

Jupiter Merlin Conservative Select

(formerly Jupiter Merlin Conservative Portfolio)

Annual Report & Accounts

For the year ended 30 November 2023

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**These collectively comprise the Authorised Fund Manager's Report.*

Fund Information

Manager, Registrar and Administrator

Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Limited
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Chelmsford
CM99 2BG

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www.jupiteram.com

Registered Address:
The Zig Zag Building
70 Victoria Street
London SW1E 6SQ

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Trustee

Northern Trust Investor Services Limited
Trustee and Depositary Services
50 Bank Street
Canary Wharf
London E14 5NT

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Investment Manager

Jupiter Asset Management Limited
The Zig Zag Building
70 Victoria Street
London SW1E 6SQ

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Independent Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Atria One
144 Morrison Street
Edinburgh
EH3 8EX

Directors

The Directors of Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Limited are:

P Moore

J Singh

T Scholefield

P Wagstaff*

D Skinner

G Pound**

J Leach***

**Resigned 5 January 2024*

***Appointed 8 February 2023*

****Appointed 14 September 2023*

It is the intention of Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Limited to make this Report & Accounts available on their website. The maintenance and integrity of the Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Limited website is the responsibility of the Directors; the work carried out by the auditors of the Jupiter Merlin Conservative Select does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the website.

Fund Information *(continued)*

Investment Objective

(Prior to 5 April 2023)

To provide a return, net of fees, that is higher than the IA Mixed Investment 0%-35% Shares Sector average over the long term (at least five years).

(From 5 April 2023)

To provide a return, through a combination of capital growth and income, net of fees, over the long term (at least five years).

Investment Policy

(Prior to 5 April 2023)

At least 70% of the Fund is invested in collective investment schemes, with at least 60% of the Fund's assets invested directly or indirectly in fixed interest securities. Up to 30% of the Fund may be invested in other assets, including shares of companies, cash and near cash.

The Fund may only enter into derivative transactions for the purposes of efficient portfolio management (including hedging), i.e. to reduce risk, minimise costs or generate additional capital and/or income. The Fund may not enter into derivative transactions for investment (i.e. speculative) purposes.

(From 5 April 2023)

At least 70% of the Fund is invested in collective investment schemes, with typically between 40% to 70% and at least 25% in funds managed or operated by Jupiter or an associate of Jupiter. Up to 30% of the Fund may be invested in other transferable securities, cash and near cash. The Fund will have exposure (direct and/or indirect) of: (i) at least 60% to fixed interest securities; and (ii) up to 35% to shares of companies.

The Fund may only enter into derivative transactions for the purposes of efficient portfolio management (including hedging), i.e. to reduce risk, minimise costs or generate additional capital and/or income. The Fund may not enter into derivative transactions for investment (i.e. speculative) purposes.

Benchmark

Many funds sold in the UK are grouped into sectors by the Investment Association (the trade body that represents UK investment managers), to help investors to compare funds with broadly similar characteristics. This Fund is classified in the IA Mixed Investment 0%-35% Shares Sector.

Status

The Fund operates under the Investment Funds Sourcebook (FUND) where applicable and the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook (COLL) of the Financial Conduct Authority. The Fund is an authorised unit trust scheme under Section 237 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and is a Non UCITS Retail Scheme (NURS) as defined in the COLL rules.

The Fund is a qualifying fund for inclusion within a stocks and shares Individual Savings Account (ISA). It is the Manager's intention to continue to manage the affairs of the Fund in order to meet the qualifying requirements as outlined in current legislation.

Unit Classes

In addition to the basic class of units which are available to all types of investors, the Fund also offers I-Class units which are available to investors who invest a minimum of £1,000,000 and J-Class units which are available to investors who invest a minimum of £500 (who buys units directly from the Manager and not through any intermediary or advisor). Further details are available from the Manager on request. Please note that in order to distinguish between the unit classes within the Fund they are defined in this report as either L-Class Units (non I-Class and non J-Class) or I-Class Units or J-Class Units. The unit types associated with each unit class are disclosed in the Comparative Tables on pages 6 and 7.

Fund Information *(continued)*

Name Change

With effect from 5 April 2023, the name of the Fund was changed from Jupiter Merlin Conservative Portfolio to Jupiter Merlin Conservative Select.

Cumulative Performance (% change to 30 November 2023)

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
Percentage Growth	2.5	(2.0)	12.6	36.1
IA Mixed Investment 0%-35% Shares Sector*	1.4	(4.4)	5.6	25.5
Sector Position	16/61	21/57	4/47	4/31
Quartile Ranking	1st	2nd	1st	1st

Source: Morningstar, gross income reinvested net of fees, in GBP. The statistics disclosed above relate to I-Class Units unless otherwise stated. Past performance is no guide to the future. *Comparator benchmark

This document is for informational purposes only and is not investment advice. Market and exchange rate movements can cause the value of an investment to fall as well as rise, and you may get back less than originally invested. We recommend you discuss any investment decisions with a financial adviser, particularly if you are unsure whether an investment is suitable. Jupiter is unable to provide investment advice. Current tax levels and reliefs will depend on your individual circumstances and are subject to change in the future. **All of the Fund's expenses are charged to capital, which can reduce the potential for capital growth. This has had the effect of increasing the distributions paid on an annualised basis on L-Class Units by up to 1.37% of the class' average Net Asset Value during the period under review (I-Class Units 0.62%, J-Class Units 0.97%) and constraining the class' capital performance to an equivalent extent. This Fund can invest more than 35% of its value in securities issued or guaranteed by an EEA state.** For definitions please see the glossary at jupiteram.com. Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of any information provided but no assurances or warranties are given. Company examples are for illustrative purposes only and are not a recommendation to buy or sell. Quoted yields are not guaranteed and may change in the future. Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and their registered address is The Zig Zag Building, 70 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6SQ.

Investment Report

Performance Review

For the year ended 30 November 2023, the Fund returned 2.5%* in sterling terms, compared to 1.4%* for its comparator benchmark, IA Mixed Investment 0%-35% Shares Sector. Over five years, the Fund returned 12.6%* compared to 5.6%* for its comparator benchmark.

**Source: Morningstar, gross income reinvested net of fees, in GBP. The performance statistics disclosed above relate to I-Class Units unless otherwise stated.*

Market Review

The past year has been characterized by a significant stand-off between investors and central banks as to who really determines monetary policy. The situation in 2021 has reversed: then, the investors were pushing up government bond yields as the perceived inflationary risk grew while the central banks denied there was a problem and refused to raise interest rates from rock bottom; now, fixed income investors determined to recoup the significant losses of the past 18 months are driving yields down while central banks are reluctant to reduce interest rates from current highs. In effect markets are telling them, and the US Federal Reserve in particular, that if they were not cautious enough two years ago, they are being far too conservative now. Apart from the US economy which remains stubbornly buoyant despite the most aggressive policy tightening programme in history, most others including the UK are flatlining and flirting with recession.

For equity investors, the broad-based US S&P500 index returned 9% in dollar terms over the year under review, significantly helped by the "Magnificent Seven", the major global companies associated with Artificial Intelligence. In the UK, the FTSE100 ended the period almost exactly where it began, shedding 0.2%.

Policy Review

We continue actively to review the managers whose funds are owned in the Portfolio. It has been a conscious decision to resist the temptation constantly to keep changing positions. In equities we have maintained a foot in both 'value' and 'growth' styles, mitigating against the risk of being forced to make binary decisions when one style is out of favour and the other in. As it is, we have maintained a bias towards 'value' over 'growth'. Our performance, whether absolute or relative to the sector, suggests this nudge-on-the-tiller approach has been appropriate, not least because we do not profess to have all the answers when it comes to the outcome of momentous world events.

