SVS Heritage Investment Fund

Annual Report

for the year ended 31 December 2024

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# SVS Heritage Investment Fund

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

Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited ('EPFL'), as ACD, presents herewith the Annual Report for SVS Heritage Investment Fund for the year ended 31 December 2024.

SVS Heritage Investment Fund ('the Company') is an authorised open-ended investment company with variable capital ('ICVC') further to an authorisation order dated 14 November 2016. The Company is incorporated under registration number IC001076. It is a UCITS scheme complying with the investment and borrowing powers rules in the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook ('COLL'), as published by the Financial Conduct Authority ('FCA').

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 Financial Stability Board ('FSB') created the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures ('TCFD') to improve and increase reporting of climate-related financial information. EPFL have produced TCFD reports in compliance with the FCA's rules on climate-related financial disclosures. The TCFD Product report is designed to help you understand the impact the Company has on the climate and equally how climate change could influence the performance of the Company. The report will also give you the ability to compare a range of climate metrics with other funds. To understand the governance, strategy, and risk management that EPFL has in place to manage the risks and opportunities related to climate change, please refer to the TCFD Entity report. These reports are available on our website https://www.evelyn.com/services/fund-solutions/tcfd-reporting/.

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

The Company currently has one sub-fund available for investment, SVS Heritage Balanced Portfolio Fund ('the sub-fund').

# Investment objective and policy

The objective of the SVS Heritage Balanced Portfolio Fund is to achieve a total investment return (comprising of a balance of capital growth and income) over the long term (at least 5 years).

The SVS Heritage Balanced Portfolio Fund is a multi-asset fund, meaning that it will have exposure to a range of different asset classes. At any one time, the sub-fund will be invested in any combination of the following: equities, preference shares (including zero-dividend preference shares), cash, investment trusts, real estate investment trusts and fixed interest securities including corporate, government and convertible bonds. The sub-fund may also hold near cash instruments, money market instruments, warrants, exchange traded funds and other collective investment schemes.

The allocation between the assets in which the sub-fund invests will be actively managed, with the allocation to shares dependant on market conditions but always remaining within a 20%-80% range. The Investment Manager is not constrained by any particular asset allocation in respect of geography, industry or sector.

# Report of the Authorised Corporate Director (continued)

Changes affecting the Company in the year

There were no fundamental or significant changes to the Company in the year.

Further information in relation to the Company is illustrated on page 41.

In accordance with the requirements of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes 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 9 April 2025

# Statement of the Authorised Corporate Director's responsibilities

The Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook ('COLL') published by the FCA, requires 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 and net capital gains 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.

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

# Assessment of Value - SVS Heritage Balanced Portfolio 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 Heritage Balanced Portfolio 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 for the year ended 31 December 2024, using the seven criteria set by the FCA is set out below:

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 sub-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;
- 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 Heritage Balanced Portfolio 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 an 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, Heritage Capital Management Limited, 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 investors.

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 objective of the sub-fund is to achieve a total investment return (comprising of a balance of capital growth and income) over the long term (at least 5 years).

### 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.

# Assessment of Value - SVS Heritage Balanced Portfolio Fund (continued)

## 2. Performance (continued)

Benchmark (continued)

The benchmark for the sub-fund is the UK Consumer Price Index 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 30 November 2024 (%)

	Currency	1 year	3 year	5 year
SVS Heritage Balance Portfolio Fund Class A Income	GBX	11.71	7.14	21.83
UK Consumer Price Index	GBP	2.51	17.90	24.42

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 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 its minimum recommended holding period of five years and observed that it has underperformed its comparator benchmark, the UK Consumer Price Index. As a result of the underperformance, this section was given an Amber rating. The Board did, however, note the strong performance of the sub-fund over the last 12 months.

EPFL assessed the investment risk within the sub-fund, focusing amongst other things on volatility and risk adjusted returns. The Board concluded that the level of investment risk is appropriate, within its mandated parameters, without taking excessive risk for an actively managed sub-fund of this type.

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.

## 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 Investment Manager's fee, ACD's periodic charge, 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 each of the sub-fund's costs, 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?

Both the Investment Manager's fee and ACD fee are on a fixed percentage charge meaning there are no opportunities for savings going forward should the sub-fund grow in size.

The ancillary charges of the sub-fund represent 9 basis points<sup>1</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.

One basis point is equal to 1/100th of 1%, or 0.01%. Figure calculated at interim report, 30 June 2024.

# Assessment of Value - SVS Heritage Balanced Portfolio Fund (continued)

## 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 OCF of the sub-fund was compared against the 'market rate' of similar external sub-funds.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

The OCF of 1.24% was more expensive than 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 as EPFL 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 was more expensive than other EPFL administered funds displaying similar characteristics.

Were there any follow up actions?

There was no further action as EPFL were of the opinion that the Investment Manager's fee did not give any cause for concern.

#### 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 shareholders were in the correct share class given the size of their holding.

What was the outcome of the assessment?

There is only one share class in the sub-fund, therefore this part of the assessment does not apply.

Were there any follow up actions?

There were no follow-up actions required.

### Overall Assessment of Value

The Board acknowledged the Amber ratings in Sections 2, 5 and 6 but were still of the opinion that SVS Heritage Balanced Portfolio Fund had been of value to the investors.

Dean Buckley

Chairman of the Board of Evelyn Partners Fund Solutions Limited

7 March 2025

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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Figure calculated at interim report, 30 June 2024.

# Report of the Depositary to the shareholders of SVS Heritage Investment Fund

## 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 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 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 Authorised Corporate Director ('ACD') are carried out (unless they conflict with the Regulations).

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

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

- (i) has carried out the issue, sale, redemption and cancellation, and calculation of the price of the Company's shares and the application of the Company's 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 9 April 2025

# Independent Auditor's report to the shareholders of SVS Heritage Investment Fund

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of SVS Heritage Investment Fund (the 'Company') for the year ended 31 December 2024, which comprise the Statement of total return, Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders, Balance sheet, the related Notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies and the Distribution table. 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 31 December 2024 and of the net revenue and the net capital gains 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 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 Heritage Investment Fund (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 4, 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 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; 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.

