



# abrdn OEIC II\*

Prospectus  
1 July 2025

\*this Company was previously known as Aberdeen Standard OEIC II

[aberdeenplc.com](https://www.aberdeenplc.com)

This prospectus is valid as at 1 July 2025. It is prepared in accordance with the rules contained in COLL published by the Financial Conduct Authority (the “FCA”) as part of the FCA Rules made under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended (the “Act”). A copy of this prospectus has been delivered to the FCA. The ACD accepts responsibility for the information in this document. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the ACD this document does not contain any untrue or misleading statement or omit any matter required by the FCA Rules to be included in it.

**PROSPECTUS**  
**Published 1 July 2025**  
**for**

abrdn OEIC II

With the following funds:-

- abrdn AAA Bond Fund<sup>1</sup>
- abrdn American Income Equity Fund<sup>2</sup>
- abrdn North American Small & Mid-Cap Equity Fund<sup>3</sup>
- abrdn Asian Pacific Growth Equity Fund<sup>4</sup>
- abrdn Sterling Corporate Bond Fund<sup>5</sup>
- abrdn Europe ex UK Smaller Companies Fund<sup>6</sup>
- abrdn Europe ex UK Growth Equity Fund<sup>7</sup>
- abrdn Europe ex UK Income Equity Fund<sup>8</sup>
- abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund<sup>9</sup>
- abrdn Emerging Markets Opportunities Equity Fund<sup>10</sup>
- abrdn Emerging Markets Income Equity Fund<sup>11</sup>
- Global Emerging Markets Equity Unconstrained Fund<sup>12</sup>
- abrdn Global Focused Equity Fund<sup>13</sup>
- abrdn Global Infrastructure Equity Fund<sup>14</sup>
- abrdn Global Smaller Companies Fund<sup>15</sup>
- abrdn High Yield Bond Fund<sup>16</sup>
- abrdn Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI AAA Bond Fund”

<sup>2</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI American Income Equity Fund” and is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.

<sup>3</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “abrdn American Unconstrained Equity Fund”

<sup>4</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI (SLI) Asian Pacific Growth Equity Fund” and is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.

<sup>5</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI (SLI) Corporate Bond Fund”

<sup>6</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI Europe ex UK Smaller Companies Fund”

<sup>7</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI Europe ex UK Growth Equity Fund” and is in the process of termination and is not available for investment.

<sup>8</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI Europe ex UK Income Equity Fund”

<sup>9</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI Global Balanced Growth Fund”

<sup>10</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI (SLI) Emerging Markets Equity Fund” and is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.

<sup>11</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI Emerging Markets Income Equity Fund”

<sup>12</sup> Please note that this fund is in the process of termination and is not available for investment.

<sup>13</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI Global Focused Equity Fund” and is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.

<sup>14</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “abrdn Global Income Equity Fund”

<sup>15</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI Global Smaller Companies Fund”

<sup>16</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI High Yield Bond Fund”

<sup>17</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund” and is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.

- abrdn UK Growth Equity Fund<sup>18</sup>
- abrdn UK High Alpha Equity Fund<sup>19</sup>
- abrdn UK High Income Equity Fund<sup>20</sup>
- ASI UK Recovery Equity Fund<sup>21</sup>
- abrdn UK Ethical Equity Fund<sup>22</sup>
- abrdn UK Government Bond Fund<sup>23</sup>
- abrdn UK Smaller Companies Fund<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI UK Growth Equity Fund” and is in the process of termination and is not available for investment.

<sup>19</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI UK High Alpha Equity Fund” and is in the process of termination and is not available for investment.

<sup>20</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI UK High Income Equity Fund” and is in the process of termination and is not available for investment.

<sup>21</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “UK Equity Recovery Fund” and is in the process of termination and is not available for investment.

<sup>22</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI UK Ethical Equity Fund”

<sup>23</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI UK Government Bond Fund”

<sup>24</sup> Please note that this fund was previously known as “ASI UK Smaller Companies Fund”

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## **ADDRESSES**

### **The Company**

abrdn OEIC II

### **Head Office**

1 George Street  
Edinburgh  
EH2 2LL

### **Authorised Corporate Director (“ACD”)**

abrdn Fund Managers Limited

### **Registered Office**

280 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4AG

### **Depository**

Citibank UK Limited

Citigroup Centre  
Canada Square  
Canary Wharf  
London  
E14 5LB

### **Auditors**

KPMG LLP  
St Vincent Plaza  
319 St Vincent Street  
Glasgow  
G2 5AS

### **Register of Holders**

The register of holders is maintained by SS&C Financial Services Europe Limited (which was until 31 March 2020 known as DST Financial Services Europe Limited).

The register of holders for each of the funds of the Company is kept and can be inspected free of charge at the offices of SS&C Financial Services Europe Limited at SS&C House, St Nicholas Lane, Basildon, Essex, SS15 5FS.

### **The Investment Adviser**

The Investment Adviser to the Company is abrdn Investment Management Limited. Further details can be found on page **46**.

## THE COMPANY

### Introduction

abrdn OEIC II (the “Company”), is an open-ended investment company with variable capital. The Company is incorporated in Scotland with registered number SI 4 and is currently authorised pursuant to Regulation 14 of the Open-Ended Investment Companies Regulations 2001 (the “OEIC Regulations”). The effective date of the authorisation order made by the Financial Services Authority (the predecessor of the FCA) was 22 May 1998.

The Company is constituted as a UCITS scheme for the purposes of the FCA Rules. Its FCA Product Reference Number (“PRN”) is 186564. It has an umbrella structure and currently consists of the following funds:

### Funds currently available for investment:

Name of Fund	PRN
abrdn AAA Bond Fund	636184
abrdn North American Small & Mid-Cap Equity Fund	636200
abrdn Sterling Corporate Bond Fund	722845
abrdn Europe ex UK Smaller Companies Fund	722847
abrdn Europe ex UK Income Equity Fund	636204
abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund	636186
abrdn Emerging Markets Income Equity Fund	636208
abrdn Global Infrastructure Equity Fund	636198
abrdn Global Smaller Companies Fund	636205
abrdn High Yield Bond Fund	636189
abrdn UK Ethical Equity Fund	636191
abrdn UK Government Bond Fund	636190
abrdn UK Smaller Companies Fund	636187

**Funds no longer available for investment as they are in the process of being terminated:**

Name of Fund	PRN
Global Emerging Markets Equity Unconstrained Fund	651251
abrdn Europe ex UK Growth Equity Fund	636193
abrdn UK Growth Equity Fund	636196
abrdn UK High Alpha Equity Fund	636188
abrdn UK High Income Equity Fund	636192
ASI UK Recovery Equity Fund	636203
abrdn Asian Pacific Growth Equity Fund	636197
abrdn Emerging Markets Opportunities Equity Fund	636206
abrdn American Income Equity Fund	750084
abrdn Global Focused Equity Fund	636185
abrdn Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund	636194

Each fund is invested as if it belonged to the “UCITS scheme” type specified in the FCA Rules.

The base currency for the Company is Sterling. The minimum share capital of the Company is £1.00 and the maximum share capital is £50 billion.

The holders of shares in the Company are not liable for the debts of the Company.



## GLOSSARY

Please note not all terms in the Glossary are used in the prospectus.

Term	Definition
abrdn UK Ethical Equity Investment Approach	The abrdn UK Ethical Equity Investment Approach which can be found at Appendix VIII.
Absolute Returns	A fund which targets a specific level of return rather than a return in excess of that of a stock, <i>bond</i> , <i>commercial property</i> or other market.
Active / Actively Managed	An investment management technique where judgement is employed based on analysis to select fund holdings in an attempt to deliver targeted performance.
Approved Bank	As defined in the glossary of definitions in the FCA Rules.
Average	When used in the context of a group of funds with different returns, “ <i>average</i> ” is calculated by adding together all the returns and then dividing by the number of funds.
Benchmark Regulation	Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and the Council of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds as it applies in the UK by virtue of the EUWA.
Bond/s	An investment taking the form of a loan, usually to a company or government, that pays interest. There are many different types of <i>bonds</i> with specific characteristics; examples include inflation-linked, convertible, asset-backed and <i>mortgage-backed</i> .
Cash	Readily available non-invested assets held at a bank or other financial institution.
COLL	The Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook forming part of the FCA Rules.
Commercial Property	Land and buildings such as offices, shopping centres, and warehouses owned on a <i>freehold</i> or <i>leasehold</i> (see <i>freehold</i> / <i>leasehold</i> ) basis and let to tenants in exchange for a rent. Non-traditional assets include nursing homes, student accommodation, caravan parks and multi-let residential developments. Excludes assets such as houses let to individual tenants.
Commodity	A raw material or product that can be traded on various exchanges such as gold, silver or oil.
Comparator/Performance Comparator	An factor against which a fund manager invites investors to compare a fund's performance.

Constraint / Portfolio Constraining Benchmark	A factor that fund managers use to limit or constrain how they construct a fund's portfolio with the intention of limiting risk. A " <i>portfolio constraining benchmark</i> " is an index which is used as a reference point for these factors.
Creditworthiness	An assessment of the ability of a borrower to repay debt. Typically refers to the perceived riskiness of <i>bonds</i> issued by companies or governments.
Currency Exposure	The potential for a fund that invests overseas to lose or gain money purely because of changes in the currency exchange rate.
Depository	Citibank UK Limited.
Derivative	Financial instruments whose value depends in some way on the value of other, more basic, underlying financial assets or indices. They may commonly relate to the value of particular equities or markets more broadly, commodities like oil or grain, but also <i>interest rates</i> , inflation and <i>volatility</i> . There are many types of <i>derivatives</i> , with the most common being <i>swaps</i> , <i>futures</i> and <i>options</i> .
Diversification/Diversified	Holding a variety of investments that typically perform differently from one another with the intention of smoothing the fund's performance profile.
Domiciled	Country where a company has its permanent registered headquarters.
Duration	A measure of sensitivity to the effect of changes in <i>interest rates</i> on the value of <i>bonds</i> . Individual <i>bonds</i> or <i>bond</i> funds with high <i>duration</i> are more sensitive than those with low <i>duration</i> .
EEA	European Economic Area.
EEA State	A State which is a contracting party to the agreement on the EEA signed at Oporto on 2 May 1992, as it has effect for the time being.
Emerging Markets	Countries that are progressing towards becoming advanced, usually shown by some development in financial markets, the existence of some form of stock exchange and a regulatory body.
Enhanced Index/Indexing	A form of portfolio management supported by the use of numerical techniques where funds are typically managed more closely to, and constrained by, a <i>performance comparator</i> , than traditional <i>actively managed</i> funds.
Equity Related Securities	Instruments which share many or most of the characteristics of equities (company shares) such as P-Notes (participatory notes).
ESMA Guidelines on ETFs and other UCITS issues (ESMA/2012/832EN)	Being guidelines published by the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) on 18 December 2012 and applicable to all UCITS funds, and which the FCA expects UK firms to continue to apply to the extent they remain relevant, but interpreted in light of the UK's withdrawal from the European Union.
EUWA	The European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.
Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)	A basket of securities (bonds, company shares, etc.) which trade on an exchange. The constituents of the basket are selected so that the ETF's performance replicates something else, typically an index. ETFs are often used

	to obtain exposure cheaply and because they trade on an exchange, are generally easy to buy and sell.
Exposure	Direct or indirect investment in a particular asset or asset type which may be expressed as a percentage of a fund.
FCA Rules	The FCA's handbook of rules and guidance as amended from time to time.
Fixed Rate	An <i>interest rate</i> that will remain the same throughout the asset lifecycle.
Floating Rate	An <i>interest rate</i> that may change throughout the asset lifecycle often dependent on a pre-set reference point.
Freehold/Leasehold	The owner of the property owns it outright including the land its built on/ The owner holds the property but not the land, on expiry of the lease the ownership returns to the freeholder.
Frontier Markets	Countries that are more established than the least developed countries but still less established than <i>emerging markets</i> .
Futures	<i>Futures</i> are financial contracts obligating the buyer to purchase an asset or the seller to sell an asset, such as a physical <i>commodity</i> or a financial instrument, at a predetermined future date and price.
Infrastructure	Investments in companies (via shares or loans) managing or developing projects aimed at improving a country or region's <i>infrastructure</i> including transportation, water, communication, electric systems etc.
Instrument of Incorporation	The <i>instrument of incorporation</i> on the basis of which the Company is incorporated.
Interest Rates	An <i>interest rate</i> is a percentage charged/earned on the total amount you borrow/save.
Investment Grade / High Yield	Refers to the credit quality of a <i>bond</i> (a loan to a company or government). <i>Investment grade bonds</i> have a higher rating as judged by a <i>rating agency</i> than <i>high yield bonds</i> and are thus judged to be less likely to default on their obligations to repay the loan and the interest on it. To compensate for the higher risk, <i>high yield bonds</i> pay a higher rate of interest than <i>investment grade bonds</i> .
Leverage	An increase in <i>exposure</i> within a fund either through borrowing <i>cash</i> to fund asset purchases or the use of <i>derivatives</i> . In the case of the latter, <i>leverage</i> occurs because the <i>exposure</i> obtained by purchasing <i>derivatives</i> exceeds the <i>cash</i> cost of the <i>derivative</i> itself.
Liquidity	The degree to which an investment can be quickly bought or sold on a market without it materially affecting its price.
Long Positions	A <i>long position</i> refers to the ownership of an asset with the expectation that it will increase in value.