At the very end of the 2022 reporting year, we had doubled our exposure to BlackRock Global Energy, believing that global energy companies are part of the solution to the transition on the path to carbon net-zero, not merely the problem. Much of that purchase cost was met with proceeds from reducing our holding in Fundsmith Equity. In the current reporting period we sold the small residual holding in Fundsmith.

With volatile bond yields (prices move in the opposite direction to their yield), fixed income has been a roller-coaster. The Portfolio has a 35% ceiling for equities and must have a minimum of 45% in investment grade bonds; allowing for the 2.7% in gold, our fixed income exposure is 61.4%. In the period, we sold the holdings in Twenty Four Strategic Income and Hermes Multi-strategy Credit, both of which were struggling. With the proceeds, we added to our other fixed income positions in Jupiter Global High Yield Bond (Adam Darling) and Jupiter Global Sovereign Opportunities (Vikram Aggarwal).

Investment Outlook

Economically, 2024 is likely to be dominated by whether the principal central banks stick to their narrative of interest rates being "higher for longer" as they try to restore medium term price stability in line with the 2% inflation target common to their mandates. Many investors insist that such a strategy raises the risk of prolonged economic stagnation and are looking for any signs of a change of tack. Amid fiscal incontinence among many western governments, high levels of government debt remain a preoccupation. That there is such a gap between investors' perceptions of inflation and the trajectory of interest rates and the central banks' insistence on maintaining tight monetary conditions suggests that both cannot simultaneously be right.

Investment Report *(continued)*

Investment Outlook *(continued)*

Politically, 2024 holds the fascinatingly macabre spectacle of the US Presidential election, including Donald Trump's four criminal trials taking place during the Primary hustings to choose a Republican nominee. A year hence we will know whether, in the memorable words of former German finance minister Wolfgang Schauble in 2016 when Trump was first elected, "the world is still turning, it's just got a little crazier". "Craziness" tends to be reflected in such barometers as risk premia and exchange rates. The UK election, while of great interest to UK electors, will be a relative sideshow for global investors.

We believe the Jupiter Merlin Portfolios are appropriately structured to deal with such challenges. With liquidity uppermost in our mind, we seek to invest in funds run by experienced managers with a blend of styles but who share our core philosophy of trying to capture good performance in buoyant markets while minimising as far as possible the risk of losses in more challenging conditions. The Portfolio is certainly not immune from market volatility but over time it is anticipated to be less volatile, and of course we are long-term investors, investing in managers who themselves are long-term investors who can use such volatility as an opportunity.

Jupiter Independent Funds Team

Comparative Tables

Change in net asset per unit

	L-Class Income			I-Class Income		
	30.11.23 (p)	30.11.22 (p)	30.11.21 (p)	30.11.23 (p)	30.11.22 (p)	30.11.21 (p)
Opening net asset value per unit	46.99	53.35	52.59	53.37	60.15	58.85
Return before operating charges*	1.54	(4.23)	2.81	1.74	(4.79)	3.15
Operating charges	(0.74)	(0.83)	(0.90)	(0.43)	(0.52)	(0.56)
Return after operating charges*	0.80	(5.06)	1.91	1.31	(5.31)	2.59
Distributions on income unit	(1.78)	(1.30)	(1.15)	(2.02)	(1.47)	(1.29)
Closing net asset value per unit	46.01	46.99	53.35	52.66	53.37	60.15
*after direct transaction costs of:	–	–	–	–	–	–

Performance

Return after charges (%)	1.70	(9.48)	3.63	2.45	(8.83)	4.40
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Other information

Closing net asset value (£'000)	62	265	306	15,685	18,165	19,572
Closing number of units	134,518	564,440	573,882	29,787,336	34,033,317	32,536,405
Operating charges (%)	1.57	1.68	1.68	0.82	0.93	0.93
Direct transaction costs (%)	–	–	–	–	–	–

Prices

Highest unit price (p)	48.97	54.42	54.94	55.71	61.37	61.83
Lowest unit price (p)	44.52	44.10	52.13	50.80	50.05	58.45

Change in net asset per unit

	J-Class Income		
	30.11.23 (p)	30.11.22 (p)	30.11.21 (p)
Opening net asset value per unit	47.37	53.60	52.68
Return before operating charges*	1.54	(4.28)	2.81
Operating charges	(0.55)	(0.64)	(0.74)
Return after operating charges*	0.99	(4.92)	2.07
Distributions on income unit	(1.79)	(1.31)	(1.15)
Closing net asset value per unit	46.57	47.37	53.60
*after direct transaction costs of:	–	–	–

Performance

Return after charges (%)	2.09	(9.18)	3.93
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Other information

Closing net asset value (£'000)	587	466	527
Closing number of units	1,259,664	984,749	983,225
Operating charges (%)	1.17	1.28	1.38
Direct transaction costs (%)	–	–	–

Prices

Highest unit price (p)	49.41	54.68	55.15
Lowest unit price (p)	44.99	44.44	52.26

Comparative Tables *(continued)*

Change in net asset per unit						
	L-Class Accumulation			I-Class Accumulation		
	30.11.23 (p)	30.11.22 (p)	30.11.21 (p)	30.11.23 (p)	30.11.22 (p)	30.11.21 (p)
Opening net asset value per unit	61.26	67.73	65.35	69.55	76.32	73.09
Return before operating charges*	2.02	(5.40)	3.51	2.31	(6.10)	3.93
Operating charges	(0.96)	(1.07)	(1.13)	(0.57)	(0.67)	(0.70)
Return after operating charges*	1.06	(6.47)	2.38	1.74	(6.77)	3.23
Distributions on accumulation unit	(2.35)	(1.67)	(1.43)	(2.67)	(1.89)	(1.61)
Retained distributions on accumulation unit	2.35	1.67	1.43	2.67	1.89	1.61
Closing net asset value per unit	62.32	61.26	67.73	71.29	69.55	76.32
*after direct transaction costs of:	–	–	–	–	–	–
Performance						
Return after charges (%)	1.73	(9.55)	3.64	2.50	(8.87)	4.42
Other information						
Closing net asset value (£'000)	5,146	7,135	9,149	153,141	185,671	217,105
Closing number of units	8,256,734	11,647,498	13,507,595	214,803,375	266,967,082	284,461,992
Operating charges (%)	1.57	1.68	1.68	0.82	0.93	0.93
Direct transaction costs (%)	–	–	–	–	–	–
Prices						
Highest unit price (p)	63.85	69.09	69.11	72.59	77.87	77.75
Lowest unit price (p)	59.18	56.91	65.09	67.49	64.54	72.93

Change in net asset per unit			
	J-Class Accumulation		
	30.11.23 (p)	30.11.22 (p)	30.11.21 (p)
Opening net asset value per unit	61.75	68.04	65.45
Return before operating charges*	2.06	(5.48)	3.52
Operating charges	(0.73)	(0.81)	(0.93)
Return after operating charges*	1.33	(6.29)	2.59
Distributions on accumulation unit	(2.37)	(1.68)	(1.44)
Retained distributions on accumulation unit	2.37	1.68	1.44
Closing net asset value per unit	63.08	61.75	68.04
*after direct transaction costs of:	–	–	–
Performance			
Return after charges (%)	2.15	(9.24)	3.96
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£'000)	1,038	1,339	1,185
Closing number of units	1,646,011	2,167,830	1,741,034
Operating charges (%)	1.17	1.28	1.38
Direct transaction costs (%)	–	–	–
Prices			
Highest unit price (p)	64.41	69.41	69.38
Lowest unit price (p)	59.80	57.34	65.24

Comparative Tables *(continued)*

Portfolio Turnover Rate

The Portfolio Turnover Rate (PTR) of the Fund, based on the figures included within the financial statements for the year as indicated below, is as follows:

	Year to 30.11.23	Year to 30.11.22
Portfolio Turnover Rate	7.49%	18.96%

The PTR provides an indication of the rate the Manager has bought and sold the underlying assets of the Fund during the period as indicated above. In general, the higher the PTR of a fund, the greater level of portfolio transaction costs will be incurred.

