

Aberdeen Standard OEIC II

Interim Long Report (unaudited)
For the six months ended 31 August 2020



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Report of the Authorised Corporate Director

Aberdeen Standard OEIC II (the “Company”), is an open-ended investment company with variable capital. The Company is incorporated in Scotland with registered number SI000004 and is currently authorised pursuant to Regulation 14 of the Open-Ended Investment Companies Regulations 2001 (the “OEIC Regulations”). The effective date of the authorisation order made by the Financial Conduct Authority (the “FCA”) was 22 May 1998.

The Company is constituted as a UCITS scheme for the purposes of the FCA Rules. Its FCA Product Reference Number (“PRN”) is 186564. It has an umbrella structure scheme for the purposes of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook (“COLL”) and consists of twenty six live funds.

Appointments

Authorised Corporate Director	Correspondence address	Trustee	Correspondence address
Aberdeen Standard Fund Managers Limited Registered office Bow Bells House 1 Bread Street London EC4M 9HH	PO Box 12233 Chelmsford CM99 2EE	Citibank Europe plc Registered office 1 North Wall Quay Dublin Ireland	UK Branch Office Citigroup Centre Canada Square Canary Wharf London E14 5LB
Independent auditor	Registrar	Investment Adviser	
KPMG LLP St Vincent Plaza 319 St Vincent Street Glasgow G2 5AS	SS&C Financial Services Europe Limited SS&C House St Nicholas Lane Essex SS15 5FS	Standard Life Investments Limited Registered office 1 George Street Edinburgh EH2 2LL	

The Authorised Corporate Director (the ACD), Aberdeen Asset Managers Limited, Aberdeen Standard Investments (Asia) Limited, and Aberdeen Asset Management Inc are wholly owned subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc, and are accordingly associates. The Investment Advisers have the authority of the ACD to make decisions on its behalf in all aspects of the investment management of the investments and other property of the Company. The main terms of the agreement with each investment adviser are that it should have the authority of the ACD to make decisions on its behalf in all aspects of the investment management of the investments and other property of the Company, including the Company's powers to enter into hedging transactions relating to efficient portfolio management.

The adviser's powers extend to all of the property of the Company except any part which the ACD excludes from the adviser's powers.

The adviser is to report details of each transaction to the ACD and to confer with the ACD when required by it. The ACD will notify the adviser of additional cash available for the investment.

Significant Events

Investors will be aware of the COVID-19 outbreak and that the outlook for many capital markets has been volatile since 31 August 2020, the interim of Aberdeen Standard OEIC II. Whilst the impact of COVID-19 was reflected in fund operations and global markets at interim, the continued efforts to mitigate the pandemic through global lockdowns and government interventions have resulted in prolonged market uncertainty. As a result, the NAVs of certain funds have fluctuated significantly since the interim. The COVID -19 update below each balance sheet provides a quantification of this fluctuation in NAV.

The Management Company has delegated various tasks to Aberdeen Standard Investments Investor Protection Committee (IPC). The IPC is responsible for ensuring the fair treatment of investors. The IPC undertakes daily reviews of the following:

- Market liquidity across each asset class and fund
- Asset class bid-offer spread monitoring
- Review of fund level dilution rate appropriateness
- Review of daily subscriptions / redemptions to anticipate any potential concerns to meet redemption proceeds
- Any requirement to gate or defer redemptions
- Any requirement to suspend the funds

- Any fair value price adjustments at a fund level

The Management Company has also evaluated, and will continue to evaluate, the operational resilience of all service providers.

As at 26 October 2020, no Aberdeen Standard OEIC II funds' have been suspended and based on the ACD's assessment of the factors noted above, has adequate financial resources to continue in operation.

Developments and prospectus updates since 29 February 2020

- On 27 March 2020 the ASI American Unconstrained Equity Fund SL Income share class was closed.
- On 27 March 2020 the ASI Global Income Equity Fund SL Income share class was closed.
- On 27 March 2020 the ASI UK Growth Equity Fund Institutional R Accumulation share class was closed.
- On 27 March 2020 the ASI UK Growth Equity Fund SL Income share class was closed.
- On 27 March 2020 the ASI UK High Alpha Equity Fund SL Income share class was closed.
- On 27 March 2020 the ASI UK Opportunities Equity Fund SL Income share class was closed.
- On 31 March 2020 the Transfer Agent of the fund changed its name from DST Financial Services Europe Limited to SS&C Financial Services Europe Limited and updated its mailing address as a result of this. There was no impact to the fund as a result of this change.
- On 7 July 2020 the ASI Global Unconstrained Equity Fund changed its name to ASI Global Focused Equity Fund.
- On 7 July 2020 the Asset Backed/Mortgage Backed Securities risk information in the prospectus was updated.
- The list of funds managed by the ACD was updated, where appropriate;
- On 13 August 2020 investors were informed that the ASI UK Recovery Equity Fund was to close. The fund closure date will be the 22 October 2020.
- Performance and dilution figures were refreshed, where appropriate;
- The list of sub-custodians was refreshed, where appropriate.

Assessment of Value

In 2017 the FCA published the final Asset Management Market Study. This introduced (among other reforms) new governance rules with the aim of enhancing duty of care and ensuring the industry acts in investors' best interests. The rules were outlined in the FCA policy statement PS18/8 and came into effect from 30 September 2019. As a result, the Authorised Corporate Director is required to perform a detailed assessment on whether funds are "providing value to investors". The resulting findings will be published within 4 months of the fund year-end date and can be found on the 'Fund Centre' pages on the Aberdeen Standard Investments website at aberdeenstandard.com.

Crossholding information

There were no cross holdings between funds in the Company as at 31 August 2020 (2019: nil).

Authorised Corporate Director's Statement

In accordance with the requirements of the COLL Sourcebook as issued and amended by the Financial Conduct Authority, we hereby certify the report on behalf of Aberdeen Standard Fund Managers Limited, the Authorised Corporate Director.



Aron Mitchell
Director
Aberdeen Standard Fund Managers Limited
28 October 2020



Gary Marshall
Director
Aberdeen Standard Fund Managers Limited
28 October 2020

Investment Report

1 March 2020 - 31 August 2020

Global Overview

Global stock markets rose, but with considerable divergence by country. While US and Chinese stocks performed well, the UK and Latin America fared particularly badly.

In early 2020, COVID-19 spread from China around the globe – forcing governments to take severe steps to control the spread. Risk assets sold off as more countries imposed lockdowns, bringing economies to a standstill and stifling consumption. Adding to the gloom was the plunge in oil prices, after Saudi-Russia talks on limiting output failed. Many countries launched massive fiscal and monetary stimulus packages, with central banks cutting interest rates to record low levels. This unprecedented policy support buoyed sentiment and many markets began to recover in April – a pattern which has continued for the last few months. The oil-price collapse stabilised thanks to recovering global demand and supply discipline among OPEC+ members.

The bounce-back has not hit every country equally. The US and China have led the charge, with technology and healthcare stocks performing well. Investors responded positively to encouraging news on coronavirus vaccine trials, indications that the US government would provide further fiscal support to combat a recession and improving US-China trade relations. But flaring geopolitical hotspots worldwide tempered the 'risk-on' mood. A resurgence in infections across several countries near the end of August also capped markets' advance.

Individual market overviews

UK equities

The UK stock market was among the weakest developed markets, falling as coronavirus hit economies and stocks worldwide. At the beginning of the period, UK stocks tumbled in line with their global peers, as the economic fallout from the coronavirus epidemic became clear. Falls accelerated until late March, when the UK government and Bank of England acted to minimise corporate defaults and job losses, cutting interest rates and announcing a record spending package. Stocks began to recover in April, and accelerated in June as the economy began to reopen after months of economic lockdown. However, the recovery has not been linear, nor strong enough to offset losses incurred at the start of 2020. During a period of considerable political upheaval, investors grappled with Brexit-related uncertainty and the economic fallout from the coronavirus pandemic.

US equities

US equities rose, against a backdrop of the new coronavirus taking hold in early 2020. At the beginning of the period, US equities were falling as the virus outbreak in China turned into a global pandemic. Stocks crashed as countries shut down in response to the spread of the disease. The Federal Reserve (Fed) reacted by cutting interest rates to near zero. Massive subsequent stimulus by the authorities spurred a strong rally in US stocks in April. Gains continued in May amid hopes of a V-shaped economic recovery and easing lockdowns. The speed of the market recovery was tempered in June by fears of a second wave of coronavirus and a cautious economic outlook from monetary policymakers. In August, the Fed announced that it would now tolerate brief increases in inflation, signalling interest rates could stay lower for longer.

European equities

European stocks (excluding the UK) gained, despite concerns about the economic consequences of COVID-19. Having dropped at the start of the period, markets rallied in the second quarter of 2020, following unprecedented support from governments and central banks. In particular, the European Central Bank (ECB) announced a substantial corporate and government bond-buying scheme to shore up markets. Governments across Europe also announced record stimulus measures to save jobs and businesses. As was the case in many regions, central-bank intervention helped European equities regain some of their losses and markets continued to rise as infection rates fell and lockdown restrictions were lifted. However, some countries have fared better than others. Germany and the Netherlands have been strongest in the region, while Scandinavia also bounced back well. On the other hand France, Spain and Italy have yet to fully recover, as they struggle with rising infection rates.

Japanese equities

The coronavirus outbreak rocked Japanese stocks at the beginning of the period. In response, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe declared a nationwide state of emergency in April. As economic activity dried up, major central banks responded to market slumps by slashing rates and offering stimulus measures. The Bank of Japan announced that it would buy riskier assets, such as corporate bonds, at double its previous pace, helping local markets to rebound strongly in April and May. Investor optimism was dampened in June by evidence of a deep recession as lockdown measures in Japan and overseas impacted its exports and domestic consumer businesses. Abe's government later approved a ¥117 trillion stimulus package intended to protect businesses and jobs.

Asian equities

Asian stocks rose over the period. This was a turbulent time, with sharp falls at the beginning of the period as the COVID-19 pandemic and recession fears saw financial markets worldwide suffer precipitous falls. However, markets bounced back and Asian equities posted their best quarterly gain since 2009 in the second quarter. While COVID-19 worries persisted, investors focused on the easing of lockdowns and the gradual recovery of economies across the region. In particular, Chinese markets have rallied strongly as economic data has proven upbeat. The unprecedented policy support from governments and central banks globally also buoyed sentiment. However, flaring geopolitical hotspots worldwide tempered the 'risk-on' mood.

Bond markets

Global central-bank policy and fears about the affect of coronavirus drove bond markets over the period. Concerns about the COVID-19 outbreak encouraged a 'flight to safety', with investors abandoning risky assets in favour of government debt. Early in March, the Fed slashed interest rates, while increasing demand for defensive assets drove the yield on the benchmark 10-year US Treasury sharply downwards. The yields on German bunds and UK gilts also moved to record lows. However, government bonds fell in August as more upbeat economic data and hopes for a COVID-19 vaccine drove investors towards riskier assets. Corporate bonds rose, fuelled by falling government bond yields and supportive central-bank policy. In particular, asset purchases by major central banks – particularly the Fed and ECB – have propped up corporate bond markets.

Outlook for equities

Within global equities, market action indicates that investors are taking the view that there will be a V-shaped economic recovery. A typical pattern seen during recovery phases is now unfolding. We are seeing strong gains for equities and the US dollar weakening. Investors will continue to react to newsflow. They are likely to receive data supporting a recovery well. Any setback will lead to another leg down in the markets.

Outlook for bonds

Political and economic factors will continue to dominate fixed income markets. The US elections are looming, and we are seeing escalating tensions between China and the rest of the world. Central banks and governments have mitigated the effects of the pandemic on financial markets. However, there will not be a sustained recovery until the virus is contained, allowing the full easing of lockdown measures. Market uncertainty should continue to be favourable for government bonds. Meanwhile, US Federal Reserve's purchases of investment-grade credit will continue to provide some support for corporate bonds.

Notes to the financial statements of Aberdeen Standard OEIC II

Accounting Policies

For the six months ended 31 August 2020.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements for each of the funds' have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of investments, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for Financial Statements of Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Management Association in May 2014 (IMA SORP 2014), Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The ACD has considered the impact of the emergence and spread of COVID-19 and potential implications on future operations of the funds of reasonably plausible downside scenarios. The ACD has undertaken a detailed assessment, and continues to monitor, the 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 funds continue to be open for trading and the ACD is satisfied the funds have adequate financial resources to continue in operation and accordingly it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

For all funds prepared on a basis other than going concern noted above, no adjustments were required to the financial statements' to adjust assets or liabilities to their realisable values or to provide for liabilities arising from the decision to terminate the funds. No liabilities have been recorded for costs of the terminations as the intention is that the Authorised Corporate Director will bear any such costs which may arise.

Distribution policy

The revenue from the funds' investments accumulates during each accounting period. If revenue exceeds expenses during the period, the net revenue of the fund is available for distribution (or re-investment) at share class level to the shareholders in accordance with the OEIC Regulations. If expenses exceed revenue during the period, the net revenue shortfall may be funded from capital.

All funds pay a dividend distribution with the exception of ASI (SLI) Corporate Bond Fund, ASI AAA Bond Fund, ASI Emerging Market Government Bond Fund, ASI High Yield Bond Fund, ASI Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund, ASI Short Duration Credit Fund and ASI UK Government Bond Fund which pay an interest distribution.

Gains and losses on non-derivative investments and currencies, whether realised or unrealised, are taken to capital and are not available for distribution. For derivative investments, where positions are undertaken to enhance capital return, the gains and losses are taken to capital, otherwise where they generate revenue, the amounts are included as revenue or expense and affect distributions.

Ethical Funds Advisory Group Report

Ethical Funds Advisory Group Report

Aberdeen Standard Investments is responsible for managing several ethical funds. The Aberdeen Standard Investments Ethical Funds are managed according to clearly defined investment mandates and the range of available investments is underpinned by established policies and independent research data on their ethical credentials.

The Aberdeen Standard Investments Ethical Funds Advisory Group

The Aberdeen Standard Investments Ethical Funds Advisory Group is chaired by the Global Head of Distribution Governance and Risk. It comprises of investors in the ethical funds and senior Aberdeen Standard Investments group managers with involvement in managing and marketing the Funds and their associated products. The Group generally meets twice a year and is responsible for ensuring the ethical policy for these Funds is applied correctly, that the Policy continues to reflect the concerns of investors in the ethical funds and that the processes supporting the application of the Policy are robust.

This involves:

- considering current ethical issues and trends and the implications for the Funds
- reviewing investment and marketing reports
- ensuring that Aberdeen Standard Investment's process for ethical investment is observed
- reviewing and addressing customer queries and
- commissioning market and customer research on ethical issues

Funds' Criteria

The ethical funds are invested according to the positive and negative criteria set out in the ethical policy. The funds do not invest in companies that fail the negative criteria and favour investment in companies that meet the positive criteria.

Issues Arising

The Group discussed a number of issues during the period relating to companies' individual approaches to corporate responsibility. Due consideration was given to reviewing the ethical funds' policy. Topics discussed by the Group included the 2019 annual investor survey, current ethical issues, climate change and a number of specific company reviews.

Voting record – ASI UK Ethical Equity Fund

We voted against remuneration resolutions at the AGMs of Grainger, TUI, Relx, boohoo Group, Centaur Media, Electrocomponents, Aveva Group, Mitie Group and JD Sports Fashion plc.

At the AGM of TUI, we voted against the election of Vladimir Lukin to the Supervisory Board as he is a non-independent director and was being appointed for an initial term of four years. We are of the view that directors should be presented for re-election after a maximum of three years, but preferably annually.

At the AGM of Just Eat Takeaway.com we voted against an authority to exclude pre-emption rights from the company's share issuance authority. While we supported one resolution to exclude pre-emption rights up to 10% of the issued share capital, we did not support the exclusion of an additional 10% as this exceeded our guideline limits.

At the AGM of Georgia Healthcare Group we abstained on the re-election of the entire board as we had concerns regarding the terms of the share exchange between Georgia Healthcare and Georgia Capital, and the board had indicated unanimous support for the transaction.

At the AGM of boohoo Group, we again voted against the re-election of PWC as auditors. We have concerns regarding auditor independence as PWC continue to provide remuneration advice to the company.

The board of Aveva Group comprises only 22% women which falls short of the 33% expected from the Hampton Alexander review by the end of 2020. We would normally vote against the re-election of the Chair of the Nomination Committee in this situation however, in view of the significant impact of COVID-19 we felt that adding to the disruption by voting against individual directors, and particularly the company Chair, was not in our clients' interests at this time. We therefore decided to instead vote against the report and accounts this year.

In response to the circumstances arising from the pandemic a number of companies made the decision not to pay the dividends intended as a result of their financial performance during 2019. Instead, they decided to retain these amounts as a means to conserve capital in circumstances that may continue to be challenging for some time to come. Hammerson, Standard Chartered, Howden Joinery, Mondi, OneSavings Bank and Inchcape intended to withdraw the resolutions that sought approval of their dividends at their AGMs and we therefore abstained on these resolutions.

The ASI UK Ethical Equity Fund also has a holding in Phoenix Group in which Standard Life Aberdeen has a significant shareholding and two representatives appointed to the Board. Due to the nature of this relationship and the accompanying conflicts of interest we did not instruct a vote on behalf of our clients on any of the resolutions at the special meeting in February or general meeting in May.

Investor opinion

Investors in the ethical funds continue to make a valuable contribution to the Groups understanding of ethical concerns, in particular, through participation of investors on the Advisory Group and the annual survey of investors' views. The 2019 investor survey focused on a number of issues, including fossil fuels, the SDGs, and environmental degradation. The survey continues to inform the policy of the ethical funds.

Further information

For any additional information, please write to Amanda Young, Secretary to the Ethical Funds Advisory Group, Aberdeen Standard Investments, 6 St Andrew's Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2AH.

Amanda Young

Secretary to the Ethical Funds Advisory Group

Date 07/09/2020

ASI (SLI) Asian Pacific Growth Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in Asian equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan Index +3% per annum over rolling three year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

Performance Comparator: IA Asia Pacific ex Japan Equity Sector Average.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target/comparator for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index/sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in Asian countries, including Australasia, or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from Asian, including Australasia, operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at country, sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. The research process is focused on finding high quality companies at attractive valuations that can be held for the long term.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 8%. Due to the active nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").

- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance

Over the period under review, the fund returned 13.7%. This compared to a return of 10.5% for our performance target (the MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan Index +3%).

Our stock picks in China bolstered returns. China Tourism Group Duty Free was the top stock contributor as its shares rose on its acquisition of Hainan Duty Free. The move helped strengthen its market leadership. Beijing's wide-ranging stimulus for the Hainan offshore duty-free market also provided a boost. Baijiu maker Kweichow Moutai fared well too, on expectations that its earnings would be resilient in spite of uncertainties stemming from COVID-19. Internet giant Tencent was another key contributor. Its share price advanced towards all-time highs on surging demand for its mobile games during lockdown periods. E-commerce company Meituan Dianping re-rated after it posted better-than-expected results. This was driven by growing demand for food-delivery services on its platform amid the pandemic. Elsewhere, South Korea's LG Chem and Samsung SDI benefited from increasingly positive prospects for electric vehicles.

Conversely, stock selection in India weighed on performance. Housing Development Finance Corp and Kotak Mahindra Bank pulled back in tandem with the wider banking sector due to heightened concerns of weakening growth and worsening asset quality. Nonetheless, we still favour these better-managed and higher-quality private-sector lenders; they should continue gaining market share at the expense of weaker rivals. IT services consultancy Cyient was pressured by near-term challenges faced by its end-customers, while engineering and construction conglomerate Larsen & Toubro was hurt by a muted outlook for capital expenditure. Not holding India's Reliance Industries proved costly too, as it was bolstered by a flurry of foreign investments. We are closely monitoring these developments. For the time being, we remain on the sidelines until there are tangible improvements in its returns, gearing, free cash flow and attitude towards corporate governance. Elsewhere, Chinese carmaker SAIC Motor lagged on dismal sales, while a lack of exposure to online retailer JD.com and electronics company Xiaomi also hurt performance.

Activity

In portfolio activity, we introduced four Chinese companies. Leading tuition chain New Oriental Education & Technology has built up a reputable brand in a fragmented market, backed by capable management. After years of expansion, the company now expects decent earnings growth as the industry consolidates. China Conch Venture owns leading cement maker and proven cost leader Anhui Conch Cement. Its environmental business, which includes waste-management services, has been gaining traction. Increased capacity and favourable government policies will support its prospects over the longer term. Meanwhile, we subscribed to these two initial public offerings in the period: First was Hangzhou Tigermed, the largest clinical contract researcher in China, which made a secondary listing in Hong Kong. It stands to benefit from rising research spending on innovative drugs in the mainland, given supportive policy amid current low penetration levels. The other was KE Holdings, which owns property brokerage Lianjia and housing transactions platform Beike, both leading brands. We believe KE can generate formidable network effects by bringing agents onto the same platform and driving industry consolidation.

Elsewhere, we introduced three stocks. Asian Paints is the market leader for the decorative paint segment in India. It is well-positioned to benefit from rising demand, given its wide distribution network, broad product portfolio and experienced management. Xero develops accounting software for smaller businesses, and has healthy positions in its core Australian and New Zealand markets. The advent of cloud-based solutions supports its expansion abroad, which in turn, should transform it into a global software player. New Zealand-based Fisher & Paykel Healthcare makes medical devices for respiratory care and sleep apnea. It should benefit from heightened industry awareness and the use of nasal high-flow therapy due to the pandemic.

We funded these by divesting lower-conviction holdings, namely Cyient, Hangzhou Hikvision, Huazhu, Texhong Textile and Woory Industrial. We also sold Bapcor which appeared fully-valued.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 6 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- Investing in China A shares involves special considerations and risks, including greater price volatility, a less developed regulatory and legal framework, exchange rate risk/controls, settlement, tax, quota, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in emerging market equities and / or bonds. Investing in emerging markets involves a greater risk of loss than investing in more developed markets due to, among other factors, greater political, tax, economic, foreign exchange, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The fund may invest in companies with Variable Interest Entity (VIE) structures in order to gain exposure to industries with foreign ownership restrictions. There is a risk that investments in these structures may be adversely affected by changes in the legal and regulatory framework.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	14,015	13,002	13,276	14,990
Closing number of shares	3,580,573	3,660,152	4,015,987	4,195,975
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	391.42	355.22	330.58	357.24
Change in net asset value per share	10.19%	7.45%	(7.46%)	15.69%
Operating charges	1.43%	1.47%	1.41%	1.49%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	4,375	4,134	20,805	31,394
Closing number of shares	965,321	1,007,457	5,473,077	7,678,325
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	453.28	410.38	380.13	408.86
Change in net asset value per share	10.45%	7.96%	(7.03%)	16.24%
Operating charges	0.96%	1.00%	0.94%	1.02%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,356	1,245	1,264	1,437
Closing number of shares	1,509,502	1,527,171	1,647,006	1,708,776
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	89.84	81.53	76.76	84.11
Change in net asset value per share	10.19%	6.21%	(8.74%)	14.86%
Operating charges	1.43%	1.47%	1.41%	1.49%

Standard Life income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	–	3
Closing number of shares	–	–	–	2,115
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	–	148.45
Change in net asset value per share	–	–	3.89%	14.97%
Operating charges	–	–	0.11%	0.19%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	844	763	690	774
Closing number of shares	500,796	502,270	493,912	518,800
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	168.53	152.00	139.76	149.20
Change in net asset value per share	10.88%	8.76%	(6.33%)	17.12%
Operating charges	0.21%	0.25%	0.19%	0.27%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 7 June 2018.

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	10,593	9,476	9,233	10,630
Closing number of shares	8,907,638	8,799,111	9,249,170	9,896,216
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	118.92	107.69	99.82	107.41
Change in net asset value per share	10.43%	7.88%	(7.07%)	16.17%
Operating charges	1.01%	1.05%	0.99%	1.07%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Pacific Basin Equities (98.84%)		30,198	96.84
Australia (13.42%)		4,635	14.86
40,106	Aristocrat Leisure	628	2.01
1,312	ASML	368	1.18
32,512	BHP	557	1.79
5,364	Cochlear	569	1.83
12,500	Commonwealth Bank of Australia	471	1.51
6,144	CSL	971	3.11
36,477	Goodman	365	1.17
18,000	National Australia Bank	178	0.57
5,800	Rio Tinto	313	1.00
22,173	Westpac Banking	215	0.69
China (34.17%)		11,320	36.30
11,613	Alibaba ADR	2,490	7.98
56,000	Anhui Conch Cement 'H'	303	0.97
36,000	China Conch Venture	116	0.37
629,552	China Construction Bank 'H'	332	1.08
21,635	China International Travel Service 'A'	491	1.57
119,038	China Merchants Bank 'H'	424	1.36
242,000	CNOOC	205	0.66
6,040	GDS ADR	365	1.17
126,195	Haitian International	228	0.73
7,973	Hangzhou Tigermed Consulting 'A'	97	0.31
3,700	Hangzhou Tigermed Consulting 'H'	45	0.15
1,315	KE Holdings	51	0.16
3,400	Kweichow Moutai 'A'	662	2.12
20,100	Meituan Dianping 'B'	495	1.59
23,700	Midea 'A'	182	0.58
519	NetEase ADR	189	0.60
2,610	New Oriental Education & Technology ADR	286	0.92
105,084	Ping An Insurance 'H'	835	2.68
167,400	SAIC Motor 'A'	341	1.09
49,667	Shanghai International Airport 'A'	414	1.33
51,553	Tencent	2,636	8.45
4,752,000	Tianhe Chemicals**	-	-
88,139	Weichai Power 'H'	133	0.43

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Hong Kong (11.32%)		2,441	7.83
98,922	AIA	760	2.44
136,900	Budweiser Brewing	344	1.10
424,000	China High Precision Automation**	-	-
147,000	China Metal Recycling**	-	-
193,093	China Resources Land	666	2.14
11,774	Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing	444	1.42
231,398	SITC	227	0.73
India (9.54%)		2,638	8.46
6,484	Asian Paints	125	0.40
13,100	Hindustan Unilever	280	0.90
33,690	Housing Development Finance	624	2.00
136,000	ITC	263	0.84
26,755	Kotak Mahindra Bank	379	1.22
32,236	Larsen & Toubro	309	0.99
28,916	SBI Life Insurance	243	0.78
18,200	Tata Consultancy Services	415	1.33
Indonesia (3.04%)		825	2.65
665,900	Astra	174	0.56
302,523	Bank Central Asia	487	1.56
910,471	Bank Rakyat Indonesia	164	0.53
Macau (0.92%)		344	1.10
104,501	Sands China	344	1.10
Malaysia (0.49%)		129	0.41
43,800	Public Bank	129	0.41
New Zealand (0.00%)		426	1.37
14,300	Fisher & Paykel Healthcare	264	0.85
2,910	Xero	162	0.52
Philippines (1.08%)		229	0.73
516,200	Ayala Land	229	0.73
Singapore (3.13%)		795	2.55
188,992	Capitaland	288	0.93
23,475	DBS	269	0.86
50,103	Oversea-Chinese Banking	238	0.76

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
South Korea (11.59%)		3,079	9.87
833	LG Chemical	388	1.25
24,100	Samsung Electronics	818	2.62
38,366	Samsung Electronics (Preference)	1,146	3.67
1,341	Samsung SDI	382	1.22
7,313	SK Hynix	345	1.11
Taiwan (8.82%)		3,203	10.28
224,000	Hon Hai Precision	438	1.41
19,852	President Chain Store	136	0.44
114,000	Taiwan Mobile	295	0.94
215,005	Taiwan Semiconductors Manufacturing	2,334	7.49
Thailand (1.32%)		134	0.43
30,670	Advanced Info Service (Alien Market)	134	0.43
Collective Investment Schemes (0.30%)		764	2.45
764	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	764	2.45
Total investment assets		30,962	99.29
Net other assets		221	0.71
Total Net Assets		31,183	100.00

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

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

** Delisted

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		2,586		3,760
Revenue	440		855	
Expenses	(161)		(253)	
Net revenue before taxation	279		602	
Taxation	37		(45)	
Net revenue after taxation		316		557
Total return before equalisation		2,902		4,317
Equalisation on shares		(1)		(32)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		2,901		4,285

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		28,620		45,268
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	2,022		2,196	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(2,360)		(6,131)	
		(338)		(3,935)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		2,901		4,285
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		31,183		45,618

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		30,962		28,375
Current assets:				
Debtors	127		187	
Cash and bank balances	211		229	
		338		416
Total assets		31,300		28,791
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(117)		(157)	
Distribution payable	-		(14)	
		(117)		(171)
Total liabilities		(117)		(171)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		31,183		28,620

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Accumulation share class has increased by 6.72% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

ASI (SLI) Corporate Bond Fund

Investment objective

To generate income and some growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in Sterling-denominated investment grade corporate bonds.

Performance Target: To exceed the IA Sterling Corporate bond Sector Average return (after charges) over 1 year and be top quartile over rolling three year periods. The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 60% in Sterling denominated investment grade corporate bonds.
- The fund may also invest in bonds issued anywhere in the world by governments and corporations, including sub-sovereigns, sub-investment grade, inflation-linked, convertible, asset backed and mortgage backed bonds. The fund will employ techniques to reduce (hedge) risk related to currency movements on non-Sterling bonds.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to identify bonds and derivatives based on analysis of global economic and market conditions (for example, interest rates and inflation) and analysis of a company's prospects and creditworthiness compared to that of the market.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the iBoxx Sterling Collateralized & Corporates Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 3%. Due to the active nature of the management process, the fund's profile may deviate significantly from the iBoxx Sterling Collateralized & Corporates Index over the long term.

Please note: The fund's ability to buy and sell bonds and the associated costs can be affected during periods of market stress which could include periods where interest rates move sharply.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund will make routine use of derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/ or generate extra income or growth at consistent risk (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").

- Derivatives include instruments used to manage expected changes in interest rates, inflation, currencies or creditworthiness of corporations or governments.

Performance

The fund returned +1.1% during the period, in comparison with the IA Sterling Corporate Bond Sector which returned +1.3%. Please note, fund returns are net of fees. (Source: Morningstar, basic rate taxpayer, bid-to-bid basis).

The fund modestly underperformed its peer group over the review period. Despite being severely impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, the fund's overweight exposure to Heathrow Airport was strongly profitable over the period. This was because we significantly increased our holdings at undervalued prices in May, after which there was a good recovery in the bonds. A number of long-dated holdings also performed well over the period, including those of the German electric utility E.On, the US telecoms company AT&T and the 2117 bonds of Oxford University.

On the negative side, many of the worst performers were companies that were heavily exposed to the pandemic. Examples of this included property companies with significant retail interests such as Intu Properties, Brookfield Property Partners, as well as the travel services company Go-Ahead Group. Another poor performer was the UK funeral services business Dignity, which continued to struggle in a competitive environment.

Investment Activity

Towards the end of the review period, some examples of new issue purchases included Tesco, Southern Water, British American Tobacco, and the UK residential landlord Grainger. We also selectively added subordinated bank debt, examples of which included the Italian bank Intesa Sanpaolo and UK bank Barclays.

In the secondary market, towards the end of the review period, we increased exposure to preferred names such as Deutsche Bank and Danske Bank. On the sell side, given the sizeable recovery in oil prices from earlier pronounced weakness, we reduced exposure to the French energy company Total. Following good performance, we also sold the subordinated debt of CYBG and the corporate hybrids of the Scottish utility SSE.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 4 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- The fund invests in mortgage- and asset-backed securities which are subject to prepayment, extension, liquidity and default risk.
- Convertible securities are investments that can be changed into another form upon certain triggers. As such, they can exhibit credit, equity and fixed interest risk. Contingent convertible securities (CoCos) are similar to convertible securities but have additional triggers which mean that they are more vulnerable to losses and volatile price movements and hence become less liquid. For example, a coco bond can lose some or all of its value instantaneously if a trigger, such as the issuer experiencing capital shortfalls, occurs.
- The fund invests in securities which are subject to the risk that the issuer may default on interest or capital payments.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in high yielding bonds which carry a greater risk of default than those with lower yields.
- The fund price can go up or down daily for a variety of reasons including changes in interest rates, inflation expectations or the perceived credit quality of individual countries or securities.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	58,723	60,205	58,696	54,664
Closing number of shares	15,275,160	15,829,495	17,098,799	16,106,661
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	384.43	380.34	343.27	339.39
Change in net asset value per share	1.08%	10.80%	1.14%	1.80%
Operating charges	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	100,259	115,346	105,206	112,647
Closing number of shares	154,418,038	179,950,237	182,615,780	198,603,341
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	64.93	64.10	57.61	56.72
Change in net asset value per share	1.29%	11.27%	1.57%	2.24%
Operating charges	0.61%	0.61%	0.61%	0.61%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	26,196	26,759	27,470	39,096
Closing number of shares	24,369,124	24,750,945	27,218,270	37,810,618
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	107.50	108.11	100.93	103.40
Change in net asset value per share	(0.56%)	7.11%	(2.39%)	(1.51%)
Operating charges	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	245	519	5,156	5,800
Closing number of shares	445,171	938,793	10,026,675	11,055,336
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	55.12	55.32	51.43	52.47
Change in net asset value per share	(0.36%)	7.56%	(1.98%)	(1.09%)
Operating charges	0.61%	0.61%	0.61%	0.61%

Standard Life income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	15,277	16,194	16,396	4,017
Closing number of shares	27,003,512	28,605,016	31,336,541	7,552,845
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	56.57	56.61	52.32	53.18
Change in net asset value per share	(0.07%)	8.20%	(1.62%)	(0.51%)
Operating charges	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	23	23	39	9
Closing number of shares	35,450	34,525	66,915	16,138
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	66.57	65.55	58.61	57.42
Change in net asset value per share	1.56%	11.84%	2.07%	2.72%
Operating charges	0.11%	0.11%	0.11%	0.11%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	11,748	14,325	13,153	13,434
Closing number of shares	6,963,995	8,599,343	8,780,254	9,104,179
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	168.69	166.58	149.80	147.56
Change in net asset value per share	1.27%	11.20%	1.52%	2.17%
Operating charges	0.66%	0.66%	0.66%	0.66%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	10,739	11,014	11,389	13,659
Closing number of shares	8,886,575	9,079,018	10,094,824	11,860,227
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	120.84	121.31	112.83	115.17
Change in net asset value per share	(0.39%)	7.52%	(2.03%)	(1.15%)
Operating charges	0.66%	0.66%	0.66%	0.66%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Bonds (97.92%)		218,152	97.74
Euro Denominated Bonds (0.89%)		4,801	2.15
Corporate Bonds (0.89%)		4,801	2.15
less than 5 years to maturity			
500,000	Banco Sabadell 1.75% 2023	454	0.20
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
618,000	Dow Chemical 0.5% 2027	529	0.24
Perpetual			
700,000	Deutsche Bank 6% fixed to floating Perpetual	589	0.26
377,000	ELM 3.75% fixed to floating Perpetual	349	0.16
1,317,000	Intesa Sanpaolo 5.5% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,165	0.52
900,000	Volkswagen International 3.5% fixed to floating Perpetual	813	0.36
1,000,000	Volkswagen International 3.875% fixed to floating Perpetual	902	0.41
Sterling Denominated Bonds (95.63%)		212,104	95.03
Corporate Bonds (95.38%)		211,176	94.61
less than 5 years to maturity			
1,097,000	AA Bond 2.875% 2022	1,091	0.49
1,500,000	Banco Santander 1.375% 2024	1,519	0.68
2,120,000	Barclays 3.125% 2024	2,240	1.00
1,500,000	Barclays 10% 2021	1,595	0.71
1,250,000	BP 2.03% 2025	1,317	0.59
750,000	British American Tobacco 2.125% 2025	775	0.35
586,000	Citigroup 2.75% 2024	620	0.28
1,700,000	CPUK 3.588% 2025	1,721	0.77
300,000	CYBG 3.125% 2025	299	0.13
1,500,000	Deutsche Bank 2.625% 2024	1,531	0.69
1,250,000	Enel 5.625% 2024	1,489	0.67
411,000	Fidelity National Information Services 2.602% 2025	443	0.20
1,000,000	FirstGroup 5.25% 2022	1,010	0.45
1,020,000	FirstGroup 8.75% 2021	1,044	0.47
1,190,000	Go-Ahead 2.5% 2024	1,153	0.52
2,000,000	Heathrow Funding 7.125% 2024	2,253	1.01
2,000,000	Highbury Finance 7.017% 2023	1,374	0.61
1,000,000	Imperial Brands 8.125% 2024	1,225	0.55
2,000,000	Intu (SGS) Finance 3.875% 2023	1,190	0.53
2,000,000	Intu (SGS) Finance 4.125% 2023	1,053	0.47
1,250,000	Lend Lease Europe 6.125% 2021	1,299	0.58
1,500,000	Lloyds Bank 7.625% 2025	1,913	0.86
1,217,000	Lloyds Bank 9.625% 2023	1,463	0.66
1,047,000	Lloyds Bank Corporate Markets 1.75% 2024	1,074	0.48

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
780,000	Lloyds Banking Group 2.25% 2024	813	0.36
1,700,000	Pacific National Finance 5% 2023	1,852	0.83
1,000,000	Pension Insurance 6.5% 2024	1,174	0.53
1,790,000	Volkswagen Financial Services 1.75% 2022	1,814	0.81
900,000	Volkswagen Financial Services 1.875% 2024	915	0.41
600,000	Volkswagen Financial Services 2.125% 2024	616	0.28
500,000	Volkswagen Financial Services 2.75% 2023	522	0.23
700,000	Wells Fargo 2% 2025	729	0.33
750,000	Wells Fargo 5.25% 2023	843	0.38
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
1,300,000	ABP 6.25% 2026	1,545	0.69
2,000,000	Anheuser-Busch InBev 2.25% 2029	2,100	0.94
956,000	Aroundtown 3.25% 2027	1,008	0.45
1,600,000	Barclays 3% 2026	1,711	0.77
1,000,000	Barclays 3.25% 2027	1,086	0.49
1,017,000	BAT International Finance 2.25% 2028	1,018	0.46
529,000	BP Capital Markets 1.827% 2025	555	0.25
750,000	British American Tobacco 4% 2026	842	0.38
750,000	Canary Wharf Finance 6.8% 2030	526	0.24
874,000	Citigroup 1.75% 2026	900	0.40
728,000	CK Hutchison 2% 2027	746	0.33
750,000	Comcast 5.5% 2029	1,027	0.46
886,000	CPUK 3.69% 2028	889	0.40
601,000	Credit Suisse 2.25% fixed to floating 2028	620	0.28
670,000	CYBG 4% 2026	690	0.31
2,000,000	CYBG 5% 2026	1,943	0.87
1,000,000	Danske Bank 2.25% fixed to floating 2028	1,018	0.46
2,260,000	Delamare 5.5457% 2029	2,033	0.91
830,000	Digital Stout 3.3% 2029	945	0.42
231,000	General Electric 5.25% fixed to floating 2028	264	0.12
668,000	Grainger 3% 2030	685	0.31
1,750,000	Hammerson 3.5% 2025	1,601	0.72
500,000	Heathrow Funding 6.75% 2026	626	0.28
1,500,000	HSBC 2.625% 2028	1,601	0.72
1,156,000	HSBC 3% fixed to floating 2030	1,246	0.56
1,500,000	HSBC 6.75% 2028	1,959	0.88
2,000,000	Imperial Brands 5.5% 2026	2,408	1.08
1,500,000	London & Quadrant Housing Trust 2.25% 2029	1,568	0.70
500,000	London & Quadrant Housing Trust 2.625% 2026	530	0.24
1,200,000	Longstone Finance 4.791% 2030	730	0.33
691,000	MPT Operating Partnership 3.692% 2028	692	0.31

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
700,000	National Express 2.375% 2028	677	0.30
1,043,000	Nationwide Building Society 3.25% 2028	1,213	0.54
1,750,000	NatWest 2.875% 2026	1,859	0.83
1,220,000	NatWest 3.125% fixed to floating 2027	1,313	0.59
559,000	NatWest 3.622% fixed to floating 2030	590	0.26
1,000,000	NewRiver REIT 3.5% 2028	878	0.39
500,000	Pension Insurance 8% 2026	652	0.29
1,000,000	Quadgas Finance 3.375% 2029	1,051	0.47
750,000	Rabobank 4.625% 2029	923	0.41
750,000	Rabobank 5.25% 2027	937	0.42
1,710,000	Santander UK 3.625% 2026	1,883	0.84
1,350,000	Santander UK 3.875% 2029	1,625	0.73
890,000	Shaftesbury Chinatown 2.348% 2027	870	0.39
920,000	Stagecoach Group 4% 2025	921	0.41
750,000	Thames Water 3.5% 2028	851	0.38
1,000,000	Total Capital 1.66% 2026	1,053	0.47
733,000	Unite Group 3.5% 2028	755	0.34
400,000	Vinci 2.25% 2027	427	0.19
1,250,000	Welltower 4.8% 2028	1,445	0.65
720,000	Westfield Stratford City Finance 1.642% 2026	722	0.32
2,000,000	Wm Morrison Supermarkets 3.5% 2026	2,255	1.01
750,000	Yorkshire Building Society 3.375% 2028	784	0.35
1,000,000	Yorkshire Power 7.25% 2028	1,417	0.63
between 10 and 15 years to maturity			
1,500,000	America Movil 4.948% 2033	1,999	0.90
1,500,000	Annington Funding 3.685% 2034	1,739	0.78
1,700,000	Arqiva 4.882% 2032	1,612	0.72
2,000,000	AT&T 5.2% 2033	2,698	1.21
500,000	Barclays 3.25% 2033	547	0.25
1,642,000	Barclays 3.75% fixed to floating 2030	1,730	0.77
2,000,000	Broadgate Financing 5.098% 2035	2,180	0.98
500,000	Centrica 7% 2033	777	0.35
989,000	Digital Stout 3.75% 2030	1,165	0.52
500,000	EDF 5.875% fixed to floating 2031	701	0.31
1,500,000	Eversholt 6.697% 2035	1,955	0.88
484,000	Fidelity National Information Services 3.36% 2031	559	0.25
267,000	GE Capital 5.875% 2033	318	0.14
510,000	Great Rolling Stock 6.5% 2031	532	0.24
1,500,000	Great Rolling Stock 6.875% 2035	1,312	0.59
1,500,000	Heathrow Funding 6.45% fixed to floating 2033	2,085	0.93
1,700,000	HSBC Bank 5.375% fixed to floating 2030	1,995	0.89

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
2,000,000	Longstone Finance 4.896% 2031	2,352	1.05
500,000	Orange 3.25% 2032	582	0.26
500,000	Orsted 4.875% 2032	688	0.31
2,600,000	Premiertel 6.175% 2032	2,758	1.24
510,000	Severn Trent 2.75% 2031	589	0.26
528,507	Shaftesbury Carnaby 2.487% 2031	506	0.23
624,000	SP Transimission 2% 2031	661	0.30
2,000,000	Telereal 6.1645% 2031	2,235	1.00
1,500,000	Thames Water 5.75% 2030	1,584	0.71
1,000,000	Total Capital International 1.405% 2031	1,031	0.46
600,000	Verizon Communications 2.5% 2031	663	0.30
400,000	Vinci 2.75% 2034	451	0.20
400,000	Welltower 4.5% 2034	457	0.20
1,450,000	Western Power 5.75% 2032	2,088	0.94
797,000	Wm Morrison Supermarkets 2.5% 2031	847	0.38
between 15 and 25 years to maturity			
1,500,000	AT&T 4.875% 2044	2,024	0.91
1,100,000	Aviva 6.125% 2036	1,336	0.60
516,000	Berkshire Hathaway Finance 2.375% 2039	578	0.26
750,000	Citigroup 6.8% 2038	1,302	0.58
499,000	Comcast 1.875% 2036	514	0.23
2,000,000	E.ON Finance 6.75% 2039	3,420	1.53
1,500,000	Eversholt 3.529% 2042	1,649	0.74
932,000	Eversholt Funding 2.742% 2040	959	0.43
2,000,000	Gatwick 5.75% 2037	2,569	1.15
30,000	GE Capital 8% 2039	43	0.02
500,000	General Electric 5.375% 2040	570	0.26
500,000	Heathrow Funding 5.875% 2041	723	0.32
512,000	Home Group 3.125% 2043	594	0.27
1,800,000	innogy Finance 6.125% 2039	2,906	1.30
750,000	Morhomes 3.4% 2038	853	0.38
1,500,000	Munich Re 6.625% fixed to floating 2042	1,639	0.73
1,000,000	Orsted 5.75% 2040	1,664	0.75
1,750,000	RL Finance 6.125% fixed to floating 2043	1,952	0.87
1,110,000	Segro 2.875% 2037	1,270	0.57
1,084,000	Southern Water Services Finance 3% 2037	1,117	0.50
511,000	TC Dudgeon Ofo 3.158% 2038	571	0.26
1,200,000	Tesco 5.744% 2040	1,537	0.69
500,000	Tesco 5.8006% 2040	652	0.29
1,250,000	Tesco 6.0517% 2039	1,369	0.61
1,000,000	Thames Water 5.5% 2041	1,517	0.68
1,000,000	Verizon Communications 3.375% 2036	1,228	0.55

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
greater than 25 years to maturity			
903,000	AA Bond 5.5% 2050	956	0.43
750,000	American International 5.75% fixed to floating 2067	634	0.28
363,000	Aviva 4% fixed to floating 2055	388	0.17
1,620,000	Aviva 5.125% 2050	1,890	0.85
406,000	Berkshire Hathaway Finance 2.625% 2059	482	0.22
705,000	Blend Funding 3.459% 2047	890	0.40
1,250,000	British American Tobacco 2.25% 2052	990	0.44
556,000	Bromford Housing 3.125% 2048	700	0.31
470,000	Channel Link 3.043% 2050	477	0.21
1,224,000	Dignity 4.6956% 2049	937	0.42
1,600,000	EDF 6% 2114	2,635	1.18
1,000,000	GlaxoSmithKline 4.25% 2045	1,498	0.67
750,000	Income Contingent Student Loans 2 2007-2009 2.5% 2058	650	0.29
2,000,000	NGG 5.625% fixed to floating 2073	2,302	1.03
423,000	Peabody Capital 3.25% 2048	517	0.23
1,100,000	Prudential 5% 2055	1,234	0.55
583,000	Prudential 5.625% fixed to floating 2051	669	0.30
500,000	RL Finance 4.875% fixed to floating 2049	528	0.24
1,200,000	Vodafone 3% 2056	1,289	0.58
Perpetual			
2,000,000	Aviva 6.125% fixed to floating Perpetual	2,190	0.98
1,000,000	AXA 6.6862% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,222	0.55
700,000	Bank of Scotland 7.281% fixed to floating Perpetual	804	0.36
750,000	Barclays 7.25% fixed to floating Perpetual	781	0.35
1,048,000	BP Capital Markets 4.25% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,111	0.50
500,000	EDF 5.875% fixed to floating Perpetual	541	0.24
1,500,000	EDF 6% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,644	0.74
1,300,000	HSBC 5.844% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,804	0.81
785,000	HSBC 5.875% fixed to floating Perpetual	809	0.36
1,250,000	Lloyds Banking Group 7.625% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,322	0.59
372,000	Nationwide Building Society 5.75% fixed to floating Perpetual	392	0.18
1,000,000	Orange 5.75% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,095	0.49
876,000	SSE 3.74% fixed to floating Perpetual	911	0.41
750,000	SSE 3.875% fixed to floating Perpetual	750	0.34
Government Bonds (0.25%)		928	0.42
greater than 25 years to maturity			
1,000,000	UK (Govt of) 0.625% 2050	928	0.42

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
US Dollar Denominated Bonds (1.40%)		1,247	0.56
Corporate Bonds (1.40%)		1,247	0.56
Perpetual			
885,000	BNP Paribas 4.5% fixed to floating Perpetual	640	0.29
750,000	UBS Group Funding Switzerland 7% fixed to floating Perpetual	607	0.27
Collective Investment Schemes (0.89%)		2,839	1.27
2,839	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	2,839	1.27
Derivatives (0.08%)		(35)	(0.02)
Forward Currency Contracts (-0.06%)		75	0.03
	Buy EUR 8,402 Sell GBP 7,527 01/09/2020	-	-
	Buy EUR 1,310,000 Sell GBP 1,176,205 01/09/2020	(6)	-
	Buy GBP 84,288 Sell EUR 93,557 09/11/2020	1	-
	Buy GBP 1,177,511 Sell EUR 1,310,000 09/11/2020	6	-
	Buy GBP 3,655,232 Sell EUR 4,031,465 09/11/2020	50	0.02
	Buy GBP 1,274,644 Sell USD 1,675,044 09/11/2020	24	0.01
Futures (0.14%)		(110)	(0.05)
150	Long Long Gilt Future 29/12/2020	(110)	(0.05)
Total investment assets and liabilities		220,956	98.99
Net other assets		2,254	1.01
Total Net Assets		223,210	100.00

All investments (excluding OTC derivatives) are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities, regulated collective investment schemes or approved derivatives within the meaning of the FCA rules.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital (losses)/gains		(339)		16,245
Revenue	3,725		4,447	
Expenses	(816)		(896)	
Net revenue before taxation	2,909		3,551	
Taxation	-		-	
Net revenue after taxation		2,909		3,551
Total return before distributions		2,570		19,796
Distributions		(3,697)		(4,416)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		(1,127)		15,380

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		244,385		237,505
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	1,489		10,772	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(24,404)		(17,735)	
		(22,915)		(6,963)
Dilution adjustment		81		15
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		(1,127)		15,380
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		2,786		3,364
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		223,210		249,301

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		221,072		241,809
Current assets:				
Debtors	3,430		3,512	
Cash and bank balances	649		239	
		4,079		3,751
Total assets		225,151		245,560
Liabilities:				
Investment liabilities		(116)		(136)
Creditors	(1,401)		(504)	
Bank overdrafts	–		(100)	
Distribution payable	(424)		(435)	
		(1,825)		(1,039)
Total liabilities		(1,941)		(1,175)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		223,210		244,385

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Accumulation share class has increased by 1.27% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

First interim interest distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 May 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31/07/20	Distribution paid 31/07/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	3.1458	-	3.1458	3.2605
Group 2	1.5256	1.6202	3.1458	3.2605
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.5304	-	0.5304	0.5475
Group 2	0.0753	0.4551	0.5304	0.5475
Retail income				
Group 1	0.8941	-	0.8941	0.9585
Group 2	0.4823	0.4118	0.8941	0.9585
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.4578	-	0.4578	0.4896
Group 2	0.1714	0.2864	0.4578	0.4896
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.4687	-	0.4687	0.4970
Group 2	0.1594	0.3093	0.4687	0.4970
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.5434	-	0.5434	0.5558
Group 2	0.3544	0.1890	0.5434	0.5558
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	1.3785	-	1.3785	1.4235
Group 2	0.8490	0.5295	1.3785	1.4235
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	1.0037	-	1.0037	1.0721
Group 2	0.4667	0.5370	1.0037	1.0721

Second interim interest distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 June 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 June 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	3.0843	-	3.0843	3.1312
Group 2	1.6735	1.4108	3.0843	3.1312
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.5207	-	0.5207	0.5263
Group 2	0.2597	0.2610	0.5207	0.5263
Retail income				
Group 1	0.8691	-	0.8691	0.9121
Group 2	0.4801	0.3890	0.8691	0.9121
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.4455	-	0.4455	0.4654
Group 2	0.1512	0.2943	0.4455	0.4654
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.4569	-	0.4569	0.4746
Group 2	0.3853	0.0716	0.4569	0.4746
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.5342	-	0.5342	0.5363
Group 2	0.3413	0.1929	0.5342	0.5363
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	1.3511	-	1.3511	1.3684
Group 2	0.6666	0.6845	1.3511	1.3684
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.9766	-	0.9766	1.0210
Group 2	0.4900	0.4866	0.9766	1.0210

Equalisation

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

ASI (SLI) Emerging Markets Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in emerging market equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the MSCI emerging markets Index, plus 3% per annum over rolling three year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

Performance Comparator: IA Global emerging markets Equity Sector Average.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target/comparator for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index/sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in emerging market countries, or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from emerging market operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- Emerging markets include Asian, Eastern European, Middle Eastern, African or Latin American countries.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at country, sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. The research process is focused on identifying companies where the management team have a different view of a company's prospects than that of the market, and which align with their views regarding future economic and business conditions.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the MSCI emerging market Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 8%. Due to the fund's risk constraints, the intention is that the fund's performance profile will not deviate significantly from that of the MSCI emerging market Index over the longer term.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance Review

Over the period under review, the fund returned 5.00%. This compared to a return of 7.90% for its performance target (the MSCI Emerging Markets Index +3%).

The overarching factor that influenced the fund's performance was the impact of COVID-19 on various sectors. The rapid spread of the highly infectious and deadly disease forced governments to impose stringent lockdowns to stem the contagion. This weakened the private sector's earnings potential and caused a credit, and subsequently, a lending concern for the banking industry. Additionally, major central banks around the world lowered interest rates in response to the economic fallout from the pandemic, which also hampered earnings among our financial holdings. In countries that faced severe currency depreciation, this was even more pronounced. Hence, our Latin American bank holdings, Banorte and Banco Bradesco weighed on the fund's performance, as did Bank of Georgia. In the same vein, not holding more cyclical lenders, such as Icici Bank, ICBC and Bank of China, benefited the fund due to the pressure on interest margins.

The COVID-19 induced lockdowns and travel disruptions also hampered the tourism industry, retail outlets and restaurants. Consequently, consumer spending habits shifted, resulting in higher demand for digital services, including e-commerce. Notably, internet giant Tencent was a key contributor. Its share price advanced towards all-time highs on surging demand for its mobile games during the lockdowns. However, not holding Chinese e-commerce firms Meituan Dianping and JD.com hurt the fund, as these saw robust growth thanks to the scalability of their operations.

Elsewhere, LG Chem was the top contributor, its share price rose on expectations that the demand for electric vehicles will increase, led by supportive government policies and subsidies. Also in the technology sector, our exposure to semiconductors proved defensive owing to a steady demand outlook for memory chips and smart phones. In particular, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co (TSMC) rose due to resilient earnings and healthy margins as its products were in high demand due to the lockdown-induced work-from-home policies. Additionally, recently initiated Longi Green, a global leader in manufacturing mono-silicon wafers used by the solar industry, rose in tandem with technology stocks, lifting the fund's performance.