Long Term	Five or more years.
Market Cycle	An assessment by market participants of changes between different market or business environments.
Medium Term	Three to five years.
Money-Market Instruments	Investments usually issued by banks or governments that are a <i>short term</i> loan to the issuer by the buyer. The buyer receives interest and the return of the original amount at the end of a certain period.
Mortgage-Backed Bond	A <i>mortgage-backed bond</i> is a <i>bond</i> secured by a mortgage on one or more assets, typically backed by real estate holdings and real property such as equipment.
Options	<i>Options</i> are similar to <i>futures</i> ; however instead of being obliged to buy/sell something at a pre-determined date, the fund is buying the <i>option</i> to buy/sell something during a period of time or on a specific date.
Passively Managed/Passive Management	An investment management technique where the management team aims to achieve a similar investment return to that of a particular market index. Different indexation methods may be used to achieve this goal. For example, the management team may construct a portfolio which fully replicates the market index. Alternatively they may construct a portfolio which is highly correlated to the market index but does not fully replicate the market index ("sampling"). The choice of technique is a matter of judgement but is determined by the primary objective of replicating the market index return as closely as possible.
Performance Target	Refers to a level of performance which the management team has in mind when managing a particular fund. Usually expressed by reference to an index or as a particular value. Although the management team aims to achieve the <i>Performance Target</i> , there is no certainty that this will be achieved.
Quantitative Techniques	Investment management techniques where the management team use approaches based on numerical analysis to select fund holdings.
Quartile	A term used when a group of products are grouped together and ranked by a particular feature, such as performance, and then split into four groups (four <i>quartiles</i> ). As an example "Top <i>quartile</i> performance" refers to the products within the group ( <i>quartile</i> ) that performed the best.
Rating Agency	A <i>rating agency</i> is a company that assesses the financial strength of companies and government regarding their ability to make interest payments and ultimately repay debts, particularly <i>bonds</i> , they have issued.
Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITS)	Companies usually listed on a stock exchange that own and manage predominantly income-producing <i>commercial</i> or residential <i>property</i> .
Repo /Reverse Repo	An agreement between two parties, one of which is the fund, to sell or buy an asset and later reverse the trade at a pre-agreed date and price.
Risk Target	Refers to a level of risk which the management team has in mind when managing a particular fund. In this context, " <i>risk</i> " refers to the <i>volatility</i> of the fund's share price. May be expressed relative to an index, or as a particular

	value. Although the management team aims to achieve the <i>Risk Target</i> , there is no certainty this will be achieved.
Rolling	Refers to periods of time which are of a consistent length and which continually move (or “roll”) forward as time elapses. So “rolling three year periods” refers to a period of time going back three years from a given date, where the given date moves forward by 1 day every day.
SDR	The FCA’s Policy Statement 23/16 on sustainability disclosure requirements and investment labels.
Sector/Sector Weightings	A grouping of companies or businesses which are categorised for investors as operating in similar industry or market and sharing similar characteristics. “sector <i>weightings</i> ” refers to the proportion of a fund invested in a particular <i>sector</i> or <i>sectors</i> . Additionally, similar funds are typically grouped together by organisations such as the IA as a means of facilitating performance comparisons – these groups are also referred to as “ <i>sectors</i> ”.
Short Position	A <i>short position</i> refers to the practice of selling an asset the fund does not currently own, at the current market price, and buying later, with the anticipation that the price will drop and a profit can be made.
Short Term	Less than three years.
SRRI	<i>Synthetic risk and reward indicator</i> ; as used in Key Investor Information Documents, this is a measure of fund risk represented by a 1 to 7 scale where “1” represents the lowest and “7” the highest risk, based on historic fund price <i>volatility</i> .
Sub-Investment Grade	<i>Sub-investment grade bonds</i> have a lower rating as judged by a <i>rating agency</i> than <i>investment grade bonds</i> and are thus judged to be more likely to default on their obligations to repay the loan and the interest.
Supranational	A <i>supranational bond</i> is one issued by a body which is composed of representatives of more than one nation. Such bodies include, for example, the European Central Bank or the World Bank.
Swaps	A <i>swap</i> is a <i>derivative</i> contract through which two parties exchange the <i>cash</i> flows or liabilities from two different financial instruments.
UCITS Directive	Directive 2009/65/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on the coordination of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS), as amended (including by Directive 2014/91/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014).
UCITS scheme	A UK UCITS.
UK UCITS	An undertaking for collective investment in transferable securities established in the UK within the meaning of section 236A and 237 of the Act.
VIE (variable interest entity)	A structure that enables foreign investors to gain indirect <i>exposure</i> to companies with foreign ownership restrictions.

Volatility	A measure of the size of changes in the value of an investment: Commonly, the higher the <i>volatility</i> , the higher the risk.
Yield	The income from an investment usually stated as a percentage of the value of the investment.

## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

### abrdn AAA Bond Fund

#### Investment Objective

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

*Performance Target:* To achieve a return in excess of the Markit iBoxx Sterling Non Gilts AAA over *rolling* five year periods (after charges). The *Performance Target* is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the *Performance Target*.

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

#### Investment Policy

##### **Portfolio Securities:**

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

##### **Management Process:**

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

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

##### **Derivatives and Techniques:**

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

### **Specific Risks (for more detail see APPENDIX I)**

**All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:**

- i. Credit risk
- ii. *Derivatives* risk
- iii. *Interest rate* risk
- iv. Asset Backed / Mortgage Backed Securities risk

### **Target Market**

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting an income and some growth over the longer term (5 years or more).
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRR* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

## **abrdn North American Small & Mid-Cap Equity Fund**

### **Investment Objective**

To generate growth over the *long term* (5 years or more) by investing in US and Canadian small and mid-capitalisation equities (company shares).

*Performance Target:* To achieve a return in excess of the Russell 2500 Index over *rolling* five year periods (after charges). The *Performance Target* is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the *Performance Target*.

*Performance Comparator:* IA North American Smaller Companies Equity Sector Average

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

### **Investment Policy**

#### **Portfolio Securities:**

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and *equity related securities* of small and mid-capitalisation companies listed, incorporated or *domiciled* in the United States of America (US) and Canada or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from US or Canadian operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- For all investments, small and mid-capitalisation companies are defined as any stock having a market capitalisation less than the 20<sup>th</sup> percentile stock of the Russell 3000 Index (which is used as a representation of the overall US market).
- The fund may also invest in larger capitalisation companies listed, incorporated, or *domiciled* in the US and Canada.
- Investment in companies listed, incorporated or *domiciled* in or having a significant proportion of their assets in Canada or deriving a significant proportion of their revenue or profits from Canadian operations is not expected to exceed 20% of the fund's assets.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by abrdn) and *money-market instruments*, and *cash*.

#### **Management Process:**



- The management team use their discretion (*active management*) to maintain a diverse asset mix at *sector* and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. The research process is focused on finding high quality companies that can be held for the long term through the assessment of their business model, the industry they operate in, their financial strength and the capability of their management team.
- In seeking to achieve the *Performance Target*, the Russell 2500 Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk *constraints*. The expected variation (“tracking error”) between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 10%. Due to the active nature of the management process, the fund’s performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the index.
- Please note: The fund’s ability to buy and sell small and mid-capitalisation shares and the associated costs can be affected during periods of market stress. In certain circumstances investors in the fund may not be able to sell their investment when they want to.

#### **Derivatives and Techniques:**

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

#### **Specific Risks (for more detail see APPENDIX I)**

**All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:**

- i. Equity risk
- ii. Small and mid-cap stock risk
- iii. Concentration risk
- iv. *Derivative* risk

#### **Target Market**

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting a return (growth) over the longer term (5 years or more).
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRR* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

#### **abrdn Sterling Corporate Bond Fund**

##### **Investment Objective**

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

*Performance Target:* To be top *quartile* within the fund’s peer group, defined as the Investment Association Sterling Corporate Bond Sector, over *rolling* five year periods (after charges). The *Performance Target* is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the *Performance Target*.

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

## **Investment Policy**

### **Portfolio Securities:**

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

### **Management Process:**

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

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

### **Derivatives and Techniques:**

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

### **Specific Risks (for more detail see Appendix I)**

**All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:**

- i. Credit risk
- ii. *Interest rate* risk
- iii. *High yield* Credit risk
- iv. Asset Backed / Mortgage Backed Securities risk
- v. Convertible Securities and CoCos risk
- vi. *Derivative* risk

### **Target Market**

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting an income and growth over the longer term (5 years or more).
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRR* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

## **abrdn Europe ex UK Smaller Companies Fund**

### **Investment Objective**

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

*Performance Target:* To achieve a return in excess of the MSCI Europe ex UK Small Cap Index over *rolling* five year periods (after charges). The *Performance Target* is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the *Performance Target*.

*Performance Comparator:* IA European Smaller Companies Equity Sector Average

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

### **Investment Policy**

#### **Portfolio Securities:**

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

#### **Management Process:**

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

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

#### **Derivatives and Techniques:**

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

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

### **Specific Risks (for more detail see Appendix I)**

**All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:**

- i. Equity risk
- ii. Small and mid-cap stock risk
- iii. *Derivative* risk

### **Target Market**

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting a return (growth) over the longer term (5 years or more).
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRR* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

### **abrdn Europe ex UK Income Equity Fund**

#### **Investment Objective**

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

*Performance Target:* To deliver a yield greater than that of the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index over a *rolling* five year period (before charges) and achieve a return in excess of the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index over a *rolling* five year period (before charges). The *Performance Target* is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the *Performance Target*.

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

#### **Investment Policy**

##### **Portfolio Securities:**

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

##### **Management Process:**

- The management team use their discretion (*active management*) to maintain a diverse asset mix at country, *sector* and stock level.

- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. Given the fund's income objective, the management team place particular emphasis on understanding business fundamentals and dynamics and the impact this has on *cash* flow generation and the company's ability to allocate *cash* effectively.

- In seeking to achieve the *Performance Target*, the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk *constraints*. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 9%. Due to the income nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index.

#### **Derivatives and Techniques:**

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

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

#### **Specific Risks (for more detail see Appendix I)**

**All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:**

- i. Equity risk
- ii. *Derivative* risk

#### **Target Market**

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting an income and some growth over the longer term (5 years or more).
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRR* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

#### **abrdrn Global Balanced Growth Fund**

##### **Investment Objective**

To generate growth over the *long term* (5 years or more) by investing in a *diversified* portfolio of assets. Invested capital is however at risk and there is no guarantee that this will be attained over any time period.

*Performance Comparator: IA Mixed Investment 40%-85% Shares sector average.*

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

##### **Investment Policy**

##### **Portfolio Securities:**

- The fund will invest at least 70% in global equities, corporate *investment grade bonds* and government *bonds* issued anywhere in the world (including in *emerging markets*) either directly or indirectly.
- The fund will invest in assets that are both *actively* and *passively managed*.
- The fund may hold other securities (e.g. investment trusts, *sub-investment grade (high yield) bonds*, *supranational* and other types of *bonds*, *commodities* and listed real estate) issued anywhere in the world (including in *emerging markets*) either directly or indirectly.
- The fund may invest up to 85% of its assets in global equities.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by abrdrn) and *money-market instruments*, and *cash*.