Risk and Reward Indicator

The Risk and Reward Indicator table demonstrates where the 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 Fund. The shaded area in the table below shows the Fund's ranking on the Risk and Reward Indicator.



- The lowest category does not mean 'no risk'. Some risk will still be present in funds with a risk and reward rating of 1.
- The Fund is in this category due to the nature of its investments and previous levels of volatility (how much the value of the Fund rises and falls).

Charges

- The charges you pay are used to pay the costs of running the Fund, including the costs of marketing and distributing it. These charges reduce the potential growth of your investment. They include the costs (less any rebates) incurred by the underlying funds held during the year.

Charges taken from the Fund over the year to:	30.11.23	30.11.22*
Ongoing charges for L-Class Units	1.57%	1.68%
Ongoing charges for I-Class Units	0.82%	0.93%
Ongoing charges for J-Class Units	1.17%	1.28%

*With effect from 1 July 2022, the fees charged to the Fund by the Manager have changed. Under the new simplified fee structure, the Manager combined the Annual Management Charge and the Aggregate Operating Fee into a Fixed Annual Charge.

Portfolio Statement

As at 30 November 2023

Holding	Investment	Market value £	Total net assets %
UK Equity Funds - 17.37% (17.40%)			
6,800,000	Jupiter UK Special Situations Fund†	14,102,520	8.03
500,000	Man GLG Income Fund	603,500	0.34
5,000,000	TB Wise Evenlode Income Fund	12,418,500	7.07
3,500,000	TM Investment Funds - TM Tellworth UK Income and Growth Fund	3,393,250	1.93
		30,517,770	17.37
Fixed Interest Funds - 61.37% (60.46%)			
27,000,000	Allianz Strategic Bond Fund	23,884,200	13.60
116,000,000	Jupiter Corporate Bond Fund†	59,136,800	33.66
34,500	Jupiter JGF Global High Yield Bond Fund†	3,214,688	1.83
64,500	Jupiter JGF Global Sovereign Opportunities Fund†	6,444,860	3.67
29,000,000	Jupiter Strategic Bond Fund†	15,120,600	8.61
		107,801,148	61.37
Specialist Funds - 5.26% (5.79%)			
511,200	BlackRock Global Funds - World Energy Fund	4,410,178	2.51
30,000	WisdomTree Core Physical Gold	4,827,616	2.75
		9,237,794	5.26
Global Equity Funds - 14.03% (14.74%)			
3,500	BlueBox Global Technology Fund	3,818,641	2.18
915,000	Jupiter JGF Global Value Fund†	15,921,000	9.06
1,200,000	LF Morant Wright Nippon Yield Fund	4,902,000	2.79
		24,641,641	14.03
	Total value of investments	172,198,353	98.03
	Net other assets	3,460,652	1.97
	Net assets	175,659,005	100.00

All holdings are ordinary shares or stock units unless otherwise stated.

The figures in brackets show allocations as at 30 November 2022.

†Represents an investment in a Jupiter Investment Management Group Limited product.

Summary of Material Portfolio Changes

Total purchases and significant sales for the year ended 30 November 2023

Purchases	Cost £	Sales	Proceeds £
Jupiter Global Sovereign Opportunities Fund	6,468,670	Jupiter Corporate Bond Fund	13,956,430
BlackRock Global Funds - World Energy Fund	4,025,513	WisdomTree Core Physical Gold	8,550,211
Jupiter Global High Yield Bond Fund	3,166,174	Jupiter Global Sovereign Opportunities Fund	5,715,600
Jupiter Corporate Bond Fund	1,989,400	Jupiter UK Special Situations Fund	5,105,125
Jupiter Strategic Bond Fund	1,098,000	BlackRock Global Funds - World Energy Fund	4,025,513
Jupiter Global Sovereign Opportunities Fund	948,300	Vontobel Fund - TwentyFour Strategic Income Fund	3,058,300
		Hermes Multi-Strategy Credit Fund	3,015,300
		Jupiter Global High Yield Bond Fund	2,419,966
		Jupiter JGF Global Value Fund	2,411,200
		Fundsmith Equity Fund	2,235,160
		Subtotal	50,492,805
Total cost of purchases for the year	17,696,057	Total proceeds of sales, including the above, for the year	53,312,406

Statement of Authorised Fund Manager's Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements of the Scheme

The Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes (COLL) and, where applicable, Investment Funds (FUND) Sourcebooks, as amended (the Sourcebooks) require the Authorised Fund Manager (the 'Manager') to prepare financial statements for each annual accounting period which give a true and fair view of the financial affairs of the Scheme and of its revenue and expenditure for the year. In preparing the financial statements, the Manager is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to do so;
- comply with the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds;
- follow applicable accounting standards; and
- keep proper accounting records which enable it to demonstrate that the financial statements as prepared comply with the above requirements.

The Manager is responsible for the management of the Scheme in accordance with the Sourcebooks and the Scheme's Trust Deed and Prospectus. The Manager is also responsible for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Trustee's Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements of the Scheme and Report of the Trustee to the Unitholders of the Jupiter Merlin Conservative Select ("the Fund") for the Year Ended 30 November 2023

The Trustee must ensure that the Fund is managed in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook, and, from 22 July 2014 the Investment Funds Sourcebook, the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended, (together "the Regulations"), the Trust Deed and Prospectus (together "the Scheme documents") as detailed below.

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

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

The Trustee must ensure that:

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

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

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

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

Northern Trust Investor Services Limited

Trustee & Depositary Services

London

20 February 2024

Independent auditors' report to the Unitholders of Jupiter Merlin Conservative Select (formerly Jupiter Merlin Conservative Portfolio)

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of Jupiter Merlin Conservative Select (formerly Jupiter Merlin Conservative Portfolio) (the "Fund"):

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 30 November 2023 and of the net revenue and, the net capital losses on its scheme property for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law), the Statement of Recommended Practice for UK Authorised Funds, the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook and the Trust Deed.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report & Accounts (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the Balance Sheet as at 30 November 2023; the Statement of Total Return and the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders for the year then ended; the Distribution Tables; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We remained independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern.

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

Independent auditors' report to the Unitholders of Jupiter Merlin Conservative Select (formerly Jupiter Merlin Conservative Portfolio) *(continued)*

Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The Authorised Fund Manager is responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

Based on our work undertaken in the course of the audit, the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook requires us also to report certain opinions as described below.

Authorised Fund Manager's Report

In our opinion, the information given in the Authorised Fund Manager's Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

Responsibilities of the Authorised Fund Manager for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Authorised Fund Manager's Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements of the Scheme, the Authorised Fund Manager is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Authorised Fund Manager is also responsible for 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.

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

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Independent auditors' report to the Unitholders of Jupiter Merlin Conservative Select (formerly Jupiter Merlin Conservative Portfolio) *(continued)*

Based on our understanding of the Fund/industry, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to breaches of the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements, in particular those parts of the sourcebook which may directly impact on the determination of amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to increase revenue or to increase the net asset value of the Fund. Audit procedures performed included:

- Discussions with the Authorised Fund Manager, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Reviewing relevant meeting minutes, including those of the Authorised Fund Manager's board of directors;
- Identifying and testing journal entries, specifically any journals posted as part of the financial year end close process; and
- Designing audit procedures to incorporate unpredictability around the nature, timing or extent of our testing.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

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

Use of this report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the Fund's unitholders as a body in accordance with paragraph 4.5.12 of the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Independent auditors' report to the Unitholders of Jupiter Merlin Conservative Select (formerly Jupiter Merlin Conservative Portfolio) *(continued)*

Other required reporting

Opinion on matter required by the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook

In our opinion, we have obtained all the information and explanations we consider necessary for the purposes of the audit.

Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook exception reporting

Under the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook we are also required to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

Edinburgh

20 February 2024

Statement of Total Return

For the year ended 30 November 2023				
	Note	Year to 30.11.23		Year to 30.11.22
		£	£	£
Income				
Net capital losses	3		(2,006,594)	(27,373,398)
Revenue	4	7,578,065		6,119,719
Expenses	5	(1,277,205)		(1,513,972)
Interest payable and similar charges		(323)		(554)
Net revenue before taxation		6,300,537		4,605,193
Taxation	6	(122)		(34)
Net revenue after taxation			6,300,415	4,605,159
Total return before distributions			4,293,821	(22,768,239)
Distributions	7		(7,577,610)	(6,119,308)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders from investment activities			(3,283,789)	(28,887,547)

Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders

For the year ended 30 November 2023				
		Year to 30.11.23		Year to 30.11.22
		£	£	£
Opening net assets attributable to unitholders			213,040,947	247,843,812
Amounts receivable on issue of units		7,760,716		21,876,382
Amounts payable on cancellation of units		(48,465,050)		(33,266,977)
			(40,704,334)	(11,390,595)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders from investment activities			(3,283,789)	(28,887,547)
Retained distribution on accumulation units			6,606,181	5,475,277
Closing net assets attributable to unitholders			175,659,005	213,040,947

Balance Sheet

As at 30 November 2023

	Note	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
Assets			
Fixed assets:			
Investments		172,198,353	209,603,636
Current assets:			
Debtors	8	2,404,070	826,438
Short term deposits		–	1,500,000
Cash and bank balances	9	2,416,438	2,152,831
Total assets		177,018,861	214,082,905
Liabilities			
Creditors:			
Distributions payable		(195,176)	(197,244)
Other creditors	10	(1,164,680)	(844,714)
Total liabilities		(1,359,856)	(1,041,958)
Net assets attributable to unitholders		175,659,005	213,040,947

Directors' Statement

Jupiter Merlin Conservative Select

This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook and Investment Funds Sourcebook where applicable and the Statement of Recommended Practice issued by the Investment Association.

Directors: Gaelle Pound, Jasveer Singh

Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Limited

London

20 February 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of investments, in compliance with the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook. They have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Financial Statements of UK Authorised Funds issued by The Investment Management Association (now referred to as the Investment Association) in May 2014 (the 2014 SORP) and amended in June 2017.

As stated in the Statement of Authorised Fund Managers' Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements of the Scheme on page 11, the Manager continues to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of the financial statements of the Fund.

The accounting policies outlined below have been applied on a consistent basis throughout the year.

(b) Revenue

All dividends and interest from underlying funds declared ex-dividend during the year ended 30 November 2023 are included in revenue, net of any attributable tax.

Any reported revenue from an offshore fund in excess of any distributions is recognised as revenue after the end of the reporting period, not later than the date when the reporting fund makes this information available.

Bank interest are accrued up to the year end date.

The Fund holds units or shares in other Collective Investment Schemes and funds (underlying funds). Any management fee rebates from underlying funds are recognised on an accruals basis. Where it is the policy of the underlying fund to charge its management fee to capital in determining its distribution, the Fund has recognised any such rebates as capital.

(c) Short Term Deposits

Short term deposits are highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

(d) Expenses

All expenses, including overdraft interest, but excluding those relating to the purchase and sale of investments, are charged against the revenue of the Fund. All of the Fund's expenses are recognised on an accruals basis.

With effect from 1 July 2022, the fees charged to the Fund by the Manager have changed. Under the new simplified fee structure, the Manager combined the Annual Management Charge and the Aggregate Operating Fee into a Fixed Annual Charge.

(e) Valuation of Investments

The investments of the Fund have been valued using bid market values ruling on international stock exchanges at Close of Business on 30 November 2023, being the last valuation point of the year. Market value is defined by the SORP as fair value which is generally the bid value of each security.

The investments of the Fund in other Jupiter Unit Trusts which are single priced have been valued at the single price at Close of Business on 30 November 2023. For investments in other Collective Investment Schemes, they are valued at the bid price for dual priced funds and at the single price for single priced funds as defined by the SORP as being their respective fair value.

Where a stock is unlisted or where there is a non liquid market, a valuation for this stock has been obtained from market makers where possible, and suspended stocks are normally valued at their suspension price. However, where the Manager believes that these prices do not reflect a fair value, or where no reliable price exists for a security, it is valued at a price which in the opinion of the Manager reflects a fair and reasonable price for that investment.

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

1. Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

(e) Valuation of Investments *(continued)*

A Valuation and Pricing Committee (VPC) of the Investment Manager is responsible for approving unquoted prices. The VPC meets on a quarterly basis and consists of representatives from various parts of the Investment Manager who act as an independent party, segregated from the fund management function to review and approve fair value pricing decisions and pricing models on a regular basis.

(f) Forward foreign currency contracts

There were no open forward foreign currency contracts at the year end, though the net gains/(losses) of forward contracts held during the year are reflected in the Forward currency contracts in the Net Capital Losses on investments.

(g) Foreign Exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into Sterling at the rates ruling at the dates of the transactions. Assets and liabilities expressed in foreign currencies are translated at the rates ruling at Close of Business on 30 November 2023, being the last valuation point of the year.

(h) Taxation

Corporation Tax is provided at 20% on revenue, other than UK dividends and overseas dividends, after deduction of expenses. Where overseas tax has been deducted from overseas revenue that tax can, in some instances, be set off against Corporation Tax payable, by way of double taxation relief.

The charge for tax is based on the profit for the year and takes into account deferred taxation because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. Deferred Tax is provided using the liability method on all timing differences, calculated at the rate at which it is anticipated the timing differences will reverse. Deferred Tax assets are recognised only when, on the basis of available evidence, it is more likely than not that there will be taxable profits in the future against which the Deferred Tax can be offset.

(i) Equalisation

Equalisation received from underlying funds is treated as capital of the Fund.

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

2. Distribution Policies

(a) Basis of Distribution

All of the net revenue available for distribution at the end of the final accounting period will be distributed to unitholders as an interest distribution. In order to achieve a controlled dividend flow to unitholders, interim distributions may be made at the Manager's discretion, up to a maximum of the distributable revenue available for the period. Should expenses and taxation together exceed revenue, there will be no distribution and the shortfall will be met from capital.

(b) Distribution Dates

Net revenue, if any, will be distributed or accumulated to unitholders as an interest distribution, quarterly on 30 April (Interim), 31 July (Interim), 31 October (Interim) and 31 January (Final) in respect of the accounting periods ending 28 February (Interim), 31 May (Interim), 31 August (Interim) and 30 November (Final).

(c) Expenses charged to capital for distribution purposes

The Manager's annual management charge and all other expenses which were initially charged to revenue, are deducted from the capital of the Fund for the purpose of calculating any distribution.

(d) Unclaimed Distribution

Distributions which have remained unclaimed by Unitholders for more than six years are credited to the capital property of the Fund.

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

3. Net Capital Losses

The net losses on investments during the year comprise:

	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
Currency gains	37,535	196,809
Losses on non-derivative securities*	(2,154,968)	(27,690,539)
(Losses)/gains on forward currency contracts (see Note 13)**	(36)	34
Management fee rebates	110,875	120,298
Net capital losses	(2,006,594)	(27,373,398)

*Losses on non-derivative securities	£	£
Realised (losses)/gains	(1,664,494)	2,980,995
Unrealised losses	(490,474)	(30,671,534)
	(2,154,968)	(27,690,539)

** (Losses)/gains on forward currency contracts (see Note 13)	£	£
Realised (losses)/gains	(36)	34
	(36)	34

Where realised gains/losses include gains/losses arising in previous periods, a corresponding gain/loss is included in unrealised gains/losses.

