

# Annual Report and Financial Statements (audited)

## Premier Multi-Asset Funds

For the period 1 March 2018 to 28 February 2019



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## MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The Authorised Corporate Director ("ACD") and registered office of Premier Multi-Asset Funds ("the Company"):

#### PREMIER PORTFOLIO MANAGERS LIMITED

Eastgate Court, High Street, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 3DE

Premier Portfolio Managers Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA") and is a member of The Investment Association ("IA"). Premier Portfolio Managers Limited and Premier Fund Managers Limited are both members of the Premier Asset Management Marketing Group.

#### DIRECTORS OF THE ACD:

Mike O'Shea (Chairman) Neil Macpherson (Finance Director) Ian West (Chief Operating Officer) Mike Hammond (Sales Director) Simon Wilson (Marketing Director) Rosamond Borer (Chief Risk Officer) Gregor Craig (Head of Compliance and Legal)

#### INVESTMENT ADVISER:

Premier Fund Managers Limited is the Investment Adviser to Premier Multi-Asset Funds.

#### DEPOSITARY:

Northern Trust Global Services SE, UK Branch 50 Bank Street, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5NT

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

#### AUDITOR:

KPMG LLP 15 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5GL

#### **ADMINISTRATOR & REGISTRAR:**

Northern Trust Global Services SE, UK Branch 50 Bank Street, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5NT

#### COMPANY INFORMATION

The Premier Multi-Asset Funds is an Investment Company with Variable Capital under regulation 12 of the Open-Ended Investment Company Regulations and incorporated in England and Wales under registered number IC000139 and authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority with effect from 3 December 2001. Shareholders are not liable for the debts of the Company. At the year end, the Company contained four sub-funds: Premier Diversified Growth Fund, Premier Diversified Income Fund, Premier Multi-Asset Distribution Fund and Premier Multi-Asset Global Growth Fund.

The Company is a non-UCITS retail scheme which complies with the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook and is structured as an umbrella company so that different sub-funds may be established from time to time by the ACD with the approval of the FCA and the agreement of the Depositary.

Effective from 22 July 2014, the Company is now classified as an Alternative Investment Fund ("AIF") under the Alternative Investment Fund Manager's Directive ("AIFMD").

# STATEMENT OF AUTHORISED CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S AND DEPOSITARY'S RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE ACCOUNTS OF THE SCHEME

The Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook published by the FCA, ("the COLL Rules") require the Authorised Corporate Director ("ACD") to prepare financial statements for each annual accounting year, which give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company and of the net income and the net losses on the property of the Company for the year. In preparing the financial statements, the ACD is responsible for:

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

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

#### **IMPORTANT NOTES**

#### **Change of Domicile**

Following a change of domicile, the Administrator and Registrar for our funds has changed its name from Northern Trust Global Services PLC to Northern Trust Global Services SE, UK Branch. This change does not have any effect on the administration of your investment and you do not need to take any action.

#### Fund Name Change

As of 1 March 2019, the Premier Diversified Fund changed its name to Premier Diversified Growth Fund.

#### **Fund Launches**

On 1 March 2019, the following sub-funds were launched:

Premier Diversified Balanced Growth Fund Premier Diversified Cautious Growth Fund Premier Diversified Dynamic Growth Fund

Details of these new sub-funds can be found in the Premier Multi-Asset Funds Prospectus.

## MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

#### REPORT OF THE ACD TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE COMPANY

The ACD, as sole director, presents its report and the audited financial statements of the Company for the year from 1 March 2018 to 28 February 2019.

The Company is a non-UCITS scheme which complies with the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook. The shareholders are not liable for the debts of the Company.

The Investment Objectives and Policies of each sub-fund of the Company are covered in the section for each sub-fund. The sub-funds of an umbrella company should be invested as if they were a single company. The names and addresses of the ACD, the Depositary, the Registrar and the Auditor are detailed on page 2.

In the future there may be other sub-funds of the Company. As a sub-fund is not a legal entity, if the assets attributable to any sub-fund were insufficient to meet the liabilities attributable to it, the shortfall might have to be met out of the assets attributable to one or more other sub-funds of the Company.

Where a sub-fund invests in other Collective Investment Schemes, the maximum annual management fee that may be charged to that Collective Investment Scheme is 5% of the net asset value of such a scheme, however, it is expected that the actual annual management fee will not exceed 2%.

#### STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE TO THE AUDITORS

So far as the ACD is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's Auditors are unaware. Additionally, the ACD has taken all the necessary steps that they ought to have taken as ACD in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's Auditors are aware of that information.

#### SUB-FUND CROSS HOLDINGS

At the year end, none of the shares in the sub-funds were held by any other sub-funds or the Company.

#### DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

In accordance with the Regulations, we hereby certify the report on behalf of the Directors of Premier Portfolio Managers Limited.

- Why

Neil Macpherson Finance Director (of the ACD) 20 June 2019

Ian West Chief Operating Officer (of the ACD)

#### AIFMD DISCLOSURES

The provisions of the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive ("AIFMD") took effect on 22nd July 2014. That legislation requires the AIFM to establish and maintain remuneration policies for its staff which are consistent with and promote sound and effective risk management.

The AIFM is part of a larger group of companies within which remuneration policies are the responsibility of a Remuneration Committee comprised entirely of non-executive directors. That committee has established a remuneration policy which sets out a framework for determining the level of fixed and variable remuneration of staff, including maintaining an appropriate balance between the two.

Arrangements for variable remuneration within the group are calculated primarily by reference to the performance of each individual and the profitability of the relevant business unit. The policies are designed to reward long term performance and long term profitability.

Within the group, all staff are employed by the parent company with none employed directly by the AIFM. The costs of a number of individuals are allocated between the entities within the group based on the expected amount of time devoted to each.

The total remuneration of those individuals who are fully or partly involved in the activities of the AIFs, including those whose time is allocated between group entities, for the financial year ending 30 September 2018, is analysed below:

Fixed Remuneration	£1,670,925
Variable Remuneration	£1,325,523

Total	£2,996,448
FTE Number of staff:	26

15 of the staff members included in the total remuneration figures above are considered to be senior management or others whose actions may have a material impact on the risk profile of the funds. The table below provides an alternative analysis of the remuneration data.

Aggregate remuneration of:

Senior management	£497,312
Staff whose actions may have a material impact on the funds	£996,004
Other	£1,503,132

The staff members included in the above analysis support all the funds managed by the AIFM. It is not considered feasible or useful to attempt to apportion these figures to individual funds.

The management has reviewed the general principles of the Remuneration Policy and its application in the last year which has resulted in no material changes to the Policy.

## MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF THE DEPOSITARY TO THE SHAREHOLDERS FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 MARCH 2018 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2019 FOR PREMIER DIVERSIFIED GROWTH FUND, PREMIER MULTI-ASSET DISTRIBUTION FUND, PREMIER MULTI-ASSET GLOBAL GROWTH FUND AND PREMIER DIVERSIFIED INCOME FUND AS SUB-FUNDS OF PREMIER MULTI-ASSET FUNDS ('THE COMPANY')

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

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

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

The Depositary must ensure that:

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

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

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

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

Northern Trust Global Services SE, UK Branch Trustee & Depositary Services 20 June 2019

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

# REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF PREMIER MULTI-ASSET FUNDS ('THE COMPANY')

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Company for the year ended 28 February 2019 which comprise the Statements of Total Return, the Statements of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders, the Balance Sheets, the Related Notes and Distribution Tables for each of the Company's sub-funds listed on page 2 and the accounting policies set out on pages 7 and 8.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view, in accordance with UK accounting standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, of the financial position of each of the sub-funds as at 28 February 2019 and of the net revenue and the net capital losses on the property of each of the sub-funds for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Instrument of Incorporation, the Statement of Recommended Practice relating to Authorised Funds, and the COLL Rules.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities are described below. We have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities under, and are independent of the Company in accordance with, UK ethical requirements including the FRC Ethical Standard.

We have received all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit and we believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is a sufficient and appropriate basis for our opinion.

# The impact of uncertainties due to Britain exiting the European Union on our audit

Uncertainties related to the effects of Brexit are relevant to understanding our audit of the financial statements. All audits assess and challenge the reasonableness of estimates made by the directors and related disclosures and the appropriateness of the going concern basis of preparation of the financial statements. All of these depend on assessments of the future economic environment and the Company's future prospects and performance.

Brexit is one of the most significant economic events for the UK, and at the date of this report its effects are subject to unprecedented levels of uncertainty of outcomes, with the full range of possible effects unknown. We applied a standardised firm-wide approach in response to that uncertainty when assessing the Company's future prospects and performance. However, no audit should be expected to predict the unknowable factors or all possible future implications for a company and this is particularly the case in relation to Brexit.

#### **Going concern**

The Authorised Corporate Director has prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis as they do not intend to liquidate the Company or its sub-funds or to cease their operations, and as they have concluded that the Company and its sub-funds' financial position means that this is realistic. They have also concluded that there are no material uncertainties that could have cast significant doubt over their ability to continue as a going concern for at least a year from the date of approval of the financial statements ("the going concern period"). We are required to report to you if we have concluded that the use of the going concern basis of accounting is inappropriate or there is an undisclosed material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt over the use of that basis for a period of at least a year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In our evaluation of the Authorised Corporate Director's conclusions, we considered the inherent risks to the company's and its sub-funds' business model, including the impact of Brexit, and analysed how those risks might affect the company's and its sub-funds' financial resources or ability to continue operations over the going concern period. We have nothing to report in these respects.

However, as we cannot predict all future events or conditions and as subsequent events may result in outcomes that are inconsistent with judgements that were reasonable at the time they were made, the absence of reference to a material uncertainty in this auditor's report is not a guarantee that the Company or its sub-funds will continue in operation.

#### **Other information**

The Authorised Corporate Director is responsible for the other information presented in the Annual Report together with the financial statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except as explicitly stated below, any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether, based on our financial statements audit work, the information therein is materially misstated or inconsistent with the financial statements or our audit knowledge. Based solely on that work:

- we have not identified material misstatements in the other information; and
- in our opinion the information given in the Authorised Corporate Director's Report is consistent with the financial statements.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where under the COLL Rules we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- proper accounting records for the Company have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.

#### Authorised Corporate Director's responsibilities

As explained more fully in their statement set out on page 2, the Authorised Corporate Director is responsible for: the preparation of financial statements which give a true and fair view; such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; assessing the Company and its sub-funds' ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Company or its sub-funds or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities

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

A fuller description of our responsibilities is provided on the FRC's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

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

Neil Palmer for and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor Chartered Accountants 15 Canada Square Canary Wharf London, E14 5GL 20 June 2019

## AGGREGATED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### **1. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

The Financial Statements have been prepared in compliance with UK Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for UK Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Association in May 2014 (2014 SORP).

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The Financial Statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value through profit or loss.

#### **Functional and Presentation Currency**

The functional and presentation currency of the Fund is Sterling.

#### **Revenue Recognition**

Revenue from Collective Investment Schemes, and quoted equity and non equity shares is recognised net of attributable tax credits when the security is quoted ex-dividend.

Accumulation of revenue relating to accumulation units or shares held in Collective Investment Schemes is recognised as revenue and included in the amount available for distribution.

The gains and losses arising on investments in structured plans are allocated between revenue and capital according to the nature of the structured plan. This is depending on the extent to which the return is capital or revenue based.

Bank interest, interest on debt securities and other revenue are recognised on an accruals basis.

Management fee rebates are accounted for on an accruals basis and are subsequently attributed to the Fund's revenue or capital consistent with the fee structure of the underlying fund.

#### **Stock Dividends**

The ordinary element of stocks received in lieu of cash dividends is recognized as revenue of the sub-fund. Any enhancement above the cash dividend is treated as capital.

#### **Special Dividends**

Special dividends are recognised as either revenue or capital depending upon the nature and circumstances of the dividend. In some instances, special dividends might be treated as capital rather than income when taking the fund's objectives into consideration.

#### Expenses

For accounting purposes, all expenses (other than those relating to the purchase and sale of investments) are charged against revenue for the year on an accruals basis except for Premier Diversified Income Fund and Premier Multi-Asset Distribution Fund in which all expenses are charged to Capital.

#### Distributions

Amounts distributable are calculated after excluding expenses borne by capital as agreed by the ACD and Depositary.

The ACD and Depositary have agreed that 100% of Premier Multi-Asset Distribution Fund and Premier Diversified Income Fund's expenses are borne by capital and 100% of Premier Diversified Growth Fund and Premier Multi-Asset Global Growth Fund expenses are borne by revenue.

Equalisation received from distributions or accumulations on units or shares in collective investment schemes is treated as capital and deducted from the cost of the investment for Premier Diversified Growth Fund, Premier Multi-Asset Global Growth Fund and Premier Diversified Income Fund. For Premier Multi-Asset Distribution Fund, the equalisation forms part of the distribution.

All distributions unclaimed for a period of six years after having become due for payment shall be forfeited and shall revert to the capital of the Fund.

#### Valuations

All investments are valued at their fair value at noon on 28 February 2019, being the last business day of the financial year. The fair value of equity and non-equity shares is bid price, excluding any accrued interest.

The fair value of dual priced collective investment schemes managed by the ACD is their cancellation price and the fair value of dual priced collective investment schemes which are managed by other management groups is their bid price.

The fair value of all single priced collective investment schemes is their single price, taking account of any agreed redemption charges.

#### **Foreign Currencies**

Assets and liabilities in currencies other than Sterling are translated into Sterling at the exchange rates prevailing at 12 noon on the last working day of the accounting period. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at the exchange rate prevailing at the transaction date. Where forward positions in currencies are held, these are translated at the appropriate forward rate. Any resulting exchange differences in these forward positions are disclosed in 'Net capital gains/(losses)' on investments in the Statement of Total Return.

#### Taxation

Corporation tax has been provided for at a rate of 20%. Deferred tax is provided in respect of timing differences that have originated but not been reversed at the balance sheet date. Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that they are more likely than not to be recoverable.

Withholding tax on overseas dividends is accounted for when the security is quoted ex dividend.

#### **Dilution Levy**

In certain circumstances the ACD may charge a dilution levy, in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority Regulations, on all subscriptions and redemptions of shares, which is paid into the sub-funds and included in the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders. The levy is intended to cover certain dealing charges not included in the mid market value of the sub-fund used in calculating the share price, which could have a diluting effect on the performance of the sub-fund.

## AGGREGATED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 3. RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORKS

The ACD has a documented risk management framework which details the processes and procedures used to identify, measure, manage and monitor appropriately all risks to which the funds are or may be exposed. The risks covered by the framework include market risk, liquidity risk, credit/ counterparty risk, operational risk and any other risks that might be material to the funds. The first three risks are primarily focused on the investment itself while operational risk refers to the risk of loss arising from inadequate or failed processes, people or systems including attempted fraud. The risk framework details:

- the techniques, tools and arrangements including systems and processes used;
- the content and frequency of reports; and
- the allocation of responsibilities between key staff and departments.

The main risk management system used by the ACD is fully integrated with the position keeping system for the sub-funds and is used to measure and monitor market risk, credit/counterparty risk and liquidity risk. A separate system is maintained to track instances of operational risk and monitor amendments to controls made seeking to ensure that operational risk errors do not re-occur.

The ACD has a formal structure of oversight committees who review the risk profile, including market, credit, operational and liquidity risks, of each subfund and the sub-fund's compliance with its published objectives on a regular basis. As part of its governance processes, the ACD reviews the performance of the risk management framework and its associated arrangements, processes, systems and techniques on an annual basis, and the compliance of the sub- funds with the risk management framework. The risk management framework is updated by the ACD following any significant change in the business or in risk exposures and at least annually. It is also reviewed by the Depositary.

#### **Market Risk**

Market risk is the risk of loss arising from fluctuations in the market value of investments held by the sub-funds attributable to changes in market variables, such as equity prices, foreign exchange rates, interest rates or the credit worthiness of an issuer. The risk management framework monitors the levels of market risk to which the sub-funds are exposed in relation to the sub-funds investment objective and policy. A series of hard (strictly enforced) and soft (warning) limits are employed to ensure the sub-fund stays within its published mandate. The risk systems provide a range of risk analytical tools, including sensitivities to relevant market risks, Value at Risk and stress testing, and incorporate the impact of changes to positions in real time. In addition to risk analytics, the risk system has an integrated risk limit and regulatory compliance function which performs checks on potential trades prior to the sub-fund executing them and on the sub-fund exposures on a daily basis.

#### Leverage

Leverage is measured using gross leverage and global exposure (the commitment approach). The commitment approach is suitable for funds investing in traditional asset classes such as equities, fixed income, money market securities and collective investment schemes. It can also be used for funds using derivatives in a simple manner and investing in instruments with embedded derivatives where no additional leverage is created. The commitment approach measures the incremental exposure of each derivative calculated by converting it into the market value of an equivalent position in the underlying asset of that derivative or forward transaction. The ACD may in some instances, and always following the guidelines set by the regulator, take account of legally enforceable netting and hedging arrangements when calculating global exposure where these arrangements do not disregard any obvious or material risks.

The sub-funds do not employ significant leverage (as defined by the regulations). The sub-funds all use the commitment method to calculate global exposure in preference to the VaR method and therefore, although VaR is calculated for internal purposes, it does not form part of the formal limits structure for the sub-funds and no details are provided here.

#### Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the possibility that the sub-fund will not be able to sell its assets without incurring losses within the timeframe required to meet investor redemptions. The asset liquidity profile of each sub-fund is monitored on a regular basis and compared to both historical investor redemption patterns and potential redemption scenarios, with the aim of ensuring that the subfund will be able to meet any actual redemptions in a timely manner. The liquidity risk management process includes an assessment of the market turnover, percentage of an issue held by the sub-fund, credit rating of the issuer and/or the buy-sell spread of the market in the securities held where the information is available and is applicable. Liquidity profile stress tests under both normal and exceptional conditions are conducted on a regular basis. If market liquidity is perceived to be decreasing, the ACD might seek to take any of the following actions to improve the liquidity profile of a subfund: maintain higher cash balances; maintain a greater proportion of assets in securities which are traditionally more liquid; diversify the range of issue types and sizes held; hold shorter dated securities; or hold issues with a more diverse shareholder base.

As of the date of this report, none of the sub-funds hold any assets that are subject to special arrangements arising from their illiquid nature.

#### **Credit Risk**

Credit risk comprises both credit issuer risk and counterparty risk. Credit issuer risk is the potential for loss arising from the issuer of a security failing to pay interest and principal in a timely manner. Counterparty risk is the potential for loss arising from the failure of a trading counterparty to honour an obligation to the fund. The funds manage credit issuer risk as a component of market risk. The Premier Diversified Growth Fund and the Premier Diversified Income Fund may take credit issuer risk by investing directly in interest bearing securities or exchange traded derivative instruments which have a sensitivity to interest rates or credit ratings. The Premier Multi-Asset Global Growth Fund and the Premier Multi-Asset Distribution Fund do not have any direct holdings of debt securities or other interest rate instruments which have a sensitivity to interest rates or credit ratings and therefore no analysis of such is provided.

#### **Counterparty Risk**

Counterparty risk arises primarily with the financial brokers through whom the sub-fund buys and sells securities. The sub-funds may only transact with brokers from an approved broker list maintained by the ACD. All brokers on the ACD approved list are subject to regular credit and general business checks. The sub-funds may also be exposed to counterparty risks arising from the use of forward currency instruments, usually transacted to decrease exposure to foreign currency. These risks are monitored daily and are subject to limits, in practice they are for small amounts typically less than 0.1% of the sub-fund assets. The Premier Diversified Growth Fund and the Premier Diversified Income Fund are also exposed to counterparty risk with the banks with which they transact off-exchange derivative products. These products are traded under legal agreements which require the posting of collateral by either party to keep the level of counterparty risk exposure below an agreed limit. As of the date of this report, no such products are outstanding and no collateral has been received or posted

#### FUND INFORMATION

The Comparative Tables on pages 9 and 10 give the performance of each active share class in the sub-fund.

The 'Return after charges' disclosed in the Comparative Tables is calculated as the return after operating charges per share divided by the opening net asset value per share. It differs from the sub-fund's performance disclosed in the ACD's report which is calculated based on the latest published price.

Portfolio transaction costs are incurred when investments are bought or sold by a fund in order to achieve the investment objective. These transaction costs affect an investor in different ways depending on whether they are joining, leaving or continuing with their investment in the sub-fund.

Direct transaction costs include broker commission and taxes. Broker commission includes the fee to a broker to execute the trades and research costs.

In addition, there are indirect portfolio transaction costs arising from the 'dealing spread' – the difference between the buying and selling prices of underlying investments in the portfolio. Unlike shares whereby broker commissions and stamp duty are paid by the sub-fund on each transaction, other types of investments (such as collective investment schemes, bonds, money instruments, derivatives) do not have separately identifiable transaction costs; these costs form part of the dealing spread. Dealing spreads vary considerably depending on the transaction value and money market sentiment.

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLES**

For the financial year ended 28 February 2019 Class B Income Shares

	2019 (pence per share)	2018 (pence per share)	2017 (pence per share)
Change in Net Asset Value Per Sha	ire		
Opening net asset value per share	153.66	138.09	111.69
Return before operating charges*	(1.72)	18.63	29.17
Operating charges	(1.77)	(1.73)	(1.47)
Return after operating charges*	(3.49)	16.90	27.70
Distributions on income shares	(2.06)	(1.33)	(1.30)
Closing net asset value per share	148.11	153.66	138.09
* after direct transaction costs of**:	0.33	0.30	0.46
Performance			
Return after charges**	(2.27)%	12.24%	24.80%
Other Information			
Closing net asset value (£'000) Closing number of shares Operating charges† Direct transaction costs	23,691 15,996,001 1.15% 0.21%	28,306 18,420,759 1.17% 0.20%	31,882 23,088,317 1.18% 0.37%
Prices			
Highest share price Lowest share price	161.19 143.55	157.40 138.37	139.32 111.76

\*\* Direct transaction costs are stated after deducting the proportion of the amounts collected from dilution adjustments or dilution levies that relate to direct transaction costs. A negative transactions costs figure might arise where there is a timing difference between inflows and the settlement of the resultant purchases.

