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Pre-contractual disclosure for the financial products referred to in Article 9, paragraphs 1 to 4a, of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 and Article 5, first paragraph, of Regulation (EU) 2020/852

Product name: Schroder International Selection Fund Carbon Neutral Credit 2040

Legal entity identifier: 5493007M7VXI36SNXJ14

Sustainable investment objective

Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?

means an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental or social objective, provided that the investment does not significantly harm any environmental or social objective and that the investee companies follow good Governance practices. The EU Taxonomy is a classification system laid down in Regulation (EU) 2020/852, establishing a list of environmentally sustainable economic	bees this manetal product have a sustainable investment objective.			
	••	✓ Yes	•0	□ No
		It will make a minimum of sustainable investments with an environmental objective: 75.00%		It promotes Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics and while it does not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it will have a minimum proportion of% of sustainable investments
		 in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy 		with an environmental objective in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
		in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy		with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
activities . For the time being, it does not				with a social objective
include a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with		It will make a minimum of sustainable investments with a social objective%		It promotes E/S characteristics, but will not make any sustainable investments



Sustainable investment

the Taxonomy or not.

What is the sustainable investment objective of this financial product?

The Fund's sustainable investment objective is to aim to achieve aggregate carbon neutrality by the year 2040 within its investment portfolio by investing its assets in fixed and floating rate securities issued by governments, government agencies, supra-nationals and companies worldwide that in the Investment Manager's view will contribute towards the objective of carbon emission reduction by one or a combination of the following: (i) being carbon neutral; (ii) aiming for, and being on track to achieve, 75% emission reductions or equivalent by 2040; (iii) committing to net zero by 2050; (iv) having SBTi decarbonisation targets; (v) otherwise demonstrating a contribution to the reduction of carbon emissions (and companies within (v) may include those that provide products or services which enable decarbonisation). The Fund may also invest in investments that the Investment Manager deems to be neutral under its sustainability criteria, such as cash and Money Market Investments and derivatives used with the aim of reducing risk (hedging) or managing the Fund more efficiently.

Aggregate carbon neutrality means achieving net zero carbon emissions intensity by balancing investments in (i) issuers that generate carbon emissions, but that have stated goals to reduce such emissions with (ii) issuers that contribute to reducing carbon emissions.

The Fund's objective includes a reduction in carbon emissions, which means that it aims for low carbon emissions, consistent with the long-term objectives of the Paris Agreement on limiting global warming. The Investment Manager seeks to ensure the objective of reducing carbon emissions is attained on an ongoing basis by investing in issuers as described in (i) – (v) above. Companies from sectors with heavy scope 3 emissions are also required to have scope 3 emissions reduction targets or a commitment to reduce scope 3 emissions. The Investment Manager periodically assesses whether an issuer's carbon reduction pathway is consistent with the criteria through which it earlier qualified for investment by the Fund and seeks to identify cases where it might deviate. The Investment Manager also seeks to identify situations where an issuer's emissions reduction targets did not keep pace with the emissions reduction trajectory for that sector and reviews any major changes in the emissions profile of an issuer, for example due to mergers or acquisitions. These considerations may lead to divestment by the Investment Manager.

No reference benchmark has been designated for the purpose of attaining the sustainable investment objective.

At the date of this Prospectus, it is not yet possible to commit to the Fund maintaining a minimum alignment with the Taxonomy, as the Investment Manager is currently not in a position to accurately determine to what extent the Fund's investments are in taxonomy-aligned environmentally sustainable activities. Taxonomy alignment of this Fund's investments has therefore not been calculated and has as a result been deemed to constitute 0% of the Fund's portfolio. However it is expected that the Fund invests in companies and economic activities that contribute to the environmental objectives of climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation within the meaning of the Taxonomy.

In future it is therefore expected that the Fund will assess and report on the extent to which its underlying investments are in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the Taxonomy, along with information relating to the proportion of enabling and transitional activities. This Prospectus will be updated once it is possible in the Investment Manager's opinion to accurately disclose to what extent the Fund's investments are in Taxonomy-aligned environmentally sustainable activities, including the proportions of investments in enabling and transitional activities selected for the Fund.