4. Revenue

	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
UK dividends (franked) from authorised collective investment schemes	1,306,931	1,420,928
Interest distributions from authorised ICVCs and unit trusts	5,283,289	3,935,717
Overseas dividends from authorised ICVCs and unit trusts	283,921	171,253
Bank interest	45,292	12,838
Management fee rebates	658,632	578,983
Total revenue	7,578,065	6,119,719

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

5. Expenses

	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
Payable to the Manager, associates of the Manager and agents of either of them:		
Annual management charge*	–	747,502
	–	747,502
Other expenses:		
Fixed Annual Charge**	1,277,205	597,425
Aggregate Operating Fee*	–	169,045
	1,277,205	766,470
Total expenses	1,277,205	1,513,972

*With effect from 1 July 2022, the fees charged to the Fund by the Manager have changed. Under the new simplified fee structure, the Manager will combine the Annual Management Charge and the Aggregate Operating Fee into a Fixed Annual Charge.

*The audit fee (excluding VAT) incurred during the year was £14,157 (30.11.22: £12,528). The current year amount is borne by the Manager as it is paid out of the Fixed Annual Charge.

6. Taxation

(a) Analysis of charge in the year:

	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
Irrecoverable income tax	122	34
Total tax charge for the year	122	34

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

The tax assessed for the year is lower (2022: lower) than the standard rate of Corporation Tax in the UK for an authorised unit trust. The differences are explained below:

	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
Net revenue before taxation	6,300,537	4,605,193
Corporation tax of 20% (2022: 20%)	1,260,107	921,039
Effects of:		
Revenue not subject to taxation	(318,170)	(318,436)
Tax deductible interest distributions	(941,937)	(602,603)
Irrecoverable income tax	122	34
Total tax charge for the year	122	34

Authorised unit trusts are exempt from tax on capital gains, therefore any capital return is not included in the above reconciliation.

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

6. Taxation *(continued)*

(c) Provision for Deferred Tax

At 30 November 2023 there are no surplus management expenses (30.11.22: £nil).

7. Distributions

The distributions take account of amounts received on the issue of units and deducted on the cancellation of units and comprise:

	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
1st interim distribution	1,147,008	948,885
2nd interim distribution	2,713,834	1,709,437
3rd interim distribution	1,336,742	1,144,731
Final distribution	2,076,296	2,202,783
	7,273,880	6,005,836
Amounts received on issue of units	(56,916)	(85,759)
Amounts paid on cancellation of units	360,646	199,231
Net distributions for the year	7,577,610	6,119,308
Reconciliation of net revenue after taxation to distributions:		
Net revenue after taxation	6,300,415	4,605,159
Charges borne by capital	1,277,205	1,513,972
Equalisation on conversions	(6)	–
Net movement in revenue account	(4)	177
Net distributions for the year	7,577,610	6,119,308

Details of the distributions in pence per unit are shown in the Distribution Tables on pages 34 to 38.

8. Debtors

	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
Accrued revenue	588,414	587,011
Amounts receivable for issue of units	939,440	44,232
Management fee rebates receivable	59,647	195,195
Income tax recoverable	889	–
Sales awaiting settlement	815,680	–
Total debtors	2,404,070	826,438

9. Cash and Bank Balances

	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
Cash and bank balances	2,416,438	2,152,831
Total cash and bank balances	2,416,438	2,152,831

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

10. Other Creditors

	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
Accrued expenses	21,578	26,604
Amounts payable for cancellation of units	1,143,102	818,110
Total other creditors	1,164,680	844,714

11. Contingent Assets, Liabilities and Capital Commitments

The Fund had no contingent assets, liabilities or capital commitments at the balance sheet date (30.11.22: £nil).

12. Related Party Transactions

Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Limited (JUTM), as Manager, is a related party in respect of their dealings with the Fund. JUTM acts as principal in respect of all transactions of units in the Fund. The aggregate monies received through issue and paid on cancellation are disclosed in the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders and, if applicable, in Note 7 (Distributions).

Amounts receivable/(payable) from JUTM in respect of issues/cancellations are disclosed in the Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders. At the year end, a net balance of £203,662 was payable to JUTM (30.11.22: £773,878 payable to JUTM). These amounts are included in amounts receivable for issue of units in Note 8 (Debtors) and amounts payable for cancellation of units in Note 10 (Other Creditors).

Any amounts due to or from JUTM at the end of the accounting year are disclosed in Notes 8 and 10. Amounts paid to JUTM in respect of fund management are included in Note 5 (Expenses). At the year end, £21,578 (30.11.22: £26,604) was payable to JUTM. This amount is included as part of accrued expenses in Note 10.

Holdings in other Jupiter products at the year-end, which are shown in the portfolio statement on page 9 are valued at £113,940,468 (30.11.22: £131,881,000). During the year, the Fund had purchases totalling to £13,670,544 and sales proceeds totalling to £30,274,928. There was an outstanding receivable of £815,680 trade transaction at year end (30.11.22: £nil).

Dividends received during the year totalled £4,805,234 (30.11.22: £3,173,990). At the year end, dividend receivable amounted to £504,104 (30.11.22: £497,316). This amount is included as part of accrued revenue in Note 8.

Where investments are held in other Jupiter products, a rebate could be paid into the Fund. Amounts received from other Jupiter products as management fee rebates are included in Note 3 (Net Capital (Losses)/Gains) and Note 4 (Revenue). At the year end, £28,641 (30.11.22: £67,472) was receivable from other Jupiter products. This amount is included as management fee rebates receivable in Note 8.

13. Financial Instruments

In pursuing its investment objectives the Fund invests in other funds, which in turn, will invest in a number of financial instruments. The Fund, and the underlying funds, can also invest in securities and other investments and hold cash balances, short term fixed deposits, bank overdrafts and debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations, for example, in respect of sales and purchases awaiting settlement, amounts receivable from issues and payable for cancellations and debtors for accrued revenue.

The Fund may enter into derivative transactions, the purpose of which will only be for efficient management of the Fund and not for investment purposes.

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

13. Financial Instruments *(continued)*

The Fund has little exposure to counterparty, liquidity and cash flow risk. These risks are not significant at current levels. The main risks it faces from its financial instruments are market price, credit, foreign currency and interest rate risk. The Manager reviews policies for managing these risks in pursuance of the Investment Objective and Policy as set out on page 2 and they are summarised later. These risks remain unchanged from the prior year.

Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Trust Deed, Scheme Particulars and in the rules of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer. Further information on the investment portfolio is set out in the Investment Report and Portfolio Statement.

Leverage

In accordance with the requirements under the Alternative Investments Fund Managers Directive (AIFMD), the leverage employed by the Fund as at 30 November 2023 was 1:0.98 (30.11.22: 1:0.98) as determined using the Gross method and 1:1 (30.11.22 1:1) as determined using the Commitment method.

Average leverage on a gross exposure basis is calculated by taking the sum of the notional values of the derivatives used by the Fund, without netting, and is expressed as a ratio of the Fund's net asset value. Average leverage on a commitment basis is calculated by netting the sum of the notional values of the derivatives and expressing it as a ratio of the Fund's net asset value.

Disclosed in the table below is the level of leverage employed by the Fund.

	Maximum limit	Average leverage employed during the year to 30.11.23
Gross exposure	2:1	1:0.98
Commitment exposure	2:1	1:1

	Maximum limit	Average leverage employed during the year to 30.11.22
Gross exposure	2:1	1:0.98
Commitment exposure	2:1	1:1

Market Price Risk

Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments held by the Fund. It represents the potential loss the Fund might suffer through holding market positions which are affected by adverse price movements.

The Manager regularly considers the asset allocation of the portfolio in order to minimise the risk associated with particular markets or industry sectors whilst continuing to follow the Investment Objective and Policy (as set out on page 2).