<sup>†</sup> Operating charges, otherwise known as the OCF is the ratio of the subfund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the sub-fund. The OCF is intended to provide a reliable figure which gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in a subfund and is calculated based on the last period's figures.

#### FUND INFORMATION

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLES continued**

For the financial year ended 28 February 2019 Class D Income Shares

	2019 (pence per share)	2018 (pence per share)	2017 (pence per share)
Change in Net Asset Value Per Sha	are		
Opening net asset value per share	153.74	138.13	111.71
Return before operating charges*	(1.74)	18.66	28.89
Operating charges	(0.99)	(1.00)	(0.85)
Return after operating charges*	(2.73)	17.66	28.04
Distributions on income shares	(2.83)	(2.05)	(1.62)
Closing net asset value per share	148.18	153.74	138.13
* after direct transaction costs of**:	0.33	0.30	0.46
Performance			
Return after charges**	(1.78)%	12.78%	25.10%
Other Information			
Closing net asset value (£'000)	124,337	39,256	15,470
Closing number of shares	83,911,438	25,534,493	11,199,598
Operating charges <sup>+</sup>	0.65%	0.67%	0.68%
Direct transaction costs	0.21%	0.20%	0.37%
Prices			
Highest share price	161.61	157.76	139.53
Lowest share price	143.86	138.45	111.79

\*\* Direct transaction costs are stated after deducting the proportion of the amounts collected from dilution adjustments or dilution levies that relate to direct transaction costs. A negative transactions costs figure might arise where there is a timing difference between inflows and the settlement of the resultant purchases.

<sup>†</sup> Operating charges, otherwise known as the OCF is the ratio of the subfund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the sub-fund. The OCF is intended to provide a reliable figure which gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in a subfund and is calculated based on the last period's figures.

# SYNTHETIC RISK AND REWARD INDICATOR (SRRI) Typically lower rewards Typically higher rewards Lower risk Higher risk 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The sub-fund is ranked as 4 because it has experienced medium rises and falls in value over the past five years. Please note that even the lowest ranking does not mean a risk-free investment.

The Synthetic Risk and Reward Indicator demonstrates where the sub-fund ranks in terms of its potential risk and reward. The higher the rank the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money. It is based on past data, may change over time and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the sub-fund.

#### LEVERAGE

The sub-fund may use exchange traded derivatives for investment purposes as well as for efficient portfolio management as part of its investment strategy which generates some leverage within the sub-fund. The sub-fund may use currency forward transactions to reduce the risk of adverse movements in the exchange rate in which it holds investments to its base currency. Since it typically holds securities denominated in a range of currencies, these forward currency transactions may be extensive at certain points in time. In addition, the sub-fund may experience a small amount of leverage when using the permitted 10% of net asset value short term borrowing facility used in the course of the routine settlement of positions. The maximum leverage of the sub-fund calculated using the 'commitment leverage' methodology has therefore been set at 50%. The maximum leverage of the sub-fund calculated using the 'gross leverage' methodology has been set at 50%.

#### Leverage as at 28 February 2019

Commitment Leverage		Gross Leverage	
Actual	Max. Limit	Actual Max. Limit	
6%	50%	0%	50%

The sub-fund does not currently employ any financial engineering structures, such as repurchase or reverse repurchase agreements, securities lending or borrowing, or cash borrowings and re-investment which can be used to create leverage. The sub-fund may in future post or receive margin or collateral. The sub-fund has not granted any guarantees in relation to leveraging arrangements or any rights to reuse collateral.

#### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND POLICY

The investment objective of the Premier Diversified Growth Fund is to provide long term capital growth.

The sub-fund will achieve this by investing in units of collective investment schemes (both regulated and unregulated structures), exchange traded funds, and transferable securities (such as bonds and shares, both quoted and unquoted).

The sub-fund may also invest in closed end investment companies, warrants, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash, and may borrow, and may enter into stock lending and underwriting arrangements. The subfund may invest in derivatives and forward transactions for investment purposes as well as for the purposes of efficient portfolio management (including hedging).

#### INVESTMENT REVIEW

#### PERFORMANCE

The Premier Diversified Growth Fund (class B Income shares) fell 2.3% over the year, underperforming the IA Mixed Investment 40%-85% sector, which fell 0.10% and the FTSE All-Share Index, which rose 1.70%.

#### MARKET REVIEW

The year was dominated by three macroeconomic concerns; Brexit, US-Sino trade tensions and central bank monetary tightening. The uncertainty around the UK's exit from the EU has dampened investor sentiment towards domestically focused UK equities and led to a decrease in the value of Sterling, but has been of little significance on a global scale. Fears of an international trade war have caused considerably more concern among global investors, who fear that a souring of relations between the world's two economic superpowers could have profound negative consequences for the world economy at a time of monetary tightening in the US. This led to a sharp fall in global equity markets towards the end of 2018, forcing a change in policy from the US Federal Reserve, which is now expected to maintain interest rates at their current level for the foreseeable future.

#### PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY

The sub-fund remains invested across four main asset classes; fixed income, equities, property and alternative investments. There have been no major changes to asset allocations over the year; equities remain the favoured asset class, with downside protection in the form of equity index put options in place throughout the year, which helped dampen volatility and improve performance in the final quarter of 2018.

In fixed income, we continue to avoid sovereign and corporate bonds, where we believe the current risk return profile does not offer sufficient value. Instead we favour more alternative, specialist, investment opportunities that can offer attractive returns that are lowly correlated to more traditional bond markets.

The equity portfolio remains geographically diverse, covering all the major regions of the globe. A significant portion of the equity portfolio is invested in UK equities, but the bulk of the holdings are overseas. As economic data out of Europe has begun to weaken, the weighting to that region's equities has roughly halved, with the proceeds being used to increase the weighting to a number of holdings in the United States, where the economy continues to outperform other developed nations.

The allocation to alternative investments remains fundamental to the subfund. Containing a wide range of securities, the portfolio provides valuable diversification benefits, which can dampen volatility during times of market stress. The sub-fund's allocation to hedge funds provides a good example; spikes in volatility that are usually associated with a selloff in equity markets provide opportunities for hedge fund traders to make profits. This is exactly what occurred during the fall in stock prices at the end of 2018.

Within the property portfolio, the domestic exposure is now focused predominantly on sectors that are undergoing fundamental structural change, such as industrials, student accommodation and self-storage where favourable supply and demand dynamics should continue, regardless of the outcome of the Brexit negotiations.

#### OUTLOOK

Recent economic data appears to be pointing towards a slowdown in global GDP growth, most notably in Europe, where Germany has just narrowly avoided a technical recession. While this doesn't necessarily bode well for equity market returns, it is important to remember that the world's largest economy, the US, is still growing at a reasonable rate and that central bank policy, most crucially that of the US Federal Reserve, remains supportive. Furthermore, there are potential catalysts on the horizon; a resolution in the trade talks between the US and China and a positive Brexit outcome should be taken positively by the financial markets.

Source: Premier Fund Managers Limited, March 2019. Performance data taken from FE Analytics and Bloomberg, quoted on a total return (income reinvested), bid to bid, UK Sterling basis, class B Income shares as at 28 February 2019. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. Reference to any particular stock does not constitute a recommendation to buy or sell the stock.

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

Purchases	Costs £'000	Sales	Proceeds £'000
SC Fondul Proprietatea BH Macro Boussard & Gavaudan NB Global Floating Rate Income Highbridge Multi-Strategy Tetragon Financial Segro Boohoo.com M&G Credit Income Investment Trust	2,554 2,260 2,181 2,163 1,949 1,743 1,711 1,534 1,503 1,398	Option S&P 500 Index Put 2750 21/06/2019 GCP Infrastructure Investments John Laing Environmental Assets Hipgnosis Songs Okuma Melrose Industries Knights Aetna Greencoat UK Wind ArcelorMittal	2,649 1,232 1,229 1,069 915 890 884 870 794 767
Total purchases during the year were	120,511	Total sales during the year were	39,340

## PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

#### As at 28 February 2019

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Total Value of Sub-Fund %
	COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT SCHEMES 0.	72% (1.58%)	
900,000	United Kingdom 0.72% (1.58%) Premier Global Infrastructure Income Fund 'C'	1,062	0.72 <b>0.72</b>
	DEBT SECURITIES 0.63% (1.55%)	1,002	0.72
	United Kingdom 0.63% (1.55%)		
GBP 200	APQ Global 3.50% 30/09/2024	930 <b>930</b>	0.63 <b>0.63</b>
	EQUITIES 90.45% (91.70%)		
	Australia 0.82% (0.66%)		
60,726	BHP Billiton	1,214	0.82
, -		1,214	0.82
	Austria 0.56% (0.66%)		
30,469	Erste Group Bank	835	0.56
		835	0.56
	Belgium 0.62% (0.69%)		
16,700	КВС	921	0.62
		921	0.62
	Bermuda 0.47% (1.40%)		
786,345	Blue Capital Alternative Income	307	0.21
1,400,000	CATCo Reinsurance Opportunities 'C'	270	0.20
	C	<u> </u>	0.26
		000	0.47
90,000	Brazil 0.64% (0.00%) Banco do Brasil	941	0.64
50,000		941	0.64
	Canada 1.11% (0.60%)		
1,783,015	Jadestone Energy	713	0.48
54,113	Teck Resources 'B'	929	0.63
		1,642	1.11
	Cayman Islands 2.36% (2.51%)		
896,000	Ausnutria Dairy	841	0.57
356,500	China Conch Venture	893	0.60
1,044,000 929,800	Kingboard Laminates Xinyi Glass	962 798	0.65 0.54
525,000		3,494	2.36
	China 0.67% (0.48%)		
957,000	Weichai Power	999	0.67
,		999	0.67
	Denmark 0.00% (0.65%)		
	France 2.90% (3.32%)		
7,102	Gecina	787	0.53
2,560	Kering	1,060	0.72
6,238 3,787	Teleperformance Unibail-Rodamco	836 463	0.56 0.31
16,175	Vinci	1,159	0.78
		4,305	2.90

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Total Value of Sub-Fund %
Tioluling	investment	1 000	78
	Germany 1.25% (1.01%)		
9,268	Deutsche Wohnen	326	0.22
41,854	Vonovia	1,529	1.03
		1,855	1.25
	Guernsey 18.22% (21.13%)		
165,000	BH Global	2,492	1.68
170,000	BH Macro	4,087	2.77
240,000	Boussard & Gavaudan	3,336	2.26
150,000	DW Catalyst <sup>1</sup>	-	-
1,455,774	Hadrians Wall Secured Investments	1,368	0.92
1,794,474 230,526	Highbridge Multi-Strategy Highbridge Multi-Strategy	3,812	2.59
230,320	(Assented)	2	_
1,930,000	JPMorgan Global Convertibles	1,683	1.14
2,350,000	NB Global Floating Rate Income	2,094	1.41
525,372	Real Estate Credit Investments	893	0.60
488,247	Sherborne Investors	288	0.19
494,506	Sirius Real Estate	297	0.20
1,139,327	SQN Asset Finance Income	1,049	0.71
325,000	Tetragon Financial TwentyFour Income	3,028 1,425	2.06 0.96
1,250,000 1,350,000	UK Mortgages	1,423	0.30
1,550,000		26,941	18.22
		20,541	10.22
	Hong Kong 0.80% (0.70%)		
910,000	CNOOC -	1,180	0.80
		1,180	0.80
	Ireland 1.69% (1.25%)		
292,722	Green REIT	368	0.25
10,481	ICON	1,141	0.77
12,300	Ingersoll-Rand	989	0.67
		2,498	1.69
	Isle of Man 0.44% (0.81%)		
416,415	Strix	650	0.44
	-	650	0.44
24 600	Japan 1.90% (4.69%)	1.020	0.70
31,600 8,100	Asahi	1,030	0.70
79,800	Murata Manufacturing Tokai Carbon	951 835	0.64 0.56
75,000	-	2,816	1.90
		2,010	1.50
	Jersey 0.98% (2.20%)		
650,000	EJF Investments	1,164	0.79
80,000	Phoenix Spree Deutschland	280	0.19
		1,444	0.98
	Luxembourg 0.91% (1.96%)		
385,573	B&M European Value Retail	1,353	0.91
		1,353	0.91
	Netherlands 0.00% (0.68%)		
	Panama 0.69% (0.64%)		
23,440	Carnival	1,016	0.69
	-	1,016	0.69

## PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

#### As at 28 February 2019

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Tota Value c Sub-Fun 9
	Romania 1.63% (0.00%)		
305,000	SC Fondul Proprietatea	2,407	1.6
		2,407	1.6
	Russia 0.85% (0.63%)		
19,974	Lukoil	1,263	0.8
		1,263	0.8
	Singapore 0.00% (0.64%)		
	Spain 0.77% (0.66%)		
109,200	Inmobiliaria Colonial Socimi	834	0.5
32,806	Merlin Properties Socimi	314	0.2
		1,148	0.7
	Sweden 1.10% (1.28%)		
66,399	Fabege	666	0.4
87,148	Volvo	962	0.6
	Switzerland 0.00% (0.63%)	1,628	1.1
	Turkey 0.56% (0.58%)		
302,837	Ulker Biskuvi Sanayi	834	0.5
	-	834	0.5
	United Kingdom 30.03% (27.03%)		
228,738	BAE Systems	1,066	0.7
1,538,840	BioPharma Credit	1,203	0.8
682,236	Boohoo.com	1,192	0.8
129,495	BP	690	0.4
323,569	CareTech Central Asia Metals	1,110 163	0.7 0.1
64,514 204,244	CLS Holdings	479	0.1
160,000	Code Masters Group	330	0.3
37,451	Craneware	974	0.2
127,852	Dart	1,039	0.7
15,000	Diageo	435	0.2
1,274,278	Diversified Gas & Oil	1,440	0.9
1,205,880	DotDigital	1,109	0.7
62,500	FDM	507	0.3
419,243	Forterra	1,172	0.7
87,836	Frontier Developments	787	0.5
72,100	GlaxoSmithKline	1,089	0.7
850,000	Gore Street Energy Storage	812	0.5
255,926	Grainger	624	0.4
411,776	Greencoat UK Wind	563	0.3
80,000	Greene King	526	0.3
474,911	Gym Group	915	0.6
42,400	Imperial Brands	1,058	0.7
22,000	iPath Series B S&P 500 VIX Short- Term Futures ETN	520	0.3
270,000	John Laing	1,040	0.7
501,578	Just	520	0.3
167,482	Just Eat	1,242	0.8
512,414	Legal & General	1,420	0.9
1,170,000	Life Settlement Assets	1,187	0.8
1,500,000	M&G Credit Income Investment	4 530	4.0
214,568	Trust Marlowe	1,538 747	1.0 0.5
21 <del>4</del> ,JUO	THUR DWC	/4/	0.5

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Total Value of Sub-Fund %
	United Kingdom continued		
220,000	Moneysupermarket.com	750	0.51
612,835	NCC	742	0.50
183,821	OneSavings Bank	721	0.49
250,000	P2P Global Investments	2,018	1.36
74,197	Prudential	1,172	0.79
202,954	Redrow	1,244	0.84
17,000	Rio Tinto	735	0.50
1,093,994	RM Secured Direct Lending	1,094	0.74
139,381	Robert Walters	744	0.50
21,600	Royal Dutch Shell 'B'	513	0.35
81,523	Safestore Holdings	494	0.33
269,955	Segro	1,762	1.19
759,070	Simplybiz	1,291	0.87
964,878	Spirent Communications	1,436	0.97
46,007	SThree	146	0.10
1,015,511	Sumo	1,290	0.10
55,163	Unite	499	0.34
55,105	onite	44,481	30.03
		44,401	50.05
	United States 18.48% (14.21%)		
17,600	AbbVie	1,051	0.71
52,157	American Eagle Outfitters	792	0.54
6,478	Amgen	932	0.63
55,230	Bank of America	1,226	0.83
5,400	Broadcom	1,102	0.74
11,585	Celanese	900	0.61
6,250	Cigna	849	0.57
20,167	Citigroup	976	0.66
18,800	CVS Health	827	0.56
57,003	Express	223	0.15
43,502	Fifth Third Bancorp	909	0.61
18,300	Foot Locker	816	0.55
30,071	Intel	1,203	0.81
16,032	JPMorgan Chase	1,267	0.86
19,292	Lincoln National	914	0.62
15,000	Merck	909	0.61
26,681	MetLife	902	0.61
12,742	Microsoft	1,075	0.73
56,580	ON Semiconductor	917	0.62
13,648	Phillips 66	1,002	0.68
12,461	Prudential Financial	900	0.61
15,595	Qorvo	813	0.55
8,100	Raytheon	1,129	0.76
12,062	Skyworks Solutions	736	0.50
8,200	Stryker	1,151	0.78
6,000	, United Health	1,128	0.76
8,850	United Rentals	902	0.61
10,286	Visa 'A'	1,138	0.77
17,888	Western Digital	652	0.44
,500	U	27,341	18.48
	INVESTMENT TRUST 1.87% (0.85%)		10.40

	United Kingdom 1.87% (0.85%)		
185,276	NewRiver REIT	407	0.27
970,000	Premier Global Infrastructure Trust	1,164	0.79
1,403,333	Sanditon Investment Trust	1,200	0.81
		2,771	1.87

## PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

#### As at 28 February 2019

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Total Value of Sub-Fund %
	OPTIONS 0.35% (0.83%)		
50	Option S&P 500 Index Put 2300 20/12/2019	140	0.09
100	Option S&P 500 Index Put 2325 20/09/2019	193	0.13
100	Option S&P 500 Index Put 2400 21/06/2019	115	0.08
34	Option S&P 500 Index Put 2625 29/03/2019	22	0.01
45	Option S&P 500 Index Put 2700	22	0.01
	29/03/2019	54	0.04
		524	0.35
	WARRANTS 0.50% (0.00%)		
150	Citigroup Global Warrant 31/07/2023	402	0.27
460	Royal Bank of Canada Warrant		
	22/02/2024	340	0.23
		742	0.50
	Total Value of Investments	139,921	94.52
	Net Other Assets	8,107	5.48
	Total Net Assets	148,028	100.00

Figures in brackets represent sector distribution at 28 February 2018.

Securities are admitted to an official stock exchange listing or traded on another regulated market unless otherwise stated.

<sup>1</sup> Securities in liquidation/delisted.

#### STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

#### For the year ended 28 February 2019

1	Notes	23 £'000	8/02/19 £'000	22 £'000	8/02/18 £'000
Income					
Net capital (losses)/gains	4		(5,427)		5,416
Revenue	5	2,696		1,148	
Expenses	6	(835)		(511)	
Interest payable and					
similar charges	_	_	_	_	
Net revenue before taxation		1,861		637	
Taxation	7	(113)		(44)	
Net an and a first transform	_		1 740		502
Net revenue after taxation		_	1,748	_	593
Total (loss)/return before					
distributions			(3,679)		6,009
Distributions	8		(1,754)		(594)
Change in net assets		_		_	
attributable to shareholders					
from investment activities		_	(5,433)	_	5,415

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

#### For the year ended 28 February 2019

	£'000	28/02/19 £'000	£'000	28/02/18 £'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders		67,562		47,352
Amounts receivable on issue of shares	107,814		27,602	
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(21,915)		(12,807)	
		85,899		14,795
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		(5,433)		5,415
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		148,028		67,562

#### BALANCE SHEET

#### As at 28 February 2019

	Notes	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
ASSETS			
Fixed assets:			
Investments		139,921	65,206
Current assets:			
Debtors	9	1,481	990
Cash and bank balances	10	9,340	2,751
Total assets		150,742	68,947
LIABILITIES			
Creditors:			
Bank overdrafts	11	(20)	(20)
Distribution payable	_		
on income shares	8	(984)	(324)
Other creditors	12	(1,710)	(1,041)
Total liabilities		(2,714)	(1,385)
Net assets attributable to			
shareholders		148,028	67,562

The notes on pages 17 to 22 are an integral part of these financial statements. On behalf of Premier Portfolio Managers Limited.

Neil Macpherson Finance Director (of the ACD) 20 June 2019

Ian West Chief Operating Officer (of the ACD)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accounting, distribution and risk management policies for Notes 1 to 3 are provided in the Aggregated Notes to the Financial Statements section on pages 7 to 8.

#### 4. NET CAPITAL (LOSSES)/GAINS

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Non-derivative securities*	(4,727)	5,260
Forward currency contracts	(545)	78
Other currency (losses)/gains	(136)	66
Derivative securities	(25)	-
Transaction charges	(9)	(9)
Capital management fee rebates	15	21
Net capital (losses)/gains	(5,427)	5,416

\*Includes realised losses of £7,318,249 and unrealised gains of £2,591,304 (2018: realised losses of £1,992,451 and unrealised gains of £7,251,900). The realised gains/(losses) on investments in the accounting period includes amounts previously recognised as unrealised gains in the prior accounting period.

#### 5. REVENUE

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Bank interest	13	2
Franked distributions	53	77
Franked PID revenue	17	7
Franked UK dividends	635	346
Interest on debt securities	35	17
Overseas dividends	1,778	658
Unfranked distributions	91	-
Unfranked PID revenue	74	41
	2,696	1,148

6. EXPENSES

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Payable to the ACD, associates of the ACD and agents of either of them:		
ACD's periodic charge	682	430
	682	430
Payable to the Depositary, associates of the Depositary and agents of either of them:		
Depositary's fees	15	13
Safe custody fees	23	8
	38	21
Other expenses:		
Advisory fees	3	-
Auditor's remuneration	6	6
Electronic messaging fees	13	4
Legal fees	2	2
Printing fees	5	3
PRS fees	5	6
Registration fees	81	39
	115	60
Total expenses	835	511

Irrecoverable VAT is included in the above expenses where relevant.