Activity

In key portfolio activity, we switched the fund's long standing holding in Thai petrochemical conglomerate PTT to India-based Reliance Industries, which is a lower-cost refining and petrochemical operation. We are optimistic about the growth and value being created as Reliance builds its internet platform, and we expect the company's earnings to be resilient through the downturn. We also increased our exposure to China by initiating several holdings, including leading solar-wafer manufacturer Longi Green, as mentioned earlier; hazardous-waste treatment business China Conch Venture for its rapidly expanding and lucrative business; electronic outsourcing manufacturer Hon Hai; Nari Technology, the key provider of power grid automation and industrial control products on the mainland; Wuxi Biologics, China's premier clinical-research organization and contract manufacturer; New Oriental Education, an after school K-12 tutoring business benefiting from margin improvement; and Chinese network-security solution provider Venustech amid greater visibility on its earnings growth, which is driven by higher IT-security spending in China following regulatory changes. Lastly we introduced Intouch Holdings, an investment company that holds 40% of Advanced Information Services, which generates the bulk of its profits and dividends.

We funded these through proceeds from the exits from Norilsk Nickel, Siam Cement and T4F Entretenimento due to their worsening profit outlooks and its implications for shareholder returns.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 6 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- Investing in China A shares involves special considerations and risks, including without limitation greater price volatility, less developed regulatory and legal framework, exchange rate risk/ controls, settlement, tax, quota, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in emerging market equities and / or bonds. Investing in emerging markets involves a greater risk of loss than investing in more developed markets due to, among other factors, greater political, tax, economic, foreign exchange, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The fund may invest in companies with Variable Interest Entity (VIE) structures in order to gain exposure to industries with foreign ownership restrictions. There is a risk that investments in these structures may be adversely affected by changes in the legal and regulatory framework.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	57,274	55,427	51,466	54,194
Closing number of shares	64,375,444	63,236,069	62,336,727	59,186,585
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	88.97	87.65	82.56	91.56
Change in net asset value per share	1.51%	6.17%	(9.83%)	22.44%
Operating charges	1.37%	1.37%	1.39%	1.40%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,706	44,861	74,265	103,793
Closing number of shares	1,822,051	48,892,113	86,284,972	109,202,645
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	93.61	91.76	86.07	95.05
Change in net asset value per share	2.02%	6.61%	(9.45%)	22.90%
Operating charges	0.90%	0.90%	0.92%	0.93%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,114	1,073	1,077	1,101
Closing number of shares	1,321,144	1,299,916	1,401,120	1,305,745
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	84.30	82.57	76.88	84.29
Change in net asset value per share	2.10%	7.40%	(8.79%)	23.85%
Operating charges	0.15%	0.15%	0.17%	0.18%

Standard Life B accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	91,901	90,051	87,709	93,910
Closing number of shares	91,940,242	92,036,969	96,380,715	94,239,710
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	99.96	97.84	91.00	99.65
Change in net asset value per share	2.17%	7.52%	(8.68%)	24.02%
Operating charges	–	–	0.02%	0.02%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	2,265	2,499	2,624	3,177
Closing number of shares	2,445,583	2,744,374	3,071,319	3,365,337
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	92.61	91.05	85.45	94.40
Change in net asset value per share	1.71%	6.55%	(9.48%)	22.84%
Operating charges	0.95%	0.95%	0.97%	0.98%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Europe, Middle East & Africa Equities (12.62%)		18,437	11.97
Georgia (1.23%)		1,423	0.93
89,876	Bank of Georgia	826	0.54
153,335	Georgia Capital	597	0.39
Luxembourg (0.28%)		-	-
Netherlands (0.00%)		1,087	0.70
14,528	Prosus	1,087	0.70
Nigeria (0.30%)		244	0.16
474,599	Seplat Petroleum Development	244	0.16
Russia (6.96%)		7,452	4.84
330,869	Globaltrans Investment	1,539	1.00
29,343	HeadHunter	447	0.29
9,399,500	Inter RAO	490	0.32
23,724	Lukoil ADR	1,211	0.79
217,096	Sberbank of Russia ADR	1,958	1.27
80,037	Severstal	751	0.49
38,651	X5 Retail Group	1,056	0.68
South Africa (3.27%)		7,457	4.84
37,751	Naspers	5,147	3.34
410,403	Vodacom	2,310	1.50
Turkey (0.58%)		774	0.50
533,116	Turkcell Iletisim	774	0.50
Latin America Equities (13.79%)		13,259	8.60
Brazil (5.29%)		5,576	3.61
546,231	Banco Bradesco (Preference)	1,542	1.00
112,059	Cyrela Brazil Realty	368	0.24
82,395	Telefonica Brasil (Preference)	537	0.35
340,562	Vale	2,767	1.79
98,753	YDUQS Part	362	0.23
Chile (0.78%)		1,049	0.68
9,723,663	Enel Americas	1,049	0.68

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Mexico (5.59%)		5,606	3.64
78,117	FEMSA	339	0.22
327,568	Grupo Aeroportuario del Centro Norte	1,112	0.72
660,188	Grupo Financiero Banorte	1,694	1.10
655,454	Grupo México	1,306	0.85
1,200,270	PLA Administradora Industrial	1,155	0.75
Panama (0.74%)		-	-
Peru (1.39%)		1,028	0.67
10,547	Credicorp	1,028	0.67
Pacific Basin Equities (72.52%)		120,008	77.78
China (30.47%)		56,062	36.34
67,491	Alibaba ADR	14,468	9.38
91,140	ANTA Sports Products	672	0.44
30,036	Autohome ADR	1,800	1.17
189,500	China Conch Venture	613	0.40
7,591,683	China Construction Bank 'H'	4,009	2.60
548,606	China Merchants Bank 'H'	1,956	1.27
524,916	Haitian International	948	0.61
413,652	Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology 'A'	1,688	1.09
90,228	Huazhu Group ADR	3,014	1.95
211,405	LONGi Green Energy Technology 'A'	1,459	0.95
225,072	NARI Technology 'A'	550	0.36
5,999	New Oriental Education & Technology ADR	656	0.43
657,624	Ping An Insurance 'H'	5,228	3.39
266,259	Tencent	13,612	8.82
6,850,000	Tianhe Chemicals**	-	-
59,814	Trip.com ADR	1,349	0.87
88,800	Venustech 'A'	369	0.24
484,380	Weichai Power 'H'	731	0.47
17,143	Wuliangye Yibin 'A'	449	0.29
74,563	Wuxi Biologics	1,446	0.94
927,299	Xiabu Xiabu	856	0.55
294,600	Xinjiang Goldwind Science & Technology 'H'	189	0.12
Hong Kong (3.89%)		5,771	3.73
419,513	Budweiser Brewing	1,053	0.68
649,777	China Metal Recycling**	-	-
257,423	China Mobile	1,342	0.87
641,634	China Resources Land	2,214	1.43
1,184,951	SITC	1,162	0.75

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
India (8.40%)		13,598	8.82
22,055	Axis Bank GDR	580	0.38
13,698	Bajaj	371	0.24
385,202	Biocon	1,464	0.95
215,415	Crompton Greaves 'C'	595	0.39
105,554	Housing Development Finance	1,955	1.27
7,984	Info Edge India	263	0.17
1,063,383	ITC	2,059	1.33
58,439	Kotak Mahindra Bank	829	0.54
152,965	Larsen & Toubro	1,467	0.95
131,599	Oberoi Realty	523	0.34
85,528	Reliance Industries	1,795	1.16
3,759	Reliance Industries (partly paid)	45	0.03
37,319	Tata Consultancy Services	850	0.55
106,924	Tech Mahindra	802	0.52
Indonesia (1.63%)		1,459	0.94
5,681,561	Bank Rakyat Indonesia	1,023	0.66
20,849,008	Pakuwon Jati	436	0.28
Macau (2.00%)		2,939	1.91
891,717	Sands China	2,939	1.91
Philippines (0.00%)		19	0.01
43,300	Ayala Land	19	0.01
South Korea (13.40%)		19,853	12.87
17,010	LG Chemical Preference KRW 5000	4,010	2.60
186,545	Samsung Electronics	6,333	4.11
182,218	Samsung Electronics (Preference)	5,442	3.53
47,433	Shinhan Finance	883	0.57
56,853	SK Hynix	2,684	1.74
43,157	Woory Industrial	501	0.32
Taiwan (10.06%)		18,375	11.91
454,072	Chroma ATE	1,861	1.21
129,958	Globalwafers	1,302	0.84
493,590	Hon Hai Precision	966	0.63
148,073	President Chain Store	1,018	0.66
1,101,943	Taiwan Semiconductors Manufacturing	11,963	7.75
417,685	Taiwan Union Technology	1,265	0.82

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Thailand (2.67%)		1,932	1.25
298,568	Advanced Info Service (Alien Market)	1,308	0.85
477,100	Intouch Holdings (Alien Market)	624	0.40
Collective Investment Schemes (0.65%)		1,686	1.09
1,686	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	1,686	1.09
Total investment assets		153,390	99.44
Net other assets		870	0.56
Total Net Assets		154,260	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

* Suspended

** Delisted

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital (losses)/gains		(3,223)		11,709
Revenue	2,661		4,574	
Expenses	(427)		(720)	
Interest payable and similar charges	(1)		(1)	
Net revenue before taxation	2,233		3,853	
Taxation	(324)		(392)	
Net revenue after taxation		1,909		3,461
Total return before equalisation		(1,314)		15,170
Equalisation on shares		(125)		(148)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		(1,439)		15,022

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		193,911		217,141
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	6,252		7,698	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(44,568)		(19,741)	
		(38,316)		(12,043)
Dilution adjustment		104		
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		(1,439)		15,022
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		154,260		220,120

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		153,390		193,091
Current assets:				
Debtors	494		1,068	
Cash and bank balances	749		409	
		1,243		1,477
Total assets		154,633		194,568
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(373)		(657)	
		(373)		(657)
Total liabilities		(373)		(657)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		154,260		193,911

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Accumulation share class has increased by 7.75% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

ASI AAA Bond Fund

Investment objective

To generate income and some growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in Sterling-denominated bonds with a high degree of creditworthiness.

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the Markit iBoxx Sterling Non Gilts AAA plus 0.65% per annum over rolling three year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 60% in Sterling denominated bonds, such as government and corporate bonds (including asset backed and mortgage backed).
- The fund may invest in bonds issued anywhere in the world by governments and corporations, such as sub-sovereigns, inflation-linked, convertible, asset backed and mortgage backed bonds. The fund will employ techniques to reduce (hedge) risk related to currency movements on non-Sterling bonds.
- At the point of investment, bonds shall have a credit rating of "AAA-" or higher from at least one major rating agency such as Standard & Poor's, Moody's or Fitch, with the exception of any UK Government bond held by the fund (up to a 20% limit).
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to identify bonds and derivatives based on analysis of global economic and market conditions (for example, interest rates and inflation) and analysis of a company's prospects and creditworthiness compared to that of the market.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the Markit iBoxx Sterling Non Gilts (AAA) is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 3%. Due to the fund's risk constraints, the intention is that the fund's performance profile will not deviate significantly from that of the Markit iBoxx Sterling Non Gilts (AAA) over the long term.

Please note: The fund's ability to buy and sell bonds and the associated costs can be affected during periods of market stress which could include periods where interest rates move sharply.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund will routinely use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost, and/ or generate extra income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivatives can be used to generate growth, consistent with the fund's risk profile, if market prices are expected to rise ("long positions") or fall ("short positions"). These positions can be used in overseas markets.
- Derivatives include instruments used to manage expected changes in interest rates, inflation, currencies or credit worthiness of corporations or governments.

Performance

The fund returned +0.8% during the period, in comparison with the performance target (Markit IBOXX Sterling Non Gilts AAA +0.65%) return of +1.7%. Please note fund returns are net of fees. Fund return source: Morningstar, basic rate taxpayer, bid to bid basis. Benchmark return source: Factset.

The fallout from the coronavirus pandemic was the key driver of returns for most asset classes over the period, including AAA bonds. The top performer over the period was an overweight position in Microsoft, whose business model was naturally fairly resilient to the pandemic. While supranationals outperformed strongly in March when virus fears peaked, subsequent months saw a progressive recovery in risk sentiment. As a result, the fund's underweights in the European Investment Bank, Germany's KfW and the World Bank, all contributed positively to relative performance.

On the negative side, many of the worst performers were companies that were heavily exposed to the pandemic. Property investment companies with significant retail interests were especially badly hit by lockdown measures. Accordingly, among the fund's worst performers were Meadowhall Finance (the financing vehicle of the UK property company British Land), Trafford Centre and Westfield Stratford City.

Investment activity

Corporate bond trading activity was relatively limited over the period. Towards the end of the period, we bought the 2023, 2025 and 2029 bonds of Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, which is one of our preferred credits. We also bought the 2025 bonds of BNG bank, which is a Dutch bank specialising in providing financing for publicly owned organizations. On the sell side, towards the end of the period, we sold the 2032 bonds of Meadowhall Finance.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 3 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- The fund invests in mortgage- and asset-backed securities which are subject to prepayment, extension, liquidity and default risk.
- The fund invests in securities which are subject to the risk that the issuer may default on interest or capital payments.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund price can go up or down daily for a variety of reasons including changes in interest rates, inflation expectations or the perceived credit quality of individual countries or securities.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	8,896	8,853	9,315	10,220
Closing number of shares	8,757,177	8,792,333	9,807,474	10,824,918
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	101.58	100.68	94.98	94.41
Change in net asset value per share	0.89%	6.00%	0.60%	(0.51%)
Operating charges	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	8,471	6,852	7,849	9,247
Closing number of shares	7,663,181	6,267,856	7,643,067	9,095,565
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	110.55	109.32	102.70	101.66
Change in net asset value per share	1.13%	6.45%	1.02%	(0.10%)
Operating charges	0.61%	0.61%	0.61%	0.61%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	2,286	2,344	2,506	2,826
Closing number of shares	3,892,529	4,005,816	4,478,941	5,001,772
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	58.73	58.51	55.96	56.50
Change in net asset value per share	0.38%	4.56%	(0.96%)	(1.86%)
Operating charges	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	2,506	4,481	6,340	8,970
Closing number of shares	4,238,995	7,607,642	11,255,422	15,771,866
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	59.13	58.91	56.33	56.87
Change in net asset value per share	0.37%	4.58%	(0.95%)	(1.88%)
Operating charges	0.61%	0.61%	0.61%	0.61%

Retail CAT accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	25,170	25,438	25,825	28,208
Closing number of shares	24,550,157	25,036,471	26,954,716	29,627,127
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	102.52	101.60	95.81	95.21
Change in net asset value per share	0.91%	6.04%	0.63%	(0.46%)
Operating charges	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Standard Life income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	– [^]	– [^]	– [^]	1
Closing number of shares	189	189	189	2,000
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	54.96	54.92	52.75	53.28
Change in net asset value per share	0.07%	4.11%	(0.99%)	(1.88%)
Operating charges	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%

Retail CAT income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	4,845	4,801	4,900	5,479
Closing number of shares	8,195,542	8,152,498	8,699,190	9,636,126
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	59.12	58.89	56.32	56.86
Change in net asset value per share	0.39%	4.56%	(0.95%)	(1.86%)
Operating charges	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	172	99	117	149
Closing number of shares	210,121	122,646	155,089	199,922
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	81.82	80.72	75.46	74.32
Change in net asset value per share	1.36%	6.97%	1.54%	0.41%
Operating charges	0.11%	0.11%	0.11%	0.11%

Institutional regulated accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	6,542	4,672	3,808	3,803
Closing number of shares	8,071,436	5,834,402	5,072,823	5,128,376
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	81.05	80.08	75.07	74.16
Change in net asset value per share	1.21%	6.67%	1.23%	0.11%
Operating charges	0.41%	0.41%	0.41%	0.41%

Standard Life B accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	–	3
Closing number of shares	–	–	–	4,000
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	–	76.40
Change in net asset value per share	–	–	0.60%	0.54%
Operating charges	–	–	–	–

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A The closing net asset value of Standard Life Income is £104 (2020: £104, 2019: £100).

^A Share class closed on 7 June 2018.

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	7,906	6,239	5,953	7,685
Closing number of shares	12,124,955	9,673,925	9,821,056	12,801,026
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	65.20	64.50	60.62	60.03
Change in net asset value per share	1.09%	6.40%	0.98%	(0.14%)
Operating charges	0.66%	0.66%	0.66%	0.66%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	2,638	2,768	2,980	3,530
Closing number of shares	4,713,283	4,963,837	5,588,233	6,557,599
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	55.97	55.76	53.32	53.83
Change in net asset value per share	0.38%	4.58%	(0.95%)	(1.88%)
Operating charges	0.66%	0.66%	0.66%	0.66%

Institutional S accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	4,790	4,892	5,063	6,200
Closing number of shares	8,134,445	8,408,130	9,284,839	11,511,712
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	58.88	58.18	54.53	53.86
Change in net asset value per share	1.20%	6.69%	1.24%	0.10%
Operating charges	0.39%	0.39%	0.39%	0.39%

Institutional S income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	153,965	147,279	98,959	94,522
Closing number of shares	287,254,060	275,818,260	193,809,856	183,354,619
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	53.60	53.40	51.06	51.55
Change in net asset value per share	0.37%	4.58%	(0.95%)	(1.87%)
Operating charges	0.39%	0.39%	0.39%	0.39%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Bonds (95.39%)		219,330	96.12
Euro Denominated Bonds (1.62%)		1,857	1.57
Corporate Bonds (0.82%)		1,857	0.81
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
1,650,000	Microsoft 3.125% 2028	1,857	0.81
Government Bonds (0.80%)		1,744	0.76
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
1,800,000	Temasek 1.5% 2028	1,744	0.76
Sterling Denominated Bonds (85.86%)		196,144	85.96
Corporate Bonds (56.48%)		126,901	55.62
less than 5 years to maturity			
1,803,000	Asian Development Bank 1.375% 2025	1,894	0.83
4,000,000	Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten 1% 2022	4,045	1.77
7,571,000	Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten 5.375% 2021	7,870	3.45
700,000	Bank of Scotland 4.875% 2024	827	0.36
4,000,000	Barclays 4.25% 2022	4,209	1.84
1,000,000	BNG Bank 1.625% 2025	1,063	0.47
675,000	Inter-American Development Bank 1.25% 2023	698	0.31
1,000,000	Johnson & Johnson 5.5% 2024	1,210	0.53
1,000,000	KFW 0.375% 2020	1,010	0.44
1,390,000	KFW 0.875% 2022	1,405	0.62
1,265,000	KFW 5.5% 2025	1,580	0.69
2,600,000	KFW 5.55% 2021	2,709	1.19
741,000	L-Bank 1.375% 2023	768	0.34
940,000	Lloyds Bank 1.75% 2022	960	0.42
2,000,000	Lloyds Bank 5.125% 2025	2,399	1.05
3,477,000	NatWest 5.125% 2024	4,006	1.76
1,190,000	New York Life Global Funding 1% 2021	1,199	0.53
516,000	New York Life Global Funding 1.625% 2023	533	0.23
1,933,000	New York Life Global Funding 1.75% 2022	1,985	0.87
750,000	Royal Bank of Canada 1.125% 2021	757	0.33
5,025,000	Wellcome Trust 4.75% 2021	5,187	2.27
1,440,000	Westpac Banking 1% 2022	1,453	0.64
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
1,672,000	BNG Bank 0.375% 2025	1,673	0.73
2,100,000	Clydesdale Bank 4.625% 2026	2,556	1.12
5,048,000	Commonwealth Bank of Australia 3% 2026	5,727	2.51
3,513,000	CPPIB Capital 1.125% 2029	3,538	1.55
2,320,000	Credit Foncier 5.5% 2027	2,993	1.31
5,000,000	International Finance 0.75% 2027	5,093	2.23
1,700,000	KFW 6% 2028	2,441	1.07

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
2,000,000	Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank 1.375% 2025	2,103	0.92
1,174,000	Lloyds Bank 4.875% 2027	1,480	0.65
2,380,000	Lloyds Bank 6% 2029	3,332	1.46
2,000,000	National Australia Bank 3% 2026	2,264	0.99
2,500,000	Nationwide Building Society 5.625% 2026	3,159	1.38
1,015,000	New York Life Global Funding 1.25% 2026	1,045	0.46
700,000	Newday Funding 2018-2 FRN 2026	697	0.31
4,141,000	Santander UK 5.75% 2026	5,271	2.31
2,427,000	Westfield Stratford City Finance 1.642% 2026	2,435	1.07
between 10 and 15 years to maturity			
800,000	Broadgate Financing 4.851% 2033	1,022	0.45
5,130,000	Broadgate Financing 4.949% 2031	1,572	0.69
1,595,000	Canary Wharf Finance 6.455% 2033	370	0.16
1,046,000	KFW 5.75% 2032	1,631	0.72
6,480,000	Meadowhall Finance 4.986% 2032	5,232	2.29
2,000,000	Nederlandse Waterschapsbank 5.375% 2032	2,998	1.31
between 15 and 25 years to maturity			
610,000	Broadgate Financing 4.821% 2036	810	0.36
961,000	Paragon FRN 2045	609	0.27
1,700,000	SLM Student Loan Trust 5.15% 2039	1,592	0.70
2,033,000	Temasek 5.125% 2040	3,371	1.48
3,000,000	Trafford Centre FRN 2038	2,626	1.15
1,300,000	Wellcome Trust 4.625% 2036	2,014	0.88
greater than 25 years to maturity			
801,000	Paragon FRN 2050	674	0.30
340,000	Precise Mortgage Funding FRN 2056	330	0.14
700,000	RMAC FRN 2046	527	0.23
644,000	University of Cambridge 2.35% 2078	954	0.42
680,000	University of Cambridge 3.75% 2052	1,123	0.49
2,889,000	University of Oxford 2.544% 2117	4,000	1.75
521,000	Wellcome Trust 2.517% 2118	731	0.32
630,000	Wellcome Trust 4% 2059	1,141	0.50
Government Bonds (29.38%)		69,243	30.34
less than 5 years to maturity			
3,000,000	CPPIB Capital 0.375% 2023	3,004	1.32
543,000	CPPIB Capital 0.875% 2024	553	0.24
740,000	European Investment Bank 0.875% 2023	758	0.33
3,600,000	European Investment Bank 1.125% 2021	3,636	1.59
1,300,000	European Investment Bank 4.25% 2021	1,368	0.60
4,741,000	European Investment Bank 5.5% 2025	5,888	2.58
1,200,000	International Bank for Reconstruction & Development 1.375% 2020	1,203	0.53
1,670,000	UK (Govt of) 2.75% 2024	1,859	0.82

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
750,000	European Bank for Reconstruction & Development 5.625% 2028	1,054	0.46
2,000,000	European Investment Bank 1% 2026	2,086	0.91
2,250,000	European Investment Bank 4.5% 2029	2,995	1.31
1,200,000	European Investment Bank 6% 2028	1,724	0.76
2,400,000	Inter-American Development Bank 0.5% 2026	2,416	1.06
2,500,000	KFW 0.875% 2026	2,581	1.13
11,758,000	UK (Govt of) 1.5% 2026	12,784	5.60
2,480,000	UK (Govt of) 6% 2028	3,651	1.60
between 10 and 15 years to maturity			
2,900,000	European Investment Bank 5.625% fixed to floating 2032	4,466	1.96
1,750,000	Tenn Valley Authority 5.625% 2032	2,610	1.14
between 15 and 25 years to maturity			
3,210,000	European Investment Bank 3.875% 2037	4,639	2.03
1,500,000	European Investment Bank 4.5% 2044	2,549	1.12
3,000,000	European Investment Bank 5% 2039	5,025	2.20
greater than 25 years to maturity			
1,211,000	European Investment Bank 4.625% fixed to floating 2054	2,394	1.05
Sweden Denominated Bonds (3.95%)		10,688	4.68
Government bonds (3.95%)		10,688	4.68
less than 5 years to maturity			
118,800,000	Kommuninvest I Sverige 1% 2025	10,688	4.68
US Dollar Denominated Bonds (3.96%)		8,897	3.91
Corporate Bonds (3.96%)		8,897	3.91
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
1,300,000	Johnson & Johnson 2.45% 2026	1,064	0.47
1,500,000	New York Life Global Funding 3% 2028	1,247	0.55
between 10 and 15 years to maturity			
2,680,000	Microsoft 3.5% 2035	2,456	1.08
between 15 and 25 years to maturity			
3,250,000	Johnson & Johnson 5.95% 2037	3,711	1.63
greater than 25 years to maturity			
540,000	President & Fellows of Harvard College 2.517% 2050	419	0.18
Collective Investment Schemes (1.92%)		6,154	2.70
1	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Euro Fund Z3 Inc+	1	-
6,153	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	6,153	2.62

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Derivatives (-0.21%)		938	0.41
Forward Currency Contracts (-0.13%)		605	0.27
	Buy GBP 3,650,279 Sell EUR 4,014,873 05/11/2020	60	0.03
	Buy GBP 11,050,521 Sell SEK 124,944,885 05/11/2020	227	0.10
	Buy GBP 9,528,044 Sell USD 12,332,867 05/11/2020	321	0.14
	Buy USD 393,123 Sell GBP 296,113 05/11/2020	(3)	-
Futures (-0.17%)		48	0.02
171	Long Australia 10 Year Bond Future 15/09/2020	(29)	(0.01)
76	Long US 10 Year Note Future 21/12/2020	(8)	0.01
116	Long US 10 Year Ultra Future 21/12/2020	(57)	(0.03)
(121)	Short Can 10 Year Bond Future 18/12/2020	71	0.03
(18)	Short Euro Bond Future 08/09/2020	(11)	(0.01)
(11)	Short Long Gilt Future 29/12/2020	8	-
(27)	Short US Long Bond (CBT) Future 21/12/2020	42	0.02
(26)	Short US Ultra Bond (CBT) Future 21/12/2020	32	0.01
Interest Rate Swaps (0.09%)		285	0.12
GBP 2,900,000	Pay fixed 1.4887% receive floating GBP-LIBOR 05/04/2039	(456)	(0.20)
SEK 20,900,000	Pay floating SEK-STIBOR receive fixed 0.1813% 24/01/2021	3	-
GBP 4,000,000	Pay floating GBP-LIBOR receive fixed 2.6% 25/10/2023	331	0.14
GBP 10,800,000	Pay floating GBP-LIBOR receive fixed 1.1765% 05/04/2024	407	0.18
Total investment assets and liabilities		226,422	99.23
Net other assets		1,765	0.77
Total Net Assets		228,187	100.00

All investments (excluding OTC derivatives) are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities, regulated collective investment schemes or approved derivatives within the meaning of the FCA rules.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		633		7,983
Revenue	2,294		2,379	
Expenses	(588)		(515)	
Interest payable and similar charges	(2)		-	
Net revenue before taxation	1,704		1,864	
Taxation	-		-	
Net revenue after taxation		1,704		1,864
Total return before distributions		2,337		9,847
Distributions		(1,703)		(1,863)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		634		7,984

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		218,718		173,615
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	23,955		32,038	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(15,517)		(9,942)	
		8,438		22,096
Dilution adjustment		10		19
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		634		7,984
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		387		521
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		228,187		204,235

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		226,986		213,533
Current assets:				
Debtors	2,355		3,913	
Cash and bank balances	963		3,439	
		3,318		7,352
Total assets		230,304		220,885
Liabilities:				
Investment liabilities		(564)		(1,154)
Bank overdraft	(521)		–	
Creditors	(368)		(321)	
Distribution payable	(664)		(692)	
		(1,553)		(1,013)
Total liabilities		(2,117)		(2,167)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		228,187		218,718

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional S Accumulation share class has increased by 1.02% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

First interim interest distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 May 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31/07/20	Distribution paid 31/07/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	0.2707	-	0.2707	0.3753
Group 2	0.0634	0.2073	0.2707	0.3753
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.4100	-	0.4100	0.5161
Group 2	0.1569	0.2531	0.4100	0.5161
Retail income				
Group 1	0.1574	-	0.1574	0.2211
Group 2	0.0612	0.0962	0.1574	0.2211
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.2213	-	0.2213	0.2831
Group 2	0.1887	0.0326	0.2213	0.2831
Retail CAT accumulation				
Group 1	0.2814	-	0.2814	0.3872
Group 2	0.1777	0.1037	0.2814	0.3872
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.4126	-	0.4126	0.4813
Group 2	0.4126	-	0.4126	0.4813
Retail CAT income				
Group 1	0.1631	-	0.1631	0.2275
Group 2	0.0432	0.1199	0.1631	0.2275
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.4048	-	0.4048	0.4760
Group 2	0.3317	0.0731	0.4048	0.4760
Institutional regulated accumulation				
Group 1	0.3409	-	0.3409	0.4156
Group 2	0.2491	0.0918	0.3409	0.4156
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.2339	-	0.2339	0.2968
Group 2	0.0561	0.1778	0.2339	0.2968
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.2022	-	0.2022	0.2611
Group 2	0.1588	0.0434	0.2022	0.2611
Institutional S accumulation				
Group 1	0.2507	-	0.2507	0.3047
Group 2	0.1392	0.1115	0.2507	0.3047
Institutional S income				
Group 1	0.2301	-	0.2301	0.2853
Group 2	0.0924	0.1377	0.2301	0.2853

Second interim interest distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 June 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 June 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	0.2484	-	0.2484	0.3949
Group 2	0.2150	0.0334	0.2484	0.3949
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.3879	-	0.3879	0.5405
Group 2	0.2748	0.1131	0.3879	0.5405
Retail income				
Group 1	0.1439	-	0.1439	0.2317
Group 2	0.1165	0.0274	0.1439	0.2317
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.2083	-	0.2083	0.2950
Group 2	0.1093	0.0990	0.2083	0.2950
Retail CAT accumulation				
Group 1	0.2576	-	0.2576	0.4064
Group 2	0.1673	0.0903	0.2576	0.4064
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.3967	-	0.3967	0.4866
Group 2	0.3967	-	0.3967	0.4866
Retail CAT income				
Group 1	0.1488	-	0.1488	0.2380
Group 2	0.0718	0.0770	0.1488	0.2380
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.3907	-	0.3907	0.4967
Group 2	0.2473	0.1434	0.3907	0.4967
Institutional regulated accumulation				
Group 1	0.3255	-	0.3255	0.4346
Group 2	0.2072	0.1183	0.3255	0.4346
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.2205	-	0.2205	0.3111
Group 2	0.1656	0.0549	0.2205	0.3111
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.1899	-	0.1899	0.2723
Group 2	0.0974	0.0925	0.1899	0.2723
Institutional S accumulation				
Group 1	0.2394	-	0.2394	0.3187
Group 2	0.2037	0.0357	0.2394	0.3187
Institutional S income				
Group 1	0.2188	-	0.2188	0.2969
Group 2	0.1253	0.0935	0.2188	0.2969

Equalisation

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

ASI American Income Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate income and some growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in US equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the S&P 500 Index, plus 2% per annum over rolling five year periods (before charges), with a yield greater than that of this index. The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in the US or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from US operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- The fund may also invest up to 20% in companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in Canada or Latin America.
- The fund may also invest up to 20% in bonds (loans to companies or governments).
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. Given the fund's income objective, the management team place particular emphasis on understanding business fundamentals and dynamics and the impact this has on cash flow generation and the company's ability to allocate cash effectively. Typically, this leads towards stocks with positive operational trends, strong market positions, robust financial position and attractive dividend in terms of yield, growth and/or underappreciated cash return prospects.
- The combined average yield on assets in the fund is expected to be higher than the broad US equity market, as represented by the S&P 500 Index.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the S&P 500 Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 6%. Due to the income nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the S&P 500 Index.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance

Over the six-month period to the end of August, the fund returned 10.6%. This compared to a return of 14.4% for our performance target (the S&P 500 Index +2%). Meanwhile, the fund's yield was 1.0% over the period, versus a yield target of 1.7% (the S&P 500 Index).

This underperformance was overwhelmingly driven by the strong performance of non-dividend-paying stocks in the index, which averaged a 28% return over this period and are responsible for 2.6% of the difference in performance. In addition, certain risk factors were highly influential in the market and put pressure on the fund as a result of its mandate. The fund's investment strategy of only investing in dividend-paying stocks offers certain benefits, but tends to be more challenged in market rallies of this sort. It should also be noted that the S&P 500's current yield of 1.7% has dropped well below its normal 2% level as a result of the strong market performance in the face of more challenged financial results due to the pandemic lockdown.

The fund's lack of positioning in non-dividend paying Amazon and Facebook were the main drags on relative performance. Amazon benefited from the increase in e-commerce after the onset of COVID-19. Facebook generated strong financial results in the face of increased regulatory scrutiny around social media. The fund's exposure to FirstEnergy also proved detrimental to returns. The electric utility company struggled to perform with other utilities as the market rebounded, but was hit hard when news emerged of a bribery scandal that impacted a former subsidiary of the company that has been spun off as a separate company. The scandal began before the corporate action was complete. Raytheon Technologies detracted from performance as concerns that prolonged weak air travel would impact new plane orders and after-market engine activity. Citigroup also underperformed because of concerns about the credit quality of the company's loan book, given the current pandemic and increasing unemployment.

Conversely, the fund's top-performing stock was Marvell Technology Group, the semiconductor chip designer. The company gained momentum after it reported improving results with a stronger outlook. Optimism grew that its products would be in higher demand in the 5G rollout and in cloud computing. Microsoft, the US multinational software and cloud computing company, added to performance over the period, due to the company being a primary beneficiary from the new working-from-

home environment. Satya Nadella, the CEO, commented on Microsoft's April earnings call that the company has seen two years of digital transformation happen within two months. The lack of exposure to JPMorgan Chase also benefited performance. Despite posting better-than-expected second-quarter results, the company's share price has not fully recovered from the coronavirus-induced sell-off. The fund's holding in Equinix, the data-centre provider, also helped performance. Global lockdowns boosted web traffic and highlighted the need for increased spending on data-centre services for the new working-from-home environment. This should hopefully drive more stable cash flows and continued growth for the company, as customers upgrade and expand their network.

Activity

Over the period, we initiated a position in Lowe's Companies, with the view that new management that came from Home Depot would be able to execute a needed turnaround by copying Home Depot's strategy. We bought NXP Semiconductors, where we felt the valuation was overly reflecting concerns about leverage and priced in concerns about auto exposure, which we view as a tailwind over time. We also added a position in Procter & Gamble due to increased confidence in the reorganisation, which we feel helps deliver improved sales momentum and maintain the solid dividend. Disney was initiated as COVID-19 had significant negative impacts on its Parks business, but should recover in time. Meanwhile, its Disney+ offering has launched more robustly than expected. In addition, we bought positions in US rail-transport companies Union Pacific Railroad and CSX Corporation, both of which we expect to see good operational cost control, solid pricing and improved cashflows.

Conversely, we exited our position in TJX Companies as the company suspended its dividend in the face of the pandemic. We sold out of Kansas City Southern, due to our analyst's downgrade and concerns that Mexico's handling of the COVID-19 crisis may harm the business. We exited Sun Communities on concerns around macroeconomic challenges for its customer base and a preference for MGM Growth Properties as a real estate investment trust. We sold Coca-Cola shares early in the pandemic on concerns that self-isolation would hurt on-premise sales, which are important for margins. The challenges in commercial air business led us to exit Raytheon as other capital goods stocks were preferred. In addition, we exited our position in John Deere, as the thesis around gains from shifts in the agricultural cycle have been challenged by the pandemic.

Outlook and Strategy

After the big swoon from late February to late March, the market reversal in the second quarter had a more modest effect on performance than feared. However, market returns in July and August continued to be strong, and the fund underperformed the decidedly more cyclical tilt taken as earnings continued to show strength. The economic downturn that had been priced in during the swoon was increasingly viewed as short lived. Macroeconomic data was stronger than expected, aided by the trillions of dollars of aid that was spent by the federal government. As fiscal measures run out, it will be important for the economy to have recovered sufficiently to stand on its own. Still, expectations for 2021 are for growth over 2019. In addition, upcoming national elections are likely to create potential volatility due to uncertainty on the outlook. Heightened criticism of the White House for its handling of the pandemic and civil rights unrest has led more investors to price in the potential for Democratic wins in the White House and Senate. This could significantly affect sector performance as the outlook will shift meaningfully from the past four years.

The fund's strategy remains the same in focusing on fundamental research around dividend-paying stocks with a blend across three categories: high dividend, dividend growth and opportunities (for return). Risk factors continue to be actively managed, but portfolio construction discipline limits some risk mitigation, due to the dividend mandate. For example, not owning Amazon is a major contributor to the risk and difficult to minimise effectively through dividend-paying stocks. In fact, the four FAANG stocks that do not pay a dividend (Facebook, Amazon, Netflix and Google-Alphabet) are responsible for around 35-40% of the total risk in the fund. Otherwise, risks remain actively managed with factor risks representing less than half of the total fund risk. In addition, the US equity team has undertaken a number of steps to increase peer review of positions, is holding sector reviews to help focus stock selection and continues to push on driving high-conviction ideas that offer attractive total return.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 5 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- A concentrated portfolio may be more volatile and less liquid than a more broadly diversified one. The fund's investments are concentrated in a particular country or sector.
- The fund invests in securities which are subject to the risk that the issuer may default on interest or capital payments.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The fund price can go up or down daily for a variety of reasons including changes in interest rates, inflation expectations or the perceived credit quality of individual countries or securities.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	95	782	47	18
Closing number of shares	113,408	1,021,806	69,952	27,330
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	83.96	76.51	67.52	63.66
Change in net asset value per share	9.74%	13.31%	6.06%	(0.13%)
Operating charges	1.33%	1.33%	1.35%	1.35%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	122,908	120,176	5,956	29,159
Closing number of shares	143,631,585	154,428,294	8,711,396	45,445,743
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	85.57	77.82	68.38	64.16
Change in net asset value per share	9.96%	13.81%	6.58%	0.33%
Operating charges	0.86%	0.86%	0.88%	0.88%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	23	20	5	8
Closing number of shares	29,375	27,320	7,086	12,698
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	77.52	71.35	64.21	61.70
Change in net asset value per share	8.65%	11.12%	4.07%	(1.97%)
Operating charges	1.33%	1.33%	1.35%	1.35%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	33	29	15,763	24,208
Closing number of shares	41,117	39,821	24,257,979	38,941,637
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	78.99	72.53	64.98	62.17
Change in net asset value per share	8.91%	11.62%	4.52%	(1.52%)
Operating charges	0.86%	0.86%	0.88%	0.88%

Standard Life income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	7,767	12,047	11,364	10,786
Closing number of shares	12,334,499	20,920,164	22,213,109	22,223,059
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	62.97	57.59	51.16	48.54
Change in net asset value per share	9.34%	12.57%	5.40%	(2.92%)
Operating charges	0.03%	0.03%	0.05%	0.05%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class launched on 15 March 2017.

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	91	54	54	71
Closing number of shares	103,172	67,641	77,457	109,605
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	88.35	80.04	69.79	65.01
Change in net asset value per share	10.38%	14.69%	7.35%	1.09%
Operating charges	0.11%	0.11%	0.13%	0.13%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	385	315	200	69
Closing number of shares	451,028	405,072	292,192	107,901
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	85.42	77.70	68.30	64.13
Change in net asset value per share	9.94%	13.76%	6.50%	0.30%
Operating charges	0.91%	0.91%	0.93%	0.93%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	124	64	34	9
Closing number of shares	156,923	88,761	51,996	14,526
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	78.89	72.46	64.94	62.14
Change in net asset value per share	8.87%	11.58%	4.51%	(1.58%)
Operating charges	0.91%	0.91%	0.93%	0.93%

Institutional S accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1	1	- [^]	1
Closing number of shares	1,432	1,432	200	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	78.51	71.32	62.38	58.56
Change in net asset value per share	10.08%	14.33%	6.52%	0.55%
Operating charges	0.74%	0.74%	0.70%	0.76%

Institutional S income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1	1	- ^{^^}	1
Closing number of shares	1,504	1,504	200	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	72.72	66.70	59.65	57.01
Change in net asset value per share	9.03%	11.82%	4.63%	(1.30%)
Operating charges	0.74%	0.74%	0.70%	0.76%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

[^] The closing net asset value of Institutional S accumulation is £125.

^{^^} The closing net asset value of Institutional S income is £119.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
North American Equities (98.12%)		129,287	98.37
Communication Services (6.30%)		11,161	8.49
45,945	Activision Blizzard	2,866	2.18
99,173	Comcast	3,319	2.53
70,512	Verizon Communications	3,119	2.37
18,869	Walt Disney	1,857	1.41
Consumer Discretionary (8.01%)		9,348	7.11
19,814	Genuine Parts	1,397	1.06
22,730	Lowe's	2,795	2.13
11,343	McDonald's	1,808	1.38
53,078	Restaurant Brands International	2,146	1.63
35,279	Service Corporation International	1,202	0.91
Consumer Staples (9.55%)		11,729	8.92
89,357	Alimentation Couche-Tard 'B'	2,174	1.65
13,578	Constellation	1,870	1.42
63,086	Mondelez	2,752	2.09
43,370	Philip Morris	2,583	1.97
22,763	Procter & Gamble	2,350	1.79
Energy (5.00%)		4,292	3.27
34,561	Chevron	2,165	1.65
88,906	Enbridge	2,127	1.62
Financials (7.73%)		11,301	8.60
137,695	Bank of America	2,645	2.01
72,407	Citigroup	2,763	2.10
8,556	First Republic Bank	721	0.55
17,306	Goldman Sachs	2,646	2.02
58,640	Schwab (Charles)	1,555	1.18
12,361	TMX	971	0.74
Health Care (16.86%)		19,079	14.52
52,688	Abbvie	3,766	2.87
29,442	Baxter International	1,914	1.46
64,950	Bristol-Myers Squibb	3,016	2.29
11,805	Eli Lilly	1,308	1.00
25,435	Johnson & Johnson	2,912	2.22
29,726	Medtronic	2,385	1.81
16,186	United Health	3,778	2.87

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Industrials (9.48%)		13,221	10.06
16,507	CSX	942	0.72
21,433	Honeywell International	2,647	2.01
15,831	Hunt (JB) Transport	1,661	1.26
8,372	Lockheed Martin	2,440	1.86
19,066	Trane Technologies	1,686	1.28
13,584	Union Pacific	1,951	1.49
22,258	Waste Management	1,894	1.44
Information Technology (24.82%)		38,822	29.54
12,245	Accenture	2,193	1.67
104,292	Apple	10,032	7.63
13,012	Broadcom	3,369	2.56
45,493	Cisco Systems	1,434	1.09
24,321	Fidelity National Information Services	2,740	2.09
34,372	Marvell Technology	995	0.76
19,182	Mastercard	5,129	3.90
66,790	Microsoft	11,223	8.54
18,195	NXP Semiconductors	1,707	1.30
Materials (1.68%)		2,317	1.76
10,616	Air Products & Chemicals	2,317	1.76
Real Estate (4.67%)		5,569	4.24
8,991	American Tower	1,672	1.27
4,412	Equinix	2,600	1.98
61,896	MGM Growth Properties	1,297	0.99
Utilities (4.02%)		2,448	1.86
13,745	Alliant Energy	556	0.42
9,077	NextEra Energy	1,892	1.44
Collective Investment Schemes (2.13%)		2,232	1.70
2,232	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	2,232	1.70
Total investment assets		131,519	100.07
Net other liabilities		(91)	(0.07)
Total Net Assets		131,428	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		11,837		9,660
Revenue	1,572		785	
Expenses	(534)		(231)	
Interest payable and similar charges	-		(3)	
Net revenue before taxation	1,038		551	
Taxation	(214)		(111)	
Net revenue after taxation		824		440
Total return before distributions		12,661		10,100
Distributions		(826)		(457)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		11,835		9,643

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		133,489		33,423
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	16,191		78,201	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(30,802)		(27,538)	
		(14,611)		50,663
Dilution adjustment		-		39
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		11,835		9,643
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		715		336
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		131,428		94,104

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		131,519		133,818
Current assets:				
Debtors	195		397	
Cash and bank balances	121		40	
		316		437
Total assets		131,835		134,255
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(370)		(709)	
Distribution payable	(37)		(57)	
		(407)		(766)
Total liabilities		(407)		(766)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		131,428		133,489

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional S Income share class has increased by 2.26% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

First interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 May 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31/07/20	Distribution paid 31/07/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	0.1000	-	0.1000	0.1416
Group 2	0.0587	0.0413	0.1000	0.1416
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.2567	-	0.2567	0.2310
Group 2	0.2444	0.0123	0.2567	0.2310
Retail income				
Group 1	0.3804	-	0.3804	0.3532
Group 2	0.2633	0.1171	0.3804	0.3532
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.3864	-	0.3864	0.3764
Group 2	0.2746	0.1118	0.3864	0.3764
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.3053	-	0.3053	0.2779
Group 2	0.3053	-	0.3053	0.2779
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.4115	-	0.4115	0.3698
Group 2	0.1880	0.2235	0.4115	0.3698
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.2460	-	0.2460	0.2182
Group 2	0.1381	0.1079	0.2460	0.2182
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.3861	-	0.3861	0.3566
Group 2	0.1864	0.1997	0.3861	0.3566
Institutional S accumulation				
Group 1	0.2590	-	0.2590	0.2900
Group 2	0.2590	-	0.2590	0.2900
Institutional S income				
Group 1	0.3356	-	0.3356	0.3350
Group 2	0.3356	-	0.3356	0.3350

Second interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 June 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 June 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	-	-	-	0.1263
Group 2	-	-	-	0.1263
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.2221	-	0.2221	0.2316
Group 2	0.1294	0.0927	0.2221	0.2316
Retail income				
Group 1	0.3683	-	0.3683	0.3551
Group 2	0.3193	0.0490	0.3683	0.3551
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.3783	-	0.3783	0.3486
Group 2	0.3440	0.0343	0.3783	0.3486
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.2894	-	0.2894	0.2826
Group 2	0.2894	-	0.2894	0.2826
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.3937	-	0.3937	0.3722
Group 2	0.3247	0.0690	0.3937	0.3722
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.2117	-	0.2117	0.2083
Group 2	0.1021	0.1096	0.2117	0.2083
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.3759	-	0.3759	0.3583
Group 2	0.2806	0.0953	0.3759	0.3583
Institutional S accumulation				
Group 1	0.2451	-	0.2451	0.3050
Group 2	0.2451	-	0.2451	0.3050
Institutional S income				
Group 1	0.3503	-	0.3503	0.3350
Group 2	0.3503	-	0.3503	0.3350

Equalisation

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

ASI American Unconstrained Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in US equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the S&P 500 Index plus 3% per annum over rolling three year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

Performance comparator: IA North America Equity Sector Average.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target/comparator for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index/sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in the US or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from US operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- The fund may also invest in companies listed, incorporated, or domiciled in Canada or Latin America.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management). to maintain a concentrated asset mix at sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. The research process is focused on identifying companies where the management team have a different view of a company's prospects than that of the market, and which align with their views regarding future economic and business conditions.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the S&P 500 Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 10%. Due to the active nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the S&P 500 Index.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").

- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance

Over the period under review, the fund returned 12.5%. This compared to a return of 14.9% for our performance target (the S&P 500 Index +3%).

After a period of positive relative performance to start the year, which persisted through the market sell-off due to pandemic concerns, market conditions shifted in a manner that ate away at the fund's outperformance. The fund concentrates its capital into the best ideas generated from the US equity team with limited consideration to the benchmark as it pursues higher absolute returns. As a result, positions are concentrated in the top ideas with some additional weighting applied to well-liked buy ideas that might offer some risk mitigation benefits. As a result, pure risk mitigation positions are avoided, and this contributed to the underperformance over the period. Notably, Apple appreciated aggressively during this time and drove the analyst to downgrade to a sell based on an all-time high valuation with a less robust outlook. Not owning Apple was a main factor in the fund's underperformance.

The fund generated its strongest relative returns in the real estate and communication services sectors. Equinix, the data-centre real estate investment trust, was the main driver of performance in real estate. In communication services, our overweight position in Netflix helped, as the streaming service benefited from the lockdown. The weakest relative performers were information technology and consumer staples. Positioning within information technology was impacted by not owning Apple. In consumer staples, our exposure to Constellation Brands detracted the most.

As mentioned previously, the fund's lack of exposure to Apple was a major detractor from relative performance. The technology heavyweight was one of the best performers in the market and is also over 5% of the Index. The fund's exposure to FirstEnergy also proved detrimental to returns. The electric utility company struggled to perform with other utilities as the market rebounded, but was hit hard when news emerged of a bribery scandal that impacted a former subsidiary of the company that has been spun off as a separate company. The scandal began before the corporate action was complete. Citigroup also underperformed, given worries about the net-interest-income outlook due to lower interest rates and the prospect of rising credit costs, as a result of the economic downturn. Charles Schwab also suffered from similar concerns about net-interest-income growth as well as worries that asset growth would struggle to keep up with expectations.

The fund's top-performing stock was Marvell Technology Group, the semiconductor chip designer. The company gained momentum after it reported improving results with a stronger outlook. Optimism grew that its products would be in higher demand in the 5G rollout and in cloud computing. Amazon was another big outperformer, as it benefited from the increase in e-commerce after the onset of COVID-19. One-day shipping also continues to drive use and increase user experience. The fund's holding in Equinix, the data-centre provider, also helped performance. Global lockdowns boosted web traffic and highlighted the need for increased spending on data-centre services for the new working-from-home environment. This should hopefully drive more stable cash flows and continued growth for the company, as customers upgrade and expand their network. The fund's position in NICE Ltd, the leading cloud-contact centre as a service technology, was a positive contributor. Demand for its products and services grew, due to lockdown measures across the globe. This resulted in better-than-expected results.

Activity

Over the period, we purchased oil major ConocoPhillips, which was seen as a high-quality way to gain exposure to an energy rebound with the ability to generate cash in lower crude price environments due to its lower cost assets. We also initiated a position in NXP Semiconductors, where we felt the valuation reflected overdone concerns about leverage as well as auto exposure, which we view as a tailwind over time. We also purchased Enbridge, the mid-stream energy company focused on oil and gas pipelines. We view the company's business as fairly stable and important for the economic outlooks of its customers.

The Enbridge and Conoco positions were established after we sold out of Chevron Corporation and EOG, both which had outperformed during the recovery from the oil-price shock. Concerns over whether oil prices and demand will rebound enough for 2021 as well as for potential dividend cuts led to these positions being exited, while Conoco and Enbridge were seen as safer. We also took profits on Cable One after the stock performed well, as there were concerns around uncertainty of strategic next steps. We sold out of Kansas City Southern due to our analyst's downgrade and concerns that Mexico's handling of the COVID-19 crisis could harm the business. We also exited our position in Netflix, taking profits as the thesis played out.

Outlook and Strategy

After the big swoon from late February to late March, the market reversal in the second quarter had a more modest effect on performance than feared. However, market returns in July and August continued to be strong, and the fund underperformed the decidedly more cyclical tilt taken as earnings continued to show strength. The economic downturn that had been priced in during the swoon was increasingly viewed as short lived. Macroeconomic data was stronger than expected, aided by the trillions of dollars of aid that was spent by the federal government. As fiscal measures run out, it will be important for the economy to have recovered sufficiently to stand on its own. Still, expectations for 2021 are for growth over 2019. In addition, upcoming national elections are likely to create potential volatility due to uncertainty on the outlook. Heightened criticism of the White House for its handling of the pandemic and civil rights unrest has led more investors to price in potential for Democratic wins in the White House and Senate. This could significantly affect sector performance as the outlook will shift meaningfully from the past four years.

The fund's strategy remains the same in focusing on the highest-conviction names from a bottom-up perspective. However, risk factors are likely to continue to influence performance. As a result, portfolio construction considerations that help manage risks within the context of the unconstrained mandate will remain a priority. For example, Apple has been a big drag on performance given its weight in the index and strong returns. The fund does not own it since it is not buy-rated, but its position in the index makes it the biggest active weight in the fund. This is a misalignment of conviction and position sizes. With a handful of stocks now such large pieces of the S&P 500, portfolio construction may need to adapt to these conditions with positions that reduce the relative weight being made. Although the fund is managed agnostic to the benchmark, the composition of the benchmark has changed enough to merit consideration of this approach.

Otherwise, efforts to increase conviction in ideas are being pursued by the US equity team. A number of steps have been taken to increase peer review of positions and sector reviews are being held to focus stock selection. Consistency in the production of research as well as detailed discussions around the merits of the ideas will continue to be used to establish the highest conviction ideas that are considered for inclusion in the fund.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 5 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- A concentrated portfolio may be more volatile and less liquid than a more broadly diversified one. The fund's investments are concentrated in a particular country or sector.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	35,020	30,638	28,385	30,807
Closing number of shares	19,637,237	19,082,115	19,614,130	21,915,755
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	178.34	160.56	144.72	140.57
Change in net asset value per share	11.07%	10.95%	2.95%	(1.30%)
Operating charges	1.35%	1.35%	1.33%	1.32%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	10,614	9,945	36,134	100,804
Closing number of shares	5,026,245	5,243,013	21,234,107	61,270,507
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	211.17	189.67	170.17	164.52
Change in net asset value per share	11.34%	11.46%	3.43%	(0.84%)
Operating charges	0.88%	0.88%	0.86%	0.85%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	968	911	951	1,083
Closing number of shares	1,095,913	1,145,268	1,327,871	1,556,474
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	88.28	79.48	71.64	69.59
Change in net asset value per share	11.07%	10.94%	2.95%	(1.29%)
Operating charges	1.35%	1.35%	1.33%	1.32%

Standard Life income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	– [^]	– [^]	3
Closing number of shares	–	63	63	2,000
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	166.08	149.76	145.40
Change in net asset value per share	–	10.90%	3.00%	(1.20%)
Operating charges	–	0.05%	0.03%	0.02%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,455	1,209	1,210	2,000
Closing number of shares	766,482	711,851	799,650	1,378,064
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	189.85	169.87	151.26	145.15
Change in net asset value per share	11.76%	12.30%	4.21%	(0.10%)
Operating charges	0.13%	0.13%	0.11%	0.10%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 27 March 2020.

[^] The closing net asset value of Standard Life income is £104 (2019: £94).