Sustainability indicators measure how the sustainable objectives of this financial product are attained.

What sustainability indicators are used to measure the attainment of the sustainable investment objective of this financial product?

The Investment Manager is responsible for determining whether an investment meets the criteria of a sustainable investment. The Investment Manager uses specific sustainability key performance indicators to assess the investment's contribution to an environmental or social objective (as applicable). The output of the Investment Strategy outlined below is the production of the list of investments that meet the selection criteria, this represents the investment universe. Compliance with the minimum percentage in sustainable investments is monitored daily via our automated compliance controls. The Fund also applies certain exclusions, with which the Investment Manager monitors compliance on an ongoing basis via its portfolio compliance framework.

The Investment Manager uses different sustainability indicators to measure the impact contribution at an investee company level. Examples of the indicators include, but are not limited to, achieved carbon emission reductions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) and/or absolute level of carbon intensity, decarbonization plans, and avoided emissions per company achieved through climate solutions initiatives

How do sustainable investments not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?

The Investment Manager's approach to investing in issuers that do not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective includes the following:

- Firm-wide investment exclusions apply to Schroders funds. These relate to international conventions on cluster munitions, anti-personnel mines, and chemical and biological weapons and a list of those companies that are excluded is available at https://www.schroders.com/en/sustainability/activeownership/group-exclusions/. Firm-wide exclusions also apply to companies generating more than 20% of their revenue from thermal coal mining.
- The Fund excludes companies that derive revenues above certain thresholds from activities related to tobacco and thermal coal.
- The Fund excludes companies that are assessed by Schroders to have breached one or more 'global norms' thereby causing significant environmental or social harm; these companies comprise Schroders' 'global norms' breach list. Schroders' determination of whether a company has been involved in such a breach considers relevant principles such as those contained in the UN Global Compact (UNGC) principles, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The 'global norms' breach list may be informed by assessments performed by third party providers and by proprietary research, where relevant to a particular situation.
- The Fund may also apply certain other exclusions in addition to those summarised above.

Further information on all of the Fund's investment exclusions is to be found under "Sustainability-Related Disclosure" on the Fund's webpage <u>http://www.schroders.com/en/lu/private-investor/gfc</u>

• *How have the indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors been taken into account?*

Wherever the Investment Manager deems it appropriate, in the context of an incomplete and developing data landscape, the Investment Manager sets levels or principles representing its views of what would constitute significant harm in respect of the indicators for the principal adverse impacts. Investee companies deemed not to satisfy these levels or principles would not be eligible to be considered as a sustainable investment.

This framework is subject to ongoing review, particularly as the availability, and quality, of the data evolves.

Principal adverse impacts are the most significant negative impacts of investment

decisions on sustainability factors relating to environmental, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, anticorruption and antibribery matters.



How are the sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights?

Companies on Schroders' 'global norms' breach list cannot be categorised as sustainable investments. Schroders' determination of whether a company should be included on such list considers the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, among other relevant principles. The 'global norms' breach list is informed by third party providers and proprietary research, where relevant.



Does this financial product take into account principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?

Z Yes, the Investment Manager's approach to considering principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors involves classifying the indicators into three categories:

- 1. Set thresholds: these involve very explicit thresholds for considering an investment to be a "sustainable investment". For example, PAI 10 on violations of UNGC principles.
- Active ownership: these involve indicators on which we have a plan to engage with the underlying holding as set out in the Schroders Group document https://prod.schroders.com/en/sysglobalassets/about-us/ schroders-engagement-blueprint-2022-1.pdf, outlining our approach to active ownership. For example, PAI 1, 2 and 3 covering GHG emissions and PAI 13 on board gender diversity.
- 3. Improve coverage: these involve indicators where we consider data coverage to be too sparse to properly consider them and our focus is primarily on engaging with the underlying holdings to increase reporting. For example, PAI 7 on biodiversity, PAI 9 on hazardous waste ratio and PAI 12 on the gender pay gap.