### **Management Process:**

- The management team use their discretion (*active management*) to select individual holdings depending on their growth prospects and/or *creditworthiness* relative to market expectations, given future economic and business conditions.
- The investment approach considers the macroeconomic climate along with using analysis of economic data and price trends to inform portfolio construction.
- The fund will maintain a stable core allocation to equities and *bonds*, combined with more dynamic allocations to a diversified range of asset types, including *commodities* and currencies, based on opportunities identified by the management team.
- The fund will be subject to *constraints* which are intended to manage risk captured within the portfolio securities. The *constraints* may vary over time, and due to the active nature of the management process the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the *average* fund of the IA's Mixed Investment 40%-85% Shares *sector average*.

### **Derivatives and Techniques:**

- The fund will make routine use of *derivatives* to reduce risk, reduce cost and/or generate additional income or growth consistent with the risk profile of the fund (often referred to as "Efficient Portfolio Management").
- *Derivatives* include instruments used to express *short term* views reflecting expected changes in *interest rates*, companies share prices, inflation, currencies or *creditworthiness* of corporations or governments.
- The fund may also invest in other funds which may use *derivatives* extensively although these investments shall be in line with fund's overall risk profile.

### **Specific Risks (for more detail see Appendix I)**

**All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:**

- i. Equity risk
- ii. *Emerging market* risk
- iii. Credit risk
- iv. *Interest rate* risk
- v. *High yield* risk
- vi. *Derivative* risk

### **Target Market**

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting a return (growth) over the longer term (5 years or more).
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRRI* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

### **abrdn Emerging Markets Income Equity Fund**

#### **Investment Objective**

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

**Performance Target:** To deliver a yield greater than that of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index over a *rolling* five year period (before charges) and achieve a return in excess of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index over a *rolling* five year period (before charges).

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

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

## **Investment Policy**

### **Portfolio Securities:**

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

### **Management Process:**

- The management team use their discretion (*active management*) to maintain a diverse asset mix at country, *sector* and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. Given the fund's income objective, the management team place particular emphasis on understanding business fundamentals and dynamics and the impact this has on *cash* flow generation and the company's ability to allocate *cash* effectively.
- In seeking to achieve the **Performance Target**, the MSCI Emerging Markets Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk *constraints*. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 9%. Due to the income nature of the management process, the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index.

### **Derivatives and Techniques:**

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

### **Specific Risks (for more detail see Appendix I)**

**All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:**

- i. Equity risk
- ii. *Emerging markets* risk
- iii. *VIE* risk
- iv. China A/Stock Connect risk
- v. *Derivative* risk

## Target Market

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting an income and some growth over the longer term (5 years or more).
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRR* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

## abrdn Global Infrastructure Equity Fund

### Investment Objective

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

*Performance Target:* To achieve a return in excess of the S&P Global Infrastructure Net Total Return Index over a *rolling* five year period (after charges). The *Performance Target* is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the *Performance Target*.

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

### Investment Policy

#### **Portfolio Securities:**

- The fund will invest at least 80% in equities and *equity related securities* of companies listed on global stock exchanges in *infrastructure* related sectors or listed companies that have a significant proportion of *infrastructure* assets or derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from *infrastructure* assets.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by abrdn), *money-market instruments*, and *cash*.

#### **Management Process:**

- The management team use their discretion (*active management*) to maintain a diverse asset mix of *infrastructure* assets at country, *sector* and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual holdings. The research process is focused on finding high quality companies at attractive valuations that can be held for the long term.
- In seeking to achieve the *Performance Target*, the S&P Global Infrastructure Net Total Return Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk *constraints*. The expected variation (“tracking error”) between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 9%. Due to the active nature of the management process, the fund’s performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the index.

#### **Derivatives and Techniques:**

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

#### **Specific Risks (for more detail see Appendix I)**

**All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:**

- i. Equity risk
- ii. Concentration risk



- iii. *Emerging markets* risk
- iv. *VIE* risk
- v. China A/Stock Connect risk
- vi. *Derivative* risk

### **Target Market**

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting an income and some growth over the longer term (5 years or more).
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRR* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

## **abrdn Global Smaller Companies Fund**

### **Investment Objective**

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

*Performance Target:* To achieve a return in excess of the MSCI AC World Small Cap Index over *rolling* five year periods (after charges). The *Performance Target* is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the *Performance Target*.

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

### **Investment Policy**

#### **Portfolio Securities:**

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

#### **Management Process:**

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

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

#### **Derivatives and Techniques:**

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

#### **Specific Risks (for more detail see Appendix I)**

**All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:**

- i. Equity risk
- ii. Small and mid-cap stock risk
- iii. *Emerging markets* risk
- iv. *VIE* risk
- v. *China A / Stock Connect* risk
- vi. *Derivative* risk

#### **Target Market**

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting a return (growth) over the longer term (5 years or more).
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRRI* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

### **abrdn High Yield Bond Fund**

#### **Investment Objective**

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

*Performance Target:* To achieve the return of the ICE BofA GBP/Euro Fixed & Floating High Yield Non Financial 3% Constrained Index (Hedged to GBP) plus 0.8% per annum over *rolling* three year periods (before charges). The *Performance Target* is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the *Performance Target*.

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

#### **Investment Policy**

##### **Portfolio Securities:**

- The fund will invest at least 70% in Sterling and Euro denominated *sub-investment grade* corporate *bonds*
- The fund may also invest in *bonds* issued anywhere in the world by governments and corporations, including sub-sovereigns and the following types: *investment grade*, inflation-linked, convertible, *asset backed* and *mortgage backed*.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by abrdn) and *money-market instruments*, and *cash*.

### Management Process:

- The management team use their discretion (*active management*) to identify *bonds* and *derivatives* based on analysis of global economic and market conditions (for example, *interest rates* and inflation) and analysis of a company's prospects and *creditworthiness* compared to that of the market.

- In seeking to achieve the *Performance Target*, ICE BofA GBP/Euro Fixed & Floating High Yield Non Financial 3% Constrained Index (Hedged to GBP) is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk *constraints*. The expected variation ("tracking error") between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 2.5%. Due to the fund's risk *constraints*, the intention is that the fund's performance profile will not deviate significantly from that of the ICE BofA GBP/Euro Fixed & Floating High Yield Non Financial 3% Constrained Index (Hedged to GBP) over the longer term.

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

### Derivatives and Techniques:

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

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

### Specific Risks (for more detail see Appendix I)

All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:

- i. *Interest rate* risk
- ii. *High yield* Credit risk
- iii. Asset Backed/ Mortgage Backed Securities risk
- iv. Convertible Securities and CoCos risk
- v. *Derivatives* risk

### Target Market

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting an income and some growth over the longer term (5 years or more).
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRRI* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

## **abrdn UK Ethical Equity Fund**

Sustainable investment labels help investors find products that have a specific sustainability goal. The fund does not have a UK sustainable investment label under *SDR*. This is because the fund has a financial objective to deliver growth over the long-term. While the fund itself does not have material sustainability characteristics or a sustainability objective, it does consider sustainability characteristics of companies as part of its investment policy.

### **Investment Objective**

To generate growth over the *long term* (5 years or more) by investing in UK equities (company shares) which adhere to the *abrdn UK Ethical Equity Investment Approach*.

*Performance Target:* To achieve a return in excess of the FTSE All-Share Index over *rolling* five year periods (after charges). The *Performance Target* is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the *Performance Target*. Due to the ethical nature of the management process, there are a material number of stocks and sectors in the FTSE All-Share Index that the fund is unable to invest, which means the fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the FTSE All-Share Index.

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

### **Investment Policy**

#### **Portfolio Securities:**

- The fund will invest at least 70% in equities and *equity related securities* of companies listed, incorporated, or *domiciled* in the UK or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from UK operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- The fund may invest up to 20% in non-UK listed companies.
- All investments will adhere to the *abrdn UK Ethical Equity Investment Approach* set out in Appendix VIII.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by abrdn), *money-market instruments*, and *cash*.
- The fund applies a set of company exclusions which are related but not limited to fossil fuels, animal testing, weaponry, pornography, gambling, tobacco and alcohol.
- In addition, the investment team carries out qualitative and quantitative assessment of companies' ESG characteristics.
- The qualitative assessment utilises abrdn's equity investment process, where companies invested in are given an overall quality rating, a component of which is the ESG Quality Rating which enables the management teams to qualitatively identify ESG leaders and avoid ESG laggards. ESG leaders are viewed as companies with the best-in-class ESG credentials or products and services which address global environmental and societal challenges, whilst ESG laggards are typically companies with financially material controversies, severe governance concerns, and/or poor treatment of minority shareholders.
- The quantitative assessment utilises the abrdn ESG House Score to evaluate how companies manage their ESG risks and assigns a score accordingly. The global universe of scored companies is then sorted and split into 7 equal groupings, with at least 70% of the fund invested in companies in the top two groups.

#### **Management Process:**

- The fund management team use their discretion (*active management*) to maintain a diverse asset mix at *sector* and stock level.
- Their primary focus is on stock selection using research techniques to select individual companies where the management team have a different view than that of the market, and which align with their views regarding future economic and business conditions.
- Engagement with external company management teams is used to evaluate the ownership structures, governance and management quality of those companies in order to inform portfolio construction.

- The *abrdn UK Ethical Equity Investment Approach* criteria reduces the benchmark investable universe by a minimum of 20%.
- In seeking to achieve the *Performance Target*, the FTSE All-Share Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk *constraints*. The expected variation (“tracking error”) between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 12%. Due to the ethical nature of the management process, there are a material number of stocks and sectors in the FTSE All-Share Index that the fund is unable to invest, which means the fund’s performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the FTSE All-Share Index.

#### **Derivatives and techniques:**

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

#### **Specific Risks (for more detail see Appendix I)**

**All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:**

- Equity risk
- Concentration risk
- ESG investment risk
- Derivative* risk

#### **Target Market**

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting a return (growth) over the longer term (5 years or more).
- Investors with a specific need around ethical criteria.
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRR* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

### **abrdn UK Government Bond Fund**

#### **Investment Objective**

To generate income and some growth over the *long term* (5 years or more) by investing in UK Government *bonds*.

*Performance Target:* To achieve a return in excess of the FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks Index over *rolling* five year periods (after charges). The *Performance Target* is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the *Performance Target*.

*Performance Comparator:* IA UK Gilt Sector Average.

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

#### **Investment Policy**

##### **Portfolio Securities:**

- The fund will invest at least 80% in government *bonds* issued or guaranteed by the UK Government.

- The fund may also invest in *investment grade bonds* issued anywhere in the world by governments, sub-sovereigns and corporations including inflation-linked *bonds*. The fund will employ techniques to reduce (hedge) risk related to currency movements on non-Sterling *bonds*.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by abrdn) and *money-market instruments*, and *cash*.

#### **Management Process:**

- The management team use their discretion (*active management*) to identify investments after analysing global economic and market conditions (for example, *interest rates* and inflation) in addition to analysing of individual *bonds* and *derivatives*.
- In seeking to achieve the *Performance Target*, the FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks Index is used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk *constraints*. The expected variation (“tracking error”) between the returns of the fund and the index is not ordinarily expected to exceed 1.5%. Due to the fund’s risk *constraints*, the fund’s performance profile is not expected to deviate significantly from that of the FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks Index over the long term.

#### **Derivatives and Techniques:**

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

#### **Specific Risks (for more detail see Appendix I)**

**All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:**

- Credit risk
- Interest rate* risk
- Derivative* risk

#### **Target Market**

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting an income and some growth over the longer term (5 years or more).
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRRI* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

#### **abrdn UK Smaller Companies Fund**

##### **Investment Objective**

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

*Performance Target:* To achieve a return in excess of the Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies Plus AIM ex Investment Companies Index over *rolling* five year periods (after charges). The *Performance Target* is the level of performance that the management team hopes to achieve for the fund. There is however no certainty or promise that they will achieve the *Performance Target*.