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	24,547	21,316	27,758	43,610
Closing number of shares	15,744,999	15,219,096	22,080,869	35,865,920
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	155.90	140.06	125.71	121.59
Change in net asset value per share	11.31%	11.42%	3.39%	(0.89%)
Operating charges	0.93%	0.93%	0.91%	0.90%

Institutional S accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1	1	1	2
Closing number of shares	1,340	1,340	965	2,965
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	84.87	76.16	68.19	65.80
Change in net asset value per share	11.44%	11.69%	3.63%	(0.74%)
Operating charges	0.81%	0.81%	0.72%	0.78%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
North American Equities (98.95%)		71,046	97.85
Communication Services (11.49%)		9,975	13.74
3,251	Alphabet 'C'	3,963	5.46
51,273	Comcast	1,716	2.36
10,747	Facebook	2,353	3.24
22,300	T-Mobile	1,943	2.68
Consumer Discretionary (12.08%)		10,099	13.91
2,135	Amazon.com	5,487	7.56
20,090	Dollar Tree	1,443	1.99
43,321	Restaurant Brands International	1,751	2.41
34,662	TJX	1,418	1.95
Consumer Staples (8.83%)		5,636	7.76
65,597	Alimentation Couche-Tard 'B'	1,596	2.20
13,949	Constellation	1,921	2.64
48,586	Mondelez	2,119	2.92
Energy (3.16%)		1,635	2.25
34,297	ConocoPhillips	970	1.34
27,804	Enbridge	665	0.91
Financials (7.11%)		5,860	8.07
80,926	Bank of America	1,555	2.14
39,061	Citigroup	1,491	2.05
8,964	Goldman Sachs	1,370	1.89
54,445	Schwab (Charles)	1,444	1.99
Health Care (16.58%)		10,258	14.13
29,494	Abbvie	2,108	2.91
19,797	Baxter International	1,287	1.77
72,781	Boston Scientific	2,229	3.07
33,618	Bristol-Myers Squibb	1,561	2.15
8,157	Eli Lilly	904	1.24
9,292	United Health	2,169	2.99

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Industrials (8.81%)		6,262	8.62
44,487	Allison Transmission	1,191	1.64
11,959	Honeywell International	1,477	2.03
5,068	L3Harris Technologies	684	0.94
16,817	Trane Technologies	1,487	2.05
9,910	Union Pacific	1,423	1.96
Information Technology (23.79%)		17,795	24.52
6,910	Broadcom	1,789	2.46
15,733	Fidelity National Information Services	1,772	2.44
17,825	Fiserv	1,325	1.83
28,485	Marvell Technology	825	1.14
10,715	Mastercard	2,865	3.95
36,425	Microsoft	6,121	8.43
10,681	Nice ADR	1,834	2.53
13,467	NXP Semiconductors	1,264	1.74
Materials (1.33%)		1,112	1.53
5,094	Air Products & Chemicals	1,112	1.53
Real Estate (2.92%)		1,380	1.90
2,342	Equinix	1,380	1.90
Utilities (2.85%)		1,034	1.42
4,961	NextEra Energy	1,034	1.42
Collective Investment Schemes (1.61%)		2,350	3.24
3,147	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - US Dollar Fund Z1 Inc+	2,350	3.24
Total investment assets		73,396	101.09
Net other liabilities		(791)	(1.09)
Total Net Assets		72,605	100.00

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

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		7,124		14,195
Revenue	564		722	
Expenses	(376)		(461)	
Net revenue before taxation	188		261	
Taxation	(81)		(101)	
Net revenue after taxation		107		160
Total return before equalisation		7,231		14,355
Equalisation on shares		-		(13)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		7,231		14,342

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		64,020		94,439
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	18,380		22,367	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(17,026)		(39,554)	
		1,354		(17,187)
Dilution adjustment		-		8
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		7,231		14,342
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		72,605		91,602

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		73,396		64,376
Current assets:				
Debtors	584		692	
Cash and bank balances	328		38	
		912		730
Total assets		74,308		65,106
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(1,703)		(1,086)	
		(1,703)		(1,086)
Total liabilities		(1,703)		(1,086)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		72,605		64,020

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional S Accumulation share class has increased by 2.47% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

ASI Emerging Market Government Bond Fund

Investment Report

The fund was closed on 27 January 2020. All shares in the fund were redeemed and cancelled. The fund will formally terminate at a later date after all residual assets and liabilities are settled. The fund is not open to new investors.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	2,922	1,901
Closing number of shares	–	–	4,101,984	2,796,510
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	71.22	67.96
Change in net asset value per share	–	11.05%	4.80%	(5.00%)
Operating charges	–	1.25%	1.25%	1.24%

Institutional accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	1,401	7,300
Closing number of shares	–	–	1,900,736	10,428,518
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	73.71	70.00
Change in net asset value per share	–	11.53%	5.30%	(4.58%)
Operating charges	–	0.78%	0.78%	0.77%

Retail income ^B	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	2	3
Closing number of shares	–	–	3,386	5,386
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	55.54	55.18
Change in net asset value per share	–	17.19%	0.65%	(8.19%)
Operating charges	–	1.25%	1.25%	1.24%

Institutional income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	3,579	1,912
Closing number of shares	–	–	6,132,586	3,297,876
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	58.35	57.98
Change in net asset value per share	–	7.18%	0.64%	(8.22%)
Operating charges	–	0.78%	0.78%	0.77%

Standard Life income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	–	1
Closing number of shares	–	–	174	2,000
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	58.19	57.76
Change in net asset value per share	–	7.17%	0.74%	(8.62%)
Operating charges	–	0.05%	0.04%	0.04%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 27 January 2020.

^B Share class closed on 9 August 2019.

Standard Life accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	92,144	94,518
Closing number of shares	–	–	120,756,496	131,284,934
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	76.31	71.99
Change in net asset value per share	–	12.21%	6.00%	(3.95%)
Operating charges	–	0.13%	0.12%	0.12%

Platform 1 accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	4,149	6,345
Closing number of shares	–	–	5,645,209	9,085,190
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	73.50	69.84
Change in net asset value per share	–	11.47%	5.24%	(4.62%)
Operating charges	–	0.83%	0.82%	0.82%

Platform 1 income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	3,933	4,388
Closing number of shares	–	–	6,733,185	7,559,876
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	58.41	58.04
Change in net asset value per share	–	7.16%	0.64%	(8.18%)
Operating charges	–	0.83%	0.82%	0.82%

Institutional S accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	– [^]	2
Closing number of shares	–	–	200	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	72.75	68.91
Change in net asset value per share	–	11.92%	5.57%	(4.44%)
Operating charges	–	0.60%	0.59%	0.65%

Institutional S income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	– ^{^^}	1
Closing number of shares	–	–	200	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	58.45	58.06
Change in net asset value per share	–	7.13%	0.67%	(8.19%)
Operating charges	–	0.60%	0.59%	0.65%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 27 January 2020.

[^] The closing net asset value of Institutional S accumulation is £145.

^{^^} The closing net asset value of Institutional S income is £117.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

		Market value	Percentage of
		£'000	total net
Holding	Investment		assets

The fund has not held any investments since 27 January 2020.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		8		14,650
Revenue	–		3,133	
Expenses	(1)		(129)	
Net (expense)/revenue before taxation	(1)		3,004	
Taxation	–		–	
Net (expense)/revenue after taxation		(1)		3,004
Total return before equalisation		7		17,654
Equalisation on shares		–		(3,004)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		7		14,650

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		–		108,130
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	–		6,925	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	–		(103,776)	
		–		(96,851)
Dilution adjustment		–		(2)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		7		14,650
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		–		411
Change in provision for fund closure		(7)		–
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		–		26,338

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		–		–
Current assets:				
Cash and bank balances	7		8	
		7		8
Total assets		7		8
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(7)		(8)	
		(7)		(8)
Total liabilities		(7)		(8)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		–		–

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

Interim interest distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	-	-	-	1.6504
Group 2	-	-	-	1.6504
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	-	-	-	1.8979
Group 2	-	-	-	1.8979
Retail income				
Group 1	-	-	-	-
Group 2	-	-	-	-
Institutional income				
Group 1	-	-	-	1.5024
Group 2	-	-	-	1.5024
Standard Life income				
Group 1	-	-	-	1.7373
Group 2	-	-	-	1.7373
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	-	-	-	2.2372
Group 2	-	-	-	2.2372
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	-	-	-	1.8723
Group 2	-	-	-	1.8723
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	-	-	-	1.4880
Group 2	-	-	-	1.4880
Institutional S accumulation				
Group 1	-	-	-	2.0450
Group 2	-	-	-	2.0450
Institutional S income				
Group 1	-	-	-	1.6900
Group 2	-	-	-	1.6900

Equalisation

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

ASI Emerging Markets Income Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate income and some growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in emerging market equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the MSCI emerging markets Index plus 2% per annum (before charges) with a yield greater than that of this index.

The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in emerging market countries, or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from emerging market operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- Emerging markets include Asian, Eastern European, Middle Eastern, African or Latin American countries.
- The fund may also invest up to 10% in bonds (loans to companies).
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at country, sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. Given the fund's income objective, the management team place particular emphasis on understanding business fundamentals and dynamics and the impact this has on cash flow generation and the company's ability to allocate cash effectively.
- The combined average yield on assets in the fund is expected to be higher than the broad emerging market equity market as represented by the MSCI emerging markets Index.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the MSCI emerging market Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 8%. Due to the income nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the MSCI emerging market Index.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance Review

Over the 6-month period to end of August, the fund returned 3.17%, compared to a return of 7.38% for its performance target (the MSCI Emerging Markets Index +2%). Meanwhile, the fund's yield was 2.3% over the 6-month period, versus a yield target of 2.8% (the MSCI Emerging Markets Index).

The overarching factor that influenced the fund's performance was the impact of COVID-19 on various sectors. The rapid spread of the highly infectious and deadly disease forced governments to impose stringent lockdowns to stem the contagion. This weakened the private sector's earnings potential and caused a credit, and subsequently, a lending concern for the banking industry. Additionally, major central banks around the world lowered interest rates in response to the economic fallout from the pandemic, which also hampered earnings among our high-dividend financial holdings. In countries that faced severe currency depreciation, this was even more pronounced. Hence, our Latin American bank holdings, Banorte and Banco Bradesco weighed on the fund's performance, as did Bank of Georgia.

The COVID-19 induced lockdowns and travel disruptions also hampered the tourism industry, retail outlets and restaurants. Consequently, consumer spending habits shifted, resulting in higher demand for digital services, including e-commerce. Notably, China-based e-commerce firms Meituan Dianping and JD.com saw robust growth thanks to the scalability of their operations. Therefore, not holding these names hurt the fund.

On the positive side, several of our dividend-growth stocks did well, thanks to easing lockdowns later in the period that supported higher domestic consumption. Liquor producer Wuliangye Yibin was among the top contributors as increased wholesale prices and the launch of a new product range buoyed its share price. Elsewhere, in Korea, LG Chem saw its share price rise on expectations that the demand for electric vehicles will increase, led by supportive government policies and subsidies. Also in the technology sector, our exposure to semiconductors proved defensive owing to a steady demand outlook for memory chips and smart phones. In particular, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co (TSMC) rose due to resilient earnings and healthy margins as its products were in high demand due to the lockdown-induced work-from-home policies.

Activity

In key portfolio activity, over the period we focused on increasing the fund's exposure to several attractively valued dividend-growth companies, while lowering the exposure to traditionally high-yielding stocks, as we anticipate earnings weakness due to the pandemic to impede dividend yields. We exited Norilsk Nickel on concerns about the outlook for its key commodity, Palladium, as weakening economic demand, particularly in the automobile industry was expected to weigh on pricing. We also sold Copa Holdings, FEMSA, FirstRand, Headhunter Group, Inter RAO, KB Financial Group, PT Telkom and Siam Cement due to their worsening profit outlooks and its implications for shareholder returns.

We used the proceeds to initiate several dividend-growth stocks in China, including hazardous-waste treatment business China Conch Venture for its rapidly expanding and lucrative business; clothing manufacturer Li Ning to build exposure to the growing branded sportswear industry on the mainland; digital technology company Hangzhou Hikvision, which has an increasingly diversified customer base and offers attractive dividends to shareholders; and Nari Technology, the leading provider of power grid automation and industrial control products in China.

Elsewhere, we initiated high dividend-yield stock Intouch Holdings, an investment company that holds 40% of Advanced Information Services, which generates the bulk of its profits and dividends. We also switched the fund's long standing holding in Thai petrochemical conglomerate PTT to India-based, dividend-growth stock Reliance Industries, which is a lower-cost refining and petrochemical operation. Lastly, also in India, we initiated national power transmission utility Power Grid Corporation of India, a high-dividend stock, due to its robust balance sheet and good dividend yield. It also benefits from government investments in electric power infrastructure and alternative energy sources.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 6 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- Investing in China A shares involves special considerations and risks, including greater price volatility, a less developed regulatory and legal framework, exchange rate risk/controls, settlement, tax, quota, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The fund invests in securities which are subject to the risk that the issuer may default on interest or capital payments.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in emerging market equities and / or bonds. Investing in emerging markets involves a greater risk of loss than investing in more developed markets due to, among other factors, greater political, tax, economic, foreign exchange, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The fund price can go up or down daily for a variety of reasons including changes in interest rates, inflation expectations or the perceived credit quality of individual countries or securities.
- The fund may invest in companies with Variable Interest Entity (VIE) structures in order to gain exposure to industries with foreign ownership restrictions. There is a risk that investments in these structures may be adversely affected by changes in the legal and regulatory framework.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	6,473	5,207	3,555	3,243
Closing number of shares	7,747,719	6,220,144	4,552,241	3,841,015
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	83.54	83.70	78.09	84.43
Change in net asset value per share	(0.19%)	7.18%	(7.51%)	24.05%
Operating charges	1.35%	1.35%	1.37%	1.39%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	229,198	268,717	278,128	264,336
Closing number of shares	262,462,784	307,817,593	343,163,470	302,155,108
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	87.33	87.30	81.05	87.48
Change in net asset value per share	0.03%	7.71%	(7.35%)	24.70%
Operating charges	0.88%	0.88%	0.90%	0.92%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	444	331	449	85
Closing number of shares	677,378	495,268	692,966	117,611
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	65.51	66.88	64.73	72.67
Change in net asset value per share	(2.05%)	3.32%	(10.93%)	20.98%
Operating charges	1.35%	1.35%	1.37%	1.39%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	14,546	15,926	21,425	29,048
Closing number of shares	21,211,014	22,800,995	31,836,444	38,630,011
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	68.58	69.85	67.30	75.20
Change in net asset value per share	(1.82%)	3.79%	(10.51%)	21.56%
Operating charges	0.88%	0.88%	0.90%	0.92%

Standard Life income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	7,893	6,288	7,433	8,239
Closing number of shares	10,813,853	8,493,356	10,509,712	10,511,712
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	72.99	74.03	70.73	78.38
Change in net asset value per share	(1.40%)	4.67%	(9.76%)	22.56%
Operating charges	0.05%	0.05%	0.07%	0.09%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	449,844	437,019	402,903	432,014
Closing number of shares	489,603,656	477,495,663	477,451,030	477,458,683
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	91.88	91.52	84.39	90.48
Change in net asset value per share	0.39%	8.45%	(6.73%)	25.65%
Operating charges	0.13%	0.13%	0.15%	0.17%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	31,656	30,869	24,027	25,189
Closing number of shares	36,426,179	35,518,738	29,763,576	28,892,663
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	86.91	86.91	80.73	87.18
Change in net asset value per share	–	7.66%	(7.40%)	24.63%
Operating charges	0.93%	0.93%	0.95%	0.97%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	37,914	36,282	27,082	22,727
Closing number of shares	55,530,378	52,154,327	40,377,117	30,308,721
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	68.28	69.57	67.07	74.99
Change in net asset value per share	(1.85%)	3.73%	(10.56%)	21.50%
Operating charges	0.93%	0.93%	0.95%	0.97%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Equities (98.69%)		771,942	99.23
Europe, Middle East & African Equities (15.24%)		93,121	11.97
Georgia (1.17%)		5,072	0.65
551,906	Bank of Georgia	5,072	0.65
Hungary (0.54%)		3,854	0.50
4,247,609	Magyar Telekom	3,854	0.50
Luxembourg (0.23%)		-	-
Nigeria (0.67%)		2,656	0.34
5,167,959	Seplat Petroleum Development	2,656	0.34
Russia (8.53%)		47,435	6.10
3,676,695	Detsky	4,269	0.55
1,537,795	Globaltrans Investment	7,155	0.92
200,831	Lukoil ADR	10,253	1.32
6,287,666	Sberbank of Russia (Preference)	13,632	1.75
232,269	Severstal	2,180	0.28
242,870	X5 Retail Group	6,639	0.85
64,969	Yandex	3,307	0.43
South Africa (3.04%)		26,931	3.46
92,105	Naspers	12,558	1.61
850,250	Sanlam	2,061	0.27
2,187,612	Vodacom	12,312	1.58
Turkey (1.06%)		7,173	0.92
4,939,204	Turkcell Iletisim	7,173	0.92
Latin America Equities (15.22%)		82,168	10.56
Brazil (6.74%)		36,790	4.73
3,292,614	Banco Bradesco (Preference)	9,297	1.19
663,386	Cyrela Brazil Realty	2,177	0.28
2,288,142	Itaúsa (Preference)	2,938	0.38
900,198	Petrobras (Preference)	2,683	0.34
1,213,014	TAESA	4,657	0.60
293,133	Telefonica Brasil (Preference)	1,909	0.25
1,531,892	Vale	12,446	1.60
186,175	YDUQS Part	683	0.09

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Chile (0.81%)		5,366	0.69
49,750,043	Enel Americas	5,366	0.69
Mexico (5.84%)		35,232	4.53
2,369,967	Grupo Aeroportuario del Centro Norte	8,042	1.04
3,640,160	Grupo Financiero Banorte	9,341	1.20
5,395,056	Grupo México	10,752	1.38
7,374,499	PLA Administradora Industrial	7,097	0.91
Panama (0.75%)		-	-
Peru (1.08%)		4,780	0.61
49,052	Credicorp	4,780	0.61
Pacific Basin Equities (68.23%)		596,653	76.70
China (25.55%)		262,334	33.72
308,960	Alibaba ADR	66,232	8.51
246,370	ANTA Sports Products	1,817	0.23
72,416	Autohome ADR	4,340	0.56
967,500	China Conch Venture	3,128	0.40
41,131,808	China Construction Bank 'H'	21,721	2.79
1,523,000	China Life Insurance 'H'	2,768	0.36
5,243,919	China Merchants Bank 'H'	18,698	2.40
3,885,322	China Petroleum 'H'	1,340	0.17
6,490,084	Dali Foods	2,971	0.38
12,505,988	Goodbaby International	1,362	0.18
2,441,385	Haitian International	4,409	0.57
2,095,334	Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology 'A'	8,550	1.10
437,452	Huazhu Group ADR	14,614	1.88
920,000	Li Ning	2,904	0.37
4,886,890	NARI Technology 'A'	11,937	1.53
3,589,927	Ping An Insurance 'H'	28,541	3.67
960,562	Tencent	49,106	6.31
14,664,682	Tianhe Chemicals**	-	-
3,594,000	TK Group	894	0.12
2,858,110	Weichai Power 'H'	4,313	0.56
341,784	Wuliangye Yibin 'A'	8,944	1.15
3,020,577	Xiabu Xiabu	2,789	0.36
1,488,800	Xinjiang Goldwind Science & Technology 'H'	956	0.12

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Hong Kong (4.62%)		38,090	4.90
1,898,500	Budweiser Brewing	4,766	0.61
550,950	China Lumena New Materials*	-	-
88,800	China Metal Recycling**	-	-
1,988,965	China Mobile	10,369	1.34
3,681,853	China Resources Land	12,702	1.63
10,451,745	SITC	10,253	1.32
India (7.09%)		64,614	8.31
347,540	Bajaj	9,416	1.21
1,225,630	Biocon	4,659	0.60
1,077,194	Crompton Greaves 'C'	2,975	0.38
572,808	Housing Development Finance	10,607	1.36
6,230,000	IRB InvIT	2,398	0.31
3,421,779	ITC	6,626	0.85
613,340	Larsen & Toubro	5,881	0.76
694,177	Oberoi Realty	2,760	0.35
2,191,294	Power Grid Corp of India	4,002	0.51
317,383	Reliance Industries	6,660	0.86
16,557	Reliance Industries (partly paid)	200	0.03
180,184	Tata Consultancy Services	4,104	0.53
576,875	Tech Mahindra	4,326	0.56
Indonesia (1.93%)		7,523	0.97
26,304,100	Bank Rakyat Indonesia	4,735	0.61
133,239,551	Pakuwon Jati	2,788	0.36
Macau (2.35%)		18,865	2.43
5,724,147	Sands China	18,865	2.43
Malaysia (0.40%)		2,522	0.32
8,738,323	UOA Development	2,522	0.32
South Korea (12.36%)		97,114	12.48
78,827	LG Chemical Preference KRW 5000	18,585	2.39
479,520	Samsung Electronics	16,280	2.09
1,507,941	Samsung Electronics (Preference)	45,033	5.79
234,446	Shinhan Finance	4,363	0.56
272,213	SK Hynix	12,853	1.65

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Taiwan (10.57%)		95,877	12.32
16,160	Chicony Electronics Co	36	–
2,443,000	Chroma ATE	10,011	1.29
659,629	Globalwafers	6,607	0.85
3,262,000	Hon Hai Precision	6,385	0.82
665,743	President Chain Store	4,575	0.59
5,541,871	Taiwan Semiconductors Manufacturing	60,162	7.73
2,078,000	Taiwan Union Technology	6,294	0.81
860,560	Wistron NeWeb	1,807	0.23
Thailand (3.36%)		9,714	1.25
938,178	Advanced Info Service (Alien Market)	4,109	0.53
1,992,100	Intouch Holdings (Alien Market)	2,605	0.33
7,486,616	Supalai NVDR	3,000	0.39
Collective Investment Schemes (0.20%)		1	–
1	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	1	–
Total investment assets		771,943	99.23
Net other assets		6,025	0.77
Total Net Assets		777,968	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

* Suspended

** Delisted

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital (losses)/gains		(13,835)		44,811
Revenue	16,200		20,497	
Expenses	(1,669)		(1,932)	
Interest payable and similar charges	(6)		(3)	
Net revenue before taxation	14,525		18,562	
Taxation	(1,848)		(1,704)	
Net revenue after taxation		12,677		16,858
Total return before distributions		(1,158)		61,669
Distributions		(12,898)		(17,073)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		(14,056)		44,596

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		800,639		765,002
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	34,971		29,801	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(55,227)		(47,774)	
		(20,256)		(17,973)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		(14,056)		44,596
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		11,641		15,647
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		777,968		807,272

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		771,943		791,712
Current assets:				
Debtors	4,158		5,597	
Cash and bank balances	4,094		4,545	
		8,252		10,142
Total assets		780,195		801,854
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(1,429)		(820)	
Bank overdrafts	(143)		(8)	
Distribution payable	(655)		(387)	
		(2,227)		(1,215)
Total liabilities		(2,227)		(1,215)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		777,968		800,639

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Accumulation share class has increased by 6.97% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

First interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 May 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31/07/20	Distribution paid 31/07/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	0.3721	-	0.3721	0.6308
Group 2	0.3309	0.0412	0.3721	0.6308
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.4746	-	0.4746	0.6915
Group 2	0.2757	0.1989	0.4746	0.6915
Retail income				
Group 1	0.4856	-	0.4856	0.6942
Group 2	0.4357	0.0499	0.4856	0.6942
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.5049	-	0.5049	0.7093
Group 2	0.3103	0.1946	0.5049	0.7093
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.5302	-	0.5302	0.7315
Group 2	0.5302	-	0.5302	0.7315
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.6422	-	0.6422	0.8585
Group 2	0.6298	0.0124	0.6422	0.8585
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.4598	-	0.4598	0.6806
Group 2	0.3101	0.1497	0.4598	0.6806
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.5028	-	0.5028	0.7056
Group 2	0.3302	0.1726	0.5028	0.7056

Second interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 June 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 June 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	0.6273	-	0.6273	0.7388
Group 2	0.5781	0.0492	0.6273	0.7388
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.7576	-	0.7576	0.9468
Group 2	0.5074	0.2502	0.7576	0.9468
Retail income				
Group 1	0.7102	-	0.7102	0.8875
Group 2	0.1070	0.6032	0.7102	0.8875
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.7398	-	0.7398	0.9177
Group 2	0.2399	0.4999	0.7398	0.9177
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.7783	-	0.7783	0.9582
Group 2	0.0815	0.6968	0.7783	0.9582
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.9560	-	0.9560	1.1398
Group 2	0.8902	0.0658	0.9560	1.1398
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.7418	-	0.7418	0.9336
Group 2	0.4222	0.3196	0.7418	0.9336
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.7367	-	0.7367	0.9159
Group 2	0.3878	0.3489	0.7367	0.9159

Equalisation

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

ASI Europe ex UK Growth Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in European equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index plus 3% per annum over rolling three year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

Performance Comparator: IA Europe ex UK Equity Sector Average.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target/comparator for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index/sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated, or domiciled in European countries, or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from European operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- European countries can include the emerging markets of Europe, but excludes the UK.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. The research process is focused on identifying companies where the management team have a different view of a company's prospects than that of the market, and which align with their views regarding future economic and business conditions.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, FTSE World ex UK Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 8%. Due to the fund's risk constraints, the intention is that the fund's performance profile will not deviate significantly from that of the FTSE World ex UK Index over the longer term.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").

- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance

Over the period under review, the fund returned 11.0%. This compared to a return of 7.7% for our performance target (the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index +3%).

With a one-year return of 9.38% that was ahead of the index (6.38% ahead of target), the fund has returned to top quartile versus its peer group over 1 year (18th percentile). It is now firmly ahead of its peers over 3 and 5 years (32nd and 29th percentile, respectively).

In terms of what drove performance, the financials and consumer services sectors were the best performers over the period. The top contributor was digital consumer brands group Schibsted after its subsidiary Adevinta purchased eBay Europe and the parent company was able to pick up some interesting Nordic assets in online classifieds as part of the deal. The fund's structural growth stocks also performed well, as consumer behaviour changes accelerated during the pandemic crisis. For example, Prosus (home entertainment and online food delivery) benefited from the growing move online and higher levels of engagement with video gaming platforms. Swedish Match was also a top performer, as its smokeless tobacco product Zyn grew in popularity as it was rolled out in the US. Our position in FinecoBank also performed well, due to record engagement levels with its online brokerage platform. This is an attractively positioned Italian bank with a healthy balance sheet. The current high level of savings among Italian retail customers is providing good ammunition for inflows into the company's assets under management.

The fund had an underweight exposure to financials; this position significantly benefited performance. However, within this we held BAWAG, an Austrian retail bank, which dragged on returns. Weak external market conditions negatively affected the company at the beginning of the period. However, its share price recovered somewhat thereafter and it significantly outperformed the sector. Aerospace and defence holdings also underperformed – Airbus was the worst performer over the period, as COVID-19 lockdown measures restricted air travel and customers cancelled orders for new aircraft. Investors feared that the company will see its order book shrink as the cash flows of airlines are under severe pressure. Thales, the France-based aerospace and defence company, also lagged over the review period. The company's first-half results showed that sales and profit had dropped, as COVID-19 lockdown hit its operations.

Activity

We added Danish logistics firm DSV. The synergies from its recent purchase of rival firm Pan Alpina will give the company a significant tailwind to weather any pandemic-related weakness. Elsewhere, we remain cautious on banks and have significantly reduced the fund's exposure to the sector. The deteriorating outlook for interest rates and credit, which threatens to overwhelm strong bottom-up investment cases, drove this move. We exited Credit Suisse and used the proceeds to focus on Swiss wealth management firm Julius Baer. It was also pleasing to see robust performance from German exchange Deutsche Boerse, which we introduced to the fund in March 2020.

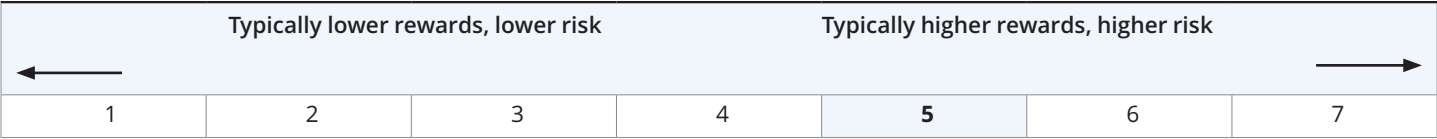
We are trying to move away from companies that could be structurally impaired by the COVID-19 pandemic. We sold travel firm TUI, as we believe it will be a long time before people will want to take a cruise holiday. Issues around travel insurance and the economy are likely to disrupt the 2021 outlook as well. We also sold French conglomerate Bouygues and Italian manufacturing group Prysmian.

Outlook and Strategy

The investment backdrop remains complex, with growth and interest rates likely to remain low for a prolonged period. What's more, debt levels are unusually elevated across some sectors in Europe. The strength of the recovery in global equity markets is remarkable, especially as the impact of COVID-19 continues to unfold. So, we continue to expect volatile periods for markets for some time.

Central-bank intervention has, once again, boosted capital markets. However, we must remain vigilant, due to heightened volatility. Some industries, notably travel and leisure, have been significantly disrupted. In contrast, the acceleration in long-term trends, such as e-commerce and agile working, will provide opportunities for a number of businesses.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator



This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 5 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in emerging market equities and / or bonds. Investing in emerging markets involves a greater risk of loss than investing in more developed markets due to, among other factors, greater political, tax, economic, foreign exchange, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	40,440	37,111	36,496	40,637
Closing number of shares	18,564,817	18,577,912	19,806,111	20,227,024
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	217.83	199.76	184.27	200.91
Change in net asset value per share	9.05%	8.41%	(8.28%)	13.28%
Operating charges	1.35%	1.35%	1.36%	1.36%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	26,523	32,863	34,181	60,307
Closing number of shares	10,315,585	13,971,028	15,826,865	25,731,533
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	257.12	235.22	215.97	234.37
Change in net asset value per share	9.31%	8.91%	(7.85%)	13.81%
Operating charges	0.88%	0.88%	0.88%	0.89%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	813	773	629	1,568
Closing number of shares	1,130,149	1,172,621	1,022,576	2,300,629
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	71.90	65.93	61.54	68.14
Change in net asset value per share	9.06%	7.13%	(9.69%)	11.39%
Operating charges	1.35%	1.35%	1.36%	1.36%

Standard Life income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	–	2
Closing number of shares	–	–	–	2,156
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	–	107.26
Change in net asset value per share	–	–	2.55%	11.46%
Operating charges	–	–	0.06%	0.06%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	982	938	1,014	1,250
Closing number of shares	512,927	537,339	637,373	729,425
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	191.52	174.55	159.08	171.34
Change in net asset value per share	9.72%	9.72%	(7.16%)	14.67%
Operating charges	0.13%	0.13%	0.14%	0.14%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 14 June 2018

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	9,893	8,064	8,614	10,144
Closing number of shares	8,602,722	7,662,940	8,908,006	9,662,134
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	115.00	105.24	96.70	104.98
Change in net asset value per share	9.27%	8.83%	(7.89%)	13.75%
Operating charges	0.93%	0.93%	0.94%	0.94%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
European Equities (99.57%)		78,238	99.48
Austria (2.99%)		1,858	2.36
65,914	BAWAG Group	1,858	2.36
Denmark (7.00%)		6,228	7.92
27,715	Ambu	610	0.77
10,094	Coloplast	1,282	1.63
13,020	DSV	1,523	1.94
56,738	Novo Nordisk	2,813	3.58
France (28.68%)		21,974	27.94
15,691	Air Liquide	1,949	2.48
32,827	Airbus	2,018	2.56
38,805	Alstom	1,617	2.06
178,277	AXA	2,719	3.46
3,304	Kering	1,518	1.93
9,175	Pernod Ricard	1,176	1.49
27,659	Schneider Electric	2,563	3.26
8,292	Teleperformance	1,914	2.43
16,751	Thales	980	1.25
35,042	TOTAL	1,036	1.32
19,448	Ubisoft Entertainment	1,198	1.52
81,080	Vivendi	1,724	2.19
22,700	Worldline	1,562	1.99
Germany (13.85%)		11,579	14.72
34,736	Bayer	1,724	2.19
11,400	Deutsche Boerse	1,609	2.04
83,501	RWE	2,469	3.14
26,670	SAP	3,278	4.17
24,202	Siemens	2,499	3.18
Ireland (5.80%)		4,833	6.15
52,262	CRH	1,446	1.84
20,282	Kerry	1,993	2.54
11,128	Paddy Power Betfair	1,394	1.77

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Italy (6.54%)		4,300	5.47
339,509	Enel	2,301	2.93
176,248	FinecoBank	1,999	2.54
Luxembourg (0.00%)		909	1.16
95,957	ArcelorMittal	909	1.16
Netherlands (11.09%)		8,598	10.93
11,698	ASML	3,283	4.18
21,037	Heineken	1,457	1.85
11,732	Koninklijke DSM	1,409	1.79
32,721	Prosus	2,449	3.11
Norway (1.25%)		1,631	2.07
49,829	Schibsted	1,631	2.07
Portugal (2.27%)		1,260	1.60
157,229	Galp Energia	1,260	1.60
Spain (2.23%)		1,428	1.82
67,964	Inditex	1,428	1.82
Sweden (2.99%)		2,138	2.72
37,605	Swedish Match	2,138	2.72
Switzerland (14.88%)		11,502	14.62
38,215	Julius Baer	1,372	1.74
49,752	Nestle	4,480	5.70
1,904	Partners	1,449	1.84
12,461	Roche	3,262	4.15
5,929	Swatch	939	1.19
Collective Investment Schemes (0.65%)		106	0.13
106	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	106	0.13
Total investment assets		78,344	99.61
Net other assets		307	0.39
Total Net Assets		78,651	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		6,540		6,952
Revenue	1,204		1,897	
Expenses	(425)		(462)	
Net revenue before taxation	779		1,435	
Taxation	(55)		(146)	
Net revenue after taxation		724		1,289
Total return before equalisation		7,264		8,241
Equalisation on shares		(64)		(33)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		7,200		8,208

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		79,749		80,934
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	2,174		512	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(10,474)		(3,485)	
		(8,300)		(2,973)
Dilution adjustment		2		2
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		7,200		8,208
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		78,651		86,171

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		78,344		79,928
Current assets:				
Debtors	309		1,005	
Cash and bank balances	103		69	
		412		1,074
Total assets		78,756		81,002
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(105)		(1,244)	
Distribution payable	-		(9)	
		(105)		(1,253)
Total liabilities		(105)		(1,253)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		78,651		79,749

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Accumulation share class has increased by 2.71% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

ASI Europe ex UK Income Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate income and some growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in European equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index, plus 2% per annum over rolling five year periods (before charges) with a yield greater than that of this index. The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated, or domiciled in European countries, or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from European operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- European countries include the emerging markets of Europe, but excludes the UK.
- The fund may also invest up to 15% in bonds (loans to companies).
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at country, sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. Given the fund's income objective, the management team place particular emphasis on understanding business fundamentals and dynamics and the impact this has on cash flow generation and the company's ability to allocate cash effectively.
- The combined average yield on assets in the fund is expected to be higher than the broad European equity market, as represented by the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 6%. Due to the income nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance

Over the six-month period to the end of August, the fund returned 9.1% (platform 1 share class). This compared to a return of 7.2% for our performance target (the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index +2%). Meanwhile, the fund's yield was 2.4% over the year, versus a yield target of 3.3% (the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index).

FinecoBank added the most value over the period. This is an attractively positioned Italian bank with a healthy balance sheet. We feel that it should emerge stronger after the crisis, given its online offering compared to its high-street competitors. Deutsche Post outperformed after the German post-and-parcels business pre-announced encouraging second-quarter results and confirmed its delayed dividend for 2019. A number of other holdings helped the fund's relative performance against the benchmark. Some of these included elevator maker Kone, Dutch specialty health and chemicals firm DSM and German real estate business Vonovia.

By contrast, Airbus underperformed after COVID-19 lockdown measures restricted air travel. Investors feared that the company will see its order book shrink as the cash flows of airlines are under severe pressure. This will force the company to slow down its production line. Lundin Energy also detracted from returns. Although the Swedish oil company's shares rallied as the oil price bounced off its lows in April, the price of crude drifting lower since then has hampered its share price. Other holdings that weighed on performance included French companies Engie and AXA. Having no exposure to technology software business SAP also held back returns.

Activity

The fund reintroduced France-listed electrical utility Engie following significant share-price underperformance. We have a growing conviction around the potential for a material change in the company's strategy. We also bought Deutsche Telecom for its attractive dividend yield, improving growth profile and strong restructuring potential due to its holding in T-Mobile US. Ahold Delhaize's weak share price from the coronavirus-induced sell-off presented an attractive entry point into the Netherlands-Belgium supermarket chain. We expect the business to do well as it has limited exposure to the non-food sector and because of its income-generating capacity.

Conversely, we exited SES, the Luxembourg-based satellite operator as a ruling in the US stopped the private sale of radio spectrum. The sale of this so-called C-band, needed for superfast 5G, will instead be sold by public auction. Alongside the reduced bandwidth available for sale, this has the potential to increase costs for the company. Lastly, we decided to sell Airbus as a lack of orders from airlines will put the company's cashflow under severe pressure. Given the dire economic outlook, this situation is unlikely to improve soon.

Outlook & strategy

It was pleasing to see a number of our holdings deliver stronger-than-expected results. Even more impressive was the fact that a number of companies demonstrated their cash-flow credentials by confirming payments of delayed dividends. This reinforced confidence in the fund's income delivery.

Growing concerns about a second wave of COVID-19 infections and a lack of visibility on the trajectory of economic growth following the market-recovery phase has dented investor confidence somewhat. However, we feel that Europe remains well placed in a global context, given the supportive monetary and fiscal policies. Also, what we feel is lower political risk, compared to other regions, may support markets. As a result, we believe that investors should become increasingly interested in the region if Europe continues to stimulate growth. The true extent of the real economic damage from COVID-19 is still unknown, in our opinion. Given the recent market strength, we feel there are likely to be market pull backs and volatility. We believe the fund remains well-placed to handle this, given its structure.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 5 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- The fund invests in securities which are subject to the risk that the issuer may default on interest or capital payments.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in emerging market equities and / or bonds. Investing in emerging markets involves a greater risk of loss than investing in more developed markets due to, among other factors, greater political, tax, economic, foreign exchange, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The fund price can go up or down daily for a variety of reasons including changes in interest rates, inflation expectations or the perceived credit quality of individual countries or securities.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	8,158	7,834	8,674	11,322
Closing number of shares	5,852,074	6,046,764	7,119,360	8,530,134
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	139.40	129.55	121.83	132.73
Change in net asset value per share	7.60%	6.34%	(8.21%)	12.08%
Operating charges	1.33%	1.33%	1.33%	1.33%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	227,845	234,392	200,244	360,986
Closing number of shares	152,734,217	169,466,115	154,677,587	257,153,773
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	149.18	138.31	129.46	140.38
Change in net asset value per share	7.86%	6.84%	(7.78%)	12.59%
Operating charges	0.86%	0.86%	0.86%	0.86%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,175	1,195	1,763	2,674
Closing number of shares	1,338,896	1,429,628	2,160,145	2,900,990
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	87.74	83.60	81.61	92.19
Change in net asset value per share	4.95%	2.44%	(11.48%)	8.00%
Operating charges	1.33%	1.33%	1.33%	1.33%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	312,665	363,956	460,527	597,881
Closing number of shares	331,862,962	406,365,931	529,094,088	610,995,938
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	94.22	89.56	87.04	97.85
Change in net asset value per share	5.20%	2.90%	(11.05%)	8.51%
Operating charges	0.86%	0.86%	0.86%	0.86%

Standard Life income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	9,974	10,849	11,119	12,908
Closing number of shares	9,633,144	11,068,360	11,770,889	12,255,981
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	103.54	98.02	94.46	105.32
Change in net asset value per share	5.63%	3.77%	(10.31%)	9.38%
Operating charges	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	988	1,036	1,040	21,820
Closing number of shares	611,152	693,816	749,863	14,622,355
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	161.60	149.26	138.66	149.22
Change in net asset value per share	8.27%	7.64%	(7.08%)	13.42%
Operating charges	0.11%	0.11%	0.11%	0.11%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	30,759	32,101	41,202	85,026
Closing number of shares	27,680,215	31,149,268	42,692,928	81,197,406
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	111.12	103.06	96.51	104.72
Change in net asset value per share	7.82%	6.79%	(7.84%)	12.54%
Operating charges	0.91%	0.91%	0.91%	0.91%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	29,988	31,424	41,309	66,948
Closing number of shares	36,895,399	40,659,205	54,973,232	79,189,716
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	81.28	77.29	75.14	84.54
Change in net asset value per share	5.16%	2.86%	(11.12%)	8.45%
Operating charges	0.91%	0.91%	0.91%	0.91%

Institutional S accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1	1	— [^]	2
Closing number of shares	1,336	1,336	200	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	82.15	76.12	71.07	77.49
Change in net asset value per share	7.92%	7.11%	(8.28%)	13.59%
Operating charges	0.74%	0.74%	0.66%	0.74%

Institutional A income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	—	—	—	1
Closing number of shares	—	—	—	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	—	—	—	62.85
Change in net asset value per share	—	—	1.54%	4.47%
Operating charges	—	—	1.61%	1.61%

Institutional S income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1	1	— ^{^^}	1
Closing number of shares	1,637	1,637	200	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	62.81	59.67	57.90	65.45
Change in net asset value per share	5.26%	3.06%	(11.54%)	12.13%
Operating charges	0.74%	0.74%	0.66%	0.74%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

[^] The closing net asset value of Institutional S accumulation is £142.

^{^^} The closing net asset value of Institutional S income is £116.

^A Share class closed on 14 June 2018.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
European Equities (97.11%)		617,452	99.34
Belgium (0.61%)		6,308	1.01
91,079	Groupe Bruxelles Lambert	6,308	1.01
Denmark (6.63%)		33,533	5.40
25,572	Coloplast	3,248	0.52
424,116	Novo Nordisk	21,029	3.39
401,355	Tryg	9,256	1.49
Finland (5.62%)		35,863	5.77
624,034	Fortum	9,885	1.59
798,929	Kesko	13,230	2.13
197,849	Kone	12,748	2.05
France (20.00%)		90,172	14.50
718,531	AXA	10,958	1.76
645,070	Bouygues	19,152	3.08
1,106,098	Engie	11,515	1.85
17,770	LVMH	6,235	1.00
232,260	Sanofi	17,605	2.83
139,534	Schneider Electric	12,931	2.08
398,321	TOTAL	11,776	1.90
Germany (12.31%)		138,840	22.34
250,472	Bayer	12,430	2.00
106,196	Deutsche Boerse	14,992	2.41
833,136	Deutsche Post	28,278	4.55
963,050	Deutsche Telekom	12,688	2.04
62,614	Munich Re	13,540	2.18
889,602	RWE	26,309	4.23
109,793	Siemens	11,335	1.83
360,011	Vonovia	19,268	3.10
Ireland (0.83%)		-	-
Italy (10.75%)		64,471	10.37
3,585,288	Enel	24,300	3.91
2,233,189	FinecoBank	25,332	4.07
2,281,384	Mediobanca	14,839	2.39

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Luxembourg (1.03%)		-	-
Netherlands (7.81%)		79,449	12.78
190,056	Akzo Nobel	14,076	2.26
54,817	ASML	15,386	2.48
503,302	Koninklijke Ahold Delhaize	11,333	1.82
125,033	Koninklijke DSM	15,015	2.42
415,526	NN Group	11,702	1.88
138,694	Unilever	6,009	0.97
96,469	Wolters Kluwer	5,928	0.95
Norway (5.10%)		12,465	2.01
418,450	Mowi	6,153	0.99
516,092	Telenor	6,312	1.02
Spain (1.32%)		18,121	2.92
1,645,503	Iberdrola	15,506	2.50
124,440	Inditex	2,615	0.42
Sweden (10.35%)		59,787	9.62
187,370	Atlas Copco 'A'	6,506	1.05
414,955	Lundin Petroleum	7,596	1.22
212,659	Swedish Match	12,091	1.95
1,638,991	Tele2	17,407	2.80
1,125,742	Volvo	16,187	2.60
Switzerland (14.75%)		78,443	12.62
235,314	Nestle	21,188	3.41
20,977	Partners	15,965	2.57
77,022	Roche	20,162	3.24
76,268	Zurich	21,128	3.40
Collective Investment Schemes (1.45%)		5,145	0.83
3,042	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Euro Fund Z3 Inc+	2,701	0.44
2,444	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	2,444	0.39
Total investment assets		622,597	100.17
Net other liabilities		(1,043)	(0.17)
Total Net Assets		621,554	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		31,693		60,108
Revenue	18,715		23,898	
Expenses	(2,691)		(3,262)	
Interest payable and similar charges	(13)		(16)	
Net revenue before taxation	16,011		20,620	
Taxation	(2,152)		(2,143)	
Net revenue after taxation		13,859		18,477
Total return before distributions		45,552		78,585
Distributions		(15,358)		(20,509)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		30,194		58,076

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		682,789		765,878
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	7,178		16,777	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(104,246)		(118,383)	
		(97,068)		(101,606)
Dilution adjustment		–		32
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		30,194		58,076
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		5,639		6,281
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		621,554		728,661

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		622,597		672,972
Current assets:				
Debtors	9,078		11,015	
Cash and bank balances	250		2,058	
		9,328		13,073
Total assets		631,925		686,045
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(6,872)		(1,419)	
Bank overdrafts	-		(196)	
Distribution payable	(3,499)		(1,641)	
		(10,371)		(3,256)
Total liabilities		(10,371)		(3,256)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		621,554		682,789

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional S Accumulation share class has increased by 2.31% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

First interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 May 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31/07/20	Distribution paid 31/07/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	1.5976	-	1.5976	2.6197
Group 2	1.3859	0.2117	1.5976	2.6197
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	1.8584	-	1.8584	2.9434
Group 2	0.9989	0.8595	1.8584	2.9434
Retail income				
Group 1	1.2839	-	1.2839	2.0301
Group 2	1.0626	0.2213	1.2839	2.0301
Institutional income				
Group 1	1.3763	-	1.3763	2.1664
Group 2	0.8922	0.4841	1.3763	2.1664
Standard Life income				
Group 1	1.5080	-	1.5080	2.3540
Group 2	1.5080	-	1.5080	2.3540
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	2.2679	-	2.2679	3.4261
Group 2	1.0899	1.1780	2.2679	3.4261
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	1.3727	-	1.3727	2.1813
Group 2	0.8294	0.5433	1.3727	2.1813
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	1.1876	-	1.1876	1.8701
Group 2	0.6594	0.5282	1.1876	1.8701
Institutional S accumulation				
Group 1	1.0499	-	1.0499	1.7000
Group 2	1.0499	-	1.0499	1.7000
Institutional S income				
Group 1	0.9163	-	0.9163	1.4250
Group 2	0.9163	-	0.9163	1.4250

Second interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 June 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 June 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	0.9093	-	0.9093	0.1207
Group 2	0.7004	0.2089	0.9093	0.1207
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	1.1483	-	1.1483	0.2950
Group 2	0.7002	0.4481	1.1483	0.2950
Retail income				
Group 1	0.8682	-	0.8682	0.3618
Group 2	0.7484	0.1198	0.8682	0.3618
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.9317	-	0.9317	0.3865
Group 2	0.5401	0.3916	0.9317	0.3865
Standard Life income				
Group 1	1.0209	-	1.0209	0.4206
Group 2	0.1516	0.8693	1.0209	0.4206
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	1.5495	-	1.5495	0.6022
Group 2	1.0368	0.5127	1.5495	0.6022
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.8415	-	0.8415	0.2068
Group 2	0.3213	0.5202	0.8415	0.2068
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.8039	-	0.8039	0.3335
Group 2	0.4069	0.3970	0.8039	0.3335
Institutional S accumulation				
Group 1	0.6660	-	0.6660	0.2550
Group 2	0.6660	-	0.6660	0.2550
Institutional S income				
Group 1	0.6255	-	0.6255	0.2500
Group 2	0.6255	-	0.6255	0.2500

Equalisation

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

ASI Europe ex UK Smaller Companies Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in European smaller capitalisation equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the EMIX Smaller European Companies ex UK Index, plus 3% per annum over rolling five year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of small-capitalisation companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in European countries, or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from European operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- European countries includes the emerging markets of Europe, but excludes the UK.
- Smaller capitalisation companies are defined as any stock included in the EMIX Smaller European Companies ex UK Index or, if not included within the index any stock having a market capitalisation smaller than that of the stock with the largest market capitalisation in such index.
- The fund may also invest in mid and larger capitalisation companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in European countries.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at country, sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using the management team's quality, growth and momentum approach. It aims to identify companies that exhibit a range of high quality characteristics, operate in growing markets and display positive business momentum.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the EMIX Smaller European Companies ex UK Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 9%. Due to the active nature of the investment process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the EMIX Smaller European Companies ex UK Index.

Please note: The fund's ability to buy and sell small and mid-capitalisation shares and the associated costs can be affected during periods of market stress. In certain circumstances investors in the fund may not be able to sell their investment when they want to.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance

Over the period under review, the fund returned 16.4%. This compared to a return of 11.0% for our performance target (the EMIX Smaller European Companies ex UK Index +3%).

The fund's best performer was Bachem, the Swiss pharmaceutical business. The company's 2019 and interim results were both ahead of expectations and its balance sheet is in good condition. Bachem is a leading outsourced manufacturer of peptide pharmaceuticals that are used for medical purposes, an area which has seen strong growth. Troax was also a strong contributor. The business has seen good order intake in the warehouse automation segment as customers press ahead with projects. The demand for warehousing and warehouse automation is strong as online retail has grown in the COVID-19 crisis – we believe this trend should continue to accelerate.

Italian financial broker FincoBank performed strongly. Its broking business has benefited from increased trading activity in more volatile markets. The company has a strong technology platform and with a lack of bricks-and mortar-estate, we believe the business will be a long-term winner. Interparfums was another relatively strong holding, following the announcement of an exclusive worldwide licence deal with Moncler to develop a range of perfumes. The brand has the potential to deliver significant growth; analysts estimate it could add up to 20% to group turnover over time. The group's capital-light model presents an attractive return profile. The group has significant net cash on its balance sheet and the potential to do further deals.

On the downside, French nursing home operator Orpea was our weakest holding. The business has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in the short term. However, we believe there is no change to the longer-term investment case and retain the holding. Rational, the German commercial cooking manufacturer, also detracted. Many customers have closed temporarily over the COVID-19 pandemic and their business has suffered as a result. The long-term position of the business remains unchanged with a global market-leading position and strong growth potential, based

on increased penetration of the combi-steam technology. The company has a strong balance sheet with significant net cash. Nexity was weak over the period as French real estate was affected by COVID-19. Structural trends remain positive over the long term, with a critical shortage of properties in France. However, question marks remain around how COVID-19 will affect demand for city-centre apartments and office accommodation.

Activity

In March, we added to our position in Spain-based glass bottle manufacturer Vidrala. The business is a leading player in the European market with the highest margins among the peer group and strong cash generation. We believe the defensive growth profile of the business is being underestimated by the market and we continued to build this throughout the second quarter. Similarly we continued to build the position in Belgian pharmaceutical compounding business Fagron. The business is well positioned to benefit from the growth opportunities as personalisation of medicine continues to increase.

We started a position in Italian asset manager Azimut in July. The business has a strong market position in the core Italian market with an international network which is, we believe, being underrated by the market. Following the implementation of a new management structure, we believe the business will be able to grow faster than expected by the market consensus.

In August, we participated in a placing in Amadeus Fire, with the company raising equity to help refinance a recent acquisition. The deal helps to diversify the revenues stream of the group into more defensive government-sponsored training schemes. We think this area will see strong growth in the current economic environment.

Conversely, we reduced several large holdings purely for risk-management purposes. These included Teleperformance, Patrizia and Simcorp; however, there is no change to the underlying investment view.

Outlook

Investors continue to focus on the positives from countries loosening lockdown restrictions. Additionally, investors responded well to the successful conclusion by EU leaders of a €1.8 trillion COVID-19 support package – made up of a €750 billion post-pandemic recovery fund and a €1.1 trillion budget framework. That said, the economic outlook remains challenging, with a significant short-term hit to growth from COVID-19, with the shape of economic recovery remaining uncertain. We remain comfortable with our focus on quality companies that have strong earnings growth and operating momentum.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 5 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in emerging market equities and / or bonds. Investing in emerging markets involves a greater risk of loss than investing in more developed markets due to, among other factors, greater political, tax, economic, foreign exchange, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The shares of small and mid-cap companies may be less liquid and more volatile than those of larger companies.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	5,593	5,387	5,775	6,511
Closing number of shares	1,702,063	1,885,744	2,118,604	2,236,689
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	328.61	285.65	272.58	291.08
Change in net asset value per share	15.04%	4.79%	(6.36%)	19.24%
Operating charges	1.39%	1.38%	1.37%	1.38%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	2,199	2,087	12,859	17,005
Closing number of shares	2,420,597	2,649,094	17,184,305	21,382,004
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	90.84	78.77	74.83	79.53
Change in net asset value per share	15.32%	5.27%	(5.91%)	19.81%
Operating charges	0.92%	0.91%	0.90%	0.91%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,038	859	712	752
Closing number of shares	1,101,314	1,055,005	926,978	929,088
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	94.26	81.43	76.76	80.98
Change in net asset value per share	15.76%	6.08%	(5.21%)	20.70%
Operating charges	0.17%	0.16%	0.15%	0.16%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	28,321	26,316	32,685	37,775
Closing number of shares	7,950,265	8,516,771	11,131,197	12,097,728
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	356.23	309.00	293.64	312.25
Change in net asset value per share	15.28%	5.23%	(5.96%)	19.74%
Operating charges	0.97%	0.96%	0.95%	0.96%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
European Equities (98.37%)		36,627	98.59
Belgium (0.57%)		415	1.12
24,489	Fagron	415	1.12
Denmark (5.14%)		1,881	5.06
19,882	SimCorp A/S	1,881	5.06
Finland (4.98%)		1,760	4.74
106,288	Kesko	1,760	4.74
France (18.96%)		5,842	15.72
9,530	Eurazeo	376	1.01
51,714	Interparfums	1,917	5.16
11,715	LISI	197	0.53
20,745	Nexity	533	1.43
13,290	ORPEA	1,195	3.22
7,036	Teleperformance	1,624	4.37
Germany (33.19%)		11,235	30.24
2,203	Amadeus Fire	207	0.56
3,069	Cewe Stiftung & Co	272	0.73
13,265	CTS Eventim	495	1.33
42,493	Dermapharm	1,679	4.52
11,145	Grenke	616	1.66
19,827	Jungheinrich	472	1.27
17,207	Nemetschek	1,021	2.75
884	New Work	194	0.52
13,440	NORMA	322	0.86
25,398	OHB	870	2.34
66,767	PATRIZIA Immobilien	1,470	3.96
2,768	Rational	1,325	3.57
5,705	Sixt	386	1.04
35,674	Takkt	353	0.95
63,012	VIB Vermoegen	1,553	4.18
Ireland (6.67%)		2,151	5.79
1,382,428	Hibernia REIT	1,455	3.92
121,281	Irish Continental	349	0.94
114,808	Origin Enterprises	347	0.93

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Italy (10.33%)		4,514	12.15
12,702	Azimut	184	0.49
177,975	FinecoBank	2,019	5.44
6,467	IMA	388	1.04
64,203	Interpump	1,678	4.52
21,370	MARR	245	0.66
Luxembourg (1.15%)		381	1.03
9,604	Stabilus	381	1.03
Netherlands (2.08%)		882	2.37
25,507	Corbion	882	2.37
Norway (1.20%)		552	1.49
50,544	Borregaard	552	1.49
Spain (3.65%)		1,329	3.58
51,241	Almirall	421	1.13
22,129	CIE Automotive	286	0.77
37,042	Fluidra	463	1.25
2,020	Vidrala	159	0.43
Sweden (5.92%)		2,629	7.07
60,977	Bulten	346	0.93
158,228	Troax	2,283	6.14
Switzerland (4.53%)		3,056	8.23
8,490	Bachem	2,683	7.22
2,948	Komax	373	1.01
Collective Investment Schemes (1.76%)		500	1.35
2	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) – Euro Fund Z3 Inc+	2	0.01
497	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) – Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	498	1.34
Total investment assets		37,127	99.94
Net other assets		24	0.06
Total Net Assets		37,151	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		4,428		3,019
Revenue	353		957	
Expenses	(160)		(244)	
Net revenue before taxation	193		713	
Taxation	(13)		(70)	
Net revenue after taxation		180		643
Total return before distributions		4,608		3,662
Distributions		(180)		(643)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		4,428		3,019

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		34,649		52,031
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	1,438		722	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(3,545)		(9,027)	
		(2,107)		(8,305)
Dilution adjustment		3		–
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		4,428		3,019
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		178		578
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		37,151		47,323

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		37,127		34,693
Current assets:				
Debtors	84		87	
Cash and bank balances	3		2	
		87		89
Total assets		37,214		34,782
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(63)		(133)	
		(63)		(133)
Total liabilities		(63)		(133)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		37,151		34,649

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Accumulation share class has increased by 5.11% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

Interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	1.0246	-	1.0246	2.9924
Group 2	0.5820	0.4426	1.0246	2.9924
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.4723	-	0.4723	1.0103
Group 2	0.1182	0.3541	0.4723	1.0103
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.8009	-	0.8009	1.3464
Group 2	0.4939	0.3070	0.8009	1.3464
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	1.7698	-	1.7698	3.8792
Group 2	0.9792	0.7906	1.7698	3.8792

Equalisation

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

ASI Global Balanced Growth Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in a diversified portfolio of assets.