Our approach is subject to ongoing review, particularly as the availability, and quality, of PAI data evolves. Information on principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors will also be disclosed in due course in the Fund's annual report.

🗌 No



What investment strategy does this financial product follow?

The investment strategy guides investment decisions based on factors such as investment objectives and risk tolerance. The sustainable investment strategy used by the Investment Manager is as follows:

The Fund is actively managed and invests its assets in (a) sustainable investments which are investments that in the Investment Manager's view will contribute towards the objective of carbon emission reduction by one or a combination of the following: (i) being carbon neutral; (ii) aiming for, and being on track to achieve, 75% emission reductions or equivalent by 2040; (iii) committing to net zero by 2050; (iv) having SBTi decarbonisation targets; and/or (v) otherwise demonstrating a contribution to the reduction of carbon emissions, and (b) investments that the Investment Manager deems to be neutral under its sustainability criteria.

The Fund does not directly invest in certain activities, industries or groups of issuers above the limits listed under "Sustainability-Related Disclosure" on the Fund's webpage <u>http://www.schroders.com/en/lu/private-investor/gfc</u>

The Fund invests in companies that do not cause significant environmental or social harm and have good governance practices, as determined by the Investment Manager's rating criteria.

The Investment Manager may also engage with companies held by the Fund or from the investible universe to gain insights or request improvement on sustainability issues. More details on the Investment Manager's approach to sustainability and its engagement with companies are available on the webpage https://www.schroders.com/en/lu/private-investor/strategic-capabilities/sustainability/disclosures

The Fund invests at least two-thirds of its assets in fixed and floating rate securities issued by governments, government agencies, supra-nationals and companies worldwide, including emerging market countries. The Fund may invest:

- up to 60% of its assets in securities that have a below investment grade credit rating (as measured by Standard & Poor's or any equivalent grade of other credit rating agencies for rated bonds and implied Schroders ratings for non-rated bonds);

- up to 30% of its assets in convertible bonds including up to 10% of its assets in contingent convertible bonds; and
- up to 20% of its assets in asset-backed securities and mortgage-backed securities.

The Investment Manager believes that over the long term, companies that manage the risks and invest in the opportunities arising from climate change better than peers will not only experience fewer penalties, but capture financial and non-financial rewards by various stakeholders.

The Fund may also invest up to one-third of its assets directly or indirectly in other securities (including other asset classes), countries, regions, industries or currencies, warrants and Money Market Investments, and hold cash.

The Fund may use derivatives with the aim of achieving investment gains, reducing risk or managing the Fund more efficiently.

The Fund's objective includes a reduction in carbon emissions, which means that it aims for low carbon emissions, consistent with the long-term objectives of the Paris Agreement on limiting global warming.

The Investment Manager applies sustainability criteria when selecting investments for the Fund.

Issuers are assessed using a methodology that identifies companies that in the Investment Manager's view will contribute towards the objective of carbon emission reduction.

This methodology is data-driven, sourced from established environmental initiatives and data sources such as the CDP disclosure system and the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), MSCI and other chosen external and proprietary data sources.

The Investment Manager then screens the resulting universe of potential investments for issuers it deems to have harmful and controversial practices defined by a specific list of exclusion criteria.

The Investment Manager also conducts its own due diligence to identify issuers that do no significant harm to environmental or social objectives. Schroders' proprietary sustainability tools as well as external sustainability ratings are utilised to identify issuers with good governance.

The Investment Manager may also engage with companies to encourage carbon emission intensity reduction. This engagement may identify new investment opportunities, and is used to monitor how a company's carbon intensity reduction plan is progressing.

Due to the nature of its investments, and in particular the need for currency hedging, the Fund may also hold a portion of investments that the Investment Manager deems to be neutral under its sustainability criteria. These may include (but are not limited to) derivatives for hedging purposes, cash and Money Market Investments.

