable on bank overdrafts will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates. In the event of a change in interest rates, there would be no material impact upon the net assets of the sub-fund. The sub-fund would not in normal market conditions hold significant cash balances and would have limited borrowing capabilities as stipulated in the COLL rules.

There is no exposure to interest bearing securities at the balance sheet date.

#### b Credit risk

This is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. This includes counterparty risk.

The Depositary has appointed the custodian to provide custody services for the assets of the sub-fund. There is a counterparty risk that the custodian could cease to be in a position to provide custody services to the sub-fund. The sub-fund's investments (excluding cash) are ring fenced hence the risk is considered to be negligible.

The sub-fund holds cash and cash deposits with financial institutions which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk. The credit rating of the financial institution is taken into account so as to minimise the risk to the sub-fund of default.

Holdings in collective investment schemes are subject to direct credit risk. The exposure to pooled investment vehicles is unrated.

#### c Liquidity risk

A significant risk is the cancellation of shares which investors may wish to sell and that securities may have to be sold in order to fund such cancellations if insufficient cash is held at the bank to meet this obligation. If there were significant requests for the redemption of shares at a time when a large proportion of the portfolio of investments were not easily tradable due to market volumes or market conditions, the ability to fund those redemptions would be impaired and it might be necessary to suspend dealings in shares in the sub-fund.

Investments in smaller companies at times may prove illiquid, as by their nature they tend to have relatively modest traded share capital. Shifts in investor sentiment, or the announcement of new price sensitive information, can provoke significant movement in share prices, and make dealing in any quantity difficult.

The sub-fund may also invest in securities that are not listed or traded on any stock exchange. In such situations the sub-fund may not be able to immediately sell such securities.

To reduce liquidity risk the ACD will ensure, in line with the limits stipulated within the COLL rules, a substantial portion of the sub-fund's assets consist of readily realisable securities. This is monitored on a monthly basis and reported to the Risk Committee together with historical outflows of the sub-fund.

In addition liquidity is subject to stress testing on an annual basis to assess the ability of the sub-fund to meet large redemptions, while still being able to adhere to its objective guidelines and the FCA investment borrowing regulations.

All of the financial liabilities are payable on demand.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## d Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities

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

To ensure this, the fair value pricing committee is a body appointed by the ACD to analyse, review and vote on price adjustments/maintenance where no current secondary market exists and/or where there are potential liquidity issues that would affect the disposal of an asset. In addition, the committee may also consider adjustments to the sub-fund's price should the constituent investments be exposed to closed markets during general market volatility or instability.

Basis of valuation	Investment assets	Investment liabilities
	2024	2024
	£	£
Quoted prices	31,035,434	-
Observable market data	58,450,650	-
Unobservable data*	1,795,141	-
	<u>91,281,225</u>	<u>-</u>
Basis of valuation	Investment assets	Investment liabilities
	2023	2023
	£	£
Quoted prices	45,492,017	-
Observable market data	71,157,765	-
Unobservable data*	2,763,542	-
	<u>119,413,324</u>	<u>-</u>

\*The following security is valued in the portfolio of investments using a valuation technique:

Barak Structured Trade Finance Segregated Portfolio has been delisted pending liquidation and the fair value pricing committee feels that it is appropriate to value the shares at \$231.24 (2023: \$257.52).

## Unobservable data

Unobservable data has been used only where relevant observable market data is not available. Where there was no reputable price source for an investment, the ACD has assessed information available from internal and external sources in order to arrive at an estimated fair value. The fair value is established by using measures of value such as the price of recent transactions, earnings multiple and net assets. The ACD of the Fund also makes judgements and estimates based on their knowledge of recent investment performance, historical experience and other the assumptions used are under continuous review by the ACD with particular attention paid to the carrying value of the investments.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## e Assets subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature

The following assets held in the portfolio of investments are subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature:

	2024	2023
	% of the total net asset value	% of the total net asset value
Barak Structured Trade Finance Segregated Portfolio	1.93%	2.23%
Total	<u>1.93%</u>	<u>2.23%</u>

## f Derivatives

The sub-fund may employ derivatives with the aim of reducing the sub-fund's risk profile, reducing costs or generating additional capital or revenue, in accordance with Efficient Portfolio Management.

The ACD monitors that any exposure is covered globally to ensure adequate cover is available to meet the sub-fund's total exposure, taking into account the value of the underlying investments, any reasonably foreseeable market movement, counterparty risk, and the time available to liquidate any positions.

For certain derivative transactions cash margins may be required to be paid to the brokers with whom the trades were executed and settled. These balances are subject to daily reconciliations and are held by the broker in segregated cash accounts that are afforded client money protection.

During the year there were no derivative transactions.

## (i) Counterparties

Transactions in securities give rise to exposure to the risk that the counterparties may not be able to fulfil their responsibility by completing their side of the transaction. This risk is mitigated by the sub-fund using a range of brokers for security transactions, thereby diversifying the risk of exposure to any one broker. In addition the sub-fund will only transact with brokers who are subject to frequent reviews with whom transaction limits are set.

The sub-fund may transact in derivative contracts which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk from the counterparty not settling their side of the contract. Transactions involving derivatives are entered into only with investment banks and brokers with appropriate and approved credit rating, which are regularly monitored. Forward currency transactions are only undertaken with the custodians appointed by the Depositary.

At the balance sheet date, there are no securities in the portfolio of investments subject to a repurchase agreement.

## (ii) Leverage

The leverage is calculated as the sum of the net asset value and the incremental exposure generated through the use of derivatives (calculated in accordance with the commitment approach) divided by the net asset value.

There have been no leveraging arrangements in the year.

## (iii) Global exposure

Global exposure is a measure designed to limit the leverage generated by a fund through the use of financial derivative instruments, including derivatives with embedded assets.

At the balance sheet date there is no global exposure to derivatives.

There have been no collateral arrangements in the year.

## Distribution table

for the year ended 29 February 2024

Final distributions in pence per share

Group 1 - Shares purchased before 1 March 2023

Group 2 - Shares purchased 1 March 2023 to 29 February 2024

	Net revenue	Equalisation	Total distributions 30 April 2024	Total distributions 30 April 2023
I Income				
Group 1	0.309	-	0.309	0.706
Group 2	0.224	0.085	0.309	0.706
S Income				
Group 1	0.709	-	0.709	0.853
Group 2	0.634	0.075	0.709	0.853
X Income				
Group 1	0.727	-	0.727	0.744
Group 2	0.451	0.276	0.727	0.744

### Equalisation

Equalisation applies only to group 2 shares. It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of group 2 shares and is refunded to holders of these shares as a return of capital. Being capital it is not liable to income tax in the hands of the shareholder but must be deducted from the cost of shares for capital gains tax purposes.

## SVS Saltus Growth Assets Fund

### Investment Manager's report

#### Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to achieve capital growth with some income over the long term (rolling 7 year periods).

The sub-fund aims to create a widely diversified portfolio, gaining exposure to a range of asset classes, geographies, styles and strategies.

The sub-fund is actively managed and unconstrained as to underlying asset allocation. The sub-fund will hold at least 80% of its portfolio in other collective investment schemes (including open-ended investment schemes and closed-ended investment schemes), providing exposure to a flexible mix of equities and fixed income securities as well as, currencies, property, gold, money market instruments, warrants, cash, near cash, deposits and derivatives. The sub-fund focusses on exposure to alternative investments, seeking to identify opportunities which the Investment Manager considers have a risk and volatility profile consistent with a growth objective.

To the extent that the sub-fund is not fully invested in other collective investment schemes, it may invest directly in the asset classes listed above (with the exception of derivatives and property).

Derivatives may be used only for the purposes of Efficient Portfolio Management. The sub-fund may use derivatives and forward transactions for investment purposes on the giving of 60 days' notice to shareholders. The use of derivatives for investment purposes may alter the risk profile of the sub-fund.

The collective investment schemes in which the sub-fund invests may include other funds managed by the ACD, the Investment Manager or an affiliate of the ACD or the Investment Manager.

#### Investment performance\*

Over the year the sub-fund delivered a return of -1.41% (I Income shares based on mid prices at 5pm). This compares to a return of 4.03% from the comparative benchmark (UK Consumer Price Index).

#### Investment activities

Overall, this reporting year was a positive one for world markets, with most of the good news concentrated in the final months of 2023 and the early months of 2024. Prior to that period it was a year of frequent large and violent swings in sentiment, caused mainly by the bond markets continual efforts to price in a peak in the inflation and interest rate cycle. Another key feature of the year was the emergence of an Artificial Intelligence ('AI') theme, which manifested itself in very strong performance in a small group of large US technology stocks. Given their relative size in market indices the performance of this group had a big positive influence on the direction of travel of equity markets overall.

A remarkably quick worldwide rally began in late October 2023, one which had enough power to erase the losses of previous periods across multiple asset classes. The rally was catalysed by a reassessment of the inflation outlook, particularly in the crucial US economy. Prior to this point a series of relatively 'hot' US monthly inflation figures had been weighing on the market mood, as it implied that the painful increases in interest rates which have been absorbed so far, may not be finished. Then, a modest softening in the US labour market followed by a slightly weaker than expected October inflation reading sparked a global rally across asset classes. Investors quickly extrapolated some genuinely good news on US inflation into nearly all markets and geographies, as these US trends were assumed to be front runners for what will inevitably happen elsewhere.