#### 7. TAXATION

(a) The tax charge comprises:

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Current tax:		
Overseas withholding tax	113	44
Total current tax (note 7 (b))	113	44
Deferred tax (note 7 (c))		
Total taxation	113	44

(b) Factors affecting the tax charge for the year:

The tax charge for the year differs from the special 20% rate of corporation tax applicable to Open-Ended Investment Companies (OEICs). The differences are explained below:

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Net revenue before taxation	1,861	637
	1,861	637
Return on ordinary activities multiplied by the special rate of corporation tax of 20% (2018: 20%)	372	127
Effects of:		
Franked UK dividends and distributions not subject to taxation	(141)	(86)
Capital transaction charges not expensed at 20%	3	4
Expenses not utilised in the year	113	82
Non-taxable overseas dividends	(334)	(124)
Overseas withholding tax	113	44
Taxation due to timing differences	(13)	(3)
Total tax charge (note 7 (a))	113	44
(c) Deferred tax		
Provision at the start of the year	-	-
Deferred tax charge in the year	-	_
Provision at the end of the year		_

Authorised OEICs are exempt from tax on capital gains made within the sub-fund.

Factors that may affect the future tax charge:

The sub-fund has not recognised a deferred tax asset of £618,512 (2018: £505,850) arising as a result of having unutilised management expenses. It is unlikely that the sub-fund will obtain relief for these in the future so no deferred tax asset has been recognised.

#### 8. DISTRIBUTIONS

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

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Interim distribution	1,216	336
Final distribution	984	324
	2,200	660
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares	101	41
Deduct: Revenue received on issue of shares	(547)	(107)
Net distributions for the year	1,754	594

The difference between the net revenue after taxation and the amounts distributed comprises:

Distributions	1,754	594
Distributions	4 75 4	504
Equalisation uplift on share conversions	4	1
Expenses offset against capital	2	-
Net revenue after taxation	1,748	593

#### 9. DEBTORS

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Accrued revenue	251	96
Amounts receivable for issue of shares	792	687
Management fee rebates receivable	24	18
Overseas tax recoverable	30	30
PID income tax recoverable	-	2
Sales awaiting settlement	384	157
	1,481	990

#### **10. CASH AND BANK BALANCES**

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Cash held at clearing house	1	-
Sterling	8,187	2,719
Overseas balances	1,152	32
Cash and bank balances	9,340	2,751

#### **11. BANK OVERDRAFTS**

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Euro	20	20
	20	20

#### **12. OTHER CREDITORS**

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Accrued expenses	132	56
Amounts payable for cancellation of shares	486	112
Currency deals awaiting settlement	1	-
Purchases awaiting settlement	1,091	873
	1,710	1,041

#### **13. RELATED PARTIES**

The aggregate monies received by the ACD through the issue of shares and paid on cancellation of shares are disclosed in the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders on page 16.

Premier Fund Managers Limited, as an associate of Premier Portfolio Managers Limited, had the following shareholdings in the sub-fund held on behalf of its private clients:

	Held at 28/02/19	Change in a year	Held at 28/02/18
Class B Income Shares	12,273,964	(3,999,992)	16,273,956
Class D Income Shares	12,464,208	2,545,218	9,918,990

A shareholder may be able to exercise significant influence over the financial and operating policies of the sub-fund and as such is deemed to be a related party. At the balance sheet date the following shareholder held a material interest in the sub-fund.

24.74% (2018: 59.55%)

#### 14. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS

There were no contingent liabilities or outstanding commitments at the balance sheet date (2018: fnil).

#### **15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

In pursuing the sub-fund's investment objective, the main risks arising from the sub-fund's financial instruments are market price, currency, interest rate, liquidity, credit and counterparty risk.

#### **Market Price Risk**

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

At 28 February 2019, if the price of the investments held by the sub-fund increased or decreased by 5%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders would increase or decrease by approximately  $\pm 6,996,037$  (2018:  $\pm 3,260,302$ ).

#### **Currency Risk**

The revenue and capital value of the sub-fund's investments can be significantly affected by foreign currency translation movements as the sub-fund's assets and revenue may be denominated in currencies other than Sterling, which is the sub-fund's base currency.

There are three main areas of currency risk. These are, movement in exchange rates affecting the value of investments, short-term timing differences such as exposure to exchange rate movements during the period between when an investment purchase or sale is entered into and the date when settlement occurs, and movements in exchange rates affecting revenue received by the sub-fund.

#### Currency exposure as at 28 February 2019

Currency	Portfolio of investments £'000	Net other assets £'000	Total £'000	Total exposure %
Australian dollar	1,214	-	1,214	0.82
Brazilian real	941	-	941	0.64
Canadian dollar	929	-	929	0.63
Danish kroner	-	7	7	-
Euro	12,768	21	12,789	8.64
Hong Kong dollar	5,672	-	5,672	3.83
Japanese yen	2,815	-	2,815	1.90
Swedish krone	1,628	-	1,628	1.10
Swiss franc	-	1	1	-
Turkish lira	834	-	834	0.56
US dollar	42,052	1,133	43,185	29.17
	68,853	1,162	70,015	47.29
Sterling	71,068	6,945	78,013	52.71
Total	139,921	8,107	148,028	100.00

#### Currency exposure as at 28 February 2018

Currency	Portfolio of investments £'000	Net other assets £'000	Total £'000	Total exposure %
Australian dollar	444	-	444	0.66
Canadian dollar	403	-	403	0.60
Danish kroner	436	6	442	0.65
Euro	7,298	23	7,321	10.84
Hong Kong dollar	2,490	-	2,490	3.69
Japanese yen	3,165	11	3,176	4.70
Swedish krone	863	-	863	1.28
Swiss franc	426	1	427	0.63
Turkish lira	395	-	395	0.58
US dollar	15,236	45	15,281	22.62
	31,156	86	31,242	46.24
Sterling	34,050	2,270	36,320	53.76
Total	65,206	2,356	67,562	100.00

At 28 February 2019, if the value of Sterling increased or decreased by 1% against all currencies, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders would increase or decrease by approximately  $\pm$ 700,147 (2018:  $\pm$ 313,270).

#### 15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS continued

#### **Interest Rate Risk**

The sub-fund has minimal direct interest rate risk as the majority of financial assets are in equities or closed end funds, which do not pay interest.

However, some of the underlying collective investment scheme investments are directly or indirectly exposed to interest rate risk. At the year end 8.71% (2018: 3.99%) of the Portfolio of Investments was held in bond funds.

The interest-bearing financial assets of the sub-fund are a convertible bond and bank balances, on which interest is calculated at a variable rate by reference to Sterling bank deposit rates or the international equivalent.

#### **Liquidity Risk**

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

#### **Credit Risk**

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

#### **Counterparty Risk**

The types of derivatives held at the balance sheet date were equity index option contracts and a structured investment embedding exposure to an equity index future contract. Details of individual contracts are disclosed in the Portfolio of Investment and the total position by counterparty at the balance sheet date was as follows:

Counterparty Name	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Options		
S&P 500	524	562
Total <sup>1</sup>	524	562

<sup>1</sup> Net exposure represents the mark to market value of derivative contracts less any cash collateral held. Positive exposure represents the sub-fund's exposure to that counterparty.

#### Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

There is no material difference between the carrying values and the fair values of the financial assets and liabilities of the sub-fund disclosed in the balance sheet where applicable.

Valuation technique as at 28 February 2019	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
Assets				
Collective Investment Schemes	-	1,062	-	1,062
Debt Securities	-	-	930	930
Equities	135,167	1,187	309	136,663
Options	524	-	-	524
Warrants	-	742	-	742
	135,691	2,991	1,239	139,921
Valuation technique as at 28 February 2018	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
•				
28 February 2018				
28 February 2018 Assets		£'000		£'000
28 February 2018 Assets Collective Investment Schemes		£'000	£'000	<b>£'000</b> 1,069
28 February 2018 Assets Collective Investment Schemes Debt Securities	£'000 	<b>£'000</b> 1,069 –	<b>£'000</b> 	<b>£'000</b> 1,069 1,045
28 February 2018 Assets Collective Investment Schemes Debt Securities Equities	<b>£'000</b> – – 59,683	<b>£'000</b> 1,069 –	<b>£'000</b> 	<b>£'000</b> 1,069 1,045 61,959

Level 1: The unadjusted quoted price in an active market for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable (i.e., developed using market data) for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs are unobservable (i.e., for which market data is unavailable for the asset or liability).

#### **Derivatives and Forward Transactions**

The sub-fund does not, at the date of this report, hold any derivatives or forward transactions that could materially impact the value of the sub-fund.

The investment adviser may use derivative instruments to hedge the investment portfolio against risk.

#### **16. SHARE CLASSES**

The sub-fund currently has two types of share. The AMC on each share class is as follows:

Class B Shares	Income	
Opening Shares	18,420,759	
Shares Created	2,267,570	
Shares Liquidated	(3,467,098)	
Shares Converted	(1,225,230)	
Closing Shares	15,996,001	
Class D Shares	Income	
Class D Shares Opening Shares	<b>Income</b> 25,534,493	
Opening Shares	25,534,493	
Opening Shares Shares Created	25,534,493 68,035,877	
Opening Shares Shares Created Shares Liquidated	25,534,493 68,035,877 (10,881,256)	

The net asset value, the net asset value per share and the number of shares in issue are given in the Fund Information on pages 9 to 10. All share classes have the same rights on winding up. The taxation and income are apportioned equally based on the weighted proportion of each share class.

The distribution per share class is given in the distribution tables on page 23.

#### **17. PORTFOLIO TRANSACTION COSTS**

The following tables show portfolio transactions and their associated transaction costs. For more information about the nature of these costs please refer to the additional portfolio transaction cost information on page 9.

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Analysis of total purchase costs:		
Purchases <sup>1</sup> in year before transaction costs	120,304	40,620
Commissions:		
Equities total value paid	58	23
CIS total value paid	-	-
Bonds total value paid	-	-
Derivatives total value paid	-	-
Taxes:		
Equities total value paid	149	66
CIS total value paid	-	-
Bonds total value paid	-	-
Derivatives total value paid		_
Total purchase costs	207	89
Gross purchases total	120,511	40,709
Analysis of total sale costs:		
Gross sales <sup>1</sup> before transaction costs	39,364	25,309
Commissions:		
Equities total value paid	(23)	(19)
CIS total value paid	-	-
Bonds total value paid	-	-
Derivatives total value paid	-	-
Taxes:		
Equities total value paid	(1)	(1)
CIS total value paid	-	-
Bonds total value paid	-	-
Derivatives total value paid		
Total sales costs	(24)	(20)
Total sales net of transaction costs	39,340	25,289

<sup>1</sup> Excluding corporate actions

#### 17. PORTFOLIO TRANSACTION COSTS continued

	28/02/19 %	28/02/18 %
Analysis of total purchase costs:		
Commissions:		
Equities percentage of average NAV	0.05	0.04
Equities percentage of purchases	0.05	-
CIS percentage of average NAV	-	-
CIS percentage of purchases	-	-
Bonds percentage of average NAV	-	-
Bonds percentage of purchases	-	-
Derivatives percentage of average NAV	-	-
Derivatives percentage of purchases	-	-
Taxes:		
Equities percentage of average NAV	0.14	0.12
Equities percentage of purchases	0.12	-
CIS percentage of average NAV	_	_
CIS percentage of purchases	_	_
Bonds percentage of average NAV	-	_
Bonds percentage of purchases	-	_
Derivatives percentage of average NAV	-	_
Derivatives percentage of purchases	-	-
Analysis of total sale costs:		
Commissions:		
Equities percentage of average NAV	0.02	0.04
Equities percentage of sales	0.06	-
CIS percentage of average NAV	-	-
CIS percentage of sales	-	-
Bonds percentage of average NAV	-	-
Bonds percentage of sales	-	-
Derivatives percentage of average NAV	-	-
Derivatives percentage of sales	-	-
Taxes:		
Equities percentage of average NAV	-	-
Equities percentage of sales	-	-
CIS percentage of average NAV	-	-
CIS percentage of sales	-	-
Bonds percentage of average NAV	-	-
Bonds percentage of sales	-	-
Derivatives percentage of average NAV	-	-
Derivatives percentage of sales	-	-
Analysis of total costs percentage of average NAV:		
Commissions	0.07	0.08
Taxes	0.14	0.12

As at the balance sheet date, the average portfolio dealing spread was 0.93% (2018: 0.86%) based on close of business prices. This spread represents the difference between the values determined respectively by reference to the bid and offer prices of investments expressed as a percentage of the value determined by reference to the offer price.

### DISTRIBUTION TABLES

#### For the period from 1 March 2018 to 31 August 2018 Interim dividend distribution in pence per share

#### Class B Income Shares

			Distrib	ution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/10/18	27/10/17
Group 1	1.3949	_	1.3949	0.8155
Group 2	0.7345	0.6604	1.3949	0.8155

#### **Class D Income Shares**

			Distrib	ution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/10/18	27/10/17
Group 1	1.7843	_	1.7843	1.1523
Group 2	0.7419	1.0424	1.7843	1.1523

For the period from 1 September 2018 to 28 February 2019

Final dividend distribution in pence per share

#### **Class B Income Shares**

			Distribution	Payable/Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	28/06/19	28/06/18
Group 1	0.6674	-	0.6674	0.5144
Group 2	0.3303	0.3371	0.6674	0.5144

#### **Class D Income Shares**

			Distribution	Payable/Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	28/06/19	28/06/18
Group 1	1.0453	_	1.0453	0.8968
Group 2	0.4865	0.5588	1.0453	0.8968

#### FUND INFORMATION

The Comparative Tables on pages 24 and 25 give the performance of each active share class in the sub-fund.

The 'Return after charges' disclosed in the Comparative Tables is calculated as the return after operating charges per share divided by the opening net asset value per share. It differs from the sub-fund's performance disclosed in the ACD's report which is calculated based on the latest published price.

Portfolio transaction costs are incurred when investments are bought or sold by a fund in order to achieve the investment objective. These transaction costs affect an investor in different ways depending on whether they are joining, leaving or continuing with their investment in the sub-fund.

Direct transaction costs include broker commission and taxes. Broker commission includes the fee to a broker to execute the trades and research costs.

In addition, there are indirect portfolio transaction costs arising from the 'dealing spread' – the difference between the buying and selling prices of underlying investments in the portfolio. Unlike shares whereby broker commissions and stamp duty are paid by the sub-fund on each transaction, other types of investments (such as collective investment schemes, bonds, money instruments, derivatives) do not have separately identifiable transaction costs; these costs form part of the dealing spread. Dealing spreads vary considerably depending on the transaction value and money market sentiment.

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLES**

For the financial year ended 28 February 2019 Class B Income Shares

	2019 (pence per share)	2018* (pence per share)
Change in Net Asset Value Per Share		
Opening net asset value per share	99.02	100.00
Return before operating charges*	0.91	2.27
Operating charges	(1.26)	(0.88)
Return after operating charges*	(0.35)	1.39
Distributions on income shares	(4.17)	(2.37)
Closing net asset value per share	94.50	99.02
* after direct transaction costs of**:	0.14	0.10
Performance		
Return after charges**	(0.35)%	1.39%
Other Information		
Closing net asset value (£'000)	11,381	15,181
Closing number of shares	12,043,781	15,332,110
Operating charges <sup>+</sup>	1.28%	1.25%
Direct transaction costs	0.14%	0.10%
Prices		
Highest share price	102.00	104.48
Lowest share price	92.95	98.39

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

\*\* Direct transaction costs are stated after deducting the proportion of the amounts collected from dilution adjustments or dilution levies that relate to direct transaction costs. A negative transactions costs figure might arise where there is a timing difference between inflows and the settlement of the resultant purchases.

<sup>†</sup> Operating charges, otherwise known as the OCF is the ratio of the subfund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the sub-fund. The OCF is intended to provide a reliable figure which gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in a subfund and is calculated based on the last period's figures.

#### FUND INFORMATION

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLES continued**

For the financial year ended 28 February 2019 Class D Income Shares

	2019 (pence per share)	2018* (pence per share)
Change in Net Asset Value Per Share		
Opening net asset value per share	99.30	100.00
Return before operating charges*	0.82	2.20
Operating charges	(0.77)	(0.53)
Return after operating charges*	0.05	1.67
Distributions on income shares	(4.19)	(2.37)
Closing net asset value per share	95.16	99.30
* after direct transaction costs of**:	0.14	0.10
Performance		
Return after charges**	0.05%	1.67%
Other Information		
Closing net asset value (£'000)	20,679	9,165
Closing number of shares	21,730,725	9,228,823
Operating charges <sup>+</sup>	0.78%	0.75%
Direct transaction costs	0.14%	0.10%
Prices		
Highest share price	102.38	104.71
Lowest share price	93.53	98.41

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

\*\* Direct transaction costs are stated after deducting the proportion of the amounts collected from dilution adjustments or dilution levies that relate to direct transaction costs. A negative transactions costs figure might arise where there is a timing difference between inflows and the settlement of the resultant purchases.

<sup>†</sup> Operating charges, otherwise known as the OCF is the ratio of the subfund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the sub-fund. The OCF is intended to provide a reliable figure which gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in a subfund and is calculated based on the last period's figures.



The sub-fund is ranked as 4 because the sub-fund and portfolios holding similar assets have experienced medium rises and falls in value. Please note that even the lowest ranking does not mean a risk-free investment.

The Synthetic Risk and Reward Indicator demonstrates where the sub-fund ranks in terms of its potential risk and reward. The higher the rank the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money. It is based on past data, may change over time and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the sub-fund.

#### LEVERAGE

The sub-fund may use exchange traded derivatives for investment purposes as well as for efficient portfolio management as part of its investment strategy which generates some leverage within the sub-fund. The sub-fund may use currency forward transactions to reduce the risk of adverse movements in the exchange rate in which it holds investments to its base currency. Since it typically holds securities denominated in a range of currencies, these forward currency transactions may be extensive at certain points in time. In addition, the sub-fund may experience a small amount of leverage when using the permitted 10% of net asset value short term borrowing facility used in the course of the routine settlement of positions. The maximum leverage of the sub-fund calculated using the 'commitment leverage' methodology has therefore been set at 50%. The maximum leverage of the sub-fund calculated using the 'gross leverage' methodology has been set at 50%.

#### Leverage as at 28 February 2019

Commitment Leverage		Gross Leverage	
Actual	Max. Limit	Actual Max. Limit	
8%	50%	5%	50%

The sub-fund does not currently employ any financial engineering structures, such as repurchase or reverse repurchase agreements, securities lending or borrowing, or cash borrowings and re-investment which can be used to create leverage. The sub-fund may in future post or receive margin or collateral. The sub-fund has not granted any guarantees in relation to leveraging arrangements or any rights to reuse collateral.

#### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND POLICY

The Premier Diversified Income Fund aims to produce dividend income and offer long-term capital growth potential by holding a diversified mix of global assets.

The sub-fund aims to achieve its investment objective by investing primarily in a diversified portfolio of different assets, such as equities (including exchange traded funds and investment trusts), fixed income, property companies (including REITs), collective investment schemes (including those managed by the ACD and its affiliates) and alternative investments, covering global markets. The sub-fund may also invest in warrants, structured investments, money market instruments and cash-type deposits investments. The sub-fund may enter into stock lending and underwriting arrangements. The sub-fund may invest in derivatives and forward transactions for investment purposes as well as for the purposes of efficient portfolio management, including hedging.

#### INVESTMENT REVIEW

#### PERFORMANCE

The Premier Diversified Income Fund (class B Income shares) fell 0.4% over the year, underperforming the IA Mixed Investment 20%-60% sector, which fell 0.2% and the FTSE All-Share Index, which rose 1.70%.

#### MARKET REVIEW

The year was dominated by three macroeconomic concerns; Brexit, US-Sino trade tensions and central bank monetary tightening. The uncertainty around the UK's exit from the EU has dampened investor sentiment towards domestically focused UK equities and led to a decrease in the value of Sterling, but has been of little significance on a global scale. Fears of an international trade war have caused considerably more concern among global investors, who fear that a souring of relations between the world's two economic superpowers could have profound negative consequences for the world economy at a time of monetary tightening in the US. This led to a sharp fall in global equity markets towards the end of 2018, forcing a change in policy from the US Federal Reserve, which is now expected to maintain interest rates at their current level for the foreseeable future.

#### PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY

The sub-fund remains invested across four main asset classes; fixed income, equities, property and alternative investments. There have been no major changes to asset allocations over the year; equities remain the favoured asset class, with downside protection in the form of equity index put options in place throughout the year, which helped dampen volatility and improve performance in the final quarter of 2018.

In fixed income, we continue to avoid government debt and keep a relatively low profile in corporate bonds, where we look for shorter dated, low duration debt issued by high quality companies. A significant portion of the subfund's fixed income exposure comes from alternative, specialist, investment opportunities that can offer attractive returns that are lowly correlated to more traditional bond markets.

The equity portfolio remains geographically diverse, covering all the major regions of the globe, with the majority invested in UK equities, where there are a higher number of higher income paying stocks relative to the rest of the world. For obvious reasons, the domestic equity market has been a tough place to invest over the year, but we believe that the economic outlook for the UK is more positive that the financial markets currently imply. We have continued to take a long-term time horizon, focusing on companies that meet our three key criteria of growth, value and quality.

For the sub-fund's alternative investment portfolio, we have continued to seek investments that are highly diversified, have a low correlation with traditional asset classes and will preserve capital in all market conditions.

Within the property portfolio, the domestic exposure is now focused predominantly on sectors that are undergoing fundamental structural change, such as industrials, student accommodation and self-storage where favourable supply and demand dynamics should continue, regardless of the outcome of the Brexit negotiations.