We assessed the susceptibility of the 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;
- The completeness and classification of special dividends between revenue and capital; and
- The valuation of material level 3 investments.

# Independent Auditor's report to the shareholders of SVS Heritage Investment Fund (continued)

Auditor Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

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

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;
- Using a third-party independent data source to assess the completeness of the special dividend population and determining whether special dividends recognised were revenue or capital in nature with reference to the underlying circumstances of the investee companies' dividend payments;
- Testing how management made the estimate of material level 3 investments, evaluating the methodology adopted and assessing the suitability of data and significant assumptions be reference to supporting evidence;
- Assessing the Company's compliance with the key requirements of the Collective Investment Schemes 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 would 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 9 April 2025

# Accounting policies of SVS Heritage Investment Fund

for the year ended 31 December 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-fund's 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-fund continues to be open for trading and the ACD is satisfied the sub-fund has 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 excluding any accrued interest in the case of debt securities ruling on the principal markets on which the stocks are quoted on the last business day of the accounting year.

Derivatives are valued at the price which would be required to close out the contract at the balance sheet date.

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.

Zero dividend preference shares carry no entitlement to dividends but give a preferential right to receive a repayment of capital and a premium from the capital reserves of an investment company. Accordingly, the returns are recognised as capital and do not form part of the sub-fund's distribution.

Special dividends are treated as either revenue or a repayment of capital depending on the facts of each particular case.

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

# Accounting policies of SVS Heritage Investment Fund (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2024

## d Revenue (continued)

Interest on debt securities is recognised on an accruals basis, taking into account the effective yield on the investment. Accrued interest purchased and sold on interest bearing securities is excluded from the capital cost of these securities and dealt with as part of the revenue of the sub-fund. The effective yield is a calculation that amortises any discount or premium on the purchase of an investment over its remaining life based on estimated cash flows. The amortised amounts form part of the distributable revenue and are calculated at each month end.

### e Expenses

All expenses, other than those relating to the purchase and sale of investments, are charged to revenue on an accrual basis.

Bank interest paid is charged to revenue.

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

All revenue and expenses which are directly attributable to a particular share type are allocated to that type. All revenue and expenses which are attributable to the sub-fund are allocated to the sub-fund and are normally allocated across the share types pro rata to the net asset value of each type 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 31 December 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.

## 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 Heritage Investment Fund (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 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-fund 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 Heritage Balanced Portfolio Fund Investment Manager's report

## Investment performance

Total Return to 31 December 2024	1 year	3 year	Since Inception (01.12.2016)
SVS Heritage Balanced Portfolio Fund (Class A Accumulation)*	7.89%	4.30%	55.10%
UK Consumer Price Index**	2.58%	17.99%	33.50%

## Investment activities\*\*\*

SVS Heritage Balanced Portfolio Fund seeks to generate long-term capital growth at a lower risk than that associated with pure equity market investment through active management of a well diversified multi-asset portfolio. The sub-fund launched on 1 December 2016 and the portfolio structure and strategy is broadly in line with the existing larger offshore version of the sub-fund (the Guernsey regulated Heritage Managed Portfolio Fund that has a successful track record of over 20 years).

The sub-fund had a decent year overall in 2024 with a gain of 7.89%.

Our portfolio of shares had a positive year, but as usual there were large differences in individual performances. Amongst the strongest contributors with its share price more than doubling was niche market researcher, System1 Group, and other shares that appreciated by over 40% were BP Marsh & Partners, Beazley, Standard Chartered, Animalcare Group and Bloomsbury Publishing. Other double digit gainers included Compass Group, HSBC Holdings, RELX, Intermediate Capital Group and Unilever. On the other hand one of our largest holdings, Computacenter, had a weak year and other notable fallers were Close Brothers Group, Victrex and Young & Co's Brewery.

Our property holdings and other alternatives such as infrastructure and renewables had a frustrating year, as expectations for interest rates cuts were scaled back. These holdings are now generally on very attractive dividend yields and should produce decent returns going forwards.

Our bond portfolio had a decent year and we continue to benefit from an overall attractive running income yield of just over 7% and a yield to redemption of just below 8%. Also, our small portfolio of zero dividend preference shares yields are just under 7% to maturity and had an encouragingly strong end to the year.

### Investment strategy and outlook

Although the near term outlook remains uncertain, we believe that our portfolio of well diversified investments is well positioned to generate attractive returns for long-term investors.

Heritage Capital Management Limited 28 January 2025

<sup>\*</sup> Source: FE fundinfo based on 10pm mid-prices.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Source: FE fundinfo.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Source: Refinitiv and Heritage Capital Management Limited.