This positive mood continued into the end of the reporting period and although there was some retracement of initial market enthusiasm, it was not significant. There were some areas of concern from a top down perspective, concentrating around the sluggish performance of the Chinese economy and the perception of a lacklustre response to the issue from the Chinese government. Periodically geopolitical events intruded into market thinking (e.g. the war in the Middle East) but they did not have a long lasting effect. Commodity markets were relatively quiet overall reflecting their internal supply and demand dynamics, plus the dampening effect of a sluggish Chinese economy.

\*Source: FE Fundinfo.

## Investment Manager's report (continued)

### Investment activities (continued)

Looking ahead we can see clear long term positive signals emerging. The most prominent of these is the return of long term 'real' (or after inflation) interest rates back to pre-financial crisis levels in the US. In other words, after a very short period of time, the long term cost of US dollar has 'normalised' and the fact that this has happened without a spectacular crisis or deep recession, is something to celebrate. It is also important to remember that market time horizons have shrunk to align themselves with monthly economic data, putting many longer-term risks out of sight and out of mind. Undoubtedly there will come a point in the months ahead when current positive sentiment is tested.

The major decisions which impacted performance for this reporting period came from our shift out of broader bond market exposures and into alternative exposures in commodities (copper and a wider commodity index tracker) as well as alternative equity strategies. New positions were added in Liontrust Global Funds - Liontrust GF European Strategic Equity Fund and Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund to provide exposure to long/short opportunities in European equities and in the US mergers and acquisitions market. The move into commodities was the major detractor to returns as they had weak performance overall, reflecting sluggish end demand and oversupply in key areas. Positions in long only convertibles were exited at a profit.

### Investment strategy and outlook

At the time of writing the outlook remains uncertain, but with a relatively low degree of risk. The glass is likely more 'half full' than 'half empty'. Interest rates are likely hitting their peak for this cycle, which is a significant positive, although there remains some uncertainty if enough has been done to finally subdue inflation. The biggest risks centre around market short termism, which is ignoring big issues around the state of government balance sheets. Political and geopolitical risks, which so far have had limited influence, retain the power to upset the current positive mood. On balance though, we think that unit holders can look forward with some degree of optimism to the future.

Saltus Partners LLP  
18 March 2024



## Summary of portfolio changes

for the year ended 29 February 2024

The following represents the total purchases and major sales in the year to reflect a clearer picture of the investment activities.

	Cost
	£
Purchases:	
Liontrust Global Funds - Liontrust GF European Strategic Equity Fund	15,753,611
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	15,724,000
Invesco Bloomberg Commodity UCITS ETF	15,022,787
iShares USD Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF	13,783,332
Lazard Global Investment Funds - Lazard Rathmore Alternative Fund	13,294,810
VT Gravis UK Infrastructure Income Fund	12,000,000
iShares JP Morgan EM Local Government Bond UCITS ETF	11,441,462
Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund	11,185,330
Federated Hermes Unconstrained Credit Fund	10,451,050
MAN Fixed Interest ICVC - Man GLG High Yield Opportunities Fund	9,883,760
WisdomTree Copper	7,238,043
RIT Capital Partners	5,294,119
Oaks Emerging Umbrella Fund - Fiera Oaks EM Select Fund	5,262,370
iShares USD Treasury Bond 7-10yr UCITS ETF	4,104,780
BH Macro	2,966,628
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	2,261,901
CG Portfolio Fund - Dollar Fund	928,180
Jupiter Asset Management Series - Jupiter Gold & Silver Fund	466,870
	Proceeds
	£
Sales:	
iShares JP Morgan EM Local Government Bond UCITS ETF	19,464,853
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	15,804,140
iShares USD Treasury Bond 20+yr UCITS ETF	13,362,670
Kepler Liquid Strategies ICAV - KLS Arete Macro Fund	11,222,253
CG Portfolio Fund - Dollar Fund	11,023,881
Amundi US Treasury Bond 7-10Y UCITS ETF	9,512,547
Federated Hermes Unconstrained Credit Fund	9,109,430
GemCap Investment Funds Ireland - Calamos Global Convertible Fund	7,817,648
iShares Physical Gold	6,975,067
Lazard Global Investment Funds - Lazard Rathmore Alternative Fund	6,709,420
iShares USD Treasury Bond 7-10yr UCITS ETF	6,330,246
Oaks Emerging Umbrella Fund - Fiera Oaks EM Select Fund	6,108,060
Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund	5,638,010
TM Tellworth UK Select	5,381,865
LF Odey Portfolio Fund	5,040,118
T Rowe Price Funds OEIC - Global Focused Growth Equity Fund	2,203,038
VT Gravis UK Infrastructure Income Fund	2,001,610
Invesco Bloomberg Commodity UCITS ETF	1,912,496
RIT Capital Partners	1,724,744
MAN Fixed Interest ICVC - Man GLG High Yield Opportunities Fund	1,632,580

## Portfolio statement

as at 29 February 2024

Investment	Nominal value or holding	Market value £	% of total net assets
Closed-Ended Funds 9.99% (7.28%)			
Closed-Ended Funds - incorporated in the United Kingdom 2.57% (0.00%)			
RIT Capital Partners	177,612	3,133,076	2.57
Closed-Ended Funds - incorporated outwith the United Kingdom 7.42% (7.28%)			
BH Macro	2,599,116	9,044,924	7.42
Total closed-ended funds		12,178,000	9.99
Collective Investment Schemes 79.21% (72.70%)			
UK Authorised Collective Investment Schemes 15.04% (10.53%)			
MAN Fixed Interest ICVC - Man GLG High Yield Opportunities Fund	6,028,382	8,530,161	7.00
VT Gravis UK Infrastructure Income Fund	11,168,848	9,804,015	8.04
Total UK authorised collective investment schemes		18,334,176	15.04
Offshore Collective Investment Schemes 64.17% (62.17%)			
Federated Hermes Unconstrained Credit Fund	12,301,252	14,564,682	11.96
Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Fund - The Sterling Fund	64,895	64,895	0.05
Invesco Bloomberg Commodity UCITS ETF	978,787	16,820,454	13.80
Jupiter Asset Management Series - Jupiter Gold & Silver Fund	544,857	7,806,010	6.40
Lazard Rathmore Alternative Fund	118,301	15,318,550	12.57
Liontrust Global Funds			
- Liontrust GF European Strategic Equity Fund	719,508	17,590,674	14.43
Neuberger Berman Event Driven Fund	570,741	6,044,147	4.96
Total offshore collective investment schemes		78,209,412	64.17
Total collective investment schemes		96,543,588	79.21
Exchange Traded Commodities 8.96% (8.93%)			
WisdomTree Copper	402,541	10,915,179	8.96
Portfolio of investments		119,636,767	98.16
Other net assets		2,237,536	1.84
Total net assets		121,874,303	100.00

All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities or regulated collective investment schemes within the meaning of the FCA rules unless otherwise stated.

The comparative figures in brackets are as at 28 February 2023.

## Risk and reward profile\*

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

←	Typically lower rewards, lower risk	→	Typically higher rewards, higher risk	→		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

The sub-fund is in a medium category because the price of its investments have risen or fallen to some extent. The category shown is not guaranteed to remain unchanged and may shift over time. Even the lowest category does not mean a risk-free investment.

For full details on risk factors for the sub-fund, please refer to the Prospectus.

There have been no changes to the risk and reward indicator in the year.

\* As per the KIID published 8 May 2024.

## Comparative table

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
I Income	p	p	p
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	171.05	166.27	161.21
Return before operating charges	0.54	8.07	9.65
Operating charges	(2.80)	(2.90)	(3.24)
Return after operating charges *	(2.26)	5.17	6.41
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(0.57)	(0.39)	(1.35)
Closing net asset value per share	168.22	171.05	166.27
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.09	0.06	0.14
Performance			
Return after charges	(1.32%)	3.11%	3.98%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£)	767,800	941,119	17,056,957
Closing number of shares	456,431	550,215	10,258,475
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.66%	1.68%	1.95%
Direct transaction costs	0.06%	0.03%	0.07%
Published prices			
Highest share price	174.2	176.1	173.1
Lowest share price	162.5	168.7	159.6

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022
\$ Income	p	p	p
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	174.31	169.46	163.10
Return before operating charges	0.53	7.69	10.34
Operating charges	(2.17)	(2.24)	(2.61)
Return after operating charges *	(1.64)	5.45	7.73
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(1.18)	(0.60)	(1.37)
Closing net asset value per share	171.49	174.31	169.46
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.10	0.07	0.17
Performance			
Return after charges	(0.94%)	3.22%	4.74%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£)	1,418,225	2,407,923	5,453,670
Closing number of shares	827,004	1,381,423	3,218,224
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.26%	1.28%	1.55%
Direct transaction costs	0.06%	0.04%	0.07%
Published prices			
Highest share price	177.7	179.8	175.7
Lowest share price	166.0	168.7	161.2

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<sup>^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2023 <sup>^</sup>	2022
	p	p
<b>C Accumulation</b>		
Change in net assets per share		
Opening net asset value per share	171.37	164.62
Return before operating charges	8.83	9.73
Operating charges	(1.40)	(2.98)
Return after operating charges *	7.43	6.75
Distributions <sup>^^</sup>	-	(1.38)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares <sup>^</sup>	-	1.38
Closing net asset value per share	178.80	171.37
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.03	0.14
<b>Performance</b>		
Return after charges	4.34%	4.10%
<b>Other information</b>		
Closing net asset value (£)	-	170,280
Closing number of shares	-	99,366
Operating charges <sup>^^^</sup>	**1.48%	1.75%
Direct transaction costs	0.02%	0.07%
<b>Published prices</b>		
Highest share price	181.3	176.9
Lowest share price	170.5	163.0

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<sup>^</sup> For the period 1 March 2022 to 14 September 2022.