#### OUTLOOK

Recent economic data appears to be pointing towards a slowdown in global GDP growth, most notably in Europe, where Germany has just narrowly avoided a technical recession. While this doesn't necessarily bode well for equity market returns, it is important to remember that the world's largest economy, the US, is still growing at a reasonable rate and that central bank policy, most crucially that of the US Federal Reserve, remains supportive. Furthermore, there are potential catalysts on the horizon; a resolution in the trade talks between the US and China and a positive Brexit outcome should be taken positively by the financial markets.

Source: Premier Fund Managers Limited, March 2019. Performance data taken from FE Analytics and Bloomberg, quoted on a total return (income reinvested), bid to bid, UK Sterling basis, class B Income shares as at 28 February 2019. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. Reference to any particular stock does not constitute a recommendation to buy or sell the stock.

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

Purchases	Costs £'000	Sales	Proceeds £'000
SC Fondul Proprietatea Citigroup 7.63% 03/04/2018	528 501	GCP Infrastructure Investments Premier Global Infrastructure Income	493
NB Global Floating Rate Income	486	Fund 'C'	464
M&G Credit Income	451	Apax Global Alpha John Laing Environmental	417
EJF Investments Imperial Brands Finance	428	Assets Option S&P 500 Index Put	383
6.25% 04/12/2018	408	2750 21/06/2019	354
Kingboard Laminates	356	Hipgnosis Songs	321
FDM	341	Next	279
Sumo	325	Greencoat UK Wind	277
Bank of Scotland 6.375% 16/08/2019	309	NextEnergy Solar Option FTSE 250 Index Put 19700 15/03/2019	272 265
Total purchases during the year were	19,087	Total sales during the year were	8,609

## PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

#### As at 28 February 2019

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Value of Sub-Fund %
	COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT SCHEMES 3.02	% (6.02%)	
	United Kingdom 3.02% (6.02%)		
1,162,099	Premier Corporate Bond Monthly		
	Income 'C'	964	3.02
		964	3.02
	DEBT SECURITIES 15.11% (11.33%)		
	France 1.32% (0.91%)		
GBP 200,000	Orange 5.75% Perpetual	213	0.66
GBP 200,000	Orange 5.875% Perpetual	213	0.66
001 200,000		426	1.32
	Holy 0 (29/ (0 009/)		
	Italy 0.63% (0.00%)	202	0.02
GBP 200,000	Telecom Italia 6.375% 24/06/2019	202	0.63
		202	0.63
	Jersey 1.85% (0.00%)		
GBP 300,000	British Land 0.00% 09/06/2020	292	0.91
GBP 300,000	Helical Bar Jersey 4.00% 17/06/2019	302	0.94
	—	594	1.85
	Netherlands 0.94% (0.00%)		
GBP 300,000	ELM BV 6.302% Perpetual	302	0.94
,		302	0.94
	United Kingdom 8.74% (10.42%)		
GBP 100	APQ Global 3.50% 30/09/2024	465	1.45
GBP 100 GBP 200,000	Aviva 6.125% Perpetual	405 212	0.66
GBP 200,000 GBP 300,000	Bank of Scotland 6.375% 16/08/2019	306	0.95
GBP 450,000	Barclays Bank 14.00% Perpetual	465	1.46
GBP 75,000	Brit Insurance 6.625% 09/12/2030	77	0.24
GBP 200,000	Burford Capital 6.125% 26/10/2024	209	0.65
GBP 250,000	J Sainsbury 6.50% Perpetual	264	0.82
USD 300,000	Lloyds Banking Group 6.413%		
	Perpetual	224	0.70
GBP 150,000	Nationwide Building Society 6.875%		
	Perpetual	151	0.47
GBP 200,000	Phoenix 6.625% 18/12/2025	210	0.66
GBP 50,000	Tesco 6.125% 24/02/2022	55	0.17
GBP 138,000	Tesco 1.00% 16/12/2019	163 <b>2,801</b>	0.51 8.74
		2,001	0.75
	United States 1.63% (0.00%)		
GBP 300,000	AT&T 2.90% 04/12/2026	298	0.93
GBP 200,000	Wells Fargo Bank 5.25% 01/08/2023	225 523	0.70
		525	1.00
	EQUITIES 72.03% (77.07%)		
	Australia 1.00% (0.95%)		
15,995	BHP Billiton	320	1.00
		320	1.00
	Belgium 0.95% (0.96%)		
5,540	KBC	305	0.95
		305	0.95
	Bermuda 0.41% (0.87%)		

		Market Value	Total Value of Sub-Fund
Holding	Investment	£'000	%
	Bermuda continued		
300,000	CATCo Reinsurance Opportunities 'C'	81	0.25
		132	0.41
	Canada 0.62% (0.00%)		
500,000	Jadestone Energy	200	0.62
		200	0.62
	Cayman Islands 1.99% (1.12%)		
411,500	Kingboard Laminates	380	1.19
300,000	Xinyi Glass	257	0.80
	—	637	1.99
	Denmark 0.00% (1.08%)		
	France 2.57% (2.50%)		
2,460	Covivio	185	0.58
1,720	Gecina Unibail-Rodamco	191	0.60
1,451 3,782	Vinci	177 271	0.55 0.84
5,702		824	2.57
		024	2.57
	Germany 1.85% (1.93%)		
2,311	LEG Immobilien	194	0.61
10,893	Vonovia	398	1.24
		592	1.85
	Guernsey 11.68% (15.99%)		
509,816	Hadrians Wall Secured Investments	479	1.49
650,000	JPMorgan Global Convertibles	566	1.77
525,000	NB Global Floating Rate Income	468	1.46
127,996 262,872	Real Estate Credit Investments Sirius Real Estate	218 158	0.68 0.49
460,900	SQN Asset Finance Income	424	1.32
69,607	Tetragon Financial	649	2.02
300,000	TwentyFour Income	342	1.07
550,000	UK Mortgages	443	1.38
		3,747	11.68
	Hong Kong 1.00% (0.91%)		
248,000	CNOOC	322	1.00
,	—	322	1.00
	Isla of Mar 1 09% (1 90%)		
150.000	Isle of Man 1.98% (1.80%)	270	0.04
150,000 234,383	Manx Telecom Strix	270 366	0.84 1.14
234,303		636	1.98
		000	1.50
	Japan 1.48% (2.23%)		
19,300	Sekisui House	219	0.68
2,500	Tokyo Electron	256	0.80
		475	1.48
	Jersey 2.22% (2.98%)		
250,000	EJF Investments	448	1.40
248,487	GCP Asset Backed Income Fund	263	0.82
		711	2.22
	Luxembourg 0.99% (0.60%)		
90,000	B&M European Value Retail	316	0.99
		316	0.99

## PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

#### As at 28 February 2019

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Tota Value o Sub-Fund %
	Netherlands 0.41% (0.63%)		
6,040	Eurocommercial Properties	133	0.41
-,		133	0.41
	Panama 0.82% (0.85%)		
6,050	Carnival	262	0.82
-,		262	0.82
	Romania 1.48% (0.00%)		
60,000	SC Fondul Proprietatea	474	1.48
,	-	474	1.48
	Russia 1.18% (1.19%)		
5,981	Lukoil	378	1.18
3,501	Lukon	378	1.10
		5,6	
	Singapore 0.00% (0.70%)		
	Spain 0.00% (0.63%)		
	Sweden 0.59% (0.00%)		
18,859	Fabege	189	0.59
		189	0.59
	United Kingdom 35.03% (35.86%)		
234,452	Assura	134	0.42
75,000	BAE Systems	349	1.09
143,458	BCA Marketplace	287	0.90
596,952	BioPharma Credit	467	1.46
39,052	BP	208	0.65
56,274	Central Asia Metals	142	0.44
54,441	CLS Holdings	128	0.40
79,357	Countryside Properties	255	0.80
532,000	Diversified Gas & Oil	600	1.86
40,000	FDM	324	1.01
116,918	Forterra	327	1.02
15,000	GlaxoSmithKline	227	0.71
250,000	Gore Street Energy Storage	239	0.75
40,000	Greene King	263 154	0.82
80,000	Gym Group		0.48
70,000 15,000	H&T Group Hill & Smith	197 177	0.61 0.55
36,648	HSBC	225	0.70
13,300	Imperial Brands	332	1.04
5,000	iPath Series B S&P 500 VIX Short-		
	Term Futures ETN	118	0.37
70,000	John Laing	270	0.84
226,587	Just	235	0.73
140,568	Legal & General	390	1.22
267,683	Lloyds Banking Group	169	0.53
70,000	Moneysupermarket.com	239	0.75
53,421	OneSavings Bank	210	0.66
60,000	P2P Global Investments	484	1.50
23,756	Phoenix Group	164 222	0.51
137,142 50,000	Ramsdens Ranger Direct Lending	233 252	0.73 0.79
400,000	Reach	232	0.75
400,000 60,000	Redrow	368	1.15
5,952	Rio Tinto	257	0.80
250,961	RM Secured Direct Lending	251	0.78
10,100	Royal Dutch Shell 'B'	240	0.75

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Total Value of Sub-Fund %
	United Kingdom continued		
100,000	Sabre Insurance Group	267	0.83
30,865	Segro	201	0.63
220,000	Spirent Communications	327	1.02
63,199	SThree	200	0.62
50,000	STV Group	175	0.55
200,000	Sumo	254	0.79
150,000	Taylor Wimpey	266	0.83
18,276	Unite	165	0.51
99,347	Watkin Jones	217	0.68
		11,227	35.03
	United States 3.78% (3.29%)		
2,113	Amgen	304	0.95
9,732	MetLife	330	1.03
3,600	Phillips 66	264	0.82
4,358	Prudential Financial	314	0.98
		1,212	3.78
	INVESTMENT TRUSTS 5.64% (3.85%)		
200,000	Guernsey 0.98% (0.00%)	212	0.00
200,000	International Public Partnership	313	0.98
		313	0.98
	United Kingdom 4.66% (3.85%)		
37,535	A & J Mucklow Group	184	0.57
18,420	Big Yellow Group	177	0.55
236,857	Capital & Regional	76	0.24
107,354	LondonMetric Property	204	0.64
450,000	M&G Credit Income Investment	464	
52.051	Trust	461	1.44
52,951 230,000	NewRiver REIT Premier Global Infrastructure Trust	116 276	0.36 0.86
230,000		1,494	4.66
		1,454	4.00
	FORWARD FX CURRENCY CONTRACTS	0.03% (0.00%)	
USD (400,225)	Sold USD, Bought GBP 310,000 for		
	settlement on 11/04/2019	10	0.03
		10	0.03
	OPTIONS 0.43% (0.83%)		
50	Option FTSE 250 Index Put 19700		
	15/03/2019	60	0.19
5	Option S&P 500 Index Put 2300		
	20/12/2019	15	0.05
20	Option S&P 500 Index Put 2325	20	0.12
20	20/09/2019 Option S&P 500 Index Put 2400	39	0.12
20	21/06/2019	24	0.07

138

0.43

## PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

#### As at 28 February 2019

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Total Value of Sub-Fund %
	WARRANTS 0.18% (0.00%)		
80	Royal Bank of Canada Warrant		
	22/02/2024	59	0.18
		59	0.18
	Total Value of Investments	30,918	96.44
	Net Other Assets	1,142	3.56
	Total Net Assets	32,060	100.00

Figures in brackets represent sector distribution at 28 February 2018.

Securities are admitted to an official stock exchange listing or traded on another regulated market unless otherwise stated.

#### STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

#### For the year ended 28 February 2019

	Notes	2 £'000	8/02/19 £'000	28, £'000	/02/18* £'000
Income					
Net capital losses	4		(1,133)		(73)
Revenue	5	1,318		588	
Expenses Interest payable and	6	(291)		(178)	
similar charges	_		_	(1)	
Net revenue before taxation		1,027		409	
Taxation	7 _	(38)	_	(13)	
Net revenue after taxation			989		396
Total (loss)/return before					
distributions			(144)		323
Distributions	8	_	(1,224)	_	(540)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			(1,368)		(217)
		_		_	

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

#### For the year ended 28 February 2019

		28/02/19	:	28/02/18*
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening net assets				
attributable to shareholders		24,346		-
Amounts receivable				
on issue of shares	15,783		27,258	
Amounts payable on				
cancellation of shares	(6,701)		(2,695)	
				24,563
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders				
from investment activities		(1,368)		(217)
Closing net assets	-		-	
attributable to shareholders	:	32,060	:	24,346

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

## BALANCE SHEET

#### As at 28 February 2019

	Notes	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18* £'000
ASSETS			
Fixed assets:			
Investments		30,918	24,127
Current assets:			
Debtors	9	290	386
Cash and bank balances	10	1,549	729
Total assets		32,757	25,242
LIABILITIES			
Creditors:			
Distribution payable			
on income shares	8	(552)	(373)
Other creditors	11	(145)	(523)
Total liabilities		(697)	(896)
Net assets attributable to			
shareholders		32,060	24,346

The notes on pages 32 to 38 are an integral part of these financial statements.

On behalf of Premier Portfolio Managers Limited.

Neil Macpherson Finance Director (of the ACD) 20 June 2019

Ian West Chief Operating Officer (of the ACD)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accounting, distribution and risk management policies for Notes 1 to 3 are provided in the Aggregated Notes to the Financial Statements section on pages 7 to 8.

#### 4. NET CAPITAL LOSSES

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18* £'000
Non-derivative securities*	(1,112)	(101)
Forward currency contracts	(50)	12
Other currency (losses)/gains	(7)	12
Derivative securities	31	-
Transaction charges	(2)	(1)
Capital management fee rebates	7	5
Net capital losses	(1,133)	(73)

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

^ Includes realised gains of £37,973 and unrealised losses of £1,197,802 (2018: realised losses of £184,561 and unrealised gains of £82,728). The realised gains/(losses) on investments in the accounting period includes amounts previously recognised as unrealised gains in the prior accounting period.

#### 5. REVENUE

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18* £'000
Bank interest	2	-
Franked distributions	30	2
Franked PID revenue	7	-
Franked UK dividends	341	155
Interest on debt securities	196	78
Overseas dividends	596	255
Unfranked distributions	100	73
Unfranked PID revenue	46	25
	1,318	588

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

#### 6. EXPENSES

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18* £'000
Payable to the ACD, associates of the ACD and agents of either of them:		
ACD's periodic charge	216	138
	216	138
Payable to the Depositary, associates of the Depositary and agents of either of them:		
Depositary's fees	12	8
Safe custody fees	8	6
	20	14
Other expenses:		
Auditor's remuneration	6	6
Electronic messaging fees	4	1
Legal fees	2	-
Printing fees	2	1
Registration fees	41	18
	55	26
Total expenses	291	178

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

Irrecoverable VAT is included in the above expenses where relevant.

#### 7. TAXATION

(a) The tax charge comprises:

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18* £'000
Current tax:		
Corporation tax	13	2
Overseas withholding tax	25	11
Total current tax (note 7 (b)) Deferred tax (note 7 (c))	38	13 _
Total taxation	38	13

(b) Factors affecting the tax charge for the year:

The tax charge for the year differs from the special 20% rate of corporation tax applicable to Open-Ended Investment Companies (OEICs). The differences are explained below:

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18* £'000
Net revenue before taxation	1,027	409
	1,027	409
Return on ordinary activities multiplied by the special rate of corporation tax of 20% (2018: 20%)	205	82
Effects of:		
Franked UK dividends and distributions not subject to taxation	(76)	(32)
Double taxation relief	(2)	(1)
Non-taxable overseas dividends	(116)	(40)
Overseas withholding tax	25	11
Taxation due to timing differences	-	(8)
Tax effect on capital management fee rebates	2	1
Total tax charge (note 7 (a))	38	13
(c) Deferred tax		
Provision at the start of the year	-	-
Deferred tax charge in the year		-
Provision at the end of the year		_

Authorised OEICs are exempt from tax on capital gains made within the subfund.

Factors that may affect the future tax charge:

The sub-fund has not recognised a deferred tax asset of fnil (2018: fnil) arising as a result of having unutilised management expenses. It is unlikely that the sub-fund will obtain relief for these in the future so no deferred tax asset has been recognised.

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

#### 8. DISTRIBUTIONS

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

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18* £'000
First interim distribution	231	-
Second interim distribution	247	-
Third interim distribution	283	199
Final distribution	552	373
	1,313	572
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares	74	27
Deduct: Revenue received on issue of shares	(163)	(59)
Net distributions for the year	1,224	540
Interest payable and similar charges		(1)
	1,224	539

The difference between the net revenue after taxation and the amounts distributed comprises:

Net revenue after taxation	989	396
Expenses offset against capital	291	179
Tax relief on expenses transferred to capital	(56)	(35)
Distributions	1,224	540

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

#### 9. DEBTORS

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18* £'000
Accrued revenue	205	127
Amounts receivable for issue of shares	75	132
Overseas tax recoverable	8	2
PID income tax recoverable	2	2
Sales awaiting settlement	-	123
	290	386

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

#### **10. CASH AND BANK BALANCES**

	28/02/19	28/02/18*
	£'000	£'000
Cash held at clearing house	1	-
Sterling	1,447	729
Overseas balances	101	-
Cash and bank balances	1,549	729

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

#### **11. OTHER CREDITORS**

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18* £'000
Accrued expenses	54	31
Amounts payable for cancellation of shares	76	132
Corporation tax payable	15	2
Purchases awaiting settlement	-	358
	145	523

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

#### **12. RELATED PARTIES**

The aggregate monies received by the ACD through the issue of shares and paid on cancellation of shares are disclosed in the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders on page 31.

Premier Fund Managers Limited, as an associate of Premier Portfolio Managers Limited, had the following shareholdings in the sub-fund held on behalf of its private clients:

	Held at 28/02/19	Change in a year	Held at 28/02/18
Class B Income Shares	11,900,112	(2,777,312)	14,677,424
Class D Income Shares	7,159,887	2,941,054	4,218,833

A shareholder may be able to exercise significant influence over the financial and operating policies of the sub-fund and as such is deemed to be a related party. At the balance sheet date the following shareholder held a material interest in the sub-fund.

Premier Fund Managers Limited

56.33% (2018: 76.90%)

#### **13. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS**

There were no contingent liabilities or outstanding commitments at the balance sheet date (2018: fnil).

#### **14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

In pursuing the sub-fund's investment objective, the main risks arising from the sub-fund's financial instruments are market price, currency, interest rate, liquidity, credit and counterparty risk.

#### **Market Price Risk**

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

At 28 February 2019, if the price of the investments held by the sub-fund increased or decreased by 5%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders would increase or decrease by approximately £1,545,915 (2018: £1,206,331).

#### **Currency Risk**

The revenue and capital value of the sub-fund's investments can be significantly affected by foreign currency translation movements as the sub-fund's assets and revenue may be denominated in currencies other than Sterling, which is the sub-fund's base currency.

There are three main areas of currency risk. These are, movement in exchange rates affecting the value of investments, short-term timing differences such as exposure to exchange rate movements during the period between when an investment purchase or sale is entered into and the date when settlement occurs, and movements in exchange rates affecting revenue received by the sub-fund.

The currency profile of the sub-fund's financial instruments at the balance sheet date (including short term debtors and creditors) was:

#### Currency exposure as at 28 February 2019

Currency	Portfolio of investments £'000	Forward currency contracts £'000	Net other assets £'000	Total £'000	Total exposure %
Australian dollar	320	-	-	320	1.00
Euro	1,855	-	8	1,863	5.81
Hong Kong dollar	958	-	-	958	2.99
Japanese yen	475	-	-	475	1.48
Swedish krone	189	-	-	189	0.59
US dollar	4,050	(300)	101	3,851	12.02
	7,847	(300)	109	7,656	23.89
Sterling	23,061	310	1,033	24,404	76.11
Total	30,908	10	1,142	32,060	100.00

#### Currency exposure as at 28 February 2018\*

Currency	Portfolio of investments £'000	Forward currency contracts £'000	Net other assets £'000	Total £'000	Total exposure %
Australian dollar	231	-	-	231	0.95
Danish kroner	262	-	-	262	1.08
Euro	1,618	-	2	1,620	6.65
Hong Kong dollar	494	-	-	494	2.03
Japanese yen	543	-	3	546	2.24
US dollar	2,675	(248)	33	2,460	10.10
	5,823	(248)	38	5,613	23.05
Sterling	18,303	249	181	18,733	76.95
Total	24,126	1	219	24,346	100.00

At 28 February 2019, if the value of Sterling increased or decreased by 1% against all currencies, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders would increase or decrease by approximately £76,562 (2018: £56,500).

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

#### 14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS continued

#### **Interest Rate Risk**

The interest rate risk profile of the sub-fund's financial assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date was:

#### Interest rate exposure as at 28 February 2019

Currency	Fixed rate financial assets & liabilities £'000	Floating rate financial assets & liabilities <sup>1</sup> £'000	Non- interest bearing financial assets & liabilities £'000	Total £'000	V Weighted average fixed interest rate <sup>2</sup> %	Veighted average period for which rate is fixed years
Australian dollar	-	_	320	320	_	_
Euro	-	-	1,863	1,863	-	-
Hong Kong dollar	-	-	958	958	_	_
Japanese yen	-	-	475	475	_	_
Swedish krone	-	-	189	189	-	_
US dollar	-	325	3,526	3,851	-	-
	_	325	7,331	7,656	_	_
Sterling	2,728	3,346	18,330	24,404	2.08	3.48
Total	2,728	3,671	25,661	32,060	2.08	3.48

Interest rate exposure as at 28 February 2018\*

					v	Veighted
			Non-			average
	Fixed	Floating	interest	1	Weighted	period
	rate	rate	bearing		average	for
	financial	financial	financial		fixed	which
	assets &	assets &	assets &		interest	rate
	liabilities	liabilities <sup>1</sup>	liabilities	Total	rate <sup>2</sup>	is fixed
Currency	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	years
Australian dollar	_	_	231	231	_	_
Danish kroner	-	_	262	262	_	_
Euro	-	-	1,620	1,620	-	-
Hong Kong dollar	-	-	494	494	-	_
Japanese yen	-	-	546	546	-	-
US dollar	-	249	2,211	2,460	-	-
	_	249	5,364	5,613	_	-
Sterling	1,677	1,559	15,497	18,733	1.84	4.96
Total	1,677	1,808	20,861	24,346	1.84	4.96

<sup>1</sup> Floating rate financial assets include bank balances, on which interest is calculated at a variable rate by reference to Sterling bank deposit rates or the international equivalent (2018: same).