Price Risk Sensitivity

A ten percent increase in the value of the Fund's portfolio would have the effect of increasing the return and net assets by £17,219,835 (30.11.22: £20,960,364). A ten percent decrease would have an equal and opposite effect.

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

13. Financial Instruments *(continued)*

Credit Risk

Credit risk arises as the investment returns produced by the Fund's holdings in fixed interest funds are dependant on the issuer of the underlying bond contracts maintaining due payment of interest and capital. The 'Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares' Investment Association sector requires the Fund to hold a minimum of 45% of its total holdings in fixed interest funds or securities or in cash. The Manager aims to reduce this credit risk by holding a well diversified range of securities.

Foreign Currency Risk

A substantial proportion of the net assets of the Fund is denominated in currencies other than Sterling, with the effect that the balance sheet and total return can be significantly affected by currency movements.

Currency	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
US Dollar	13,056,435	19,919,856

Foreign Currency Risk Sensitivity

A ten percent increase in the value of the Fund's foreign currency exposure would have the effect of increasing the return and net assets by £1,305,644 (30.11.22: £1,991,986). A ten percent decrease would have an equal and opposite effect.

Interest Rate Risk

The Fund holds various cash positions and any change to the interest rates may result in either revenue increasing or decreasing.

Interest Rate Risk Profile of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

The interest rate risk profile of the Fund's financial assets and liabilities at 30 November was:

Currency	Floating Rate financial assets £	Fixed Rate financial assets £	Financial assets not carrying interest £	Total £
30.11.23				
US Dollar	–	–	13,056,435	13,056,435
Sterling	2,416,438	–	161,545,988	163,962,426
Total	2,416,438	–	174,602,423	177,018,861
30.11.22				
US Dollar	–	–	19,919,856	19,919,856
Sterling	3,652,831	–	190,510,218	194,163,049
Total	3,652,831	–	210,430,074	214,082,905

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

13. Financial Instruments *(continued)*

Currency	Floating Rate financial liabilities £	Fixed Rate financial liabilities £	Financial liabilities not carrying interest £	Total £
30.11.23				
Sterling	–	–	1,359,856	1,359,856
Total	–	–	1,359,856	1,359,856
30.11.22				
Sterling	–	–	1,041,958	1,041,958
Total	–	–	1,041,958	1,041,958

The sensitivity analysis has not been provided for interest risk, due to the fund only having an indirect exposure to interest risk as the fund is invested in collective investment schemes, and not debt instruments directly.

The floating rate financial assets and liabilities include bank balances and overdrafts that bear interest. Interest rates on Sterling and overseas bank balances as supplied by the custodian may vary in line with market conditions and the size of deposit. Overdraft interest is calculated at the current Bank of England base rate plus 1.00%.

Use of Derivatives

The Manager made use of the following derivatives during the year under review:

Forward Foreign Currency Contracts

The Manager made use of forward foreign currency contracts during the year in order to hedge out some of the currency exposure in the Fund. This resulted in realised losses of £36 to the Fund during the year (30.11.22: realised gains of £34). All contracts were undertaken with Northern Trust as counterparty during the period.

There were no forward foreign currency contracts held at the end of the year (30.11.22: £nil).

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

14. Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

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

The fair value of investments has been determined using the following hierarchy:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted price in an active market for an identical instrument;

Level 2: Valuation techniques using observable inputs other than quoted prices within level 1;

Level 3: Valuation techniques using unobservable inputs.

Basis of valuation	Assets £	Liabilities £
30.11.23		
Level 1	4,827,616	–
Level 2	167,370,737	–
Level 3	–	–
Total	172,198,353	–

Basis of valuation	Assets £	Liabilities £
30.11.22		
Level 1	12,323,643	–
Level 2	197,279,993	–
Level 3	–	–
Total	209,603,636	–

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

14. Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities *(continued)*

The majority of financial instruments are classified as level 2: Observable inputs.

Generally for non-market traded and unquoted securities, where there is no price source from an active market for an investment, the Manager has applied judgement in determining the fair value. The Manager has used several valuation methodologies as prescribed in the International Private Equity and Venture Capital valuation guidelines to arrive at their best estimate of fair value. Valuation techniques used by the Manager are set out in Accounting Policies Note 1(e). The fair value is established by using measures of value such as:

- **Price of recent transactions** — Management determine the fair value based on the price of recent transactions made by management or a third party.
 - **Milestone analysis** — Management assess the investment company's progress against milestones expected at the time of investment in order to determine whether an adjustment is required to the transaction price to determine fair value.
 - **Multiples** — Earnings or Revenue multiples are selected from comparable public companies based on geographic location, industry, size, risk profile, earnings growth prospects, target markets and other factors that management consider reasonable. A discount for lack of liquidity may then be applied to represent the adjustment to comparable company multiples to reflect the illiquidity of the portfolio companies relative to the comparable peer group. Management determines the discount for lack of liquidity based on its judgement, after considering market liquidity conditions and company specific factors such as the development stage of the portfolio company. One of the most common forms of multiples used for cash generating companies are EV/EBITDA multiples as EBITDA is generally seen to represent a good proxy for free cash flow. These are applied where appropriate based on the development of underlying portfolio companies but other multiples such as EV/Revenue may also be considered.
 - **Net assets** — Management determine the fair value based on the net asset value of the underlying portfolio company.
- In applying the above valuation techniques in arriving at the fair value the Manager has assessed any further information available from internal and external sources to arrive at an estimated fair value, which includes but is not limited to the following:
- Reference to listed securities of the same company.
 - Consideration of seniority of the securities held and terms of repayment upon realisation.
 - Consideration of any trading restrictions on the investment company's shares that would limit Manager's ability to realise its holding.
 - Consideration of any outstanding payments to be made by Manager.
 - Industry statistics or events (such as mergers and acquisitions).

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

15. Portfolio Transaction Costs

For the year ended 30 November 2023

	Funds £	%	Total £
30.11.23			
Analysis of total purchases costs			
Purchases in year before transaction costs	17,696,057		17,696,057
Commissions	–	–	–
Expenses and other charges	–	–	–
	–		–
Purchases including transaction costs	17,696,057		17,696,057
Analysis of total sales costs			
Sales in year before transaction costs	53,314,544		53,314,544
Commissions	(2,138)	–	(2,138)
Expenses and other charges	–	–	–
	(2,138)		(2,138)
Sales net of transaction costs	53,312,406		53,312,406

Commissions and expenses and other charges as % of average net assets:

Commissions	0.00%
Expenses and other charges	0.00%

The average portfolio dealing spread as at the balance sheet date was 0.00%.

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

15. Portfolio Transaction Costs *(continued)*

For the year ended 30 November 2022

	Funds £	%	Total £
30.11.22			
Analysis of total purchases costs			
Purchases in year before transaction costs	46,278,506		46,278,506
Commissions	115	–	115
Expenses and other charges	–	–	–
	<u>115</u>		<u>115</u>
Purchases including transaction costs	<u>46,278,621</u>		<u>46,278,621</u>
Analysis of total sales costs			
Sales in year before transaction costs	52,975,696		52,975,696
Commissions	(116)	–	(116)
Expenses and other charges	–	–	–
	<u>(116)</u>		<u>(116)</u>
Sales net of transaction costs	<u>52,975,580</u>		<u>52,975,580</u>

Commissions and expenses and other charges as % of average net assets:

Commissions	0.00%
Expenses and other charges	0.00%

The average portfolio dealing spread as at the balance sheet date was 0.00%.