<sup>^^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

\*\* Annualised based on expenses incurred during the period 1 March 2022 to 14 September 2022.

## Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023 <sup>#</sup>	2022 <sup>^</sup>
	p	p	p
<b>X Income</b>			
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	102.46	99.47	100.00
Return before operating charges	0.32	4.51	0.62
Operating charges	(1.07)	(1.10)	(0.69)
Return after operating charges *	(0.75)	3.41	(0.07)
Distributions <sup>^^</sup>	(0.86)	(0.42)	(0.46)
Closing net asset value per share	100.85	102.46	99.47
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.06	0.06	0.01
<b>Performance</b>			
Return after charges	(0.73%)	3.43%	(0.07%)
<b>Other information</b>			
Closing net asset value (£)	119,688,278	130,017,140	52,718,726
Closing number of shares	118,683,124	126,898,370	52,997,968
Operating charges <sup>^^^</sup>	1.06%	1.08%	**1.35%
Direct transaction costs	0.06%	0.05%	0.07%
<b>Published prices</b>			
Highest share price	104.5	105.7	103.2
Lowest share price	97.71	99.09	97.40

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> For the period 26 August 2021 to 28 February 2022.

<sup>^^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF'). Following guidance issued by the Investment Association on 30 November 2023, the synthetic OCF calculation no longer includes closed ended vehicles.

\*\* Annualised based on the expenses incurred during the period 26 August 2021 to 28 February 2022.

<sup>#</sup> On 28 February 2023 the investment objective and policy was updated for the sub-fund.

## Financial statements - Saltus Growth Assets Fund

## Statement of total return

for the year ended 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Income:					
Net capital (losses) / gains	2		(2,338,776)		2,025,123
Revenue	3	2,057,751		812,184	
Expenses	4	<u>(675,340)</u>		<u>(709,035)</u>	
Net revenue before taxation		1,382,411		103,149	
Taxation	5	<u>11,025</u>		<u>-</u>	
Net revenue after taxation			<u>1,393,436</u>		<u>103,149</u>
Total return before distributions			(945,340)		2,128,272
Distributions	6		(1,136,310)		(470,192)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			<u><u>(2,081,650)</u></u>		<u><u>1,658,080</u></u>

## Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders

for the year ended 29 February 2024

		2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders			133,366,182		75,399,633
Share exchange issues on in specie transfers*		-		50,100,745	
Amounts receivable on issue of shares		26,069,929		43,532,958	
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares		<u>(35,480,158)</u>		<u>(37,325,234)</u>	
			(9,410,229)		56,308,469
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			(2,081,650)		1,658,080
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders			<u><u>121,874,303</u></u>		<u><u>133,366,182</u></u>

\* On 31 May 2022 shares were transferred from a private portfolio to the sub-fund.



Balance sheet  
as at 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Assets:			
Fixed assets:			
Investments		119,636,767	118,579,871
Current assets:			
Debtors	7	10,789,629	8,997,516
Cash and bank balances	8	10,751,607	6,517,071
Total assets		<u>141,178,003</u>	<u>134,094,458</u>
Liabilities:			
Creditors:			
Bank overdrafts	8	-	(106,816)
Distribution payable		(1,036,574)	(543,402)
Other creditors	9	(18,267,126)	(78,058)
Total liabilities		<u>(19,303,700)</u>	<u>(728,276)</u>
Net assets attributable to shareholders		<u>121,874,303</u>	<u>133,366,182</u>

## Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 1. Accounting policies

The accounting policies are disclosed on pages 40 to 42.

## 2. Net capital (losses) / gains

	2024	2023
	£	£
Non-derivative securities - realised (losses) / gains	(2,238,616)	5,755,417
Non-derivative securities - movement in unrealised losses	(33,912)	(3,699,401)
Currency losses	(69,291)	(24,155)
Rebates from collective investment schemes	11,731	-
Transaction charges	(8,688)	(6,738)
Total net capital (losses) / gains	<u>(2,338,776)</u>	<u>2,025,123</u>

## 3. Revenue

	2024	2023
	£	£
UK revenue	146,056	159,249
Unfranked revenue	121,595	121,520
Overseas revenue	1,727,953	502,766
Bank and deposit interest	62,147	28,649
Total revenue	<u>2,057,751</u>	<u>812,184</u>

## 4. Expenses

	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable to the ACD and associates		
ACD's periodic charge*	77,400	76,583
Investment Manager's fees*	547,188	574,482
	<u>624,588</u>	<u>651,065</u>
Payable to the Depositary		
Depositary fees	<u>34,290</u>	<u>34,144</u>
Other expenses:		
Audit fee	6,936	6,606
Non-executive directors' fees	1,736	1,533
Safe custody fees	4,409	3,802
Bank interest	247	2,225
FCA fee	853	911
KIID production fee	1,833	2,048
Legal fee	448	6,701
	<u>16,462</u>	<u>23,826</u>
Total expenses	<u>675,340</u>	<u>709,035</u>

\* For the year ended 29 February 2024, the annual management charge for each share class was as follows:

I Income	1.06%
S Income	0.66%
X Income	0.46%

The annual management charge includes the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fees.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

5. Taxation	2024	2023
	£	£
<i>a. Analysis of the tax charge for the year</i>		
Deferred tax - (note 5c)	(11,025)	-
Total taxation (note 5b)	<u>(11,025)</u>	<u>-</u>

*b. Factors affecting the tax charge for the year*

The tax assessed for the year is lower (2023: lower) than the standard rate of UK corporation tax for an authorised collective investment scheme of 20% (2023: 20%). The differences are explained below:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net revenue before taxation	<u>1,382,411</u>	<u>103,149</u>
Corporation tax @ 20%	276,482	20,630
Effects of:		
UK revenue	(29,211)	(31,850)
Overseas revenue	-	(32,011)
Excess management expenses	-	43,231
Utilisation of excess management expenses	(249,617)	-
Capital rebates from collective investment schemes	2,346	-
Deferred taxation	(11,025)	-
Total taxation (note 5a)	<u>(11,025)</u>	<u>-</u>

*c. Provision for deferred taxation*

	£	£
Opening provision	-	-
Deferred tax charge (note 5a)	(11,025)	-
Closing provision	<u>(11,025)</u>	<u>-</u>

In 2023, a deferred tax asset of £260,642 was not recognised in respect of the timing differences relating to excess management expenses as there was insufficient evidence that the asset would be recovered.

## 6. Distributions

The distributions take account of revenue added on the issue of shares and revenue deducted on the cancellation of shares, and comprise:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Final income distribution	<u>1,036,574</u>	<u>543,402</u>
Equalisation:		
Amounts deducted on cancellation of shares	209,144	87,406
Amounts added on issue of shares	(109,408)	(160,522)
Net equalisation on conversions	-	(94)
Total net distributions	<u>1,136,310</u>	<u>470,192</u>

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 6. Distributions (continued)

Reconciliation between net revenue and distributions:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net revenue after taxation per Statement of total return	1,393,436	103,149
Undistributed revenue brought forward	1,183	383
Expenses paid from capital*	127	405,767
Marginal tax relief	(247,298)	(37,924)
Deferred taxation	(11,025)	-
Undistributed revenue carried forward	(113)	(1,183)
Distributions	<u>1,136,310</u>	<u>470,192</u>

Details of the distribution per share are disclosed in the Distribution table.

## 7. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts receivable on issue of shares	269,270	189,913
Sales awaiting settlement	10,480,300	8,773,085
Accrued revenue	14,958	15,653
Prepaid expenses	450	73
Recoverable income tax	13,626	18,792
Deferred tax asset	11,025	-
Total debtors	<u>10,789,629</u>	<u>8,997,516</u>

## 8. Cash and bank balances

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank balances	<u>10,751,607</u>	<u>6,517,071</u>
Bank overdraft	-	(106,816)
Total cash and bank balances	<u>10,751,607</u>	<u>6,410,255</u>

## 9. Other creditors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	3,533,679	19,375
Purchases awaiting settlement	14,668,066	-
Currency trades outstanding	6,536	-
Accrued expenses:		
Payable to the ACD and associates		
ACD's periodic charge	5,664	5,952
Investment Manager's fees	40,599	41,646
	<u>46,263</u>	<u>47,598</u>

\*On 1 October 2022 the sub-fund Fee Agreement changed from all expenses paid from capital account, to all expenses paid from revenue account.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

9. Other creditors (continued)	2024	2023
	£	£
Other expenses:		
Depository fees	2,566	2,603
Safe custody fees	685	320
Audit fee	6,936	6,605
Non-executive directors' fees	1,743	1,051
FCA fee	379	-
KIID production fee	167	333
Transaction charges	106	173
	<u>12,582</u>	<u>11,085</u>
Total accrued expenses	<u>58,845</u>	<u>58,683</u>
Total other creditors	<u>18,267,126</u>	<u>78,058</u>

## 10. Commitments and contingent liabilities

At the balance sheet date there are no commitments or contingent liabilities.

## 11. Share classes

The following reflects the change in shares in issue in the year:

	I Income
Opening shares in issue	550,215
Total shares issued in the year	10,861
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(104,645)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u>456,431</u>
	S Income
Opening shares in issue	1,381,423
Total shares issued in the year	80,528
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(634,947)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u>827,004</u>
	X Income
Opening shares in issue	126,898,370
Total shares issued in the year	26,011,545
Total shares cancelled in the year	<u>(34,226,791)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u>118,683,124</u>

Further information in respect of the return per share is disclosed in the Comparative table.