*Performance Comparator: IA UK Smaller Companies Equity Sector Average.*

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

## **Investment Policy**

### **Portfolio Securities:**

- The fund will invest at least 60% in small-capitalisation equities and *equity related securities* of companies listed, incorporated, or *domiciled* in the UK or companies that derive a significant proportion of their revenues or profits from UK operations or have a significant proportion of their assets there.
- Small capitalisation companies are defined as any stock having a market cap less than the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile stock of the overall UK equity market.
- The fund may also invest up to 40% in mid and larger capitalisation companies listed, incorporated or *domiciled* in the UK.
- The fund may also invest in other funds (including those managed by abrdn) and *money-market instruments, and cash*.

### **Management Process:**

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

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

### **Derivatives and Techniques:**

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

### **Specific Risks (for more detail see Appendix I)**

**All general investment risks apply however for this fund investors should specifically be aware of the following:**

- i. Equity risk
- ii. Small and mid-cap stock risk
- iii. Concentration risk
- iv. *Derivative* risk

## Target Market

- Investors with basic investment knowledge.
- Investors who can accept large *short term* losses.
- Investors wanting a return (growth) over the longer term (5 years or more).
- The fund has specific and generic risks with a risk rating as per the *SRR/* number, all detailed on the Key Investor Information Document.
- For general sale to retail and professional investors through all distribution channels with or without professional advice.

## Historical Performance of the Funds

The following table shows the percentage growth of the funds and the historical performance data of the funds over the periods stated below.

Fund Name	Performance Category Name	Label	31/12/2023	31/12/2022	31/12/2021	31/12/2020	31/12/2019
				(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
abrdn Asian Pacific Growth Equity Fund (1)	Fund	Fund	-	-8.9	-1.6	23.8	19.1
	Performance Comparator	IA Asia Pacific ex Japan Equity Sector Average	-	-6.8	1.5	19.9	15.9
	Performance Target	MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan +3.00%		-3.8	1.2	22.0	17.9
abrdn Sterling Corporate Bond Fund (2)	Fund	Fund	10.6	-20.0	-1.3	8.6	11.5
	Performance Target	Investment Association Sterling Corporate Bond Sector from 2 June 2025  IA Sterling Corporate Bond Sector Average until 2 June 2025	9.3	-16.3	-2.0	7.9	9.5
	Portfolio Constraining Benchmark	Markit iBoxx Sterling Collateralized & Corporates Index	9.7	-19.3	-3.0	8.6	10.6
abrdn Emerging Markets Opportunities Equity Fund (3)	Fund	Fund	-	-12.7	-2.1	14.3	20.3
	Performance Comparator	IA Global Emerging Markets Equity Sector Average	-	-12.3	-0.1	13.6	15.8
	Performance Target	MSCI Emerging Markets +3.00%		-6.6	1.7	18.0	17.3
abrdn AAA Bond Fund (4)	Fund	Fund	5.6	-11.7	-3.6	4.8	4.5
	Performance Target	Markit iBoxx Sterling NonGilts AAA +0.65%	6.2	-10.8	-2.7	5.7	5.4



abrdn American Income Equity Fund (5)	Fund	Fund	10.3	-1.0	27.8	9.4	26.5
	Performance Target	S&P 500 Index from 09/08/2021. S&P 500 +2.00% from 15/06/2016 to 08/08/2021	19.2	-7.8	31.2	16.7	28.4
abrdn North American Small & Mid-Cap Equity Fund (6)	Fund	Fund	2.1	-10.5	26.0	11.7	27.5
	Performance Comparator	IA North American Smaller Companies Equity Sector Average from 2 June 2025  IA North America Equity Sector Average until 22 May 2023	-	-	25.3	16.5	24.6
	Performance Target	Russell 2500 Index +3.00% from 22/05/2023. S&P 500 +3.00% from 16/11/1998 to 21/05/2023	22.7	-4.8	32.9	17.7	29.4
abrdn Emerging Markets Income Equity Fund	Fund	Fund	8.5	-10.6	1.6	12.4	22.3
	Performance Target	MSCI Emerging Markets Index from 09/08/2021. MSCI Emerging Markets +2.00% from 13/12/2012 to 08/08/2021	4.0	-9.6	-0.1	17.0	16.3
abrdn Europe ex UK Growth Equity Fund (7)	Fund	Fund	-	-11.5	13.4	15.1	19.9
	Performance Comparator	IA Europe ex UK Equity Sector Average	-	-8.9	15.6	10.5	20.4
	Performance Target	FTSE World Europe ex UK +3.00%	-	-4.0	20.4	11.6	23.4
abrdn Europe ex UK Income Equity Fund	Fund	Fund	12.4	-1.3	16.3	8.2	19.7
	Performance Target	FTSE World Europe ex UK Index from 09/08/2021. FTSE World Europe ex UK +2.00% from 03/04/2009 to 08/08/2021	15.7	-7.0	18.6	10.6	22.4
abrdn Europe ex UK Smaller Companies Fund (8)	Fund	Fund	6.2	-26.0	26.9	23.8	22.4
	Performance Comparator	IA European Smaller Companies Equity Sector Average from 2 June 2025	-	-	-	-	-
	Performance Target	MSCI Europe ex UK Small Cap Index +3.00% from 31/07/2023.	13.9	-14.1	18.4	21.9	23.6

		EMIX Smaller European Companies ex UK +3.00% from 01/11/2007 to 30/07/2023					
abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund (9)	Fund	Fund	6.7	-11.0	8.0	9.0	17.2
	Performance Comparator	IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares Sector Average	8.1	-	-	-	-
abrdn Global Focused Equity Fund (10)	Fund	Fund	14.7	-7.3	3.6	10.7	27.3
	Performance Comparator	IA Global Equity Sector Average	12.7	-11.3	17.6	14.8	22.0
	Performance Target	MSCI AC World Index +3.00%	18.9	-4.6	23.1	16.2	25.4
abrdn Global Infrastructure Equity Fund (11)	Fund	Fund	6.2	-1.1	16.6	5.7	19.4
	Performance Comparator	IA Global Equity Income Sector Average	-	-1.1	18.9	3.4	18.9
	Performance Target	S&P Global Infrastructure Index (Net TR) from 06/09/2023. MSCI AC World from 09/08/2021 to 05/09/2023. MSCI AC World +2.00% from 01/05/1986 to 08/08/2021	8.9	-13.8	20.0	15.2	24.4
abrdn Global Smaller Companies Fund (12)	Fund	Fund	6.9	-31.5	19.5	32.7	18.3
	Performance Comparator	IA Global Equity Sector Average until 2 June 2025	12.7	-11.3	17.6	14.8	22.0
	Performance Target	MSCI AC World SmallCap Index +3.00%	13.8	-5.0	20.6	16.2	23.4
abrdn High Yield Bond Fund	Fund	Fund	13.1	-9.7	4.3	4.8	9.5
	Performance Target	ICE BofA GBP/Euro Fixed & Floating High Yield Non Financial 3% Constrained Index (Hedged to GBP) +0.80%	14.7	-9.4	4.8	3.8	12.5
abrdn Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund (13)	Fund	Fund	10.1	-19.8	-2.5	8.2	10.3
	Performance Target	Markit iBoxx Sterling Collateralized & Corporates Index +0.80%	10.5	-18.5	-2.2	9.4	11.4
abrdn UK Ethical Equity Fund (14)	Fund	Fund	10.8	-21.6	15.1	-8.4	33.0
	Performance Target	FTSE All Share Index +2.00%	9.9	2.3	20.3	-7.8	21.2
	Fund	Fund	3.7	-24.1	-6.0	9.0	6.6

abrdn UK Government Bond Fund (15)	Performance Comparator	IA UK Gilts Sector Average	3.6	-24.3	-5.3	9.0	7.2
	Performance Target	FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks Index +0.50%	4.2	-23.3	-4.7	8.8	7.4
abrdn UK Growth Equity Fund (16)	Fund	Fund	-	0.3	10.8	-9.9	16.7
	Performance Comparator	IA UK All Companies Equity Sector Average		-9.2	17.1	-6.2	22.4
	Performance Target	FTSE All Share +3.00%		3.3	21.3	-6.8	22.2
abrdn UK High Alpha Equity Fund (17)	Fund	Fund	-	0.2	10.5	-10.2	15.7
	Performance Comparator	IA UK All Companies Equity Sector Average	-	-9.2	17.1	-6.2	22.4
	Performance Target	FTSE 350 +4.00%	-	4.8	22.2	-6.3	23.2
abrdn UK High Income Equity Fund (18)	Fund	Fund	-	6.9	16.5	-13.8	14.0
	Performance Comparator	IA UK All Companies Equity Sector Average	-	-9.2	17.1	-6.2	22.4
	Performance Target	FTSE 350 from 09/08/2021. IA UK Equity Income Sector Average from 01/05/1986 to 08/08/2021	-	0.8	18.1	-10.9	20.0
	Portfolio Constraining Benchmark	FTSE 350	-	0.8	18.2	-10.3	19.2
ASI UK Recovery Equity Fund (19)	Fund	Fund	-	-	-	-	-9.7
	Performance Comparator	A UK All Companies Equity Sector Average	-	-	-	-	22.4
	Performance Target	FTSE All-Share (GBP) +4.00%	-	-	-	-	23.2
abrdn UK Smaller Companies Fund (20)	Fund	Fund	-1.6	-34.9	25.0	4.1	46.4
	Performance Comparator	IA UK Smaller Companies Equity Sector Average	0.4	-25.6	20.6	7.0	25.4
	Performance Target	Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies Plus AIM ex Investment Companies Index +3.00% from 01/04/2018. Numis Smaller Companies ex Investment Trusts +3.00% from 06/01/1997 to 31/03/2018	6.2	-18.9	23.0	7.9	25.2

- (1) This fund was closed on 12 May 2023 and is no longer available for investment.
- (2) As of 2 June 2025, there has been a change to the performance target from “to exceed the IA Sterling Corporate bond Sector Average return (after charges) over 1 year and be top quartile over rolling three year periods” to “to be top quartile within the fund’s peer group, defined as the Investment Association Sterling Corporate Bond Sector, over rolling five-year periods (after charges)” and as a result, the above performance target figures no longer apply.
- (3) This fund was closed on 12 May 2023 and is no longer available for investment.
- (4) As of 2 June 2025, there has been a change to the performance target from “to achieve the return of the Markit iBoxx Sterling Non Gilts AAA plus 0.65% per annum over rolling three year periods (before charges)” to “to achieve a return in excess of the Markit iBoxx Sterling Non Gilts AAA over rolling five year periods (after charges)” and as a result, the above performance target figures no longer apply.
- (5) This fund was closed on 14 May 2024 and is no longer available for investment.
- (6) As of 22 May 2023, the fund no longer had a performance comparator. As of 2 June 2025 the fund has a performance comparator. As of 2 June 2025, there has been a change to the performance target from “to achieve the return of the Russell 2500 Index plus 3% per annum over rolling five year periods (before charges)” to “to achieve a return in excess of the Russell 2500 Index over rolling five year periods (after charges)” and as a result, the above performance target figures no longer apply.
- (7) This fund was closed on 3 March 2023 and is no longer available for investment.
- (8) As of 2 June 2025, there has been a change to the performance target from “to achieve the return of the MSCI Europe ex UK Small Cap Index, plus 3% per annum over rolling five year periods (before charges)” to “to achieve a return in excess of the MSCI Europe ex UK Small Cap Index over rolling five year periods (after charges)” and as a result, the above performance target figures no longer apply. As of 2 June 2025 the fund has a performance comparator.
- (9) As of 22 May 2023, the fund has a performance comparator. As of 1 July 2025, the fund no longer has a performance target.
- (10) This fund was closed on 27 September 2024 and is no longer available for investment.
- (11) As of 6 September 2023, the fund no longer has a performance comparator.
- (12) As of 2 June 2025, there has been a change to the performance target from “to achieve the return of the MSCI AC World Small Cap Index, plus 3% per annum (before charges)” to “to achieve a return in excess of the MSCI AC World Small Cap Index over rolling five year periods (after charges)” and as a result, the above performance target figures no longer apply. As of 2 June 2025 the fund no longer has a performance comparator.
- (13) This fund was closed on 27 September 2024 and is no longer available for investment.
- (14) As of 2 December 2024, there has been a change to the performance target from FTSE All-Share Index plus 2% (before charges) to in excess of the FTSE All-Share Index (after charges). As a result, the above performance target figures no longer apply.
- (15) As of 2 June 2025, there has been a change to the performance target from “to achieve the return of the FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks Index plus 0.5% per annum (before charges)” to “to achieve a return in excess of the FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks Index over rolling five year periods (after charges)” and as a result, the above performance target figures no longer apply.
- (16) This fund was closed on 3 March 2023 and is no longer available for investment.
- (17) This fund was closed on 3 March 2023 and is no longer available for investment.
- (18) This fund was closed on 27 October 2023 and is no longer available for investment.
- (19) This fund was closed on 22 October 2020 and is no longer available for investment.
- (20) As of 2 June 2025, there has been a change to the performance target from “to achieve the return of the Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies Plus AIM ex Investment Companies Index plus 3% per annum (before charges)” to “to achieve a return in excess of the Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies Plus AIM ex Investment Companies Index over rolling five year periods (after charges)” and as a result, the above performance target figures no longer apply.