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

16. Unitholders' Funds

The Fund has the following unit classes in issue, with the following charges and minimum initial investment levels:

Unit Class	Initial Charge	Fixed Annual Charge	Minimum Initial Investment
L-Class Units	0.00%	1.37%	£500
I-Class Units	0.00%	0.62%	£1,000,000
J-Class Units	0.00%	0.97%	£500

Revenue and other expenses, not included in the table above, are allocated each day pro rata to the value of the assets attributable to each unit class and taxation is calculated by reference to the net revenue after expenses attributable to each unit class. Due to the varying expenses, the level of net revenue after expenses attributable to each unit class and the distributable revenue is likely to differ.

The Net Asset Value per unit and the number of units in each class are given in the Comparative Tables on page 6 and 7. All unit classes have the same rights on winding up.

Reconciliation of Units	L-Class Income	L-Class Accumulation	I-Class Income	I-Class Accumulation
Opening number of units at 1 December 2022	564,440	11,647,498	34,033,317	266,967,082
Units issued in year	687	509,373	2,667,637	8,250,010
Units cancelled in year	(104,563)	(2,344,416)	(7,199,567)	(61,766,535)
Units converted in year	(326,046)	(1,555,721)	285,949	1,352,818
Closing number of units at 30 November 2023	134,518	8,256,734	29,787,336	214,803,375

Reconciliation of Units	J-Class Income	J-Class Accumulation
Opening number of units at 1 December 2022	984,749	2,167,830
Units issued in year	274,915	147,141
Units cancelled in year	–	(684,972)
Units converted in year	–	16,012
Closing number of units at 30 November 2023	1,259,664	1,646,011

Distribution Tables

For the quarter ended 28 February 2023

FIRST INTERIM

Group 1: Units purchased prior to 1 December 2022

Group 2: Units purchased on or after 1 December 2022 to 28 February 2023

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 28.04.23	Distribution paid 29.04.22
L-Class Income Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.2647	–	0.2647	0.2019
Group 2	0.0187	0.2460	0.2647	0.2019

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution accumulated 28.04.23	Distribution accumulated 29.04.22
L-Class Accumulation Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.3450	–	0.3450	0.2563
Group 2	0.0201	0.3249	0.3450	0.2563

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 28.04.23	Distribution paid 29.04.22
I-Class Income Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.3008	–	0.3008	0.2277
Group 2	0.0758	0.2250	0.3008	0.2277

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution accumulated 28.04.23	Distribution accumulated 29.04.22
I-Class Accumulation Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.3919	–	0.3919	0.2889
Group 2	0.0918	0.3001	0.3919	0.2889

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 28.04.23	Distribution paid 29.04.22
J-Class Income Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.2669	–	0.2669	0.2028
Group 2	0.2669	–	0.2669	0.2028

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution accumulated 28.04.23	Distribution accumulated 29.04.22
J-Class Accumulation Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.3480	–	0.3480	0.2574
Group 2	0.1095	0.2385	0.3480	0.2574

Distribution Tables *(continued)*

For the quarter ended 31 May 2023

SECOND INTERIM

Group 1: Units purchased prior to 1 March 2023

Group 2: Units purchased on or after 1 March 2023 to 31 May 2023

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31.07.23	Distribution paid 29.07.22
L-Class Income Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.6338	–	0.6338	0.3641
Group 2	0.1625	0.4713	0.6338	0.3641

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution accumulated 31.07.23	Distribution accumulated 29.07.22
L-Class Accumulation Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.8310	–	0.8310	0.4640
Group 2	0.3308	0.5002	0.8310	0.4640

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31.07.23	Distribution paid 29.07.22
I-Class Income Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.7218	–	0.7218	0.4116
Group 2	0.2793	0.4425	0.7218	0.4116

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution accumulated 31.07.23	Distribution accumulated 29.07.22
I-Class Accumulation Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.9458	–	0.9458	0.5243
Group 2	0.3800	0.5658	0.9458	0.5243

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31.07.23	Distribution paid 29.07.22
J-Class Income Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.6398	–	0.6398	0.3662
Group 2	0.6398	–	0.6398	0.3662

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution accumulated 31.07.23	Distribution accumulated 29.07.22
J-Class Accumulation Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.8389	–	0.8389	0.4667
Group 2	0.3856	0.4533	0.8389	0.4667

Distribution Tables *(continued)*

For the quarter ended 31 August 2023

THIRD INTERIM

Group 1: Units purchased prior to 1 June 2023

Group 2: Units purchased on or after 1 June 2023 to 31 August 2023

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31.10.23	Distribution paid 31.10.22
L-Class Income Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.3260	–	0.3260	0.2445
Group 2	0.0265	0.2995	0.3260	0.2445

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution accumulated 31.10.23	Distribution accumulated 31.10.22
L-Class Accumulation Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.4333	–	0.4333	0.3140
Group 2	0.1067	0.3266	0.4333	0.3140

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31.10.23	Distribution paid 31.10.22
I-Class Income Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.3720	–	0.3720	0.2768
Group 2	0.1129	0.2591	0.3720	0.2768

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution accumulated 31.10.23	Distribution accumulated 31.10.22
I-Class Accumulation Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.4941	–	0.4941	0.3552
Group 2	0.1128	0.3813	0.4941	0.3552

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31.10.23	Distribution paid 31.10.22
J-Class Income Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.3295	–	0.3295	0.2461
Group 2	0.3295	–	0.3295	0.2461

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution accumulated 31.10.23	Distribution accumulated 31.10.22
J-Class Accumulation Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.4378	–	0.4378	0.3159
Group 2	0.0672	0.3706	0.4378	0.3159

Distribution Tables *(continued)*

For the quarter ended 30 November 2023

FINAL

Group 1: Units purchased prior to 1 September 2023

Group 2: Units purchased on or after 1 September 2023 to 30 November 2023

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31.01.24	Distribution paid 31.01.23
L-Class Income Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.5505	–	0.5505	0.4912
Group 2	0.0497	0.5008	0.5505	0.4912

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution accumulated 31.01.24	Distribution accumulated 31.01.23
L-Class Accumulation Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.7370	–	0.7370	0.6337
Group 2	0.1842	0.5528	0.7370	0.6337

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31.01.24	Distribution paid 31.01.23
I-Class Income Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.6292	–	0.6292	0.5571
Group 2	0.1191	0.5101	0.6292	0.5571

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution accumulated 31.01.24	Distribution accumulated 31.01.23
I-Class Accumulation Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.8417	–	0.8417	0.7184
Group 2	0.1380	0.7037	0.8417	0.7184

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution paid 31.01.24	Distribution paid 31.01.23
J-Class Income Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.5568	–	0.5568	0.4947
Group 2	0.0097	0.5471	0.5568	0.4947

	Income	Equalisation	Distribution accumulated 31.01.24	Distribution accumulated 31.01.23
J-Class Accumulation Units	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit	pence per unit
Group 1	0.7453	–	0.7453	0.6383
Group 2	0.2373	0.5080	0.7453	0.6383

Distribution Tables *(continued)*

All Unit Types

The relevant information required by a corporate unitholder is as follows:

■ Franked investment income	0.00%
■ Annual payment (non-foreign element)	100.00%

Equalisation applies only to units purchased during the distribution period (Group 2 units). It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of all Group 2 units and is refunded to holders of these units as a return of capital. Being capital, it is not liable to Income Tax but must be deducted from the cost of units for Capital Gains Tax purposes.

General Information (unaudited)

AIFMD Remuneration Qualitative Disclosures

Decision-making process to determine remuneration policies

Under the Jupiter's Group's framework ultimate responsibility in remuneration matters is held by the Board of Directors of Jupiter Fund Management Plc. The Board is supported in remunerated-related issues by the Remuneration Committee ("RemCo").

The Board is responsible for establishing the Group Remuneration Policy, and with support of the RemCo regularly reviewing the Group Remuneration Policy to meet any important regulatory developments and the objectives of the Group.