# Portfolio changes

for the year ended 31 December 2024

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

Purchases:	Cost £
Barclays 8.5% Perpetual	200,800
Aberforth Gegred Value & Income Trust	200,000
Nationwide Building Society 10.25% Perpetual	185,143
Phoenix Group Holdings 5.75% Perpetual	176,000
UIL Finance 31/10/2026 Zero Dividend Preference Shares	171,172
Conduit Holdings	122,884
Hiscox	106,890
Lancashire Holdings	59,643
Beazley	54,707
Picton Property Income	51,813
Assura	50,929
Primary Health Properties	47,610
Associated British Foods	45,902
Mobius Investment Trust	28,353
	Proceeds
Sales:	Proceeds £
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024	£ 300,000
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024 Regional REIT 4.5% 06/08/2024	£ 300,000 230,000
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024 Regional REIT 4.5% 06/08/2024 Coventry Building Society 6.875% Perpetual	£ 300,000 230,000 200,800
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024 Regional REIT 4.5% 06/08/2024 Coventry Building Society 6.875% Perpetual Virgin Money UK 9.25% Perpetual	£ 300,000 230,000 200,800 200,000
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024 Regional REIT 4.5% 06/08/2024 Coventry Building Society 6.875% Perpetual Virgin Money UK 9.25% Perpetual esure Group 6.75% 19/12/2024	£ 300,000 230,000 200,800 200,000 200,000
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024 Regional REIT 4.5% 06/08/2024 Coventry Building Society 6.875% Perpetual Virgin Money UK 9.25% Perpetual esure Group 6.75% 19/12/2024 Investec 6.75% Perpetual	£ 300,000 230,000 200,800 200,000 200,000 198,000
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024 Regional REIT 4.5% 06/08/2024 Coventry Building Society 6.875% Perpetual Virgin Money UK 9.25% Perpetual esure Group 6.75% 19/12/2024 Investec 6.75% Perpetual Henderson Far East Income	£ 300,000 230,000 200,800 200,000 200,000 198,000 139,966
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024 Regional REIT 4.5% 06/08/2024 Coventry Building Society 6.875% Perpetual Virgin Money UK 9.25% Perpetual esure Group 6.75% 19/12/2024 Investec 6.75% Perpetual Henderson Far East Income Sancus Lending Group Zero Dividend Preference Shares	£ 300,000 230,000 200,800 200,000 200,000 198,000 139,966 126,881
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024 Regional REIT 4.5% 06/08/2024 Coventry Building Society 6.875% Perpetual Virgin Money UK 9.25% Perpetual esure Group 6.75% 19/12/2024 Investec 6.75% Perpetual Henderson Far East Income Sancus Lending Group Zero Dividend Preference Shares Regional REIT	£ 300,000 230,000 200,800 200,000 200,000 198,000 139,966 126,881 114,798
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024 Regional REIT 4.5% 06/08/2024 Coventry Building Society 6.875% Perpetual Virgin Money UK 9.25% Perpetual esure Group 6.75% 19/12/2024 Investec 6.75% Perpetual Henderson Far East Income Sancus Lending Group Zero Dividend Preference Shares Regional REIT EPE Special Opportunities Zero Dividend Preference Shares	£ 300,000 230,000 200,800 200,000 200,000 198,000 139,966 126,881 114,798 98,113
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024 Regional REIT 4.5% 06/08/2024 Coventry Building Society 6.875% Perpetual Virgin Money UK 9.25% Perpetual esure Group 6.75% 19/12/2024 Investec 6.75% Perpetual Henderson Far East Income Sancus Lending Group Zero Dividend Preference Shares Regional REIT EPE Special Opportunities Zero Dividend Preference Shares Aviva	£ 300,000 230,000 200,800 200,000 200,000 198,000 139,966 126,881 114,798 98,113 74,788
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024 Regional REIT 4.5% 06/08/2024 Coventry Building Society 6.875% Perpetual Virgin Money UK 9.25% Perpetual esure Group 6.75% 19/12/2024 Investec 6.75% Perpetual Henderson Far East Income Sancus Lending Group Zero Dividend Preference Shares Regional REIT EPE Special Opportunities Zero Dividend Preference Shares Aviva Rathbone Group	£ 300,000 230,000 200,800 200,000 200,000 198,000 139,966 126,881 114,798 98,113 74,788 74,466
Society of Lloyd's 4.75% 30/10/2024 Regional REIT 4.5% 06/08/2024 Coventry Building Society 6.875% Perpetual Virgin Money UK 9.25% Perpetual esure Group 6.75% 19/12/2024 Investec 6.75% Perpetual Henderson Far East Income Sancus Lending Group Zero Dividend Preference Shares Regional REIT EPE Special Opportunities Zero Dividend Preference Shares Aviva	£ 300,000 230,000 200,800 200,000 200,000 198,000 139,966 126,881 114,798 98,113 74,788

# Portfolio statement as at 31 December 2024

Investment	Nominal value or holding	Market value £	% of total net assets
		<b>~</b>	
Debt Securities* 14.85% (18.17%)			
Baa1 to Baa2 2.39% (2.50%)			
abrdn 5.25% Perpetual**	£200,000	182,000	0.51
Burberry Group 1.125% 21/09/2025	£300,000	290,688	0.81
Legal & General Group 5.625% Perpetual**	£200,000	183,880	0.51
Lloyds Bank 7.625% 22/04/2025	£200,000 _	201,104	0.56
		857,672	2.39
Baa3 and below 12.46% (15.67%)			
Aggregated Micro Power Infrastructure 2 8% 17/10/2036	£150,000	142,500	0.40
Barclays 8.5% Perpetual**	£200,000	206,640	0.57
Barclays 8.875% Perpetual**	£200,000	208,000	0.58
Brit Insurance Holdings 3.6757% 09/12/2030**	£200,000	166,040	0.46
Co-operative Group Holdings 2011 7.5% 08/07/2026**	£150,000	152,961	0.43
Co-Operative Group 11% 22/12/2025	£175,000	183,556	0.51
Coventry Building Society 12.125% Perpetual	£125,000	208,906	0.58
Direct Line Insurance Group 4.75% Perpetual**	£400,000	370,592	1.03
Hiscox 6.125% 24/11/2045**	£200,000	200,566	0.56
International Personal Finance 12% 12/12/2027	£212,500	230,148	0.64
Jupiter Fund Management 8.875% 27/07/2030**	£300,000	301,500	0.84
Just Group 8.125% 26/10/2029	£150,000	161,094	0.45
Marks & Spencer 4.5% 10/07/2027	£200,000	192,724	0.54
Phoenix Group Holdings 5.75% Perpetual**	£400,000	373,500	1.04
R.E.A. Finance BV 8.75% 31/08/2025 <sup>^</sup>	£270,000	272,700	0.76
R.E.A. Trading 9.5% 30/09/2027^^	£200,000	198,000	0.55
Rolls-Royce 3.375% 18/06/2026	£300,000	292,623	0.81
UTB Partners 12.95% 31/03/2034^^^	£150,000	159,000	0.44
Vodafone Group 8% 30/08/2086**	£150,000	162,188	0.45
Wasps Finance 6.5% 13/05/2022^^^^	£100,000	-	_
Whitbread Group 3.375% 16/10/2025	£300,000	295,101	0.82
	· <u> </u>	4,478,339	12.46
Takal dalak asas sebas	_	5.007.011	1405
Total debt securities	_	5,336,011	14.85
Convertible Bonds 1.26% (1.35%)			
abrdn Asia Focus 2.25% 31/05/2025	£161,892	158,168	0.44
PHP Finance Jersey 2.875% 15/07/2025	£300,000	293,850	0.82
Total convertible bonds	_	452,018	1.26