Source: abrdn, Factset, Morningstar

Basis: NAV to NAV, the above figures are based on Institutional Acc, Platform 1 Acc and Platform 1 Inc, All are GBP.

The above performance figures are based on NAV to NAV prices. These performance figures are presented as a matter of historical record. Performance is determined by many factors, not just the skill of the ACD and the Investment Manager, including the general direction and *volatility* of markets and may not be repeatable. Past performance is not a guide to future rates of return. The latest performance figures may be obtained from the ACD and at [www.abrdn.com](http://www.abrdn.com). Performance information is shown for a period of five years. Where no performance data is shown, performance data does not exist for the relevant periods.

## **Investment Powers and Restrictions**

Details of the investment powers and restrictions in respect of the Company are set out in Appendix I.

It is not at present intended that the Company will have an interest in any immovable property (e.g. its office premises) or tangible moveable property (e.g. office equipment).

## **Derivatives**

Details of whether the Company may enter into Derivatives transactions in respect of each fund (and, if so, for what purpose) are set out under "Other Information" regarding the relevant fund and in Appendix I.

## **Eligible Markets**

The ACD may deal through any market in the UK or an EEA State which is regulated, operates regularly and is open to the public. In addition, the ACD may deal through any other eligible market being a market which the ACD, after consultation with and notification to the Depositary, has decided to choose as one which is appropriate for the purpose of investment of or dealing in the property of a fund. Any such market must operate regularly, be regulated, recognised, be open to the public, be adequately liquid and have adequate arrangements for unimpeded transmission of income and capital to or to the order of investors. A list of the eligible markets applicable to each fund is set out in Appendix II. An eligible market may be added to this list in accordance with the FCA Rules.

## **INDIVIDUAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS**

In accordance with the Individual Savings Account Regulations 1998 (as amended) shares in all the funds of the Company are eligible for investment through an ISA and these funds will be managed to satisfy the requirements laid down in these regulations in order to be eligible, for as long as these apply. The ISA Manager is abrdn Fund Managers Limited and all ISA applications should be made through abrdn Fund Managers Limited.

ISAs have certain tax advantages - they will not be subject to income or capital gains tax.

## **INCOME ALLOCATION**

The Company's annual accounting period ends on 28 February in each year (29 February in a leap year) with a half-yearly accounting period ending on 31 August. Notwithstanding those dates, subject to the FCA Rules the ACD may, notify the Depositary, that a particular accounting period shall end on a day which is not more than seven days after or before the day on which the period would otherwise end. References to the above dates and the dates of the income allocation periods and of publication of the annual and half yearly reports of the funds and the Company should be read accordingly.

The following table sets out the income allocation periods and income allocation dates for each fund. Income allocation dates are the dates, in each year, on or before which payment or accumulation of income (if any) is to be made or take place. The table identifies any interim accounting periods and interim income allocation dates.

<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Income Allocation Periods</b>	<b>Income Allocation Dates</b>
abrdn AAA Bond Fund	1 March – 31 May 1 June – 31 August 1 September – 30 November 1 December – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 July 31 October 31 January 30 April
abrdn American Income Equity Fund*	1 March – 31 May 1 June – 31 August 1 September – 30 November 1 December – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 July 31 October 31 January 30 April
abrdn North American Small & Mid-Cap Equity Fund	1 March – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	30 April
abrdn Asian Pacific Growth Equity Fund*	1 March – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	30 April
abrdn Sterling Corporate Bond Fund	1 March – 31 May 1 June – 31 August 1 September – 30 November 1 December – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 July 31 October 31 January 30 April
abrdn Europe ex UK Smaller Companies Fund	1 March – 31 August 1 September – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 October 30 April
abrdn Europe ex UK Growth Equity Fund*	1 March – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	30 April
abrdn Europe ex UK Income Equity Fund	1 March – 31 May 1 June – 31 August 1 September – 30 November 1 December – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 July 31 October 31 January 30 April
abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund	1 March – 31 August 1 September – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 October 30 April
abrdn Emerging Markets Opportunities Equity Fund*	1 March – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	30 April

abrdn Emerging Markets Income Equity Fund	1 March – 31 May 1 June – 31 August 1 September – 30 November 1 December – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 July 31 October 31 January 30 April
Global Emerging Markets Equity Unconstrained Fund*	1 March – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	30 April
abrdn Global Focused Equity Fund*	1 March – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	30 April
abrdn Global Infrastructure Equity Fund	1 March – 31 May 1 June – 31 August 1 September – 30 November 1 December – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 July 31 October 31 January 30 April
abrdn Global Smaller Companies Fund	1 March – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	30 April
abrdn High Yield Bond Fund	1 March – 31 May 1 June – 31 August 1 September – 30 November 1 December – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 July 31 October 31 January 30 April
abrdn Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund*	1 March – 31 May 1 June – 31 August 1 September – 30 November 1 December – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 July 31 October 31 January 30 April
abrdn UK Growth Equity Fund*	1 March – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	30 April
abrdn UK High Alpha Equity Fund*	1 March – 31 May 1 June – 31 August 1 September – 30 November 1 December – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 July 31 October 31 January 30 April
abrdn UK High Income Equity Fund*	1 March – 31 August 1 September – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 October 30 April
ASI UK Recovery Equity Fund *	1 March – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	30 April
abrdn UK Ethical Equity Fund	1 March – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	30 April

abrdn UK Government Bond Fund	1 March – 31 August  1 September – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	31 October  30 April
abrdn UK Smaller Companies Fund	1 March – 28 February (29 February in a leap year)	30 April

\* Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.

The Company is not required to distribute income allocated to any shares where the ACD or Depositary consider it necessary or appropriate to carry out or complete identification procedures in relation to the holder or another person pursuant to a statutory or regulatory obligation. Any distribution may be paid by bank transfer ("BACS") where sufficient bank details have been provided by the holder or otherwise by cheque.

Allocation of income to holders of accumulation shares will be transferred to the capital property of each fund on the first business day following the end of the income allocation period and will be reflected in the value of shares. Distribution of income (if any) to holders of income shares will be made on or before the income allocation dates shown in the above table.

#### Determination of Distributable Income

All of the net income available for distribution or accumulation at the end of both the interim (where applicable) and final income allocation periods will be distributed to or accumulated for shareholders.

The income available for distribution or accumulation in relation to a fund is determined in accordance with the FCA Rules. Broadly it comprises all sums deemed by the Company, after consultation with the auditors, to be in the nature of income received or receivable for the account of the Company and attributable to the fund in respect of the accounting period concerned, after deducting net charges and expenses paid or payable out of such income and after making such adjustments as the ACD considers appropriate, after consulting the auditors in accordance with the FCA Rules, in relation to taxation and other matters.

Income relating to a fund is allocated among classes of shares linked to the fund in proportion to the value of each class relative to the value of the entire fund on the preceding business day. For details about proportionate interests, see Appendix V.

#### Unclaimed Distributions

Any distribution payments (payable to holders of income shares) which have not been claimed for a period of six years from the date the distribution became due for payment shall be forfeited and shall revert to relevant fund, or if the fund has been wound up, shall be paid into court in accordance with the OEIC Regulations.

#### Taxation

For information on how investments in the funds will be taxed, please refer to Appendix IV.

#### Income Equalisation

The Company's policy on income equalisation is that equalisation accounting will be applied in respect of all of the funds. For details on the effect of income equalisation and the relevant periods, please refer to Appendix IV.

## SHARES

Shares are priced in Pence Sterling. Names and addresses of holders will be entered on the Register to evidence title to the shares. Certificates for shares will not be issued (see page 53 – "Buying Shares").



## Classes of Shares

The classes of share which are currently available for each fund are set out in the table below.

Institutional shares, P shares and Q shares are only available for larger investors within the institutional market, providers of platform services (as defined in the glossary of definitions in the FCA Rules) investing as nominee and other investors with the agreement of the ACD. Institutional Regulated Shares are only available for non-individual investors who have been authorised by a relevant regulatory body. Institutional "A" Shares are only available for larger investors with the agreement of the ACD. Institutional "S" Shares are only available for very large investors dealing as principal within the institutional market and other investors with the agreement of the ACD. Z, ZA, ZB and ZC Shares are only available for investments made by the abrdn group of companies, other corporate legal entities promoted by them and other investors with the agreement of the ACD. Retail Founder Accumulation Shares, Retail Founder Income Shares, Institutional Founder Accumulation Shares and Institutional Founder Income Shares are only available for investments made by investors who held Retail Accumulation Shares and Institutional Accumulation Shares respectively in the abrdn Global Infrastructure Equity Fund on 15 January 2012.

Please see page 77 for investment limits

The different classes of shares enable the Company to have different charging structures for different investors, depending on the size and nature of their shareholdings.

Fund Name	Share Classes
abrdn AAA Bond Fund	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, Inst "S" Acc, Inst "S" Inc, Ret CAT Acc, Ret CAT Inc, Inst R Acc, ZC Acc, ZA Inc
abrdn American Income Equity Fund*	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, Inst "S" Acc, Inst "S" Inc, ZC Acc, ZA Inc
abrdn North American Small & Mid-Cap Equity Fund	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst "S" Acc, ZC Acc
abrdn Asian Pacific Growth Equity Fund*	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, ZC Acc
abrdn Sterling Corporate Bond Fund	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, ZC Acc, ZA Inc, P Inc, P Acc, Q Inc, Z Acc, ZB Acc
abrdn Europe ex UK Smaller Companies Fund	Ret Acc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, ZC Acc
abrdn Europe ex UK Growth Equity Fund*	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, ZC Acc
abrdn Europe ex UK Income Equity Fund	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, Inst "S" Acc, Inst "S" Inc, ZC Acc, ZA Inc
abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, Ret CAT Acc, ZC Acc
abrdn Emerging Markets Opportunities Equity Fund*	Ret Acc, Inst Acc, ZC Acc, ZB Acc
abrdn Emerging Markets Income Equity Fund	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, ZC Acc, ZA Inc
Global Emerging Markets Equity Unconstrained Fund*	Ret Acc, Inst Acc, ZC Acc,
abrdn Global Focused Equity Fund*	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst "S" Acc, ZC Acc
abrdn Global Infrastructure Equity Fund	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Ret Founder Acc, Ret Founder Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, Inst Founder Acc, Inst Founder Inc, ZC Acc, Inst "S" Acc, Z Inc
abrdn Global Smaller Companies Fund	Ret Acc, Inst Acc, Inst "S" Acc, ZC Acc
abrdn High Yield Bond Fund	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, Inst R Acc, ZC Acc, ZA Inc

abrdn Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund*	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, Inst R Acc, Inst "S" Acc, Inst "S" Inc, ZC Acc, ZA Inc, ZB Acc
abrdn UK Growth Equity Fund*	Ret Acc, Inst Acc, ZC Acc
abrdn UK High Alpha Equity Fund*	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, ZC Acc
abrdn UK High Income Equity Fund*	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, Inst R Acc, ZC Acc, ZA Inc
ASI UK Recovery Equity Fund*	Ret Acc, Inst Acc, ZC Acc, ZA Inc
abrdn UK Ethical Equity Fund	Ret Acc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, Inst R Acc, ZC Acc
abrdn UK Government Bond Fund	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, Z Acc, ZC Acc
abrdn UK Smaller Companies Fund	Ret Acc, Ret Inc, Inst Acc, Inst Inc, Inst R Acc, Inst "A" Acc, Inst "S" Acc, Inst "S" Inc, Z Acc, ZC Acc, ZA Inc

\*Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.