The RemCo is delegated with the role of supporting the Board in setting remuneration guidelines, establishing share-based remuneration plans, and approving the aggregate variable remuneration expenditure of the Group as well as determining and proposing to the Board the individual total remuneration payable to the members of the Board (other than its chairman) for approval. The RemCo ensures that the Remuneration Policy and practices across the Group operate in line with EU regulations that apply to its regulated entities and delegates.

The RemCo regularly reports to the Board on the status of its activities, the development of the remuneration architecture within the Group as well as on the operational implementation of this Policy. The RemCo consists of at least three members of the Board all of whom are Non-Executive Directors.

Jupiter's remuneration philosophy is aligned with the Group's pre-incentive operating profit as well as its tolerance for risk. The Group's approach provides for remuneration that attracts and retains employees in each local market and motivates them to contribute to the development and growth of its business. The policy promotes sound and effective risk management and does not encourage inappropriate risk taking.

Link between pay and performance

As described above, Jupiter operates a Group-wide remuneration policy, which applies to all employees across the Group.

Jupiter ensures that any measurement of performance used to evaluate the quantum of variable remuneration elements or pools of variable remuneration elements:

- includes adjustments for current and future risks, taking into account the cost and quantity of the capital and the liquidity required;
- takes into account the need for consistency with the timing and likelihood of the firm receiving potential future revenues incorporated into current earnings;
- is based on the performance of the Group, the individual and the relevant function / business unit or in the case of a fund manager, the fund(s), where financial and non-financial criteria are considered when assessing individual performance; and
- is set within a multi-year framework to ensure that the assessment process is based on longer term performance and associated risks, and to ensure that payment is spread over an appropriate period.

General Information (unaudited) *(continued)*

Material Risk Takers

The categories of staff for inclusion as Material Risk Takers for JUTM include:

- Executive and non-executive members of the Board
- Other members of senior management
- Staff responsible for control functions

The Material Risk Takers are identified and reviewed on an annual basis by the relevant entities and the RemCo in line with the criteria set out under EU regulations, namely:

If, in the performance of their professional activities certain staff of a delegate portfolio manager can have a material impact on the risk profiles of the funds they manage, these employees are considered as "Identified Staff". For this purpose, the Group considers the respective delegate portfolio manager as subject to equally effective regulation if they are required by law and regulations or in accordance with internal standards to put in place a remuneration policy, which in accordance to the ESMA Remuneration Guidelines is considered equivalent in its objectives. The Group's regulated entities will only delegate its portfolio management to firms, whose remuneration policy complies with the 'equivalence standard' as described.

In line with ESMA Guidelines, proportionality is considered taking into account the following factors:

- The percentage of assets under management;
- Total assets under management; and
- The average ratio between its fixed and variable remuneration paid to staff.

It should be noted that despite use of proportionality, the Group's compensation arrangements involve high levels of deferral, payment in shares and performance adjustment provisions on commercial and risk management grounds.

Further details in relation to the Qualitative disclosures are included in the Group Remuneration Policy.

General Information (unaudited) *(continued)*

Quantitative disclosures

The remuneration data provided below reflects amounts paid in respect of the performance year 2022 in relation to the funds managed by JUTM.

As at 31 December 2022, JUTM had GBP 27.3 billion assets under management consisting of 34 authorised Unit Trust, 12 sub-funds within 2 Open-Ended Investment Companies and 2 Investment Trusts.

Total annual remuneration paid to all Management Company employees (as per breakdown below):	
Of which fixed:	n/a
Of which variable:	n/a
Number of Management Company employees:	
Total remuneration paid to Identified Staff of the Management Company:	£8,678,282
Of which paid to Senior Management:	£2,755,669
Of which paid to other Identified Staff:	£5,922,613
Number of Identified Staff:	23
Total annual remuneration paid to employees in delegate(s):	£10,337,391
Of which fixed:	£1,344,131
Of which variable:	£8,993,260
Number of beneficiaries:	6

Notes

Remuneration for Material Risk Takers includes remuneration paid to employees of other group companies performing senior management functions for the Management Company.

Remuneration for Material Risk Takers includes remuneration paid to employees of other group companies who perform fund management activities on behalf of the Management Company under the terms of a delegation agreement between the Management Company and their employer. The remuneration disclosed for these employees is the proportion of their total remuneration for the fund management activities they perform under a delegation agreement.

In the figures above, fixed remuneration relates to salary and pension benefits and variable remuneration includes the annual bonus including any long-term incentive awards.

These disclosures are in line with Jupiter's interpretation of currently available regulatory guidance on quantitative remuneration disclosures. As market or regulatory practice develops Jupiter may consider it appropriate to make changes to the way in which quantitative remuneration disclosures are calculated. Where such changes are made, this may result in disclosures in relation to a fund not being comparable to the disclosures made in the prior year, or in relation to other Jupiter fund disclosures in that same year.

Due to the increasing complexity of the business (i.e., Merian transaction), the information that is needed to provide a further breakdown of remuneration is not readily available and would not be relevant or reliable.

Implementation of the remuneration policy for the Group is subject to an annual independent review. No material outcomes or irregularities were identified as a result of the most recent independent review, which took place in 2022.

General Information (unaudited) *(continued)*

Tax Information Reporting

UK tax legislation requires fund managers to provide information to HMRC on certain investors who purchase units in unit trusts. Accordingly, the Fund may have to provide information annually to HMRC on the tax residencies of those unitholders that are tax resident out with the UK, in those countries that have signed up to the OECD's ('Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development') Common Reporting Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information (the 'Common Reporting Standard'), or the United States (under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, 'FATCA').

All new unitholders that invest in the Fund must complete a certification form as part of the application form. Existing unitholders may also be contacted by the Registrar should any extra information be needed to correctly determine their tax residence.

Failure to provide this information may result in the account being reported to HMRC.

For further information, please see HMRC's Quick Guide: Automatic Exchange of Information – **information for account holders: gov.uk/government/publications/exchange-of-information-account-holders**.

Value Assessment

The Assessment of Value report for Jupiter Merlin Conservative Select, contained within a Composite Report on each of Jupiter's Unit Trusts is published annually on the Document Library at **www.jupiteram.com** within 4 months of the reference date 31 March.

General Information (unaudited) *(continued)*

Advice to Unitholders

In recent years, investment related scams have become increasingly sophisticated and difficult to spot. We are therefore warning all our unitholders to be cautious so that they can protect themselves and spot the warning signs.

Fraudsters will often:

- contact you out of the blue
- apply pressure to invest quickly
- downplay the risks to your money
- promise tempting returns that sound too good to be true
- say that they are only making the offer available to you
- ask you to not tell anyone else about it

You can avoid investment scams by:

- **Rejecting unexpected offers** – Scammers usually cold call but contact can also come by email, post, word of mouth or at a seminar. If you have been offered an investment out of the blue, chances are it's a high risk investment or a scam.
- **Checking the FCA Warning List** – Use the FCA Warning List to check the risks of a potential investment. You can also search to see if the firm is known to be operating without proper FCA authorisation.
- **Getting impartial advice** – Before investing get impartial advice and don't use an adviser from the firm that contacted you.

If you are suspicious, report it:

- You can report the firm or scam to the FCA by contacting their Consumer Helpline on **0800 111 6768** or using their online reporting form.
- If you have lost money in a scam, contact **Action Fraud** on **0300 123 2040** or **www.actionfraud.police.uk**

For further helpful information about investment scams and how to avoid them please visit **www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart**

Responsible Stewardship

Jupiter believes that responsible stewardship is an important issue and aims to act in the best interests of all its stakeholders by engaging with the companies that it invests in, and by exercising its voting rights with care. We believe companies with high standards of corporate responsibility, governance and sustainable business practices create an appropriate culture to enhance good investment performance. **Jupiter's Corporate Governance and Voting Policy** and its compliance with the **UK Stewardship Code**, together with supporting disclosure reports are available at **www.jupiteram.com**.

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