Performance Target: To exceed the IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares Sector Average return (after charges) over 1 year and to be top quartile over rolling three year periods. The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest least 70% in global equities, corporate investment grade bonds and government bonds issued anywhere in the world either directly or indirectly.
- The fund may hold other securities (e.g. investment trusts, supranational and other types of bonds, and listed real estate) issued anywhere in the world.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to select individual holdings depending on their growth prospects and/or creditworthiness relative to market expectations, given future economic and business conditions.
- Asset allocation is informed by reference to a basket of assets aligned to the fund's objective and considered representative of the expected risk profile of typical funds in the sector. In addition, short term proportions ("tactical asset allocations") in each asset class may be adjusted at any time with the aim of improving returns.
- The fund will be subject to constraints which are intended to manage risk such as the fund must not hold more than 85% of its assets in equities. The constraints may vary over time, and due to the active nature of the management process the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the average fund of the IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares Sector Average.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund will make routine use of derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivatives include instruments used to express short term views reflecting expected changes in interest rates, companies share prices, inflation, currencies or creditworthiness of corporations or governments.

- The fund may also invest in other funds which may use derivatives extensively although these investments shall be in line with fund's overall risk profile.

Performance

Over the period under review, the fund returned 5.1%. This compared to a return of 3% for our performance target (IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares Sector Average).

Equity portfolios

In the UK, our holdings in domestic names and certain leisure and travel companies hurt performance, amid ongoing concerns about COVID-19. These stocks included housebuilder Vistry, which was forced to close sites at the start of lockdown. Stagecoach was also weak as investors became gloomy about the pace of recovery in the travel sector. Elsewhere, business services provider Mitie dragged on performance. This followed a rights issue to bolster its balance sheet and fund the acquisition of Interserve. Positive contributors included online casino 888 and pharmaceuticals company Indivior. The latter received a positive ruling for its Department of Justice indictment case. In the banking sector, our avoidance of Lloyds and less-than-benchmark holding in HSBC also helped performance.

In the US portfolio, shares in technology firm Marvell rose in response to early evidence of 5G base station revenue opportunities emerging and the company's growing relevance in large data centres. Amazon benefited from above-forecast growth in its web services and retail operations, taking a growing share of the expanding online market. Our underweight position (versus the benchmark) in JP Morgan also helped performance. The bank's shares fell amid concerns over potential bad loans related to the pandemic. Conversely, our underweight position in technology companies Apple and Nvidia hampered performance after both moved higher. Financial services provider Charles Schwab lost ground, as falling interest rates eroded its net interest income.

In Europe, medical device company Ambu performed well thanks to its exposure to single-use scopes for endoscopic lung procedures. It benefited from the current climate with fears around contamination limiting the attractions of multi-use systems. Financial services provider Hypoport also boosted returns. The German housing market remained resilient and higher levels of efficiency versus its peers supported earnings. Finally, Worldline benefited from a shift away from cash to contactless payments. On the downside, not owning Siemens was negative as it benefited from green infrastructure trends and finance. Elsewhere, Airbus underperformed due to COVID-19 pressure on airlines and fears of the knock-on impact on Airbus earnings.

Government bond portfolio

Performance from government bonds was positive. Our long duration exposure in dollar bloc and UK gilts also performed well. We started the period having recently increased the long duration position within the portfolio. This added to returns as the COVID-19 pandemic gripped markets, forcing central banks to aggressively ease policy.

Across most developed markets, a combination of interest rate cuts and powerful quantitative easing programmes pushed yields to record lows. In the UK, we added 10-year rates exposure early in the period as UK gilts underperformed before the Bank of England stepped in to support financial market conditions. This worked well as the policy moves resulted in 10-year rates rallying significantly.

Our positions in US and Australian rates also delivered positive returns as central banks in both countries reacted in the face of the new threat to the economy. Despite surging fiscal deficits and higher bond supply, demand for safe-haven assets surged as central banks announced more aggressive measures than seen at any time in previous crises. We bought US real yields following the initial risk-off period and the inflation protection exposure also worked well over the review period.

We gradually reduced our long duration bias as yields plumbed new all-time lows and we traded with a more balanced exposure after June. More recently, we began to re-establish core duration overweight positions in certain parts of the yield curve, which we see as the sweet spot for the current policy mix. We still see government bonds as well supported by both strong central bank support and favoured safe-haven status. We will look for further opportunities to re-engage.

Activity

In the UK portfolio, we started a position in drinks company Diageo, taking advantage of share price weakness. The company's earnings have been eroded by the closure of pubs and restaurants. However, longer term, we believe Diageo's strong brands and the shift to premiumisation support the investment case. We introduced medical devices developer Smith and Nephew whose leading technology and improved management oversight should drive strong organic growth. We increased our position in AstraZeneca, as we expect its strong and diversified pipeline will continue to lift earnings. This is not currently reflected in consensus forecasts. We exited online apparel retailer Boohoo following allegations of poor working conditions in its supply chain. We spoke with management, who seemed to be on the back foot with the issue. We trimmed some positions after strong performance, including GVC, 888 and Ultra Electronics.

Turning to Europe, we bought Dutch payment company Adyen, where increased share of wallet with existing clients underpins growth. We also bought Vestas Wind Systems after gaining more confidence in its margin opportunity. Oil refining company Neste was another purchase. We prefer its bio-diesel exposure, which will benefit from increasing regulation, particularly in Europe. Regarding sales, we sold Wirecard because of governance concerns and reinsurance company Swiss Re given worries over deteriorating US casualty reserves.

In the US, we bought NXP Semiconductors. Its shares had underperformed relative to peers because of its high debt levels and exposure to auto sales. We consider the debt manageable and view the firm's auto exposure as a secular tailwind, despite the near-term pressures. We bought Trane Technologies, which we believe will benefit from tighter emissions regulation. In the pharmaceuticals sector, we added Horizon Therapeutics. In our view, investors are underestimating the outlook for two of its drugs, and the potential for further value-accretive acquisitions. Sales included travel-related firm Bookings Holdings, reflecting our mounting concerns about the duration and severity of COVID-19. We sold Netflix after it reached our target price. Also, we sold Cable One, after a large capital-raising left the company's outlook more uncertain.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 4 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- The fund invests in securities which are subject to the risk that the issuer may default on interest or capital payments.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The fund price can go up or down daily for a variety of reasons including changes in interest rates, inflation expectations or the perceived credit quality of individual countries or securities.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	318,429	312,938	314,917	343,182
Closing number of shares	172,261,311	176,682,881	188,142,906	200,707,517
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	184.85	177.12	167.38	170.99
Change in net asset value per share	4.36%	5.82%	(2.11%)	6.13%
Operating charges	1.04%	1.05%	1.02%	1.03%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	27,506	26,264	24,949	26,616
Closing number of shares	13,185,899	13,167,897	13,291,799	13,939,416
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	208.60	199.45	187.70	190.94
Change in net asset value per share	4.59%	6.26%	(1.70%)	6.57%
Operating charges	0.62%	0.63%	0.60%	0.61%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,725	1,697	1,588	1,626
Closing number of shares	1,448,825	1,480,510	1,450,215	1,434,162
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	119.05	114.59	109.53	113.40
Change in net asset value per share	3.89%	4.62%	(3.41%)	5.03%
Operating charges	1.04%	1.05%	1.02%	1.03%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	882	677	674	570
Closing number of shares	751,251	599,876	624,600	509,755
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	117.32	112.93	107.94	111.76
Change in net asset value per share	3.89%	4.62%	(3.42%)	5.04%
Operating charges	0.62%	0.63%	0.60%	0.61%

Retail CAT accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	181,428	177,685	179,691	193,732
Closing number of shares	129,727,870	132,602,927	141,937,179	149,834,853
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	139.85	134.00	126.60	129.30
Change in net asset value per share	4.37%	5.85%	(2.09%)	6.15%
Operating charges	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.01%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	2,373	2,236	2,241	2,368
Closing number of shares	2,700,597	2,666,098	2,852,501	2,975,576
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	87.87	83.86	78.57	79.60
Change in net asset value per share	4.78%	6.73%	(1.29%)	7.05%
Operating charges	0.12%	0.13%	0.10%	0.11%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	17,412	16,590	14,737	14,297
Closing number of shares	17,683,690	17,618,030	16,620,905	15,842,864
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	98.46	94.17	88.67	90.24
Change in net asset value per share	4.56%	6.20%	(1.74%)	6.52%
Operating charges	0.67%	0.68%	0.65%	0.66%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,159	1,175	1,345	1,238
Closing number of shares	1,347,453	1,419,361	1,698,647	1,510,487
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	86.04	82.81	79.15	81.95
Change in net asset value per share	3.90%	4.62%	(3.42%)	5.04%
Operating charges	0.67%	0.68%	0.65%	0.66%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Bonds (11.05%)		60,059	10.90
Euro Denominated Bonds (0.03%)		271	0.05
Corporate Bonds (0.03%)		271	0.05
less than 5 years to maturity			
100,000	Standard Chartered 0.75% 2023	90	0.02
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
100,000	Citigroup 1.25% fixed to floating 2026	92	0.02
greater than 25 years to maturity			
100,000	Channel Link Enterprises Finance 1.761% 2050	89	0.01
Sterling Denominated Bonds (7.58%)		39,991	7.26
Corporate Bonds (2.63%)		14,317	2.60
less than 5 years to maturity			
100,000	Banque Federative du Credit Mutuel 1.75% 2024	105	0.02
70,000	Barclays 10% 2021	74	0.01
271,000	BNG Bank 1.625% 2025	288	0.05
100,000	British American Tobacco 6% 2022	109	0.02
100,000	British Sky Broadcasting 2.875% 2020	101	0.02
100,000	Citigroup 5.875% 2024	116	0.02
100,000	CPUK 3.588% 2025	101	0.02
100,000	Credit Agricole 7.375% 2023	119	0.02
100,000	Deutsche Bank 2.625% 2024	102	0.02
110,000	Enel 5.625% 2024	131	0.02
100,000	First Abu Dhabi Bank 1.375% 2023	101	0.02
100,000	First Hydro 9% 2021	106	0.02
100,000	General Electric 6.25% 2020	101	0.02
100,000	Global Switch 4.375% 2022	107	0.02
100,000	Heathrow Funding 7.125% 2024	113	0.02
70,000	Imperial Brands 8.125% 2024	86	0.02
100,000	Intesa Sanpaolo 5.25% 2022	105	0.02
200,000	Intu (SGS) Finance 4.125% 2023	105	0.02
161,000	KFW 1.25% 2023	167	0.03
60,000	Lloyds Bank 7.625% 2025	77	0.01
100,000	National Australia Bank 1.375% 2022	101	0.02
271,000	Network Rail 4.75% 2024	312	0.06
150,000	New York Life Global Funding 1% 2021	151	0.03
100,000	SGSP Australia Assets 5.125% 2021	102	0.02
100,000	Volkswagen Financial Services 1.625% 2022	101	0.02
100,000	Volkswagen Financial Services 1.875% 2024	102	0.02
100,000	Westfield America Management 2.125% 2025	99	0.02

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
150,000	ABP 6.25% 2026	178	0.03
120,000	Anheuser-Busch InBev 2.25% 2029	126	0.02
100,000	APT Pipelines 3.5% 2030	112	0.02
100,000	Bank of America 7% 2028	142	0.03
100,000	Barclays 3% 2026	107	0.02
100,000	Bazalgette Finance 2.375% 2027	108	0.02
100,000	BNP Paribas 3.375% 2026	111	0.02
100,000	BPCE 5.25% 2029	126	0.02
35,000	Canary Wharf Finance 6.455% 2033	8	–
100,000	Citigroup 1.75% 2026	103	0.02
100,000	Clydesdale Bank 4.625% 2026	122	0.02
100,000	Danske Bank 2.25% fixed to floating 2028	102	0.02
100,000	HSBC 2.625% 2028	107	0.02
100,000	HSBC 3% fixed to floating 2030	108	0.02
53,000	HSBC Bank 5.375% 2030	62	0.01
150,000	innogy Finance 6.25% 2030	211	0.04
100,000	Lloyds Bank 4.875% 2027	126	0.02
100,000	Rabobank 4.625% 2029	123	0.02
110,000	Santander UK 3.625% 2026	121	0.02
100,000	Santander UK 5.75% 2026	127	0.02
100,000	Scentre Management 3.875% 2026	108	0.02
100,000	Shaftesbury Chinatown 2.348% 2027	98	0.02
87,000	Southern Gas Networks 4.875% 2029	112	0.02
100,000	Stagecoach Group 4% 2025	100	0.02
100,000	Telefonica Emisiones 5.445% 2029	132	0.02
100,000	Tritax Big Box REIT 2.625% 2026	107	0.02
119,000	Unite Group 3.5% 2028	123	0.02
89,000	United Utilities 5.625% 2027	118	0.02
100,000	Virgin Money UK 4% fixed to floating 2027	103	0.02
100,000	Welltower 4.8% 2028	116	0.02
100,000	Westfield Stratford City Finance 1.642% 2026	100	0.02
50,000	Yorkshire Power 7.25% 2028	71	0.01
between 10 and 15 years to maturity			
100,000	Annington Funding 3.685% 2034	116	0.02
100,000	Arqiva 4.882% 2032	95	0.02
110,000	Barclays 3.25% 2033	120	0.02
100,000	Broadgate Financing 4.851% 2033	128	0.02
100,000	Digital Stout 3.75% 2030	118	0.02
100,000	EDF 6.125% 2034	148	0.03
100,000	Fidelity National Information Services 3.36% 2031	116	0.02
100,000	GlaxoSmithKline 5.25% 2033	148	0.03

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
100,000	Great Rolling Stock 6.5% 2031	104	0.02
130,000	Greene King FRN 2033	79	0.02
100,000	John Lewis 4.25% 2034	87	0.02
100,000	Orange 3.25% 2032	116	0.02
70,000	Orange 5.625% 2034	102	0.02
100,000	South Eastern Power Networks 5.625% 2030	138	0.03
150,000	Telereal 4.0902% fixed to floating 2033	153	0.03
50,000	Telereal 6.1645% 2031	56	0.01
100,000	Time Warner Cable 5.75% 2031	127	0.02
between 15 and 25 years to maturity			
100,000	Affordable Housing 2.893% 2043	128	0.02
59,000	Aspire Defence 4.674% 2040 'B'	70	0.01
100,000	Aster Treasury 4.5% 2043	147	0.03
100,000	AT&T 4.875% 2044	135	0.03
100,000	BPHA 4.816% 2044	152	0.03
100,000	Cadent Finance 2.625% 2038	110	0.02
110,000	Connect Plus 2.607% 2039	118	0.02
120,000	Direct Line 9.25% 2042	136	0.02
100,000	Dwr Cymru Financing 2.5% 2036	113	0.02
100,000	E.ON Finance 5.875% 2037	155	0.03
100,000	Eversholt 3.529% 2042	110	0.02
100,000	Gatwick 5.75% 2037	128	0.02
50,000	General Electric 5.375% 2040	57	0.01
90,000	HSBC 6% 2040	119	0.02
110,000	Land Securities 2.625% 2037	118	0.02
100,000	Munich Re 6.625% fixed to floating 2042	109	0.02
75,000	Octagon Healthcare 5.333% 2035	80	0.02
54,076	Peel 8.375% 2040	49	0.01
110,000	RL Finance 6.125% fixed to floating 2043	123	0.02
100,000	Southern Water Services Finance 3% 2037	103	0.02
100,000	Sovereign Housing Capital 5.705% 2039	164	0.03
100,000	TC Dudgeon Ofco 3.158% 2038	112	0.02
100,000	Tesco 5.8006% 2040	130	0.02
100,000	Thames Water 5.125% 2037	142	0.03
50,000	Veolia Environment 6.125% 2037	82	0.02
100,000	Verizon Communications 3.375% 2036	123	0.02
100,000	Wal-Mart 5.25% 2035	156	0.03
100,000	Wheatley 4.375% 2044	138	0.02
greater than 25 years to maturity			
100,000	Aviva 5.125% 2050	117	0.02
100,000	Blend Funding 3.459% 2047	126	0.02
100,000	British American Tobacco 2.25% 2052	79	0.01

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
100,000	Bromford Housing 3.125% 2048	126	0.02
50,000	Channel Link 6.341% 2046	60	0.01
100,000	EDF 5.125% 2050	150	0.03
50,000	Engie 5% 2060	92	0.02
100,000	Heathrow Funding 2.75% 2049	97	0.02
100,000	Legal & General 5.5% 2064	120	0.02
100,000	NGG 5.625% fixed to floating 2073	115	0.02
100,000	Northern Powergrid Northeast 1.875% 2062 2062	100	0.02
100,000	Optivo Finance 3.283% 2048	123	0.02
100,000	Prudential 5.7% fixed to floating 2063	121	0.02
100,000	SSE 3.625% 2077	102	0.02
100,000	University of Cambridge 2.35% 2078	148	0.03
120,000	Vodafone 3.375% 2049	138	0.02
Perpetual			
111,000	AXA 5.453% fixed to floating Perpetual	127	0.02
100,000	EDF 5.875% fixed to floating Perpetual	108	0.02
100,000	Orange 5.75% fixed to floating Perpetual	110	0.02
Government Bonds (4.95%)		25,674	4.66
less than 5 years to maturity			
96,000	European Bank for Reconstruction & Development 1.25% 2022	98	0.02
138,000	European Investment Bank 0.875% 2023	141	0.03
300,000	FMS Wertmanagement 1.125% 2021	303	0.06
100,000	FMS Wertmanagement 1.125% 2023	102	0.02
46,000	International Bank for Reconstruction & Development 0.625% 2023	47	0.01
78,000	International Bank for Reconstruction & Development 0.875% 2024	81	0.01
59,000	International Bank for Reconstruction & Development 1.25% 2023	61	0.01
59,000	Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank 1.125% 2023	61	0.01
98,000	Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank 1.375% 2020	98	0.02
35,000	Nordic Investment Bank 1.125% 2022	36	0.01
430,000	UK (Govt of) 0.5% 2022	435	0.08
20,000	UK (Govt of) 0.75% 2023	21	–
20,000	UK (Govt of) 1% 2024	21	–
411,000	UK (Govt of) 1.5% 2021	413	0.07
356,000	UK (Govt of) 1.75% 2022	369	0.07
371,000	UK (Govt of) 2% 2025	409	0.07
320,000	UK (Govt of) 2.25% 2023	342	0.06
594,000	UK (Govt of) 2.75% 2024	661	0.12
47,000	UK (Govt of) 3.75% 2021	49	0.01
680,000	UK (Govt of) 4% 2022	722	0.13
228,000	UK (Govt of) 5% 2025	280	0.05
432,000	UK (Govt of) 8% 2021	459	0.08

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
67,000	UK (Govt of) 0.125% 2028	67	0.01
2,085,000	UK (Govt of) 1.25% 2027	2,250	0.41
650,000	UK (Govt of) 1.5% 2026	707	0.13
563,000	UK (Govt of) 1.625% 2028	629	0.11
547,000	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2027	711	0.13
119,000	UK (Govt of) 4.75% 2030	172	0.03
428,000	UK (Govt of) 6% 2028	630	0.11
between 10 and 15 years to maturity			
400,000	UK (Govt of) 0.375% 2030	401	0.07
527,434	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2032	758	0.14
626,000	UK (Govt of) 4.5% 2034	958	0.17
between 15 and 25 years to maturity			
146,000	UK (Govt of) 1.25% 2041	157	0.03
559,000	UK (Govt of) 1.75% 2037	649	0.12
504,797	UK (Govt of) 3.25% 2044	758	0.14
607,000	UK (Govt of) 3.5% 2045	956	0.17
483,000	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2036	739	0.13
478,000	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2039	773	0.14
171,152	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2040	281	0.05
491,613	UK (Govt of) 4.5% 2042	857	0.16
410,000	UK (Govt of) 4.75% 2038	693	0.13
greater than 25 years to maturity			
198,000	UK (Govt of) 0.5% 2061	175	0.03
226,000	UK (Govt of) 0.625% 2050	210	0.04
411,927	UK (Govt of) 1.5% 2047	472	0.09
267,000	UK (Govt of) 1.625% 2054	326	0.06
188,000	UK (Govt of) 1.625% 2071	259	0.05
297,000	UK (Govt of) 1.75% 2049	361	0.07
377,000	UK (Govt of) 1.75% 2057	483	0.09
303,263	UK (Govt of) 2.5% 2065	492	0.09
328,016	UK (Govt of) 3.5% 2068	677	0.12
397,610	UK (Govt of) 3.75% 2052	716	0.13
413,032	UK (Govt of) 4% 2060	850	0.15
379,195	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2046	678	0.12
346,678	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2049	647	0.12
480,024	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2055	973	0.18

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Swedish Krona Denominated Bonds (0.20%)		1,097	0.20
Government Bonds (0.20%)		1,097	0.20
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
11,885,000	Sweden (Kingdom of) 0.75% 2029	1,097	0.20
US Dollar Denominated Bonds (3.24%)		18,700	3.39
Corporate Bonds (0.02%)		104	0.02
less than 5 years to maturity			
120,000	Charter Communications 4.908% 2025	104	0.02
Government Bonds (3.22%)		18,596	3.37
greater than 25 years to maturity			
52,600	US Treasury 1% Indexed Bonds 2048	57	0.01
17,465,600	US Treasury 1% Index-Linked 2049	18,539	3.36
Equities (57.35%)		304,243	55.23
Emerging Market Equities (0.00%)		521	0.09
Argentina (0.00%)		521	0.09
598	MercadoLibre	521	0.09
European Equities (17.25%)		88,688	16.10
Austria (0.38%)		1,426	0.26
50,583	BAWAG Group	1,426	0.26
Belgium (0.37%)		1,345	0.24
13,025	KBC	560	0.10
22,840	Umicore	785	0.14
Denmark (1.14%)		6,792	1.23
42,741	Ambu	941	0.17
8,093	Coloplast	1,028	0.19
9,536	DSV	1,116	0.20
29,878	Novo Nordisk	1,481	0.27
12,985	Ørsted	1,375	0.25
7,483	Vestas Wind Systems	851	0.15
Finland (0.28%)		2,562	0.47
34,264	Fortum	543	0.10
17,518	Kone	1,129	0.21
22,225	Neste	890	0.16

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
France (2.24%)		8,919	1.62
12,999	Airbus	799	0.14
24,784	Alstom	1,033	0.19
39,890	AXA	608	0.11
1,437	Kering	660	0.12
6,633	ORPEA	596	0.11
20,237	Schneider Electric	1,875	0.34
3,026	Teleperformance	698	0.13
5,451	Thales	319	0.06
21,543	TOTAL	637	0.11
9,018	Ubisoft Entertainment	555	0.10
16,551	Worldline	1,139	0.21
Germany (2.04%)		10,819	1.97
12,737	CTS Eventim	475	0.09
5,456	Deutsche Boerse	770	0.14
4,314	Hypoport	1,921	0.35
42,107	Infineon Technology	871	0.16
22,962	Jungheinrich	547	0.10
12,637	Nemetschek	750	0.14
9,897	Puma	612	0.11
50,450	RWE	1,492	0.27
17,475	SAP	2,148	0.39
14,601	Siemens Healthineers	496	0.09
18,181	TeamViewer	737	0.13
Ireland (1.16%)		6,158	1.12
33,921	CRH	960	0.18
193,903	Grafton	1,511	0.27
7,984	Kerry	784	0.14
18,982	Medtronic	1,523	0.28
15,607	Trane Technologies	1,380	0.25
Israel (0.60%)		4,789	0.87
6,811	Cyberark Software	562	0.10
5,975	Fiverr International	538	0.10
18,460	Kornit Digital	852	0.15
49,124	Maytronics	542	0.10
13,365	Nice ADR	2,295	0.42

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Italy (0.86%)		3,939	0.71
83,552	Davide Campari-Milano	641	0.11
216,457	Enel	1,467	0.27
126,118	FinecoBank	1,431	0.26
15,294	Interpump	400	0.07
Luxembourg (0.24%)		1,426	0.26
76,720	ArcelorMittal	727	0.13
21,266	Shurgard Self Storage	699	0.13
Netherlands (3.46%)		16,970	3.08
1,344	Adyen	1,696	0.31
9,603	ASML	2,695	0.49
11,953	Heineken	828	0.15
17,464	Just Eat Takeaway.Com 'A'	1,469	0.27
6,359	Just Eat Takeaway.Com 'B'	530	0.10
9,430	Koninklijke DSM	1,132	0.21
21,240	NXP Semiconductors	1,993	0.36
13,612	Prosus	1,019	0.17
122,235	Royal Dutch Shell 'A'	1,353	0.25
312,180	Royal Dutch Shell 'B'	3,318	0.60
15,240	Wolters Kluwer	937	0.17
Norway (0.11%)		1,418	0.26
28,497	Schibsted	933	0.17
39,693	Telenor	485	0.09
Spain (0.86%)		4,186	0.76
19,325	Amadeus	810	0.15
95,598	Bankinter	385	0.07
15,176	Cellnex Telecom	727	0.13
27,034	CIE Automotive	350	0.06
136,151	Iberdrola	1,283	0.23
30,042	Inditex	631	0.12
Sweden (0.58%)		3,151	0.57
33,595	Assa Abloy	582	0.11
98,436	Ericsson 'B'	855	0.15
15,125	Swedish Match	860	0.16
59,415	Volvo	854	0.15

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Switzerland (2.93%)		14,788	2.68
85,585	Coca-Cola HBC	1,706	0.31
1,270,897	Glencore	2,150	0.39
986,441	IWG	2,776	0.50
15,074	Julius Baer	541	0.10
28,865	Nestle	2,599	0.47
27,969	Novartis	1,810	0.33
1,045	Partners	795	0.14
7,217	Roche	1,889	0.34
1,542	Tecan	522	0.10
Japanese Equities (0.08%)		799	0.15
2,600	Keyence	799	0.15
North American Equities (18.95%)		104,220	18.92
Canada (0.56%)		2,547	0.47
57,792	Alimentation Couche-Tard 'B'	1,406	0.26
28,223	Restaurant Brands International	1,141	0.21
United States (18.39%)		101,673	18.45
26,855	Abbvie	1,920	0.35
8,853	Activision Blizzard	552	0.10
4,096	Adobe	1,569	0.28
8,753	Air Products & Chemicals	1,910	0.35
6,593	Akamai Technologies	573	0.10
12,361	Alliant Energy	500	0.09
47,886	Allison Transmission	1,283	0.23
4,011	Alphabet 'A'	4,874	0.88
3,386	Amazon.com	8,702	1.58
6,653	American Tower	1,237	0.22
58,872	Apple	5,663	1.03
3,316	Autodesk	608	0.11
8,790	Axon Enterprise	563	0.10
80,466	Bank of America	1,546	0.28
23,568	Baxter International	1,532	0.28
299	Booking	426	0.08
94,326	Boston Scientific	2,889	0.52
30,887	Bristol-Myers Squibb	1,434	0.26
6,138	Broadcom	1,589	0.29
5,134	Burlington	755	0.14
24,208	Chevron	1,516	0.28
58,063	Citigroup	2,216	0.40

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
32,960	CMS Energy	1,489	0.27
70,703	Comcast	2,366	0.43
10,177	Constellation	1,402	0.25
14,116	CSX	806	0.15
19,223	Dollar Tree	1,381	0.25
10,953	Eli Lilly	1,213	0.22
16,427	EOG Resources	556	0.10
3,635	Equinix	2,142	0.39
16,233	Facebook	3,553	0.64
10,862	Fidelity National Information Services	1,224	0.22
20,395	Fiserv	1,516	0.28
10,964	Genuine Parts	773	0.14
16,413	Globus Medical	693	0.13
11,563	Goldman Sachs	1,768	0.32
34,262	Hanesbrands	391	0.07
12,148	Honeywell International	1,500	0.27
24,678	Horizon Therapeutics	1,383	0.25
11,005	Hunt (JB) Transport	1,155	0.21
3,483	Insulet	568	0.10
19,063	Intercontinental Exchange	1,511	0.27
5,215	L3Harris Technologies	704	0.13
42,979	Marvell Technology	1,245	0.23
14,202	Mastercard	3,797	0.69
53,315	Microsoft	8,959	1.63
49,439	Mondelez	2,156	0.39
1,509	Netflix	596	0.11
6,819	NextEra Energy	1,421	0.26
6,587	NIKE	550	0.10
13,973	Philip Morris	832	0.15
62,175	Schwab (Charles)	1,649	0.30
35,176	Service Corporation International	1,199	0.22
27,925	TJX	1,142	0.21
14,536	T-Mobile	1,266	0.23
9,466	Union Pacific	1,359	0.25
12,808	United Health	2,990	0.54
5,702	Walt Disney	561	0.10
Pacific Basin Equities (0.88%)		5,416	0.98
Australia (0.08%)		546	0.10
3,453	CSL	546	0.10

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
China (0.34%)		2,348	0.43
2,651	Alibaba ADR	568	0.10
67,500	Ping An Insurance 'H'	537	0.10
51,400	Shenzhou	619	0.11
32,185	Wuxi Biologics	624	0.12
Hong Kong (0.21%)		1,052	0.19
215,198	Hutchison China MediTech++	1,052	0.19
New Zealand (0.08%)		519	0.09
9,332	Xero	519	0.09
Taiwan (0.17%)		951	0.17
87,572	Taiwan Semiconductors Manufacturing	951	0.17
UK Equities (20.19%)		104,599	18.99
Basic Materials (1.08%)		6,600	1.20
54,530	Anglo American	999	0.18
48,982	Johnson Matthey	1,163	0.21
64,892	Mondi	948	0.17
1,103,276	Petra Diamonds	14	0.01
75,002	Rio Tinto	3,476	0.63
Consumer Goods (3.93%)		16,132	2.93
53,741	Bellway	1,283	0.23
245,770	Bovis Homes	1,562	0.28
153,893	British American Tobacco	3,897	0.71
252,216	Countryside Properties	811	0.15
108,567	Crest Nicholson	215	0.04
79,938	Diageo	2,006	0.37
505,649	Dixons Carphone	467	0.08
47,333	Fever Tree Drinks++	972	0.18
125,991	JD Sports	914	0.17
46,450	Reckitt Benckiser	3,487	0.63
113,565	Redrow	518	0.09
Consumer Services (1.80%)		10,307	1.87
668,085	888 Holdings	1,330	0.24
324,114	Cineworld	204	0.04
141,543	Euromoney Institutional Investor	1,183	0.21
361,515	GVC	2,907	0.53
122,820	Howdens Joinery	690	0.13

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
237,372	Pets at Home	698	0.13
61,557	RELX	1,048	0.19
1,093,373	Stagecoach	469	0.08
50,180	Wetherspoon (J.D.)	513	0.09
107,599	WH Smith	1,265	0.23
Financials (4.80%)		24,477	4.44
300,043	Ashmore	1,264	0.23
1,362,637	Barclays	1,525	0.28
75,711	Close Brothers	850	0.15
1,193,262	Grainger	3,733	0.68
702,432	HSBC	2,319	0.42
88,973	Intermediate Capital	1,215	0.22
337,967	John Laing	964	0.16
23,831	London Stock Exchange	2,097	0.38
283,088	Onesavings Bank	860	0.16
150,118	Phoenix	1,039	0.19
173,892	Prudential	2,123	0.39
417,197	Standard Chartered	1,637	0.30
1,310,182	Standard Life	4,127	0.75
74,848	Unite	724	0.13
Health Care (3.08%)		20,783	3.77
108,372	Abcam++	1,351	0.25
96,856	AstraZeneca	8,077	1.47
109,992	Clinigen++	751	0.14
766,901	ConvaTec	1,469	0.27
26,991	Genus	909	0.16
311,760	GlaxoSmithKline	4,589	0.83
1,039,340	Indivior	1,233	0.22
72,916	NMC Healthcare*	-	-
113,595	Smith & Nephew	1,728	0.31
737,494	Spire Healthcare	676	0.12
Industrials (2.31%)		11,772	2.14
287,665	Bodycote	1,612	0.29
370,299	Essentra	1,135	0.21
132,431	Inchcape	669	0.12
721,009	Melrose Industries	734	0.14
5,578,022	Mitie Group	1,855	0.34
408,038	Polypipe	1,773	0.32
160,625	Rolls-Royce	387	0.07

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
474,886	Smith (DS)	1,228	0.22
64,026	Ultra Electronics	1,494	0.27
216,582	Vesuvius	885	0.16
Oil & Gas (1.79%)		6,610	1.20
1,344,394	BP	3,551	0.64
778,290	Cairn Energy	1,097	0.20
218,692	Energean Oil & Gas	1,252	0.23
286,709	Wood Group	710	0.13
Technology (0.55%)		4,033	0.73
160,631	Avast	860	0.16
48,140	AVEVA	2,441	0.44
65,464	Kainos	732	0.13
Telecommunications (0.41%)		1,853	0.34
1,663,419	Vodafone	1,853	0.34
Utilities (0.44%)		2,032	0.37
241,072	National Grid	2,032	0.37
Collective Investment Schemes (26.75%)		130,631	23.71
1,376,621	Aberdeen Standard SICAV I - Global Government Bond Fund Z Acc+	20,313	3.69
12,046,885	ASI Emerging Markets Income Equity Standard Life Acc+	11,272	2.04
418,582	SLI Emerging Market Local Currency Debt SICAV Z Acc Unhdg+	5,217	0.95
1,408,999	SLI Global Bond SICAV Z Acc+	13,966	2.53
870,211	SLI Total Return Credit SICAV Z Acc+	11,652	2.12
71,494,361	SLTM Japan Trust I Acc+	34,482	6.26
19,485,488	SLTM Pacific Basin Trust I Acc+	33,729	6.12
Derivatives (-0.05%)		2,043	0.37
Credit Default Swaps (0.06%)		1,198	0.22
USD 6,955,216	Sell CDX Emerging Markets Series 32 20/12/2024 1%	(112)	(0.02)
USD 8,077,000	Sell CDX Emerging Markets Series 32 20/12/2024 1%	(131)	(0.02)
EUR 3,226,750	Sell iTraxx Europe Series 32 20/12/2024 5%	253	0.05
EUR 3,226,750	Sell iTraxx Europe Series 32 20/12/2024 5%	252	0.04
EUR 6,453,500	Sell iTraxx Europe Series 32 20/12/2024 5%	505	0.09
EUR 5,550,000	Sell iTraxx Europe Series 33 20/06/2025 5%	431	0.08
Forward Currency Contracts (-0.04%)		1,280	0.23
	Buy GBP 5,686 Sell EUR 6,234 20/10/2020	-	-
	Buy GBP 271,911 Sell EUR 298,507 20/10/2020	5	-
	Buy GBP 1,108,979 Sell SEK 12,663,576 20/10/2020	12	-

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
	Buy GBP 20,783 Sell USD 26,385 20/10/2020	1	-
	Buy GBP 113,421 Sell USD 141,825 20/10/2020	8	-
	Buy GBP 132,504 Sell USD 172,263 20/10/2020	4	-
	Buy GBP 603,525 Sell USD 754,661 20/10/2020	40	0.01
	Buy GBP 18,693,075 Sell USD 23,385,037 20/10/2020	1,233	0.22
	Buy USD 2,852 Sell GBP 2,238 20/10/2020	-	-
	Buy USD 389,219 Sell GBP 305,994 20/10/2020	(16)	-
	Buy USD 398,531 Sell GBP 304,913 20/10/2020	(7)	-
Futures (-0.07%)		(435)	(0.08)
11	Long Australia 10 Year Bond Future 15/09/2020	(6)	-
81	Long Australia 10 Year Bond Future 15/09/2020	15	-
10	Long Can 10 Year Bond Future 18/12/2020	(6)	-
8	Long Euro Bond Future 08/09/2020	(4)	-
93	Long Euro Stoxx 50 Future 18/09/2020	(18)	-
258	Long FTSE 100 Index Future 18/09/2020	(455)	(0.08)
17	Long US 5 Year Note 31/12/2020	1	-
(21)	Short Euro-BTP Bond Future 08/09/2020	(34)	(0.01)
(11)	Short Euro-Oat Future 08/09/2020	4	-
(5)	Short JPN 10 Year Bond Future (TSE) 14/09/2020	11	-
(54)	Short Long Gilt Future 29/12/2020	42	0.01
(5)	Short Long Gilt Future 29/12/2020	4	-
(72)	Short US 10 Year Note Future 21/12/2020	7	-
(6)	Short US 10 Year Ultra Future 21/12/2020	3	-
(1)	Short US Ultra Bond (CBT) Future 21/12/2020	1	-
Total investment assets and liabilities		496,976	90.21
Net other assets		53,968	9.79
Total Net Assets		550,944	100.00

All investments (excluding OTC derivatives) are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities, regulated collective investment schemes or approved derivatives within the meaning of the FCA rules.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

++ AIM listed.

* Suspended.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		20,319		43,562
Revenue	5,484		7,574	
Expenses	(2,573)		(2,750)	
Interest payable and similar charges	(9)		(4)	
Net revenue before taxation	2,902		4,820	
Taxation	(219)		(364)	
Net revenue after taxation		2,683		4,456
Total return before distributions		23,002		48,018
Distributions		(2,683)		(4,456)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		20,319		43,562

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		539,262		540,142
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	3,773		4,003	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(15,037)		(21,176)	
		(11,264)		(17,173)
Dilution adjustment		(11)		7
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		20,319		43,562
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		2,638		4,348
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		550,944		570,886

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		497,765		516,199
Current assets:				
Debtors	1,682		1,709	
Cash and bank balances	53,322		28,906	
		55,004		30,615
Total assets		552,769		546,814
Liabilities:				
Investment liabilities		(789)		(3,365)
Provisions for liabilities		(1)		-
Creditors	(1,014)		(3,505)	
Bank overdrafts	-		(665)	
Distribution payable	(21)		(17)	
		(1,035)		(4,187)
Total liabilities		(1,825)		(7,552)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		550,944		539,262

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Accumulation share class has increased by 2.60% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

Interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	0.8477	-	0.8477	1.3610
Group 2	0.5239	0.3238	0.8477	1.3610
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	1.3748	-	1.3748	1.9462
Group 2	0.9043	0.4705	1.3748	1.9462
Retail income				
Group 1	0.5483	-	0.5483	0.8906
Group 2	0.4059	0.1424	0.5483	0.8906
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.7783	-	0.7783	1.1193
Group 2	0.6459	0.1324	0.7783	1.1193
Retail CAT accumulation				
Group 1	0.6444	-	0.6444	1.0454
Group 2	0.4041	0.2403	0.6444	1.0454
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.7299	-	0.7299	0.9848
Group 2	0.4821	0.2478	0.7299	0.9848
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.6254	-	0.6254	0.8956
Group 2	0.4096	0.2158	0.6254	0.8956
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.5499	-	0.5499	0.7996
Group 2	0.2999	0.2500	0.5499	0.7996

Equalisation

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

ASI Global Focused Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in global equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the MSCI AC World Index plus 3% per annum over rolling five year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

Performance Comparator: The IA's Global Equity sector.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target/comparator for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index/sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed on global stock exchanges.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a concentrated asset mix at country, sector and stock level.
- The fund looks to deliver a concentrated portfolio of the highest conviction investment ideas of the management team in companies of all sizes.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the MSCI AC World Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 10%. Due to the active nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the MSCI AC World Index.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance Review

Over the period under review, the fund returned 14.5%. This compared to a return of 11.8% for our performance target (the MSCI AC World Index +3%).

The fund's top performer was Marvell Technology, the US semiconductor company. The company published solid first-quarter results and the stock rallied sharply as the US restricted use of Huawei's technology. Marvell's customers supply key components for 5G networks and would benefit from bans on Huawei 5G base stations. Facebook also contributed to performance. The social-media conglomerate performed well over the period after announcing solid financial results. Tencent Holdings was another positive contributor to performance. The technology and gaming giant has the largest online gaming offering in China, and this has proven to be relatively defensive during the current coronavirus crisis. Vonovia was another business that did well. The residential real estate owner reported strong first-quarter earnings, demonstrating its resilience to the effects of the pandemic crisis.

Conversely, the fund's decision to not hold Apple weighed on relative performance. The technology heavyweight was one of the better performers within the S&P 500. The overall rally in technology stocks and robust financial results boosted Apple's share price. Cinema operator Cineworld Group detracted strongly from performance. The company only reopened its cinemas at the end of July, just as the number of daily coronavirus cases began to increase again after months of decline – sparking fears of a second lockdown. As a result, consumer sentiment remains muted. Las Vegas Sands, the Macau owner and operator of casinos, was negatively affected as visas from mainland China were restricted until August, thereby severely reducing the number of visitors to Macau. We continue to see the shares as inexpensive as a result. French nursing home operator Orpea was another weak holding. The business has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in the short term.

Activity

We took the opportunity to initiate a position in Alibaba, the Chinese ecommerce player. It has relatively underperformed its peers such as Amazon and JD.com and we are confident in the longer-term prospects of the company. We opened a position in Mondelez, the US-listed, food and snack company with global operations and a strong presence in emerging markets. It has underperformed over the period as the market is currently concerned that as the coronavirus spreads through many emerging-market countries, near-term demand for their products will be impaired. While this may well be the case, we remain positive on the company's ability to drive robust organic growth through innovation, category growth and a more tailored marketing approach that better matches products with local tastes.

We sold our position in Marvell Technology after a strong rally in its shares. The rally occurred because the company was a beneficiary of the Huawei disruption caused by the US. We believe the shares are fully valued at the current level and so took profit to deploy elsewhere with more upside. We sold our position in Prysmian, the Italian cable manufacturer, as our analyst downgraded the name. We also feel the risks around the western link are being underestimated.

Outlook

The positive outlook for companies at the start of 2020 has been overwhelmed by the spread of COVID-19 globally. This will cause a sharp slowdown in economic activity and lead to significant earnings downgrades for many companies. The equity market sell-off has been rapid and fairly indiscriminate. For a sustained recovery to happen, we need clear signs that the virus has peaked and been contained. When this happens, we expect a sharp recovery in markets. As such, we continue to focus on our highest-conviction, stock-level ideas.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 5 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- Investing in China A shares involves special considerations and risks, including without limitation greater price volatility, less developed regulatory and legal framework, exchange rate risk/ controls, settlement, tax, quota, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in emerging market equities and / or bonds. Investing in emerging markets involves a greater risk of loss than investing in more developed markets due to, among other factors, greater political, tax, economic, foreign exchange, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The fund may invest in companies with Variable Interest Entity (VIE) structures in order to gain exposure to industries with foreign ownership restrictions. There is a risk that investments in these structures may be adversely affected by changes in the legal and regulatory framework.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	15,447	14,316	15,106	21,234
Closing number of shares	9,897,584	10,312,272	11,935,395	16,445,186
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	156.07	138.82	126.56	129.12
Change in net asset value per share	12.43%	9.69%	(1.98%)	2.80%
Operating charges	1.38%	1.38%	1.39%	1.38%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	18,244	17,281	21,131	35,225
Closing number of shares	10,214,425	10,903,310	14,693,474	24,119,704
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	178.61	158.49	143.81	146.04
Change in net asset value per share	12.69%	10.21%	(1.53%)	3.28%
Operating charges	0.91%	0.91%	0.92%	0.91%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,011	937	976	1,169
Closing number of shares	1,296,598	1,351,971	1,541,464	1,800,393
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	77.93	69.32	63.34	64.94
Change in net asset value per share	12.42%	9.44%	(2.46%)	2.75%
Operating charges	1.38%	1.38%	1.39%	1.38%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	3,664	3,250	3,993	4,353
Closing number of shares	2,345,595	2,354,170	3,213,198	3,477,046
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	156.21	138.06	124.27	125.18
Change in net asset value per share	13.15%	11.10%	(0.73%)	4.12%
Operating charges	0.11%	0.11%	0.12%	0.11%

Institutional regulated accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	59,943	55,587	73,123	93,641
Closing number of shares	37,219,224	38,975,168	56,719,756	71,817,992
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	161.05	142.62	128.92	130.39
Change in net asset value per share	12.92%	10.63%	(1.13%)	3.71%
Operating charges	0.51%	0.51%	0.52%	0.51%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	26,717	26,241	35,371	59,414
Closing number of shares	20,649,825	22,844,638	33,907,096	56,032,293
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	129.38	114.87	104.32	106.04
Change in net asset value per share	12.63%	10.11%	(1.62%)	3.19%
Operating charges	1.01%	1.01%	1.02%	1.01%

Institutional S accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	2,882	2,771	3,033	13,585
Closing number of shares	3,617,621	3,920,882	4,730,465	20,880,448
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	79.66	70.67	64.10	65.06
Change in net asset value per share	12.72%	10.25%	(1.48%)	3.34%
Operating charges	0.86%	0.86%	0.87%	0.86%

Institutional A accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	–	1
Closing number of shares	–	–	–	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	–	63.55
Change in net asset value per share	–	–	4.64%	2.50%
Operating charges	–	–	1.71%	1.71%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 14 June 2018.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Equities (99.60%)		122,964	96.13
Emerging Market Equities (2.40%)		5,701	4.46
Israel (2.40%)		5,701	4.46
33,204	Nice ADR	5,701	4.46
European Equities (22.93%)		28,672	22.42
France (8.75%)		10,174	7.96
114,878	Alstom	4,786	3.74
59,936	ORPEA	5,388	4.22
Germany (5.05%)		12,637	9.88
220,215	RWE	6,513	5.09
114,427	Vonovia	6,124	4.79
Italy (3.00%)		-	-
Netherlands (6.13%)		5,861	4.58
62,454	NXP Semiconductors	5,861	4.58
Japanese Equities (2.82%)		-	-
North American Equities (54.93%)		59,536	46.54
Canada (7.15%)		4,780	3.73
196,445	Alimentation Couche-Tard 'B'	4,780	3.73
United States (47.78%)		54,756	42.81
1,527	Amazon.com	3,924	3.07
26,063	Autodesk	4,781	3.74
186,943	Boston Scientific	5,726	4.48
29,483	Constellation	4,060	3.17
26,339	Facebook	5,766	4.51
57,213	Fidelity National Information Services	6,445	5.04
31,707	Goldman Sachs	4,847	3.79
135,060	Las Vegas Sands	5,115	4.00
121,567	Mondelez	5,302	4.14
46,991	Pegasystems	4,503	3.52
18,365	United Health	4,287	3.35
Pacific Basin Equities (11.89%)		23,486	18.36
Australia (2.81%)		4,196	3.28
26,561	CSL	4,196	3.28

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
China (9.08%)		19,290	15.08
19,155	Alibaba ADR	4,106	3.21
673,000	Ping An Insurance 'H'	5,351	4.18
423,485	Shenzhou	5,101	3.99
92,553	Tencent	4,732	3.70
23,966,000	Tianhe Chemicals**	-	-
Hong Kong (0.00%)		-	-
1,055,400	China Metal Recycling**	-	-
UK Equities (4.63%)		5,569	4.35
Consumer Services (2.15%)		-	-
Health Care (2.48%)		5,569	4.35
66,784	AstraZeneca	5,569	4.35
Collective Investment Schemes (0.00%)		4,025	3.15
4,025	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	4,025	3.15
Total investment assets		126,989	99.28
Net other assets		919	0.72
Total Net Assets		127,908	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

** Delisted.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		13,995		25,685
Revenue	1,042		1,487	
Expenses	(465)		(593)	
Interest payable and similar charges	(1)		–	
Net revenue before taxation	576		894	
Taxation	(38)		(111)	
Net revenue after taxation		538		783
Total return before equalisation		14,533		26,468
Equalisation on shares		(12)		(69)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		14,521		26,399

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		120,383		152,733
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	3,846		17,858	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(10,843)		(46,811)	
		(6,997)		(28,953)
Dilution adjustment		1		30
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		14,521		26,399
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		127,908		150,209

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		126,989		119,902
Current assets:				
Debtors	2,263		1,667	
Cash and bank balances	14		1	
		2,277		1,668
Total assets		129,266		121,570
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(1,358)		(908)	
Bank overdrafts	-		(277)	
Distribution payable	-		(2)	
		(1,358)		(1,187)
Total liabilities		(1,358)		(1,187)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		127,908		120,383

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Regulated Accumulation share class has increased by 2.53% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

ASI Global Income Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate income and some growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in global equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the MSCI AC World Index plus 2% per annum over rolling five year periods (before charges) with a yield greater than that of this index. The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 80% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed on recognised stock exchanges.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to identify the investments they believe are most appropriate for the fund's objective.
- They will maintain a diverse asset mix at country, sector and stock level, with country and sector weightings within the portfolio typically a by-product of the underlying stock exposure.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. Given the fund's income objective, the management team place particular emphasis on understanding business fundamentals and dynamics and the impact this has on cash flow generation and the company's ability to allocate cash effectively.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the MSCI AC World Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 8%. Due to the income nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the MSCI AC World Index.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance review

Over the period under review, the fund returned 5.3%. This compared to a return of 11.3% for our performance target (the MSCI AC World Index +2%). Meanwhile, the fund's yield was 2.5% over the period, versus a yield target of 1.7% (the MSCI AC World Index).

In terms of detractors, the Panamanian airline Copa was negatively impacted by coronavirus sweeping through both North and South America. Although its balance sheet is strong, we expect further disruption and we sold the position to reduce risk for the fund. Citigroup, the global bank, underperformed as investors fear a recession will cause an increase in bad debts. The bank is well capitalised with sufficient liquidity and we believe it is better positioned to perform than in the 2008 financial crisis. Also in financials, Banco Bradesco released decent results but the shares underperformed as investors worried about Brazil's economic outlook. Not holding Apple and Amazon also detracted from performance, with both companies reporting robust financial results during the period.

The fund's top performer was Marvell Technology, the US semiconductor company. The company published solid first-quarter results and the stock rallied sharply as the US restricted use of Huawei's technology. Marvell's customers supply key components for 5G networks and would benefit from bans on Huawei 5G base stations. We reduced our holding after this rally, as we believe the shares were fully valued and so took profits to reinvest elsewhere. Microsoft also performed strongly, holding up well in the COVID-19 pandemic. Notably, the virtual desktop, gaming and collaborative tool 'Teams' were in high demand during lockdown. We are confident in Microsoft's longer-term positioning. The move towards cloud computing and remote working also helped our holding in Equinix, the world's largest datacentre owner/operator. Vonovia was another business that did well. The residential real estate owner reported strong first-quarter earnings, demonstrating its resilience to the effects of the pandemic crisis.

Activity

During the period, we started a position in KDDI, the Japanese telecommunications company. We are cautious on the telecoms sector over the longer term, but we see this as an attractive holding with a good dividend yield, strong growth and a solid balance sheet. We also invested in Samsung Electronics due to the sustainable and growing dividend yield. It is a quality semiconductor business, with a lead in memory and potential to grow market share as export regulation changes in China. Other notable purchases were pharmaceutical company AbbVie, consumer goods firm Procter & Gamble and defence company Lockheed Martin.

We switched our consumer staples exposure to Pepsi, selling Coca-Cola. Our research shows Pepsi is more resilient due to its snack-food offering and has less reliance on vending machines than Coca-Cola. In European industrials, we sold Alstom to buy Schneider Electric – both companies have similar exposures but our research favours Schneider.

We sold Airbus, which we had initially bought just a few months prior. We sold our position in Sands China, the Macau casino owner and operator, as the dividend was suspended and we look to bolster the income of the fund.

Outlook and Strategy

Market action indicates that investors are taking the view that this is a V-shaped recovery. What is unfolding is the typical pattern seen during recovery phases: strong gains for equities, the US dollar weakening and the US starting to underperform other regions. In this phase, you also tend to see value stocks making up some of the ground they have lost to growth companies.