The Investment Manager ensures that at least 90% of the portion of the Fund's Net Asset Value composed of investments in companies is rated against the sustainability criteria. As a result of the application of sustainability criteria, at least 20% of the Fund's potential investment universe is excluded from the selection of investments.

For the purposes of this test, the potential investment universe is the core universe of issuers that the Investment Manager may select for the Fund prior to the application of sustainability criteria, in accordance with the other limitations of the Investment Objective and Policy. This universe is comprised of fixed and floating rate securities denominated in various currencies and issued by companies worldwide, including emerging market countries. The universe (for the purpose of this test only) does not include fixed or floating rate securities issued by public or quasi-public issuers.

• What are the binding elements of the investment strategy used to select the investments to attain the sustainable investment objective?

The following binding elements are applied throughout the investment process:

- The Fund is actively managed and invests at least 75% of its assets in sustainable investments, which are investments that in the Investment Manager's view will contribute towards the objective of carbon emission reduction by one or a combination of the following: (i) being carbon neutral; (ii) aiming for, and being on track to achieve, 75% emission reductions or equivalent by 2040; (iii) committing to net zero by 2050; (iv) having SBTi decarbonisation targets; (v) otherwise demonstrating a contribution to the reduction of carbon emissions.
- Exclusions are applied to direct investments in companies. The Fund applies certain exclusions relating to international conventions on cluster munitions, antipersonnel mines, and chemical and biological weapons. The Fund also excludes companies that derive revenues above certain thresholds from activities related to tobacco and thermal coal, especially companies that generate revenues from tobacco production or any other part of the tobacco value chain (suppliers, distributors, retailers, licensors), and companies that generate revenues from thermal coal mining and coal fired power generation. The Fund excludes companies that are assessed by Schroders to have breached one or more 'global norms' thereby causing significant environmental or social harm; these companies comprise Schroders' 'global norms' breach list. Details of the revenue thresholds together with certain other exclusions the Fund applies are listed under "Sustainability-Related Disclosure" on the Fund's webpage http://www.schroders.com/en/lu/private-investor/gfc
- The Fund invests in companies that do not cause significant environmental or social harm and have good governance practices, as determined by the Investment Manager's rating criteria.
- The Investment Manager ensures that at least 90% of the portion of the Fund's Net Asset Value composed of investments in companies is rated against the sustainability criteria.
- As a result of the application of sustainability criteria, at least 20% of the Fund's potential investment universe is excluded from the selection of investments.

What is the policy to assess good governance practices of the investee companies?

In order to assess good governance practices, the Investment Manager utilises a Schroders' proprietary tool to help it develop a complete understanding of a company through a stakeholder lens.

Schroders' proprietary tool is data-driven and provides a systematic framework for analysing a company's relationship with its stakeholders. It identifies key performance drivers and data points to examine company strengths and weakness across different key stakeholder groups and is a central driver of the assessment of a company's stakeholder management.

The proprietary tool includes over 250 data points to assess how well companies are governed and how likely they are to adapt to changing social and environmental pressures. It draws on both conventional and unconventional data sources. Examples of unconventional data are employee review reports, consumer product reviews, revenue from green products, community donations and frequency of

Good governance practices include sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance.



lawsuits. By drawing on such unconventional sources that do not rely on company reporting, the Investment Manager is able to build a more complete picture of companies' performance and reduce its reliance on corporate disclosure, which remains incomplete, particularly among smaller companies in emerging regions.

The proprietary tool considers a number of good governance metrics, grouped into the categories of sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance.



What is the asset allocation and the minimum share of sustainable investments?

Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets. The planned composition of the Fund's investments that are used to meet its sustainable investment objective are summarised below. The Fund invests at least 75% of its assets in sustainable investments, which means included in **#1 Sustainable** are investments in fixed and floating rate securities issued by governments, government agencies, supra-nationals and companies worldwide that in the Investment Manager's view will contribute towards the objective of carbon emission reduction by one or a combination of the following: (i) being carbon neutral; (ii) aiming for, and being on track to achieve, 75% emission reductions or equivalent by 2040; (iii) committing to net zero by 2050; (iv) having SBTi decarbonisation targets; and/or (v) otherwise demonstrating a contribution to the reduction of carbon emissions. The minimum proportion stated applies in normal market conditions.

#2 Not sustainable includes investments that are treated as neutral for sustainability purposes, such as cash and Money Market Investments and derivatives used with the aim of reducing risk (hedging) or managing the Fund more efficiently.

Minimum safeguards are applied where relevant to Money Market Investments and derivatives used with the aim of reducing risk (hedging) by restricting (as appropriate) investments in counterparties where there are ownership links or exposure to higher risk countries (for the purpose of money laundering, terrorist financing, bribery, corruption, tax evasion and sanctions risks). A firm-wide risk assessment considers the risk rating of each jurisdiction; which includes reference to a number of public statements, indices and world governance indicators issued by the UN, the European Union, the UK Government, the Financial Action Task Force and several Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), such as Transparency International and the Basel Committee.

In addition, new counterparties are reviewed by Schroders' credit risk team and approval of a new counterparty is based on a holistic review of the various sources of information available, including, but not limited to, quality of management, ownership structure, location, regulatory and social environment to which each counterparty is subject, and the degree of development of the local banking system and its regulatory framework. Ongoing monitoring is performed through a Schroders' proprietary tool, which supports the analysis of a counterparty's management of environmental, social and governance trends and challenges. Any significant deterioration in the profile of the counterparty in Schroders' proprietary tool would lead to further analysis and potential exclusion by Schroders' credit risk team.



#1 Sustainable covers sustainable investments with environmental or social objectives.

#2 Not sustainable includes investments which do not qualify as sustainable investments.

How does the use of derivatives attain the sustainable investment objective?

Single name credit default swaps are used as a proxy for direct investments which would otherwise be held by the Fund in line with its sustainability criteria. Such derivatives are therefore used to attain the Fund's sustainable investment objective.

To what minimum extent are sustainable investments with an

environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

There is no minimum extent to which the Fund's sustainable investments with an environmental objective are aligned with the Taxonomy. Consequently, taxonomy alignment of this Fund's investments has not been calculated and has as a result been deemed to constitute 0% of the Fund's portfolio .

At the date of this prospectus, it is not yet possible to commit to the Fund maintaining a minimum alignment with the Taxonomy, as the Investment Manager is currently not in a position to accurately determine to what extent the Fund's investments are in taxonomy-aligned environmentally sustainable activities. However it is expected that the Fund invests in companies and economic activities that contribute to the environmental objectives of climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation within the meaning of the Taxonomy.

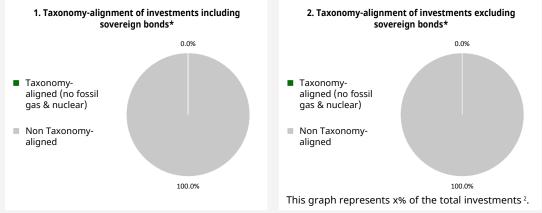
In future it is expected that the Fund will assess and report on the extent to which its underlying investments are in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the Taxonomy, along with information relating to the proportion of enabling and transitional activities. This Prospectus will be updated once it is possible in the Investment Manager's opinion to accurately disclose to what extent the Fund's investments are in Taxonomy-aligned environmentally sustainable activities, including the proportions of investments in enabling and transitional activities selected for the Fund.

Does the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy1?



☐ In fossil gas ☐ In nuclear energy ☑ No

The two graphs below show in green the minimum percentage of investments that are aligned with the EU Taxonomy. As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the Taxonomy-alignment of sovereign bonds*, the first graph shows the Taxonomy-alignment in relation to all the investments of the financial product including sovereign bonds, while the second graph shows the Taxonomy-alignment only in relation to the investments of the financial product other than sovereign bonds.