<sup>2</sup> The 'weighted average fixed interest rate' is based on the redemption yield of each asset, weighted by their market value.

At 28 February 2019, if interest rates increased or decreased by 0.1% against all debt securities, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders would increase or decrease by approximately £21,870 (2018: £243,445).

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

#### **Liquidity Risk**

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

#### **Credit Risk**

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

The portfolio at the year end has been analysed into the credit ratings as shown below:

Credit Risk	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 <sup>*</sup> £'000
Investment grade securities	2,271	1,248
Below investment grade securities	1,097	693
Unrated securities	1,480	816
Other investments	26,070	21,370
	30,918	24,127

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

#### **Counterparty Risk**

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

The types of derivatives held at the balance sheet date were forward foreign exchange contracts and option contracts. Details of individual contracts are disclosed in the Portfolio of Investments and the total position by counterparty at the balance sheet date was as follows:

Counterparty Name	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Options		
FTSE 250	61	-
S&P 500	78	201
Forward Currency Contracts		
JP Morgan	10	1
Total <sup>1</sup>	149	202

From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

<sup>1</sup> Net exposure represents the mark to market value of derivative contracts less any cash collateral held. Positive exposure represents the sub-fund's exposure to that counterparty.

#### 14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS continued

#### Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

There is no material difference between the carrying values and the fair values of the financial assets and liabilities of the sub-fund disclosed in the balance sheet where applicable.

Valuation technique as at 28 February 2019	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
Assets				
<b>Collective Investment Schemes</b>	-	963	-	963
Debt Securities	466	3,918	466	4,850
Equities	24,897	-	-	24,897
Forward Currency Contracts	-	10	-	10
Options	139	-	-	139
Warrants	-	59	-	59
	25,502	4,950	466	30,918
Valuation technique as at 28 February 2018*	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
•				
28 February 2018*				
28 February 2018* Assets		£'000		£'000
28 February 2018* Assets Collective Investment Schemes		<b>£'000</b> 1,467	£'000	<b>£'000</b> 1,467
28 February 2018* Assets Collective Investment Schemes Debt Securities	£'000 	<b>£'000</b> 1,467 2,235	£'000	<b>£'000</b> 1,467 2,757
28 February 2018* Assets Collective Investment Schemes Debt Securities Equities	£'000 	<b>£'000</b> 1,467 2,235 783	£'000	<b>£'000</b> 1,467 2,757 19,538
28 February 2018* Assets Collective Investment Schemes Debt Securities Equities Forward Currency Contracts	<b>£'000</b> – – 18,755 –	<b>£'000</b> 1,467 2,235 783	£'000	<b>£'000</b> 1,467 2,757 19,538 1

Level 1: The unadjusted quoted price in an active market for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable (i.e., developed using market data) for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs are unobservable (i.e., for which market data is unavailable for the asset or liability).

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

#### Derivatives and Forward Transactions

Derivatives used during the year comprise on-exchange options and forward currency contracts. Forward foreign currency contracts are used to manage currency risk arising from investing in overseas securities.

Open positions at the balance sheet date are disclosed as either 'Investment Assets' or 'Investment Liabilities' in the Balance Sheet. Unrealised gain/ (losses) on derivatives are taken to capital. The value of these investments may fluctuate significantly.

The investment adviser may use derivative instruments to hedge the investment portfolio against risk.

#### **15. SHARE CLASSES**

The sub-fund currently has two types of share. The AMC on each share class is as follows:

Class B Income Shares:	1.00%
Class D Income Shares:	0.50%

The following table shows the shares in issue during the year:

Class B Shares	Income
Opening Shares	15,332,110
Shares Created	1,402,303
Shares Liquidated	(3,879,914)
Shares Converted	(810,718)
Closing Shares	12,043,781
Class D Shares	Income
Class D Shares Opening Shares	<b>Income</b> 9,228,823
Opening Shares	9,228,823
Opening Shares Shares Created	9,228,823 14,711,628

The net asset value, the net asset value per share and the number of shares in issue are given in the Fund Information on pages 24 to 25. All share classes have the same rights on winding up. The taxation and income are apportioned equally based on the weighted proportion of each share class.

The distribution per share class is given in the distribution tables on page 39.

#### **16. PORTFOLIO TRANSACTION COSTS**

The following tables show portfolio transactions and their associated transaction costs. For more information about the nature of these costs please refer to the additional portfolio transaction cost information on page 24.

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18* £'000
Analysis of total purchase costs:		
Purchases <sup>1</sup> in year before transaction costs	19,051	29,390
Commissions:		
Equities total value paid	8	12
CIS total value paid	-	-
Bonds total value paid	-	-
Derivatives total value paid	-	-
Taxes:		
Equities total value paid	28	8
CIS total value paid	-	-
Bonds total value paid	-	-
Derivatives total value paid		
Total purchase costs	36	20
Gross purchases total	19,087	29,410

Analysis of total sale costs:

Gross sales <sup>1</sup> before transaction costs	8,614	4,942
Commissions:		
Equities total value paid	(5)	(3)
CIS total value paid	-	-
Bonds total value paid	-	-
Derivatives total value paid	-	-
Taxes:		
Equities total value paid	-	-
CIS total value paid	-	-
Bonds total value paid	-	-
Derivatives total value paid		
Total sales costs	(5)	(3)
Total sales net of transaction costs	8,609	4,939

28/02/19 28/02/18\* % % Analysis of total purchase costs: Commissions: Equities percentage of average NAV 0.03 0.05 0.06 Equities percentage of purchases CIS percentage of average NAV \_ CIS percentage of purchases \_ Bonds percentage of average NAV Bonds percentage of purchases Derivatives percentage of average NAV \_ Derivatives percentage of purchases Taxes: Equities percentage of average NAV 0.10 0.03 Equities percentage of purchases 0.20 CIS percentage of average NAV \_ CIS percentage of purchases Bonds percentage of average NAV Bonds percentage of purchases Derivatives percentage of average NAV Derivatives percentage of purchases Analysis of total sale costs: Commissions: Equities percentage of average NAV 0.01 0.02 Equities percentage of sales 0.06 \_ CIS percentage of average NAV \_ CIS percentage of sales Bonds percentage of average NAV Bonds percentage of sales Derivatives percentage of average NAV Derivatives percentage of sales Taxes: Equities percentage of average NAV Equities percentage of sales CIS percentage of average NAV CIS percentage of sales Bonds percentage of average NAV Bonds percentage of sales Derivatives percentage of average NAV Derivatives percentage of sales Analysis of total costs percentage of average NAV:

0.04

0.10

0.07

0.03

<sup>1</sup> Excluding corporate actions

Commissions

Taxes

\* From 19 June 2017 to 28 February 2018.

#### 16. PORTFOLIO TRANSACTION COSTS continued

As at the balance sheet date, the average portfolio dealing spread was 1.00% (2018:1.46%) based on close of business prices. This spread represents the difference between the values determined respectively by reference to the bid and offer prices of investments expressed as a percentage of the value determined by reference to the offer price.

# DISTRIBUTION TABLES

For the period from 1 March 2018 to 31 May 2018 First interim dividend distribution in pence per share

### **Class B Income Shares**

		Distrib	oution Paid	
	Net Income	Equalisation	27/07/18*	28/07/17
Group 1	0.8500	_	0.8500	_
Group 2	0.3279	0.5221	0.8500	

#### **Class D Income Shares**

		Distrib	oution Paid	
	Net Income	Equalisation	27/07/18*	28/07/17
Group 1	0.8500	_	0.8500	_
Group 2	0.4403	0.4097	0.8500	-

For the period from 1 June 2018 to 31 August 2018

Second interim dividend distribution in pence per share

## **Class B Income Shares**

			Distrik	oution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/10/18*	27/10/17
Group 1	0.8460	_	0.8460	_
Group 2	0.4034	0.4426	0.8460	

#### **Class D Income Shares**

			Distribution Paid	
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/10/18*	27/10/17
Group 1	0.8500	_	0.8500	-
Group 2	0.2813	0.5687	0.8500	-

For the period from 1 September 2018 to 30 November 2018

Third interim dividend distribution in pence per share

#### **Class B Income Shares**

		Distrib	oution Paid	
	Net Income	Equalisation	28/01/18	26/01/18
Group 1	0.8450	_	0.8450	0.8490
Group 2	0.3696	0.4754	0.8450	0.8490

#### **Class D Income Shares**

				<b>Distribution Paid</b>	
	Net Income	Equalisation	28/01/19	26/01/18	
Group 1	0.8500	_	0.8500	0.8500	
Group 2	0.3303	0.5197	0.8500	0.8500	

For the period from 1 December 2018 to 28 February 2019 Final dividend distribution in pence per share

#### **Class B Income Shares**

Distribution Pa				
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/04/19	28/04/18
Group 1	1.6269	_	1.6269	1.5210
Group 2	0.4149	1.2120	1.6269	1.5210

#### **Class D Income Shares**

			Dist	ribution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/04/19	28/04/18
Group 1	1.6395	_	1.6395	1.5180
Group 2	0.3546	1.2849	1.6395	1.5180

\*There are no comparative figures shown as the sub-fund launched on 19 June 2017.

## FUND INFORMATION

The Comparative Tables on pages 40 to 42 give the performance of each active share class in the sub-fund.

The 'Return after charges' disclosed in the Comparative Tables is calculated as the return after operating charges per share divided by the opening net asset value per share. It differs from the sub-fund's performance disclosed in the ACD's report which is calculated based on the latest published price.

Portfolio transaction costs are incurred when investments are bought or sold by a fund in order to achieve the investment objective. These transaction costs affect an investor in different ways depending on whether they are joining, leaving or continuing with their investment in the sub-fund.

Direct transaction costs include broker commission and taxes. Broker commission includes the fee to a broker to execute the trades and research costs.

In addition, there are indirect portfolio transaction costs arising from the 'dealing spread' – the difference between the buying and selling prices of underlying investments in the portfolio. Unlike shares whereby broker commissions and stamp duty are paid by the sub-fund on each transaction, other types of investments (such as collective investment schemes, bonds, money instruments, derivatives) do not have separately identifiable transaction costs; these costs form part of the dealing spread. Dealing spreads vary considerably depending on the transaction value and money market sentiment.

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLES**

For the financial year ended 28 February 2019 Class A Income Shares

	2019 (pence per share)	2018 (pence per share)	2017 (pence per share)
Change in Net Asset Value Per Sha	re		
Opening net asset value per share	136.82	137.02	126.68
Return before operating charges*	4.95	8.54	19.06
Operating charges	(2.78)	(2.89)	(2.74)
Return after operating charges*	2.17	5.65	16.32
Distributions on income shares	(6.09)	(5.85)	(5.98)
Closing net asset value per share	132.90	136.82	137.02
* after direct transaction costs of**:	0.02	0.02	0.01
Performance			
Return after charges**	1.59%	4.12%	12.88%
Other Information			
Closing net asset value (£'000) Closing number of shares Operating charges† Direct transaction costs	16,350 12,302,376 2.05% 0.01%	18,223 13,319,083 2.06% 0.01%	18,967 13,842,964 2.06% 0.01%
Prices			
Highest share price Lowest share price	140.40 128.06	142.85 136.56	138.53 125.85

\*\* Direct transaction costs are stated after deducting the proportion of the amounts collected from dilution adjustments or dilution levies that relate to direct transaction costs. A negative transactions costs figure might arise where there is a timing difference between inflows and the settlement of the resultant purchases.

<sup>†</sup> Operating charges, otherwise known as the OCF is the ratio of the subfund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the sub-fund. The OCF is intended to provide a reliable figure which gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in a subfund and is calculated based on the last period's figures.

# FUND INFORMATION

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLES continued**

For the financial year ended 28 February 2019

CIASS A	ACCUIT	iulation	Sildies

	2019 (pence per share)	2018 (pence per share)	2017 (pence per share)
Change in Net Asset Value Per Sha	are		
Opening net asset value per share	346.17	332.47	293.95
Return before operating charges*	12.66	20.81	44.99
Operating charges	(7.15)	(7.11)	(6.47)
Return after operating charges*	5.51	13.70	38.52
Distributions	(15.67)	(14.41)	(14.11)
Distributions on accumulation shares	15.67	14.41	14.11
Closing net asset value per share	351.68	346.17	332.47
* after direct transaction costs of**:	0.04	0.04	0.03
Performance			
Return after charges**	1.59%	4.12%	13.10%
Other Information			
Closing net asset value (£'000)	61,855	65,469	81,430
Closing number of shares	17,588,670	18,912,447	24,492,396
Operating charges <sup>+</sup>	2.05%	2.06%	2.06%
Direct transaction costs	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
Prices			
Highest share price	358.02	355.03	332.96
Lowest share price	334.90	333.19	294.74

\*\* Direct transaction costs are stated after deducting the proportion of the amounts collected from dilution adjustments or dilution levies that relate to direct transaction costs. A negative transactions costs figure might arise where there is a timing difference between inflows and the settlement of the resultant purchases.

<sup>†</sup> Operating charges, otherwise known as the OCF is the ratio of the subfund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the sub-fund. The OCF is intended to provide a reliable figure which gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in a subfund and is calculated based on the last period's figures. Class B Income Shares

	2019 (pence per share)	2018 (pence per share)	2017 (pence per share)
Change in Net Asset Value Per Sha	re		
Opening net asset value per share	282.13	281.11	258.60
Return before operating charges*	9.95	17.22	38.71
Operating charges	(4.35)	(4.49)	(4.24)
Return after operating charges*	5.60	12.73	34.47
Distributions on income shares	(12.31)	(11.71)	(11.96)
Closing net asset value per share	275.42	282.13	281.11
* after direct transaction costs of**:	0.03	0.03	0.03
Performance			
Return after charges**	1.98%	4.53%	13.33%
Other Information			
Closing net asset value (£'000) Closing number of shares Operating charges† Direct transaction costs	5,700 2,069,622 1.55% 0.01%	6,929 2,456,071 1.56% 0.01%	24,034 8,549,807 1.56% 0.01%
Prices			
Highest share price Lowest share price	289.77 265.15	293.36 281.47	284.15 257.32
** Discut the second is a sector and state	والمتعادية والمتعادية	de la altra de la compositio	

\*\* Direct transaction costs are stated after deducting the proportion of the amounts collected from dilution adjustments or dilution levies that relate to direct transaction costs. A negative transactions costs figure might arise where there is a timing difference between inflows and the settlement of the resultant purchases.

<sup>†</sup> Operating charges, otherwise known as the OCF is the ratio of the subfund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the sub-fund. The OCF is intended to provide a reliable figure which gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in a subfund and is calculated based on the last period's figures.

# FUND INFORMATION

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLES continued**

For the financial year ended 28 February 2019 Class C Income Shares

	2019 (pence per share)	2018 (pence per share)	2017 (pence per share)
Change in Net Asset Value Per Sha	are		
Opening net asset value per share	288.61	286.82	263.19
Return before operating charges*	10.04	17.48	39.31
Operating charges	(3.73)	(3.86)	(3.63)
Return after operating charges*	6.31	13.62	35.68
Distributions on income shares	(12.47)	(11.83)	(12.05)
Closing net asset value per share	282.45	288.61	286.82
* after direct transaction costs of**:	0.04	0.04	0.03
Performance			
Return after charges**	2.19%	4.75%	13.56%
Other Information			
Closing net asset value (£'000)	611,839	613,169	568,951
Closing number of shares	216,615,231	212,459,042	198,367,779
Operating charges <sup>+</sup>	1.30%	1.31%	1.31%
Direct transaction costs	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
Prices			
Highest share price	296.56	299.46	289.88
Lowest share price	271.79	287.44	262.09

\*\* Direct transaction costs are stated after deducting the proportion of the amounts collected from dilution adjustments or dilution levies that relate to direct transaction costs. A negative transactions costs figure might arise where there is a timing difference between inflows and the settlement of the resultant purchases.

<sup>†</sup> Operating charges, otherwise known as the OCF is the ratio of the subfund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the sub-fund. The OCF is intended to provide a reliable figure which gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in a subfund and is calculated based on the last period's figures.

## Class C Accumulation Shares

	2019 (pence per share)	2018 (pence per share)	2017 (pence per share)
Change in Net Asset Value Per Sha	ire		
Opening net asset value per share	330.95	315.94	277.65
Return before operating charges*	11.64	19.33	42.21
Operating charges	(4.35)	(4.32)	(3.92)
Return after operating charges*	7.29	15.01	38.29
Distributions	(14.53)	(13.23)	(12.93)
Distributions on accumulation shares	14.53	13.23	12.93
Closing net asset value per share	338.24	330.95	315.94
* after direct transaction costs of**:	0.04	0.04	0.03
Performance			
Return after charges**	2.20%	4.75%	13.79%
Other Information			
Closing net asset value (£'000)	743,769	660,631	465,134
Closing number of shares	219,892,810	199,615,076	147,221,240
Operating charges <sup>+</sup>	1.30%	1.31%	1.31%
Direct transaction costs	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
Prices			
Highest share price	343.19	339.16	316.40
Lowest share price	321.78	316.63	278.41
** Direct transaction costs are stat			

amounts collected from dilution adjustments or dilution levies that relate to direct transaction costs. A negative transactions costs figure might arise where there is a timing difference between inflows and the settlement of the resultant purchases.

Operating charges, otherwise known as the OCF is the ratio of the subfund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the sub-fund. The OCF is intended to provide a reliable figure which gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in a subfund and is calculated based on the last period's figures.

# SYNTHETIC RISK AND REWARD INDICATOR (SRRI) Typically lower rewards Typically higher rewards Lower risk Higher risk 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The sub-fund is ranked as 4 because it has experienced medium rises and falls in value over the past five years. Please note that even the lowest ranking does not mean a risk-free investment.

The Synthetic Risk and Reward Indicator demonstrates where the sub-fund ranks in terms of its potential risk and reward. The higher the rank the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money. It is based on past data, may change over time and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the sub-fund.

## LEVERAGE

The sub-fund may use derivatives for the purposes of efficient portfolio management as part of its investment strategy which generates some leverage within the sub-fund. The sub-fund may use currency forward transactions to reduce the risk of adverse movements in the exchange rate in which it holds investments to its base currency. In addition, the sub-fund may experience a small amount of leverage when using the permitted 10% of net asset value short term borrowing facility used in the course of the routine settlement of positions. The maximum leverage of the sub-fund calculated using the 'commitment leverage' methodology has therefore been set at 20%. The maximum leverage of the sub-fund calculated using the 'gross leverage' methodology has been set at 20%.

#### Leverage as at 28 February 2019

Commitment Leverage		Gross Leverage	
Actual	Max. Limit	Actual Max. Limit	
0%	20%	0%	20%

The sub-fund does not and will not employ any financial engineering structures, such as repurchase or reverse repurchase agreements, securities lending or borrowing, or cash borrowings and re-investment which can be used to create leverage. Nor does the sub-fund post or receive margin or collateral. The sub-fund has not granted any guarantees in relation to leveraging arrangements or any rights to reuse collateral.

## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND POLICY

The investment objective of the Premier Multi-Asset Distribution Fund is to provide income together with long-term capital growth.

The sub-fund will achieve this by mainly investing in the majority in a portfolio of collective investment schemes and may also invest in equities, fixed interest securities, money market instruments, deposits and warrants. The sub-fund may invest in unregulated collective investment schemes such as hedge funds (where investment in such funds would be consistent with the investment objective and policy of the sub-fund).

Subject to the above, the sub-fund may invest in any asset class and adopt any investment technique or strategy permitted under the rules in COLL as such rules are applied to non-UCITS retail schemes and in accordance with the investment and borrowing powers applicable to non-UCITS retail schemes. The sub-fund may invest in derivatives and forward transactions for investment purposes as well as for the purposes of efficient portfolio management (including hedging).

## INVESTMENT REVIEW

#### PERFORMANCE

Over the last year, the Premier Multi-Asset Distribution Fund returned 1.6% (class A Income shares) compared to the sector average return of -0.2%, in what was a challenging environment for UK and global equity markets. At the same time, the sub-fund continued to generate an attractive level of income, which is its primary aim.

#### MARKET REVIEW

Early in the period global equity markets performed reasonably well, benefiting from solid global economic growth and buoyant company earnings, while fears also eased over the trade war. UK equities initially performed well, benefiting from the fall in the pound and a catch-up from underperformance earlier in the year, though later weakened slightly on deteriorating sentiment over Brexit. Sterling declined due to weaker UK economic data, while ongoing uncertainty over the state of the Brexit negotiations also did not help sentiment. In August, the Bank of England hiked interest rates by 0.25% to 0.75%. Even though this was fully expected, the unanimous 9-0 vote in favour of the hike was a slight surprise, though Bank of England Governor Mark Carney did mollify markets with soothing words that further rate rises would be very limited and gradual. However, in early October, equities sold off sharply as the US bond market weakened in response to fears that US interest rates could rise further and faster than anticipated. This weakness in US bonds led to a sharp fall in US equities, and this drawdown affected all global equities. November saw some stability in equity markets, before sentiment again turned negative in December due to fears that economic growth could be faltering. The US Federal Reserve (Fed) continued to raise interest rates over the period to take the Federal Funds rate to 2.25-2.5%. In response to weak equity markets, government bonds benefited from a flight to quality, with gilts seeing a small positive return over the year as a whole. Towards the end of the period, in January and February, UK and global equity markets saw a sharp rebound, as the Fed adopted a more cautious stance on further US rate hikes which cheered investors, with sentiment also buoyed by optimism over the US-China trade talks.

#### PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY

There was little change to the overall equity allocation over the year. However, this does not give the whole picture, as during the year there were a number of alterations to the allocation. For example, having increased UK equity exposure during the weakness just prior to the reporting period, following strong performance we did subsequently decide to take some profit here, therefore UK equity exposure was reduced in June. As a result of this, we sold out of Standard Life UK Equity High Income 'I', while some of the proceeds from this were switched into a new holding, GAM UK Equity Income. While the allocation to the UK was reduced, we took advantage of the weakness seen in European equities to add exposure here, and this was done via a new fund, Oyster Continental European ex-UK Income. Following the weakness in UK equities in October, we took advantage of this to modestly increase the sub-fund's allocation. Subsequently, more recently following the strength in markets in early 2019, equity exposure was slightly reduced to take profits.

The bond allocation was slightly reduced over the year and there were a number of holdings changes. The allocation to investment grade bonds was reduced by selling out of Henderson Preference & Bond. Some of the proceeds were used to add to Specialist Bonds, and here we added Montlake UCITS Platform ICAV Highland Flexible Income, Neuberger Berman CLO Income I5 GBP Income and CIFC Global Floating Rate Credit that all invest in floating rate structured credit via CLOs (Collateralised Loan Obligations - securities backed by pools of debt), essentially exposure to corporate loans. In addition, we added Sequoia Economic Infrastructure Income that invests in loans and bonds from economic infrastructure projects. We also sold out of Hermes Multi Strategy Credit Fund which led to a reduction in exposure to high yield. Following weakness over the summer months, we increased the subfund's emerging market debt (EMD) exposure by adding Ashmore Emerging Markets Short Duration Fund. Within alternatives, we added Bilfinger Berger Global Infrastructure SICAV, a global infrastructure fund which subsequently contributed to performance. In the property allocation, we sold out of UK Commercial Property Trust that had performed well. We used the proceeds

to add to Schroder Real Estate, and also topped up a number of other holdings, which led to a small increase in the property allocation over the year.

#### OUTLOOK

We remain cautiously optimistic on equities, as valuations are still at reasonable levels, despite the strength in markets already seen this year. We still favour equities as an asset class, but we do believe that the interest rate hikes in the US and the gradual reduction in the Fed's balance sheet may prove to be an ongoing headwind for global equities, with the European Central Bank also now ending its quantitative easing programme. However, we believe that equities continue to offer a good level of income in many cases, in particular in the UK with the FTSE All-Share Index providing an attractive yield, comparing favourably to 10-year UK gilts. As well as UK equities, we also favour emerging markets, European, Asian and Japanese equities. While global economic growth and company earnings are likely to slow slightly from last year, in our view they should both still remain supportive. Therefore, we broadly continue to favour equities, with the notable exception of the US where in our view valuations are still extended and we do not like the quality of earnings or the high level of corporate buybacks, while the level of income on offer is also unappealing. We maintain low interest rate sensitivity in regard to bond exposure, in many cases preferring non-traditional bond funds such as asset-backed securities.

Source: Premier Fund Managers Limited, March 2019. Performance data taken from FE Analytics and Bloomberg, quoted on a total return (income reinvested), bid to bid, UK Sterling basis, class A Income shares as at 28 February 2019. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. Reference to any particular stock does not constitute a recommendation to buy or sell the stock.

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

Purchases	Costs £'000	Sales	Proceeds £'000
GAM UK Equity Income Investec Multi-Asset	63,750	Standard Life UK Equity High Income 'I' Investec Premier PCC	64,445
Credit Income Highland Flexible Income	46,226 28,500	Limited - Multi-Asset	
Neuberger Berman CLO	28,300	Credit Fund	42,716
Income I5 GBP Income Oyster Continental	28,000	Henderson Preference & Bond	42,273
European ex-UK Income	21,110	M&G European Loan 'C'	37,420
Man GLG UK Income Fund Ashmore Emerging	18,325	Hermes Multi Strategy Credit Fund	17,255
Markets Short Duration Fund	16,000	Ashmore Emerging Markets Short Duration	10.000
<b>BNY Mellon Emerging</b>		Fund Schroder Income 'Z'	10,000
Markets Debt Total Return	14,708	TB Wise Evenlode Income	9,750
CIFC Global Floating Rate Credit Fund	13,500	UK Commercial Property	7,500
Assura	12,372	Trust PIMCO Select UK Income	7,365
		Bond	7,000
Total purchases during the year were	408,524	Total sales during the year were	296,053

# PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

#### As at 28 February 2019

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Total Value of Sub-Fund %
	COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT SCHEMES 80 (79.28%)	0.09%	
	Bonds 27.84% (26.09%)		
44,352	Alpha Fair Oaks Dynamic 'P'	42,754	2.97
295,876	Angel Oak Multi-Strategy Income	30,808	2.14
41,970,923	Baillie Gifford Corporate Bond 'B'	36,527	2.54
13,519	CIFC Global Floating Rate Credit Fund	13,499	0.94
239,103	Fidante Partners Liquid Strategies - WyeTree US 'A'	21,043	1.46
285,000	Highland Flexible Income	28,346	1.97
2,232,248	Investec Multi-Asset Credit Income	43,350	3.01
2,800,000	Neuberger Berman CLO Income I5 GBP Income	26,264	1.82
3,063,469	PIMCO Select UK Income Bond	31,676	2.20
3,809,655	Polar Capital Global Convertible	39,544	2.75
43,157,268	Royal London Corporate Bond 'Z'	43,848	3.05
401,353	TwentyFour Dynamic Bond 'I'	43,063	2.99
		400,722	27.84
	Emerging Markets 8.71% (7.25%)		
56,332	Ashmore Emerging Markets Short Duration Fund	5,891	0.41
20,802,066	BNY Mellon Emerging Markets Debt Total Return	14,378	1.00
41,804,064	Fidelity Funds - Emerging Market Total	14,378	1.00
2,121,689	Return Debt Goodhart Partners Horizon HMG	44,066	3.06
2,121,005	Global Emerging Markets	20,816	1.45
3,771,512	Magna Emerging Markets 'B'	40,223	2.79
		125,374	8.71
	Europe - Equities 4.76% (6.57%)		
21,294	Oyster Continental European ex-UK		
4 004 672	Income	17,914	1.24
4,891,672	Polar Capital European ex-UK Income 'S'	50,726	3.52
		68,640	4.76
01 200	Far East - Equities 3.23% (3.30%)	12.100	0.04
91,309	Prusik Asian Equity Income	12,160	0.84
71,992 32,650,503	Prusik Asian Equity Income 'B' Schroder Asian Income 'Z'	10,732 23,597	0.75 1.64
32,030,303	Schlodel Asian income 2	46,489	3.23
		10,100	0.20
	Japan 3.31% (3.32%)		
1,612,286	Coupland Cardiff Japan Income & Growth Founder	28,362	1.97
1,246,317	Coupland Cardiff Japan Income & Growth GBP Founder	19,252	1.34
		47,614	3.31
	United Kingdom - Commercial Propert	-	
9,153,688	(0.91%) AEW UK Core Property Fund 'C'	13,047	0.91
9,199,000	ALW ON COLE FROPERTY FUND C	13,047 13,047	0.91

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Total Value of Sub-Fund %
	United Kingdom Equition 28 24% (21 8/	19/ )	
57,033,505	United Kingdom - Equities 28.34% (31.84 Fidelity MoneyBuilder Dividend Fund	70,721	4.91
45,924,043	Franklin UK Equity Income 'W'	70,938	4.91
6,398,792	GAM UK Equity Income	61,330	4.93
25,142,710	Man GLG UK Income Fund	31,630	2.20
14,878,845	Montanaro UK Income	27,556	1.91
13,698,799	Querns Monthly Income	16,110	1.12
83,545,543	Schroder Income 'Z'	63,386	4.40
30,479,612	TB Wise Evenlode Income	66,385	4.61
, -,-	-	408,056	28.34
	United Kingdom, Clobal 2 00% (0 00%)		
20.046.212	United Kingdom - Global 2.99% (0.00%)		
39,946,312	Legg Mason IF RARE Global Infrastructure Income Fund	42,982	2.99
	-	42,982	2.99
	INVESTMENT TRUSTS 18.11% (15.30%)		
	INVESTIMENT INUSIS 18.11% (15.50%)		
	Alternative 3.61% (3.11%)		
8,581,836	Foresight Solar	9,655	0.67
15,495,133	GCP Asset Backed Income Fund	16,425	1.14
1,368,421	P2P Global Investments	11,043	0.77
2,482,474	Psource Structured Debt <sup>1</sup>	9	-
7,257,678	UK Mortgages	5,842	0.41
11,600,000	VPC Specialty Lending Investments	8,932	0.62
		51,906	3.61
	Bonds 3.15% (3.63%)		
7,834,184	CVC Credit Partners European	0.220	0.57
4 000 000	Opportunities Doric Nimrod Air Three	8,226 3,600	0.57 0.25
4,000,000	Doric Nimrod Air Three	6,163	0.23
3,210,000 11,665,000	NB Global Floating Rate Income	10,394	0.43
14,941,942	TwentyFour Income	17,034	1.18
14,541,542		45,417	3.15
		43,417	5.15
	Infrastructure 2.33% (1.29%)		
4,367,409	Bilfinger Berger Global Infrastructure SICAV	6,791	0.47
14,836,501	GCP Infrastructure Investments	19,050	1.33
6,895,262	Seguoia Economic Infrastructure	19,030	1.55
0,033,202	Income	7,585	0.53
	_	33,426	2.33
	Property 9.02% (7.27%)		
32,729,098	Assura	18,688	1.30
14,608,306	Empiric Student Property	14,053	0.98
12,242,500	GCP Student Living	18,805	1.30
11,844,026	MedicX	10,968	0.76
6,863,256	Real Estate Credit Investments	11,668	0.81
22,386,923	Schroder Real Estate	12,850	0.89
4,589,824	Secure Income REIT	18,313	1.27
10,613,588	Starwood European Real Estate	11,091	0.77

#### As at 28 February 2019 Total Market Value of Value Sub-Fund Holding Investment £'000 % **Property continued** 0.94 11,668,974 Target Healthcare REIT 13,478 129,914 9.02 UNREGULATED COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT SCHEMES 0.00% (2.76%) Europe 0.00% (2.76%) **Total Value of Investments** 1,413,587 98.20 25,926 1.80 Net Other Assets 1,439,513 100.00 **Total Net Assets**

PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

Figures in brackets represent sector distribution at 28 February 2018.

Securities are admitted to an official stock exchange listing or traded on another regulated market unless otherwise stated.

<sup>1</sup> Securities in liquidation/delisted.

# STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

## For the year ended 28 February 2019

	Notes	£'000	28/02/19 £'000	£'000	28/02/18 £'000
Income					
Net capital (losses)/gains	4		(17,525)		16,118
Revenue	5	62,726		52,331	
Expenses	6	(11,890)		(10,878)	
Interest payable and similar charges	-	_	-	_	
Net revenue before taxation		50,836		41,453	
Taxation	7	(3,240)	-	(2,485)	
Net revenue after taxation		-	47,596		38,968
Total return before					
distributions			30,071		55,086
Distributions	8		(61,839)		(51,456)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		=	(31,768)	:	3,630

## STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

## For the year ended 28 February 2019

Opening net assets	Note	2 £'000	8/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000 £'000
attributable to shareholders		1,	364,421	1,158,516
Amounts receivable on issue of shares	3	352,572	4	11,496
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(2	79,978)	(23	36,018)
			72,594	175,478
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			(31,768)	3,630
Retained distributions on accumulation shares	8		34,266	26,797
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		<u>1,</u>	439,513	1,364,421

## BALANCE SHEET

## As at 28 February 2019

	Notes	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
ASSETS			
Fixed assets:			
Investments		1,413,587	1,328,061
Current assets:			
Debtors	9	13,979	53,466
Cash and bank balances	10	30,307	39,192
Total assets		1,457,873	1,420,719
LIABILITIES			
Creditors:			
Distribution payable	_	( )	()
on income shares	8	(7,268)	(6,252)
Other creditors	11	(11,092)	(50,046)
Total liabilities		(18,360)	(56,298)
Net assets attributable to			
shareholders		1,439,513	1,364,421

The notes on pages 48 to 52 are an integral part of these financial statements.

On behalf of Premier Portfolio Managers Limited.

Neil Macpherson Finance Director (of the ACD) 20 June 2019

Ian West Chief Operating Officer (of the ACD)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accounting, distribution and risk management policies for Notes 1 to 3 are provided in the Aggregated Notes to the Financial Statements section on pages 7 to 8.

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#### 4. NET CAPITAL (LOSSES)/GAINS

	28/02/19	28/02/18
	£'000	£'000
Non-derivative securities*	(18,907)	14,584
Other currency (losses)/gains	(111)	273
Transaction charges	(5)	(8)
Capital management fee rebates	1,498	1,269
Net capital (losses)/gains	(17,525)	16,118

\*Includes realised losses of £53,835,062 and unrealised gains of £34,928,192 (2018: realised gains of £63,956,256 and unrealised losses of £49,371,935). The realised gains/(losses) on investments in the accounting period includes amounts previously recognised as unrealised gains in the prior accounting period.

## 5. REVENUE

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Bank interest	57	20
Franked distributions	18,080	15,652
Franked PID revenue	1,962	968
Management fee rebates	315	115
Offshore dividend CIS revenue	8,407	6,687
Offshore interest CIS revenue	14,884	12,391
Overseas dividends	7,487	7,332
Unfranked distributions	8,615	7,442
Unfranked PID revenue	2,919	1,724
	62,726	52,331

#### 6. EXPENSES

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Payable to the ACD, associates of the ACD and agents of either of them:		
ACD's periodic charge	11,290	10,313
	11,290	10,313
Payable to the Depositary, associates of the Depositary and agents of either of them:		
Depositary's fees	172	156
Safe custody fees	21	8
	193	164
Other expenses:		
Auditor's remuneration	6	6
Electronic messaging fees	46	50
Legal fees	1	1
Printing fees	59	70
PRS fees	5	6
Registration fees	290	268
	407	401
Total expenses	11,890	10,878

Irrecoverable VAT is included in the above expenses where relevant.

#### 7. TAXATION

(a) The tax charge comprises:

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Current tax:		
Corporation tax	3,218	2,432
Overseas withholding tax	22	11
Prior year adjustment		42
Total current tax (note 7 (b))	3,240	2,485
Deferred tax (note 7 (c))		_
Total taxation	3,240	2,485

(b) Factors affecting the tax charge for the year:

The tax charge for the year differs from the special 20% rate of corporation tax applicable to Open-Ended Investment Companies (OEICs). The differences are explained below:

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Net revenue before taxation	50,836	41,453
	50,836	41,453
Return on ordinary activities multiplied by the special rate of corporation tax of 20% (2018: 20%)	10,167	8,291
Effects of:		
Franked UK dividends and distributions not subject to taxation	(5,690)	(4,662)
Non-taxable CIS dividends	-	(14)
Non-taxable overseas dividends	(1,408)	(1,517)
Overseas withholding tax	22	11
Prior year adjustment	-	42
Taxation due to timing differences	(150)	80
Tax effect on capital management fee rebates	299	254
Total tax charge (note 7 (a))	3,240	2,485
(c) Deferred tax		
Provision at the start of the year	-	-
Deferred tax charge in the year		_
Provision at the end of the year		_

Authorised OEICs are exempt from tax on capital gains made within the sub-fund.

Factors that may affect the future tax charge:

The sub-fund has not recognised a deferred tax asset of finil (2018: finil) arising as a result of having unutilised management expenses. It is unlikely that the sub-fund will obtain relief for these in the future so no deferred tax asset has been recognised.

#### 8. DISTRIBUTIONS

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

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
First interim distribution	6,999	6,129
First interim accumulation	8,195	5,697
Second interim distribution	7,099	6,374
Second interim accumulation	8,656	6,523
Third interim distribution	6,656	6,943
Third interim accumulation	8,269	7,519
Final distribution	7,268	6,252
Final accumulation	9,146	7,058
	62,288	52,495
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares	1,717	1,205
Deduct: Revenue received on		
issue of shares	(2,166)	(2,244)
Net distributions for the year	61,839	51,456

The difference between the net revenue after taxation and the amounts

Distributions	61,839	51,456
Equalisation uplift on share conversions		(6)
Equalisation on underlying funds	2,353	(1,615)
Expenses offset against capital	11,890	10,879
Net revenue after taxation	47,596	38,968
distributed comprises:		

Under the 2014 SORP section 3.71, it is now acceptable not to take into account marginal tax relief in determining the distribution. This policy has been applied to the sub-fund for the current accounting period.

#### 9. DEBTORS

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Accrued revenue	7,394	5,250
Amounts receivable for issue of shares	5,594	6,008
CIS income tax recoverable	35	70
Management fee rebates receivable	739	768
PID income tax recoverable	1	109
Sales awaiting settlement	216	41,261
	13,979	53,466

#### **10. CASH AND BANK BALANCES**

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Sterling	30,304	39,192
Overseas balances	3	-
Cash and bank balances	30,307	39,192

#### **11. OTHER CREDITORS**

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Accrued expenses	1,097	917
Amounts payable for cancellation of shares	4,332	2,952
Corporation tax payable	1,663	1,677
Purchases awaiting settlement	4,000	44,500
	11,092	50,046

#### **12. RELATED PARTIES**

The aggregate monies received by the ACD through the issue of shares and paid on cancellation of shares are disclosed in the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders on page 47.

Premier Fund Managers Limited, as an associate of Premier Portfolio Managers Limited, had the following shareholdings in the sub-fund held on behalf of its private clients:

	Held at 28/02/19	Change in a year	Held at 28/02/18
Class B Income Shares	30,460	(386,505)	416,965
Class C Accumulation Shares	167,969	127,475	40,494
Class C Income Shares	-	(181,662)	181,662

A shareholder may be able to exercise significant influence over the financial and operating policies of the sub-fund and as such is deemed to be a related party. At the balance sheet date the following shareholder held a material interest in the sub-fund.

#### Premier Fund Managers Limited

0.04% (2018: 0.14%)

#### **13. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS**

There were no contingent liabilities or outstanding commitments at the balance sheet date (2018: fi).

#### **14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

In pursuing the sub-fund's investment objective, the main risks arising from the sub-fund's financial instruments are market price, currency, interest rate, liquidity, credit and counterparty risk.

#### **Market Price Risk**

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

At 28 February 2019, if the price of the investments held by the sub-fund increased or decreased by 5%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders would increase or decrease by approximately £70,679,373 (2018: £66,403,055).

#### **Currency Risk**

The sub-fund held investments in collective investment schemes denominated in foreign currencies in addition to cash, bank balances and bank overdrafts, at the balance sheet date. There was in addition some foreign currency exposure within the sub-fund's holdings of collective investment schemes who hold assets denominated in currencies other than Sterling, with the effect that their balance sheet and total returns can be affected by exchange rate fluctuations. Forward currency FX contracts can be used to reduce the exposure of exchange rate movements in the assets of the holdings in collective investment schemes. The Portfolio of Investments on pages 45 to 46, shows that 2.58% (2018: 1.70%) of the sub-fund's investments were denominated in a foreign currency while nil% (2018: nil%) of the sub-fund's portfolio consists of forward currency FX contracts.

#### Currency exposure as at 28 February 2019

Currency	Portfolio of investments £'000	Net other assets £'000	Total £'000	Total exposure %
US dollar	37,271	2	37,273	2.59
	37,271	2	37,273	2.59
Sterling	1,376,317	25,923 1	,402,240	97.41
Total	1,413,588	25,925 1	.,439,513	100.00

#### Currency exposure as at 28 February 2018

Currency	Portfolio of investments £'000	Net other assets £'000	Total £'000	Total exposure %
US dollar	23,334	-	23,334	1.71
	23,334	-	23,334	1.71
Sterling	1,304,727	36,360 1	,341,087	98.29
Total	1,328,061	36,360 1	,364,421	100.00

At 28 February 2019, if the value of Sterling increased or decreased by 1% against all currencies, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders would increase or decrease by approximately £372,732 (2018: £233,340).

#### **Interest Rate Risk**

The sub-fund does not have any direct interest rate risk as the majority of financial assets are in collective investment schemes, which do not pay interest. However, some of the underlying collective investment scheme investments may be directly or indirectly exposed to interest rate risk. At the year end 29.62% (2018: 26.09%) of the Portfolio of Investments was held in bond funds.

The interest-bearing financial assets of the sub-fund are bank balances, on which interest is calculated at a variable rate by reference to Sterling bank deposit rates or the international equivalent.

#### **Liquidity Risk**

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

#### Credit Risk

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

#### 14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS continued

#### Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

There is no material difference between the carrying values and the fair values of the financial assets and liabilities of the sub-fund disclosed in the balance sheet where applicable.

Valuation technique as at 28 February 2019	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
Assets				
Collective Investment Schemes	35,786 1	l,152,924	- 1	,188,710
Equities	224,868	-	9	224,877
	260,654 1	L,152,924	9 1	,413,587
Valuation technique as at 28 February 2018	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
Assets				
Collective Investment Schemes	39,090 1	L,132,683	- 1	,171,773
Equities	156,279	-	9	156,288
	195,369 1	L,132,683	9 1	,328,061

Level 1: The unadjusted quoted price in an active market for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable (i.e., developed using market data) for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs are unobservable (i.e., for which market data is unavailable for the asset or liability).

#### **Derivatives and Forward Transactions**

The sub-fund does not hold any derivatives or forward transactions that could materially impact the value of the sub-fund.