As we look to the second half of the year, we would point to various macro events that are likely to lead to further uncertainty in markets, namely finalisation of the UK's exit from Europe, dislocation in the technology sector as negotiation around Huawei's technology continues and the US presidential election. We feel investors will react to newsflow – data supporting a recovery will be received well, while any setback will lead to another leg down in the markets.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 5 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- Investing in China A shares involves special considerations and risks, including greater price volatility, a less developed regulatory and legal framework, exchange rate risk/controls, settlement, tax, quota, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The fund invests in securities which are subject to the risk that the issuer may default on interest or capital payments.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in emerging market equities and / or bonds. Investing in emerging markets involves a greater risk of loss than investing in more developed markets due to, among other factors, greater political, tax, economic, foreign exchange, liquidity and regulatory risks.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The fund price can go up or down daily for a variety of reasons including changes in interest rates, inflation expectations or the perceived credit quality of individual countries or securities.
- The fund may invest in companies with Variable Interest Entity (VIE) structures in order to gain exposure to industries with foreign ownership restrictions. There is a risk that investments in these structures may be adversely affected by changes in the legal and regulatory framework.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail Founder accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	81,756	80,911	81,360	87,965
Closing number of shares	27,879,027	28,622,225	31,217,167	33,675,927
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	293.25	282.69	260.62	261.21
Change in net asset value per share	3.74%	8.47%	(0.23%)	0.86%
Operating charges	1.04%	1.04%	1.04%	1.04%

Institutional Founder accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	6,291	6,193	6,870	7,718
Closing number of shares	1,944,944	1,990,333	2,404,940	2,707,210
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	323.45	311.14	285.66	285.10
Change in net asset value per share	3.96%	8.92%	0.20%	1.29%
Operating charges	0.62%	0.62%	0.62%	0.62%

Retail Founder income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,240	1,228	835	861
Closing number of shares	1,437,038	1,455,530	1,043,936	1,043,788
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	86.32	84.39	80.00	82.52
Change in net asset value per share	2.29%	5.49%	(3.05%)	(1.73%)
Operating charges	1.04%	1.04%	1.04%	1.04%

Institutional Founder income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	260	224	231	261
Closing number of shares	290,558	256,062	280,083	307,376
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	89.67	87.48	82.60	84.84
Change in net asset value per share	2.50%	5.91%	(2.64%)	(1.33%)
Operating charges	0.62%	0.62%	0.62%	0.62%

Standard Life income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	1	– [^]	2
Closing number of shares	–	1,066	113	2,000
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	88.47	83.30	85.58
Change in net asset value per share	(11.85%)	6.21%	(2.66%)	0.11%
Operating charges	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 27 March 2020.

[^] The closing net asset value of Standard life income is £94.

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	293	279	292	400
Closing number of shares	296,241	293,884	337,519	465,580
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	98.77	94.77	86.59	86.00
Change in net asset value per share	4.22%	9.45%	0.69%	2.88%
Operating charges	0.12%	0.12%	0.12%	0.12%

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	12,899	8,080	7,751	9,443
Closing number of shares	11,919,373	7,734,247	8,022,491	9,721,951
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	108.22	104.47	96.62	97.12
Change in net asset value per share	3.59%	8.12%	(0.51%)	0.56%
Operating charges	1.34%	1.34%	1.34%	1.34%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	3,369	3,466	4,658	7,143
Closing number of shares	2,949,151	3,150,437	4,600,338	7,050,840
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	114.22	110.01	101.26	101.31
Change in net asset value per share	3.83%	8.64%	(0.05%)	1.03%
Operating charges	0.87%	0.87%	0.87%	0.87%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	254	254	336	325
Closing number of shares	305,227	311,947	433,061	405,525
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	83.25	81.52	77.53	80.21
Change in net asset value per share	2.12%	5.15%	(3.34%)	(2.03%)
Operating charges	1.34%	1.34%	1.34%	1.34%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	379	407	724	907
Closing number of shares	431,523	474,151	892,196	1,085,499
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	87.81	85.78	81.18	83.59
Change in net asset value per share	2.37%	5.67%	(2.88%)	(1.58%)
Operating charges	0.87%	0.87%	0.87%	0.87%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	11,810	11,934	14,364	24,759
Closing number of shares	10,580,773	11,098,428	14,504,662	24,977,958
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	111.62	107.53	99.03	99.12
Change in net asset value per share	3.80%	8.58%	(0.09%)	0.98%
Operating charges	0.92%	0.92%	0.92%	0.92%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	2,790	3,007	4,731	7,065
Closing number of shares	3,194,924	3,524,922	5,854,701	8,487,064
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	87.32	85.31	80.80	83.24
Change in net asset value per share	2.36%	5.58%	(2.93%)	(1.62%)
Operating charges	0.92%	0.92%	0.92%	0.92%

Institutional A accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	–	2
Closing number of shares	–	–	–	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	–	73.23
Change in net asset value per share	–	–	3.00%	26.24%
Operating charges	–	–	0.49%	1.61%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 21 June 2018.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Equities (98.89%)		119,497	98.48
Emerging Market Equities (4.01%)		1,316	1.08
Brazil (1.11%)		-	-
Mexico (1.22%)		1,316	1.08
660,493	Grupo México	1,316	1.08
Panama (1.68%)		-	-
European Equities (29.65%)		33,080	27.26
Austria (1.02%)		1,047	0.86
37,134	BAWAG Group	1,047	0.86
Belgium (1.21%)		-	-
Denmark (1.22%)		-	-
France (5.68%)		8,077	6.66
67,209	AXA	1,025	0.85
5,111	LVMH	1,793	1.48
20,026	Schneider Electric	1,856	1.53
49,043	TOTAL	1,450	1.19
27,837	Vinci	1,953	1.61
Germany (3.42%)		5,678	4.68
59,694	RWE	1,765	1.46
73,107	Vonovia	3,913	3.22
Ireland (2.78%)		3,188	2.63
19,671	Medtronic	1,578	1.30
18,209	Trane Technologies	1,610	1.33
Italy (2.76%)		3,245	2.67
478,838	Enel	3,245	2.67
Netherlands (5.00%)		5,930	4.89
78,216	ASR Nederland	2,029	1.67
25,585	Heineken	1,568	1.29
19,423	Koninklijke DSM	2,333	1.93

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Norway (2.59%)		1,650	1.36
134,898	Telenor	1,650	1.36
Switzerland (3.97%)		4,265	3.51
32,662	Nestle	2,941	2.42
4,780	Zurich	1,324	1.09
Japanese Equities (2.96%)		5,739	4.73
1,975	GLP J-REIT	2,274	1.87
113,200	KDDI	2,447	2.02
29,600	Tokio Marine	1,018	0.84
North American Equities (44.42%)		57,206	47.15
United States (44.42%)		57,206	47.15
39,491	Abbvie	2,823	2.33
20,988	Activision Blizzard	1,309	1.08
34,701	Baxter International	2,256	1.86
36,994	Blackstone	1,463	1.21
39,833	Bristol-Myers Squibb	1,850	1.52
19,561	Chevron	1,225	1.01
59,015	Cisco Systems	1,860	1.53
41,289	Citigroup	1,576	1.30
8,104	CME	1,064	0.88
24,183	Dolby Laboratories	1,261	1.04
15,658	Eli Lilly	1,735	1.43
4,797	Equinix	2,827	2.33
21,807	Fidelity National Information Services	2,457	2.02
7,422	Goldman Sachs	1,135	0.93
18,837	Intercontinental Exchange	1,493	1.23
8,707	Lockheed Martin	2,537	2.09
10,371	Lowe's	1,275	1.05
9,754	Mastercard	2,608	2.15
12,455	McDonald's	1,985	1.64
44,141	Microsoft	7,418	6.11
48,856	Mondelez	2,131	1.76
12,575	NextEra Energy	2,621	2.16
22,736	PepsiCo	2,377	1.96
26,502	Procter & Gamble	2,737	2.26
35,998	TJX	1,472	1.21
9,148	Union Pacific	1,314	1.08
10,270	United Health	2,397	1.98

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Pacific Basin Equities (10.40%)		13,169	10.85
Australia (1.48%)		–	–
China (1.51%)		5,173	4.26
366,108	Ping An Insurance 'H'	2,911	2.40
187,800	Shenzhou	2,262	1.86
8,100,000	Tianhe Chemicals*	–	–
Hong Kong (1.62%)		1,110	0.91
144,438	AIA	1,110	0.91
Indonesia (1.11%)		–	–
Macau (2.50%)		–	–
South Korea (0.95%)		2,523	2.08
84,481	Samsung Electronics (Preference)	2,523	2.08
Taiwan (1.23%)		4,363	3.60
401,884	Taiwan Semiconductors Manufacturing	4,363	3.60
UK Equities (7.45%)		8,987	7.41
Basic Materials (0.00%)		1,458	1.20
31,453	Rio Tinto	1,458	1.20
Consumer Services (1.80%)		2,144	1.77
125,984	RELX	2,144	1.77
Health Care (2.18%)		3,259	2.69
39,086	AstraZeneca	3,259	2.69
Industrials (1.47%)		2,126	1.75
409,372	BAE Systems	2,126	1.75
Oil & Gas (2.00%)		–	–
Total investment assets		119,497	98.48
Net other assets		1,844	1.52
Total Net Assets		121,341	100.00

All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities within the meaning of the FCA rules.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

* Delisted.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		3,305		17,712
Revenue	1,911		2,278	
Expenses	(576)		(638)	
Net revenue before taxation	1,335		1,640	
Taxation	(221)		(257)	
Net revenue after taxation		1,114		1,383
Total return before distributions		4,419		19,095
Distributions		(1,137)		(1,411)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		3,282		17,684

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		115,984		122,152
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	9,869		4,732	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(8,872)		(14,870)	
		997		(10,138)
Dilution adjustment		–		2
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		3,282		17,684
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		1,078		1,287
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		121,341		130,987

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		119,497		114,696
Current assets:				
Debtors	531		2,951	
Cash and bank balances	1,591		955	
		2,122		3,906
Total assets		121,619		118,602
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(237)		(2,585)	
Distribution payable	(41)		(33)	
		(278)		(2,618)
Total liabilities		(278)		(2,618)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		121,341		115,984

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Founder Accumulation share class has increased by 3.30% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

First interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 May 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31/07/20	Distribution paid 31/07/19
Retail Founder accumulation				
Group 1	1.0381	-	1.0381	2.2037
Group 2	0.8476	0.1905	1.0381	2.2037
Institutional Founder accumulation				
Group 1	1.4489	-	1.4489	2.7307
Group 2	0.7814	0.6675	1.4489	2.7307
Retail Founder income				
Group 1	0.5080	-	0.5080	0.8859
Group 2	0.5080	-	0.5080	0.8859
Institutional Founder income				
Group 1	0.5267	-	0.5267	0.9151
Group 2	0.1820	0.3447	0.5267	0.9151
Standard Life income				
Group 1	-	-	-	0.9196
Group 2	-	-	-	0.9196
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.5517	-	0.5517	0.9378
Group 2	0.1955	0.3562	0.5517	0.9378
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	0.3079	-	0.3079	0.7391
Group 2	0.0910	0.2169	0.3079	0.7391
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.4474	-	0.4474	0.9014
Group 2	0.1939	0.2535	0.4474	0.9014
Retail income				
Group 1	0.4906	-	0.4906	0.8582
Group 2	0.1818	0.3088	0.4906	0.8582
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.5164	-	0.5164	0.8993
Group 2	0.2015	0.3149	0.5164	0.8993
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.4246	-	0.4246	0.8685
Group 2	0.3180	0.1066	0.4246	0.8685
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.5136	-	0.5136	0.8952
Group 2	0.2894	0.2242	0.5136	0.8952

Second interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 June 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 June 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail Founder accumulation				
Group 1	1.6596	-	1.6596	0.8119
Group 2	1.1056	0.5540	1.6596	0.8119
Institutional Founder accumulation				
Group 1	2.1705	-	2.1705	1.2332
Group 2	1.2563	0.9142	2.1705	1.2332
Retail Founder income				
Group 1	0.7109	-	0.7109	0.4719
Group 2	0.7109	-	0.7109	0.4719
Institutional Founder income				
Group 1	0.7384	-	0.7384	0.4881
Group 2	0.5025	0.2359	0.7384	0.4881
Standard Life income				
Group 1	-	-	-	0.5482
Group 2	-	-	-	0.5482
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.7859	-	0.7859	0.4915
Group 2	0.5270	0.2589	0.7859	0.4915
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	0.5307	-	0.5307	0.2183
Group 2	0.1764	0.3543	0.5307	0.2183
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.6951	-	0.6951	0.3646
Group 2	0.4057	0.2894	0.6951	0.3646
Retail income				
Group 1	0.6859	-	0.6859	0.4568
Group 2	0.3792	0.3067	0.6859	0.4568
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.7232	-	0.7232	0.4791
Group 2	0.2980	0.4252	0.7232	0.4791
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.6652	-	0.6652	0.3424
Group 2	0.4049	0.2603	0.6652	0.3424
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.7188	-	0.7188	0.4769
Group 2	0.2850	0.4338	0.7188	0.4769

Equalisation

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

ASI Global Smaller Companies Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in Global small-capitalisation equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the MSCI AC World Small Cap Index, plus 3% per annum (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

Performance Comparator: IA Global Equity Sector Average.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target/comparator for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index/sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in small-capitalisation equities and equity related securities of companies listed on global stock exchanges.
- Small capitalisation companies are defined as any stock included in the MSCI AC World Small Cap Index or, if not included within the index, any stock having a market capitalisation smaller than that of the stock with the largest market capitalisation in such index.
- The fund may also invest in mid and larger capitalisation companies listed on global stock exchanges.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at country, sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using the management team's quality, growth and momentum approach. It aims to identify companies that exhibit a range of high quality characteristics, operate in growing markets and display positive business momentum.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the MSCI AC World Small Cap Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 10%. Due to the active nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the MSCI AC World Small Cap Index.

Please note: The fund's ability to buy and sell small and mid-capitalisation shares and the associated costs can be affected during periods of market stress. In certain circumstances investors in the fund may not be able to sell their investment when they want to.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance Review

Over the period under review, the fund returned 22.6%. This compared to a return of 5.6% for our performance target (the MSCI AC World Small Cap Index +3%).

Chegg was the biggest contributor to performance thanks to a surge in subscriptions for its online education tools. With schools and colleges closed, students are being forced to study from home, which means they are looking online for help with their coursework. We see Chegg as a market leader in this space and an example of a business where the lockdown has accelerated a secular trend towards digitalisation that was already under way. Appen is the world leader in data labelling and annotation. The stock has benefited from a spike in demand for their data services as more people work from home, and usage of social media and online search engines continues to expand. Appen's customers include Facebook, Google and Amazon. Generac's shares also climbed strongly. The company is the leading provider of residential back-up generators in the US. Generac reported better-than-expected second-quarter numbers as the working-from-home trend has accelerated demand. A healthy outlook led management to raise full-year earnings guidance. Similarly, Kornit Digital, the manufacturer of digital printers used in the apparel and fabric industry, published a robust set of earnings. Management noted strong momentum in the business as customers restarted trading. They also said that the acceleration of industry mega-trends had resulted in an unprecedented pipeline of orders, giving the business good earnings visibility.

While the fund produced significant outperformance, Dart Group – the owner of Jet2 – was the most notable holding to weigh on the fund's return, following huge disruption to its business, with travel restrictions implemented across Europe. Japan-listed Grace Technology also lost value during the period. Management blamed the difficulty in holding face-to-face meetings for the shortfall in new client take-ons, despite the high number of inquiries. The shares weakened further after the company's president reduced his stake. Evolent Health, the US healthcare payment technology platform, also detracted. The company lost the rebid for Passport Health Kentucky – a high profile event for Evolent Health. Management is now looking to sell off the Passport Health business. More crucially, management's credibility is being questioned over their decision making around Passport Health's initial acquisition.

Investment Activity

We bought two healthcare companies, Chemed and Amedisys. Both are leading providers of hospice services and caring for the elderly and sick at home. The reason we are positive on this sector is a trend in US healthcare towards caring for patients in the home rather than in hospitals. This area is seeing greater attention as it improves patients' wellbeing, leading to better outcomes as well as helping to deliver lower healthcare costs.

Activity also included initiating a position in Generac. The manufacturer of the standby generator for the US residential market has a 75% market share. The company is experiencing increasing demand for its products from the rise in severe electrical power outages. Recent acquisitions have broadened its potential market.

Other purchases included JMDC, which provides data management and analysis for health insurance unions (HIU) in Japan. We also added Grace Technology, a provider of instruction manuals in both paper and online forms, as well as software and training for these manuals. And we bought SiteOne, the largest and only national wholesale distributor of landscaping supplies in the US.

We sold UK mixer-drinks business Fever-Tree on news that US sales have been below expectations. Australian online lottery-ticket seller Jumbo Interactive was sold as it has lost earnings momentum. We exited TCI, as we had concerns about the continued impact on sales of tighter regulation in the health food supplement market.

Other notable sales included Kemper, the US non-standard insurance company, which reported pricing pressure from new entrants. We also sold Alarm.com, as the business is seeing earnings downgraded on the back of its expansion plans. In addition, we exited 51Job, the Chinese online recruitment and outsourced human-resources (HR) provider, as the company faces macro headwinds.

We moved on from US healthcare claims auditor HMS, as the company is expected to see further earnings downgrades. Lastly, we sold out of MAPA. The Indonesian sportswear retailer has been hit by falling consumption trends from lockdown measures.

Outlook

As we look to the second half of the year, we would point to various macro events that are likely to lead to further uncertainty in markets. These include the finalisation of the UK's exit from Europe, dislocation in the technology sector as negotiations around Huawei's technology continues and the US presidential election. We continue to focus on market-leading companies with a high degree of earnings visibility and recurring revenues. We have previously flagged the risk of a short-term rotation into value stocks. For any value rally to continue, we would need to see economic growth broadening out across sectors, as well as evidence of earnings improvement at the company level, which is yet to materialise.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 6 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The shares of small and mid-cap companies may be less liquid and more volatile than those of larger companies.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	190,880	161,075	199,176	145,052
Closing number of shares	120,935,031	123,540,788	150,472,730	112,501,094
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	157.84	130.38	132.37	128.93
Change in net asset value per share	21.06%	(1.50%)	2.67%	19.89%
Operating charges	1.47%	1.47%	1.47%	1.47%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	163,102	167,690	163,516	173,783
Closing number of shares	97,431,566	121,800,968	117,384,210	128,729,440
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	167.40	137.92	139.30	135.00
Change in net asset value per share	21.37%	(0.99%)	3.19%	20.51%
Operating charges	0.95%	0.95%	0.95%	0.95%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	111,523	98,122	95,691	49,909
Closing number of shares	61,824,025	66,305,556	64,580,344	35,055,625
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	180.39	147.98	148.17	142.37
Change in net asset value per share	21.90%	(0.13%)	4.07%	21.54%
Operating charges	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	267,634	230,572	297,485	163,376
Closing number of shares	166,624,048	174,147,951	222,265,852	125,842,301
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	160.62	132.40	133.84	129.83
Change in net asset value per share	21.31%	(1.08%)	3.09%	20.39%
Operating charges	1.05%	1.05%	1.05%	1.05%

Institutional S accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	487,261	434,886	556,635	312,360
Closing number of shares	394,410,567	427,630,496	542,931,531	314,935,186
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	123.54	101.70	102.52	99.18
Change in net asset value per share	21.47%	(0.80%)	3.37%	20.72%
Operating charges	0.78%	0.78%	0.78%	0.78%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Institutional A accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	–	2
Closing number of shares	–	–	–	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	–	84.35
Change in net asset value per share	–	–	14.05%	19.58%
Operating charges	–	–	1.80%	1.80%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 14 June 2018.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Equities (96.89%)		1,203,431	98.61
Emerging Market Equities (3.44%)		50,497	4.14
Brazil (0.14%)		-	-
Israel (3.30%)		50,497	4.14
1,094,410	Kornit Digital	50,497	4.14
European Equities (14.39%)		193,310	15.84
Finland (0.00%)		19,758	1.62
1,193,098	Kesko	19,758	1.62
France (3.73%)		37,494	3.07
162,452	Teleperformance	37,494	3.07
Germany (1.71%)		14,502	1.19
244,517	Nemetschek	14,502	1.19
Ireland (1.90%)		28,815	2.36
1,312,145	Keywords Studios++	28,815	2.36
Italy (4.18%)		55,757	4.57
2,896,690	FinecoBank	32,859	2.69
876,145	Interpump	22,898	1.88
Poland (1.75%)		27,268	2.23
599,014	Dino Polska	27,268	2.23
Spain (1.12%)		9,716	0.80
750,679	CIE Automotive	9,716	0.80
Japanese Equities (10.77%)		139,043	11.39
262,853	GMO Payment Gateway	20,678	1.69
264,100	Grace Technology	7,468	0.61
365,000	JMDC	20,642	1.69
1,579,405	Mani	29,889	2.45
1,219,100	Nihon M&A Center	45,162	3.70
382,100	Technopro	15,204	1.25
North American Equities (39.99%)		498,065	40.82
United States (39.99%)		498,065	40.82
166,614	Amedisys	30,101	2.47
504,194	Axon Enterprise	32,271	2.64
801,956	Chegg	44,172	3.62
97,830	Chemed	37,782	3.10

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
391,862	Cubic	13,779	1.13
393,167	Dolby Laboratories	20,508	1.68
574,378	Envestnet	35,601	2.92
396,475	Generac	56,255	4.61
271,700	Insulet	44,277	3.63
1,005,961	Lattice Semiconductor	21,465	1.76
36,937	MarketAxess Holdings	13,400	1.10
215,905	MAXIMUS	12,505	1.02
278,662	Paylocity	30,646	2.51
192,775	Poolcorp	47,120	3.86
1,026,234	ServiceMaster	30,581	2.51
182,360	Siteone Landscape Supply	17,027	1.39
212,823	Wabtec	10,575	0.87
Pacific Basin Equities (17.90%)		209,217	17.14
Australia (6.55%)		83,271	6.82
5,140,036	ALS	24,132	1.98
645,267	Altium	12,973	1.06
2,408,753	Appen	46,166	3.78
China (3.33%)		5,957	0.49
121,766	51job	5,957	0.49
Indonesia (0.86%)		1,870	0.15
16,134,032	Map Aktiv Adiperkasa	1,870	0.15
South Korea (0.00%)		19,883	1.63
316,254	Douzone Bizon	19,883	1.63
Taiwan (7.16%)		98,236	8.05
8,237,000	Sinbon Electronics	37,739	3.09
6,073,673	Taiwan Union Technology	18,397	1.51
1,598,063	Voltronic Power Technology	42,100	3.45
UK Equities (10.40%)		113,299	9.28
Consumer Goods (1.19%)		-	-
Consumer Services (5.19%)		61,147	5.01
1,551,114	Dunelm	22,150	1.81
2,032,168	Future	30,157	2.47
537,397	GlobalData++	8,840	0.73
Health Care (2.03%)		27,709	2.27
822,727	Genus	27,709	2.27

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Industrials (1.99%)		24,443	2.00
4,033,552	RWS++	24,443	2.00
Collective Investment Schemes (3.45%)		25,278	2.07
25,278	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	25,278	2.07
Total investment assets		1,228,709	100.68
Net other liabilities		(8,309)	(0.68)
Total Net Assets		1,220,400	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

++ AIM listed.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		212,867		128,148
Revenue	4,953		7,785	
Expenses	(5,054)		(6,210)	
Interest payable and similar charges	(4)		(10)	
Net (expense)/revenue before taxation	(105)		1,565	
Taxation	(602)		(487)	
Net (expense)/revenue after taxation		(707)		1,078
Total return before equalisation		212,160		129,226
Equalisation on shares		(2)		(57)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		212,158		129,169

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		1,092,645		1,312,503
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	53,408		64,994	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(137,811)		(162,079)	
		(84,403)		(97,085)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		212,158		129,169
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		1,220,400		1,344,587

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		1,228,709		1,096,331
Current assets:				
Debtors	7,636		8,954	
Cash and bank balances	1,387		2,469	
		9,023		11,423
Total assets		1,237,732		1,107,754
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(17,332)		(15,094)	
Bank overdrafts	-		(15)	
		(17,332)		(15,109)
Total liabilities		(17,332)		(15,109)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		1,220,400		1,092,645

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional S Accumulation share class has increased by 12.67% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

ASI High Yield Bond Fund

Investment objective

To generate income and some growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in Sterling and Euro denominated sub-investment grade (high yield) corporate bonds.

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the ICE BofAML GBP/Euro Fixed & Floating High Yield Non Financial 3% Constrained (HGD to GBP) plus 0.8% per annum over rolling three year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in Sterling and Euro denominated sub-investment grade corporate bonds
- The fund may also invest in bonds issued anywhere in the world by governments and corporations, including sub-sovereigns and the following types: investment grade, inflation-linked, convertible, asset backed and mortgage backed.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to identify bonds and derivatives based on analysis of global economic and market conditions (for example, interest rates and inflation) and analysis of a company's prospects and creditworthiness compared to that of the market.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, ICE BofAML GBP/Euro Fixed & Floating High Yield Non Financial 3% Constrained (HGD to GBP) Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 2.5%. Due to the fund's risk constraints, the intention is that the fund's performance profile will not deviate significantly from that of the ICE BofAML GBP/Euro Fixed&Floating High Yield Non Financial 3% Constrained (HGD to GBP) Index over the longer term.

Please note: The fund's ability to buy and sell bonds and the associated costs can be affected during periods of market stress which could include periods where interest rates move sharply.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivatives include instruments used to manage expected changes in interest rates, inflation, currencies or creditworthiness of corporations or governments.

Performance

The fund returned +1.0% during the period, in comparison to performance target (ICE BofAML GBP/Euro Fixed & Floating High Yield Non-Financial 3% Constrained, hedged to sterling +0.8%) return of +0.1%. Please note the fund return is net of charges. (fund return source: Morningstar, basic rate taxpayer, bid-to-bid basis, and benchmark source: Factset).

The top performer for the fund over the period was overweight exposure to the data centre company Digital Realty, whose business was inherently quite resilient to the coronavirus crisis. Lack of exposure to the coffee and vending machine supplier Selecta Group was supportive as demand for its products was severely hit lockdown measures. Other contributors included the telecoms company Liberty Global (which owns Virgin Media) and the German cable provider Tele Columbus. On the negative side, the worst performer for the fund was its overweight position in the US car rental company Avis Budget, which was very severely impacted by the collapse in travel activity over the period.

Investment activity

Over the review period, we participated selectively in new issues. Examples of this included deals from Ford Motor Company, Merlin Entertainments, Virgin Media and the elevator business being spun out of ThyssenKrupp.

In secondary market trading, we viewed the increase in 'fallen angels' as a potentially attractive source of investment. As well as participating in the Ford Motor new issue, we purchased bonds from ZFF, Pemex and RCI Banque. The fund's position in autos was increased to capture the attractive yields on offer and also to reflect the fact that the weighting in the benchmark had increased with the 'fallen angels'. We therefore added positions such as Faurecia, Motherson, Fiat, GM and Jaguar Land Rover.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 3 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- The fund invests in mortgage and asset-backed securities (which may include collateralised loan, debt or mortgage obligations (respectively CLOs, CDOs or CMOs)). These are subject to prepayment and extension risk and additional liquidity and default risk compared to other credit securities
- Convertible securities are investments that can be changed into another form upon certain triggers. As such, they can exhibit credit, equity and fixed interest risk. Contingent convertible securities (CoCos) are similar to convertible securities but have additional triggers which mean that they are more vulnerable to losses and volatile price movements and hence become less liquid.
- The fund invests in securities which are subject to the risk that the issuer may default on interest or capital payments.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in high yielding bonds which carry a greater risk of default than those with lower yields.
- The fund price can go up or down daily for a variety of reasons including changes in interest rates, inflation expectations or the perceived credit quality of individual countries or securities.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	81,953	84,701	93,098	101,617
Closing number of shares	58,280,600	60,751,437	69,695,007	76,854,653
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	140.62	139.42	133.58	132.22
Change in net asset value per share	0.86%	4.37%	1.03%	3.16%
Operating charges	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	18,619	19,561	20,493	22,356
Closing number of shares	12,385,078	13,143,275	14,420,173	15,943,301
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	150.34	148.83	142.12	140.22
Change in net asset value per share	1.01%	4.72%	1.36%	3.49%
Operating charges	0.71%	0.71%	0.71%	0.71%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	43,672	45,947	51,344	59,415
Closing number of shares	90,765,854	94,494,741	107,115,614	121,821,600
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	48.11	48.62	47.93	48.77
Change in net asset value per share	(1.05%)	1.44%	(1.72%)	0.04%
Operating charges	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	22,559	30,034	30,849	33,078
Closing number of shares	46,875,743	61,753,084	64,337,818	67,801,187
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	48.13	48.64	47.95	48.79
Change in net asset value per share	(1.05%)	1.44%	(1.72%)	0.06%
Operating charges	0.71%	0.71%	0.71%	0.71%

Standard Life income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1	1	— [^]	4,424
Closing number of shares	1,996	1,996	201	8,895,749
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	48.98	49.49	48.81	49.73
Change in net asset value per share	(1.03%)	1.39%	(1.85%)	(0.12%)
Operating charges	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

[^] The closing net asset value of Standard Life income is £98.

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	86,353	85,208	148,136	99,104
Closing number of shares	70,095,825	70,080,607	128,355,724	87,545,460
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	123.19	121.59	115.41	113.20
Change in net asset value per share	1.32%	5.35%	1.95%	4.11%
Operating charges	0.11%	0.11%	0.11%	0.11%

Institutional regulated accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	33,798	34,869	37,754	40,845
Closing number of shares	15,319,559	15,989,980	18,184,794	19,999,402
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	220.62	218.07	207.61	204.23
Change in net asset value per share	1.17%	5.04%	1.65%	3.80%
Operating charges	0.41%	0.41%	0.41%	0.41%

Standard Life B accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	-	-	-	4
Closing number of shares	-	-	-	4,000
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	-	-	-	95.99
Change in net asset value per share	-	-	0.91%	4.21%
Operating charges	-	-	-	-

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	26,041	27,729	30,610	36,946
Closing number of shares	32,984,974	35,470,314	40,986,462	50,113,614
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	78.95	78.17	74.68	73.72
Change in net asset value per share	1.00%	4.67%	1.30%	3.44%
Operating charges	0.76%	0.76%	0.76%	0.76%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	33,214	36,162	39,632	47,891
Closing number of shares	58,464,070	62,987,253	70,033,718	83,172,570
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	56.81	57.41	56.59	57.58
Change in net asset value per share	(1.05%)	1.45%	(1.72%)	0.05%
Operating charges	0.76%	0.76%	0.76%	0.76%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 14 June 2018.

Institutional S accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1	1	— [^]	1
Closing number of shares	1,531	1,531	200	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	68.74	67.97	64.53	63.51
Change in net asset value per share	1.13%	5.33%	1.61%	3.61%
Operating charges	0.59%	0.59%	0.59%	0.59%

Institutional S income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1	1	— ^{^^}	1
Closing number of shares	1,893	1,893	200	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	51.94	52.50	51.87	52.81
Change in net asset value per share	(1.07%)	1.21%	(1.78%)	0.04%
Operating charges	0.59%	0.59%	0.59%	0.59%

Institutional A accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	—	—	—	1
Closing number of shares	—	—	—	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	—	—	—	57.75
Change in net asset value per share	—	—	0.59%	2.45%
Operating charges	—	—	1.11%	1.11%

Institutional A income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	—	—	—	1
Closing number of shares	—	—	—	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	—	—	—	54.60
Change in net asset value per share	—	—	0.09%	1.02%
Operating charges	—	—	1.11%	1.11%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 14 June 2018.

[^] The closing net asset value of Institutional S accumulation is £129.

^{^^} The closing net asset value of Institutional S income is £104.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Bonds (95.31%)		331,877	95.86
Euro Denominated Bonds (69.97%)		253,296	73.16
Corporate Bonds (69.97%)		253,296	73.16
less than 5 years to maturity			
2,539,000	Adient 3.5% 2024	2,100	0.61
1,902,000	Altice 2.5% 2025	1,665	0.48
2,000,000	Autostrade 1.625% 2023	1,763	0.51
6,050,000	Avantor 4.75% 2024	5,595	1.62
5,513,000	Bausch Health 4.5% 2023	4,913	1.42
1,150,000	Burger King France 6% 2024	1,039	0.30
2,400,000	Casino Guichard 3.248% 2024	1,781	0.51
2,449,000	Cirsa Finance International 6.25% 2023	1,977	0.57
2,138,000	Cogent Communications 4.375% 2024	1,965	0.57
4,180,000	Consus Real Estate 9.625% 2024	4,027	1.16
1,447,000	Explorer II 3.375% 2025	1,029	0.30
1,398,000	Ford Motor Credit 0.185% 2021	1,221	0.35
800,000	Greif 7.375% 2021	751	0.22
1,640,000	Grifols 3.2% 2025	1,483	0.43
1,145,000	HT Troplast 9.25% 2025	1,102	0.32
880,000	IHO Verwaltungs 3.625% 2025	801	0.23
1,900,000	INEOS 5.375% 2024	1,713	0.49
1,168,000	International Game Technology 3.5% 2024	1,055	0.30
1,395,000	IPD 3 FRN 2022	1,141	0.33
1,330,000	IQVIA 3.25% 2025	1,204	0.35
1,725,000	Kleopatra Holdings 1 SCA 8.5% 2023	1,385	0.40
1,064,000	La Financiere Atalian 5.125% 2025	806	0.23
3,853,000	Lincoln Financing 3.625% 2024	3,383	0.98
1,200,000	Lincoln Financing FRN 2024	1,056	0.30
2,160,000	Monitchem Holdco 3 5.25% 2025	1,984	0.57
1,500,000	Monitchem Holdco 3 5.25% 2025	1,337	0.39
1,212,000	Motion Finco 7% 2025	1,114	0.32
980,000	MPT Operating Partnership 3.325% 2025	920	0.27
3,856,000	Nassa Topco 2.875% 2024	3,427	0.99
4,675,000	Nidda Healthcare 3.5% 2024	4,146	1.20
1,500,000	Novafives 5% 2025	971	0.28
4,699,000	OCI 3.125% 2024	4,205	1.21
4,144,000	OCI 5% 2023	3,790	1.09
1,564,000	OI European 2.875% 2025	1,406	0.41
1,000,000	Pemex Project 5.5% 2025	919	0.27
2,858,000	Petroleos Mexicanos 3.75% 2024	2,439	0.70
6,725,000	Petroleos Mexicanos 5.125% 2023	6,064	1.75

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
1,908,000	PPF Arena 2.125% 2025	1,669	0.48
2,095,000	PrestigeBidCo 6.25% 2023	1,908	0.55
3,068,000	Quatrim 5.875% 2024	2,728	0.79
855,000	Samvardhana Motherson Automotive Systems 1.8% 2024	680	0.20
403,000	Sazka 4.125% 2024	339	0.10
332,000	SoftBank 4.75% 2025	323	0.09
837,000	Synthomer 3.875% 2025	781	0.23
2,195,000	Techem Verwaltungsgesellschaft 675 mbH 2% 2025	1,897	0.55
5,853,000	Tele Columbus 3.875% 2025	5,078	1.47
5,495,000	Teva Pharmaceutical 1.125% 2024	4,420	1.28
1,807,000	Teva Pharmaceutical 1.25% 2023	1,527	0.44
692,000	Teva Pharmaceutical 6% 2025	656	0.19
1,500,000	Unilabs Subholding 5.75% 2025	1,337	0.39
1,269,000	United Group 4.875% 2024	1,158	0.33
1,500,000	Verisure 5.75% 2023	1,343	0.39
2,219,000	Verisure Holding 3.5% 2023	2,002	0.58
972,000	Volvo 2.125% 2024	870	0.25
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
1,600,000	ADLER Real Estate 3% 2026	1,416	0.41
1,195,000	Altice 3.375% 2028	1,056	0.31
4,460,000	Altice 4.75% 2028	3,748	1.08
1,700,000	Altice France 5.875% 2027	1,630	0.47
5,340,000	Altice France 8% 2027	5,172	1.49
1,225,000	ARD Finance 5% 2027	1,091	0.30
1,106,000	Ardagh Packaging 2.125% 2026	984	0.28
605,000	Arena 1.875% 2028	496	0.14
3,444,000	Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena 8% fixed to floating 2030	3,003	0.87
2,858,000	Banff Merger Sub 8.375% 2026	2,613	0.75
3,906,000	Blitz F18-674 6% 2026	3,622	1.05
1,700,202	Cirsa Finance International 7.25% 2025	1,037	0.30
915,000	Cirsa Finance International FRN 2025	680	0.20
2,830,000	CTC BondCo 5.25% 2025	2,457	0.71
3,785,000	Diocle FRN 2026	3,194	0.92
1,500,000	eG Global Finance 6.25% 2025	1,343	0.39
2,275,000	Energizer Gamma Acquisition 4.625% 2026	2,101	0.61
1,000,000	Faurecia 2.375% 2027	850	0.24
1,000,000	Faurecia 3.125% 2026	896	0.26
1,769,000	Faurecia 3.75% 2028	1,603	0.46
2,099,000	Fiat Chrysler Automobiles 4.5% 2028	2,107	0.61
801,000	Grifols 2.25% 2027	716	0.21
3,221,000	House of Finance 4.375% 2026	2,722	0.79

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
925,000	IHO Verwaltungs 3.875% 2027	851	0.25
1,500,000	Ineos Styrolution 2.25% 2027	1,270	0.37
5,484,000	International Game Technology 3.5% 2026	4,858	1.40
1,095,000	Intertrust Group 3.375% 2025	1,002	0.29
3,577,000	Intrum 3.5% 2026	3,075	0.89
1,989,000	IQVIA 2.875% 2028	1,821	0.53
929,000	Jaguar Land Rover Automotive 6.875% 2026	770	0.22
7,577,000	Matterhorn Telecom 3.125% 2026	6,520	1.88
2,094,000	Motion Bondco 4.5% 2027	1,607	0.46
1,150,000	Netflix 3.625% 2027	1,129	0.33
3,450,000	Netflix 3.875% 2029	3,450	1.00
4,700,000	RCI Banque 2.625% fixed to floating 2030	3,947	1.14
949,000	Samsonite 3.5% 2026	695	0.20
2,000,000	Sigma 5.75% 2026	1,784	0.52
3,300,000	SoftBank 5% 2028	3,309	0.96
618,000	SoftBank 5.25% 2027	616	0.18
2,000,000	Summer BidCo 9.75% 2025	1,941	0.56
760,000	UGI International 3.25% 2025	691	0.20
5,099,000	UPCB Finance VII 3.625% 2029	4,631	1.34
1,722,000	Vertical Holdco 6.625% 2028	1,602	0.46
874,000	Vertical Midco 4.375% 2027	799	0.23
748,000	Vertical Midco FRN 2027	673	0.19
1,625,000	WMG Acquisition 3.625% 2026	1,495	0.43
1,200,000	ZF Europe Finance 2% 2026	1,013	0.29
1,400,000	ZF Europe Finance 2.5% 2027	1,171	0.34
9,317,000	Ziggo 3.375% 2030	8,170	2.36
2,000,000	Ziggo 4.25% 2027	1,678	0.48
between 10 and 15 years to maturity			
676,000	Invesco FRN 2033	542	0.16
6,300,000	Telecom Italia 7.75% fixed to floating 2033	8,227	2.38
greater than 25 years to maturity			
897,000	British Telecom 1.874% fixed to floating 2080	764	0.22
2,376,000	Vodafone 2.625% 2080	2,119	0.61
Perpetual			
763,000	Banco BPM 6.125% fixed to floating Perpetual	590	0.17
1,200,000	Banco Santander 4.375% fixed to floating Perpetual	975	0.28
1,600,000	Banco Santander 6.25% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,422	0.41
1,800,000	Bankia 6.375% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,580	0.46
409,000	BP Capital Markets 3.25% fixed to floating Perpetual	378	0.11
340,000	BP Capital Markets 3.625% fixed to floating Perpetual	318	0.09

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
1,000,000	Caixa Geral de Depositos 10.75% fixed to floating Perpetual	975	0.28
2,000,000	Danske Bank FRN Perpetual	1,844	0.53
716,000	ELM 3.75% fixed to floating Perpetual	663	0.19
2,033,000	Intesa Sanpaolo 5.5% Perpetual	1,798	0.52
2,177,000	LeasePlan 7.375% fixed to floating Perpetual	2,038	0.59
1,000,000	Solvay 5.869% Perpetual	1,001	0.29
4,050,000	Stichting 6.5% Perpetual	4,220	1.22
2,500,000	Telefonica 5.875% Perpetual	2,462	0.71
4,200,000	Telefonica Europe 4.375% fixed to floating Perpetual	3,961	1.14
4,000,000	Telefonica FRN Perpetual	3,563	1.03
2,000,000	Unicredit 6.625% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,830	0.53
580,000	Unione di Banche 5.875% fixed to floating Perpetual	528	0.15
Sterling Denominated Bonds (20.32%)		56,647	16.36
Corporate Bonds (20.32%)		56,647	16.36
less than 5 years to maturity			
5,301,000	Arqiva 6.75% 2023	5,473	1.58
2,550,000	Arrow Global 5.125% 2024	2,461	0.71
908,000	B&M European Value Retail 3.625% 2025	919	0.26
3,500,000	Cabot 7.5% 2023	3,549	1.03
1,066,000	Co-Operative 5.125% 2024	1,119	0.32
480,000	Jaguar Land Rover 3.875% 2023	438	0.13
1,000,000	Moto Finance 4.5% 2022	953	0.28
1,650,000	Petróleos Mexicanos 8.25% 2022	1,706	0.49
3,650,000	Shop Direct Funding 7.75% 2022	3,493	1.01
3,873,000	Talk Talk 3.875% 2025	3,871	1.12
730,000	Travis Perkins 4.375% 2021	744	0.21
2,250,000	Travis Perkins 4.5% 2023	2,276	0.66
3,780,000	Virgin Media 6% 2025	3,397	0.98
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
3,040,000	Mitchells & Butlers 5.965% 2025	620	0.18
2,942,000	MPT Operating Partnership 3.692% 2028	2,944	0.85
1,656,000	Virgin Media 4.25% 2030	1,679	0.48
4,520,000	Virgin Media 4.875% 2028	4,579	1.32
between 10 and 15 years to maturity			
1,825,000	Allied Irish Bank 12.5% 2035	1,135	0.33
greater than 25 years to maturity			
2,143,000	BHP Billiton 6.5% 2077	2,344	0.68
1,965,000	RAC Bond 5% 2046	1,897	0.55
1,257,000	RL Finance 4.875% fixed to floating 2049	1,327	0.38

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Perpetual			
1,500,000	Bank of Scotland 12% Perpetual	1,695	0.49
1,000,000	Barclays 7.25% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,042	0.30
807,000	BP Capital Markets 4.25% fixed to floating Perpetual	855	0.25
5,270,000	CYBG 8% Perpetual	4,929	1.42
700,000	Lloyds Bank 13% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,202	0.35
US Dollar Denominated Bonds (5.02%)		21,934	6.34
Corporate Bonds (5.02%)		21,934	6.34
less than 5 years to maturity			
2,200,000	Adams Homes 7.5% 2025	1,647	0.48
2,000,000	Country Garden Holdings 8% 2024	1,632	0.47
1,811,250	EnQuest 7% 2022	771	0.22
3,000,000	First Quantum Minerals 7.25% 2023	2,277	0.66
4,026,000	Ford Motor 8.5% 2023	3,338	0.96
1,352,000	Ford Motor 9% 2025	1,180	0.34
2,977,000	Tullow Oil 7% 2025	1,290	0.37
1,650,000	Valeant Pharmaceuticals 7% 2024	1,280	0.37
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
270,000	Ford Motor 9.625% 2030	265	0.08
4,000,000	JBS Investments II 7% 2026	3,230	0.93
greater than 25 years to maturity			
2,350,000	BHP Billiton 6.25% 2075	1,759	0.51
Perpetual			
2,009,000	General Motors Financial FRN Perpetual	1,458	0.42
1,500,000	Lloyds Banking Group FRN Perpetual	1,228	0.36
800,000	SoftBank 6% fixed to floating Perpetual	579	0.17
Equities (0.00%)		-	-
UK Equities (0.00%)		-	-
Basic Materials (0.00%)		-	-
32,987,896,738	Luxfer Holdings*	-	-
Collective Investment Schemes (4.28%)		10,158	2.93
1,607	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Euro Fund Z3 Inc+	1,427	0.41
8,731	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	8,731	2.52

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Derivatives (-2.36%)		2,444	0.71
Forward Currency Contracts (-2.36%)		2,444	0.71
	Buy EUR 12,165 Sell GBP 10,897 01/09/2020	-	-
	Buy EUR 2,023,000 Sell GBP 1,816,384 01/09/2020	(10)	-
	Buy EUR 1,738,166 Sell GBP 1,561,311 28/09/2020	(8)	-
	Buy GBP 1,817,163 Sell EUR 2,023,000 28/09/2020	9	-
	Buy GBP 2,140,367 Sell EUR 2,376,000 28/09/2020	17	-
	Buy GBP 260,211,517 Sell EUR 288,732,835 28/09/2020	2,206	0.64
	Buy GBP 22,620,985 Sell USD 29,986,966 28/09/2020	230	0.07
Total investment assets and liabilities		344,479	99.50
Net other assets		1,733	0.50
Total Net Assets		346,212	100.00

All investments (excluding OTC derivatives) are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities, regulated collective investment schemes or approved derivatives within the meaning of the FCA rules.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

* Suspended

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital (losses)/gains		(5,261)		10,608
Revenue	8,348		8,684	
Expenses	(1,105)		(1,326)	
Interest payable and similar charges	(10)		(26)	
Net revenue before taxation	7,233		7,332	
Taxation	-		-	
Net revenue after taxation		7,233		7,332
Total return before distributions		1,972		17,940
Distributions		(7,233)		(7,332)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		(5,261)		10,608

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		364,214		451,916
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	2,789		11,133	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(20,809)		(50,122)	
		(18,020)		(38,989)
Dilution adjustment		107		107
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		(5,261)		10,608
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		5,171		5,294
Unclaimed distributions		1		1
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		346,212		428,937

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		344,497		362,918
Current assets:				
Debtors	4,967		7,166	
Cash and bank balances	1,683		5,144	
		6,650		12,310
Total assets		351,147		375,228
Liabilities:				
Investment liabilities		(18)		(8,795)
Creditors	(2,423)		(1,335)	
Bank overdrafts	(1,447)		–	
Distribution payable	(1,047)		(884)	
		(4,917)		(2,219)
Total liabilities		(4,935)		(11,014)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		346,212		364,214

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Regulated Accumulation share class has increased by 0.39% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

First interim interest distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 May 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31/07/20	Distribution paid 31/07/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	1.2143	-	1.2143	1.0295
Group 2	0.5874	0.6269	1.2143	1.0295
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	1.4031	-	1.4031	1.2117
Group 2	0.6969	0.7062	1.4031	1.2117
Retail income				
Group 1	0.4218	-	0.4218	0.3694
Group 2	0.1951	0.2267	0.4218	0.3694
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.4588	-	0.4588	0.4088
Group 2	0.3053	0.1535	0.4588	0.4088
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.5429	-	0.5429	0.5123
Group 2	0.5429	-	0.5429	0.5123
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	1.3180	-	1.3180	1.1615
Group 2	0.8540	0.4640	1.3180	1.1615
Institutional regulated accumulation				
Group 1	2.2097	-	2.2097	1.9298
Group 2	1.6396	0.5701	2.2097	1.9298
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.7277	-	0.7277	0.6273
Group 2	0.3289	0.3988	0.7277	0.6273
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.5345	-	0.5345	0.4752
Group 2	0.2890	0.2455	0.5345	0.4752
Institutional S accumulation				
Group 1	0.6716	-	0.6716	0.6800
Group 2	0.6716	-	0.6716	0.6800
Institutional S income				
Group 1	0.5192	-	0.5192	0.5350
Group 2	0.5192	-	0.5192	0.5350

Second interim interest distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 June 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 June 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	1.4083	-	1.4083	0.9794
Group 2	0.5072	0.9011	1.4083	0.9794
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	1.6244	-	1.6244	1.1612
Group 2	1.0071	0.6173	1.6244	1.1612
Retail income				
Group 1	0.4866	-	0.4866	0.3488
Group 2	0.2010	0.2856	0.4866	0.3488
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.5256	-	0.5256	0.3885
Group 2	0.3345	0.1911	0.5256	0.3885
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.6201	-	0.6201	0.4924
Group 2	0.6201	-	0.6201	0.4924
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	1.5135	-	1.5135	1.1251
Group 2	1.1899	0.3236	1.5135	1.1251
Institutional regulated accumulation				
Group 1	2.5472	-	2.5472	1.8598
Group 2	1.6661	0.8811	2.5472	1.8598
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.8434	-	0.8434	0.6003
Group 2	0.4737	0.3697	0.8434	0.6003
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.6133	-	0.6133	0.4512
Group 2	0.2711	0.3422	0.6133	0.4512
Institutional S accumulation				
Group 1	0.7833	-	0.7833	0.6500
Group 2	0.7833	-	0.7833	0.6500
Institutional S income				
Group 1	0.5969	-	0.5969	0.5300
Group 2	0.5969	-	0.5969	0.5300

Equalisation

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

ASI Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund

Investment objective

To generate income and some growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in Sterling-denominated investment grade corporate bonds.

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the iBoxx Sterling Collateralized & Corporates plus 0.8% per annum (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 60% in Sterling denominated investment grade corporate bonds.
- The fund may invest in investment grade bonds issued anywhere in the world by governments and corporations, including sub-sovereigns inflation-linked, convertible, asset backed and mortgage backed bonds. The fund will employ techniques to reduce (hedge) risk related to currency movements on non-Sterling bonds.
- At the point of investment all bonds shall be investment grade with a credit rating of "BBB-" or higher from at least one major rating agency such as Standard & Poor's, Moody's or Fitch.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to identify bonds and derivatives based on analysis of global economic and market conditions (for example, interest rates and inflation) and analysis of a company's prospects and creditworthiness compared to that of the market.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the iBoxx Sterling Collateralized & Corporates is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 2.5%. Due to the fund's risk constraints, the intention is that the fund's performance profile will not deviate significantly from that of the iBoxx Sterling Collateralized & Corporates over the long term.

Please note: The fund's ability to buy and sell bonds and the associated costs can be affected during periods of market stress which could include periods where interest rates move sharply.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivatives include instruments used to manage expected changes in interest rates, inflation, currencies or creditworthiness of corporations or governments.

Performance

The fund returned +0.7% during the period, in comparison with the target (iBoxx Sterling Collateralized & Corporates + 0.8%) return of +2.0%. Please note fund returns are net of fees (source: Morningstar, basic rate taxpayer, bid to bid basis. Benchmark returns: Factset).

Many of the worst performers for the fund over the period were holdings in companies that were heavily exposed to the coronavirus pandemic. Examples of this included property companies with significant retail interests such as Hammerson, Intu Properties and Brookfield Property Partners. The collapse in global travel weighed heavily on Heathrow Airport and the extended closer of social venues was very damaging for the pub operator and brewer Greene King. On the positive side, unsurprisingly given deep recessionary conditions in UK, the fund was helped by its defensive exposure to UK gilts, whose yields fell to record levels over the period.

Investment Activity

Towards the end of the review period, some examples of new issue purchases included Tesco, Southern Water, British American Tobacco and the UK residential landlord Grainger. We also selectively added to new issue subordinated bank debt, such as that of the UK's Nationwide Building Society, and corporate hybrids, such as those of Volkswagen.

In the secondary market, towards the end of the review period, we increased exposure to preferred names such as Deutsche Bank and Danske Bank. On the sell side, following good performance, we sold the long-dated debt of Vodafone and the corporate hybrids of the French utility EDF.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 4 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- The fund invests in mortgage- and asset-backed securities which are subject to prepayment, extension, liquidity and default risk.
- The fund invests in securities which are subject to the risk that the issuer may default on interest or capital payments.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund price can go up or down daily for a variety of reasons including changes in interest rates, inflation expectations or the perceived credit quality of individual countries or securities.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	86,871	89,958	90,025	101,050
Closing number of shares	51,311,493	53,558,016	59,208,860	66,848,383
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	169.30	167.96	152.05	151.16
Change in net asset value per share	0.80%	10.46%	0.59%	0.89%
Operating charges	1.02%	1.02%	1.02%	1.02%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	117,403	119,649	112,664	78,174
Closing number of shares	63,796,322	65,672,711	68,604,773	48,085,444
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	184.03	182.19	164.22	162.57
Change in net asset value per share	1.01%	10.94%	1.01%	1.32%
Operating charges	0.60%	0.60%	0.61%	0.60%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	26,819	28,038	28,480	31,957
Closing number of shares	40,810,216	42,524,164	46,623,613	51,286,468
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	65.72	65.93	61.09	62.31
Change in net asset value per share	(0.32%)	7.92%	(1.96%)	(1.73%)
Operating charges	1.02%	1.02%	1.02%	1.02%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	36,541	39,668	121,250	141,799
Closing number of shares	55,813,142	60,391,408	199,257,359	228,440,123
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	65.47	65.68	60.85	62.07
Change in net asset value per share	(0.32%)	7.94%	(1.97%)	(1.73%)
Operating charges	0.60%	0.60%	0.61%	0.60%

Standard Life income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	13,210	27,023	30,400	20,677
Closing number of shares	24,790,758	50,549,524	61,385,889	40,896,870
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	53.28	53.46	49.52	50.56
Change in net asset value per share	(0.34%)	7.96%	(2.06%)	(1.73%)
Operating charges	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	307	225	205	344
Closing number of shares	303,622	224,825	228,818	388,929
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	101.21	99.94	89.64	88.30
Change in net asset value per share	1.27%	11.49%	1.52%	1.82%
Operating charges	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%

Institutional regulated accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	674	698	1,068	1,236
Closing number of shares	391,048	409,611	696,275	815,908
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	172.34	170.45	153.33	151.49
Change in net asset value per share	1.11%	11.17%	1.21%	1.51%
Operating charges	0.40%	0.40%	0.40%	0.40%

Standard Life B accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	2,323	2,356	2,449	2,626
Closing number of shares	2,289,247	2,352,768	2,729,034	2,974,079
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	101.47	100.16	89.74	88.31
Change in net asset value per share	1.31%	11.61%	1.62%	1.93%
Operating charges	–	–	–	–

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	26,827	39,583	70,258	24,929
Closing number of shares	34,692,277	51,692,408	101,735,996	36,443,885
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	77.33	76.57	69.06	68.40
Change in net asset value per share	0.99%	10.87%	0.96%	1.26%
Operating charges	0.65%	0.65%	0.66%	0.65%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	12,970	13,802	13,207	16,732
Closing number of shares	21,349,014	22,644,353	23,389,278	29,047,825
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	60.75	60.95	56.47	57.60
Change in net asset value per share	(0.33%)	7.93%	(1.96%)	(1.72%)
Operating charges	0.65%	0.65%	0.66%	0.65%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Institutional S accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	174	173	— [^]	1
Closing number of shares	246,097	246,097	200	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	70.91	70.14	63.07	62.32
Change in net asset value per share	1.10%	11.21%	1.20%	1.51%
Operating charges	0.43%	0.43%	0.43%	0.43%

Institutional S income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	63,166	70,381	— ^{^^}	1
Closing number of shares	111,141,361	123,432,174	200	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	56.83	57.02	52.89	54.00
Change in net asset value per share	(0.33%)	7.81%	(2.06%)	(1.73%)
Operating charges	0.43%	0.43%	0.43%	0.43%

Institutional A accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	—	—	—	1
Closing number of shares	—	—	—	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	—	—	—	55.89
Change in net asset value per share	—	—	(0.07%)	0.61%
Operating charges	—	—	1.10%	1.10%

Institutional A income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	—	—	—	1
Closing number of shares	—	—	—	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	—	—	—	53.08
Change in net asset value per share	—	—	(0.57%)	(1.72%)
Operating charges	—	—	1.10%	1.10%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 7 June 2018.