<sup>\*</sup> Grouped by credit rating - source: Interactive Data and Bloomberg.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Variable interest security.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>wedge}$  R.E.A. Finance BV 8.75% 31/08/2025; The fair value pricing committee agreed that a share price of £1.01 was appropriate for this illiquid bond.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>wedge\wedge}$  R.E.A. Trading 9.5% 30/09/2027: The fair value pricing committee agreed that a share price of £0.99 was appropriate for this illiquid bond.

<sup>^^^</sup> UTB Partners 12.95% 31/03/2034: The fair value pricing committee agreed that a share price of £1.06 was appropriate for this illiquid bond.

<sup>^^^^</sup> Wasps Finance 6.5% 13/05/2022: The fair value pricing committee determined a share price of £nil was appropriate for this unquoted security (2023: £0.04).

as at 31 December 2024

	Nominal value or	Market value	% of total net assets
Investment	holding	£	
Core Capital Deferred Shares 1.08% (0.62%)			
Nationwide Building Society 10.25% Perpetual**	2,500	324,963	0.91
West Bromwich Building Society 4.5%**	1,500	61,797	0.17
Total core capital deferred shares	_	386,760	1.08
Preference Shares 10.82% (13.32%)			
Aberforth Geared Value & Income Trust	200,000	204,000	0.57
Aviva 8.375% Cumulative Preference Shares	126,250	166,650	0.46
Aviva 8.75% Cumulative Preference Shares	140,000	186,200	0.52
Conygar Zero Dividend Preference Shares	100,000	105,600	0.29
Doric Nimrod Air Two Ordinary Preference Shares	35,715	50,715	0.14
Ecclesiastical Insurance Office 8.625%			
- Non Cumulative Preference Shares	50,000	65,000	0.18
EPE Special Opportunities Zero Dividend Preference Shares	264,883	299,318	0.83
General Accident 7.875% Cumulative Preference Shares	200,000	240,000	0.67
General Accident 8.875% Cumulative Preference Shares	250,000	333,750	0.93
Inland Zero Dividend Preference Shares <sup>^</sup>	133,500	17,355	0.05
Lloyds Banking Group 9.25% Non Cumulative Preference Shares	200,000	282,000	0.79
R.E.A. Holdings 9% Cumulative Preference Shares	500,000	385,000	1.07
Santander UK 10.375% Non Cumulative Preference Shares	230,250	355,046	0.99
SDV 2025 Zero Dividend Preference Shares	72,902	90,398	0.25
Standard Chartered 8.25% Non Cumulative Preference Shares	150,000	179,250	0.50
UIL Finance 31/10/2026 Zero Dividend Preference Shares	550,000	704,000	1.96
UIL Finance 31/10/2028 Zero Dividend Preference Shares Total preference shares	200,000 _	222,000 3,886,282	10.82
Total preference shares	<del>-</del>	3,000,202	10.02
Equities - United Kingdom 30.18% (32.06%) Equities - incorporated in the United Kingdom 25.42% (27.66%) Energy 0.65% (0.71%)			
Gulf Marine Services	1,000,000	151,000	0.42
Orcadian Energy	200,000	19,200	0.06
Shell	2,500	61,900	0.17
		232,100	0.65
Materials 0.24% (0.37%)			
Victrex	8,000	85,920	0.24
Industrials 1 1107 (0 520)	_		
Industrials 1.11% (2.53%) RELX	11,000 _	399,080	1.11
Consumer Discretionary 1.78% (1.93%)			
Bellway	9,000	224,280	0.62
Compass Group	7,000	186,130	0.52
Greggs	4,500	124,560	0.35
Young & Co's Brewery	17,000	105,400	0.29
- -	· <u>-</u>	640,370	1.78

 $<sup>^{\</sup>wedge}$  Inland Zero Dividend Preference Shares: The Fair Value Pricing committee determined that it is appropriate to include the security in the portfolio of investments with a value of £0.13 (2023: £0.54), as the asset is suspended.

as at 31 December 2024

Nominal value or	Market value	% of total
Investment holding	£	1101 033013
Equities - United Kingdom (continued) Equities - incorporated in the United Kingdom (continued)		
Consumer Staples 2.59% (2.60%)		
Associated British Foods 13,000	265,590	0.74
Diageo 5,000	126,850	0.35
Haleon 22,500	84,915	0.24
Unilever 10,000	454,700	1.26
	932,055	2.59
Health Care 1.91% (2.09%)		
Alliance Pharma 120,000	53,940	0.15
Animalcare Group 20,000	48,000	0.13
AstraZeneca 3,000	313,920	0.88
GSK 20,000	269,200	0.75
	685,060	1.91
Financials 9.05% (8.12%)		
Aviva 17,000	79,679	0.22
Beazley 110,000	898,150	2.50
BP Marsh & Partners 106,750	768,600	2.14
Close Brothers Group 15,500	36,611	0.10
HSBC Holdings 37,500	294,487	0.82
Intermediate Capital Group 20,000	412,800	1.15
Legal & General Group 110,000	252,780	0.70
Lloyds Banking Group 225,000	123,255	0.34
Schroders 20,000	64,520	0.18
Standard Chartered 32,500	321,295	0.90
	3,252,177	9.05
Information Technology 2.30% (3.30%)		
Computacenter 39,000	827,580	2.30
Communication Services 2.22% (1.59%)		
Bloomsbury Publishing 100,000	674,000	1.88
System1 Group 20,000	122,000	0.34
	796,000	2.22
Real Estate 3.57% (4.42%)		
Assura 600,000	230,040	0.64
CLS Holdings 97,117	75,266	0.21
Conygar Investment 200,000	86,800	0.24
LondonMetric Property 146,080	262,944	0.73
Primary Health Properties 375,000	349,875	0.98
Supermarket Income REIT 301,509	205,328	0.57
Target Healthcare REIT 84,135	70,673	0.20
	1,280,926	3.57
Total equities - incorporated in the United Kingdom	9,131,268	25.42