The Investment Adviser does not currently use derivative instruments to hedge the investment portfolio against risk.

#### **15. SHARE CLASSES**

The sub-fund currently has five types of share. The AMC on each share class is as follows:

Class A Income & Accumulation Shares:	1.50%
Class B Income Shares:	1.00%
Class C Income & Accumulation Shares:	0.75%

The following table shows the shares in issue during the year:

Class A Shares	Income	Accumulation
Opening Shares	13,319,083	18,912,447
Shares Created	776,787	1,799,694
Shares Liquidated	(1,651,774)	(2,991,172)
Shares Converted	(141,720)	(132,299)
Closing Shares	12,302,376	17,588,670
Class B Shares	Income	
Opening Shares	2,456,071	
Shares Created	176,790	
Shares Liquidated	(451,151)	
Shares Converted	(112,088)	
Closing Shares	2,069,622	

Class C Shares	Income	Accumulation
Opening Shares	212,459,042	199,615,076
Shares Created	44,286,614	65,510,181
Shares Liquidated	(40,550,116)	(45,159,016)
Shares Converted	419,691	(73,431)
Closing Shares	216,615,231	219,892,810

The net asset value, the net asset value per share and the number of shares in issue are given in the Fund Information on pages 40 to 42. All share classes have the same rights on winding up. The taxation and income are apportioned equally based on the weighted proportion of each share class.

The distribution per share class is given in the distribution tables on pages 53 to 54.

#### **16. PORTFOLIO TRANSACTION COSTS**

The following tables show portfolio transactions and their associated transaction costs. For more information about the nature of these costs please refer to the additional portfolio transaction cost information on page 40.

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Analysis of total purchase costs:		
Purchases <sup>1</sup> in year before transaction costs	408,408	527,010
Commissions:		
Equities total value paid	23	6
CIS total value paid	14	57
Taxes:		
Equities total value paid	79	41
CIS total value paid		
Total purchase costs	116	104
Gross purchases total	408,524	527,114
Analysis of total sale costs:		
Gross sales <sup>1</sup> before transaction costs	296,113	313,676
Commissions:		
Equities total value paid	(14)	(33)
CIS total value paid	(46)	(15)
Taxes:		
Equities total value paid	-	-
CIS total value paid	-	
Total sales costs	(60)	(48)
Total sales net of transaction costs	296,053	313,628

<sup>1</sup> Excluding corporate actions

## 16. PORTFOLIO TRANSACTION COSTS continued

	28/02/19 %	28/02/18 %
Analysis of total purchase costs:		
Commissions:		
Equities percentage of average NAV	-	-
Equities percentage of purchases	0.03	-
CIS percentage of average NAV	-	0.01
CIS percentage of purchases	-	-
Taxes:		
Equities percentage of average NAV	0.01	-
Equities percentage of purchases	0.12	-
CIS percentage of average NAV	-	-
CIS percentage of purchases	-	-
Analysis of total sale costs:		
Commissions:		
Equities percentage of average NAV	-	-
Equities percentage of sales	0.07	-
CIS percentage of average NAV	-	-
CIS percentage of sales	0.02	-
Taxes:		
Equities percentage of average NAV	-	-
Equities percentage of sales	-	-
CIS percentage of average NAV	-	-
CIS percentage of sales	-	-
Analysis of total costs percentage of average NAV:		
Commissions	-	0.01
Taxes	0.01	-

As at the balance sheet date, the average portfolio dealing spread was 0.15% (2018: 0.19%) based on close of business prices. This spread represents the difference between the values determined respectively by reference to the bid and offer prices of investments expressed as a percentage of the value determined by reference to the offer price.

# DISTRIBUTION TABLES

# For the period from 1 March 2018 to 31 May 2018 First interim dividend distribution in pence per share

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# **Class A Income Shares**

			Distribution Paid	
	Net Income	Equalisation	27/07/18	28/07/17
Group 1	1.5315	-	1.5315	1.4003
Group 2	0.4963	1.0352	1.5315	1.4003

#### **Class A Accumulation Shares**

			Amount Accumulated	
	Net Income	Equalisation	27/07/18	28/07/17
Group 1	3.8749	-	3.8749	3.3976
Group 2	1.6633	2.2116	3.8749	3.3976

#### **Class B Income Shares**

		Distrib	oution Paid	
	Net Income	Equalisation	27/07/18	28/07/17
Group 1	3.0877	_	3.0877	2.8021
Group 2	1.0015	2.0862	3.0877	2.8021

#### **Class C Income Shares**

			Distrib	oution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	27/07/18	28/07/17
Group 1	3.1232	_	3.1232	2.8222
Group 2	1.3235	1.7997	3.1232	2.8222

#### **Class C Accumulation Shares**

			Amount Accumulated	
	Net Income	Equalisation	27/07/18	28/07/17
Group 1	3.5815	-	3.5815	3.1085
Group 2	1.4606	2.1209	3.5815	3.1085

For the period from 1 June 2018 to 31 August 2018

Second interim dividend distribution in pence per share

## **Class A Income Shares**

			Distrib	<b>Distribution Paid</b>	
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/10/18	27/10/17	
Group 1	1.5393	_	1.5393	1.4864	
Group 2	0.5861	0.9532	1.5393	1.4864	

## **Class A Accumulation Shares**

			Amount Ac	cumulated
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/10/18	27/10/17
Group 1	3.9377	_	3.9377	3.6380
Group 2	1.6969	2.2408	3.9377	3.6380

## **Class B Income Shares**

			Distrik	oution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/10/18	27/10/17
Group 1	3.1069	_	3.1069	2.9578
Group 2	1.8790	1.2279	3.1069	2.9578

#### **Class C Income Shares**

			Distrib	ution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/10/18	27/10/17
Group 1	3.1444	_	3.1444	3.0018
Group 2	1.1778	1.9666	3.1444	3.0018

#### **Class C Accumulation Shares**

			Amount Ac	cumulated
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/10/18	27/10/17
Group 1	3.6441	_	3.6441	3.3381
Group 2	1.5548	2.0893	3.6441	3.3381

For the period from 1 September 2018 to 30 November 2018

Third interim dividend distribution in pence per share

# **Class A Income Shares**

			Distri	bution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	28/01/18	26/01/18
Group 1	1.4488	_	1.4488	1.5685
Group 2	0.5076	0.9412	1.4488	1.5685

#### **Class A Accumulation Shares**

			Amount Ac	cumulated
	Net Income	Equalisation	28/01/19	26/01/18
Group 1	3.7480	_	3.7480	3.8851
Group 2	1.3725	2.3755	3.7480	3.8851

#### **Class B Income Shares**

			Distrib	oution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	28/01/19	26/01/18
Group 1	2.9271	_	2.9271	3.1563
Group 2	1.2672	1.6599	2.9271	3.1563

#### **Class C Income Shares**

			Distrib	ution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	28/01/19	26/01/18
Group 1	2.9630	_	2.9630	3.1878
Group 2	1.4876	1.4754	2.9630	3.1878

#### **Class C Accumulation Shares**

			Amount Ac	cumulated
	Net Income	Equalisation	28/01/19	26/01/18
Group 1	3.4714	_	3.4714	3.5805
Group 2	1.7777	1.6937	3.4714	3.5805

For the period from 1 December 2018 to 28 February 2019

Final dividend distribution in pence per share

#### **Class A Income Shares**

			Dist	ribution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/04/19	28/04/18
Group 1	1.5726	-	1.5726	1.3915
Group 2	0.7393	0.8333	1.5726	1.3915

#### **Class A Accumulation Shares**

			Amount Ac	cumulated
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/04/19	28/04/18
Group 1	4.1127	-	4.1127	3.4850
Group 2	1.7017	2.4110	4.1127	3.4850

#### **Class B Income Shares**

			Dist	ribution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/04/19	28/04/18
Group 1	3.1894	_	3.1894	2.7963
Group 2	1.5145	1.6749	3.1894	2.7963

#### **Class C Income Shares**

			Dist	ribution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/04/19	28/04/18
Group 1	3.2353	_	3.2353	2.8231
Group 2	1.4001	1.8352	3.2353	2.8231

## **Class C Accumulation Shares**

			Amount Ac	cumulated
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/04/19	28/04/18
Group 1	3.8304	_	3.8304	3.2058
Group 2	1.8095	2.0209	3.8304	3.2058

## FUND INFORMATION

The Comparative Tables on pages 55 and 56 give the performance of each active share class in the sub-fund.

The 'Return after charges' disclosed in the Comparative Tables is calculated as the return after operating charges per share divided by the opening net asset value per share. It differs from the sub-fund's performance disclosed in the ACD's report which is calculated based on the latest published price.

Portfolio transaction costs are incurred when investments are bought or sold by a fund in order to achieve the investment objective. These transaction costs affect an investor in different ways depending on whether they are joining, leaving or continuing with their investment in the sub-fund.

Direct transaction costs include broker commission and taxes. Broker commission includes the fee to a broker to execute the trades and research costs.

In addition, there are indirect portfolio transaction costs arising from the 'dealing spread' – the difference between the buying and selling prices of underlying investments in the portfolio. Unlike shares whereby broker commissions and stamp duty are paid by the sub-fund on each transaction, other types of investments (such as collective investment schemes, bonds, money instruments, derivatives) do not have separately identifiable transaction costs; these costs form part of the dealing spread. Dealing spreads vary considerably depending on the transaction value and money market sentiment.

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLES**

For the financial year ended 28 February 2019 Class B Income Shares

	2019 (pence per share)	2018 (pence per share)	2017 (pence per share)
Change in Net Asset Value Per Sha	re		
Opening net asset value per share	193.76	178.65	139.98
Return before operating charges*	(2.13)	19.48	43.29
Operating charges	(3.53)	(3.70)	(3.29)
Return after operating charges*	(5.66)	15.78	40.00
Distributions on income shares	(1.05)	(0.67)	(1.33)
Closing net asset value per share	187.05	193.76	178.65
* after direct transaction costs of **:	0.09	0.08	0.03
Performance			
Return after charges**	(2.92)%	8.83%	28.58%
Other Information			
Closing net asset value (£'000) Closing number of shares Operating charges† Direct transaction costs	26,628 14,236,230 1.84% 0.05%	35,009 18,068,230 1.96% 0.04%	38,986 21,822,196 2.06% 0.02%
Prices			
Highest share price Lowest share price	200.25 176.69	199.45 178.39	180.38 140.16

\*\* Direct transaction costs are stated after deducting the proportion of the amounts collected from dilution adjustments or dilution levies that relate to direct transaction costs. A negative transactions costs figure might arise where there is a timing difference between inflows and the settlement of the resultant purchases.

<sup>†</sup> Operating charges, otherwise known as the OCF is the ratio of the subfund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the sub-fund. The OCF is intended to provide a reliable figure which gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in a subfund and is calculated based on the last period's figures.

# FUND INFORMATION

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLES (continued)**

For the financial year ended 28 February 2019 Class C Income Shares

	2019 (pence per share)	2018 (pence per share)	2017 (pence per share)
Change in Net Asset Value Per Sha	are		
Opening net asset value per share	193.96	178.83	140.10
Return before operating charges*	(2.13)	19.53	43.39
Operating charges	(3.05)	(3.25)	(2.92)
Return after operating charges*	(5.18)	16.28	40.47
Distributions on income shares	(1.53)	(1.15)	(1.74)
Closing net asset value per share	187.25	193.96	178.83
* after direct transaction costs of**:	0.09	0.08	0.03
Performance			
Return after charges**	(2.67)%	9.10%	28.89%
Other Information			
Closing net asset value (£'000)	64,667	60,427	43,427
Closing number of shares	34,535,982	31,153,665	24,283,351
Operating charges <sup>+</sup>	1.59%	1.71%	1.81%
Direct transaction costs	0.05%	0.04%	0.02%
Prices			
Highest share price	200.69	199.85	180.77
Lowest share price	177.02	178.63	140.28

\*\* Direct transaction costs are stated after deducting the proportion of the amounts collected from dilution adjustments or dilution levies that relate to direct transaction costs. A negative transactions costs figure might arise where there is a timing difference between inflows and the settlement of the resultant purchases.

Operating charges, otherwise known as the OCF is the ratio of the subfund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the sub-fund. The OCF is intended to provide a reliable figure which gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in a subfund and is calculated based on the last period's figures.

## Class C Accumulation Shares

	2019 (pence per share)	2018 (pence per share)	2017 (pence per share)
Change in Net Asset Value Per Sha	ire		
Opening net asset value per share	200.33	183.61	142.42
Return before operating charges*	(2.23)	20.08	44.21
Operating charges	(3.15)	(3.36)	(3.02)
Return after operating charges*	(5.38)	16.72	41.19
Distributions	(1.59)	(1.19)	(1.78)
Distributions on accumulation shares	1.59	1.19	1.78
Closing net asset value per share	194.95	200.33	183.61
* after direct transaction costs of**:	0.09	0.08	0.03
Performance			
Return after charges**	(2.69)%	9.11%	28.92%
Other Information			
Closing net asset value (£'000)	130,514	94,645	27,950
Closing number of shares	66,946,066	47,244,634	15,222,468
Operating charges <sup>+</sup>	1.59%	1.71%	1.81%
Direct transaction costs	0.05%	0.04%	0.02%
Prices			
Highest share price	207.28	205.55	184.33
Lowest share price	183.23	183.39	142.58
** Direct transaction costs are stat	ed after deduc	ting the prope	ortion of the

Direct transaction costs are stated after deducting the proportion of the amounts collected from dilution adjustments or dilution levies that relate to direct transaction costs. A negative transactions costs figure might arise where there is a timing difference between inflows and the settlement of the resultant purchases.

Operating charges, otherwise known as the OCF is the ratio of the subfund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the sub-fund. The OCF is intended to provide a reliable figure which gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in a subfund and is calculated based on the last period's figures.

SYNTHETIC RISK AND REWARD INDICATOR (SRRI)						
Typically	lower rewa	rds		Тур	ically highe	r rewards
Lower risk					ligher risk	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

The sub-fund is ranked as 4 because it has experienced medium rises and falls in value over the past five years. Please note that even the lowest ranking does not mean a risk-free investment.

The Synthetic Risk and Reward Indicator demonstrates where the sub-fund ranks in terms of its potential risk and reward. The higher the rank the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money. It is based on past data, may change over time and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the sub-fund.

#### LEVERAGE

The sub-fund may use derivatives for the purposes of efficient portfolio management as part of its investment strategy which generates some leverage within the sub-fund. The sub-fund may use currency forward transactions to reduce the risk of adverse movements in the exchange rate in which it holds investments to its base currency. In addition, the sub-fund may experience a small amount of leverage when using the permitted 10% of net asset value short term borrowing facility used in the course of the routine settlement of positions. The maximum leverage of the sub-fund calculated using the 'commitment leverage' methodology has therefore been set at 20%. The maximum leverage of the sub-fund calculated using the 'gross leverage' methodology has been set at 20%.

#### Leverage as at 28 February 2019

Comm	itment Leverage	Gross Leverage		
Actual	Max. Limit	Actual Max. Limit		
0%	20%	0%	20%	

The sub-fund does not and will not employ any financial engineering structures, such as repurchase or reverse repurchase agreements, securities lending or borrowing, or cash borrowings and re-investment which can be used to create leverage. Nor does the sub-fund post or receive margin or collateral. The sub-fund has not granted any guarantees in relation to leveraging arrangements or any rights to reuse collateral.

#### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND POLICY

The investment objective of the Premier Multi-Asset Global Growth Fund is to provide long-term capital appreciation.

The sub-fund will achieve this principally through investment in collective investment schemes (both regulated and unregulated structures) and structured products and other assets which, in the Investment Adviser's opinion have a high potential for capital and/or income growth. The sub-fund may therefore invest in exchange traded funds, transferable securities (such as bonds and shares, both quoted and unquoted), and closed end investment companies.

The sub-fund may also invest in money market instruments, deposits, warrants, cash and near cash, and may borrow and may enter into stock lending and underwriting arrangements. The sub-fund may invest in derivatives and forward transactions for investment purposes as well as for the purposes of efficient portfolio management (including hedging).

## INVESTMENT REVIEW

#### PERFORMANCE

The Premier Multi-Asset Global Growth Fund produced a return of -2.8% (class B Income shares) over the year compared to the sector return of -1.2%, in what was a very challenging environment for global equity markets.

#### MARKET REVIEW

Early in the year, global equity markets performed reasonably well, benefiting from solid global economic growth and buoyant company earnings, while fears also eased over the trade war. European equities initially underperformed the UK, in part due to the crisis in Italy in May which saw concerns over the country's commitment to both the European Union and the Euro, though later saw some recovery. After a fair spell of outperformance, emerging markets and Asian ex-Japanese equities came under pressure due to the rise in the Dollar and the escalation in the trade war rhetoric, as well as currency weakness in countries such as Argentina and Turkey. US equities benefited from high exposure to technology companies which continued to perform well, as investors flocked to sources of higher growth. UK equities initially performed well, benefiting from the fall in the Pound and a catch-up from underperformance earlier in the year, though later weakened slightly on deteriorating sentiment over Brexit. Sterling declined due to weaker UK economic data, while ongoing uncertainty over the state of the Brexit negotiations also did not help sentiment. In August, the Bank of England hiked interest rates by 0.25% to 0.75%. However, in early October, equities sold off sharply as the US bond market weakened in response to fears that US interest rates could rise further and faster than anticipated. This weakness in US bonds led to a sharp fall in US equities, and this drawdown affected all global equities. November saw some stability in equity markets, before sentiment again turned negative in December due to fears that economic growth could be faltering. The US Federal Reserve (Fed) continued to raise interest rates over the year to take the Federal Funds rate to 2.25-2.5%. Towards the end of the year, in January and February, global equity markets saw a sharp rebound, as the Fed adopted a more cautious stance on further US rate hikes which cheered investors, with sentiment also buoyed by optimism over the US-China trade talks.

#### **PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY**

There was little change to the overall equity allocation from the start to the end of the year, but this does not give the whole picture, as during the year there were several alterations. For example, following the strength in markets early in the year, towards the end of the summer we took profits in several regions, such as Asia ex-Japan, Japanese and emerging markets equities, with some of the proceeds being used to top up the more cautious alternative strategies positions. In the case of emerging markets, we sold out completely of Fidelity Active Strategy Emerging Markets 'Y', while we also switched out of M&G Global Emerging Markets 'l' into a new fund, Pacific North of South Emerging Markets All Cap Equity. Some of the proceeds from the reductions in exposure here were invested into UK equities that had seen significant weakness, and we felt that valuations were reasonable. We added a new holding in the UK equity allocation, Odyssean Investment Trust, a new UK small cap trust that will take a private equity type approach to small cap investing, undergoing a deep dive into a company's accounts, hence a fixed capital structure is more appropriate here. Within the UK we also decided to sell out of the small holding in Woodford Patient Capital as this fund had seen a very decent bounce off the lows. Following the significant weakness in equity markets in Q4 2018, the falls in share prices allowed us to switch out of some of the more conservative alternative strategies holdings for more attractively valued equities, in particular in Asia, emerging markets and the UK. Within the Japanese allocation we added a small-companies fund, AVI Japan Opportunity Trust, that will in particular focus on ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) issues to add value. There was no change to the US equity allocation though we added a new fund, Arbrook/ G10 American Equities, funded by a reduction in Fidelity American Special Situations 'W'. We raised exposure to Other Equity via an increase in Polar Capital Global Insurance 'E' as well as Lazard Global Equity Franchise Fund. Within the Alternatives exposure we sold out of Kames Global Equity Market Neutral, replacing this with Schroder Absolute UK Dynamic Fund, a long/ short equity fund that focuses on UK small and medium-sized companies. Within this category we also added a Japanese long/short equity fund, Pictet TR Akari, which will in particular focus on earnings anomalies that may create opportunities. Towards the end of the year, we took advantage of the strength in equity markets in the first two months of 2019, for example, by reducing emerging markets funds such as Stewart Investors Latin America 'B' that had performed strongly.

#### OUTLOOK

We remain cautiously optimistic on equities, as valuations are still at reasonable levels, despite the strength in markets already seen this year. We still favour equities as an asset class, but we do believe that the interest rate hikes in the US and the gradual reduction in the Fed's balance sheet may prove to be an ongoing headwind for global equities, with the European Central Bank also now ending its quantitative easing programme. We believe that UK equities are attractive due to valuations and the fact that ahead of Brexit investors are very underweight, hence the market is rather 'unloved'. As well as UK equities, we also favour emerging markets, European, Asian, and Japanese equities. While global economic growth and company earnings are likely to slow slightly from last year, in our view they should both still remain supportive. Therefore, we broadly continue to favour equities, with the notable exception of the US where in our view valuations are still extended and we do not like the quality of earnings or the high level of corporate buybacks. We continue to maintain an allocation to alternative strategies, namely long/short absolute return equity funds, which are broadly market neutral with relatively little overall net exposure to equity markets and are not overly reliant on rising equity markets to produce a positive return.

Source: Premier Fund Managers Limited, March 2019. Performance data taken from FE Analytics and Bloomberg, quoted on a total return (income reinvested), bid to bid, UK Sterling basis, class B Income shares as at 28 February 2019. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. Reference to any particular stock does not constitute a recommendation to buy or sell the stock.