[^] The closing net asset value of Institutional S accumulation is £126.

^{^^} The closing net asset value of Institutional S income is £106.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Bonds (98.43%)		380,809	98.33
Euro Denominated Bonds (0.55%)		3,221	0.83
Corporate Bonds (0.55%)		3,221	0.83
greater than 25 years to maturity			
1,600,000	Channel Link Enterprises Finance FRN 2050	1,416	0.36
Perpetual			
900,000	Volkswagen International 3.5% fixed to floating Perpetual	813	0.21
1,100,000	Volkswagen International 3.875% fixed to floating Perpetual	992	0.26
Sterling Denominated Bonds (96.68%)		375,727	97.02
Corporate Bonds (95.43%)		371,900	96.03
less than 5 years to maturity			
920,000	AA Bond 2.75% 2023	899	0.23
549,000	AA Bond 2.875% 2022	546	0.14
1,188,000	Anheuser-Busch InBev 9.75% 2024	1,593	0.41
800,000	APT Pipelines 4.25% 2024	901	0.23
2,200,000	Banco Santander 1.375% 2024	2,228	0.58
1,215,000	Bank of America 5.5% 2021	1,285	0.33
2,052,000	Barclays 3.125% 2024	2,169	0.56
1,000,000	Barclays 10% 2021	1,063	0.27
1,135,000	Citigroup 2.75% 2024	1,201	0.31
1,798,000	Citigroup 5.875% 2024	2,085	0.54
1,700,000	Cooperatieve Rabobank 1.25% 2025	1,735	0.45
1,000,000	Co-Operative Bank 4.75% 2021	1,041	0.27
1,535,000	Coventry 5.875% 2022	1,702	0.44
2,665,000	CPUK 3.588% 2025	2,698	0.70
1,300,000	Credit Agricole 7.375% 2023	1,546	0.40
936,000	Credit Suisse 3% 2022	972	0.25
922,000	CYBG 3.125% 2025	919	0.24
257,000	Daimler 2.375% 2021	262	0.07
2,300,000	Deutsche Bank 1.75% 2021	2,304	0.60
2,900,000	Deutsche Bank 2.625% 2024	2,960	0.76
873,000	Enel 5.625% 2024	1,040	0.27
500,000	FCE Bank 2.727% 2022	490	0.13
500,000	Fidelity National Information Services 2.602% 2025	539	0.14
1,284,000	First Abu Dhabi Bank 1.375% 2023	1,297	0.33
1,320,000	First Hydro 9% 2021	1,405	0.36
1,216,000	FirstGroup 6.875% 2024	1,308	0.34
497,000	Friends Life 8.25% 2022	554	0.14
1,692,000	Global Switch 4.375% 2022	1,812	0.47

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
1,384,000	Go-Ahead 2.5% 2024	1,341	0.35
1,786,000	Heathrow Funding 7.125% 2024	2,012	0.52
2,000,000	HSBC 2.175% 2023	2,034	0.53
1,100,000	Intesa Sanpaolo 5.25% 2022	1,158	0.30
3,150,000	Intu (SGS) Finance 4.125% 2023	1,659	0.43
1,787,000	Lend Lease Europe 6.125% 2021	1,857	0.48
1,000,000	Lloyds Bank 5.125% 2025	1,199	0.31
2,258,000	Lloyds Bank 7.625% 2025	2,880	0.74
1,627,000	Lloyds Bank Corporate Markets 1.75% 2024	1,669	0.43
650,000	Lloyds Banking Group 2.25% 2024	677	0.17
818,000	MPT Operating Partnership 2.55% 2023	816	0.21
1,080,000	Northern Powergrid Yorkshire 2.5% 2025	1,149	0.30
839,000	Pacific National Finance 5% 2023	914	0.24
1,059,000	Petróleos Mexicanos 8.25% 2022	1,095	0.28
1,100,000	Scania 1.875% 2022	1,105	0.29
1,600,000	Societe Generale 1.875% 2024	1,633	0.42
1,550,000	Telefonica Emisiones 5.289% 2022	1,706	0.44
1,120,000	Thames Water 1.875% 2024	1,152	0.30
1,200,000	Volkswagen Financial Services 1.625% 2022	1,209	0.31
1,400,000	Volkswagen Financial Services 1.875% 2024	1,423	0.37
1,518,000	Wells Fargo 2% 2025	1,581	0.41
1,286,000	Western Power 3.625% 2023	1,367	0.35
1,000,000	Westfield America Management 2.125% 2025	993	0.26
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
1,713,000	ABP 6.25% 2026	2,037	0.53
831,000	America Movil 5% 2026	1,010	0.26
1,400,000	Anglian Water 2.625% 2027	1,403	0.36
895,000	Anglian Water 6.625% 2029	1,253	0.32
2,515,000	Annington Funding 3.184% 2029	2,769	0.71
1,000,000	APT Pipelines 3.5% 2030	1,123	0.29
1,600,000	Arqiva 5.34% 2030	1,968	0.51
1,509,000	Assura Financing 3% 2028	1,668	0.43
1,500,000	AT&T 5.5% 2027	1,873	0.48
2,400,000	Bank of America 7% 2028	3,410	0.88
1,400,000	Barclays 3.25% 2027	1,521	0.39
665,000	Barclays 5.75% fixed to floating 2026	800	0.21
1,382,000	BAT International Finance 2.25% 2028	1,383	0.36
700,000	Bazalgette Finance 2.375% 2027	753	0.19
1,434,000	BNP Paribas 3.375% 2026	1,587	0.41
1,300,000	BPCE 5.25% 2029	1,636	0.42

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
1,000,000	British American Tobacco 4% 2026	1,122	0.29
1,724,000	Citigroup 1.75% 2026	1,775	0.46
1,029,000	CK Hutchison 2% 2027	1,055	0.27
700,000	Comcast 5.5% 2029	958	0.25
1,580,000	Commonwealth Bank of Australia 3% 2026	1,792	0.46
950,000	Credit Suisse FRN 2025	981	0.25
1,000,000	CYBG 4% 2026	1,030	0.27
1,069,000	CYBG 5% 2026	1,039	0.27
1,734,000	Danske Bank 2.25% fixed to floating 2028	1,766	0.46
2,000,000	Digital Stout 3.3% 2029	2,277	0.59
1,300,000	Eversholt 6.359% 2025	1,596	0.41
115,000	General Electric 5.25% fixed to floating 2028	132	0.03
1,209,000	Grainger 3% 2030	1,239	0.32
1,338,000	Hammerson 3.5% 2025	1,224	0.32
862,000	Hammerson 6% fixed to floating 2026	868	0.22
1,500,000	Heathrow Funding 6.75% 2026	1,877	0.48
546,000	HSBC 2.256% 2026	564	0.15
1,072,000	HSBC 2.625% 2028	1,144	0.30
1,692,000	HSBC 3% fixed to floating 2030	1,823	0.47
1,304,000	innogy Finance 6.25% 2030	1,835	0.47
792,000	Land Securities 2.399% 2029	838	0.22
1,600,000	Lloyds Bank 6% 2029	2,240	0.58
1,161,000	London & Quadrant Housing Trust 2.625% 2026	1,232	0.32
1,018,000	Morgan Stanley 2.625% 2027	1,106	0.29
1,079,000	MPT Operating Partnership 3.692% 2028	1,080	0.28
1,866,000	NatWest 2.875% 2026	1,982	0.51
1,027,000	NatWest 3.622% fixed to floating 2030	1,085	0.28
826,000	NewRiver REIT 3.5% 2028	726	0.19
261,000	Notting Hill Genesis 2.875% 2029	282	0.07
2,563,000	Quadgas Finance 3.375% 2029	2,693	0.70
1,775,000	Rabobank 4.625% 2029	2,186	0.56
2,700,000	Santander UK 3.625% 2026	2,974	0.77
499,000	Scentre Management 3.875% 2026	538	0.14
1,375,000	Shaftesbury Chinatown 2.348% 2027	1,344	0.35
943,000	Southern Gas Networks 4.875% 2029	1,218	0.31
810,000	SP Manweb 4.875% 2027	1,007	0.26
1,482,000	Stagecoach Group 4% 2025	1,484	0.38
1,300,000	Telefonica Emisiones 5.445% 2029	1,710	0.44
301,000	Tesco 2.75% 2030	318	0.08
1,300,000	Thames Water 3.5% 2028	1,476	0.38
500,000	Tritax Big Box REIT 2.625% 2026	536	0.14

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
1,251,000	Unite Group 3.5% 2028	1,288	0.33
800,000	United Utilities 5.625% 2027	1,062	0.27
300,000	Virgin Money UK 4% fixed to floating 2027	308	0.08
980,000	Virgin Money UK 7.875% fixed to floating 2028	1,044	0.27
1,800,000	Volkswagen International Finance 3.375% 2026	1,973	0.51
2,100,000	Welltower 4.8% 2028	2,427	0.63
1,751,000	Westfield Stratford City Finance 1.642% 2026	1,757	0.45
691,000	Yorkshire Building Society 3.375% 2028	722	0.19
between 10 and 15 years to maturity			
1,223,000	Arqiva 4.882% 2032	1,160	0.30
1,500,000	Barclays 3.25% 2033	1,641	0.42
400,000	British American Tobacco 6% 2034	531	0.14
2,675,000	Broadgate Financing 5.098% 2035	2,915	0.75
1,035,000	Canary Wharf Finance 6.455% 2033	240	0.06
1,300,000	Centrica 7% 2033	2,020	0.52
1,036,000	E.ON Finance 6.375% 2032	1,543	0.40
466,000	Eastern Power Networks 2.125% 2033	500	0.13
300,000	EDF 6.125% 2034	443	0.11
320,000	Eversholt 6.697% 2035	417	0.11
1,134,000	Fidelity National Information Services 3.36% 2031	1,310	0.34
500,000	Gatwick 4.625% 2034	576	0.15
180,000	GE Capital 5.875% 2033	214	0.06
3,700,000	GlaxoSmithKline 5.25% 2033	5,460	1.41
900,000	Great Rolling Stock 6.5% 2031	938	0.24
3,017,000	Greene King FRN 2033	1,831	0.47
511,000	Gwynt y Môr 2.778% 2034	461	0.12
798,000	HSBC 5.375% 2033	1,046	0.27
2,515,000	HSBC Bank 5.375% 2030	2,952	0.76
1,098,000	John Lewis 4.25% 2034	954	0.25
893,000	London & Quadrant Housing Trust 4.625% 2033	1,180	0.30
1,075,000	Meadowhall Finance 4.986% 2032	868	0.22
718,000	Notting Hill Housing Trust 3.75% 2032	846	0.22
300,000	Orange 3.25% 2032	349	0.09
1,513,000	Orange 5.625% 2034	2,208	0.57
1,332,000	Pension Insurance 5.625% 2030	1,573	0.41
340,000	Quadrant Housing 7.93% 2033	435	0.11
995,000	Severn Trent 2.75% 2031	1,150	0.30
1,200,000	Shaftesbury Carnaby 2.487% 2031	1,149	0.30
745,000	SP Transimission 2% 2031	789	0.20
1,961,000	Telereal 4.9741% 2033	1,260	0.33
1,071,000	Telereal FRN 2033	1,015	0.26

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
1,599,000	Telereal Secured 4.01% 2033	1,229	0.32
500,000	Telereal Securitisation FRN 2031	481	0.12
355,000	Thames Water 4.375% 2034	456	0.12
1,607,000	Time Warner Cable 5.75% 2031	2,040	0.53
2,010,000	Verizon Communications 1.875% 2030	2,090	0.54
537,000	Verizon Communications 2.5% 2031	593	0.15
2,200,000	Wal-Mart 5.625% 2034	3,410	0.88
2,387,000	Western Power 5.75% 2032	3,437	0.89
between 15 and 25 years to maturity			
900,000	America Movil 4.375% 2041	1,191	0.31
1,839,000	Anheuser-Busch InBev 2.85% 2037	1,975	0.51
597,000	Aspire Defence 4.674% 2040 'A'	710	0.18
1,645,000	Aspire Defence 4.674% 2040 'B'	1,956	0.51
1,975,000	AT&T 4.25% 2043	2,444	0.63
1,300,000	AT&T 7% 2040	2,132	0.55
2,230,000	Aviva 6.125% 2036	2,709	0.70
2,224,000	Aviva 6.625% fixed to floating 2041	2,310	0.60
821,000	Berkshire Hathaway Finance 2.375% 2039	920	0.24
700,000	BPHA 4.816% 2044	1,062	0.27
750,000	British American Tobacco 5.75% 2040	1,000	0.26
600,000	British Telecom 6.375% 2037	921	0.24
800,000	Broadgate Financing 4.821% 2036	1,063	0.27
1,500,000	Cadent Finance 2.625% 2038	1,643	0.42
660,000	Canary Wharf Finance 5.952% 2037	936	0.24
880,000	Circle Anglia 5.2% 2044	1,388	0.36
800,000	Citigroup 6.8% 2038	1,388	0.36
1,100,000	Connect Plus 2.607% 2039	1,184	0.31
1,320,000	Direct Line 9.25% 2042	1,496	0.39
2,150,000	E.ON Finance 6.75% 2039	3,677	0.95
1,428,000	Enel 5.75% 2037	2,138	0.55
1,554,000	Eversholt 3.529% 2042	1,708	0.44
1,353,000	Eversholt Funding 2.742% 2040	1,392	0.36
550,000	Futures Treasury 3.375% 2044	710	0.18
1,439,000	Gatwick 5.75% 2037	1,848	0.48
328,000	GE Capital 6.25% 2038	411	0.11
420,000	GE Capital 8% 2039	598	0.15
400,000	General Electric 5.375% 2040	456	0.12
1,000,000	GlaxoSmithKline 6.375% 2039	1,744	0.45
700,000	Heathrow Funding 5.875% 2041	1,013	0.26
2,400,000	HSBC 6% 2040	3,185	0.82
1,550,000	innogy Finance 6.125% 2039	2,503	0.65

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
500,000	Land Securities 2.625% 2037	537	0.14
5,000	Lloyds Bank 6.5% 2040	9	–
1,702,000	Morhomes 3.4% 2038	1,935	0.50
1,736,000	Motability Operations 2.375% 2039	1,933	0.50
1,400,000	Munich Re 6.625% fixed to floating 2042	1,529	0.39
1,140,000	Northumbrian Water 5.125% 2042	1,772	0.46
2,000,000	Octagon Healthcare 5.333% 2035	2,142	0.55
1,672,000	Orsted 5.75% 2040	2,783	0.72
766,759	Peel 8.375% 2040	701	0.18
2,057,000	QBE Insurance 6.115% 2042	2,178	0.56
1,600,000	RL Finance 6.125% fixed to floating 2043	1,785	0.46
1,875,000	RMPA Services 5.337% 2038	1,895	0.49
872,000	Scottish Hydro 2.25% 2035	940	0.24
653,000	Severn Trent 2% 2040	679	0.18
1,959,000	Southern Water Services Finance 3% 2037	2,018	0.52
900,000	SSE 6.25% fixed to floating 2038	1,477	0.38
900,000	TC Dudgeon Ofo 3.158% 2038	1,006	0.26
3,940,000	Tesco 5.8006% 2040	5,134	1.33
1,500,000	Thames Water 5.5% 2041	2,275	0.59
709,000	United Utilities Water Finance 1.875% 2042	723	0.19
1,700,000	Verizon Communications 3.125% 2035	2,033	0.53
870,000	Wheatley 4.375% 2044	1,196	0.31
greater than 25 years to maturity			
451,000	AA Bond 5.5% 2050	477	0.12
655,000	Aviva 4% fixed to floating 2055	699	0.18
1,536,000	Aviva 5.125% 2050	1,792	0.46
893,000	AXA 5.625% 2054	1,111	0.29
1,110,000	Blend Funding 3.459% 2047	1,401	0.36
593,000	British American Tobacco 2.25% 2052	470	0.12
400,000	British American Tobacco 4% 2055	442	0.11
550,000	Bromford Housing 3.125% 2048	692	0.18
700,000	Channel Link 3.043% 2050	710	0.18
884,000	Channel Link 6.341% 2046	1,069	0.28
800,000	EDF 5.125% 2050	1,199	0.31
1,900,000	EDF 6% 2114	3,129	0.81
600,000	Engie 5% 2060	1,109	0.29
1,800,000	Finsbury Square 2018-2 FRN 2068	1,567	0.40
1,053,000	Gatwick 2.875% 2049	948	0.24
700,000	Gatwick 3.25% 2048	675	0.17
2,420,000	Heathrow Funding 4.625% 2046	3,147	0.81
1,166,000	Hyde Housing Association 1.75% 2055	1,049	0.27

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
1,486,000	Income Contingent Student Loans 2 2007-2009 2.5% 2058	1,288	0.33
429,000	Incommunities Treasury 3.25% 2049	554	0.14
400,000	Legal & General 5.5% 2064	478	0.12
1,500,000	NGG 5.625% fixed to floating 2073	1,726	0.45
850,000	Northern Powergrid Northeast 1.875% 2062 2062	852	0.22
264,000	Northern Powergrid Yorkshire 2.25% 2059	293	0.08
1,107,000	Notting Hill Housing Trust 4.375% 2054	1,558	0.40
1,679,000	Optivo Finance 3.283% 2048	2,063	0.53
626,000	Paragon FRN 2050	588	0.15
1,671,000	Peabody Capital 4.625% 2053	2,635	0.68
1,161,000	Penarian Housing Finance 3.212% 2052	1,302	0.34
2,400,000	Prudential 5% 2055	2,692	0.70
404,000	Prudential 5.625% FRN 2051	464	0.12
1,184,000	RL Finance 4.875% fixed to floating 2049	1,250	0.32
1,600,000	RMAC FRN 2046	1,205	0.31
434,000	Sovereign Housing 2.375% 2048	484	0.12
820,000	SSE 3.625% 2077	839	0.22
500,000	University of Cambridge 2.35% 2078	740	0.19
900,000	University of Cambridge 3.75% 2052	1,486	0.38
900,000	Vodafone 3% 2056	967	0.25
700,000	Vodafone 3.375% 2049	802	0.21
887,000	Wellcome Trust 2.517% 2118	1,245	0.32
653,000	Wrekin Housing 2.5% 2048	737	0.19
Perpetual			
1,400,000	Assicurazioni Generali 6.269% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,565	0.40
3,000,000	Aviva 6.125% fixed to floating Perpetual	3,286	0.85
1,598,000	AXA 5.453% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,831	0.47
1,522,000	BP Capital Markets 4.25% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,613	0.42
1,781,000	Credit Agricole 7.5% fixed to floating Perpetual	2,008	0.52
700,000	EDF 5.875% fixed to floating Perpetual	757	0.20
900,000	EDF 6% fixed to floating Perpetual	986	0.25
950,000	HSBC 5.844% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,318	0.34
2,200,000	Lloyds Banking Group 7.625% fixed to floating Perpetual	2,326	0.60
678,000	Nationwide Building Society 5.75% fixed to floating Perpetual	714	0.18
800,000	Orange 5.75% fixed to floating Perpetual	876	0.23
1,200,000	Orange 5.875% Perpetual	1,274	0.33
1,057,000	SSE 3.74% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,100	0.28
2,000,000	SSE 3.875% fixed to floating Perpetual	2,001	0.52

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Government Bonds (1.25%)		3,827	0.99
greater than 25 years to maturity			
2,139,000	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2046	3,827	0.99
US Dollar Denominated Bonds (1.20%)		1,861	0.48
Corporate Bonds (1.20%)		1,861	0.48
Perpetual			
2,575,000	BNP Paribas 4.5% fixed to floating Perpetual	1,861	0.48
Collective Investment Schemes (0.70%)		1,934	0.49
1,934	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	1,934	0.49
Derivatives (-0.01%)		100	0.03
Forward Currency Contracts (-0.04%)		137	0.04
	Buy EUR 1,021,750 Sell GBP 920,975 05/11/2020	(7)	-
	Buy EUR 1,712,814 Sell GBP 1,546,897 05/11/2020	(16)	-
	Buy GBP 107,090 Sell EUR 118,403 05/11/2020	1	-
	Buy GBP 5,698,468 Sell EUR 6,267,639 05/11/2020	94	0.02
	Buy GBP 41,001 Sell USD 54,128 05/11/2020	-	-
	Buy GBP 1,919,656 Sell USD 2,484,755 05/11/2020	65	0.02
Futures (0.03%)		(37)	(0.01)
39	Long Long Gilt Future 29/12/2020	(37)	(0.01)
Total investment assets		382,843	98.85
Net other assets		4,442	1.15
Total Net Assets		387,285	100.00

All investments (excluding OTC derivatives) are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities, regulated collective investment schemes or approved derivatives within the meaning of the FCA rules.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital (losses)/gains		(2,086)		33,346
Revenue	6,661		8,386	
Expenses	(1,345)		(1,624)	
Net revenue before taxation	5,316		6,762	
Taxation	-		-	
Net revenue after taxation		5,316		6,762
Total return before distributions		3,230		40,108
Distributions		(5,317)		(6,762)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		(2,087)		33,346

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		431,554		470,006
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	7,736		21,696	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(52,937)		(35,934)	
		(45,201)		(14,238)
Dilution adjustment		47		-
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		(2,087)		33,346
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		2,971		3,836
Unclaimed distributions		1		1
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		387,285		492,951

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		382,903		427,940
Current assets:				
Debtors	5,902		6,162	
Cash and bank balances	201		88	
		6,103		6,250
Total assets		389,006		434,190
Liabilities:				
Investment liabilities		(60)		(172)
Creditors	(509)		(1,248)	
Bank overdrafts	(120)		–	
Distribution payable	(1,032)		(1,216)	
		(1,661)		(2,464)
Total liabilities		(1,721)		(2,636)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		387,285		431,554

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Regulated Accumulation share class has increased by 1.48% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

First interim interest distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 May 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31/07/20	Distribution paid 31/07/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	0.9413	-	0.9413	0.9685
Group 2	0.6129	0.3284	0.9413	0.9685
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	1.2065	-	1.2065	1.2241
Group 2	0.2545	0.9520	1.2065	1.2241
Retail income				
Group 1	0.3689	-	0.3689	0.3890
Group 2	0.1939	0.1750	0.3689	0.3890
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.4350	-	0.4350	0.4536
Group 2	0.0939	0.3411	0.4350	0.4536
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.4299	-	0.4299	0.4434
Group 2	0.1062	0.3237	0.4299	0.4434
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.7839	-	0.7839	0.7841
Group 2	0.3010	0.4829	0.7839	0.7841
Institutional regulated accumulation				
Group 1	1.2120	-	1.2120	1.2222
Group 2	1.2120	-	1.2120	1.2222
Standard Life B accumulation				
Group 1	0.8108	-	0.8108	0.8087
Group 2	0.6271	0.1837	0.8108	0.8087
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.4980	-	0.4980	0.5058
Group 2	0.2975	0.2005	0.4980	0.5058
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.3961	-	0.3961	0.4137
Group 2	0.2240	0.1721	0.3961	0.4137
Institutional S accumulation				
Group 1	0.4938	-	0.4938	0.5200
Group 2	0.4938	-	0.4938	0.5200
Institutional S income				
Group 1	0.4013	-	0.4013	0.5100
Group 2	0.1016	0.2997	0.4013	0.5100

Second interim interest distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 June 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 June 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	0.9397	-	0.9397	0.9592
Group 2	0.5226	0.4171	0.9397	0.9592
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	1.2160	-	1.2160	1.2227
Group 2	1.1432	0.0728	1.2160	1.2227
Retail income				
Group 1	0.3667	-	0.3667	0.3830
Group 2	0.1350	0.2317	0.3667	0.3830
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.4354	-	0.4354	0.4491
Group 2	0.2798	0.1556	0.4354	0.4491
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.4332	-	0.4332	0.4427
Group 2	0.3663	0.0669	0.4332	0.4427
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.7955	-	0.7955	0.7890
Group 2	0.5086	0.2869	0.7955	0.7890
Institutional regulated accumulation				
Group 1	1.2254	-	1.2254	1.2246
Group 2	1.2254	-	1.2254	1.2246
Standard Life B accumulation				
Group 1	0.8230	-	0.8230	0.8143
Group 2	0.8230	-	0.8230	0.8143
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.5012	-	0.5012	0.5048
Group 2	0.2852	0.2160	0.5012	0.5048
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.3962	-	0.3962	0.4098
Group 2	0.1968	0.1994	0.3962	0.4098
Institutional S accumulation				
Group 1	0.4989	-	0.4989	0.5019
Group 2	0.4989	-	0.4989	0.5019
Institutional S income				
Group 1	0.4026	-	0.4026	0.4235
Group 2	0.3153	0.0873	0.4026	0.4235

Equalisation

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

ASI Japanese Growth Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in Japanese equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the MSCI Japan Index plus 4% per annum over rolling three year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

Performance Comparator: IA Japan Equity Sector Average.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target/comparator for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index/sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated, or domiciled in Japan or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from Japanese operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. The research process is focused on identifying companies where the management team have a different view than that of the market, and which align with their views regarding future economic and business conditions.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the MSCI Japan Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 10%. Due to the active nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the MSCI Japan Index.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance

Over the period under review, the fund returned 15.5%. This compared to a return of 7.0% for our performance target (the MSCI Japan Index +4%).

Our exposure to Square Enix Holdings contributed to performance over the period. The company showcased stronger-than-expected earnings in the second quarter, driven by its gaming businesses that captured stay-at-home demand. Daiichi Sankyo had a positive effect on the fund's performance. The market reacted positively after news that the company's breast cancer drug was approved in Japan. Pharmaceutical stocks also generally performed better amid the market correction. Ibiden, the electronics manufacturer, also contributed to performance. The company released robust financial results, led by greater packaging demand for the use in high-end semiconductor chips. Additionally, the less-profitable filter businesses for the auto sector were streamlined. We also benefited from our position in GMO Payment Gateway, which performed well. The stock surged from the beginning of April, due to greater expectations of increased online payments due to COVID-19 and news that the company had sold its stake in unprofitable Malaysian subsidiary Macroiosk.

On the negative side, the fund's positioning in Mitsui Fudosan detracted from performance. Real estate stocks were under pressure as the demand for offices, hotels and commercial property declined due to coronavirus. The lack of exposure to Nintendo also dented performance. The video-gaming and consumer electronics business announced strong results, as lockdown measures led to an increase in demand for gaming. Not holding M3, the online medical-services platform, also detracted from performance. The company saw positive growth throughout the pandemic, as social-distancing restrictions led to the increasing use of online medical service. In particular, its LINE Healthcare service, which provides health consultations by doctors.

Activity

We took a new position in Rakuten over the period. The rationale for the investment case was earnings growth led by the expansion of its e-commerce business and cashless-payment-related businesses. Additionally, we added to Cyber Agent as we believe the company has positive earnings-growth opportunities, due to its new online mass-media platform. We continued to increase our position in Daifuku. The company has seen stronger demand for efficient logistics and automation due to increased e-commerce transactions. We also added to our holding in Taiyo Yuden, the electronics company. Our expected return increased due to lower share prices, so we felt this warranted adding further exposure to the company.

On the other hand, we sold our position in Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group due to an analyst downgrade because of a possible rise in global interest rates and on concerns over impairment losses from cross shareholdings. We also cut our position in Nippon Express, as the share price rose close to our scenario value and concerns over the negative impact of global economic activities also reduced undiscounted growth opportunities. We eliminated our position in NTT Data, the system integration company. This was due to increasing concerns about the profitability in its US operations and lacklustre information-technology demand from manufacturing and medical companies because of coronavirus. We also cut Mitsui Fudosan, as the real estate developer has been particularly hard hit by coronavirus. Lastly, we reduced our positioning in Sony following better-than-expected earnings. The subsequent rise in the share price reduced our expected returns, so we cut our position.

Outlook & strategy

The Japanese economy has slowly begun to embrace normal life under COVID-19 and it appears to us that the market has mostly factored in a recovery from the virus-led recession. Although it is likely to take a long time before the economy gets back to pre-crisis levels, expansionary policies should help maintain share prices.

Although Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's sudden resignation stunned market participants, we feel that major policies of the Abe administration should be carried over for a while. As with other countries, the Japanese government understands that public attention remains focused on addressing COVID-19. And the most likely candidate to succeed Abe, Yoshihide Suga, has been a keystone of the Abe cabinet and policies, so should continue to implement current agendas if he wins.

We continue to favour existing companies in the portfolio that offer growth opportunities even in this economic environment, and improved growth prospects through corporate reform and/or its business strategies. At the same time, we will pay attention to companies that are likely to capture additional business opportunities in the COVID-19 era and thereafter.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 5 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- A concentrated portfolio may be more volatile and less liquid than a more broadly diversified one. The fund's investments are concentrated in a particular country or sector.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	7,713	6,733	4,963	6,027
Closing number of shares	7,113,958	7,031,655	5,410,669	5,632,797
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	108.43	95.75	91.72	106.99
Change in net asset value per share	13.24%	4.39%	(14.27%)	18.10%
Operating charges	1.33%	1.33%	1.34%	1.34%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	46,690	42,265	105,462	153,258
Closing number of shares	36,367,694	37,368,488	97,763,773	122,365,074
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	128.38	113.10	107.87	125.25
Change in net asset value per share	13.51%	4.85%	(13.88%)	18.66%
Operating charges	0.87%	0.87%	0.87%	0.87%

Standard Life income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	–	2
Closing number of shares	–	–	–	2,286
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	–	74.82
Change in net asset value per share	–	–	0.59%	18.14%
Operating charges	–	–	0.04%	0.04%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	185,017	163,969	156,030	194,847
Closing number of shares	217,912,669	220,045,928	221,249,905	239,763,994
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	84.90	74.52	70.52	81.27
Change in net asset value per share	13.93%	5.67%	(13.23%)	19.55%
Operating charges	0.11%	0.11%	0.12%	0.12%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	894	626	600	1,366
Closing number of shares	764,463	607,430	609,966	1,195,173
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	116.98	103.08	98.35	114.25
Change in net asset value per share	13.48%	4.81%	(13.92%)	18.60%
Operating charges	0.92%	0.92%	0.92%	0.91%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 14 June 2018.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Japanese Equities (97.74%)		233,724	97.26
Industrials (17.72%)		43,966	18.30
65,000	Daifuku	4,271	1.78
304,100	Fuji Electric	7,100	2.95
114,200	Giken	3,056	1.27
292,000	MISUMI	5,717	2.38
100,500	Nihon M&A Center	3,723	1.55
22,600	Nippon Express	990	0.41
376,500	Recruit	10,659	4.44
20,600	SMC	8,450	3.52
Consumer Staples (4.88%)		6,719	2.80
207,000	Uni-Charm	6,719	2.80
Health Care (15.23%)		35,665	14.84
130,100	Asahi Intecc	2,868	1.19
132,900	Daiichi Sankyo	8,831	3.67
68,900	JCR Pharmaceuticals	5,522	2.30
431,400	Olympus	6,371	2.65
122,500	Shionogi	5,061	2.11
251,600	Takeda Pharmaceutical	7,012	2.92
Consumer Discretionary (17.75%)		61,722	25.67
270,300	Aisin Seiki	6,929	2.88
131,700	Bandai Namco	6,104	2.54
13,800	Fast Retailing	6,148	2.56
371,000	Marui	5,059	2.10
1,875,500	Nissan Motor	5,700	2.37
319,800	Pan Pacific International	5,592	2.33
696,800	Rakuten	4,574	1.90
327,600	Ryohin Keikaku	3,830	1.59
200,500	Sony	11,710	4.87
167,200	Yamaha	6,076	2.53
Financials (5.60%)		6,501	2.71
574,900	Dai-ichi Life Insurance	6,501	2.71
Real Estate (3.02%)		4,038	1.68
298,800	Mitsui Fudosan	4,038	1.68

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Information Technology (24.22%)		47,451	19.75
115,400	Advantest	4,121	1.72
144,000	Anritsu	2,346	0.98
14,000	Disco	2,437	1.02
34,600	GMO Payment Gateway	2,722	1.13
196,600	Hitachi	4,884	2.03
264,500	Ibiden	6,185	2.57
29,000	Keyence	8,913	3.71
280,300	Nomura Research Institute	5,551	2.31
76,300	ROHM Semiconductor	3,659	1.52
86,800	Sansan	3,381	1.41
161,700	Taiyo Yuden	3,252	1.35
Materials (3.06%)		6,755	2.81
74,500	Shin-Etsu Chemical	6,755	2.81
Communication Services (6.26%)		20,907	8.70
32,600	Bengo4.com	2,486	1.03
92,700	Cyber Agent	3,676	1.53
206,800	Softbank	9,610	4.00
104,600	Square Enix	5,135	2.14
Derivatives (0.00%)		-	-
Forward Currency Contracts (0.00%)		-	-
Buy GBP 3,702 Sell JPY 514,101 18/09/2020		-	-
Total investment assets		233,724	97.26
Net other assets		6,590	2.74
Total Net Assets		240,314	100.00

All investments (excluding OTC derivatives) are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities or approved derivatives within the meaning of the FCA rules.
The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		27,224		27,128
Revenue	1,916		2,840	
Expenses	(331)		(603)	
Net revenue before taxation	1,585		2,237	
Taxation	(191)		(268)	
Net revenue after taxation		1,394		1,969
Total return before equalisation		28,618		29,097
Equalisation on shares		(20)		(28)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		28,598		29,069

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		213,593		267,055
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	11,429		29,864	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(13,306)		(37,212)	
		(1,877)		(7,348)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		28,598		29,069
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		240,314		288,776

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		233,724		208,768
Current assets:				
Debtors	261		1,070	
Cash and bank balances	7,414		4,952	
		7,675		6,022
Total assets		241,399		214,790
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(1,085)		(1,197)	
		(1,085)		(1,197)
Total liabilities		(1,085)		(1,197)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		240,314		213,593

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Accumulation share class has increased by 10.14% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

ASI Short Duration Credit Fund

Investment objective

To generate income and some growth over the short term (1 to 3 years) by investing in Sterling-denominated corporate bonds.

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the Bloomberg Barclays Sterling Corporate and Collateralised Index (Hedged to 2 year duration) plus 1% per annum (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 60% in Sterling denominated investment grade corporate bonds.
- The fund may also invest in bonds issued anywhere in the world by governments and corporations, including sub-sovereigns, sub-investment grade, inflation-linked, convertible, asset backed and mortgage backed bonds. The fund will employ techniques to reduce (hedge) risk related to currency movements on non-Sterling bonds.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to identify bonds and derivatives based on analysis of global economic and market conditions (for example, interest rates and inflation) and analysis of a company's prospects and creditworthiness compared to that of the market.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the Bloomberg Barclays Sterling Corporate and Collateralised Index (Hedged to 2 year duration) is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 3%. Due to the fund's risk constraints, the intention is that the fund's performance profile will not deviate significantly from that of the Bloomberg Barclays Sterling Corporate and Collateralised Index (Hedged to 2 year duration) over the longer term.

Please note: The fund's ability to buy and sell bonds and the associated costs can be affected during periods of market stress which could include periods where interest rates move sharply.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").

- In particular, the fund will use derivatives to reduce the fund's exposure to interest rate risk to a level consistent with that of the Bloomberg Barclays Sterling Corporate and Collateralised Index (Hedged to 2 year duration).
- In addition the fund may use derivative instruments to manage expected changes in inflation, currencies or credit worthiness of corporations or governments.
- The fund may also invest in other funds which may use derivatives extensively although these investments shall be in line with fund's overall risk profile.

Performance

The fund returned +0.7% during the period, compared with a +1.4% return for the Bloomberg Barclays Sterling Corporate and Collateralised Index (Hedged to 2-year duration) +1%. Fund returns are net of fees (source: Morningstar, basic rate taxpayer, bid-to-bid basis).

The fund modestly underperformed its peer group over the review period. Despite being severely impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, the fund's overweight exposure to Heathrow Airport was strongly profitable over the period. This was because we significantly increased our holdings at undervalued prices in May, after which there was a good recovery in the bonds. Holdings in the data centre company Digital Realty and HSBC also performed well.

On the negative side, many of the worst performers were companies that were heavily exposed to the pandemic. Examples of this included property companies with significant retail interests such as Hammerson, the pub operator and brewer Greene King and the travel services company Go-Ahead Group.

Investment Activity

Towards the end of the review period, some examples of new issue purchases included Southern Water, British American Tobacco, and the water company Severn Trent. We also selectively added subordinated bank debt, an example of which was Banco Santander.

In the secondary market, in May, with valuations having improved significantly we added exposure to Heathrow Airport and Gatwick Airport at attractive prices. On the sell side, towards the end of the review period, given the sizeable recovery in oil prices from earlier pronounced weakness, we reduced exposure to the Australian pipeline company APT Pipelines. Following good performance, we also sold the subordinated debt of CYBG and the high yield bonds of the insurer Direct Line.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 3 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- The fund invests in mortgage and asset-backed securities (which may include collateralised loan, debt or mortgage obligations (respectively CLOs, CDOs or CMOs)). These are subject to prepayment and extension risk and additional liquidity and default risk compared to other credit securities
- Convertible securities are investments that can be changed into another form upon certain triggers. As such, they can exhibit credit, equity and fixed interest risk. Contingent convertible securities (CoCos) are similar to convertible securities but have additional triggers which mean that they are more vulnerable to losses and volatile price movements and hence become less liquid.
- The fund invests in securities which are subject to the risk that the issuer may default on interest or capital payments.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in high yielding bonds which carry a greater risk of default than those with lower yields.
- The fund price can go up or down daily for a variety of reasons including changes in interest rates, inflation expectations or the perceived credit quality of individual countries or securities.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment. Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner. The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	9,304	10,769	12,113	12,128
Closing number of shares	10,012,345	11,625,001	13,712,282	13,732,668
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	92.93	92.63	88.33	88.32
Change in net asset value per share	0.32%	4.87%	0.02%	2.24%
Operating charges	1.06%	1.04%	1.03%	1.03%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	6,876	15,153	142,809	153,601
Closing number of shares	6,935,013	15,362,975	152,470,584	164,704,343
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	99.15	98.63	93.66	93.26
Change in net asset value per share	0.53%	5.31%	0.43%	2.67%
Operating charges	0.64%	0.62%	0.61%	0.61%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	2,621	3,139	3,973	4,534
Closing number of shares	4,832,839	5,721,585	7,466,503	8,388,567
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	54.23	54.86	53.20	54.05
Change in net asset value per share	(1.15%)	3.12%	(1.57%)	0.93%
Operating charges	1.06%	1.04%	1.03%	1.03%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	4,031	8,906	17,915	18,628
Closing number of shares	7,443,208	16,254,024	33,715,927	34,504,839
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	54.16	54.79	53.14	53.99
Change in net asset value per share	(1.15%)	3.11%	(1.57%)	0.97%
Operating charges	0.64%	0.62%	0.61%	0.61%

Standard Life income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1	1	— [^]	1
Closing number of shares	3,149	3,149	319	2,000
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	31.65	32.02	31.12	31.65
Change in net asset value per share	(1.16%)	2.89%	(1.67%)	0.89%
Operating charges	0.06%	0.04%	0.03%	0.03%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

[^] The closing net asset value of Standard Life income is £99.

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	74	63	55	227
Closing number of shares	72,381	62,330	57,957	239,295
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	102.08	101.29	95.71	94.83
Change in net asset value per share	0.78%	5.83%	0.93%	3.21%
Operating charges	0.14%	0.12%	0.11%	0.11%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	15,335	21,351	31,856	22,960
Closing number of shares	22,514,303	31,503,882	49,474,476	35,796,026
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	68.11	67.77	64.39	64.14
Change in net asset value per share	0.50%	5.25%	0.39%	2.60%
Operating charges	0.69%	0.67%	0.66%	0.66%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	8,600	12,039	10,657	11,034
Closing number of shares	15,367,621	21,266,423	19,410,528	19,780,460
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	55.96	56.61	54.90	55.78
Change in net asset value per share	(1.15%)	3.11%	(1.58%)	0.94%
Operating charges	0.69%	0.67%	0.66%	0.66%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Bonds (90.17%)		42,621	90.99
Euro Denominated Bonds (3.23%)		1,599	3.41
Corporate Bonds (3.23%)		1,599	3.41
greater than 25 years to maturity			
280,000	AXA 3.25% 2049	284	0.61
300,000	Channel Link Enterprises Finance 1.761% fixed to floating 2050	265	0.56
Perpetual			
400,000	Aareal Bank 7.625% fixed to floating Perpetual	343	0.73
400,000	Banco Santander 6.25% fixed to floating Perpetual	356	0.76
400,000	Bankia 6.375% fixed to floating Perpetual	351	0.75
Sterling Denominated Bonds (86.46%)		41,022	87.58
Corporate Bonds (86.46%)		41,022	87.58
less than 5 years to maturity			
150,000	AA Bond 2.75% 2023	147	0.31
68,000	AA Bond 2.875% 2022	68	0.14
200,000	Anheuser-Busch InBev 9.75% 2024	268	0.57
109,000	APT Pipelines 4.25% 2024	123	0.26
190,000	Arqiva 6.75% 2023	196	0.42
300,000	Banco Santander 1.375% 2024	304	0.66
300,000	Banco Santander 2.75% 2023	314	0.67
250,000	Bank of America 2.3% 2025	267	0.57
230,000	Barclays 10% 2021	245	0.52
270,000	Barclays 2.375% 2023	277	0.59
330,000	Barclays 3.125% 2024	349	0.74
170,000	Barclays 9.5% 2021	183	0.39
190,000	Citigroup 5.875% 2024	220	0.47
200,000	Cooperatieve Rabobank 1.25% 2025	204	0.44
239,000	CPUK 3.588% 2025	242	0.52
250,000	Credit Agricole 7.375% 2023	297	0.63
300,000	Deutsche Bank 1.75% 2021	300	0.64
400,000	Deutsche Bank 2.625% 2024	408	0.87
400,000	Deutsche Pfandbriefbank 1.75% 2022	402	0.86
191,000	Euroclear Bank 1.25% 2024	197	0.42
257,000	First Abu Dhabi Bank 1.375% 2023	260	0.55
280,000	FirstGroup 6.875% 2024	301	0.64
190,000	Heathrow Funding 7.125% 2024	214	0.46
150,000	HSBC 2.175% 2023	153	0.33
480,000	Intu (SGS) Finance 4.125% 2023	253	0.54
190,000	Lend Lease Europe 6.125% 2021	197	0.42
130,000	Lloyds Bank 7.625% 2025	166	0.35

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
150,000	Lloyds Bank 9.625% 2023	180	0.39
274,000	Lloyds Bank Corporate Markets 1.75% 2024	281	0.60
210,000	Marks & Spencer 6.125% 2021	221	0.47
720,000	Mitchells & Butlers 5.965% 2025	147	0.31
209,000	MPT Operating Partnership 2.55% 2023	209	0.45
152,000	Petróleos Mexicanos 8.25% 2022	157	0.34
318,000	RSA Insurance 1.625% 2024	325	0.69
260,000	Scania 1.875% 2022	261	0.56
250,000	Thames Water 2.375% 2023	248	0.53
200,000	Volkswagen Financial Services 1.625% 2022	202	0.43
300,000	Volkswagen Financial Services 1.875% 2024	305	0.65
380,000	Wells Fargo 2% 2025	396	0.84
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
210,000	ABP 6.25% 2026	250	0.53
240,000	Anglian Water 2.625% 2027	241	0.51
260,000	Anheuser-Busch InBev 2.25% 2029	273	0.58
170,000	Annington Funding 3.184% 2029	187	0.40
200,000	Aroundtown 3.25% 2027	211	0.45
325,000	Assura Financing 3% 2028	359	0.77
350,000	AT&T 5.5% 2027	437	0.93
200,000	Bank of America 7% 2028	284	0.61
190,000	Barclays 3.25% 2027	206	0.44
190,000	BAT International Finance 2.25% 2028	190	0.41
135,000	Citigroup 1.75% 2026	139	0.30
190,000	Citigroup 5.15% 2026	231	0.49
200,000	CK Hutchison 2% 2027	205	0.44
200,000	Clydesdale Bank 4.625% 2026	243	0.52
190,000	CRH 4.125% 2029	229	0.49
510,000	Digital Stout 3.3% 2029	581	1.24
131,000	Hammerson 3.5% 2025	120	0.26
60,000	Hammerson 6% fixed to floating 2026	60	0.13
110,000	Hammerson 7.25% 2028	115	0.25
457,000	Heathrow Funding 6.75% 2026	572	1.22
183,000	HSBC 2.256% 2026	189	0.40
150,000	HSBC 2.625% 2028	160	0.34
280,000	HSBC 3% fixed to floating 2030	302	0.64
100,000	HSBC 6.75% 2028	131	0.28
270,000	Imperial Brands 5.5% 2026	325	0.69
110,000	Integrated Accommodation Services 6.48% 2029	73	0.15
330,000	London & Quadrant Housing Trust 2.25% 2029	345	0.74
190,000	MPT Operating Partnership 3.692% 2028	190	0.41
392,000	NatWest 2.875% 2026	416	0.89

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
118,000	NatWest 3.622% fixed to floating 2030	125	0.27
123,000	Newday Funding 2018 FRN 2026	121	0.26
168,000	NewRiver REIT 3.5% 2028	148	0.32
294,000	Quadgas Finance 3.375% 2029	309	0.66
290,000	Rabobank 4.625% 2029	357	0.76
270,000	Santander UK 3.625% 2026	297	0.63
128,000	South Eastern Power Networks 5.5% 2026	158	0.34
270,000	Stagecoach Group 4% 2025	270	0.58
713,000	Thames Water 3.5% 2028	809	1.73
275,000	Unite Group 3.5% 2028	283	0.60
484,000	Virgin Money UK 7.875% fixed to floating 2028	516	1.10
400,000	Volkswagen International Finance 3.375% 2026	438	0.94
320,000	Welltower 4.8% 2028	370	0.79
290,000	Westfield Stratford City Finance 1.642% 2026	291	0.62
180,000	Yorkshire Building Society 3.375% 2028	188	0.40
between 10 and 15 years to maturity			
180,000	Annington Funding 3.685% 2034	209	0.45
380,000	Barclays 3.25% 2033	416	0.89
170,000	British American Tobacco 6% 2034	225	0.48
460,000	Broadgate Financing 5.098% 2035	501	1.07
150,000	Centrica 7% 2033	233	0.50
420,000	E.ON Finance 6.375% 2032	626	1.34
230,000	Eversholt 6.697% 2035	300	0.64
254,000	Fidelity National Information Services 3.36% 2031	293	0.63
152,000	Gatwick 4.625% 2034	175	0.37
46,000	GE Capital 5.875% 2033	55	0.12
150,000	Great Rolling Stock 6.5% 2031	156	0.33
150,000	Great Rolling Stock 6.875% 2035	131	0.28
430,000	Greene King FRN 2033	261	0.56
230,000	HSBC 5.375% 2033	301	0.64
182,000	HSBC Bank 5.375% 2030	214	0.46
190,000	London & Quadrant Housing Trust 4.625% 2033	251	0.54
110,000	Marston's 5.641% fixed to floating 2035	83	0.18
200,000	Meadowhall Finance 4.986% 2032	161	0.34
189,000	Pension Insurance 5.625% 2030	223	0.48
210,000	Telereal FRN 2033	199	0.42
240,000	Telereal Secured 4.01% 2033	184	0.39
137,000	Thames Water 5.75% 2030	145	0.31
337,000	Verizon Communications 1.875% 2030	350	0.75
333,000	Western Power 1.75% 2031	344	0.73
195,000	Western Power 5.75% 2032	281	0.60

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
between 15 and 25 years to maturity			
100,000	America Movil 4.375% 2041	132	0.28
100,000	Aspire Defence 4.674% 2040 'B'	119	0.25
420,000	AT&T 4.875% 2044	567	1.21
400,000	Aviva 6.625% fixed to floating 2041	415	0.89
240,000	British American Tobacco 5.75% 2040	320	0.68
140,000	British Telecom 6.375% 2037	215	0.46
190,000	Cadent Finance 2.625% 2038	208	0.44
184,000	Citigroup 7.375% 2039	338	0.72
275,000	Direct Line 9.25% 2042	312	0.67
200,000	EDF 5.5% 2041	295	0.63
90,000	Enel 5.75% 2037	135	0.29
230,000	Enel 5.75% 2040	352	0.75
230,000	Eversholt 3.529% 2042	253	0.54
197,000	Gatwick 6.5% 2041	280	0.60
46,000	GE Capital 6.25% 2038	58	0.12
100,000	General Electric 5.375% 2040	114	0.24
250,000	Heathrow Funding 5.875% 2041	362	0.77
340,000	HSBC 6% 2040	451	0.96
200,000	innogy Finance 6.125% 2039	323	0.69
200,000	Munich Re 6.625% fixed to floating 2042	218	0.47
380,000	QBE Insurance 6.115% 2042	402	0.86
190,000	RL Finance 6.125% fixed to floating 2043	212	0.45
246,000	RMPA Services 5.337% 2038	249	0.53
382,000	Scottish Hydro 2.25% 2035	412	0.88
100,000	Severn Trent 2% 2040	104	0.22
284,000	Southern Water Services Finance 3% 2037	293	0.62
420,000	Tesco 5.744% 2040	538	1.15
370,000	Tesco 5.8006% 2040	482	1.03
210,000	Wheatley 4.375% 2044	289	0.62
greater than 25 years to maturity			
121,000	AA Bond 5.5% 2050	128	0.27
100,000	Aviva 4% fixed to floating 2055	107	0.23
250,000	Aviva 5.125% 2050	292	0.62
100,000	AXA 5.625% 2054	124	0.27
270,000	Blend Funding 3.459% 2047	341	0.73
311,000	Dignity 4.6956% 2049	238	0.51
247,000	Legal & General 3.75% fixed to floating 2049	256	0.55
150,000	NGG 5.625% fixed to floating 2073	173	0.37
368,000	Paragon FRN 2050	310	0.66
220,000	Penarian Housing Finance 3.212% 2052	247	0.53

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
250,000	Prudential 5% 2055	280	0.60
164,000	Prudential 5.625% fixed to floating 2051	188	0.40
196,000	RL Finance 4.875% fixed to floating 2049	207	0.44
400,000	RMAC FRN 2046	301	0.64
140,000	SSE 3.625% 2077	143	0.31
477,000	Vodafone 3.375% 2049	547	1.17
Perpetual			
190,000	Aviva 6.125% fixed to floating Perpetual	208	0.44
221,000	AXA 6.6862% fixed to floating Perpetual	270	0.58
200,000	Lloyds Banking Group 7.625% fixed to floating Perpetual	211	0.45
233,000	Orange 5.75% fixed to floating Perpetual	255	0.54
US Dollar Denominated Bonds (0.48%)		-	-
Corporate Bonds (0.48%)		-	-
Collective Investment Schemes (6.36%)		2,974	6.35
222,111	SLI Total Return Credit SICAV Z Acc+	2,974	6.35
Derivatives (-5.67%)		(3,597)	(7.68)
Credit Default Swaps (-0.26%)		-	-
Forward Currency Contracts (-0.11%)		22	0.05
	Buy 1,635,720 Sell 1,803,817 23/11/2020	22	0.05
Interest Rate Swaps (-5.30%)		(3,619)	(7.73)
GBP 2,500,000	Pay fixed 0.115% receive floating GBP-SONIA 09/06/2025	(12)	(0.03)
GBP 1,000,000	Pay fixed 0.549% receive floating GBP-SONIA 24/01/2030	(35)	(0.06)
GBP 2,400,000	Pay fixed 0.943% receive floating GBP-LIBOR 06/06/2021	(17)	(0.04)
GBP 3,600,000	Pay fixed 1.335% receive floating GBP-LIBOR 06/06/2026	(225)	(0.48)
GBP 7,000,000	Pay fixed 1.3532% receive floating GBP-LIBOR 08/02/2029	(571)	(1.22)
GBP 5,000,000	Pay fixed 1.3742% receive floating GBP-LIBOR 10/11/2027	(380)	(0.81)
GBP 1,750,000	Pay fixed 1.4075% receive floating GBP-LIBOR 03/04/2042	(280)	(0.60)
GBP 3,200,000	Pay fixed 2.68875% receive floating GBP-LIBOR 05/08/2024	(320)	(0.68)
GBP 7,050,000	Pay fixed 2.78% receive floating GBP-LIBOR 30/01/2024	(645)	(1.38)
GBP 2,300,000	Pay fixed 3.253% receive floating GBP-LIBOR 30/01/2034	(814)	(1.74)
GBP 1,500,000	Pay fixed 3.31% receive floating GBP-LIBOR 30/01/2044	(879)	(1.88)
GBP 600,000	Pay fixed 3.365% receive floating GBP-LIBOR 09/01/2034	(221)	(0.47)
GBP 1,500,000	Pay floating GBP-LIBOR receive fixed 1.3532% 08/02/2029	122	0.26
GBP 1,000,000	Pay floating GBP-LIBOR receive fixed 1.3532% 08/02/2029	82	0.17
GBP 3,400,000	Pay floating GBP-LIBOR receive fixed 1.3532% 08/02/2029	278	0.59
GBP 3,000,000	Pay floating GBP-LIBOR receive fixed 1.3742% 10/11/2027	228	0.49
GBP 2,000,000	Pay floating GBP-SONIA receive fixed 0.549% 24/01/2030	70	0.15

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Total investment assets		41,998	89.66
Net other assets		4,844	10.34
Total Net Assets		46,842	100.00

All investments (excluding OTC derivatives) are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities, regulated collective investment schemes or approved derivatives within the meaning of the FCA rules.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital (losses)/gains		(1,443)		3,768
Revenue	1,340		3,667	
Expenses	(205)		(689)	
Interest payable and similar charges	(276)		(552)	
Net revenue before taxation	859		2,426	
Taxation	-		-	
Net revenue after taxation		859		2,426
Total return before distributions		(584)		6,194
Distributions		(859)		(2,426)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		(1,443)		3,768

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		71,421		219,378
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	1,193		13,932	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(24,909)		(33,764)	
		(23,716)		(19,832)
Dilution adjustment		55		36
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		(1,443)		3,768
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		525		2,080
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		46,842		205,430

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		46,397		69,833
Current assets:				
Debtors	663		1,161	
Cash and bank balances	4,704		5,970	
		5,367		7,131
Total assets		51,764		76,964
Liabilities:				
Investment liabilities		(4,399)		(4,939)
Creditors	(321)		(375)	
Bank overdrafts	–		(109)	
Distribution payable	(202)		(120)	
		(523)		(604)
Total liabilities		(4,922)		(5,543)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		46,842		71,421

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Accumulation share class has increased by 0.64% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

First interim interest distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 May 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31/07/20	Distribution paid 31/07/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	0.2187	-	0.2187	0.3317
Group 2	0.1089	0.1098	0.2187	0.3317
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.3282	-	0.3282	0.4519
Group 2	0.1637	0.1645	0.3282	0.4519
Retail income				
Group 1	0.1264	-	0.1264	0.1997
Group 2	0.0731	0.0533	0.1264	0.1997
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.1827	-	0.1827	0.2564
Group 2	0.0592	0.1235	0.1827	0.2564
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.1492	-	0.1492	0.2165
Group 2	0.1492	-	0.1492	0.2165
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.4591	-	0.4591	0.5842
Group 2	0.1662	0.2929	0.4591	0.5842
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.2170	-	0.2170	0.3025
Group 2	0.1449	0.0721	0.2170	0.3025
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.1814	-	0.1814	0.2579
Group 2	0.1151	0.0663	0.1814	0.2579

Second interim interest distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 June 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 June 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	1.1389	-	1.1389	0.5345
Group 2	0.0404	1.0985	1.1389	0.5345
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	1.3185	-	1.3185	0.6694
Group 2	0.2642	1.0543	1.3185	0.6694
Retail income				
Group 1	0.6729	-	0.6729	0.3208
Group 2	0.3370	0.3359	0.6729	0.3208
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.7299	-	0.7299	0.3779
Group 2	0.0968	0.6331	0.7299	0.3779
Standard Life income				
Group 1	0.4814	-	0.4814	0.2919
Group 2	0.4814	-	0.4814	0.2919
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	1.4840	-	1.4840	0.8092
Group 2	1.4840	-	1.4840	0.8092
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.8973	-	0.8973	0.4518
Group 2	0.1471	0.7502	0.8973	0.4518
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.7470	-	0.7470	0.3834
Group 2	0.3249	0.4221	0.7470	0.3834

Equalisation

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

ASI UK Ethical Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in UK equities (company shares) which meet the ethical criteria set out in the investment manager's Ethical Investment Policy.