as at 31 December 2024

	Nominal value or	Market value	% of total net assets
Investment	holding	£	
Equities - United Kingdom (continued) Equities - incorporated outwith the United Kingdom 4.76% (4.40%) Industrials 0.45% (0.46%) Ocean Wilsons Holdings	12,500	162,500	0.45
	<u>-</u>		
Financials 3.64% (3.00%)  Conduit Holdings	95,000	444,600	1.24
Hiscox	25,000	270,250	0.75
Lancashire Holdings	90,000	592,200	1.65
Ç	-	1,307,050	3.64
Real Estate 0.67% (0.94%)			
Circle Property <sup>^</sup>	100,000	_	_
Picton Property Income	375,000	240,000	0.67
	-	240,000	0.67
Total equities - incorporated outwith the United Kingdom	- -	1,709,550	4.76
Total equities - United Kingdom	-	10,840,818	30.18
Closed-Ended Funds 27.47% (29.87%) Closed-Ended Funds - United Kingdom 24.45% (26.59%) Closed-Ended Funds - incorporated in the United Kingdom 20.22% (21.09% Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust	) 27,017	394,448	1.10
abrdn Asia Focus	139,855	408,377	1.14
Alliance Trust	20,000	248,400	0.69
Avi Global Trust	325,000	794,625	2.21
Baillie Gifford Japan Trust	30,000	213,300	0.59
Caledonia Investments	19,000	665,000	1.85
Dunedin Enterprise Investment Trust	6,288	29,051	0.08
HgCapital Trust	150,000	804,000	2.24
HICL Infrastructure	250,000	297,000	0.83
ICG Enterprise Trust  Mobius Investment Trust	60,000 170,000	776,400 242,250	2.16 0.67
Murray Income Trust	50,000	408,000	1.14
Nippon Active Value Fund	25,289	47,290	0.13
North Atlantic Smaller Companies Investment Trust	11,000	400,400	1.12
Polar Capital Global Healthcare Trust	120,000	416,400	1.16
Premier Miton Global Renewables Trust	70,000	81,200	0.23
Templeton Emerging Markets Investment Trust	75,000	123,300	0.34
TR Property Investment Trust	85,000	265,625	0.74
Utilico Emerging Markets Trust	176,402	375,736	1.05
Worldwide Healthcare Trust	85,000	267,750	0.75
Total closed-ended funds - incorporated in the United Kingdom	-	7,258,552	20.22

<sup>^</sup> Circle Property: The Fair Value Pricing committee determined that it is appropriate to include the security in the portfolio of investments at nil value as the security is in liquidation.

as at 31 December 2024

Investment	Nominal value or holding	Market value £	% of total net assets
Closed-Ended Funds (continued)			
Closed-Ended Funds - United Kingdom (continued)			
Closed-Ended Funds - incorporated outwith the United Kingdom 4.23%	(5.50%)		
abrdn Asian Income Fund	200,000	438,000	1.22
Henderson Far East Income	50,000	113,500	0.32
Real Estate Credit Investments	125,000	153,750	0.43
Renewables Infrastructure Group	323,507	277,569	0.77
TwentyFour Income Fund	300,000	322,800	0.90
TwentyFour Select Monthly Income Fund	250,000	214,000	0.59
Total closed-ended funds - incorporated outwith the United Kingdom	1,519,619	4.23	
Total closed-ended funds - United Kingdom	-	8,778,171	24.45
10-a	_	3,7,7,7,7,7	
Overseas Closed-Ended Funds 3.02% (3.28%)			
Oakley Capital Investments	219,000	1,086,240	3.02
	_		
Total closed-ended funds	<del>-</del>	9,864,411	27.47
Warrants 0.00% (0.00%)			
R.E.A. Holdings Subscription Warrants 15/07/2025 <sup>^</sup>	19,500	-	-
Portfolio of investments		30,766,300	85.66
Other net assets		5,149,507	14.34
Total net assets		35,915,807	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 31 December 2023.

United Kingdom equities are grouped in accordance with Global Industry Classification Standard ('GICS').

GICS was developed by and is the exclusive property and a service mark of MSCI Inc. ('MSCI') and Standard & Poor's, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. ('S&P') and is licensed for use by Evelyn Partners Services Limited. Neither MSCI, S&P nor any third party involved in making or compiling the GICS or any GICS classifications makes any express or implied warranties or representations with respect to such standard or classification (or the results to be obtained by the use thereof), and all such parties hereby expressly disclaim all warranties of originality, accuracy, completeness, merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose with respect to any of such standard or classification. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall MSCI, S&P, any of their affiliates or any third party involved in making or compiling the GICS or any GICS classifications have any liability for any direct, indirect, special, punitive, consequential or any other damages (including lost profits) even if notified of the possibility of such damages.

<sup>^</sup> R.E.A. Holdings Subscription Warrants 15/07/2025 is included in the portfolio of investments with a value of £nil (2023: £nil), due to the ordinary share price being lower than the warrant exercise price of £1.26.

# 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,			Typicall	y higher re	ewards,		
✓ lower risk				higher risk	<b>→</b>		
	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.

<sup>\*</sup> As per the KIID published on 12 February 2025.