Ret Acc	-	Retail Accumulation Shares
Inst Acc	-	Institutional Accumulation Shares
Ret CAT Acc	-	Retail CAT Standard Accumulation Shares
Ret Founder Acc	-	Retail Founder Accumulation Shares
Ret Inc	-	Retail Income Shares
Inst Inc	-	Institutional Income Shares
Ret CAT Inc	-	Retail CAT Standard Income Shares
Ret Founder Inc	-	Retail Founder Income Shares
Inst Founder Acc	-	Institutional Founder Accumulation Shares
Inst Founder Inc	-	Institutional Founder Income Shares
Inst R Acc	-	Institutional Regulated Accumulation Shares
Inst "A" Acc	-	Institutional "A" Accumulation Shares
Inst "A" Inc	-	Institutional "A" Income Shares
Inst "S" Acc	-	Institutional "S" Accumulation Shares
Inst "S" Inc	-	Institutional "S" Income Shares
P Inc	-	P Income Shares
P Acc	-	P Accumulation Shares
Q Inc	-	Q Income Shares
Z Acc	-	Z Accumulation Shares
ZC Acc	-	ZC Accumulation Shares
ZA Inc	-	ZA Income Shares
ZB Acc	-	ZB Accumulation Shares

#### Note

Retail CAT Standard Accumulation Shares and Retail CAT "Standard Income Shares in the abrdn AAA Bond Fund and Retail CAT Standard Accumulation Shares in the abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund were made available for CAT standard Individual Savings Accounts.

With effect from 6 April 2005, CAT standard Individual Savings Accounts can no longer be promoted. Therefore, from this date, the above shares are only available to existing investors in those share classes. Retail Accumulation Shares and Retail Income Shares in the abrdn AAA Bond Fund and Retail Accumulation Shares in the abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund are available for other investors.

Where income and accumulation shares of the same type (eg Retail or Institutional) are available, you can choose to invest in either of them exclusively or in whatever combination you wish.

#### **Income Shares**

An income share is a share in respect of which income is distributed periodically to holders in accordance with the FCA Rules. Cash distributions of income are made in respect of income shares.

## **Accumulation Shares**

An accumulation share is a share in respect of which income allocated is to be accumulated periodically. For accumulation shares, no Cash distributions are made and no additional shares are issued. Instead, the income available for distribution is transferred to the capital property of the relevant fund and reflected in the value of shares.

## **Shares of Different Denominations**

For the purposes of calculating fractional entitlements of less than one share, shares are denominated in larger and smaller denominations.

1,000 smaller denomination shares give the same right to participate in scheme property as one larger denomination share and 1,000 is, therefore, the “Relevant Number” of smaller denomination shares for the purposes of the following paragraph.

Whenever the Relevant Number of smaller denomination shares of any class are included in any registered holding, the ACD shall consolidate the Relevant Number of such shares into one larger denomination share of the same class.

## **MEETINGS OF HOLDERS**

The ACD has elected to dispense with the holding of annual general meetings.

The following provisions apply to meetings of the Company, to class meetings and to meetings of holders of shares in a particular fund.

The ACD or the Depositary may convene a general meeting at any time. The holders may request the convening of a general meeting by a requisition which must (a) state the objects of the meeting; (b) be dated; and (c) be signed by holders who, at that date, are registered as the holders of shares representing not less than one-tenth in value of all the shares then in issue; and (d) be deposited at the head office of the Company or with the Depositary.

The ACD must, by way of an extraordinary resolution, obtain prior approval from the holders for any proposed change which is a fundamental change. A fundamental change is a change or event which:

- Changes the purposes or nature of a fund; or
- may materially prejudice a holder; or
- alter the risk profile of a fund; or
- introduce any new type of payment out of the scheme property.

Fundamental changes may include, for example:

- Changes to any statement of policy or investment objective which has been included in the prospectus;
- the removal of the ACD (or to determine that he be removed as soon as this is permitted by law);
- a proposed scheme of amalgamation;
- a scheme of reconstruction.

Rules for the calling and conduct of meetings of holders and the voting rights of holders at such meetings are governed by the FCA Rules. At any general meeting of holders, except where an extraordinary resolution is specifically required or permitted, any resolution is passed by simple majority. An extraordinary resolution will only be passed by not less than three-quarters of the votes validly cast (whether on a show of hands or on a poll) for and against the resolution at a general meeting of which notice specifying the intention to propose the resolution as an extraordinary resolution has

been duly given. If a resolution is put to the vote of the meeting, it shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) demanded by the Chairman, by the Depositary or by at least two holders. Unless a poll is so demanded, a declaration by the Chairman as to the result of a resolution shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour or against such resolution.

If a poll is duly demanded, it shall be taken in such a manner as the Chairman may direct. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded. A poll demanded on the election of the Chairman or on a question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith and a poll demanded on any other question shall be taken at such time and place as the Chairman directs. The demand for a poll shall not prevent the continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll has been demanded.

On a show of hands, every holder who (being an individual) is present in person or (being a corporation) is present by its representative properly authorised in that regard shall have one vote. On a poll, the voting rights attaching to each share are such proportion of the voting rights attached to all shares in issue as the price of the share bears to the aggregate price(s) of all the shares in issue at a cut-off date selected by the ACD before the notice of meeting is sent out. A person entitled to more than one vote need not, if he votes, use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses in the same way.

A corporation being a holder may by resolution of the directors or other governing body of such corporation authorise such a person as it thinks fit to act as its representative at any meeting of holders. The person so authorised shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the corporation which he represents as the corporation could exercise if it were an individual holder.

In the case of joint holders, the vote of the senior who tenders the vote (whether in person or proxy) shall be accepted. For this purpose, seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names stand in the register.

On a poll, votes may be given either personally or by proxy.

A vote by proxy must be deposited at such place as may be specified in the notice convening the meeting (or in any document accompanying the notice) (or if no such place is appointed then at the head office of the ACD) by the time which is at least 48 hours prior to the time of the appointed meeting.

Subject to the paragraph below, the quorum at any meeting shall be two holders present in person or by proxy.

The ACD and its Associates may hold shares. They are entitled to receive notice of and attend any meeting but the ACD is not entitled to vote or be counted in the quorum and its shares are not regarded as being in issue in relation to such meetings except in respect of any shares which the ACD holds on behalf of, or jointly with, a person who, if himself the registered holder, would be entitled to vote and from whom the ACD has received voting instructions. An Associate of the ACD may be counted in the quorum and may vote at the meeting in respect of shares held on behalf of or jointly with a person who, if himself the registered holder, would be entitled to vote, and from whom the Associate has received voting instructions.

The cut-off date for a meeting is a date selected by the ACD which must, in terms of the FCA Rules, be a reasonable time before notice is given and "Holders" for the purposes of quorum and voting means the persons entered in the register at that date.

## **Modifications**

The manner in which the ACD should treat changes it is proposing is set out in the FCA Rules. The degree of materiality and the effect the proposed change would have on holders determines the level of notification (and in some instances, approval) required:-

The ACD must obtain prior approval from the holders by way of an extraordinary resolution for any Fundamental change (see "Meetings" above);

The ACD must give prior written notice of not less than sixty days to holders in respect of any proposed change to the operation of a fund which would constitute a Significant change. A significant change is, in terms of the FCA Rules, a change or event which is not fundamental but which:

- Affects a holder's ability to exercise his rights in relation to his investment; or
- would reasonably be expected to cause the holder to reconsider his participation in the Company and / or a fund; or
- results in any increased payments out of the Scheme Property to the ACD or his Associate; or
- materially increases other types of payment out of the Scheme Property.

Significant changes may include, but are not restricted to, for example:

- a change in the method of price publication;
- a change in any operational policy.

The ACD must inform holders of any Notifiable changes that are reasonably likely to affect, or have affected, the operation of the scheme. The way in which and the time at which the ACD may notify holders of any notifiable change would depend on the nature of the change or event. The ACD will, on any proposal to make a change which it deems to be notifiable, assess the proposed change in order to determine how and when the holders should be notified of the change or changes and act accordingly. A notifiable change, in terms of the FCA Rules, is a change or event, other than a fundamental change or a significant change, which a holder must be made aware of unless the ACD concludes that the change is insignificant. A notifiable change may include (but is not restricted to), for example:

- A change of named investment manager;
- a significant political event which impacts on the fund or its operation;
- a change to the time of the valuation point;
- the introduction of limited issue arrangements; or
- a change of the Depositary or a change in the name of a fund.

The circumstances causing a notifiable change may not always be in the control of the ACD.

The ACD (from time to time in consultation with the Depositary) will use and exercise its discretion in determining whether a proposed change falls within any of the fundamental, significant or notifiable categories and will act accordingly.

## Class Rights

The rights attached to a class of shares may only be changed by a resolution passed at a class meeting of the holders of the classes concerned. The provisions about notice and conduct of meetings above will apply, with appropriate alterations, to class meetings and to meetings of holders of shares in a particular fund.

Changes to the instrument of incorporation which relate only to a particular class or classes of shares and do not prejudice shareholders of any other class may, subject to certain exceptions, be made by resolution (which, in some cases must be an extraordinary resolution) passed at a class meeting or class meetings of the holders of the class of shares concerned.

## AUTHORISED CORPORATE DIRECTOR

The Authorised Corporate Director of the Company is abrdn Fund Managers Limited. The ACD is a private company limited by shares, incorporated in England and Wales on 7 November 1962. The ACD is a wholly owned subsidiary of Aberdeen Group plc (formerly known as abrdn plc), a company incorporated in Scotland. The registered office of the ACD is 280 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4AG. It has an issued and fully paid up share capital of £738,550.

The ACD is authorised to carry on investment business in the UK by virtue of it being authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

The ACD acts as authorised corporate director of the following open-ended investment companies:

abrdn OEIC I <sup>25</sup>  
abrdn OEIC III <sup>26</sup>  
abrdn OEIC IV <sup>27</sup>  
abrdn OEIC V <sup>28</sup>  
abrdn OEIC VI <sup>29</sup>  
abrdn UK Real Estate Funds ICVC <sup>30</sup>  
Global Managers Investment Company \*

The ACD also acts as the manager of the following authorised unit trusts:

Aberdeen Capital Trust \*  
abrdn Unit Trust I <sup>31</sup> \*  
abrdn Dynamic Distribution Fund <sup>32</sup>  
abrdn Global Absolute Return Strategies Fund <sup>33</sup> \*  
abrdn Global Real Estate Fund <sup>34</sup>  
abrdn Strategic Investment Allocation Fund <sup>35</sup> \*  
abrdn (Lothian) Active Plus Bond Trust <sup>36</sup> \*  
abrdn (Lothian) European Trust <sup>37</sup> \*  
abrdn (Lothian) European Trust II <sup>38</sup> \*  
abrdn (Lothian) Global Equity Trust II <sup>39</sup> \*  
abrdn (Lothian) International Trust <sup>40</sup> \*  
abrdn (Lothian) Japan Trust <sup>41</sup> \*  
ASI (Standard Life) Multi-Asset Trust \*  
abrdn (Lothian) North American Trust <sup>42</sup>  
abrdn (Lothian) Pacific Basin Trust <sup>43</sup>  
abrdn (Lothian) Short Dated UK Government Bond Trust <sup>44</sup> \*  
abrdn (Lothian) UK Corporate Bond Trust <sup>45</sup> \*  
abrdn (Lothian) UK Equity General Trust <sup>46</sup> \*  
abrdn (Lothian) UK Government Bond Trust <sup>47</sup> \*