On the winding up of a sub-fund all the assets of the sub-fund will be realised and apportioned to the share classes in relation to the net asset value on the closure date. Shareholders will receive their respective share of the proceeds, net of liabilities and the expenses incurred in the termination in accordance with the FCA regulations. Each share class has the same rights on winding up.

## 12. Related party transactions

Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited, as ACD is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the sub-fund.

The ACD acts as principal in respect of all transactions of shares in the sub-fund. The aggregate monies received and paid through the creation and cancellation of shares are disclosed in the Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund.

Amounts payable to the ACD and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amount due to the ACD and its associates at the balance sheet date is disclosed in note 9.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 13. Events after the balance sheet date

Subsequent to the year end, the net asset value per I Income share has increased from 168.2p to 177.6p, S Income share has increased from 171.5p to 181.2p and X Income share has increased from 100.9p to 106.9p as at 13 June 2024. This movement takes into account routine transactions but also reflects the market movements of recent months.

## 14. Transaction costs

## a Direct transaction costs

Direct transaction costs include fees and commissions paid to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers; levies by regulatory agencies and security exchanges; and transfer taxes and duties.

Commission is a charge which is deducted from the proceeds of the sale of securities and added to the cost of the purchase of securities. This charge is a payment to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers in respect of their services in executing the trades.

Tax is payable on the purchase of securities in the United Kingdom. It may be the case that 'other taxes' will be charged on the purchase of securities in countries other than the United Kingdom.

The total purchases and sales and the related direct transaction costs incurred in these transactions are as follows:

	Purchases before transaction costs	Commission		Taxes		Purchases after transaction costs
2024	£	£	%	£	%	£
Closed-Ended Funds	8,226,176	8,226	0.10%	26,345	0.10%	8,260,747
Collective Investment Schemes	141,550,262	13,981	0.01%	-	-	141,564,243
Exchange Traded Commodities	7,235,872	2,171	0.03%	-	-	7,238,043
Total	157,012,310	24,378	0.14%	26,345	0.10%	157,063,033

	Purchases before transaction costs	Commission		Taxes		Purchases after transaction costs
2023	£	£	%	£	%	£
Closed-Ended Funds	5,891,672	2,893	0.05%	4	0.00%	5,894,569
Collective Investment Schemes	146,224,125	21,925	0.02%	-	-	146,246,050
Exchange Traded Commodities	17,465,202	8,384	0.05%	-	-	17,473,586
Total	169,580,999	33,202	0.11%	4	0.00%	169,614,205

There were no in specie purchases in the current year.

	In specie purchases before transaction costs	Commission		Taxes		In specie purchases after transaction costs
2023	£	£	%	£	%	£
Collective Investment Schemes*	50,172,663	-	-	-	-	50,172,663

\* No direct transaction costs were incurred in these transactions.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 14. Transaction costs (continued)

## a Direct transaction costs (continued)

	Sales before transaction costs	Commission		Taxes		Sales after transaction costs
2024	£	£	%	£	%	£
Equities	5,044,226	(4,108)	0.08%	-	-	5,040,118
Closed-Ended Funds	3,275,602	(3,276)	0.10%	(4)	0.00%	3,272,322
Collective Investment Schemes	138,021,057	(16,394)	0.01%	-	-	138,004,663
Exchange Traded Commodities*	8,234,802	(2,470)	0.03%	-	-	8,232,332
Total	154,575,687	(26,248)	0.22%	(4)	0.00%	154,549,435

	Sales before transaction costs	Commission		Taxes		Sales after transaction costs
2023	£	£	%	£	%	£
Closed-Ended Funds	436,598	(437)	0.10%	(2)	0.00%	436,159
Collective Investment Schemes	165,641,505	(27,862)	0.02%	-	-	165,613,643
Exchange Traded Commodities*	9,940,966	(4,525)	0.05%	-	-	9,936,441
Total	176,019,069	(32,824)	0.17%	(2)	0.00%	175,986,243

## Summary of direct transaction costs

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the sub-fund's average net asset value in the year:

2024	£	% of average net asset value
Commission	50,626	0.04%
Taxes	26,349	0.02%

2023	£	% of average net asset value
Commission	46,446	0.04%
Taxes	5	0.00%

## b Average portfolio dealing spread

The average portfolio dealing spread is calculated as the difference between the bid and offer value of the portfolio as a percentage of the offer value.

The average portfolio dealing spread of the investments at the balance sheet date was 0.04% (2023: 0.17%).

## 15. Risk management policies

In pursuing the sub-fund's investment objective, as set out in the Prospectus, the following are accepted by the ACD as being the main risks from the sub-fund's holding of financial instruments, either directly or indirectly through its underlying holdings. These are presented with the ACD's policy for managing these risks. To ensure these risks are consistently and effectively managed these are continually reviewed by the risk committee, a body appointed by the ACD, which sets the risk appetite and ensures continued compliance with the management of all known risks.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## a Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices and comprise three elements: other price risk, currency risk, and interest rate risk.

## (i) Other price risk

The sub-fund's exposure to price risk comprises mainly of movements in the value of investment positions in the face of price movements.

The main elements of the portfolio of investments exposed to this risk are collective investment schemes, closed-ended funds and exchange traded commodities which are disclosed in the Portfolio statement.

This risk is generally regarded as consisting of two elements: stock specific risk and market risk. Through these two factors, the sub-fund is exposed to price fluctuations, which are monitored by the ACD in pursuance of the investment objective and policy.

## (i) Other price risk (continued)

Adhering to investment guidelines and avoiding excessive exposure to one particular issuer can limit stock specific risk. Subject to compliance with the investment objective of the sub-fund, spreading exposure in the portfolio of investments both globally and across sectors or geography can mitigate market risk.

At 29 February 2024, if the price of the investments held by the sub-fund increased or decreased by 5%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £5,981,838 (2023: £5,928,994).

## (ii) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the value of investments or future cash flows will fluctuate as a result of exchange rate movements. Investment in overseas securities or holdings of foreign currency cash will provide direct exposure to currency risk as a consequence of the movement in foreign exchange rates against sterling. Investments in UK securities investing in overseas securities will give rise to indirect exposure to currency risk. These fluctuations can also affect the profitability of some UK companies, and thus their market prices, as sterling's relative strength or weakness can affect export prospects, the value of overseas earnings in sterling terms, and the prices of imports sold in the UK.

Forward currency contracts may be used to manage the portfolio exposure to currency movements.

The foreign currency risk profile of the sub-fund's financial instruments and cash holdings at the balance sheet date is as follows:

	Financial instruments and cash holdings	Net debtors and creditors	Total net foreign currency exposure
2024	£	£	£
US dollar	11,918,287	-	11,918,287
2023	£	£	£
US dollar	13,927,985	(106,816)	13,821,169

At 29 February 2024, if the value of sterling increased or decreased by 5% against all other currencies, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £595,914 (2023: £696,399).



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### a Market risk (continued)

##### (iii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's investments will fluctuate as a result of interest rate changes.

During the year the sub-fund's direct exposure to interest rates consisted of cash and bank balances. The sub-fund also has indirect exposure to interest rate risk as it invests in bond funds. The amount of revenue receivable from floating rate securities and bank balances or payable on bank overdrafts will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates. In the event of a change in interest rates, there would be no material impact upon the net assets of the sub-fund. The sub-fund would not in normal market conditions hold significant cash balances and would have limited borrowing capabilities as stipulated in the COLL rules.

Derivative contracts are not used to hedge against the exposure to interest rate risk.

There is no exposure to interest bearing securities at the balance sheet date.

#### b Credit risk

This is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. This includes counterparty risk.

The Depositary has appointed the custodian to provide custody services for the assets of the sub-fund. There is a counterparty risk that the custodian could cease to be in a position to provide custody services to the sub-fund. The sub-fund's investments (excluding cash) are ring fenced hence the risk is considered to be negligible.

The sub-fund holds cash and cash deposits with financial institutions which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk. The credit rating of the financial institution is taken into account so as to minimise the risk to the sub-fund of default.

Holdings in collective investment schemes are subject to direct credit risk. The exposure to pooled investment vehicles is unrated.

#### c Liquidity risk

A significant risk is the cancellation of shares which investors may wish to sell and that securities may have to be sold in order to fund such cancellations if insufficient cash is held at the bank to meet this obligation. If there were significant requests for the redemption of shares at a time when a large proportion of the portfolio of investments were not easily tradable due to market volumes or market conditions, the ability to fund those redemptions would be impaired and it might be necessary to suspend dealings in shares in the sub-fund.

Investments in smaller companies at times may prove illiquid, as by their nature they tend to have relatively modest traded share capital. Shifts in investor sentiment, or the announcement of new price sensitive information, can provoke significant movement in share prices, and make dealing in any quantity difficult.

The sub-fund may also invest in securities that are not listed or traded on any stock exchange. In such situations the sub-fund may not be able to immediately sell such securities.

To reduce liquidity risk the ACD will ensure, in line with the limits stipulated within the COLL rules, a substantial portion of the sub-fund's assets consist of readily realisable securities. This is monitored on a monthly basis and reported to the Risk Committee together with historical outflows of the sub-fund.

In addition liquidity is subject to stress testing on an annual basis to assess the ability of the sub-fund to meet large redemptions, while still being able to adhere to its objective guidelines and the FCA investment borrowing regulations.

All of the financial liabilities are payable on demand.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## d Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities

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

To ensure this, the fair value pricing committee is a body appointed by the ACD to analyse, review and vote on price adjustments/maintenance where no current secondary market exists and/or where there are potential liquidity issues that would affect the disposal of an asset. In addition, the committee may also consider adjustments to the sub-fund's price should the constituent investments be exposed to closed markets during general market volatility or instability.