# 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	2022
Class A Income	р	р	р
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	128.61	125.81	141.09
Return before operating charges	12.09	8.35	(9.69)
Operating charges	(1.67)	(1.57)	(2.12)
Return after operating charges *	10.42	6.78	(11.81)
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(4.59)	(3.98)	(3.47)
Closing net asset value per share	134.44	128.61	125.81
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.01	0.02	0.01
Performance			
Return after charges	8.10%	5.39%	(8.37%)
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£)	1,163,872	1,114,744	1,091,975
Closing number of shares	865,687	866,769	867,978
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.24%	1.24%	1.62%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.01%	0.01%
Published prices			
Highest share price	139.0	131.9	143.0
Lowest share price	127.6	120.3	119.1

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;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.

# Comparative table (continued)

	2024	2023	2022
Class A Accumulation	р	р	р
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	142.84	135.43	147.78
Return before operating charges	13.49	9.11	(10.10)
Operating charges	(1.87)	(1.70)	(2.25)
Return after operating charges *	11.62	7.41	(12.35)
Distributions <sup>^</sup>	(5.14)	(4.32)	(3.71)
Retained distributions on accumulation shares <sup>^</sup>	5.14	4.32	3.71
Closing net asset value per share	154.46	142.84	135.43
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.01	0.02	0.01
Performance			
Return after charges	8.13%	5.47%	(8.36%)
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£)	34,751,935	31,792,187	30,336,746
Closing number of shares	22,499,262	22,256,621	22,400,733
Operating charges <sup>^^</sup>	1.24%	1.24%	1.62%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.01%	0.01%
Published prices			
Highest share price	157.3	143.8	149.8
Lowest share price	141.6	131.6	126.5

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

 $<sup>^{\</sup>wedge}$  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.

# Financial statements - SVS Heritage Investment Fund

# Statement of total return

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	202	2024		23
Income:		£	£	£	£
income.					
Net capital gains	2		1,507,930		721,759
Revenue	3	1,707,552		1,454,183	
Expenses	4	(435,446)		(393,382)	
Net revenue before taxation		1,272,106		1,060,801	
Taxation	5	(76,871)		(60,424)	
Net revenue after taxation		_	1,195,235	_	1,000,377
Total return before distributions			2,703,165		1,722,136
Distributions	6		(1,195,272)		(1,000,424)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders	5	_		_	
from investment activities		=	1,507,893	=	721,712

# Statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		32,906,931		31,428,721
Amounts receivable on issue of shares	2,246,175		2,519,248	
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(1,905,471)		(2,722,518)	
		340,704		(203,270)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders				
from investment activities		1,507,893		721,712
Retained distributions on accumulation shares		1,160,279		959,768
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	- -	35,915,807	=	32,906,931

# Balance sheet as at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Assets:			
Fixed assets:			
Investments		30,766,300	31,389,226
			2.,20.,==0
Current assets:			
Debtors	7	184,551	190,587
Cash and bank balances	8	5,108,801	1,593,025
Total assets		36,059,652	33,172,838
Linda William			
Liabilities:			
Creditors:			
Distribution payable		(17,565)	(16,867)
Other creditors	9	(126,280)	(249,040)
Total liabilities		(143,845)	(265,907)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		35,915,807	32,906,931

# Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

# 1. Accounting policies

The accounting policies are disclosed on pages 13 to 15.

2.	Net capital gains	2024	2023
		£	£
	Non-derivative securities - realised losses	(44,298)	(219,202)
	Non-derivative securities - movement in unrealised gains	1,546,347	938,540
	Capital special dividend	6,184	2,968
	Transaction charges	(303)	(547)
	Total net capital gains	1,507,930	721,759
3.	Revenue	2024	2023
		£	£
	UK revenue	647,804	572,755
	Unfranked revenue	111,880	113,743
	Overseas revenue	288,278	235,139
	Interest on debt securities	534,296	416,191
	Bank and deposit interest	125,294	116,355
	Total revenue	1,707,552	1,454,183
4.	Expenses	2024	2023
	Exports of	£	£
	Payable to the ACD and associates	&	<b>م</b>
	ACD's periodic charge*	52,628	47,575
	Investment Manager's fee*	350,857	317,162
	Registration fees	7,799	7,133
	Rogisii alio11 1003	411,284	371,870
	Payable to the Depositary		
	Depositary fees	11,578	10,466
	Other expenses:		
	Audit fee	8,700	7,632
	Non-executive directors' fees	1,417	1,702
	Safe custody fees	931	790
	FCA fee	355	241
	KIID production fee	500	458
	Platform charges	233	223
	Legal fee	448	-
		12,584	11,046
	Total expenses	435,446	393,382
	·		

<sup>\*</sup> The annual management charge is 1.15% and includes the ACD's periodic charge and the Investment Manager's fee.

for the year ended 31 December 2024

5.	Taxation	2024	2023
		£	£
	a. Analysis of the tax charge for the year		
	UK corporation tax	76,871	60,392
	Overseas tax withheld	-	32
	Total taxation (note 5b)	76,871	60,424

## 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	1,272,106	1,060,801
Corporation tax @ 20%	254,421	212,160
Effects of:		
UK revenue	(129,561)	(114,551)
Overseas revenue	(47,989)	(37,217)
Overseas tax withheld	-	32
Total taxation (note 5a)	76,871	60,424

## 6. Distributions

7.