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the FTSE All-Share Index, plus 2% per annum over rolling five year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated, or domiciled in the UK or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from UK operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments), money-market instruments, and cash.
- All investments will comply with the Ethical Investment Policy. The fund uses negative criteria to avoid investing in companies that operate to a degree in certain areas, including but not limited to those deriving revenue from animal testing, weaponry, pornography and gambling services. In addition to excluding such companies which operate in certain industries and activities, the fund will seek to include companies whose business activities are regarded as making a positive contribution in terms of preserving the environment or improving the quality and safety of human life. In making an assessment of whether business activities make a positive contribution, the investment manager will make reference to the UN Global Compact to define the areas where the fund seeks to invest in companies with positive business practices and services. The areas include human rights, labour rights, environmental safeguards and combating bribery and corruption. Please refer to the Ethical Investment Policy for further detail.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. The research process is focused on identifying companies where the management team have a different view than that of the market, and which align with their views regarding future economic and business conditions.

- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the FTSE All-Share Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 12%. Due to the ethical nature of the management process, there are a material number of stocks and sectors in the FTSE All-Share Index that the fund is unable to invest, which means the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the FTSE All-Share Index.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance

Over the period under review, the fund returned -11.8%. This compared to a return of -6.4% for our performance target (the FTSE All-Share Index +2%).

Hyve Group, a global exhibitions and conferences organiser, has been badly affected by the pandemic. With no signs of large-scale conferences and exhibitions returning anytime soon, its share price significantly underperformed. During the period, the company introduced a range of measures to secure the long-term future of the business and to operationally prepare itself for when the market starts to return to some form of normality. These measures included a capital raise and a range of cost savings. The fund's lack of exposure to pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca also hurt relative performance. Ongoing COVID-19 vaccine expectations meant that AstraZeneca's shares performed well over the period. However, we cannot own the stock due to our animal-testing ethical screen. The coronavirus and the subsequent lockdown measures negatively affected our holding in housebuilder Bellway. Despite the reopening of its sites and with current sales figures materially improving from lockdown lows, Bellway's production levels are significantly below historic levels. There remains the wider concern from the potential impact on UK unemployment levels as the government furlough scheme ends, which will have wider implications for the UK economy and the UK housebuilding sector. Cinema operator Cineworld Group detracted strongly from performance. The company only reopened its cinemas at the end of July, just as the number of daily coronavirus cases began to increase again after months of decline – sparking fears of a second lockdown. As a result, consumer sentiment remains muted. Not having any exposure to the defensive qualities of Reckitt Benckiser detracted from returns; again this is a company we cannot own due to our animal-testing

screen. The earnings of the consumer goods companies is considered to be stable during times of economic weakness.

On the other hand, Kainos Group was a significant positive contributor. The software company saw its share price spike in July after announcing it would reinstate its dividend after stronger-than-expected trading in the first quarter. Management also expects underlying profit to be substantially ahead of current forecasts. It also confirmed it would be repaying the UK government the funds it received under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme. Not holding positions in large stocks that struggled during the period also helped relative returns. For example, HSBC's dividend cut weighed on its share price, while global interest rates edged lower at a time of growing political uncertainty in Hong Kong. Elsewhere, Royal Dutch Shell cuts its dividend in response to the oil-price collapse and saw its shares marked down. Fever-Tree Drinks, the premium mixer drinks business, was a strong positive contributor. After hitting March lows alongside the broader market, it posted a quick recovery trajectory – despite dipping slightly in July – and its share price ended the period roughly at the same levels seen at the beginning of the year. The company has been consistently reinvesting its earnings, which coupled with strong sales growth, makes it a good long-term play.

Activity

We started a new position in Euromoney, the global business-to-business provider. The long-term investment case is based upon the strength of their operational model and balance sheet. While we acknowledge some of their services will be impacted by COVID-19, we view the recent significant price weakness as an attractive entry point. We also started a position in the bottler Coca-Cola Hellenic. We believe its geographic exposure and strong innovative pipeline presents compelling earnings growth at a reasonable valuation within the consumer staples space. Its robust balance sheet also offers further optionality both in terms of potential mergers & acquisitions or enhanced shareholder returns. The fund started a position in the UK high street and travel retailer WH Smith. The shares had been understandably weak on the slowing prospects for travel and general footfall. However, we believe the internalisation of their travel business is a long-term opportunity that is not being recognised in the current valuation.

Conversely, we exited our position in Boohoo Group, the online fast fashion retailer, after an undercover investigation revealed exploitative conditions at one of its factories. Its share price tumbled following the release of the report and major online retailers have dropped its brand from their websites. We also exited our position in holiday operator TUI. The level of debt being created in the business during the lockdown period makes the risks of a slow recovery to consumer sentiment a genuine threat to the survival of this business. In addition, we exited our position in Superdry, as the business is undergoing a product transition under the CEO. Further, the backdrop of a challenged high street means the company has little room for error.

Outlook and Strategy

In an attempt to mitigate the full effects of the crisis, central-bank activity is creating movements and correlations many thought impossible given the fundamentals of the current situation. What is important is that we stay true to our process of taking stock-specific risks, lowering factor risks and maintaining regular contact with companies.

We also cannot forget that COVID-19 is not the only risk that markets face. We are closely monitoring the developments in Hong Kong, the growing tension between Australia and China, the US presidential election and the political volatility in South America. Principally, we need to remember that Brexit is still a real risk given the end of 2020 deadline for the UK to reach a trade deal with the EU. This does not allow a lot of room for manoeuvre, especially as governments are still dealing with COVID-19.

The fund is addressing this current period of volatility via a consistent, measured application of the investment process, leveraging the strength of our research platform. We have engaged with a breadth of companies across sectors to address leverage, liquidity and operational initiatives, seeking to ascertain how businesses are placed to navigate the next few weeks and months. Uncertainty is likely to prevail in the short term. However, we will continue to apply our experience and examine future prospects on a company-by-company basis over the fund's three-to-five-year investment time horizon.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 6 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- A concentrated portfolio may be more volatile and less liquid than a more broadly diversified one. The fund's investments are concentrated in a particular country or sector.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	54,143	62,052	59,488	65,819
Closing number of shares	33,823,764	34,032,028	35,490,673	37,437,581
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	160.08	182.33	167.61	175.81
Change in net asset value per share	(12.20%)	8.78%	(4.66%)	14.23%
Operating charges	1.32%	1.32%	1.32%	1.32%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	65,847	83,358	77,851	73,555
Closing number of shares	36,170,706	40,294,906	41,125,771	37,219,549
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	182.05	206.87	189.30	197.62
Change in net asset value per share	(12.00%)	9.28%	(4.21%)	14.77%
Operating charges	0.85%	0.85%	0.85%	0.85%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	13,390	14,295	8,952	4,775
Closing number of shares	23,406,833	21,991,384	14,776,945	7,400,286
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	57.20	65.00	60.62	64.53
Change in net asset value per share	(12.00%)	7.23%	(6.06%)	13.17%
Operating charges	0.85%	0.85%	0.85%	0.85%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	426	463	543	677
Closing number of shares	205,713	197,532	255,080	306,542
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	207.19	234.55	213.03	220.75
Change in net asset value per share	(11.66%)	10.10%	(3.50%)	15.63%
Operating charges	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%

Institutional regulated accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	26,607	30,513	28,821	29,855
Closing number of shares	21,639,517	21,888,956	22,697,632	22,623,290
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	122.95	139.40	126.98	131.97
Change in net asset value per share	(11.80%)	9.78%	(3.78%)	15.29%
Operating charges	0.40%	0.40%	0.40%	0.40%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	117,861	131,284	121,565	117,020
Closing number of shares	117,510,251	115,159,888	116,463,693	107,333,852
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	100.30	114.00	104.38	109.02
Change in net asset value per share	(12.02%)	9.22%	(4.26%)	14.71%
Operating charges	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	9,406	9,415	6,883	4,624
Closing number of shares	16,448,167	14,485,612	11,355,840	7,167,920
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	57.18	65.00	60.61	64.51
Change in net asset value per share	(12.03%)	7.24%	(6.05%)	13.16%
Operating charges	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%

Institutional A accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	72	110	129	182
Closing number of shares	122,312	163,747	208,712	279,456
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	58.94	67.23	61.99	65.20
Change in net asset value per share	(12.33%)	8.45%	(4.92%)	13.91%
Operating charges	1.60%	1.60%	1.60%	1.60%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
UK Equities (98.29%)		285,552	99.24
Basic Materials (1.57%)		4,861	1.69
332,848	Mondi	4,861	1.69
Consumer Goods (19.96%)		42,786	14.87
353,514	Bellway	8,442	2.93
113,289	Coca-Cola HBC	2,258	0.79
1,595,857	Countryside Properties	5,132	1.78
918,723	Crest Nicholson	1,820	0.63
1,786,624	Dixons Carphone	1,649	0.57
340,351	Fever Tree Drinks++	6,991	2.43
260,048	Greggs	3,682	1.28
504,917	Inchcape	2,550	0.89
43,189	JD Sports	313	0.11
2,485,135	Joules++	2,746	0.96
87,939	Keywords Studios++	1,931	0.67
2,653,803	McCarthy & Stone	1,903	0.66
739,238	Redrow	3,369	1.17
Consumer Services (13.78%)		49,758	17.29
357,575	Auto Trader	2,013	0.70
2,685,999	Cineworld	1,694	0.59
314,310	CVS++	3,750	1.30
352,071	Euromoney Institutional Investor	2,943	1.02
213,376	Go-Ahead	1,405	0.49
1,390,592	Hollywood Bowl	2,086	0.73
1,630,564	Howdens Joinery	9,161	3.18
1,990,805	Hyve	1,711	0.60
71,355	Just Eat Takeaway.Com	6,002	2.09
1,042,938	Mitchells & Butlers	1,794	0.62
294,902	RELX	5,019	1.74
512,102	Rightmove	3,245	1.13
973,964	Trainline	3,857	1.34
250,900	Wetherspoon (J.D.)	2,567	0.89
125,865	WH Smith	1,480	0.51
818,525	Wilmington	1,031	0.36

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Financials (18.49%)		63,048	21.92
852,981	Ashmore	3,594	1.25
1,901,662	Barclays	2,129	0.74
148,264	British Land	542	0.19
957,579	Chesnara	2,820	0.98
404,517	Close Brothers	4,539	1.58
2,278,481	Grainger	7,127	2.48
408,970	Intermediate Capital	5,587	1.94
996,537	John Laing	2,842	0.99
1,715,402	Onesavings Bank	5,211	1.81
384,639	Phoenix	2,661	0.92
539,005	Prudential	6,581	2.29
992,567	Sanne	6,888	2.39
2,623,791	Sirius Real Estate	1,949	0.68
376,474	St James's Place	3,688	1.28
958,859	Standard Chartered	3,762	1.31
323,435	Unite	3,128	1.09
Health Care (1.55%)		1,624	0.56
237,965	Clinigen++	1,624	0.56
Industrials (26.16%)		62,441	21.70
832,045	Bodycote	4,664	1.62
295,596	Diploma	5,702	1.98
537,586	Electrocomponents	3,648	1.27
34,072	Ferguson	2,512	0.87
815,710	Grafton	6,354	2.21
303,963	IMI	3,204	1.11
959,973	IWG	2,701	0.94
368,804	Marshalls	2,344	0.81
792,525	Midwich++	3,004	1.04
6,603,011	Mitie Group	2,196	0.76
2,129,009	Polypipe	9,251	3.22
744,351	Porvair	3,930	1.37
387,860	Ricardo	1,199	0.42
689,616	Robert Walters	2,958	1.03
2,049,703	Smith (DS)	5,301	1.84
849,524	Vesuvius	3,473	1.21
Oil & Gas (1.29%)		2,903	1.01
1,171,871	Wood Group	2,903	1.01

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Technology (11.33%)		42,816	14.88
441,088	Accesso++	1,153	0.40
245,732	Aptitude Software	1,089	0.38
1,095,252	Avast	5,865	2.04
190,697	Aveva	9,668	3.36
529,162	Blancco Technology++	1,058	0.37
207,386	Blue Prism++	3,287	1.14
317,610	EMIS++	3,265	1.13
459,619	FDM	4,789	1.66
260,576	Instem++	1,342	0.47
1,010,730	Kainos	11,300	3.93
Telecommunications (2.66%)		9,650	3.35
406,585	Gamma Communication++	6,404	2.22
2,913,311	Vodafone	3,246	1.13
Utilities (1.50%)		5,665	1.97
672,000	National Grid	5,665	1.97
Total investment assets		285,552	99.24
Net other assets		2,200	0.76
Total Net Assets		287,752	100.00

All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities within the meaning of the FCA rules.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

++ AIM listed.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital (losses)/gains		(39,781)		6,507
Revenue	2,380		5,478	
Expenses	(1,295)		(1,485)	
Net revenue before taxation	1,085		3,993	
Taxation	(9)		–	
Net revenue after taxation		1,076		3,993
Total return before equalisation		(38,705)		10,500
Equalisation on shares		(20)		(49)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		(38,725)		10,451

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		331,490		304,232
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	25,037		16,097	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(30,054)		(18,772)	
		(5,017)		(2,675)
Dilution adjustment		4		10
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		(38,725)		10,451
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		287,752		312,018

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		285,552		325,836
Current assets:				
Debtors	3,686		385	
Cash and bank balances	649		8,400	
		4,335		8,785
Total assets		289,887		334,621
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(2,135)		(2,688)	
Distribution payable	-		(443)	
		(2,135)		(3,131)
Total liabilities		(2,135)		(3,131)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		287,752		331,490

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Regulated Accumulation share class has increased by 1.23% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

ASI UK Government Bond Fund

Investment objective

To generate income and some growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in UK Government bonds.

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks Index plus 0.5% per annum (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

Performance Comparator: IA UK Gilt Sector Average.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target/comparator for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index/sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 80% in government bonds issued or guaranteed by the UK Government.
- The fund may also invest in investment grade bonds issued anywhere in the world by governments, sub-sovereigns and corporations including inflation-linked bonds. The fund will employ techniques to reduce (hedge) risk related to currency movements on non-Sterling bonds.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to identify investments after analysing global economic and market conditions (for example, interest rates and inflation) in addition to analysing of individual bonds and derivatives.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 1.5%. Due to the fund's risk constraints, the intention is that the fund's performance profile will not deviate significantly from that of the FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks Index over the longer term.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivatives can be used to generate growth, consistent with the fund's risk profile, if market prices are expected to rise ("long positions") or fall ("short positions").
- These positions can be used in overseas markets.
- Derivatives include instruments used to manage expected changes in interest rates, inflation, currencies or creditworthiness of corporations or governments.

Performance

The fund returned +0.8% over the six months, in comparison with the FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks Index which returned +1.4%. Fund returns are net of fees (source: Morningstar, basic rate taxpayer, bid to bid basis).

The fund underperformed over the period. From a maturity perspective this mainly reflected the fund's overweight exposure relative to the index in shorter dated securities.

Investment activity

We looked for strategies which would provide some diversification to duration positioning, particularly as lockdowns in Europe eased and economies gradually began reopening. We therefore added directional curve-steepening strategies at various points throughout April and May, believing these would provide the fund with an element of protection against any weakness in government bonds. As part of adding a layer of diversification to the portfolio, we also implemented a long position in 10-year US inflation breakevens in June.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator



This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund’s share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 4 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- The fund invests in securities which are subject to the risk that the issuer may default on interest or capital payments.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund price can go up or down daily for a variety of reasons including changes in interest rates, inflation expectations or the perceived credit quality of individual countries or securities.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund’s objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund’s ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	4,887	4,738	4,941	5,511
Closing number of shares	5,702,048	5,588,325	6,484,404	7,327,607
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	85.72	84.78	76.20	75.20
Change in net asset value per share	1.11%	11.26%	1.33%	(2.07%)
Operating charges	0.91%	0.92%	1.08%	1.08%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	11,554	6,192	6,311	7,245
Closing number of shares	12,650,798	6,869,080	7,859,018	9,181,687
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	91.33	90.15	80.30	78.91
Change in net asset value per share	1.31%	12.27%	1.76%	(1.66%)
Operating charges	0.49%	0.50%	0.67%	0.66%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,168	1,171	1,303	1,429
Closing number of shares	2,157,233	2,186,212	2,700,187	2,997,042
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	54.12	53.54	48.25	47.68
Change in net asset value per share	1.08%	10.96%	1.20%	(2.09%)
Operating charges	0.91%	0.92%	1.08%	1.08%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	13,380	14,363	14,772	450
Closing number of shares	24,666,795	26,782,044	30,607,423	944,112
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	54.24	53.63	48.26	47.69
Change in net asset value per share	1.14%	11.13%	1.20%	(2.07%)
Operating charges	0.49%	0.50%	0.67%	0.66%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,905	1,823	1,800	1,887
Closing number of shares	1,901,775	1,847,546	2,042,880	2,189,815
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	100.15	98.69	88.10	86.14
Change in net asset value per share	1.48%	12.02%	2.28%	(1.16%)
Operating charges	0.15%	0.18%	0.16%	0.16%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	5,975	5,364	5,892	7,418
Closing number of shares	8,871,560	8,067,530	9,938,878	12,726,899
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	67.35	66.49	59.29	58.29
Change in net asset value per share	1.29%	12.14%	1.72%	(1.70%)
Operating charges	0.54%	0.55%	0.71%	0.71%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,294	1,207	1,323	1,812
Closing number of shares	2,061,835	1,944,573	2,378,079	3,296,797
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	62.76	62.05	55.63	54.97
Change in net asset value per share	1.14%	11.54%	1.20%	(2.08%)
Operating charges	0.54%	0.55%	0.71%	0.71%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Bonds (99.25%)		38,715	96.39
Sterling Denominated Bonds (99.25%)		38,586	96.07
Corporate Bonds (1.46%)		1,096	2.73
less than 5 years to maturity			
389,000	BNG Bank 1.625% 2025	413	1.03
237,000	KFW 1.25% 2023	245	0.61
380,000	Network Rail 4.75% 2024	438	1.09
Government Bonds (97.79%)		37,490	93.34
less than 5 years to maturity			
138,000	European Bank for Reconstruction & Development 1.25% 2022	141	0.35
179,000	European Investment Bank 0.875% 2023	183	0.46
300,000	FMS Wertmanagement 1.125% 2021	303	0.75
200,000	FMS Wertmanagement 1.125% 2023	205	0.51
68,000	International Bank for Reconstruction & Development 0.625% 2023	69	0.17
114,000	International Bank for Reconstruction & Development 0.875% 2024	118	0.29
89,000	International Bank for Reconstruction & Development 1.25% 2023	92	0.23
85,000	Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank 1.125% 2023	88	0.22
135,000	Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank 1.375% 2020	136	0.34
51,000	Nordic Investment Bank 1.125% 2022	52	0.13
589,000	UK (Govt of) 0.5% 2022	595	1.48
13,916	UK (Govt of) 0.75% 2023	14	0.04
744,000	UK (Govt of) 1% 2024	773	1.92
242,000	UK (Govt of) 1.5% 2021	243	0.61
583,000	UK (Govt of) 1.75% 2022	605	1.51
574,000	UK (Govt of) 2.25% 2023	614	1.53
343,000	UK (Govt of) 2.75% 2024	382	0.95
941,000	UK (Govt of) 4% 2022	999	2.49
417,802	UK (Govt of) 5% 2025	513	1.28
524,340	UK (Govt of) 8% 2021	557	1.39
between 5 and 10 years to maturity			
80,000	UK (Govt of) 0.125% 2028	80	0.20
2,718,026	UK (Govt of) 1.25% 2027	2,933	7.30
919,428	UK (Govt of) 1.5% 2026	1,000	2.49
851,000	UK (Govt of) 1.625% 2028	951	2.37
574,592	UK (Govt of) 2% 2025	633	1.58
983,000	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2027	1,277	3.18
492,083	UK (Govt of) 6% 2028	725	1.80
between 10 and 15 years to maturity			
665,000	UK (Govt of) 0.375% 2030	666	1.66
990,554	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2032	1,423	3.54
894,000	UK (Govt of) 4.5% 2034	1,367	3.40
952,087	UK (Govt of) 4.75% 2030	1,379	3.43

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
between 15 and 25 years to maturity			
306,000	UK (Govt of) 1.25% 2041	329	0.82
665,000	UK (Govt of) 1.75% 2037	772	1.92
722,018	UK (Govt of) 3.25% 2044	1,084	2.70
754,000	UK (Govt of) 3.5% 2045	1,187	2.96
708,096	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2036	1,084	2.70
517,000	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2039	836	2.08
317,314	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2040	521	1.30
666,702	UK (Govt of) 4.5% 2042	1,162	2.89
594,000	UK (Govt of) 4.75% 2038	1,004	2.50
greater than 25 years to maturity			
191,000	UK (Govt of) 0.5% 2061	169	0.42
309,000	UK (Govt of) 0.625% 2050	287	0.71
559,428	UK (Govt of) 1.5% 2047	642	1.60
396,000	UK (Govt of) 1.625% 2054	483	1.20
261,000	UK (Govt of) 1.625% 2071	359	0.89
581,000	UK (Govt of) 1.75% 2049	707	1.76
560,000	UK (Govt of) 1.75% 2057	718	1.79
450,278	UK (Govt of) 2.5% 2065	731	1.82
500,841	UK (Govt of) 3.5% 2068	1,033	2.57
575,087	UK (Govt of) 3.75% 2052	1,036	2.58
560,983	UK (Govt of) 4% 2060	1,155	2.87
548,000	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2046	980	2.44
468,970	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2049	876	2.18
601,403	UK (Govt of) 4.25% 2055	1,219	3.04
US Dollar Denominated Bonds (0.00%)		129	0.32
Government Bonds (0.00%)		129	0.32
greater than 25 years to maturity			
75,200	US Treasury 1% Indexed Bonds 2048	82	0.20
44,000	US Treasury 1% Index-Linked 2049	47	0.12
Collective Investment Schemes (0.87%)		1,157	2.89
1,157	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	1,157	2.89
Derivatives (0.36%)		30	0.07
Forward Currency Contracts (0.00%)		30	0.07
	Buy GBP 26,469 Sell USD 33,729 21/10/2020	1	-
	Buy GBP 133,817 Sell USD 173,982 21/10/2020	4	0.01
	Buy GBP 928,474 Sell USD 1,163,134 21/10/2020	60	0.15
	Buy USD 574,141 Sell GBP 439,268 21/10/2020	(10)	(0.03)
	Buy USD 628,400 Sell GBP 494,032 21/10/2020	(25)	(0.06)

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Futures (0.03%)		7	0.02
15	Long Australia 10 Year Bond Future 15/09/2020	(8)	(0.02)
22	Long Euro Bond Future 08/09/2020	(16)	(0.04)
24	Long US 5 Year Note 31/12/2020	2	0.01
(16)	Short Euro-Oat Future 08/09/2020	5	0.01
(23)	Short Long Gilt Future 29/12/2020	18	0.05
(9)	Short US 10 Year Ultra Future 21/12/2020	5	0.01
(1)	Short US Ultra Bond (CBT) Future 21/12/2020	1	-
Inflation Swaps (0.09%)		14	0.03
GBP 45,000	Pay fixed 3.5125% receive floating UKRPI 15/03/2029	(1)	-
GBP 60,000	Pay fixed 3.5125% receive floating UKRPI 15/03/2029	(2)	-
GBP 1,230,000	Pay floating UKRPI receive fixed 3.305% 15/02/2025	9	0.02
GBP 152,000	Pay floating UKRPI receive fixed 3.433% 15/02/2030	-	-
GBP 300,000	Pay floating UKRPI receive fixed 3.4525% 15/12/2029	1	(0.01)
GBP 300,000	Pay floating UKRPI receive fixed 3.5125% 15/03/2029	7	0.02
Interest Rate Swaps (0.24%)		(21)	(0.05)
EUR 403,000	Pay fixed 0.215% receive floating EURIBOR 12/02/2030	(5)	(0.01)
EUR 404,250	Pay fixed 0.3% receive floating EURIBOR 25/10/2029	(6)	(0.01)
EUR 404,250	Pay fixed 0.33% receive floating EURIBOR 24/10/2029	(6)	(0.02)
EUR 404,250	Pay fixed 0.332% receive floating EURIBOR 24/10/2029	(6)	(0.02)
EUR 405,000	Pay fixed 0.42% receive floating EURIBOR 15/11/2029	(8)	(0.02)
EUR 365,000	Pay fixed 0.4215% receive floating EURIBOR 09/01/2030	(7)	(0.02)
EUR 411,500	Pay fixed 0.444% receive floating EURIBOR 11/11/2029	(8)	(0.02)
CAD 6,825,000	Pay floating CAD-BA-CDOR receive fixed 0.7983% 25/07/2024	(1)	-
CAD 2,275,000	Pay floating CAD-BA-CDOR receive fixed 0.8% 25/07/2024	-	-
SEK 4,703,000	Pay floating SEK-STIBOR receive fixed 0.6975% 12/02/2030	1	-
SEK 4,503,000	Pay floating SEK-STIBOR receive fixed 0.75% 25/10/2029	3	0.01
SEK 4,503,000	Pay floating SEK-STIBOR receive fixed 0.766% 24/10/2029	3	0.01
SEK 4,503,000	Pay floating SEK-STIBOR receive fixed 0.772% 24/10/2029	3	0.01
SEK 4,500,000	Pay floating SEK-STIBOR receive fixed 0.85% 15/11/2029	5	0.01
SEK 4,825,000	Pay floating SEK-STIBOR receive fixed 0.879% 11/11/2029	6	0.02
SEK 3,675,000	Pay floating SEK-STIBOR receive fixed 0.9215% 09/01/2030	5	0.01
Total investment assets and liabilities		39,902	99.35
Net other assets		261	0.65
Total Net Assets		40,163	100.00

All investments (excluding OTC derivatives) are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities, regulated collective investment schemes or approved derivatives within the meaning of the FCA rules.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		442		3,556
Revenue	172		240	
Expenses	(111)		(104)	
Net revenue before taxation	61		136	
Taxation	-		-	
Net revenue after taxation		61		136
Total return before distributions		503		3,692
Distributions		(63)		(136)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		440		3,556

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		34,858		36,342
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	10,859		1,640	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(6,032)		(4,662)	
		4,827		(3,022)
Dilution adjustment		3		-
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		440		3,556
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		35		65
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		40,163		36,941

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		40,011		35,155
Current assets:				
Debtors	760		286	
Cash and bank balances	134		2	
		894		288
Total assets		40,905		35,443
Liabilities:				
Investment liabilities		(109)		(130)
Creditors	(608)		(348)	
Bank overdrafts	–		(58)	
Distribution payable	(25)		(49)	
		(633)		(455)
Total liabilities		(742)		(585)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		40,163		34,858

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Accumulation share class has increased by 1.79% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

Interim interest distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	-	-	-	0.1656
Group 2	-	-	-	0.1656
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.1565	-	0.1565	0.3332
Group 2	0.1516	0.0049	0.1565	0.3332
Retail income				
Group 1	-	-	-	0.1047
Group 2	-	-	-	0.1047
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.0930	-	0.0930	0.2000
Group 2	0.0221	0.0709	0.0930	0.2000
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	0.3469	-	0.3469	0.5395
Group 2	0.2635	0.0834	0.3469	0.5395
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.0980	-	0.0980	0.2292
Group 2	0.0593	0.0387	0.0980	0.2292
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.0914	-	0.0914	0.2153
Group 2	0.0411	0.0503	0.0914	0.2153

Equalisation

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

ASI UK Growth Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in UK equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the FTSE All-Share Index, plus 3% per annum over rolling three year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

Performance Comparator: IA UK All Companies Equity Sector Average.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target/comparator for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index/sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated, or domiciled in the UK or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from UK operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. The research process is focused on identifying companies where the management team have a different view than that of the market, and which align with their views regarding future economic and business conditions.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the FTSE All-Share Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 8%. Due to the fund's risk constraints, the intention is that the fund's performance profile will not deviate significantly from that of the FTSE All-Share Index over the longer term.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance Review

Over the six-month period to the end of August, the fund returned -6.9%. This compared to a return of -5.9% for our performance target (the FTSE All-Share Index +3%).

The coronavirus and the subsequent lockdown measures negatively affected our holding in housebuilder Bellway. Despite the reopening of its sites, management said they did not expect a recovery in sales until restrictions were eased further. Standard Chartered detracted from performance, as the Asia-focused bank had to contend with increasing impairment costs, low interest rates and ongoing US-China tensions. Oil services group John Wood suffered when the oil price slumped due to the collapse in global growth. Elsewhere, not having exposure to Unilever and Ocado Group was also detrimental to the fund's relative return.

On the upside, less-than-benchmark positions in large stocks that struggled during the period helped relative returns. For example, HSBC's dividend cut weighed on its share price, while global interest rates edged lower at a time of growing political uncertainty in Hong Kong. Similarly, not holding Lloyds Bank also benefited the fund's relative return. Elsewhere, Royal Dutch Shell cuts its dividend in response to the oil-price collapse and saw its shares marked down. Our position in Indivior, the developer of opioid addiction treatment, posted strong performance after it settled legal proceedings in the US. Fever-Tree was boosted by shifting consumer habits when pubs and bars closed.

Activity

Purchases during the period included WH Smith, which operates retail outlets in a number of airports. It has understandably seen a collapse in trading given the restriction in airport activity. However, we believe that WH Smith's recapitalised balance sheet will buy the company time and market share, ensuring it is in a strong position when passenger numbers recover. We also took part in JD Wetherspoon's equity placing. It operates large pubs that are better suited to social distancing. Its low-cost proposition also allows it to flex pricing more than competitors, ensuring a more stable margin outlook. We bought Auto Trader Group as it was quick to raise money from investors, ensuring it had the financial strength to waive fees from customers during lockdown. This gesture should drive market share gains. Elsewhere, we added student accommodation developer Unite Group. Unite offers an undervalued unique asset. The business is also in a position to deploy its recently strengthened balance sheet for growth. We also took advantage of a discounted secondary equity placing in Helios Towers, the owner and operator of telecommunication towers in emerging markets. Helios enjoys strong growth opportunities, reflecting the underlying demographic drivers of its end markets.

In other activity, we exited insurance firm Hastings. The company received a bid from an international consortium, and we are not expecting a counter-bid. We sold out of Associated British Foods, owner of Primark and various grocery brands. Primark requires high footfall to drive its value proposition and we were unsure about how policies regarding social distancing would unfold. We also decided to exit travel operator TUI. The debt created during

lockdown makes the risk of a slow recovery in consumer sentiment a genuine threat to the company's survival. The oil-price collapse practically destroyed profitability in the US shale industry, and led us to selling oil services business Hunting. Even high-quality service providers like Hunting will struggle in a low oil price environment. We exited Boohoo as significant environmental, social and corporate-governance concerns came to the forefront of our thinking. In addition, we were unsure what implications this would have for sales and profit margins, and with a valuation already high, there was little room built in for potential reputational and operating risks. Lastly, we reduced our holding in HSBC and Royal Dutch Shell. Both companies cut their dividends and each face a challenging trading environment.

Outlook & strategy

In an attempt to mitigate the full effects of the crisis, central-bank activity is creating movements and correlations many thought impossible given the fundamentals of the current situation. What is important is that we stay true to our process of taking stock-specific risks and maintaining regular contact with companies. We also cannot forget that COVID-19 is not the only risk that investors face. We are closely monitoring the developments in Hong Kong, tensions between Australia and China, the US presidential election and the political volatility in South America. We need to remember that Brexit is still a real risk given the end of 2020 deadline for the UK to reach a trade deal with the EU.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 5 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- A concentrated portfolio may be more volatile and less liquid than a more broadly diversified one. The fund's investments are concentrated in a particular country or sector.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	71,723	79,274	89,945	97,856
Closing number of shares	24,292,410	24,915,909	26,908,178	29,067,158
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	295.25	318.17	334.26	336.66
Change in net asset value per share	(7.20%)	(4.81%)	(0.71%)	4.95%
Operating charges	1.33%	1.32%	1.32%	1.32%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	44,527	77,629	112,341	114,211
Closing number of shares	12,736,769	20,655,021	28,582,390	28,987,527
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	349.60	375.84	393.04	394.00
Change in net asset value per share	(6.98%)	(4.38%)	(0.24%)	5.44%
Operating charges	0.86%	0.85%	0.86%	0.85%

Standard Life income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	1	– [^]	1
Closing number of shares	–	1,485	137	2,000
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	60.71	65.84	68.26
Change in net asset value per share	(17.15%)	(7.79%)	(3.55%)	2.60%
Operating charges	0.02%	0.02%	0.03%	0.02%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,305	1,513	1,751	1,875
Closing number of shares	1,124,709	1,217,187	1,357,364	1,460,721
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	116.04	124.27	128.99	128.34
Change in net asset value per share	(6.62%)	(3.66%)	0.51%	6.23%
Operating charges	0.11%	0.10%	0.11%	0.10%

Institutional regulated accumulation ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	1	– ^{^^}	3
Closing number of shares	–	790	76	2,000
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	119.67	126.13	122.32
Change in net asset value per share	(17.01%)	(5.12%)	3.11%	5.89%
Operating charges	0.40%	0.40%	0.40%	0.40%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 27 March 2020.

[^] The closing net asset of Standard Life income is £90.

^{^^} The closing net asset value of Institutional regulated accumulation is £97.

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	7,859	8,489	9,928	11,368
Closing number of shares	11,093,628	11,143,484	12,455,683	14,220,474
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	70.84	76.18	79.70	79.94
Change in net asset value per share	(7.01%)	(4.42%)	(0.30%)	5.39%
Operating charges	0.91%	0.90%	0.91%	0.90%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
UK Equities (99.45%)		124,417	99.21
Basic Materials (8.21%)		12,585	10.03
99,431	Anglo American	1,822	1.45
184,976	BHP	3,168	2.53
508,591	Centamin	1,063	0.84
913,666	Glencore	1,546	1.23
73,856	Johnson Matthey	1,753	1.40
69,753	Rio Tinto	3,233	2.58
Consumer Goods (17.66%)		19,364	15.44
48,582	Bellway	1,160	0.93
219,671	British American Tobacco	5,562	4.43
93,176	Coca-Cola HBC	1,857	1.48
369,408	Countryside Properties	1,188	0.95
64,535	Fever Tree Drinks++	1,326	1.06
72,186	Imperial Brands	904	0.72
663,315	McCarthy & Stone	476	0.38
80,534	Reckitt Benckiser	6,047	4.82
122,798	Redrow	560	0.45
212,942	SuperGroup	284	0.22
Consumer Services (7.78%)		13,140	10.48
392,243	888 Holdings	781	0.62
225,439	Auto Trader	1,269	1.01
389,908	Cineworld	246	0.20
217,722	GVC	1,750	1.40
14,733	Just Eat Takeaway.Com	1,239	0.99
568,378	Rank	767	0.61
245,485	RELX	4,178	3.33
227,707	Rightmove	1,443	1.15
73,394	Wetherspoon (J.D.)	751	0.60
60,875	WH Smith	716	0.57
Financials (21.32%)		25,268	20.15
281,056	Ashmore	1,184	0.94
1,661,609	Barclays	1,860	1.48
348,118	Capital & Counties Properties	450	0.36
138,943	Close Brothers	1,559	1.24
507,012	HSBC	1,674	1.34
68,145	Intermediate Capital	931	0.74
636,496	John Laing	1,815	1.45

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
1,770,126	Just	900	0.72
32,120	London Stock Exchange	2,826	2.25
342,735	M&G	593	0.47
208,432	Onesavings Bank	633	0.51
307,737	Phoenix	2,129	1.70
342,736	Prudential	4,185	3.34
112,331	St James's Place	1,100	0.88
589,130	Standard Chartered	2,311	1.84
115,626	Unite	1,118	0.89
Health Care (15.16%)		22,672	18.08
103,085	AstraZeneca	8,596	6.86
1,011,001	ConvaTec	1,936	1.54
69,250	Dechra Pharmaceuticals	2,180	1.74
71,999	Genus	2,425	1.93
428,741	GlaxoSmithKline	6,310	5.03
1,033,272	Indivior	1,225	0.98
Industrials (9.17%)		10,830	8.64
553,851	BAE Systems	2,877	2.29
121,669	Bodycote	682	0.54
180,036	De La Rue	262	0.21
139,226	Inchcape	703	0.56
403,523	IWG	1,136	0.91
205,605	Kier	122	0.10
196,138	Network International	734	0.59
292,156	Polypipe	1,269	1.01
242,357	Rentokil	1,291	1.03
414,304	Smith (DS)	1,071	0.85
166,997	Vesuvius	683	0.55
Oil & Gas (13.49%)		10,378	8.27
1,692,758	BP	4,471	3.57
518,189	Cairn Energy	730	0.58
140,053	Energean Oil & Gas	802	0.64
227,005	Kosmos Energy	251	0.20
138,940	Royal Dutch Shell 'A'	1,538	1.22
142,190	Royal Dutch Shell 'B'	1,511	1.20
434,066	Wood Group	1,075	0.86

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Technology (0.00%)		1,404	1.12
27,687	AVEVA	1,404	1.12
Telecommunications (3.63%)		5,143	4.10
487,498	Helios Towers	745	0.59
82,139	Telecom Plus	1,125	0.90
2,937,910	Vodafone	3,273	2.61
Utilities (3.03%)		3,633	2.90
321,100	National Grid	2,707	2.16
111,378	United Utilities	926	0.74
Collective Investment Schemes (0.42%)		468	0.37
467	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	468	0.37
Total investment assets		124,885	99.58
Net other assets		529	0.42
Total Net Assets		125,414	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

++ AIM listed.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital losses		(14,053)		(3,130)
Revenue	2,676		5,387	
Expenses	(763)		(1,138)	
Net revenue before taxation	1,913		4,249	
Taxation	(6)		(35)	
Net revenue after taxation		1,907		4,214
Total return before equalisation		(12,146)		1,084
Equalisation on shares		(233)		(52)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		(12,379)		1,032

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		166,907		213,965
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	1,287		833	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(30,398)		(6,023)	
Dilution adjustment		(29,111)		(5,190)
		(3)		-
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		(12,379)		1,032
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		125,414		209,807

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		124,885		166,692
Current assets:				
Debtors	773		750	
Cash and bank balances	1		5	
		774		755
Total assets		125,659		167,447
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(245)		(540)	
		(245)		(540)
Total liabilities		(245)		(540)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		125,414		166,907

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Retail Accumulation share class has decreased by 1.98% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

ASI UK High Alpha Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in UK equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the FTSE 350 Index plus 4% per annum over rolling three year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

Performance Comparator: IA UK All Companies Equity Sector Average.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target/comparator for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index/sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in the UK or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from UK operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a concentrated asset mix at sector and stock level, with sector weightings within the portfolio typically a by-product of the underlying stock exposure.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. The research process is focused on identifying companies where the management team have a different view than that of the market, and which align with their views regarding future economic and business conditions.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the FTSE 350 Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 10%. Due to the active nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the FTSE 350 Index.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance

Over the period under review, the fund returned -7.9%. This compared to a return of -5.4% for our performance target (the FTSE 350 Index +4%).

Superdry, a position we have since exited, detracted significantly from performance. Its share price barely recovered from March lows and has been trading sideways ever since. The fashion retailer had announced it was withdrawing its full-year dividend as pandemic-related lockdowns forcibly shuttered its stores worldwide: a large equity raise is foreseeable and we do not want to participate given the underlying risk. Cinema chain operator Cineworld Group detracted strongly from performance. The company only reopened its cinemas at the end of July, just as the number of daily coronavirus cases began to increase again after months of decline – sparking fears of a second lockdown. As a result, consumer sentiment remains muted. The fund's large absolute holding in, but relative underweight exposure to, pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca also hurt relative performance. Ongoing COVID-19 vaccine expectations meant that AstraZeneca's shares performed well over the period.

Specialty pharmaceuticals company Indivior was a top contributor to performance. In July, the company's former CEO pled guilty to false information when promoting Suboxone Film in the US. The company has also agreed to pay US\$600 million in fines. However, the market viewed the removal of this lingering uncertainty positively, and its share prices rose substantially after the settlement was announced. The fund benefited from our position in 888, the Israel-based online gaming business, which performed well during lockdown. The fund's decision to sell HSBC was positive for relative returns over the review period. HSBC's dividend cut weighed on its share price, while global interest rates edged lower at a time of growing political uncertainty in Hong Kong.

Activity

We invested in Signature Aviation, a dominant fixed-base operator for the private and business jet market. Signature is primarily exposed to the US, where activity was understandably sluggish during the lockdown period. The valuation now prices in a weak operating environment. However, we think that the demand for private jet travel may even increase if social distancing becomes the new norm. Elsewhere, we participated in the Hiscox equity placing. This is a high-quality insurance business but there are concerns that its business interruption (BI) policies will lead to unexpected claims during the lockdown period. Our analysis of a worst-case scenario suggests that the BI risk is limited. In other moves, we switched from Rio Tinto into BHP. The valuation gap between Rio Tinto and BHP has widened substantially, despite the underlying quality of BHP's portfolio. Both firms will respond in similar ways to the macro environment.

We exited our position in Boohoo Group, the online fast-fashion retailer, after an undercover investigation accused Boohoo of exploitative conditions at one of its factories. Though the outcome of the investigation is yet to be determined, we felt the progress Boohoo was making on ESG factors was not happening fast enough despite our proactive engagement with the business. We also sold our position in holiday operator TUI. The level of debt being created in the business during the lockdown period makes the risks of a slow recovery to consumer sentiment a genuine threat to the survival of this business. Lastly, we sold out of financial services business Just Group and Royal Bank of Scotland. Both are sensitive to the UK macro outlook and we wanted to minimise our exposure to factor risk.

Outlook and Strategy

In an attempt to mitigate the full effects of the crisis, central-bank activity is creating movements and correlations many thought impossible given the fundamentals of the current situation. What is important is that we stay true to our process of taking stock-specific risks, lowering factor risks and maintaining regular contact with companies.

We cannot forget that COVID-19 is not the only risk that markets face. We are closely monitoring the developments in Hong Kong, as well as the growing sense of global scepticism towards China as their economy and foreign policy begin to have a more tangible effect on the global stage. The outcome of the US presidential election grows more uncertain and Brexit uncertainty continues to dampen investor sentiment towards the UK. Principally, we need to remember that Brexit is still a real risk given the end of 2020 deadline for the UK to reach a trade deal with the EU. This does not allow a lot of room for manoeuvre, especially as governments are still dealing with COVID-19.

With such a wide range of outcomes, one needs to take extra caution when investing. We have seen extreme stimulus measures obscure the importance of fundamental analysis and there is an increasing disconnect between index levels and the realities faced by companies: this is a market where careful stock picking is required albeit where opportunities abound.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future. The risk and reward indicator changed from 5 to 6 on 13 August 2020.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 6 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- A concentrated portfolio may be more volatile and less liquid than a more broadly diversified one. The fund's investments are concentrated in a particular country or sector.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	58,063	64,672	81,896	57,513
Closing number of shares	33,084,787	33,730,227	38,900,539	25,982,641
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	175.50	191.73	210.53	221.35
Change in net asset value per share	(8.47%)	(8.93%)	(4.89%)	9.71%
Operating charges	1.33%	1.33%	1.32%	1.32%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	2,974	3,485	100,290	108,606
Closing number of shares	1,647,606	1,771,084	46,642,694	48,265,529
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	180.54	196.77	215.02	225.02
Change in net asset value per share	(8.25%)	(8.49%)	(4.44%)	10.23%
Operating charges	0.86%	0.86%	0.85%	0.85%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	6,876	7,888	9,863	47,248
Closing number of shares	9,264,761	9,591,179	10,537,298	46,379,591
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	74.22	82.24	93.60	101.87
Change in net asset value per share	(9.75%)	(12.14%)	(8.12%)	6.61%
Operating charges	1.33%	1.33%	1.32%	1.32%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	339	372	517	702
Closing number of shares	622,266	618,174	758,971	942,915
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	54.48	60.23	68.23	74.42
Change in net asset value per share	(9.55%)	(11.73%)	(8.32%)	7.13%
Operating charges	0.86%	0.86%	0.85%	0.85%

Standard Life income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	1	– [^]	7,939
Closing number of shares	–	949	99	6,679,128
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	98.11	110.14	118.86
Change in net asset value per share	(21.29%)	(10.92%)	(7.34%)	8.01%
Operating charges	0.03%	0.03%	0.02%	0.02%

he closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

[^] The closing net asset value of Standard Life income is £109.

^A Share class closed on 27 March 2020.

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	93	403	438	512
Closing number of shares	42,664	171,291	171,474	193,167
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	216.89	235.50	255.43	265.31
Change in net asset value per share	(7.90%)	(7.80%)	(3.72%)	11.06%
Operating charges	0.11%	0.11%	0.10%	0.10%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	5,701	6,563	9,188	10,594
Closing number of shares	6,984,172	7,375,136	9,441,567	10,397,625
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	81.62	88.99	97.31	101.89
Change in net asset value per share	(8.28%)	(8.55%)	(4.50%)	10.18%
Operating charges	0.91%	0.91%	0.90%	0.90%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,168	1,428	1,799	2,058
Closing number of shares	1,856,831	2,052,670	2,282,148	2,392,256
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	62.90	69.55	78.83	86.02
Change in net asset value per share	(9.56%)	(11.77%)	(8.36%)	7.07%
Operating charges	0.91%	0.91%	0.90%	0.90%

he closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
UK Equities (98.05%)		74,693	99.31
Basic Materials (7.35%)		6,602	8.78
173,999	BHP	2,980	3.96
868,473	Elementis	626	0.83
1,342,897	Glencore	2,272	3.02
49,598	Mondi	724	0.97
Consumer Goods (21.91%)		13,956	18.56
37,196	Bellway	888	1.18
131,124	British American Tobacco	3,320	4.42
75,330	Coca-Cola HBC	1,502	2.00
133,814	Countryside Properties	430	0.57
110,471	Diageo	2,772	3.69
80,547	Persimmon	2,110	2.80
39,081	Reckitt Benckiser	2,934	3.90
Consumer Services (12.98%)		9,834	13.07
649,209	888 Holdings	1,292	1.72
756,243	Cineworld	477	0.63
112,204	Euromoney Institutional Investor	938	1.25
85,945	Go-Ahead	566	0.75
276,574	GVC	2,224	2.95
24,196	Just Eat Takeaway.Com	2,035	2.70
625,780	Marston's	331	0.44
584,039	Rank	788	1.05
52,395	RELX	892	1.19
24,708	WH Smith	291	0.39
Financials (16.82%)		12,480	16.59
408,423	Capital & Counties Properties	528	0.70
72,936	Close Brothers	818	1.09
113,755	Hiscox	902	1.20
47,736	Intermediate Capital	652	0.87
264,614	John Laing	755	1.00
32,146	London Stock Exchange	2,828	3.76
241,473	Prudential	2,948	3.92
339,258	Standard Chartered	1,331	1.77
177,674	Unite	1,718	2.28

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Health Care (11.62%)		9,731	12.94
128,551	Abcam++	1,603	2.13
35,032	AstraZeneca	2,921	3.88
545,705	ConvaTec	1,045	1.39
184,854	GlaxoSmithKline	2,721	3.62
1,214,587	Indivior	1,441	1.92
46,936	NMC Healthcare*	-	-
Industrials (10.31%)		9,937	13.21
125,084	Bodycote	701	0.93
2,684,801	Coats Group	1,479	1.97
296,871	IWG	835	1.11
194,400	Melrose Industries	198	0.26
320,352	Network International	1,199	1.59
606,789	Signature Aviation	1,601	2.13
502,017	Smith (DS)	1,298	1.73
327,791	Vesuvius	1,340	1.78
101,377	Weir	1,286	1.71
Oil & Gas (12.85%)		7,344	9.76
858,015	BP	2,266	3.01
229,624	Energiean Oil & Gas	1,315	1.75
326,407	Kosmos Energy	366	0.48
269,662	Royal Dutch Shell 'B'	2,866	3.81
214,225	Wood Group	531	0.71
Technology (0.00%)		2,035	2.71
40,133	AVEVA	2,035	2.71
Utilities (4.21%)		2,774	3.69
1,529,092	Centrica	704	0.94
164,500	SSE	2,070	2.75
Collective Investment Schemes (1.88%)		400	0.53
400	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	400	0.53
Total investment assets		75,093	99.84
Net other assets		121	0.16
Total Net Assets		75,214	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

* Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

** AIM listed.

* Suspended.

Statement of Total Return

for the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital losses		(7,836)		(7,257)
Revenue	1,105		4,297	
Expenses	(474)		(1,003)	
Net revenue before taxation	631		3,294	
Taxation	(3)		(18)	
Net revenue after taxation		628		3,276
Total return before distributions		(7,208)		(3,981)
Distributions		(1,091)		(4,259)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		(8,299)		(8,240)

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

for the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		84,812		203,991
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	493		578	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(2,752)		(30,683)	
		(2,259)		(30,105)
Dilution adjustment		–		47
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		(8,299)		(8,240)
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		960		3,661
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		75,214		169,354

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		75,093		84,753
Current assets:				
Debtors	408		335	
Cash and bank balances	1		1	
		409		336
Total assets		75,502		85,089
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(230)		(223)	
Distribution payable	(58)		(54)	
		(288)		(277)
Total liabilities		(288)		(277)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		75,214		84,812

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Retail Accumulation share class has decreased by 1.67% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution Tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

First interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 May 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31/07/20	Distribution paid 31/07/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	1.3038	-	1.3038	3.1433
Group 2	0.4377	0.8661	1.3038	3.1433
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	1.3386	-	1.3386	3.2120
Group 2	0.4976	0.8410	1.3386	3.2120
Retail income				
Group 1	0.5591	-	0.5591	1.3976
Group 2	0.0888	0.4703	0.5591	1.3976
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.4096	-	0.4096	1.0193
Group 2	-	0.4096	0.4096	1.0193
Standard Life income				
Group 1	-	-	-	1.6114
Group 2	-	-	-	1.6114
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	1.6027	-	1.6027	3.8187
Group 2	0.8573	0.7454	1.6027	3.8187
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.6054	-	0.6054	1.4536
Group 2	0.1257	0.4797	0.6054	1.4536
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.4730	-	0.4730	1.1775
Group 2	0.1273	0.3457	0.4730	1.1775

Second interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 June 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 June 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	1.1967	-	1.1967	1.5708
Group 2	0.9884	0.2083	1.1967	1.5708
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	1.2305	-	1.2305	1.6074
Group 2	1.0309	0.1996	1.2305	1.6074
Retail income				
Group 1	0.5096	-	0.5096	0.6877
Group 2	0.2867	0.2229	0.5096	0.6877
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.3740	-	0.3740	0.5023
Group 2	0.2071	0.1669	0.3740	0.5023
Standard Life income				
Group 1	-	-	-	0.8006
Group 2	-	-	-	0.8006
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	1.4744	-	1.4744	1.9157
Group 2	1.2412	0.2332	1.4744	1.9157
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.5563	-	0.5563	0.7274
Group 2	0.4824	0.0739	0.5563	0.7274
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.4317	-	0.4317	0.5801
Group 2	0.3744	0.0573	0.4317	0.5801

Equalisation

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

ASI UK High Income Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate income and some growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in UK equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To exceed the IA UK Equity Income Sector Average return over 1 year and to be top quartile over three years or longer and deliver a yield greater than that of the FTSE 350 Index over rolling three year periods. The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes that this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in the UK or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from UK operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. The research process is focused on identifying companies where the management team have a different view of a company's prospects than that of the market, and which align with their views regarding future economic and business conditions.
- The combined average yield on assets in the fund is expected to be higher than the broad UK equity market, as represented by the FTSE 350 Index.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the FTSE 350 Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 8%. Due to the income nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the FTSE 350 Index.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth at proportionate risk (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").

- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance Review

Over the six-month period to the end of August, the fund returned -10.6%. This compared to a return of -10.3% for our performance target (IA UK Equity Income Sector Average). Meanwhile, the Fund's yield was 4.4% over the period, versus a yield target of 4.5% (the FTSE 350 Index).