	Investment assets 2024	Investment liabilities 2024
	£	£
Basis of valuation		
Quoted prices	39,913,633	-
Observable market data	79,723,134	-
Unobservable data	-	-
	<u>119,636,767</u>	<u>-</u>
	Investment assets 2023	Investment liabilities 2023
	£	£
Basis of valuation		
Quoted prices	45,126,892	-
Observable market data	73,452,979	-
Unobservable data	-	-
	<u>118,579,871</u>	<u>-</u>

No securities in the portfolio of investments are valued using valuation techniques.

## e Assets subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature

There are no assets held in the portfolio of investments which are subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature.

## f Derivatives

The sub-fund may employ derivatives with the aim of reducing the sub-fund's risk profile, reducing costs or generating additional capital or revenue, in accordance with Efficient Portfolio Management.

The ACD monitors that any exposure is covered globally to ensure adequate cover is available to meet the sub-fund's total exposure, taking into account the value of the underlying investments, any reasonably foreseeable market movement, counterparty risk, and the time available to liquidate any positions.

For certain derivative transactions cash margins may be required to be paid to the brokers with whom the trades were executed and settled. These balances are subject to daily reconciliations and are held by the broker in segregated cash accounts that are afforded client money protection.

During the year there were no derivative transactions.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 29 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### f Derivatives (continued)

##### (i) Counterparties

Transactions in securities give rise to exposure to the risk that the counterparties may not be able to fulfil their responsibility by completing their side of the transaction. This risk is mitigated by the sub-fund using a range of brokers for security transactions, thereby diversifying the risk of exposure to any one broker. In addition the sub-fund will only transact with brokers who are subject to frequent reviews with whom transaction limits are set.

The sub-fund may transact in derivative contracts which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk from the counterparty not settling their side of the contract. Transactions involving derivatives are entered into only with investment banks and brokers with appropriate and approved credit rating, which are regularly monitored. Forward currency transactions are only undertaken with the custodians appointed by the Depositary.

At the balance sheet date, there are no securities in the portfolio of investments subject to a repurchase agreement.

##### (ii) Leverage

The leverage is calculated as the sum of the net asset value and the incremental exposure generated through the use of derivatives (calculated in accordance with the commitment approach) divided by the net asset value.

There have been no leveraging arrangements in the year.

##### (iii) Global exposure

Global exposure is a measure designed to limit the leverage generated by a fund through the use of financial derivative instruments, including derivatives with embedded assets.

At the balance sheet date there is no global exposure to derivatives.

There have been no collateral arrangements in the year.

## Distribution table

for the year ended 29 February 2024

Final distributions in pence per share

Group 1 - Shares purchased before 1 March 2023

Group 2 - Shares purchased 1 March 2023 to 29 February 2024

	Net revenue	Equalisation	Total distribution 30 April 2024	Total distribution 30 April 2023
I Income				
Group 1	0.567	-	0.567	0.389
Group 2	0.487	0.080	0.567	0.389
S Income				
Group 1	1.179	-	1.179	0.600
Group 2	0.944	0.235	1.179	0.600
X Income				
Group 1	0.863	-	0.863	0.420
Group 2	0.437	0.426	0.863	0.420

## Equalisation

Equalisation applies only to group 2 shares. It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of group 2 shares and is refunded to holders of these shares as a return of capital. Being capital it is not liable to income tax in the hands of the shareholder but must be deducted from the cost of shares for capital gains tax purposes.

## SVS Saltus Adventurous Fund

### Investment Manager's report

for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

#### Investment objective and policy

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to generate a combination of income and capital growth over the long term (rolling 7 year periods).

The sub-fund aims to create a widely diversified portfolio, gaining exposure to a range of asset classes, geographies, styles and strategies.

The sub-fund is actively managed and unconstrained as to asset allocation and volatility risk taken. The sub-fund will hold at least 80% of its portfolio in other collective investment schemes (including open-ended investment schemes and closed-ended investment schemes) providing exposure to a flexible mix of equities and fixed income securities as well as, currencies, gold, money market instruments, property, warrants, cash, near cash, deposits and derivatives.

To the extent that the sub-fund is not fully invested in other collective investment schemes, it may invest directly in the asset classes listed above (with the exception of: (i) derivatives which may be used by the sub-fund only for the purposes of Efficient Portfolio Management; (ii) gold; and (iii) property). The sub-fund may use derivatives and forward transactions for investment purposes on the giving of 60 days' notice to shareholders. The use of derivatives for investment purposes may alter the risk profile of the sub-fund.

The collective investment schemes in which the sub-fund invests may include other funds managed by the ACD, the Investment Manager or an affiliate of the ACD or the Investment Manager.

#### Investment performance\*

Over the period the sub-fund delivered a total return of +7.59% (Y Income shares based on mid prices at 5pm) compared to a comparative benchmark return of +7.25% (Investment Association Flexible Investment sector total return).

#### Investment activities

Overall, this reporting period was a positive one for world markets, with most of the good news concentrated in the final months of 2023 and the early months of 2024. Prior to that period it was a year of frequent large and violent swings in sentiment, caused mainly by the bond markets continual efforts to price in a peak in the inflation and interest rate cycle. Another key feature of the year was the emergence of an Artificial Intelligence ('AI') theme, which manifested itself in very strong performance in a small group of large US technology stocks. Given their relative size in market indices the performance of this group had a big positive influence on the direction of travel of equity markets overall.

A remarkably quick worldwide rally began in late October 2023, one which had enough power to erase the losses of previous periods across multiple asset classes. The rally was catalysed by a reassessment of the inflation outlook, particularly in the crucial US economy. Prior to this point a series of relatively 'hot' US monthly inflation figures had been weighing on the market mood, as it implied that the painful increases in interest rates which have been absorbed so far, may not be finished. Then, a modest softening in the US labour market followed by a slightly weaker than expected October 2023 inflation reading sparked a global rally across asset classes. Investors quickly extrapolated some genuinely good news on US inflation into nearly all markets and geographies, as these US trends were assumed to be front runners for what will inevitably happen elsewhere.

This positive mood continued into the end of the reporting period and although there was some retracement of initial market enthusiasm, it was not significant. There were some areas of concern from a top down perspective, concentrating around the sluggish performance of the Chinese economy and the perception of a lacklustre response to the issue from the Chinese government. Periodically geopolitical events intruded into market thinking (e.g. the war in the Middle East) but they did not have a long lasting effect. Commodity markets were relatively quiet overall reflecting their internal supply and demand dynamics, plus the dampening effect of a sluggish Chinese economy.

Looking ahead we can see clear long term positive signals emerging. The most prominent of these is the return of long term 'real' (or after inflation) interest rates back to pre-financial crisis levels in the US. In other words, after a very short period of time, the long term cost of US dollar has 'normalised' and the fact that this has happened without a spectacular crisis or deep recession, is something to celebrate. It is also important to remember that market time horizons have shrunk to align themselves with monthly economic data, putting many longer-term risks out of sight and out of mind. Undoubtedly there will come a point in the months ahead when current positive sentiment is tested.

\* Source: FactSet and FE Analytics.

## Investment Manager's report (continued)

### Investment activities (continued)

The major decisions which impacted performance for this reporting period came from the exposure to risk assets, particularly equities, during a positive period for world markets. Royal London Equity Funds ICVC - Royal London Global Equity Diversified Fund was the strongest manager and positive contributions also came from the sub-fund's global equity market tracker and US equal weight index exposure. There was some small detractor from commodity and gold exposures, but they were not big enough to influence a strong start for the sub-fund.

### Investment strategy and outlook

At the balance sheet date the outlook remains uncertain, but with a relatively low degree of risk. The glass is likely more 'half full' than 'half empty'. Interest rates are likely hitting their peak for this cycle, which is a significant positive, although there remains some uncertainty if enough has been done to finally subdue inflation. The biggest risks centre around market short termism, which is ignoring big issues around the state of government balance sheets. Political and geopolitical risks, which so far have had limited influence, retain the power to upset the current positive mood. On balance though, we think that shareholders can look forward with some degree of optimism to the future.

Saltus Partners LLP

18 March 2024

## Summary of portfolio changes

for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

The following represents the major purchases and total sales in the period to reflect a clearer picture of the investment activities.