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

cancellation of strates, and comprise.		
	2024	2023
	£	£
Interim income distribution	22,215	17,689
Interim accumulation distribution	643,471	485,925
Final income distribution	17,565	16,867
Final accumulation distribution	516,808	473,843
	1,200,059	994,324
Equalisation:		
Amounts deducted on cancellation of shares	14,799	22,406
Amounts added on issue of shares	(19,586)	(16,306)
Total net distributions	1,195,272	1,000,424
Reconciliation between net revenue and distributions:		
Net revenue after taxation per Statement of total return	1,195,235	1,000,377
Undistributed revenue brought forward	118	165
Undistributed revenue carried forward	(81)	(118)
Distributions	1,195,272	1,000,424
Details of the distribution per share are disclosed in the Distrib	ution table.	
Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts receivable on issue of shares	32,040	-
Accrued revenue	152,371	190,493
Prepaid expenses	140	94
Total debtors	184,551	190,587

Class A Income

# Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2024

8. C	Cash and bank balances	2024	2023
		£	£
To	otal cash and bank balances	5,108,801	1,593,025
9. C	Other creditors	2024	2023
		£	£
A	mounts payable on cancellation of shares	-	144,660
А	ccrued expenses:		
Р	ayable to the ACD and associates		
A	ACD's periodic charge	4,732	4,177
- 1	nvestment Manager's fee	31,548	27,845
F	Registration fees	1,250	1,272
		37,530	33,294
C	Other expenses:		
	Depositary fees	1,041	919
S	Safe custody fees	1,125	416
A	Audit fee	8,700	7,632
1	Non-executive directors' fees	1,537	1,498
F	Platform charges	74	60
T	ransaction charges	254	169
		12,731	10,694
To	otal accrued expenses	50,261	43,988
C	Corporation tax payable	76,019	60,392
	otal other creditors	126,280	249,040

# 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:

Opening shares in issue	866,769
Total shares cancelled in the year	(1,082)
Closing shares in issue	865,687
	Class A Accumulation
Opening shares in issue	22,256,621
Total shares issued in the year	1,504,116
Total shares cancelled in the year	(1,261,475)
Closing shares in issue	22,499,262

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 types 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 type has the same rights on winding up.

for the year ended 31 December 2024

## 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 Class A Income share has decreased from 134.4p to 128.1p and the Class A Accumulation share has decreased from 154.5p to 147.2p as at 7 April 2025. 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	Comm	nission	Tax	es	Purchases after transaction costs
2024	£	£	%	£	%	£
Equities	487,105	464	0.10%	996	0.20%	488,565
Closed-Ended Funds	450,942	251	0.06%	145	0.03%	451,338
Bonds*	561,943	-	-	-	-	561,943
Total	1,499,990	715	0.16%	1,141	0.23%	1,501,846

	Purchases before transaction			_		Purchases after transaction
	costs	Comm	nission	Tax	es	costs
2023	£	£	%	£	%	£
Equities	745,346	499	0.07%	1,232	0.16%	747,077
Closed-Ended Funds	877,715	878	0.10%	702	0.08%	879,295
Bonds*	2,965,232	-	-	-	-	2,965,232
Total	4,588,293	1,377	0.17%	1,934	0.24%	4,591,604

Capital events amount of £64,286 (2023: £nil) is excluded from the total purchases as there were no direct transaction costs charged in these transactions.

<sup>\*</sup> No direct transaction costs were incurred in these transactions.

for the year ended 31 December 2024

# 14. Transaction costs (continued)

## a Direct transaction costs (continued)

	Sales before transaction costs	Comm	nission	Tax	es	Sales after transaction costs
2024	£	£	%	£	%	£
Equities	433,518	(532)	0.12%	(3)	0.00%	432,983
Closed-Ended Funds	255,024	(255)	0.10%	(5)	0.00%	254,764
Bonds*	1,330,562	-	-	-	-	1,330,562
Total	2,019,104	(787)	0.22%	(8)	0.00%	2,018,309
	Sales before transaction costs	Comm	iission	Tax	es	Sales after transaction costs
2023	£	£	%	£	%	£
Equities	821,565	(629)	0.08%	(8)	0.00%	820,928
Closed-Ended Funds	143,600	(144)	0.10%	(1)	0.00%	143,455
Bonds*	723,001	-	-	-	-	723,001
Total	1,688,166	(773)	0.18%	(9)	0.00%	1,687,384

Capital events amount of £1,762,501 (2023: £313,292) 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	1,502	0.00%
Taxes	1,149	0.00%
2023	£	% of average net asset value
	du	riei assei value
Commission		
COTTITUSSIOTI	2,150	0.01%

## 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 1.07% (2023: 1.38%).

<sup>\*</sup> No direct transaction costs were incurred in these transactions.

for the year ended 31 December 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 elements of the portfolio of investments exposed to this risk are equities and closed-ended funds.

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 31 December 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 £1,035,261 (2023: £1,018,898).

# (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.

At 31 December 2024 there is no foreign currency exposure.

## (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 and interest bearing securities. 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.

The value of interest bearing securities may be affected by changes in the interest rate environment, either globally or locally.

At 31 December 2024, if interest rates increased or decreased by 25 basis points, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders of the sub-fund would increase or decrease by approximately £36,102 (2023: £41,308).

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.

for the year ended 31 December 2024

- 15. Risk management policies (continued)
- a Market risk (continued)
- (iii) Interest rate risk (continued)

The interest rate risk profile of financial assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date is as follows:

	Variable rate financial assets	Fixed rate financial assets	Non-interest bearing financial assets	Non-interest bearing financial liabilities	Total
2024	£	£	£	£	£
UK sterling	8,003,428	7,166,444	20,889,780	(143,845)	35,915,807
	Variable rate financial assets	Fixed rate financial assets	Non-interest bearing financial assets	Non-interest bearing financial liabilities	Total
2023	£	£	£	£	£
UK sterling	3,989,962	4,027,271	25,155,605	(265,907)	32,906,931

#### 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.

In addition to the interest rate risk, bond investments are exposed to issuer risk which reflects the ability for the bond issuer to meet its obligations to pay interest and return the capital on the redemption date. Change in issuer risk will change the value of the investments and is dealt with further in note 15a. The securities held within the portfolio are made across a variety of industry sectors, and geographical markets, so as to avoid concentrations of credit risk. The credit quality of the debt securities is disclosed in the Portfolio statement.

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.

## 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.

for the year ended 31 December 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	24,574,156	-
Observable market data	5,545,089	-
Unobservable data*	647,055	
	30,766,300	-
	Investment assets	Investment liabilities
Basis of valuation		
Basis of valuation	assets	liabilities
Basis of valuation  Quoted prices	assets 2023	liabilities 2023
	assets 2023 £	liabilities 2023
Quoted prices	assets 2023 £ 24,752,601	liabilities 2023

<sup>\*</sup>The following securities are valued in the portfolio of investments using valuation techniques:

Circle Property: The Fair Value Pricing committee determined that it is appropriate to include the security in the portfolio of investments at nil value as the security is in liquidation.