The fund was slightly behind the benchmark return. The coronavirus and the subsequent effects of lockdown measures, which included a plunge in the oil price, negatively impacted the fund's performance. More significantly, dividend yield as a factor continues to perform poorly in the UK and globally. Given the fund's premium-yield requirement compared even to the income sector, some underperformance should be expected.

BP weighed heavily on the fund's relative performance as it addressed challenges to its cash flow. The company cut its dividend by half and revised down its assumed oil price. Underperformance from BP was offset by the benefit of an underweight position in Royal Dutch Shell, however. Cineworld suffered when the COVID-19 restrictions forced the closure of its cinemas. The business is grappling with high debt at a time when it is not generating any revenue. Cineworld is working with its lenders to help it navigate these cashflow pressures. Bus operator Go-Ahead also performed poorly, as investors remain concerned that in a world of social distancing there will be a long-term decline in demand for public transport. Not having any exposure to the defensive qualities of Reckitt Benckiser and Unilever also detracted from returns. The earnings of these consumer goods companies are considered to be stable during times of economic weakness, but they offer low levels of income so are not natural overweight positions in a fund with a high-yield target.

By contrast, holdings that did well included Hastings. The motor insurance business was the target of a bid from an international consortium looking to gain exposure to the UK market and to buy its technology platform. Our position in opioid addiction treatment developer Indivior posted strong performance after it settled legal proceedings in the US. Diversified Gas & Oil added value after investors reacted positively to its results. These demonstrated strong cash generation, vindicating its business model – acquiring the unwanted oil wells of larger energy producers and growing its cashflow and dividend. Having underweight positions compared to the market index in HSBC, Lloyds Banking and Royal Dutch Shell also benefited the fund's relative returns. Each faces challenges of operating in a low-growth, low interest-rate environment.

Activity

We added student accommodation developer Unite Group, which is undervalued and a unique asset. The business is also in a position to deploy its strengthened balance sheet for growth. WH Smith was another addition. The company operates retail outlets in a number of airports. It has understandably seen a collapse in trading given the restriction in airport activity. However, we believe that WH Smith's recapitalised balance sheet will buy the company time and market share. Office rental business IWG was another new purchase, as its franchise model should drive a re-rating over time. It may also have an opportunity to pick up assets from distressed sellers through the downturn, and is well positioned given its offering of small, flexible workspaces. A new position in Intermediate Capital Group was established in this non-bank financing specialist. Its unique capital structure creates high returns, with likely increased demand in the current environment. We opened a new position in bingo and casino operator Rank. The company has a strong balance sheet that is undervalued. We believe the business will recover its profitability once the trading backdrop normalises.

On sales, we exited insurance firm Hastings as we are not expecting a counter-bid. We reduced oil major Royal Dutch Shell because of increased risk to earnings and dividends from a lower oil price. A prolonged synchronised downturn across all of its end markets would make it more challenging to maintain the dividend. Similarly, HSBC was reduced. This was not only because of its dividend cut, important though this was, but also because it faces a challenging trading environment. In particular, continuing US-China tensions, pressures in Hong Kong, low interest rates and increased risk of asset impairment may all affect the company. We sold out of International Airlines Group. The position is sub-scale and the sale helps control risk metrics. We feel the company is unlikely to be a dividend payer in the near future, due to the high level of government support. Lastly, the oil price collapse practically destroyed profitability in the US shale industry and led us to selling oil services business Hunting.

Outlook & strategy

In an attempt to mitigate the full effects of the crisis, central-bank activity is creating movements and correlations many thought impossible given the fundamentals of the current situation. What is important is that we stay true to our process of taking stock-specific risks and maintaining regular contact with companies. We also cannot forget that COVID-19 is not the only risk that investors face. We are closely monitoring the developments in Hong Kong, tension between Australia and China, the US presidential election and the political volatility in South America. We need to remember that Brexit is still a real risk given the end of 2020 deadline for the UK to reach a trade deal with the EU.

The current situation remains especially challenging for income investing. An outlook for low interest rates and a flat yield curve favours growth equities over value, something that is a headwind to the fund as growth and momentum result in low yields. At the same time, the economic uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has led to an unprecedented number of dividend cuts in the UK market.

While that seems a bearish outlook, it potentially creates the conditions for the fund's style to outperform over the medium term. There has been a rapid increase in money supply as governments act to support the economy through the pandemic. This may well lead to inflation, particularly if a working vaccine becomes available, something we expect in the next few years. In this scenario, we should expect to see the yield curve begin to steepen, something that would favour value equities and income strategies. Given the historically wide dispersion in equity valuations between growth and value, there is potential for improved performance in the medium term. In the meantime, we remain optimistic of driving style-independent returns by investing in stock specific investment cases.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 6 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- A concentrated portfolio may be more volatile and less liquid than a more broadly diversified one. The fund's investments are concentrated in a particular country or sector.
- The fund invests in securities which are subject to the risk that the issuer may default on interest or capital payments.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The fund price can go up or down daily for a variety of reasons including changes in interest rates, inflation expectations or the perceived credit quality of individual countries or securities.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	64,644	76,370	96,548	68,077
Closing number of shares	33,425,545	35,171,435	40,099,571	27,066,578
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	193.40	217.14	240.77	251.52
Change in net asset value per share	(10.93%)	(9.81%)	(4.27%)	5.52%
Operating charges	1.32%	1.32%	1.32%	1.31%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	178,057	200,020	231,571	195,927
Closing number of shares	81,256,336	81,498,648	85,468,987	69,550,690
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	219.13	245.43	270.94	281.70
Change in net asset value per share	(10.72%)	(9.42%)	(3.82%)	6.01%
Operating charges	0.85%	0.85%	0.85%	0.84%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	14,589	17,585	24,146	72,420
Closing number of shares	25,250,499	26,487,631	31,162,076	85,131,399
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	57.78	66.39	77.48	85.07
Change in net asset value per share	(12.97%)	(14.31%)	(8.92%)	1.38%
Operating charges	1.32%	1.32%	1.32%	1.31%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	8,792	14,199	32,231	36,939
Closing number of shares	13,422,361	18,914,828	36,960,876	38,771,540
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	65.50	75.07	87.20	95.27
Change in net asset value per share	(12.75%)	(13.91%)	(8.47%)	1.86%
Operating charges	0.85%	0.85%	0.85%	0.84%

Standard Life income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	7,906	22,607	33,640	50,320
Closing number of shares	16,334,136	40,917,269	52,856,582	72,979,527
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	48.40	55.25	63.64	68.95
Change in net asset value per share	(12.40%)	(13.18%)	(7.70%)	2.71%
Operating charges	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	344	382	469	656
Closing number of shares	261,990	260,801	291,774	395,824
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	131.40	146.62	160.62	165.76
Change in net asset value per share	(10.38%)	(8.72%)	(3.10%)	6.81%
Operating charges	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.09%

Institutional regulated accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	22,698	26,699	42,922	51,500
Closing number of shares	9,286,028	9,774,080	14,300,401	16,577,787
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	244.43	273.16	300.14	310.66
Change in net asset value per share	(10.52%)	(8.99%)	(3.39%)	6.49%
Operating charges	0.40%	0.40%	0.40%	0.39%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	18,455	21,961	30,320	39,597
Closing number of shares	26,410,038	28,050,994	35,064,338	44,022,322
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	69.88	78.29	86.47	89.95
Change in net asset value per share	(10.74%)	(9.46%)	(3.87%)	5.96%
Operating charges	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.89%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	15,593	19,542	28,147	36,126
Closing number of shares	31,837,071	34,798,700	43,126,088	50,637,905
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	48.98	56.16	65.27	71.34
Change in net asset value per share	(12.78%)	(13.96%)	(8.51%)	1.81%
Operating charges	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.89%

Institutional S accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1	1	— [^]	1
Closing number of shares	1,602	1,602	200	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	53.14	59.48	65.48	67.87
Change in net asset value per share	(10.66%)	(9.16%)	(3.52%)	6.10%
Operating charges	0.78%	0.78%	0.78%	0.77%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

[^] The closing net asset value of Institutional S accumulation is £131.

Institutional S income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1	1	— [^]	90,042
Closing number of shares	2,004	2,004	200	160,439,922
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	39.61	45.36	51.57	56.12
Change in net asset value per share	(12.68%)	(12.04%)	(8.11%)	1.93%
Operating charges	0.78%	0.78%	0.78%	0.77%

Institutional A income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	54	62	75	84
Closing number of shares	148,037	148,037	152,848	154,848
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	36.59	42.11	49.29	54.26
Change in net asset value per share	(13.11%)	(14.57%)	(9.16%)	1.12%
Operating charges	1.60%	1.60%	1.60%	1.59%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

[^] The closing net asset value of Institutional S Income is £103.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
UK Equities (99.63%)		328,823	99.30
Basic Materials (8.51%)		36,419	11.00
690,417	BHP	11,824	3.57
1,628,250	Centamin	3,403	1.03
3,046,712	Glencore	5,154	1.56
213,018	Mondi	3,111	0.94
278,926	Rio Tinto	12,927	3.90
Consumer Goods (14.99%)		43,839	13.24
96,429	Bellway	2,303	0.70
677,453	British American Tobacco	17,153	5.18
186,142	Coca-Cola HBC	3,711	1.12
1,440,739	Countryside Properties	4,633	1.40
177,054	Diageo	4,442	1.34
125,716	Fever Tree Drinks++	2,582	0.78
470,325	Imperial Brands	5,891	1.78
119,296	Persimmon	3,124	0.94
Consumer Services (8.34%)		21,439	6.47
2,446,576	Cineworld	1,543	0.46
350,875	Go-Ahead	2,311	0.70
1,185,695	GVC	9,533	2.88
1,832,930	Rank	2,474	0.75
2,395,516	Vivo Energy	1,818	0.55
319,699	WH Smith	3,760	1.13
Financials (22.10%)		78,219	23.62
775,531	Ashmore	3,268	0.99
6,010,579	Barclays	6,728	2.03
241,179	Close Brothers	2,706	0.82
926,146	Direct Line	2,730	0.82
648,438	HSBC	2,140	0.65
314,614	Intermediate Capital	4,298	1.30
1,785,253	John Laing	5,092	1.54
1,397,527	Legal & General	3,035	0.91
1,130,890	LondonMetric Property	2,676	0.81
2,830,721	M&G	4,896	1.48
2,538,664	Man Strategic	3,110	0.94
2,408,422	NatWest	2,715	0.82
574,645	Onesavings Bank	1,746	0.53

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
1,245,851	Phoenix	8,619	2.60
982,877	Prudential	12,001	3.62
371,428	St James's Place	3,639	1.10
1,277,940	Standard Chartered	5,012	1.51
393,814	Unite	3,808	1.15
Health Care (13.34%)		53,912	16.28
273,424	AstraZeneca	22,801	6.88
774,643	Clinigen++	5,287	1.60
1,880,670	ConvaTec	3,601	1.09
995,442	GlaxoSmithKline	14,651	4.42
641,800	Hutchison China MediTech++	3,138	0.95
3,738,299	Indivior	4,434	1.34
163,962	NMC Healthcare*	-	-
Industrials (5.47%)		24,348	7.35
1,036,568	BAE Systems	5,384	1.63
413,558	Bodycote	2,318	0.70
1,819,970	Equiniti	2,060	0.62
415,084	Inchcape	2,096	0.63
1,151,077	IWG	3,239	0.98
1,353,515	Kier	802	0.24
664,811	Polypipe	2,889	0.87
1,116,270	Smith (DS)	2,887	0.87
653,865	Vesuvius	2,673	0.81
Oil & Gas (17.72%)		45,781	13.83
5,781,411	BP	15,272	4.61
7,379,999	Diversified Gas & Oil	8,133	2.46
1,091,581	Energiean Oil & Gas	6,249	1.89
1,084,403	Kosmos Energy	1,215	0.37
510,357	Royal Dutch Shell 'A'	5,648	1.71
395,857	Royal Dutch Shell 'B'	4,207	1.27
22,830,242	Savannah Petroleum++	2,224	0.67
1,143,746	Wood Group	2,833	0.85
Telecommunications (2.19%)		7,262	2.19
6,518,128	Vodafone	7,262	2.19

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Utilities (6.97%)		17,604	5.32
1,451,213	National Grid	12,234	3.70
426,691	SSE	5,370	1.62
Collective Investment Schemes (0.84%)		1,086	0.33
1,086	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	1,086	0.33
Total investment assets		329,909	99.63
Net other assets		1,225	0.37
Total Net Assets		331,134	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

++ AIM listed.

* Suspended.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital losses		(47,030)		(28,152)
Revenue	8,225		15,415	
Expenses	(1,544)		(2,204)	
Net revenue before taxation	6,681		13,211	
Taxation	(127)		(139)	
Net revenue after taxation		6,554		13,072
Total return before distributions		(40,476)		(15,080)
Distributions		(8,070)		(15,238)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		(48,546)		(30,318)

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		399,429		520,069
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	13,679		12,472	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(40,041)		(45,885)	
		(26,362)		(33,413)
Dilution adjustment		49		-
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		(48,546)		(30,318)
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		6,561		11,819
Unclaimed distributions		3		2
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		331,134		468,159

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		329,909		401,302
Current assets:				
Debtors	2,853		3,868	
Cash and bank balances	5		4	
		2,858		3,872
Total assets		332,767		405,174
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(525)		(4,297)	
Distribution payable	(1,108)		(1,448)	
		(1,633)		(5,745)
Total liabilities		(1,633)		(5,745)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		331,134		399,429

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional A Income share class has decreased by 2.63% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

Interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	4.4695	-	4.4695	7.2993
Group 2	2.9392	1.5303	4.4695	7.2993
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	5.0583	-	5.0583	8.2230
Group 2	3.4369	1.6214	5.0583	8.2230
Retail income				
Group 1	1.3660	-	1.3660	2.3490
Group 2	0.9289	0.4371	1.3660	2.3490
Institutional income				
Group 1	1.5469	-	1.5469	2.6466
Group 2	0.9126	0.6343	1.5469	2.6466
Standard Life income				
Group 1	1.1407	-	1.1407	1.9353
Group 2	1.1407	-	1.1407	1.9353
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	3.0278	-	3.0278	4.8835
Group 2	1.8916	1.1362	3.0278	4.8835
Institutional regulated accumulation				
Group 1	5.6362	-	5.6362	9.1186
Group 2	4.1322	1.5040	5.6362	9.1186
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	1.6133	-	1.6133	2.6241
Group 2	1.0074	0.6059	1.6133	2.6241
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	1.1568	-	1.1568	1.9807
Group 2	0.6036	0.5532	1.1568	1.9807
Institutional S accumulation				
Group 1	1.2307	-	1.2307	1.9900
Group 2	1.2307	-	1.2307	1.9900
Institutional S income				
Group 1	0.9328	-	0.9328	1.6000
Group 2	0.9328	-	0.9328	1.6000
Institutional A income				
Group 1	0.8662	-	0.8662	1.4937
Group 2	0.8662	-	0.8662	1.4937

Equalisation

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

ASI UK Opportunities Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in UK small and mid-capitalisation equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the FTSE All-Share ex FTSE 100 ex Investment Trusts Index, plus 3% per annum (before charges).

The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in smaller and mid-capitalisation equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in the UK or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from UK operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- Smaller and mid-capitalisation companies are defined as any stock not included in the FTSE All-Share ex FTSE 100 ex Investment Trusts Index.
- The fund may invest up to 30% in larger capitalisation companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in the UK.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using the management team's quality, growth and momentum approach. It aims to identify companies that exhibit a range of high quality characteristics, operate in growing markets and display positive business momentum.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the FTSE All-Share ex FTSE 100 ex Investment Trusts Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 9%. Due to the active nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the FTSE All-Share ex FTSE 100 ex Investment Trusts Index.

Please note: The fund's ability to buy and sell small and mid-capitalisation shares and the associated costs can be affected during periods of market stress. In certain circumstances investors in the fund may not be able to sell their investment when they want to.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance Review

Over the six-month period to the end of August, the fund returned 5.3%. This compared to a return of -9.2% for our performance target (the FTSE All-Share Index ex FTSE 100 ex Investment Trusts Index +3%).

Video games developer Team17 Group saw soaring demand for computer games during the COVID-19 lockdown. Expectations for the rest of 2020 are even higher as it launches a raft of new games. Keywords Studios was another standout performer. The provider of technical services to games developers benefited from a surge in support from players during lockdown. Software developer Kainos Group also added value. The company's success as a services provider to the government and its support of a cloud-based human resources platform enabled it to release an upbeat trading statement. Meanwhile, Hilton Food Group has done an excellent job of sourcing and providing increased stock for supermarkets.

On the downside, there was a more limited impact. The holding in Cineworld weighed on returns. The cinema operator was hit by lockdown measures. With no revenue, its debt-heavy balance came under more pressure. Similarly, shares in Hollywood Bowl tumbled due to the forced closure of all its bowling sites and consequent loss of revenues. Nonetheless, the company has a strong balance sheet, managed to widen its debt covenants and has the liquidity reserves to survive.

Activity

Most of the activity was focused on buying. We started a new holding in Sanne following a positive call with its management. The company, which is a leading global provider of alternative assets and corporate business services, looks well positioned in the current environment. It is seeing limited impact from COVID-19. Sanne is light on capital expenditure, with a strong balance sheet and a healthy pipeline. Meanwhile, we took part in Hotel Chocolat's capital raising, which was done to protect its balance sheet and maintain its growth plans. We also participated in a stock placing by Dart Group (owner of Jet2). The balance sheet is now in great shape, even if flights are delayed until 2021. We also bought Genus, the biotechnology company, which is a world leader in the supply of genetics for selective bovine and porcine breeding.

The fund's sales included exiting US-orientated sales promotional-materials maker 4Imprint. This is a cyclical business, and will face challenges in the current environment. We reduced online booking firm Trainline. This is still an excellent long-term business, but we think the pathway to recovery for the industry looks uncertain. Lastly, we sold our remaining shares in Cineworld. Potential closures look increasingly likely, limiting capacity and weighing on cash generation.

Outlook & strategy

It will be interesting to see what new companies we can find that may emerge differently from the COVID-19 crisis. For some sectors, working from home will mean structural change as employees will now demand more flexibility. Companies will need to work hard to find solutions to keep employees engaged and productive. We believe demand will reappear as confidence returns and, in the fullness of time, a vaccine is found. Our process has not changed and the pandemic will polarise winners and losers. The quality aspects of our investment process and long-term investment horizon means that the companies we have in the fund are well capitalised with sustainable growth prospects for the years ahead.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund’s share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 6 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- A concentrated portfolio may be more volatile and less liquid than a more broadly diversified one. The fund’s investments are concentrated in a particular country or sector.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The shares of small and mid-cap companies may be less liquid and more volatile than those of larger companies.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund’s objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund’s ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	22,848	22,801	23,007	27,409
Closing number of shares	8,583,812	8,963,652	10,154,393	10,717,251
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	266.18	254.37	226.57	255.75
Change in net asset value per share	4.64%	12.27%	(11.41%)	26.55%
Operating charges	1.33%	1.33%	1.33%	1.33%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	25,521	23,755	11,341	8,968
Closing number of shares	8,419,009	8,219,447	4,425,713	3,115,232
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	303.14	289.00	256.25	287.88
Change in net asset value per share	4.89%	12.78%	(10.99%)	27.14%
Operating charges	0.86%	0.86%	0.86%	0.86%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	493	525	642	793
Closing number of shares	203,586	227,095	309,843	338,039
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	241.98	231.25	207.12	234.47
Change in net asset value per share	4.64%	11.65%	(11.66%)	26.03%
Operating charges	1.33%	1.33%	1.33%	1.33%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,036	1,623	1,492	1,014
Closing number of shares	418,122	686,291	703,874	422,785
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	247.83	236.52	211.88	239.81
Change in net asset value per share	4.78%	11.63%	(11.65%)	26.31%
Operating charges	0.86%	0.86%	0.86%	0.86%

Standard Life income ^A	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	1	– [^]	2
Closing number of shares	–	1,004	92	2,000
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	103.89	93.10	105.37
Change in net asset value per share	(100.00%)	11.59%	(11.64%)	26.36%
Operating charges	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^A Share class closed on 27 March 2020.

[^] The closing net asset value of Standard Life income is £86.

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	565	591	525	600
Closing number of shares	168,047	185,252	187,076	191,798
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	335.95	319.08	280.79	313.10
Change in net asset value per share	5.29%	13.64%	(10.32%)	28.10%
Operating charges	0.11%	0.11%	0.11%	0.11%

Institutional regulated accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	70,681	70,123	67,968	81,184
Closing number of shares	32,584,099	33,984,158	37,322,180	39,859,492
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	216.92	206.34	182.11	203.68
Change in net asset value per share	5.13%	13.31%	(10.59%)	27.72%
Operating charges	0.41%	0.41%	0.41%	0.41%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	24,152	25,136	15,847	16,482
Closing number of shares	19,742,609	21,546,558	15,312,738	14,169,086
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	122.33	116.66	103.49	116.32
Change in net asset value per share	4.86%	12.73%	(11.03%)	27.08%
Operating charges	0.91%	0.91%	0.91%	0.91%

Platform 1 income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,071	1,086	1,266	1,715
Closing number of shares	929,113	986,959	1,284,048	1,537,274
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	115.25	110.01	98.56	111.54
Change in net asset value per share	4.76%	11.62%	(11.64%)	26.29%
Operating charges	0.91%	0.91%	0.91%	0.91%

Institutional A accumulation ^B	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	–	–	–	2
Closing number of shares	–	–	–	2,200
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	–	–	–	73.23
Change in net asset value per share	–	–	5.12%	26.24%
Operating charges	–	–	1.61%	1.61%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

^B Share class closed on 21 June 2018.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
UK Equities (96.91%)		142,879	97.62
Consumer Goods (19.11%)		28,538	19.50
119,139	Cranswick	4,442	3.04
57,953	Games Workshop	5,340	3.65
68,400	Greggs	969	0.66
446,865	Hilton Food	5,282	3.61
831,660	Hotel Chocolat++	3,019	2.06
508,859	JD Sports	3,692	2.52
845,882	Team17++	5,794	3.96
Consumer Services (25.53%)		28,315	19.34
60,520	4Imprint	1,310	0.89
498,919	Auto Trader	2,809	1.92
134,455	Dart Group++	959	0.66
200,820	Dunelm	2,868	1.96
233,158	Future	3,460	2.36
355,204	GlobalData++	5,843	3.99
1,056,440	Hollywood Bowl	1,585	1.08
365,991	Next Fifteen Communications++	1,735	1.19
993,893	On the Beach	3,026	2.07
9,870,319	Phorm*	-	-
459,864	Trainline	1,821	1.24
291,046	YouGov++	2,899	1.98
Financials (9.44%)		20,234	13.82
889,791	AJ Bell	3,995	2.73
2,446,239	Assura	1,979	1.35
348,534	Draper Esprit++	1,994	1.36
198,104	Intermediate Capital	2,706	1.85
295,008	Liontrust Asset Management	3,732	2.55
243,229	Safestore	1,904	1.30
2,885,556	Sirius Real Estate	2,144	1.46
151,349	Unite	1,464	1.00
56,188	Workspace	316	0.22
Health Care (2.89%)		5,661	3.87
108,330	Dechra Pharmaceuticals	3,410	2.33
66,821	Genus	2,251	1.54
83,710	NMC Healthcare*	-	-

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Industrials (21.18%)		30,556	20.88
1,111,911	Alpha Financial Markets++	2,257	1.54
618,447	Chemring	1,494	1.02
70,081	Diploma	1,352	0.92
149,980	Hill & Smith	1,821	1.24
264,151	Keywords Studios++	5,801	3.96
526,703	Marshalls	3,347	2.29
381,010	Midwich++	1,444	0.99
380,982	Polypipe	1,655	1.13
437,783	Porvair	2,312	1.58
795,911	RWS++	4,823	3.30
347,144	Sanne	2,409	1.65
78,862	Ultra Electronics	1,841	1.26
Technology (15.52%)		24,137	16.49
304,429	Avast	1,630	1.11
84,704	AVEVA	4,294	2.93
202,736	Computacenter	4,091	2.80
102,044	Craneware++	1,755	1.20
153,059	FDM	1,595	1.09
43,661	First Derivatives++	1,395	0.95
190,495	GB++	1,389	0.95
550,963	Kainos	6,160	4.21
628,185	Spirent Communications	1,828	1.25
Telecommunications (3.24%)		5,438	3.72
345,276	Gamma Communication++	5,438	3.72
Collective Investment Schemes (3.25%)		3,507	2.40
3,507	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	3,507	2.40
Total investment assets		146,386	100.02
Net other liabilities		(19)	(0.02)
Total Net Assets		146,367	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

++ AIM listed.

* Suspended.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		5,623		6,919
Revenue	730		1,614	
Expenses	(471)		(482)	
Net revenue before taxation	259		1,132	
Taxation	-		(2)	
Net revenue after taxation		259		1,130
Total return before distributions		5,882		8,049
Distributions		(282)		(1,130)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		5,600		6,919

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		145,641		122,088
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	7,626		19,555	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(12,771)		(13,330)	
		(5,145)		6,225
Dilution adjustment		(6)		70
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		5,600		6,919
Retained distribution on accumulation shares		277		1,128
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		146,367		136,430

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		146,386		145,869
Current assets:				
Debtors	308		299	
Cash and bank balances	32		37	
		340		336
Total assets		146,726		146,205
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(357)		(557)	
Distribution payable	(2)		(7)	
		(359)		(564)
Total liabilities		(359)		(564)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		146,367		145,641

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Regulated Accumulation share class has increased by 3.22% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Distribution tables

For the six months ended 31 August 2020 (in pence per share)

Interim dividend distribution

Group 1 - shares purchased prior to 1 March 2020

Group 2 - shares purchased between 1 March 2020 and 31 August 2020

	Revenue	Equalisation	Distribution paid 30/10/20	Distribution paid 31/10/19
Retail accumulation				
Group 1	-	-	-	1.2803
Group 2	-	-	-	1.2803
Institutional accumulation				
Group 1	0.3625	-	0.3625	2.1174
Group 2	0.3232	0.0393	0.3625	2.1174
Retail income				
Group 1	-	-	-	1.1700
Group 2	-	-	-	1.1700
Institutional income				
Group 1	0.2821	-	0.2821	1.7508
Group 2	0.2788	0.0033	0.2821	1.7508
Standard Life income				
Group 1	-	-	-	1.1989
Group 2	-	-	-	1.1989
Standard Life accumulation				
Group 1	1.5016	-	1.5016	3.4920
Group 2	0.8026	0.6990	1.5016	3.4920
Institutional regulated accumulation				
Group 1	0.6810	-	0.6810	1.9605
Group 2	0.5209	0.1601	0.6810	1.9605
Platform 1 accumulation				
Group 1	0.1135	-	0.1135	0.8267
Group 2	0.0993	0.0142	0.1135	0.8267
Platform 1 income				
Group 1	0.1043	-	0.1043	0.7870
Group 2	0.1024	0.0019	0.1043	0.7870

Equalisation

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

ASI UK Recovery Equity Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in "recovery" UK equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the FTSE All-Share Index plus 4% per annum over rolling five year periods (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

Performance Comparator: IA UK All Companies Equity Sector Average.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target/comparator for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index/sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in the UK or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from UK operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- Recovery companies are those that are out of favour with the stock market, in difficulty or whose future prospects are not fully recognised by the market.
- At least 60% of the fund will be invested in large and mid-capitalisation companies. Large and mid-capitalisation companies are classified as stocks that have a market capitalisation between the largest and smallest stock in the FTSE 350 Index.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a concentrated asset mix at sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. The research process is focused on identifying companies where the management team have a different view than that of the market, and which align with their views regarding future economic and business conditions.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the FTSE All-Share Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 12%. Due to the active nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the FTSE All-Share Index.

Please note: The fund's ability to buy and sell small and mid-capitalisation shares and the associated costs can be affected during periods of market stress. In certain circumstances investors in the fund may not be able to sell their investment when they want to.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance Review

Over the six-month period to the end of August, the fund returned -26.5%. This compared to a return of -5.3% for our performance target (the FTSE All-Share Index +4%).

The coronavirus and the subsequent lockdown measures, including a plunge in the oil price, had a material impact on performance. Notable poor performers included consumer-related firms such as Provident Financial (consumer finance), Saga (insurance and travel), International Personal Finance (consumer finance), Virgin Money (banking) and Hammerson (retail property development and ownership). Oil-price-sensitive businesses suffered as economic growth slumped, and hit our holdings in Petrofac and Lamprell. While we started to build a holding in AstraZeneca, it also weighed on returns as health care companies as a group were one of only two sectors to generate positive performance over the six-month period.

Although the fund's return was disappointing, there were some holdings that outperformed. The developer of treatment for opioid addiction Indivior posted strong performance, following the settlement of legal proceedings in the US. Industrial metals were the other industry to produce positive returns, including our holding in iron ore business Ferrexpo. GVC added value after delivering good results. The betting and gaming company announced extraordinary growth in its online division, compensating for the shutdown of its shops. All the major online jurisdictions reported robust growth, with the retail division close to its pre-coronavirus levels of activity. Similarly, William Hill outperformed, helped by the return of sports fixtures and its diversification out of the UK. Workspace business IWG's shares rallied on the prospect that in a post-coronavirus world, there will be greater demand for smaller, flexible spaces. The fund also benefited from not holding HSBC, Lloyds Banking, Royal Dutch Shell and BP.

Activity

We took part in several equity placings. These included plus new positions in serviced-office provider IWG, transport group National Express and insurance business Hiscox. Such placings allowed us to invest in businesses that we expect to be beneficiaries of the current crisis. What's more, the additional liquidity will enable these firms to adapt and become more flexible. Other companies that we purchased that we believe will recover and adapt to a new environment after the pandemic include GVC, William Hill, Rank Group and Crest Nicholson. Other additions included pharmaceutical companies AstraZeneca and GlaxoSmithKline.

On sales, we exited insurance firm Hastings. The company received a bid from an international consortium, and we are not expecting a counter-bid. We reduced Indivior's position size as it doubled. Oil companies Kosmos Energy, Seplat Petroleum Development, Lamprell and Petrofac were sold, given the challenging outlook for economic growth and their operational dependence on the level of the oil price. Consumer and physical-retail businesses that we sold included Virgin Money, Halfords and Hammerson.

Outlook & strategy

In an attempt to mitigate the full effects of the crisis, central-bank activity is creating movements and correlations many thought impossible given the fundamentals of the current situation. What is important is that we stay true to our process of taking stock-specific risks and maintaining regular contact with companies. We also cannot forget that COVID-19 is not the only risk that investors face. We are closely monitoring the developments in Hong Kong, tension between Australia and China, the US presidential election and the political volatility in South America. We need to remember that Brexit is still a real risk given the end of 2020 deadline for the UK to reach a trade deal with the EU.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 7 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- A concentrated portfolio may be more volatile and less liquid than a more broadly diversified one. The fund's investments are concentrated in a particular country or sector.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- Recovery' stocks may be more volatile than the broader (UK) equity market.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	3,318	4,024	7,411	8,307
Closing number of shares	3,075,084	2,734,853	3,328,941	3,536,192
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	107.90	147.12	222.63	234.93
Change in net asset value per share	(26.66%)	(33.92%)	(5.24%)	1.82%
Operating charges	1.40%	1.38%	1.38%	1.40%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	43,618	70,930	154,990	3,632
Closing number of shares	37,482,495	44,811,501	64,982,269	1,450,022
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	116.37	158.28	238.51	250.49
Change in net asset value per share	(26.48%)	(33.64%)	(4.78%)	2.29%
Operating charges	0.93%	0.91%	0.92%	0.93%

Standard Life income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1	5,075	7,902	8,450
Closing number of shares	995	3,809,752	3,809,752	3,811,752
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	98.40	133.22	207.42	221.67
Change in net asset value per share	(26.14%)	(35.77%)	(6.43%)	0.78%
Operating charges	0.05%	0.03%	0.03%	0.05%

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	257	1,225	1,324	1,263
Closing number of shares	201,040	708,452	512,233	469,084
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	127.64	172.93	258.43	269.29
Change in net asset value per share	(26.19%)	(33.08%)	(4.03%)	3.11%
Operating charges	0.13%	0.11%	0.11%	0.13%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,639	2,829	6,839	21,628
Closing number of shares	2,828,154	3,587,531	5,749,251	17,291,663
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	57.95	78.87	118.95	125.08
Change in net asset value per share	(26.52%)	(33.69%)	(4.90%)	2.18%
Operating charges	1.03%	1.01%	1.01%	1.03%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
UK Equities (99.83%)		42,634	87.31
Basic Materials (7.13%)		5,232	10.71
72,382	BHP	1,240	2.54
1,037,041	Ferrexpo	1,911	3.91
1,230,274	Glencore	2,081	4.26
Consumer Goods (10.19%)		7,265	14.88
96,421	British American Tobacco	2,441	5.00
405,299	Crest Nicholson	803	1.64
82,057	Diageo	2,059	4.22
1,355,130	McCarthy & Stone	972	1.99
808,795	Taylor Wimpey	990	2.03
Consumer Services (13.42%)		9,390	19.23
2,326,351	Card Factory	896	1.83
300,525	GVC	2,416	4.95
694,558	National Express	874	1.79
446,868	Playtech	1,648	3.37
586,723	Rank	792	1.62
8,644,650	Saga	1,176	2.41
20,308	Wetherspoon (J.D.)	208	0.43
797,101	William Hill	1,380	2.83
Financials (34.05%)		6,899	14.13
1,022,025	Barclays	1,144	2.34
97,615	Hiscox	774	1.59
1,449,689	International Personal Finance	977	2.00
1,757,684	Just	894	1.83
292,632	Provident Financial	720	1.48
498,920	Standard Chartered	1,957	4.01
44,735	Unite	433	0.88
Health Care (4.13%)		6,142	12.58
17,320	AstraZeneca	1,444	2.96
156,793	GlaxoSmithKline	2,308	4.73
2,015,452	Indivior	2,390	4.89
Industrials (7.05%)		3,723	7.62
410,475	Babcock International	1,117	2.29
6,984,204	Interserve*	-	-
926,148	IWG	2,606	5.33
7,840,618	Utilitywise*	-	-

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Oil & Gas (23.86%)		1,674	3.43
45,179	Cairn Energy	64	0.13
609,876	Tullow Oil	125	0.26
599,320	Wood Group	1,485	3.04
Telecommunications (0.00%)		670	1.37
601,477	Vodafone	670	1.37
Utilities (0.00%)		1,639	3.36
194,443	National Grid	1,639	3.36
Collective Investment Schemes (0.59%)		2,442	5.00
2,442	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	2,442	5.00
Total investment assets		45,076	92.31
Net other assets		3,757	7.69
Total Net Assets		48,833	100.00

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

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

* Suspended.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital losses		(21,178)		(45,537)
Revenue	599		3,109	
Expenses	(233)		(688)	
Net revenue before taxation	366		2,421	
Taxation	(93)		(14)	
Net revenue after taxation		273		2,407
Total return before equalisation		(20,905)		(43,130)
Equalisation on shares		(54)		12
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		(20,959)		(43,118)

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		84,083		178,466
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	1,948		5,772	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(16,297)		(6,395)	
		(14,349)		(623)
Dilution adjustment		58		–
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		(20,959)		(43,118)
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		48,833		134,725

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		45,076		84,439
Current assets:				
Debtors	105		2,274	
Cash and bank balances	3,745		21	
		3,850		2,295
Total assets		48,926		86,734
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(93)		(2,434)	
Distribution payable	-		(217)	
		(93)		(2,651)
Total liabilities		(93)		(2,651)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		48,833		84,083

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Retail Accumulation share class has decreased by 0.70% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

ASI UK Smaller Companies Fund

Investment objective

To generate growth over the long term (5 years or more) by investing in UK small-capitalisation equities (company shares).

Performance Target: To achieve the return of the Numis Smaller Companies Plus AIM ex Investment Companies Index plus 3% per annum (before charges). The Performance Target is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the Performance Target.

Performance Comparator: IA UK Smaller Companies Sector Average.

The ACD believes this is an appropriate target/comparator for the fund based on the investment policy of the fund and the constituents of the index/sector.

Investment policy

Portfolio Securities:

- The fund will invest at least 60% in small-capitalisation equities and equity related securities of companies listed, incorporated, or domiciled in the UK or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from UK operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- Small capitalisation companies are defined as any stock having a market cap less than the 10th percentile stock of the overall UK equity market.
- The fund may also invest up to 40% in mid and larger capitalisation companies listed, incorporated or domiciled in the UK.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by Aberdeen Standard Investments) and money-market instruments, and cash.

Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (active management) to maintain a diverse asset mix at sector and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using the management team's quality, growth and momentum approach. It aims to identify companies that exhibit a range of high quality characteristics, operate in growing markets and display positive business momentum.
- In seeking to achieve the Performance Target, the Numis Smaller Companies Plus AIM ex Investment Companies Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index, should not exceed 10%. Due to the active nature of the Investment process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the Numis Smaller Companies Plus AIM ex Investment Companies Index.

Derivatives and Techniques:

- The fund may use derivatives to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- Derivative usage in the fund is expected to be very limited. Where derivatives are used, this would mainly be in response to significant inflows into the fund so that in these instances, cash can be invested while maintaining the fund's existing allocations to company shares.

Performance

Over the period under review, the fund returned 4.2%. This compared to a return of 0.3% for our performance target (the Numis Smaller Companies Plus AIM ex Investment Companies Index +3%).

Gaming company Games Workshop – known for its Warhammer game – was the top performer in the portfolio. The business is increasingly focusing its activities on online sales and marketing, a strategy that is bearing fruit in the current retail environment. It is also growing internationally and its titles have proved popular with new audiences. The company is progressing on licensing, signing a deal with Frontier Developments for a video game. We think sell-side analysts underestimate this growth opportunity. Kainos Group, the Belfast-based software company, was also a strong contributor. It released an upbeat trading statement for the year, indicating that earnings would substantially beat expectations. We benefited from holding Gamma Communications, as the company has gained from the move towards remote working, accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. XP Power was able to continue manufacturing throughout lockdown, given the critical nature of some of its products. It has proved more resilient than investors expected, leading to outperformance in the fund.

On the downside, our worst performer was Workspace Group. The real estate company saw its flexible offices closed over the COVID-19 lockdown. Dart Group (owner of Jet2) also saw huge disruption to its business, with travel restrictions implemented across Europe. We participated in a stock placement in the second quarter. The fund's position in high-street baker Greggs detracted, as the company was hit by store closures during lockdown. We exited the shares as we are concerned for its long-term prospects.

Activity

We bought Avon Rubber, a leading manufacturer of respiratory and protective equipment, used by military and health professionals. We also bought Ergomed, the drug development and outsourced drug trials company, which fits well with our investment ethos. We made several purchases in the financial sector: we bought IntegraFin Holdings – holding company of investment platform Transact – as well as online investment platform and stockbroker service company AJ Bell. In June, we bought shares in Liontrust Asset Management, which has shown resilience with modest outflows during the pandemic and then strong monthly flows thereafter.

By contrast, we sold our holding in retailer Boohoo, the online fashion retailer. The company underperformed as evidence emerged of poor working practices at its Leicester suppliers during the COVID-19 outbreak. This raised serious concerns about its supply-chain oversight and ability to maintain its existing operating model as the business adapts to higher operating standards. We trimmed JD Sports, which has grown to become a FTSE 100 company, and so too large for this mandate. Finally, we sold our holding in payment services company PayPoint, as it no longer fits with our investment criteria.

Outlook

It will be interesting to see what new companies we can find that may emerge differently from the COVID-19 crisis. For some sectors, working from home will mean structural change as employees will now demand more flexibility. Companies will need to work hard to find solutions to keep employees engaged and productive. We believe demand will reappear as confidence returns and, in the fullness of time, a vaccine is found. Our process has not changed and the pandemic will polarise winners and losers. The quality aspects of our process and long-term investment horizon means that the companies we have in the portfolio are well capitalised with sustainable growth prospects for the years ahead.

Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator

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

This indicator reflects the volatility of the fund's share price over the last five years which in turn reflects the volatility of the underlying assets in which the fund invests. Historical data may not be a reliable indication for the future.

The current rating is not guaranteed and may change if the volatility of the assets in which the fund invests changes. The lowest rating does not mean risk free.

The fund is rated as 6 because of the extent to which the following risk factors apply:

- A concentrated portfolio may be more volatile and less liquid than a more broadly diversified one. The fund's investments are concentrated in a particular country or sector.
- The use of derivatives carries the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as a failure amongst market participants. The use of derivatives may result in the fund being leveraged (where market exposure and thus the potential for loss by the fund exceeds the amount it has invested) and in these market conditions the effect of leverage will be to magnify losses.
- The fund invests in equity and equity related securities. These are sensitive to variations in the stock markets which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time.
- The shares of small and mid-cap companies may be less liquid and more volatile than those of larger companies.

All investment involves risk. This fund offers no guarantee against loss or that the fund's objective will be attained.

The price of assets and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

Inflation reduces the buying power of your investment and income.

The value of assets held in the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

The fund could lose money if an entity (counterparty) with which it does business becomes unwilling or unable to honour its obligations to the fund.

In extreme market conditions some securities may become hard to value or sell at a desired price. This could affect the fund's ability to meet redemptions in a timely manner.

The fund could lose money as the result of a failure or delay in operational processes and systems including but not limited to third party providers failing or going into administration.

Comparative tables

Retail accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	199,638	203,105	189,961	206,287
Closing number of shares	23,012,235	24,345,386	27,472,182	28,588,576
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	867.53	834.27	691.47	721.57
Change in net asset value per share	3.99%	20.65%	(4.17%)	24.39%
Operating charges	1.36%	1.36%	1.36%	1.36%

Institutional accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	471,783	462,710	341,314	346,824
Closing number of shares	45,628,516	46,646,052	41,705,804	40,802,002
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	1,033.97	991.96	818.38	850.02
Change in net asset value per share	4.24%	21.21%	(3.72%)	24.98%
Operating charges	0.89%	0.89%	0.89%	0.89%

Retail income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	7,716	7,632	4,744	8,389
Closing number of shares	9,527,819	9,799,345	7,214,003	11,979,379
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	80.99	77.88	65.76	70.03
Change in net asset value per share	3.99%	18.43%	(6.10%)	22.37%
Operating charges	1.36%	1.36%	1.36%	1.36%

Institutional income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	33,472	28,035	15,888	13,638
Closing number of shares	30,873,353	26,953,580	18,175,500	14,721,013
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	108.42	104.01	87.41	92.65
Change in net asset value per share	4.24%	18.99%	(5.66%)	22.94%
Operating charges	0.89%	0.89%	0.89%	0.89%

Standard Life income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	5,164	7,960	7,490	8,538
Closing number of shares	2,054,201	3,313,918	3,743,287	4,062,296
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	251.40	240.21	200.09	210.17
Change in net asset value per share	4.66%	20.05%	(4.80%)	24.03%
Operating charges	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Standard Life accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	8,442	7,562	6,057	6,271
Closing number of shares	2,273,597	2,130,880	2,084,918	2,094,218
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	371.33	354.88	290.54	299.44
Change in net asset value per share	4.64%	22.14%	(2.97%)	25.96%
Operating charges	0.09%	0.09%	0.09%	0.09%

Institutional regulated accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	388,374	391,204	329,698	353,379
Closing number of shares	73,777,887	77,618,554	79,609,699	82,481,385
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	526.41	504.01	414.14	428.43
Change in net asset value per share	4.44%	21.70%	(3.34%)	25.47%
Operating charges	0.49%	0.49%	0.49%	0.49%

Platform 1 accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	314,924	259,463	194,238	209,379
Closing number of shares	206,026,571	176,840,627	160,304,880	166,203,721
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	152.86	146.72	121.17	125.98
Change in net asset value per share	4.18%	21.09%	(3.82%)	24.86%
Operating charges	0.99%	0.99%	0.99%	0.99%

Institutional S accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	324,673	334,764	268,177	266,107
Closing number of shares	288,635,680	310,394,422	301,805,474	288,679,049
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	112.49	107.85	88.86	92.18
Change in net asset value per share	4.30%	21.37%	(3.60%)	25.13%
Operating charges	0.77%	0.77%	0.77%	0.77%

Institutional S income	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	37,277	40,854	33,778	35,934
Closing number of shares	37,489,180	42,851,892	42,219,582	42,430,306
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	99.43	95.34	80.00	84.69
Change in net asset value per share	4.29%	19.18%	(5.54%)	23.10%
Operating charges	0.77%	0.77%	0.77%	0.77%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Institutional A accumulation	31 August 2020	29 February 2020	28 February 2019	28 February 2018
Closing net asset value (£'000)	451	441	274	294
Closing number of shares	515,153	523,704	390,874	400,769
Closing net asset value per share (pence)	87.50	84.29	70.10	73.40
Change in net asset value per share	3.81%	20.24%	(4.50%)	23.99%
Operating charges	1.69%	1.69%	1.69%	1.69%

The closing net asset value (£'000) divided by the closing number of shares may not calculate to the closing net asset value per share (pence) due to rounding differences. The published closing net asset value per share (pence) is based on unrounded values and represents the actual price.

The change in the net asset value per share is the change from the beginning of the period to the close of the period.

Operating charges are expenses associated with the maintenance and administration of the fund on a day-to-day basis that are actually borne by the share class.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
UK Equities (91.28%)		1,702,807	95.03
Consumer Goods (19.35%)		324,412	18.10
1,488,582	Cranswick	55,494	3.10
2,140,623	Focusrite++	16,440	0.92
936,297	Games Workshop	86,280	4.81
1,374,515	Greggs	19,463	1.08
4,663,988	Hilton Food	55,129	3.08
4,386,638	Hotel Chocolat++	15,923	0.89
4,078,764	JD Sports	29,596	1.65
6,727,988	Team17++	46,087	2.57
Consumer Services (17.06%)		294,606	16.44
1,654,292	4Imprint	35,815	2.00
3,754,119	Dart Group++	26,786	1.50
4,775,165	Future	70,863	3.96
3,357,722	GlobalData++	55,235	3.08
6,836,293	Hollywood Bowl	10,254	0.57
6,185,666	Motorpoint	16,701	0.93
2,736,223	Next Fifteen Communications++	12,970	0.72
8,179,330	Trainline	32,390	1.81
3,372,712	YouGov++	33,592	1.87
Financials (15.25%)		280,597	15.66
9,989,459	AJ Bell	44,853	2.50
2,548,313	Big Yellow	27,292	1.52
879,569	Brooks Macdonald++	14,205	0.79
4,567,919	IntegraFin	24,484	1.37
5,475,788	JTC	26,229	1.47
1,983,982	Liontrust Asset Management	25,097	1.40
1,509,750	Mattioli Woods++	10,531	0.59
3,239,265	Paragon	11,525	0.64
6,180,889	Safestore	48,396	2.70
31,916,875	Sirius Real Estate	23,714	1.32
4,311,012	Workspace	24,271	1.36
Health Care (2.09%)		51,303	2.86
555,081	Abcam++	6,922	0.39
1,031,679	Dechra Pharmaceuticals	32,477	1.81
1,910,729	Ergomed++	11,904	0.66

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Industrials (21.24%)		396,371	22.12
769,748	Avon Rubber	29,366	1.64
2,989,998	Diploma	57,677	3.22
4,419,416	DiscoverIE	26,870	1.50
1,940,419	Fisher (J) & Sons	23,790	1.33
1,272,970	Gooch & Housego++	13,048	0.73
3,000,458	Hill & Smith	36,426	2.03
6,464,594	Marshall's	41,083	2.29
4,547,916	Midwich++	17,237	0.96
1,569,458	PayPoint	9,872	0.55
2,367,103	Ricardo	7,314	0.41
8,280,177	RWS++	50,178	2.80
3,785,600	Sanne	26,272	1.47
1,274,788	XP Power	57,238	3.19
Technology (10.73%)		240,196	13.41
2,284,803	Computacenter	46,107	2.57
446,699	Craneware++	7,683	0.43
1,891,842	FDM	19,713	1.10
1,529,328	First Derivatives++	48,862	2.73
7,034,535	GB++	51,282	2.86
5,952,502	Kainos	66,549	3.72
Telecommunications (5.56%)		115,322	6.44
5,314,656	Gamma Communication++	83,706	4.67
2,307,753	Telecom Plus	31,616	1.77
Collective Investment Schemes (5.11%)		87,482	4.88
87,482	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Sterling Fund Z1 Inc+	87,482	4.88
Total investment assets		1,790,289	99.91
Net other assets		1,625	0.09
Total Net Assets		1,791,914	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.

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

+ Managed by subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc.

++ AIM listed.

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		70,616		121,406
Revenue	9,354		16,062	
Expenses	(6,910)		(6,367)	
Net revenue before taxation	2,444		9,695	
Taxation	–		–	
Net revenue after taxation		2,444		9,695
Total return before equalisation		73,060		131,101
Equalisation on shares		(29)		(234)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		73,031		130,867

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		1,743,730		1,391,619
Amounts receivable on the issue of shares	113,781		42,897	
Amounts payable on the cancellation of shares	(138,683)		(97,790)	
Dilution adjustment		(24,902)		(54,893)
		55		–
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		73,031		130,867
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		1,791,914		1,467,593

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		1,790,289		1,680,750
Current assets:				
Debtors	3,114		10,988	
Cash and bank balances	431		65,333	
		3,545		76,321
Total assets		1,793,834		1,757,071
Liabilities:				
Creditors	(1,920)		(11,784)	
Distribution payable	-		(1,557)	
		(1,920)		(13,341)
Total liabilities		(1,920)		(13,341)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		1,791,914		1,743,730

Since the period end, markets and operations have continued to be disrupted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the period end the NAV per share of Institutional Regulated Accumulation share class has increased by 5.61% (to 19 October 2020). Contingency plans at the ACD and key service suppliers have proven effective in mitigating the effects on management of the portfolio and on all supporting operations.

Global Emerging Markets Equity Unconstrained Fund (closed)

Investment Report

The fund was closed on 14 January 2016. All shares in the fund were redeemed and cancelled. The fund will formally terminate at a later date after all residual assets and liabilities are settled. The fund is not open to new investors.

Portfolio Statement

As at 31 August 2020

Holding	Investment	Market value £'000	Percentage of total net assets
Pacific Basin Equities (0.00%)		-	-
China (0.00%)		-	-
5,196,000	Tianhe Chemicals*	-	-
Total investment assets		-	-
Net other assets		-	-
Total Net Assets		-	-

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

The percentage figures in brackets show the comparative holding as at 29 February 2020.

* Suspended

Statement of Total Return

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income:				
Net capital gains		-		-
Revenue	-		1	
Expenses	-		(1)	
Interest and similar charges	-		-	
Net revenue before taxation	-		-	
Taxation	-		-	
Net revenue after taxation		-		-
Total return before distributions		-		-
Distributions		-		-
Total return and change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		-		-

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders

For the six months ended 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		31 August 2019	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		-		-
Amounts receivable on issue of shares	-		-	
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	-		-	
Dilution adjustment		-		-
Stamp duty reserve tax		-		-
Total return and change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)		-		-
Change in provision for fund closure		-		-
Unclaimed distributions returned to the fund		-		-
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		-		-

Comparative information is provided for the statement of change in net assets attributable to Shareholders. Since this information is for the prior interim period, the net assets at the end of that period do not correspond to the net assets at the start of the current period.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2020

	31 August 2020		29 February 2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets:				
Fixed assets:				
Investment assets		–		–
Current assets:				
Debtors	–		–	
Cash and bank balances	1		1	
Cash equivalents	–		–	
		1		1
Total assets		1		1
Liabilities:				
Investment liabilities		–		–
Creditors	(1)		(1)	
Bank overdrafts	–		–	
		(1)		(1)
Total liabilities		(1)		(1)
Net assets attributable to shareholders		–		–

Further Information

Aberdeen Standard OEIC II (the “Company”), was incorporated under the FCA regulations. The Company is an open-ended investment company (OEIC) with variable capital under Regulation 14 of the Open-Ended Investment Companies Regulations 2001 (the “OEIC Regulations”). The effective date of the authorisation order made by the Financial Services Authority (the predecessor of the FCA) was 22 May 1998.

Consumers’ rights and protections, including any derived from EU legislation, are currently unaffected by the result of the UK referendum to leave the European Union and will remain unchanged unless and until the UK Government changes the applicable legislation.

Documentation and Prices

Copies of the current Prospectus and Key Investor Information Documents (KIIDs) for the Company, daily prices, together with the latest Annual (and if issued later the interim) Report and Accounts for any fund, are available to download at aberdeenstandard.com. A paper copy of the Report and Accounts is available on request from the ACD.

Notices/Correspondence

Please send any notices to Aberdeen Standard Fund Managers Limited, PO Box 12233, Chelmsford, Essex CM99 2EE. Any notice to the ACD will only be effective when actually received by the ACD. All notices will be sent to the investor at the address set out in the Application form or the latest address which the investor has notified to the ACD, and will be deemed to have been received three days after posting.

Events detailed in these terms and conditions will be carried out on the dates specified, unless the dates are a non-business day, when they will be carried out on the next business day.

Complaints and Compensation

If you need to complain about any aspect of our service, you should write to the Complaints Team, Aberdeen Standard Investments, 10 Queen's Terrace, Aberdeen, AB10 1XL, who will initiate our formal complaints procedure. If you prefer, you may call the Complaints Team on 01224 404490 or email complaints@aberdeenstandard.com in the first instance.

Alternatively if you have a complaint about the Company or funds you can contact the Depository directly. A leaflet detailing our complaints procedure is available on request. We will endeavour to respond to your complaint as soon as possible and will notify you of our outcome within 8 weeks. If the complaint is not resolved by us to your satisfaction then you may have the right to take your complaint to the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS). To contact the FOS Service you should write to The Financial Ombudsman Service, Exchange Tower, London, E14 9SR, email complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk or telephone 0800 023 4567 (free for landlines and mobiles) or 0300 123 9123 (calls cost no more than calls to 01 and 02 numbers) or +44 20 7964 0500 (available from outside the UK - calls will be charged).

We are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme, which means if we become insolvent, you may be entitled to compensation. The level of compensation will depend on the type of business and the circumstances of your claim. Investments are covered up to £85,000 for claims against firms that fail on or after 1 April 2019. Details are available from the FSCS Helpline on 0800 678 1100 or 020 7741 4100 and on the FSCS website: www.fscs.org.uk.

UCITS

The funds were certified under the Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS) directive, which allows the ACD to market the Funds in member States of the European Union subject to relevant local laws, specifically marketing laws.

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