	Cost
	£
Purchases:	
Fidelity MSCI World Index Fund	17,386,000
Royal London Equity Funds ICVC	17,255,430
iShares S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	13,841,954
Xtrackers MSCI World Quality UCITS ETF	12,424,890
TM RWC Global Equity Income Fund	10,998,320
Amundi S&P 500 II UCITS ETF	10,239,466
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Asia Pacific Opportunities Fund	9,667,040
Brown Advisory Funds - BA Beutel Goodman US Value Fund	8,280,650
Harrington Cooper UCITS Funds ICAV - HC Snyder US All Cap Equity Fund	8,258,610
Nomura Funds Ireland - Japan Strategic Value Fund	8,222,980
iShares Core MSCI EM IMI UCITS ETF	3,657,827
Invesco Bloomberg Commodity UCITS ETF	3,482,769
iShares UK Equity Index Fund UK	3,459,720
MI Chelverton UK Equity Income Fund	3,454,890
WisdomTree Copper	2,908,006
Jupiter Asset Management Series - Jupiter Gold & Silver Fund	2,815,170
Amundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF	1,322,848
iShares Core MSCI World UCITS ETF	587,785
iShares Edge MSCI World UCITS	567,023
Amundi MSCI Asia Pacific UCITS	294,907
	Proceeds
	£
Sales:	
Amundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF	934,457
iShares Core MSCI World UCITS ETF	627,914
iShares Edge MSCI World UCITS	582,010
Amundi MSCI Asia Pacific UCITS	296,313
iShares Russell 1000 Value UCITS ETF	264,835
WisdomTree Copper	177,220
Invesco MSCI Europe UCITS ETF	154,714
Xtrackers MSCI World Quality UCITS ETF	129,907
iShares MSCI UK UCITS ETF	114,288
Royal London Equity Funds ICVC - Royal London Global Equity Diversified Fund	100,000
Fidelity MSCI World Index Fund	100,000

Portfolio statement  
as at 29 February 2024

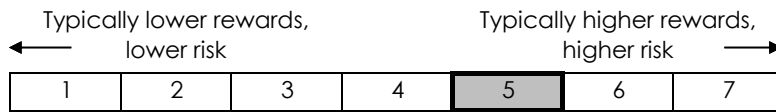
Investment	Nominal value or holding	Market value £	% of total net assets
Collective Investment Schemes 98.22%			
UK Authorised Collective Investment Schemes 32.80%			
Fidelity Investment Funds ICVC - Asia Pacific Opportunities Fund	7,332,442	9,664,159	7.03
iShares UK Equity Index Fund UK	1,234,024	3,449,962	2.51
MI Chelverton UK Equity Income Fund	3,566,996	3,448,572	2.51
Royal London Equity Funds ICVC			
- Royal London Global Equity Diversified Fund	14,012,189	17,403,138	12.66
TM RWC Global Equity Income Fund	8,532,480	11,117,821	8.09
Total UK authorised collective investment schemes		<u>45,083,652</u>	<u>32.80</u>
Offshore Collective Investment Schemes 65.42%			
Amundi MSCI Japan UCITS ETF	33,000	461,472	0.34
Amundi S&P 500 II UCITS ETF	60,653	10,409,268	7.57
Brown Advisory Funds - BA Beutel Goodman US Value Fund	619,529	8,382,234	6.10
Fidelity MSCI World Index Fund	2,106,143	17,537,011	12.76
Harrington Cooper UCITS Funds ICAV			
- HC Snyder US All Cap Equity Fund	67,080	8,462,083	6.16
Invesco Bloomberg Commodity UCITS ETF	203,309	3,493,865	2.54
iShares Core MSCI EM IMI UCITS ETF	145,382	3,646,181	2.65
iShares S&P 500 Equal Weight UCITS ETF	2,532,970	14,019,989	10.19
Jupiter Asset Management Series - Jupiter Gold & Silver Fund	188,895	2,706,242	1.97
Nomura Funds Ireland - Japan Strategic Value Fund	64,085	8,342,525	6.07
Xtrackers MSCI World Quality UCITS ETF	244,596	12,464,612	9.07
Total offshore collective investment schemes		<u>89,925,482</u>	<u>65.42</u>
Total collective investment schemes		<u>135,009,134</u>	<u>98.22</u>
Exchange Traded Commodities 1.99%			
WisdomTree Copper	100,983	<u>2,738,224</u>	<u>1.99</u>
Portfolio of investments		137,747,358	100.21
Other net liabilities		(286,823)	(0.21)
Total net assets		<u>137,460,535</u>	<u>100.00</u>

All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges or are approved securities or regulated collective investment schemes within the meaning of the FCA rules unless otherwise stated.



## Risk and reward profile\*

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



The sub-fund is in a higher category because the price of its investments have risen or fallen frequently and more dramatically than some other types of investment. The category shown is not guaranteed to remain unchanged and may shift over time. Even the lowest category does not mean a risk-free investment.

For full details on risk factors for the sub-fund, please refer to the Prospectus.

\* As per the KIID published 1 March 2024.

## Comparative table

The following disclosures give a shareholder an indication of the performance of a share in the sub-fund. It also discloses the operating charges and direct transaction costs applied to each share. Operating charges are those charges incurred in operating the sub-fund and direct transaction costs are costs incurred when purchasing or selling securities in the portfolio of investments.

Y Income Shares launched on 9 November 2023 at 100.00p per share.

	2024 <sup>^</sup>
Y Income Shares	p
<hr/>	
Change in net assets per share	
Opening net asset value per share	100.00
Return before operating charges	7.91
Operating charges	(0.27)
Return after operating charges *	7.64
Closing net asset value per share	107.64
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.07
<hr/>	
Performance	
Return after charges	7.64%
Other information	
Closing net asset value (£)	137,460,535
Closing number of shares	127,699,658
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	**0.91%
Direct transaction costs	0.07%
<hr/>	
Published prices	
Highest share price	107.7
Lowest share price	100.0

Investments carry risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

<sup>^</sup> For the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024.

<sup>^^</sup> Rounded to 2 decimal places.

<sup>^^^</sup> The operating charges are represented by the Ongoing Charges Figure ('OCF'). The OCF consists principally of the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee which are included in the annual management charge, but also includes the costs for other services paid. It is indicative of the charges which may occur in a year as it is calculated on historical data.

The OCF includes expenses incurred by underlying holdings of collective investment schemes and closed ended vehicles such as investment trusts in relation to the sub-fund (the synthetic 'OCF').

\*\* Annualised based on the expenses incurred during the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024.

## Financial statements - SVS Saltus Adventurous Fund

## Statement of total return

for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

	Notes	9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024	
		£	£
Income:			
Net capital gains	2		1,589,951
Revenue	3	11,939	
Expenses	4	<u>(34,600)</u>	
Net expense before taxation		(22,661)	
Taxation	5	<u>-</u>	
Net expense after taxation			<u>(22,661)</u>
Total return before distributions			1,567,290
Distributions	6		23,883
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			<u><u>1,591,173</u></u>

## Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders

for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

	9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024	
	£	£
Amounts receivable on issue of shares	138,703,480	
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	<u>(2,834,118)</u>	
		135,869,362
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		1,591,173
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		<u><u>137,460,535</u></u>

Balance sheet  
as at 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024 £
Assets:		
Fixed assets:		
Investments		137,747,358
Current assets:		
Debtors	7	2,963
Cash and cash equivalents	8	1,917,098
Total assets		<u>139,667,419</u>
Liabilities:		
Creditors:		
Distribution payable		(3,831)
Other creditors	9	(2,203,053)
Total liabilities		<u>(2,206,884)</u>
Net assets attributable to shareholders		<u><u>137,460,535</u></u>

## Notes to the financial statements

for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

## 1. Accounting policies

The accounting policies are disclosed on pages 40 to 42.

## 2. Net capital gains

	9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024
	£
Non-derivative securities - realised gains	139,679
Non-derivative securities - movement in unrealised gains	1,453,430
Currency losses	(2,214)
Transaction charges	(944)
Total net capital gains	<u>1,589,951</u>

## 3. Revenue

	9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024
	£
UK revenue	3,948
Overseas revenue	3,924
Bank and deposit interest	4,067
Total revenue	<u>11,939</u>

## 4. Expenses

	9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024
	£
Payable to the ACD and associates	
Investment Manager's fees*	<u>33,306</u>
Other expenses:	
Non-executive directors' fees	441
Safe custody fees	54
Bank interest	268
KIID production fee	83
Legal fee	448
	<u>1,294</u>
Total expenses	<u>34,600</u>

\* The Investment Manager's fee is 0.50%. When the sub-fund launched on 9 November 2023 Saltus LLP agreed to pay the ACD's periodic charge, depositary and audit fee to keep the OCF at a lower level until the net asset value increased. On 1 March 2024 the sub-fund reached the desired level that the audit and depositary fee would be accrued and paid by the sub-fund.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

5. Taxation	9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024 £
Total taxation (note 5b)	<u><u>-</u></u>

*b. Factors affecting the tax charge for the period*

The tax assessed for the period is higher than the standard rate of UK corporation tax for an authorised collective investment scheme of 20%. The differences are explained below:

	9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024 £
Net expense before taxation	<u>(22,661)</u>
Corporation tax @ 20%	(4,532)
Effects of:	
UK revenue	(790)
Overseas revenue	(785)
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	90
Excess management expenses	<u>6,017</u>
Total taxation (note 5a)	<u><u>-</u></u>

*c. Provision for deferred taxation*

At the period end, a deferred tax asset has not been recognised in respect of timing differences relating to excess management expenses as there is insufficient evidence that the asset will be recovered. The amount of asset not recognised is £6,017.

## 6. Distributions

The distributions take account of revenue added on the issue of shares and revenue deducted on the cancellation of shares, and comprise:

	9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024 £
Final income distribution	<u>3,831</u>
Equalisation:	
Amounts deducted on cancellation of shares	604
Amounts added on issue of shares	<u>(28,318)</u>
Total net distributions	<u><u>(23,883)</u></u>
Reconciliation between net expense and distributions:	
Net expense after taxation per Statement of total return	(22,661)
Undistributed revenue carried forward	<u>(1,222)</u>
Distributions	<u><u>(23,883)</u></u>

Details of the distribution per share are disclosed in the Distribution table.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

7. Debtors	2024
	£
Accrued revenue	2,963
Total debtors	<u>2,963</u>
8. Cash and cash equivalents	2024
	£
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>1,917,098</u>
9. Other creditors	2024
	£
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	1,125,153
Purchases awaiting settlement	1,052,540
Accrued expenses:	
Payable to the ACD and associates	
Investment Manager's fees	24,449
Other expenses:	
Safe custody fees	28
Non-executive directors' fees	441
KIID production fee	83
Transaction charges	359
	<u>911</u>
Total accrued expenses	<u>25,360</u>
Total other creditors	<u>2,203,053</u>

## 10. Commitments and contingent liabilities

At the balance sheet date there are no commitments or contingent liabilities.