Inland Zero Dividend Preference Shares: The Fair Value Pricing committee determined that it is appropriate to include the security in the portfolio of investments with a value of £0.13 (2023: £0.54), as the asset is suspended.

R.E.A. Finance BV 8.75% 31/08/2025: The fair value pricing committee agreed that a share price of £1.01 was appropriate for this illiquid bond.

R.E.A. Holdings Subscription Warrants 15/07/2025 is included in the portfolio of investments with a value of £nil (2023: £nil), due to the ordinary share price being lower than the warrant exercise price of £1.26.

R.E.A. Trading 9.5% 30/09/2027: The fair value pricing committee agreed that a share price of £0.99 was appropriate for this illiquid bond.

UTB Partners 12.95% 31/03/2034: The fair value pricing committee agreed that a share price of £1.06 was appropriate for this illiquid bond.

Wasps Finance 6.5% 13/05/2022: The fair value pricing committee determined a share price of £nil was appropriate for this unquoted security (2023: £0.04).

## \*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 sub-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.

for the year ended 31 December 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
Inland Zero Dividend Preference Shares 10/04/2024	0.05%	0.22%
R.E.A. Holdings Subscription Warrants 15/07/2025	0.00%	0.00%
Wasps Finance 6.5% 13/05/2022	0.00%	0.01%
Circle Property	0.00%	
Total	0.05%	0.23%

#### 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.

In the year the sub-fund had exposure to warrants and derivatives embedded in convertible bonds. On a daily basis, exposure is calculated in UK sterling using the commitment approach with netting applied where appropriate. The total global exposure figure is divided by the net asset value of the sub-fund to calculate the percentage global exposure. Global exposure is a risk mitigation technique that monitors the overall commitment to derivatives in a sub-fund at any given time and may not exceed 100% of the net asset value of the property of the sub-fund.

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.

## (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.

for the year ended 31 December 2024

- 15. Risk management policies (continued)
- f Derivatives (continued)
- (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.

As at the balance sheet date, the leverage was 100.66%.

## (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 the global exposure is as follows:

	Gross exposure value	% of the total net asset value
	£	
Investment		
Convertible bonds		
abrdn Asia Focus 2.25% 31/05/2025	140,354	0.39%
PHP Finance Jersey 2.875% 15/07/2025	96,048	0.27%

There have been no collateral arrangements in the year.

## Distribution table

for the year ended 31 December 2024

Interim distributions in pence per share

Group 1 - Shares purchased before 1 January 2024

Group 2 - Shares purchased 1 January 2024 to 30 June 2024

	Net revenue	Equalisation	Total distributions 30 August 2024	Total distributions 30 August 2023
Class A Income				
Group 1	2.563	-	2.563	2.038
Group 2	2.563	-	2.563	2.038
Class A Accumulation				
Group 1	2.845	-	2.845	2.193
Group 2	1.604	1.241	2.845	2.193

Final distributions in pence per share

Group 1 - Shares purchased before 1 July 2024

Group 2 - Shares purchased 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2024

	Net		Total distributions	Total distributions
	revenue	Equalisation	28 February 2025	29 February 2024
Class A Income				
Group 1	2.029	-	2.029	1.946
Group 2	2.029	-	2.029	1.946
Class A Accumulation				
Group 1	2.297	-	2.297	2.129
Group 2	1.165	1.132	2.297	2.129

# 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 shareholders but must be deducted from the cost of shares for capital gains tax purposes.

## Accumulation distribution

Holders of accumulation shares should add the distributions received thereon to the cost of the 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 Evelyn Partners Group Limited ('the Group'), including individuals designated as Material Risk Takers (MRTs) 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<sup>1</sup> and is governed by formal terms of reference, which are reviewed and agreed by the board. The committee met eight times during 2023.

## 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>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please note that the data provided for the independent 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 Group Limited 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 year 31 December 2023 for senior management and other MRTs detailed below has not been apportioned.

Table to show the aggregate remuneration split by	For the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023				
Senior Management and other MRTs for EPFL					
		Variable	Variable		
	Fixed	Cash	Equity	Total	No. MRTs
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Senior Management	3,518	1,662	-	5,180	18
Other MRTs	919	848	-	1,767	5
Total	4,437	2,510	-	6,947	23

## Investment Manager

The ACD has appointed Heritage Capital Management Limited to provide investment management and related advisory services to the ACD. The Investment Manager is paid a monthly fee out of the scheme property of SVS Heritage Investment Fund which is calculated on the total value of the portfolio of investments at the month end. The Investment Manager is 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 semi-annually on the last day in February (final) and 30 August (interim). In the event of a distribution, shareholders will receive a tax voucher.

XD dates: 1 January final

1 July interim

Reporting dates: 31 December annual

30 June interim

## Buying and selling shares - SVS Heritage Balanced Portfolio Fund

The property of the sub-fund is valued at 10pm every business day, and the prices of shares are calculated as at that time with the exception of the last business day prior to any bank holiday in England and Wales where the valuation may be carried out at a time agreed in advance between the ACD and the Depositary. 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 sub-fund are published on the following website: www.trustnet.com or may be obtained by calling 0141 222 1151.

## Benchmark

Shareholders may compare the performance of the sub-fund against UK Consumer Price Index. The ACD has selected this comparator benchmark to reflect expected outcomes.

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 - resigned 31 March 2025

Brian McLean Mayank Prakash Neil Coxhead Independent Non-Executive Directors of the ACD

Dean Buckley Linda Robinson Victoria Muir Sally Macdonald

Non-Executive Directors of the ACD Guy Swarbreck - resigned 31 March 2025

Investment Manager

Heritage Capital Management Limited

Broadway House

Tothill Street

London SW1H 9NQ

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