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<sup>25</sup> This fund was previously known as Aberdeen Standard OEIC I

<sup>26</sup> This fund was previously known as Aberdeen Standard OEIC III

<sup>27</sup> This fund was previously known as Aberdeen Standard OEIC IV

<sup>28</sup> This fund was previously known as Aberdeen Standard OEIC V

<sup>29</sup> This fund was previously known as Aberdeen Standard OEIC VI

<sup>30</sup> This fund was previously known as Standard Life Investments UK Real Estate Funds ICVC

<sup>31</sup> This fund was previously known as Aberdeen Standard Unit Trust I

<sup>32</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI Dynamic Distribution Fund

<sup>33</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI Global Absolute Return Strategies Fund

<sup>34</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI Global Real Estate Fund

<sup>35</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI Strategic Investment Allocation Fund

<sup>36</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI (Standard Life) Active Plus Bond Trust

<sup>37</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI (Standard Life) European Trust

<sup>38</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI (Standard Life) European Trust II

<sup>39</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI (Standard Life) Global Equity Trust II

<sup>40</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI (Standard Life) International Trust

<sup>41</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI (Standard Life) Japan Trust

<sup>42</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI (Standard Life) North American Trust

<sup>43</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI (Standard Life) Pacific Basin Trust

<sup>44</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI (Standard Life) Short Dated UK Government Bond Trust

<sup>45</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI (Standard Life) UK Corporate Bond Trust

<sup>46</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI (Standard Life) UK Equity General Trust

<sup>47</sup> This fund was previously known as ASI (Standard Life) UK Government Bond Trust

abrdn MT <sup>48</sup>  
abrdn UK Real Estate Trust <sup>49</sup>  
Standard Life Global Equity Trust \*  
Standard Life Investments Ignis Global Growth Fund \*  
Standard Life Investments Ignis Pacific Growth Fund \*  
Standard Life Pan-European Trust \*

The ACD also acts as the authorised contractual scheme manager of the following authorised contractual scheme:

abrdn ACS I <sup>50</sup>

\* This fund is in the process of being wound up

The ACD does not intend to hold shares in the Funds as principal as a strategic business activity. It may from time to time hold shares as principal but, where it does so, it does not seek to make a profit from this.

The Directors of abrdn Fund Managers Limited are:

Adam Shanks

Aron Mitchell

Emily Smart

Martin Kwiatkowski

Michael Champion\*

Phillip Wagstaff\*

\*Independent Non-Executive Director of abrdn Fund Managers Limited.

THE MAIN BUSINESS ACTIVITIES OF THE DIRECTORS NOT CONNECTED WITH THE BUSINESS OF THE ACD:

A complete list of other directorships can be provided on written request.

The Service Agreement

(a) The ACD has been appointed by an agreement (the “Service Agreement”) between the Company and the ACD to provide the services of an authorised corporate director to the Company. The duties of the ACD under the Service Agreement include the management, investment and reinvestment of the scheme property of each fund in order to achieve its respective investment objectives. In performing its role of authorised corporate director, the ACD may delegate such of its functions as it may determine from time to time. As at the date of this prospectus, the abrdn group of companies (of which the ACD is a part) provides a wide range of services in respect of the funds, including portfolio management, marketing and distribution, management of suppliers, controls of pricing and expenses and compliance. In addition, external suppliers may also be retained by the abrdn group of companies (including the ACD) for the provision of services. As at the date of this prospectus services which are provided on an on-going basis by external suppliers include fund accounting, investor record keeping and transfer agency (i.e. processing of applications for sales, redemptions, conversions and switches, servicing investor requests and enquiries relating to the funds). The remuneration to which the ACD is entitled is set out in the “Charges” section below.

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<sup>48</sup> This fund was previously known as ASIM Trust

<sup>49</sup> This fund was previously known as Standard Life Investments UK Real Estate Trust

<sup>50</sup> This fund was previously known as Aberdeen Standard ACS I

- (b) The Service Agreement may be terminated by either party giving to the other not less than twelve months' written notice. The ACD shall not voluntarily terminate its appointment as such unless the termination is coterminous with the commencement of the appointment of a successor ACD. The appointment of the ACD as such shall be terminated if a notice of termination of that appointment, the terms of which have been approved by a resolution of the Board, is given to the ACD. The Service Agreement may also be terminated forthwith at any time by written notice by either party to the other party if:
- (i) either party commits any material or persistent breach of any term of the Service Agreement and (in the case of a breach capable of being remedied) fails to remedy the breach within thirty days after the receipt of a request in writing from the other party to do so;
  - (ii) either party has a receiver, administrator, administrative receiver or similar officer appointed over the whole or any material part of its undertaking or assets or passes an effective resolution for winding-up (otherwise than in the course of a bona fide scheme of solvent amalgamation or reconstruction) or a court of competent jurisdiction makes an order to that effect;
  - (iii) either party is subject to formal disciplinary proceedings instituted by the Financial Conduct Authority or any self-regulatory organisation.
- (c) The Company will indemnify the ACD against all losses and liabilities incurred in acting as the ACD of the Company other than where there has been negligence, wilful default or fraud on the part of the ACD.

#### The ACD's Remuneration Policy

In accordance with the FCA Rules, the ACD has approved and adopted a UCITS V Remuneration Policy Statement in conjunction with the remuneration policy established and implemented by the ACD and other associated companies (together, the "Remuneration Policy"). The ACD believes the UCITS V Remuneration Policy Statement is consistent with the UCITS Remuneration Code; is consistent with, and promotes sound and effective risk management; does not encourage risk-taking which is inconsistent with the risk profiles of the funds or the Instrument of Incorporation, and does not impair compliance of the ACD's duty to act in the best interests of each of the funds and the Shareholders. The ACD believes that rewarding staff for their contribution is key to recruiting and retaining a talented workforce.

The Remuneration Policy has been designed to:

- align the interests of staff with the sustained long-term interests of the ACD, the funds, the business, shareholders, and other stakeholders;
- focus on performance-related pay, at both a corporate and an individual level, tempered by an emphasis on ensuring that performance is not achieved by taking risks which fall outside the risk appetite of the ACD and/or other associated companies and its funds;
- promote sound risk management and discourage risk taking that exceeds the level of risk tolerated by the ACD and/or other associated companies, having regard to the investment profiles of funds;
- incorporate measures to avoid conflicts of interest; and
- offer fixed remuneration and award incentives which are reasonable and competitive within the asset management sector.

A Remuneration Committee has been established that operates on a group-wide basis. The Remuneration Committee is responsible for:

- approving the Remuneration Policy;
- approving the remuneration packages of senior executives;
- determining the size of any annual variable pay pool;
- approving the design of incentive plans; and
- considering the recruitment and redundancy of certain employees.

Details of the up-to-date UCITS V Remuneration Policy Statement, including, but not limited to, a description of how remuneration and benefits are calculated, and the identities of persons responsible for awarding remuneration and



benefits including the composition of the Remuneration Committee, is available at [www.abrdn.com](http://www.abrdn.com). A paper copy is made available free of charge upon request at the ACD's registered office.

## THE DEPOSITARY

The Depositary of the Company is Citibank UK Limited<sup>51</sup>. The registered office of the Depositary is Citigroup Centre, Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5LB. The Depositary is a private limited company incorporated in England with registered number 11283101.

The Depositary is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority.

The ultimate holding company of the Depositary is Citigroup Inc., incorporated in New York, USA.

### Terms of Appointment

The Depositary was originally appointed as depositary by an agreement dated 1 March 2010. A new agreement has been put in place dated 7 August 2019 which was novated to the Depositary with effect from 23 October 2021 (the "Depositary Agreement").

Under the terms of the Depositary Agreement the assets of the Company have been entrusted to the Depositary for safekeeping.

The key duties of the Depositary consist of:

- (i) Cash monitoring and verifying the funds' cash flows;
- (ii) Safekeeping of the scheme property;
- (iii) Ensuring that the sale, issue, re-purchase, redemption, cancellation and valuation of Shares are carried out in accordance with the Instrument of Incorporation, the prospectus, and applicable law, rules and regulations;
- (iv) Ensuring that in transactions involving scheme property any consideration is remitted to the funds within the usual time limits;
- (v) Ensuring that the funds' income is applied in accordance with the Instrument of Incorporation the prospectus, applicable law, rules and regulations; and
- (vi) Carrying out the instructions of the ACD unless they conflict with the Instrument of Incorporation, the prospectus or applicable laws, rules or regulations.

To the extent permitted by the FCA Rules and applicable law, rules and regulations the Company will indemnify the Depositary (or its associates) against the costs, charges, losses and liabilities incurred by the Depositary (or its associates) in the proper execution or exercise (reasonably and in good faith) of its duties, powers, authorities, discretions and responsibilities to the Company, except where the Depositary is liable owing to it being at fault under the terms of the Depositary Agreement.

The Depositary Agreement provides that the appointment of the Depositary may be terminated by either party on not less than 90 days' prior written notice to the other party. Termination cannot take effect until a successor depositary has been appointed.

The remuneration to which the Depositary is entitled is set out below.

### Delegation

Under the Depositary Agreement, the Depositary has the power to delegate its safekeeping functions.

As at the date of this prospectus, the Depositary has entered into a written agreement delegating the performance of its safekeeping function in respect of certain of the funds' assets to Citibank N.A., London Branch (the "Custodian"). The sub-delegates that have been appointed by the Custodian as at the date of this prospectus are set out in Appendix VI.

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<sup>51</sup> Citibank Europe plc, UK Branch was replaced as Depositary of the Company with effect from 00.01 on 23 October 2021

The Custodian is entitled to receive reimbursement of the Custodian's fees as an expense of each fund (see "Other Fees and Expenses" section below). The Custodian's remuneration is calculated at an ad valorem rate determined by the territory or country in which the fund's assets are held. Currently, the lowest rate is 0.0025% and the highest rate is 0.4% per annum. These charges are taken from the income generated by each fund. In addition, the Custodian makes a transaction charge determined by the territory or country in which the transaction is effected. Currently, these transaction charges range from £2.80 - £92.31 per transaction. Transaction charges will be taken from capital, this may result in capital erosion or constrain capital growth.

### **Liability of the Depositary**

As a general rule, the Depositary is liable for any losses suffered as a result of the Depositary's negligent or intentional failure to properly fulfil its obligations except that it will not be liable for any loss where:

- (i) The event which has led to the loss is not the result of any act or omission of the Depositary or of a third party;
- (ii) The Depositary could not have reasonably prevented the occurrence of the event which led to the loss despite adopting all precautions incumbent on a diligent depositary as reflected in common industry practice;
- (iii) Despite rigorous and comprehensive due diligence, the Depositary could not have prevented the loss.

In the case of loss of a financial instrument by the Depositary, or by a third party, the Depositary is under an obligation to return a financial instrument of identical type or corresponding amount without undue delay unless it can prove that the loss arose as a result of an external event beyond the Depositary's reasonable control, the consequences of which would have been unavoidable despite all reasonable efforts to the contrary.

As a general rule, whenever the Depositary delegates any of its safekeeping functions to a delegate, the Depositary will remain liable for any losses suffered as a result of an act or omission of the delegate as if such loss had arisen as a result of an act or omission of the Depositary. The use of securities settlement systems does not constitute a delegation by the Depositary of its functions.

### **Conflicts of Interest**

From time to time conflicts may arise from the appointment by the Depositary of any of its delegates out of which may arise a conflict of interest with the funds. For example, Citibank N.A., London Branch, which has been appointed by the Depositary to act as Custodian of the scheme property, also performs certain investment operations and functions and Derivatives collateral management functions delegated to it by the investment adviser. It is therefore possible that a conflict of interest could arise.

The Depositary will ensure that any such delegates or sub-delegates which are its affiliates are appointed on terms which are not materially less favourable to the Company or a particular fund than if the conflict or potential conflict had not existed. Citibank N.A., London Branch and any other delegate are required to manage any such conflict having regard to the FCA Rules and its duties to the Depositary and the ACD.

There may also be conflicts arising between the Depositary, the funds, the investors and the ACD. The Depositary is prohibited from carrying out any activities with regard to the funds unless:

- (i) The Depositary has properly identified any such potential conflict of interest;
- (ii) The Depositary has functionally and hierarchically separated the performance of its depositary tasks from other potentially conflicting tasks; and
- (iii) The potential conflicts of interest are properly managed, monitored and disclosed to the investors.