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

Purchases	Costs £'000	Sales	Proceeds £'000
Pacific North of South Emerging Markets All Cap		Magna Emerging Markets 'B'	5,577
Equity VT Teviot UK Smaller	7,715	M&G Global Emerging Markets 'l'	5,378
Companies Schroder Absolute UK	5,260	First State Investments Stewart Investors Latin	
Dynamic Fund Coupland Cardiff Asia	5,180	America 'B' J O Hambro Capital UK	4,330
Alpha Fund	4,538	Opportunities 'Y'	3,775
GLG UK ICVC - Undervalued Assets Fund	4,035	Schroder Absolute UK Dynamic Fund	3,475
Mobius Investment Trust TB Wise Evenlode Income	3,836 3,750	Fidelity Active Strategy Emerging Markets 'Y'	3,318
Lazard Global Equity Franchise Fund	3,155	GLG Japan Core Alpha 'AAX'	3,085
GLG Japan Core Alpha 'AAX'	3,005	Baillie Gifford American 'B'	2,560
Eastspring Japan Smaller Companies	2,970	Kames Global Equity Market Neutral	2,490
		Fidelity American Special Situations 'W'	2,280
Total purchases during the year were	90,848	Total sales during the year were	56,111

# PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

#### As at 28 February 2019

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Total Value of Sub-Fund %
	COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT SCHEMES 89.75 (94.34%)	5%	
	Alternative 6.61% (6.95%)		
1,779,700	Artemis US Absolute Return 'l' Hedged	2,037	0.92
4,164,248	Jupiter Absolute Return	2,253	1.02
3,324,703	Man GLG UK Absolute Value	3,850	1.74
98,728	Merian UK Specialist Equity 'R'	1,164	0.52
19,049	Pictet TR Akari	1,921	0.87
97,541	Polar Capital Funds - UK Absolute Equity Fund	1,958	0.88
816,774	Schroder Absolute UK Dynamic Fund	1,468	0.66
		14,651	6.61
	Asia - Equities 13.49% (14.72%)		
363,614	Coupland Cardiff Asia Alpha Fund	3,203	1.44
222,888	Fidelity Asian Smaller Companies 'Y'	5,203	2.70
2,478,499	Hermes Asia Ex-Japan Equity 'F'	6,411	2.89
24,415	Prusik Asian Equity Income 'B'	3,640	1.64
16,951	Schroder Asian Total Return 'C'	5,707	2.57
6,552,645	Schroder Small Cap Discovery 'Z'	4,992	2.25
	—	29,931	13.49
	Emerging Markets - Equities 8.21% (12.42	20/)	
1,463,372	First State Investments Stewart	270)	
	Investors Latin America 'B'	4,438	2.00
650,805	Goodhart Partners Horizon HMG Global Emerging Markets	6,385	2.88
754,624	Pacific North of South Emerging Markets All Cap Equity	7,389	3.33
		18,212	8.21
	Europe - Equities 12.09% (12.72%)		
356,145	Baillie Gifford European 'B'	5,563	2.51
9,176,256	BMO European Smaller Companies ex-UK	5,629	2.54
2,776,586	Edinburgh Partners European		
	Opportunities	5,917	2.67
1,450,262	EJF Investments	2,595	1.17
686,067	Polar Capital European ex-UK Income 'S'	7,114	3.20
		26,818	12.09
	Global - Equities 13.15% (10.48%)		
66,660	Lazard Global Equity Franchise Fund	8,074	3.64
2,581,824	Lazard Global Listed Infrastructure	*	
103,108	Equity Polar Capital Biotechnology	4,168 1,975	1.88 0.89
1,821,141	Polar Capital Global Insurance 'E'	9,548	4.30
32,122	RobecoSAM Smart Materials	5,403	2.44
52,122		29,168	13.15
	Global - Fixed Interest 2.11% (2.24%)		
5,544	Shenkman Finsbury Global Convertible		
5,544	Bond	4,680	2.11
		4,680	2.11

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Total Value of Sub-Fund %
	Japan - Equities 12.78% (15.20%)		
409,313	Coupland Cardiff Japan Income &		
	Growth GBP Founder	6,323	2.85
527,223	Eastspring Japan Smaller Companies	7,203	3.25
32,435	GLG Japan Core Alpha 'AAX'	6,022	2.71
948,791	GLG Japan Core Alpha 'C'	1,677	0.76
6,108,468	Lindsell Train Japanese Equity	7,118	3.21
		28,343	12.78
	North America - Equities 5.39% (5.68%)		
2,387,109	Arbrook/G10 American Equities	2,553	1.15
148,651	Baillie Gifford American 'B'	1,080	0.49
225,432	Fidelity American Special Situations		
	'W'	3,505	1.58
678,812	Hermes US SMID Equity 'F'	1,650	0.74
296,012	THB US Opportunities 'I'	3,173	1.43
		11,961	5.39
	United Kingdom - Commercial Property ( (0.94%)	0.85%	
1,316,598	AEW UK Core Property Fund 'C'	1,877	0.85
,,		1,877	0.85
	United Kingdom - Equities 15.07% (12.99		
921,769	Fidelity UK Smaller Companies 'W'	2,221	1.00
7,155,041	GLG UK ICVC - Undervalued Assets Fund	10,253	4.62
1,211,454	Montanaro UK Income	2,244	1.01
4,649,293	TB Wise Evenlode Income	10,126	4.57
7,664,858	VT Teviot UK Smaller Companies	8,595	3.87
	—	33,439	15.07
	INVESTMENT TRUSTS 7.63% (4.67%)		
	Alternative 0.49% (0.00%)		
4,000,000	CATCo Reinsurance Opportunities 'C'	1,082	0.49
,,		1,082	0.49
		_,00_	•••••
	Emerging Markets 3.33% (0.68%)		
1,163,653	BlackRock Frontiers Investment Trust 'C'	1,594	0.72
3,850,000	C Mobius Investment Trust	3,965	1.78
2,062,500	Scotgems	1,836	0.83
,,		7,395	3.33
		.,	
	Japan 0.97% (0.00%)		
2,100,000	AVI Japan Opportunity Trust	2,153	0.97
		2,153	0.97
	North America 0.66% (0.00%)		
1,200,000	Baillie Gifford US Growth Trust	1,469	0.66
	—	1,469	0.66
		,	
	UK Smaller Companies 2.18% (3.99%)		
2,145,000	Downing Strategic Micro-Cap Investment Trust	1,502	0.68
		2,302	0.00

# PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

#### As at 28 February 2019

Holding	Investment	Market Value £'000	Total Value of Sub-Fund %
	UK Smaller Companies continued		
2,000,000	Odyssean Investment Trust	1,970	0.89
806,762	River & Mercantile UK Micro-Cap Investment	1,347	0.61
		4,819	2.18
	Total Value of Investments	215,998	97.38
	Net Other Assets	5,811	2.62
	Total Net Assets	221,809	100.00

Figures in brackets represent sector distribution at 28 February 2018.

Securities are admitted to an official stock exchange listing or traded on another regulated market unless otherwise stated.

# STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

## For the year ended 28 February 2019

	Notes	2 £'000	28/02/19 £'000	2 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Income					
Net capital (losses)/gains Revenue	4 5	3,572	(7,431)	2,237	11,007
Expenses Interest payable and similar charges	6	(1,900)		(1,397) _	
Net revenue before taxation Taxation	7	1,672 _	_	840 –	
Net revenue after taxation		-	1,672	_	840
Total (loss)/return before distributions			(5,759)		11,847
Distributions Change in net assets	8	-	(1,674)	-	(840)
attributable to shareholders from investment activities		=	(7,433)	=	11,007

## STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

## For the year ended 28 February 2019

	Note	£'000	28/02/19 £'000		28/02/18 £'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders			190,081		110,363
Amounts receivable on issue of shares		89,323		101,074	
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares		(51,205)		(32,862)	
			38,118		68,212
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities			(7,433)		11,007
Retained distributions on accumulation shares	8		1,043		499
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders			221,809		190,081

# BALANCE SHEET

## As at 28 February 2019

	Notes	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
ASSETS			
Fixed assets:			
Investments		215,998	188,203
Current assets:			
Debtors	9	6,087	1,545
Cash and bank balances	10	1,687	2,586
Total assets		223,772	192,334
LIABILITIES			
Creditors:			
Bank overdrafts	11	(515)	(437)
Distribution payable on income shares	8	(505)	(352)
Other creditors	11	(943)	(1,464)
Total liabilities		(1,963)	(2,253)
Net assets attributable to			
shareholders		221,809	190,081

The notes on pages 62 to 66 are an integral part of these financial statements.

On behalf of Premier Portfolio Managers Limited.

Neil Macpherson Finance Director (of the ACD) 20 June 2019

Ian West Chief Operating Officer (of the ACD)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accounting, distribution and risk management policies for Notes 1 to 3 are provided in the Aggregated Notes to the Financial Statements section on pages 7 to 8.

#### 4. NET CAPITAL (LOSSES)/GAINS

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Non-derivative securities*	(7,566)	10,857
Other currency (losses)/gains	(18)	82
Transaction charges	(7)	(16)
Capital management fee rebates	160	84
Net capital (losses)/gains	(7,431)	11,007

\*Includes realised losses of £22,214,384 and unrealised gains of £14,648,056 (2018: realised losses of £16,347,391 and unrealised gains of £27,204,522). The realised gains/loss on investments in the accounting period include amounts previously recognised as unrealised gains in the prior accounting period.

## 5. REVENUE

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Bank interest	5	1
Franked distributions	957	605
Franked UK dividends	-	59
Management fee rebates	122	53
Offshore dividend CIS revenue	2,012	1,351
Offshore interest CIS revenue	136	111
Overseas dividends	253	(34)
Unfranked distributions	87	91
	3,572	2,237

#### 6. EXPENSES

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Payable to the ACD, associates of the ACD and agents of either of them:		
ACD's periodic charge	1,683	1,227
	1,683	1,227
Payable to the Depositary, associates of the Depositary and agents of either of them:		
Depositary's fees	27	20
Safe custody fees	17	8
	44	28
Other expenses:		
Auditor's remuneration	6	6
Electronic messaging fees	22	19
Legal fees	1	2
Printing fees	10	11
PRS fees	5	5
Registration fees	129	99
	173	142
Total expenses	1,900	1,397

Irrecoverable VAT is included in the above expenses where relevant.

#### 7. TAXATION

(a) The tax charge comprises:

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Current tax:		
Overseas withholding tax		
Total current tax (note 7 (b))	-	-
Deferred tax (note 7 (c))		
Total taxation		_

(b) Factors affecting the tax charge for the year:

The tax charge for the year differs from the special 20% rate of corporation tax applicable to Open-Ended Investment Companies (OEICs). The differences are explained below:

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Net revenue before taxation	1,672	840
	1,672	840
Return on ordinary activities multiplied by the special rate of corporation tax of 20% (2018: 20%)	334	168
Effects of:		
Franked UK dividends and distributions not subject to taxation	(594)	(403)
Expenses not utilised in the year	278	215
Non-taxable overseas dividends	(50)	6
Taxation due to timing differences	-	(3)
Tax effect on capital management fee rebates	32	17
Total tax charge (note 7 (a))		_
(c) Deferred tax		
Provision at the start of the year	-	-
Deferred tax charge in the year		_
Provision at the end of the year	-	_

Authorised OEICs are exempt from tax on capital gains made within the sub-fund.

Factors that may affect the future tax charge:

The sub-fund has not recognised a deferred tax asset of £1,024,526 (2018: £746,490) arising as a result of having unutilised management expenses. It is unlikely that the sub-fund will obtain relief for these in the future so no deferred tax asset has been recognised.

#### 8. DISTRIBUTIONS

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

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Interim distribution	168	121
Interim accumulation	278	108
Final distribution	505	352
Final accumulation	765	391
	1,716	972
Add: Revenue deducted on cancellation of shares	73	58
Deduct: Revenue received on issue of shares	(115)	(190)
Net distributions for the year	1,674	840

The difference between the net revenue after taxation and the amounts distributed comprises:

Distributions	1.674	840
Equalisation uplift on share conversions	2	_
Net revenue after taxation	1,672	840
Net revenue after taxation	1 672	840

#### 9. DEBTORS

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Accrued revenue	379	447
Amounts receivable for issue of shares	782	1,063
Management fee rebates receivable	56	35
Sales awaiting settlement	4,870	-
	6,087	1,545

#### **10. CASH AND BANK BALANCES**

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Sterling	1,160	2,219
Overseas balances	527	367
Cash and bank balances	1,687	2,586

#### **11. BANK OVERDRAFTS**

	28/02/19 £'000	
Sterling	-	77
US dollar	515	360
	515	437

#### **12. OTHER CREDITORS**

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Accrued expenses	216	145
Amounts payable for cancellation of shares	727	350
Purchases awaiting settlement		969
	943	1,464

#### **13. RELATED PARTIES**

The aggregate monies received by the ACD through the issue of shares and paid on cancellation of shares are disclosed in the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders on page 61.

Premier Fund Managers Limited, as an associate of Premier Portfolio Managers Limited, had the following shareholdings in the sub-fund held on behalf of its private clients:

	Held at 28/02/19	Change in a year	Held at 28/02/18
Class B Income Shares	10,211,413	(3,416,193)	13,627,606
Class C Income Shares	11,231,078	3,215,550	8,015,528

A shareholder may be able to exercise significant influence over the financial and operating policies of the sub-fund and as such is deemed to be a related party. At the balance sheet date the following shareholder held a material interest in the sub-fund.

Premier	Fund	Managers Limited	
I I CHIICI	i unu	Munugers Enniced	

18.15% (2018: 22.10%)

#### **14. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS**

There were no contingent liabilities or outstanding commitments at the balance sheet date (2018: £nil).

#### **15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

In pursuing the sub-fund's investment objective, the main risks arising from the sub-fund's financial instruments are market price, currency, interest rate, liquidity and credit risk.

#### **Market Price Risk**

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

At 28 February 2019, if the price of the investments held by the sub-fund increased or decreased by 5%, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders would increase or decrease by approximately £10,799,915 (2018: £9,410,174).

#### **Currency Risk**

The sub-fund held investments in collective investment schemes denominated in foreign currencies in addition to cash, bank balances and bank overdrafts at the balance sheet date. There was in addition some foreign currency exposure within the sub-fund's holdings of collective investment schemes who hold assets denominated in currencies other than Sterling, with the effect that their balance sheet and total returns can be affected by exchange rate fluctuations. Forward currency FX contracts can be used to reduce the exposure of exchange rate movements in the assets of the holdings in collective investment schemes. 8.90% (2018: 9.00%) of the sub-fund investments listed within the Portfolio of Investments on pages 59 to 60 are denominated in a foreign currency while nil% (2018: nil%) of the sub-fund's portfolio consists of forward currency FX contracts.

#### Currency exposure as at 28 February 2019

Currency	Portfolio of investments £'000	Net other assets £'000	Total £'000	Total exposure %
Japanese yen	7,118	-	7,118	3.21
US dollar	12,604	12	12,616	5.69
	19,722	12	19,734	8.90
Sterling	196,276	5,799	202,075	91.10
Total	215,998	5,811	221,809	100.00

#### Currency exposure as at 28 February 2018

Currency	Portfolio of investments £'000	Net other assets £'000	Total £'000	Total exposure %
Japanese yen	6,697	-	6,697	3.53
US dollar	10,396	6	10,402	5.47
	17,093	6	17,099	9.00
Sterling	171,110	1,872	172,982	91.00
Total	188,203	1,878	190,081	100.00

At 28 February 2019, if the value of Sterling increased or decreased by 1% against all currencies, with all other variables remaining constant, then the net assets attributable to shareholders would increase or decrease by approximately £197,345 (2018: £170,990).

#### **Interest Rate Risk**

The sub-fund does not have any direct interest rate risk as the majority of financial assets are in collective investment schemes, which do not pay interest. However, some of the underlying collective investment scheme investments may be directly or indirectly exposed to interest rate risk. At the year end 2.10% (2018: nil%) of the Portfolio of Investments were held in a convertible bond fund.

The interest-bearing financial assets of the sub-fund are bank balances, on which interest is calculated at a variable rate by reference to Sterling bank deposit rates or the international equivalent.

#### **Liquidity Risk**

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

#### **Credit Risk**

Risk management policies surrounding this risk are discussed in note 3 on page 8.

#### 15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS continued

#### Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

There is no material difference between the carrying values and the fair values of the financial assets and liabilities of the sub-fund disclosed in the balance sheet where applicable.

Valuation technique as at 28 February 2019	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
Assets				
Collective Investment Schemes	1,082	196,485	-	197,567
Equities	18,431	-	-	18,431
	19,513	196,485	-	215,998
Valuation technique as at 28 February 2018	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
Assets				
Collective Investment Schemes	2,592	179,312	-	181,904
Equities	6,299	-	-	6,299
	8,891	179,312	-	188,203

Level 1: The unadjusted quoted price in an active market for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable (i.e., developed using market data) for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs are unobservable (i.e., for which market data is unavailable for the asset or liability).

#### **Derivatives and Forward Transactions**

The sub-fund does not hold any derivatives or forward transactions that could materially impact the value of the sub-fund.

The Investment Adviser does not use derivative instruments to hedge the investment portfolio against risk.

#### **16. SHARE CLASSES**

The sub-fund currently has three types of share. The AMC on each share class is as follows:

Class B Income Shares:	1.00%
Class C Income & Accumulation Shares:	0.75%
The following table shows the shares in issue during the year:	

Class B Shares Opening Shares Shares Created Shares Liquidated Shares Converted Closing Shares	Income 18,068,230 911,959 (3,323,187) (1,420,772) 14,236,230	
Class C Shares		Accumulation 47.244.634
Class C Shares Opening Shares Shares Created	Income 31,153,665 10,939,370	Accumulation 47,244,634 33,742,929
Opening Shares	31,153,665	47,244,634
Opening Shares Shares Created	31,153,665 10,939,370	47,244,634 33,742,929

The net asset value, the net asset value per share and the number of shares in issue are given in the Fund information on pages 55 to 56. All share classes have the same rights on winding up. The taxation and income are apportioned equally based on the weighted proportion of each share class.

The distribution per share class is given in the distribution tables on page 67.

#### **17. PORTFOLIO TRANSACTION COSTS**

The following tables show portfolio transactions and their associated transaction costs. For more information about the nature of these costs please refer to the additional portfolio transaction cost information on page 55.

	28/02/19 £'000	28/02/18 £'000
Analysis of total purchase costs:		
Purchases <sup>1</sup> in year before transaction costs	90,751	93,592
Commissions:		
Equities total value paid	2	-
CIS total value paid	86	61
Taxes:		
Equities total value paid	9	3
CIS total value paid		_
Total purchase costs	97	64
Gross purchases total	90,848	93,656
Analysis of total sale costs:		
Analysis of total sale costs: Gross sales <sup>1</sup> before transaction costs	56,115	24,854
,	56,115	24,854
Gross sales <sup>1</sup> before transaction costs	56,115 (1)	24,854
Gross sales <sup>1</sup> before transaction costs Commissions:	·	24,854 _ _
Gross sales <sup>1</sup> before transaction costs Commissions: Equities total value paid	(1)	24,854 _ _
Gross sales <sup>1</sup> before transaction costs Commissions: Equities total value paid CIS total value paid	(1)	24,854 _ _ _
Gross sales <sup>1</sup> before transaction costs Commissions: Equities total value paid CIS total value paid Taxes:	(1)	24,854 _ _ _ _

56,111

24,854

Total sales net of transaction costs

<sup>1</sup> Excluding corporate actions

## 17. PORTFOLIO TRANSACTION COSTS continued

	<b>28/02/1</b> 9 %	28/02/18 %
Analysis of total purchase costs:		
Commissions:		
Equities percentage of average NAV	-	-
Equities percentage of purchases	0.01	-
CIS percentage of average NAV	0.04	0.04
CIS percentage of purchases	0.11	-
Taxes:		
Equities percentage of average NAV	0.01	-
Equities percentage of purchases	0.06	-
CIS percentage of average NAV	-	-
CIS percentage of purchases	-	-
Analysis of total sale costs:		
Commissions:		
Equities percentage of average NAV	-	-
Equities percentage of sales	0.07	-
CIS percentage of average NAV	-	-
CIS percentage of sales	0.01	-
Taxes:		
Equities percentage of average NAV	-	-
Equities percentage of sales	-	-
CIS percentage of average NAV	-	-
CIS percentage of sales	-	-
Analysis of total costs percentage of average NAV:		
Commissions	0.04	0.04
Taxes	0.01	_

As at the balance sheet date, the average portfolio dealing spread was 0.31% (2018: 0.14%) based on close of business prices. This spread represents the difference between the values determined respectively by reference to the bid and offer prices of investments expressed as a percentage of the value determined by reference to the offer price.

# DISTRIBUTION TABLES

# For the period from 1 March 2018 to 31 August 2018

Interim dividend distribution in pence per share

## **Class B Income Shares**

			Distrib	ution Paid
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/10/18	27/10/17
Group 1	0.1795	_	0.1795	0.1099
Group 2	0.0866	0.0929	0.1795	0.1099

#### **Class C Income Shares**

			<b>Distribution Paid</b>	
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/10/18	27/10/17
Group 1	0.4267	_	0.4267	0.3461
Group 2	0.2119	0.2148	0.4267	0.3461

#### **Class C Accumulation Shares**

			Amount Accumulated	
	Net Income	Equalisation	26/10/18	27/10/17
Group 1	0.4426	_	0.4426	0.3581
Group 2	0.2236	0.2190	0.4426	0.3581

For the period from 1 September 2018 to 28 February 2019

Final dividend distribution in pence per share

#### **Class B Income Shares**

			Distribution Payable/Pa	
	Net Income	Equalisation	28/06/19	28/06/18
Group 1	0.8696	-	0.8696	0.5608
Group 2	0.6466	0.2230	0.8696	0.5608

#### **Class C Income Shares**

			Distributio	Distribution Payable/Paid	
	Net Income	Equalisation	28/06/19	28/06/18	
Group 1	1.1050	-	1.1050	0.8033	
Group 2	0.7338	0.3712	1.1050	0.8033	

## **Class C Accumulation Shares**

			Amount Accumulated	
	Net Income	Equalisation	28/06/19	28/06/18
Group 1	1.1438	-	1.1438	0.8280
Group 2	0.8095	0.3343	1.1438	0.8280