* For the purpose of these graphs, 'sovereign bonds' consist of all sovereign exposures

Enabling activities directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective.

What is the minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities?

As per the above, at the date of this Prospectus the share of investments by the Fund in transitional and enabling activities is currently deemed to constitute 0% of the Fund's portfolio.

¹ Fossil gas and/or nuclear related activities will only comply with the EU Taxonomy where they contribute to limiting climate change ("climate change mitigation") and do not significantly harm any EU Taxonomy objective – see explanatory note in the left-hand margin. The full criteria for fossil gas and nuclear energy economic activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy are laid down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1214.
² As there is no Taxonomy-alignment, there is no impact on the graph if sovereign bonds are excluded (i.e. the percentage of Taxonomy-aligned investments remains 0%) and the Management Company therefore believes that there is no need to mention this information.

To comply with the EU Taxonomy, the criteria for **fossil gas** include limitations on emissions and switching to renewable power or low-carbon fuels by the end of 2035. For **nuclear energy**, the criteria include comprehensive safety and waste management rules.

activities are expressed as a share of: - **turnover** reflecting the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies - **capital expenditure** (CapEx) showing the green investments made by investee companies, e.g. for a transition to a green economy.

Taxonomy-aligned

- operational expenditure (OpEx) reflecting green operational activities of investee companies.

Transitional

activities are activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best performance.



are environmentally sustainable investments that **do not take into account the criteria** for environmentally sustainable economic activities under the EU Taxonomy.

What is the minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

The minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy is 75%, which is the same amount as the Fund's minimum share of sustainable investments. As stated above this Prospectus will be updated once it is possible in the Investment Manager's opinion to accurately disclose to what extent the Fund's sustainable investments with an environmental objective are aligned with the EU Taxonomy.

What is the minimum share of sustainable investments with a social objective?

This question is not applicable for the Fund



What investments are included under "#2 Not sustainable", what is their purpose and are there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

#2 Not Sustainable includes investments that are treated as neutral for sustainability purposes, such as cash and Money Market Investments and derivatives used with the aim of reducing risk (hedging) or managing the Fund more efficiently.

Minimum safeguards are applied where relevant to Money Market Investments and derivatives used with the aim of reducing risk (hedging) by restricting (as appropriate) investments in counterparties where there are ownership links or exposure to higher risk countries (for the purpose of money laundering, terrorist financing, bribery, corruption, tax evasion and sanctions risks). A firm-wide risk assessment considers the risk rating of each jurisdiction; which includes reference to a number of public statements, indices and world governance indicators issued by the UN, the European Union, the UK Government, the Financial Action Task Force and several Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), such as Transparency International and the Basel Committee.

In addition, new counterparties are reviewed by Schroders' credit risk team and approval of a new counterparty is based on a holistic review of the various sources of information available, including, but not limited to, quality of management, ownership structure, location, regulatory and social environment to which each counterparty is subject, and the degree of development of the local banking system and its regulatory framework. Ongoing monitoring is performed through a Schroders' proprietary tool, which supports the analysis of a counterparty's management of environmental, social and governance trends and challenges. Any significant deterioration in the profile of the counterparty in Schroders' proprietary tool would lead to further analysis and potential exclusion by Schroders' credit risk team.



Is a specific index designated as a reference benchmark to meet the sustainable investment objective?

Reference benchmarks are indexes to measure whether the financial How does the reference benchmark take into account sustainability factors in a way that is continuously aligned with the sustainable investment objective? This question is not applicable for the Fund • How is the alignment of the investment strategy with the methodology of the index ensured on a continuous basis?

This question is not applicable for the Fund

- How does the designated index differ from a relevant broad market index? This question is not applicable for the Fund
- Where can the methodology used for the calculation of the designated index be found?

This question is not applicable for the Fund

Where can I find more product specific information online?

More product-specific information can be found on the webpage <u>http://www.schroders.com/en/lu/private-investor/gfc</u>