## 11. Share classes

The following reflects the change in shares in issue in the period:

	Y Income
Total shares issued in the period	130,357,371
Total shares cancelled in the period	<u>(2,657,713)</u>
Closing shares in issue	<u>127,699,658</u>

Further information in respect of the return per share is disclosed in the Comparative table.

## 12. Related party transactions

Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited, as ACD is a related party due to its ability to act in respect of the operations of the sub-fund.

The ACD acts as principal in respect of all transactions of shares in the sub-fund. The aggregate monies received and paid through the creation and cancellation of shares are disclosed in the Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund.

Amounts payable to the ACD and its associates are disclosed in note 4. The amount due to the ACD and its associates at the balance sheet date is disclosed in note 9.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

## 13. Events after the balance sheet date

Subsequent to the period, the net asset value per Y Incomes share has increased from 107.6p to 112.2p as at 13 June 2024. This movement takes into account routine transactions but also reflects the market movements of recent months.

## 14. Transaction costs

## a Direct transaction costs

Direct transaction costs include fees and commissions paid to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers; levies by regulatory agencies and security exchanges; and transfer taxes and duties.

Commission is a charge which is deducted from the proceeds of the sale of securities and added to the cost of the purchase of securities. This charge is a payment to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers in respect of their services in executing the trades.

Tax is payable on the purchase of securities in the United Kingdom. It may be the case that 'other taxes' will be charged on the purchase of securities in countries other than the United Kingdom.

The total purchases and sales and the related direct transaction costs incurred in these transactions are as follows:

9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024	Purchases before transaction costs	Commission		Purchases after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£
Collective Investment Schemes	136,712,840	14,074	0.01%	136,726,914
Exchange Traded Commodities	2,907,134	872	0.03%	2,908,006
Total	139,619,974	14,946	0.04%	139,634,920

9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024	Sales before transaction costs	Commission		Sales after transaction costs
	£	£	%	£
Collective Investment Schemes	3,305,459	(1,021)	0.03%	3,304,438
Exchange Traded Commodities	177,273	(53)	0.03%	177,220
Total	3,482,732	(1,074)	0.06%	3,481,658

## Summary of direct transaction costs

The following represents the total of each type of transaction cost, expressed as a percentage of the sub-fund's average net asset value in the period:

9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024	£	% of average net asset value
Commission	16,020	0.07%

## b Average portfolio dealing spread

The average portfolio dealing spread is calculated as the difference between the bid and offer value of the portfolio as a percentage of the offer value.

The average portfolio dealing spread of the investments at the balance sheet date was 0.04%.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies

In pursuing the sub-fund's investment objective, as set out in the Prospectus, the following are accepted by the ACD as being the main risks from the sub-fund's holding of financial instruments, either directly or indirectly through its underlying holdings. These are presented with the ACD's policy for managing these risks. To ensure these risks are consistently and effectively managed these are continually reviewed by the risk committee, a body appointed by the ACD, which sets the risk appetite and ensures continued compliance with the management of all known risks.

#### a Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices and comprise three elements: other price risk, currency risk, and interest rate risk.

#### (i) Other price risk

The sub-fund's exposure to price risk comprises mainly of movements in the value of investment positions in the face of price movements.

The main elements of the portfolio of investments exposed to this risk are collective investment schemes and exchange traded commodities which are disclosed in the Portfolio statement.

This risk is generally regarded as consisting of two elements: stock specific risk and market risk. Through these two factors, the sub-fund is exposed to price fluctuations, which are monitored by the ACD in pursuance of the investment objective and policy.

Adhering to investment guidelines and avoiding excessive exposure to one particular issuer can limit stock specific risk. Subject to compliance with the investment objective of the sub-fund, spreading exposure in the portfolio of investments both globally and across sectors or geography can mitigate market risk.

At 29 February 2024, if the price of the investments held by the sub-fund increased or decreased by 5%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £6,887,368.

#### (ii) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the value of investments or future cash flows will fluctuate as a result of exchange rate movements. Investment in overseas securities or holdings of foreign currency cash will provide direct exposure to currency risk as a consequence of the movement in foreign exchange rates against sterling. Investments in UK securities investing in overseas securities will give rise to indirect exposure to currency risk. These fluctuations can also affect the profitability of some UK companies, and thus their market prices, as sterling's relative strength or weakness can affect export prospects, the value of overseas earnings in sterling terms, and the prices of imports sold in the UK.

Forward currency contracts may be used to manage the portfolio exposure to currency movements.

The foreign currency risk profile of the sub-fund's financial instruments and cash holdings at the balance sheet date is as follows:

	Financial instruments and cash holdings	Net debtors and creditors	Total net foreign currency exposure
2024	£	£	£
US dollar	2,738,224	-	2,738,224

At 29 February 2024, if the value of sterling increased or decreased by 5% against all other currencies, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £136,911.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### a Market risk (continued)

##### (iii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of the sub-fund's investments will fluctuate as a result of interest rate changes. During the period the sub-fund's direct exposure to interest rates consisted of cash and bank balances. The amount of revenue receivable from bank balances or payable on bank overdrafts will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates. In the event of a change in interest rates, there would be no material impact upon the net assets of the sub-fund. The sub-fund would not in normal market conditions hold significant cash balances and would have limited borrowing capabilities as stipulated in the COLL rules.

There is no exposure to interest bearing securities at the balance sheet date.

#### b Credit risk

This is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. This includes counterparty risk.

The Depositary has appointed the custodian to provide custody services for the assets of the sub-fund. There is a counterparty risk that the custodian could cease to be in a position to provide custody services to the sub-fund. The sub-fund's investments (excluding cash) are ring fenced hence the risk is considered to be negligible.

The sub-fund holds cash and cash deposits with financial institutions which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk. The credit rating of the financial institution is taken into account so as to minimise the risk to the sub-fund of default.

Holdings in collective investment schemes are subject to direct credit risk. The exposure to pooled investment vehicles is unrated.

#### c Liquidity risk

A significant risk is the cancellation of shares which investors may wish to sell and that securities may have to be sold in order to fund such cancellations if insufficient cash is held at the bank to meet this obligation. If there were significant requests for the redemption of shares at a time when a large proportion of the portfolio of investments were not easily tradable due to market volumes or market conditions, the ability to fund those redemptions would be impaired and it might be necessary to suspend dealings in shares in the sub-fund.

The sub-fund may also invest in securities that are not listed or traded on any stock exchange. In such situations the sub-fund may not be able to immediately sell such securities.

To reduce liquidity risk the ACD will ensure, in line with the limits stipulated within the COLL rules, a substantial portion of the sub-fund's assets consist of readily realisable securities. This is monitored on a monthly basis and reported to the Risk Committee together with historical outflows of the sub-fund.

In addition liquidity is subject to stress testing on an annual basis to assess the ability of the sub-fund to meet large redemptions, while still being able to adhere to its objective guidelines and the FCA investment borrowing regulations.

All of the financial liabilities are payable on demand.

#### d Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities

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

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

## 15. Risk management policies (continued)

## d Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities (continued)

To ensure this, the fair value pricing committee is a body appointed by the ACD to analyse, review and vote on price adjustments/maintenance where no current secondary market exists and/or where there are potential liquidity issues that would affect the disposal of an asset. In addition, the committee may also consider adjustments to the sub-fund's price should the constituent investments be exposed to closed markets during general market volatility or instability.

	Investment assets	Investment liabilities
Basis of valuation	2024	2024
	£	£
Quoted prices	47,233,611	-
Observable market data	90,513,747	-
Unobservable data	-	-
	<u>137,747,358</u>	<u>-</u>

No securities in the portfolio of investments are valued using valuation techniques.

## e Assets subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature

There are no assets held in the portfolio of investments which are subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature.

## f Derivatives

The sub-fund may employ derivatives with the aim of reducing the sub-fund's risk profile, reducing costs or generating additional capital or revenue, in accordance with Efficient Portfolio Management.

The ACD monitors that any exposure is covered globally to ensure adequate cover is available to meet the sub-fund's total exposure, taking into account the value of the underlying investments, any reasonably foreseeable market movement, counterparty risk, and the time available to liquidate any positions.

For certain derivative transactions cash margins may be required to be paid to the brokers with whom the trades were executed and settled. These balances are subject to daily reconciliations and are held by the broker in segregated cash accounts that are afforded client money protection.

Derivatives may be used for investment purposes and as a result could potentially impact upon the risk factors outlined above.

During the period there were no derivative transactions.

## (i) Counterparties

Transactions in securities give rise to exposure to the risk that the counterparties may not be able to fulfil their responsibility by completing their side of the transaction. This risk is mitigated by the sub-fund using a range of brokers for security transactions, thereby diversifying the risk of exposure to any one broker. In addition the sub-fund will only transact with brokers who are subject to frequent reviews with whom transaction limits are set.

The sub-fund may transact in derivative contracts which potentially exposes the sub-fund to counterparty risk from the counterparty not settling their side of the contract. Transactions involving derivatives are entered into only with investment banks and brokers with appropriate and approved credit rating, which are regularly monitored. Forward currency transactions are only undertaken with the custodians appointed by the Depositary.

At the balance sheet date, there are no securities in the portfolio of investments subject to a repurchase agreement.

## (ii) Leverage

The leverage is calculated as the exposure generated through the use of derivatives (calculated in accordance with the commitment approach) divided by the net asset value.

There have been no leveraging arrangements in the period.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

*for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024*

### 15. Risk management policies (continued)

#### f Derivatives (continued)

#### (iii) Global exposure

Global exposure is a measure designed to limit the leverage generated by a fund through the use of financial derivative instruments, including derivatives with embedded assets.

At the balance sheet date there is no global exposure to derivatives.

There have been no collateral arrangements in the period.

## Distribution table

for the period 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

Final distribution in pence per share

Group 1 - Shares purchased 9 November 2023

Group 2 - Shares purchased 9 November 2023 to 29 February 2024

	Net revenue	Equalisation	Total distribution 30 April 2024
Y Income			
Group 1	0.003	-	0.003
Group 2	-	0.003	0.003

### Equalisation

Equalisation applies only to group 2 shares. It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of group 2 shares and is refunded to holders of these shares as a return of capital. Being capital it is not liable to income tax in the hands of the shareholder but must be deducted from the cost of shares for capital gains tax purposes.

## Remuneration

### Remuneration code disclosure

The remuneration committee is responsible for setting the remuneration policy for all partners, directors and employees within the Evelyn Partners Group Limited ('the Group'), including individuals designated as Material Risk Takers under the Remuneration Code. The remuneration policy is designed to be compliant with the Code and provides a framework to attract, retain, motivate and reward partners, directors and employees. The overall policy is designed to promote the long-term success of the group and to support prudent risk management, with particular attention to conduct risk.

### Remuneration committee

The remuneration committee report contained in the Group Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 includes details on the remuneration policy. The remuneration committee comprises five non-executive directors and is governed by formal terms of reference, which are reviewed and agreed by the board. The committee met eight times during 2023<sup>1</sup>.

### Remuneration policy

The main principles of the remuneration policy are:

- to align remuneration with the strategy and performance of the business;
- to ensure that remuneration is set at an appropriate and competitive level taking into account market rates and practices;
- to foster and support conduct and behaviours which are in line with our culture and values;
- to maintain a sound risk management framework;
- to ensure that the ratio between fixed and variable remuneration is appropriate and does not encourage excessive risk taking;
- to comply with all relevant regulatory requirements; and
- to align incentive plans with the business strategy and shareholder interests.

The policy is designed to reward partners, directors and employees for delivery of both financial and non-financial objectives which are set in line with company strategy. As part of a "balanced scorecard" approach to variable remuneration non-financial criteria including, but not limited to, compliance and risk issues, client management, supervision, leadership and teamwork are considered alongside financial performance.

### Remuneration systems

The committee reviews all partners' and directors' fixed and variable remuneration. In addition, it approves hurdles and awards in respect of equity incentive plans, namely a Deferred Option Plan, Equity Matching Plan, Matching Share Plan, Executive Long Term Incentive Plan and an Investment Management Long Term Incentive Plan.

The remuneration of partners is made up of a fixed profit share, discretionary bonus profit share and non-discretionary bonus profit share. The remuneration of employees typically comprises of a salary with benefits including pension contribution, life assurance, permanent health insurance, private medical insurance, SAYE scheme and a discretionary bonus scheme. Partners, directors and associate directors are also eligible to participate, at the invitation of the committee, in the equity incentive plans described above.

When setting variable remuneration for the executive directors, the committee considers overall business profit for the group and divisions, achievement of both financial and non-financial objectives (including adherence to the principles of treating customers fairly, conduct risk, compliance and regulatory rules), personal performance and any other relevant policy of the board in respect of the year ended 31 December 2023. The committee agrees the individual allocation of variable remuneration and the proportion of that variable remuneration to be awarded as restricted shares.

<sup>1</sup> Please note that the data provided for the non-executive directors is as at 31 December 2023. The data provided is for independent non-executive directors only.

## Remuneration (continued)

### Aggregate quantitative information

The total amount of remuneration paid by Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited ('EPFL') is nil as EPFL has no employees. However, a number of employees have remuneration costs recharged to EPFL and the annualised remuneration for these 72 employees is £3.51 million of which £3.23 million is fixed remuneration. This is based on the salary and benefits for those identified as working in EPFL as at 31 December 2023. Any variable remuneration is awarded for the year ended 31 December 2023. This information excludes any senior management or other Material Risk Takers ('MRTs') whose remuneration information is detailed below.

Evelyn Partners reviews its MRTs at least annually. These individuals are employed by and provide services to other companies in the Group. It is difficult to apportion remuneration for these individuals in respect of their duties to EPFL. For this reason, the aggregate total remuneration awarded for the financial year 2023 for senior management and other MRTs detailed below has not been apportioned.

Table to show the aggregate remuneration split by Senior Management and other MRTs for EPFL		For the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023				
	Fixed £'000	Variable		Total £'000	No. MRTs	
		Cash £'000	Equity £'000			
Senior Management	3,518	1,662	-	5,180	18	
Other MRTs	919	848	-	1,767	5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,437</b>	<b>2,510</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,947</b>	<b>23</b>	

### Investment Manager

The ACD has appointed Saltus Partners LLP ('Saltus') to provide investment management and related advisory services to the ACD. Saltus is paid a monthly fee out of the scheme property of SVS Saltus Onshore Portfolios which is calculated on the total value of the portfolio of investments of each sub-fund at the each valuation point. Saltus are compliant with the Capital Requirements Directive regarding remuneration and therefore their staff are covered by remuneration regulatory requirements.

## Further information

### Distributions and reporting dates

Where net revenue is available it will be distributed/allocated annually on 30 April (final) for all sub-funds. In the event of a distribution, shareholders will receive a tax voucher.

XD dates:	1 March	final
Reporting dates:	Last day of February	annual
	31 August	interim

### Buying and selling shares

The property of all sub-funds is valued at 5pm on every business day with the exception of any bank holiday in England and Wales or the last business day prior to those days annually, where the valuation may be carried out at a time agreed in advance between the ACD and Depositary, and the prices of shares are calculated as at that time. Share dealing is on a forward basis i.e. investors can buy and sell shares at the next valuation point following receipt of the order.

Prices of shares and the estimated yield of the share classes are published on the following website: [www.trustnet.com](http://www.trustnet.com) or may be obtained by calling 0141 222 1151.

### Benchmark

Shareholders may compare the performance of the sub-funds against the following benchmarks:

#### SVS Saltus Multi Asset Class Fund

Investment Association Mixed Investment 0-35% shares sector total return over a rolling 7 periods. The ACD has selected this comparator benchmark as the ACD believes it best reflects the investment objective. The benchmark is not a target for the sub-fund, nor is the sub-fund constrained by the benchmark.

#### SVS Saltus Wealth Fund

Investment Association Mixed Investment 20-60% shares sector total return over a rolling 7 year periods. The ACD has selected this comparator benchmark as the ACD believes it best reflects the investment objective. The benchmark is not a target for the sub-fund, nor is the sub-fund constrained by the benchmark.

#### SVS Saltus Global Equity Fund

ARC Sterling Equity Risk PCI. Comparison of the sub-fund's performance against this benchmark will give shareholders an indication of how the sub-fund is performing against an index based on the real performance numbers delivered to discretionary private clients by participating Investment Managers. The benchmark is not a target for the sub-fund, nor is the sub-fund constrained by the benchmark.

#### SVS Saltus Fixed Income Fund

Investment Association Specialist Bond sector total return, measured over a rolling 3 year periods. The ACD has selected this comparator benchmark as the ACD believes it best reflects the investment objective. The benchmark is not a target for the sub-fund, nor is the sub-fund constrained by the benchmark.

#### SVS Saltus Real Return Fund

IA Targeted Absolute Return Sector total return over a rolling 3 year periods. The ACD has selected this comparator benchmark as the ACD believes it best reflects the investment objective. The benchmark is not a target for the sub-fund, nor is the sub-fund constrained by the benchmark.

#### SVS Saltus Growth Assets Fund

UK CPI (Consumer Price Index) over a rolling 7 year periods. The ACD has selected this comparator benchmark as it reflects the absolute returns above inflation. The benchmark is not a target for the sub-fund, nor is the sub-fund constrained by the benchmark.

#### SVS Saltus Adventurous Fund

Investment Association Flexible Investment sector total return over a rolling 7 year periods. The ACD has selected this comparator benchmark as the ACD believes it best reflects the investment objective, the flexible nature of the sub-fund's widely diversified portfolio of assets, and the sub-fund's unconstrained approach to volatility risk. The benchmark is not a target for the sub-fund, nor is the sub-fund constrained by the benchmark.



## Appointments

### ACD and Registered office

Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited

45 Gresham Street

London EC2V 7BG

Telephone: 0207 131 4000

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

### Administrator and Registrar

Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited

177 Bothwell Street

Glasgow G2 7ER

Telephone: 0141 222 1151 (Registration)

0141 222 1150 (Dealing)

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

### Directors of the ACD

Andrew Baddeley

Brian McLean

Mayank Prakash

Neil Coxhead

### Independent Non-Executive Directors of the ACD

Dean Buckley

Linda Robinson

Sally Macdonald

Victoria Muir

### Non-Executive Directors of the ACD

Paul Wyse - resigned 11 July 2023

Guy Swarbreck - appointed 21 August 2023

### Investment Manager

Saltus Partners LLP

4500 Parkway

Whiteley

Fareham PO15 7AZ

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

### Depositary

NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited

House A, Floor 0

Gogarburn

175 Glasgow Road

Edinburgh EH12 1HQ

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

### Auditor

Johnston Carmichael LLP

Bishop's Court

29 Albyn Place

Aberdeen AB10 1YL