Investors may request an up-to-date statement from the ACD regarding (i) the Depositary's name; (ii) the Depositary's duties and the conflicts of interest that may arise between the Depositary and the Company, the investors or the ACD; and (iii) any safekeeping functions delegated by the Depositary, a description of any conflicts of interest that may arise from such delegation and a list showing the identity of each delegate and sub-delegate.

### **Depositary's Data Protection Policy**

The Depositary's Market and Securities Services Privacy Statement details the collection, use and sharing of Shareholders' personal information by the Depositary in connection with Shareholders' investment in the Company.

The Depositary's Market and Securities Services Privacy Statement may be updated from time to time the latest version can be accessed at [https://www.citibank.com/icg/global\\_markets/uk\\_terms.jsp](https://www.citibank.com/icg/global_markets/uk_terms.jsp).

Any Shareholder who provides the ACD and its agents with personal information about another individual (such as a joint investor), must show the Depositary's Market and Securities Services Privacy Statement to those individuals.

## **INVESTMENT ADVISER**

The ACD has entered into an Investment Management Agreement with abrdn Investment Management Limited (formerly known as Standard Life Investments Limited) ("abrdn Investment Management"). abrdn Investment Management is an Investment Adviser to the Company.

abrdn Investment Management was incorporated as a private limited liability company under the Companies Acts on 27 February 1990 in Scotland (Registered Number SC123321). Its Registered Office is at 1 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2LL. It has an issued and fully paid up share capital of £34,440,000.

abrdn Investment Management is a subsidiary of Aberdeen Group plc. Its principal activity is investment management business. It is authorised to carry on investment business in the UK by virtue of it being authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

The Investment Management Agreement reflects the requirements of the FCA Rules relating to termination and otherwise can be terminated on not less than 3 months' notice.

abrdn Investment Management has full authority to make all investment decisions on behalf of the ACD concerning the scheme property of the funds which are managed by it.

The Investment Management Agreement gives abrdn Investment Management the discretion to appoint specialist asset management companies either from within or outwith the abrdn group as investment managers (each a "Sub-Adviser"), in order to benefit from their expertise and experience.

The ACD also employs abrdn Investment Management to perform activities involving valuation, pricing, dealing and other back office functions. abrdn Investment Management is permitted to sub-delegate these functions to other persons.

The ACD discharges, at its own expense out of the aggregate revenue received by it out of the funds, the fees of the Investment Adviser (both in respect of acting as investment adviser and in respect of its other functions) for its services.

### **Delegation to Sub-Advisers**

#### abrdn Asia Limited

The Investment Adviser has appointed abrdn Asia Limited ("AAL") whose registered address is at 7 Straits View, #23-04, Marina One East Tower, Singapore 018936, to manage the scheme property of the abrdn Asian Pacific Growth Equity Fund\* with effect from 29 August 2018. AAL is regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore and holds a Capital Markets Services Licence.

Although AAL will carry out the investment management of the scheme property of the abrdn Asian Pacific Growth Equity Fund\* without reference to the Investment Adviser, the Investment Adviser will monitor the performance of the fund.

The Investment Adviser remains responsible to the ACD for the management of the scheme property of the abrdn Asian Pacific Growth Equity Fund.

The fees of AAL will be borne by the Investment Adviser.

\* Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment

#### abrdn Inc.

The Investment Adviser has appointed abrdn Inc. (formerly known as Aberdeen Standard Investments Inc.), a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 1900 Market Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103 to manage the scheme property of abrdn North American Small & Mid-Cap Equity Fund, abrdn American Income Equity Fund\* and abrdn Global Infrastructure Equity Fund and certain assets of abrdn Global Focused Equity Fund\*. abrdn Inc. is registered as an investment adviser with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

Although abrdn Inc. will carry out the investment management of the scheme property of abrdn North American Small & Mid-Cap Equity Fund, abrdn American Income Equity Fund\*, abrdn Global Focused Equity Fund\* and abrdn Global Infrastructure Equity Fund as outlined above without reference to the Investment Adviser, the Investment Adviser will monitor the performance of the funds.

The Investment Adviser remains responsible to the ACD for the management of the scheme property of abrdn North American Small & Mid-Cap Equity Fund, abrdn American Income Equity Fund\*, abrdn Global Focused Equity Fund\* and abrdn Global Infrastructure Equity Fund.

The fees of abrdn Inc. will be borne by the Investment Adviser.

\* Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.

#### **Transfer Agency**

The ACD has appointed SS&C Financial Services Europe Limited ("SS&C Europe") and SS&C Financial Services International Limited, which was until 31 March 2020 known as DST Financial Services International Limited (together "SS&C") to provide the services of a transfer agent.

These services include processing applications for the sale and redemption of shares, the servicing of certain investor requests and enquiries and other administration services relating to the funds.

The fees and expenses incurred by the transfer agent are payable out of the General Administration Charge as set out below.

#### **Marketing Services**

The ACD has delegated the drawing up of marketing literature to abrdn Investment Management Limited.

The ACD discharges, at its own expense out of the aggregate revenue received by it out of the funds, the fees of abrdn Investment Management Limited.

### **CHARGES**

#### **Preliminary Charge**

The FCA Rules permit the ACD to make a preliminary charge upon a sale of shares to an investor. This charge, which is paid by shareholders to the ACD, is calculated as a percentage of the price of the shares and included in the amount payable by the investor.

The ACD currently exercises its discretion to charge a nil preliminary charge in respect of each of the share classes within each fund.

Should the ACD exercise its discretion to increase the preliminary charge applicable in respect of any particular share class, it will only do so in accordance with the FCA Rules.

#### **Redemption Charge**

There is currently no redemption charge payable on the redemption or cancellation of shares, but this may be introduced in the future in accordance with the FCA Rules.

### **Annual Management Charge**

The ACD is entitled to receive, out of the scheme property of each fund, an annual management charge as remuneration for the services it provides to the Company (the “Annual Management Charge”).

The Annual Management Charge for each share class is a yearly percentage rate based on the net asset value attributable to that share class. It is calculated and accrues on a daily basis and is payable to the ACD monthly in arrears. The value of the fund (and the value attributable to each share class) for the purpose of the calculation is taken as at the valuation point on the previous business day, taking into account any subscriptions and/or redemptions on that day. The current Annual Management Charge for each share class of the funds is detailed in Appendix VII plus value added tax (“VAT”) if any.

The first accrual will be in respect of the day on which the first valuation of the fund is made. The Annual Management Charge will cease to be payable in relation to a fund on the date of commencement of its termination, and in relation to the Company as a whole on the date of the commencement of its winding up or, if earlier, the date of the termination of the ACD’s appointment as such.

The ACD is also entitled to all reasonable, properly documented, out of pocket expenses incurred in the performance of its duties (plus VAT where applicable).

The Annual Management Charge may be taken from the capital of the fund or the income generated by it. Where the charge is taken from the capital of the fund, this may result in capital erosion or constrain capital growth. Where the charge is normally taken from income, but there is insufficient income to meet the charge, it will be taken from capital of the fund. The policy for allocation of these payments for each fund is set out in Appendix VII.

The Annual Management Charge may only be increased by the ACD in accordance with the FCA Rules.

### **General Administration Charge**

The ACD is entitled to be paid a fixed rate charge of 0.08%, out of the scheme property of each fund, to facilitate payment of the ongoing registration and general administration expenses of the funds (the “General Administration Charge”). This charge is calculated in the same way as the Annual Management Charge. The expenses that are payable by the ACD out of this charge are as follows:

- a) fees and expenses incurred by the Depositary (including fees and expenses payable to any professional adviser advising or assisting the Depositary);
- b) fees and expenses of the auditors;
- c) fees and expenses in respect of establishing and maintaining the register of shareholders and related functions including the fees of the registrar and distribution of income;
- d) fees and expenses in respect of fund accounting services;
- e) the cost of listing the prices of shares in the funds in publications and information services selected by the ACD;
- f) the costs of printing and distributing annual, half yearly and quarterly reports and any other reports or information provided for shareholders;
- g) the fees and any proper expenses of any tax, legal or other professional advisers retained by the Company or by the ACD in relation to the Company;
- h) any costs incurred in respect of any meeting of shareholders (including meetings of shareholders in any particular fund or any particular share class within a fund) convened on a requisition by holders, not including the ACD or an associate of the ACD;

- i) any costs incurred in creating or amending documentation relating to the Company including the instrument of incorporation, prospectus and key investor information documents;
- j) any costs incurred in respect of meetings of shareholders and/or directors of the ACD;
- k) the cost of printing, translating and distributing material required for regulatory purposes as permitted by the FCA Rules in respect of the Company or any fund;
- l) insurance which the Company may purchase and/or maintain for the benefit of and against any liability incurred by any directors of the Company in the performance of their duties;
- m) fees of the FCA and the corresponding periodic fees of any regulatory authority in a country or territory outside the UK in which shares are or may be marketed; and
- n) any value added or similar tax applicable to any of the costs, charges, fees and expenses listed above.

It is the intention of the ACD to provide shareholders with certainty as to the ongoing registration and general expenses paid by the funds. The General Administration Charge is a single fixed percentage fee that does not vary month on month.

In some periods the General Administration Charge may be less than the costs actually incurred by the ACD. In these circumstances the ACD will pay the difference from its own resources. Conversely, in some periods the General Administration Charge may be more than the costs actually incurred by the ACD. In these circumstances the ACD will retain the difference.

The ACD will regularly review the General Administration Charge. Should the underlying fees and expenses that make up the General Administration Charge reduce or increase, the ACD may increase or decrease the General Administration Charge where it reasonably considers this to be appropriate.

In the event of any changes to the General Administration Charge, the ACD will notify shareholders in writing in accordance with the FCA's requirements under the FCA Rules. For example:

- a) before increasing the General Administration Charge, the ACD will give shareholders at least 60-days prior notice in writing; or
- b) when decreasing the General Administration Charge, the ACD will give notice of (which may be before or after the decrease in the General Administration Charge becomes effective) utilising an appropriate method of communication as specified in the FCA Rules, such as notice on the website and in the next report and accounts of the relevant fund.

The ACD may from time to time subsidise costs incurred by any fund or share class to keep the costs of a fund in line with the published estimated Ongoing Charges Figure or for any other reason as the ACD may in its sole discretion determine. Details of the Ongoing Charges Figure for the previous reporting period can be found in the report and accounts of the Company or the Key Investor Information Document.

The ACD currently pays for all or part of the General Administration Charge for the Retail Shares (including Retail CAT and Retail Founder Shares), for each fund, except for abrdn AAA Bond Fund and abrdn UK Government Bond Fund, the Q Income shares of abrdn Sterling Corporate Bond Fund, the ZB Accumulation Shares and the ZA Income shares of each fund.

The General Administration Charge may be taken from the capital of the fund or the income generated by it. Where the charge is taken from the capital of the fund, this may result in capital erosion or constrain capital growth. Where the charge is normally taken from income, but there is insufficient income to meet the charge, it will be taken from capital of the fund. The policy for allocation of these payments is applied consistently with the allocation policy for the Annual Management Charge and is set out for each fund in Appendix VII.

## Other Fees and Expenses

The Company may pay out of the scheme property of each fund, the following charges and expenses:

- a) fees and expenses incurred by the Custodian (as set out in “Depository” section);
- b) dilution levy/adjustment, broker commission, fiscal charges (including stamp duty, asset spread, other transactional costs) and any other disbursements which are necessarily incurred in effecting transactions;
- c) any amount payable by the Company under any indemnity provisions contained in the Instrument of Incorporation or any agreement with any functionary of the Company;
- d) liabilities on transfer of assets arising and payable as specified in 6.7.15 R of COLL, (if applicable);
- e) all charges and expenses incurred in connection with the collection of income and collateral management services;
- f) correspondent and other banking charges;
- g) litigation expenses, exceptional measures, particularly legal, business or tax expert appraisals or legal proceedings undertaken to protect Shareholders’ interests;
- h) taxation and other duties payable in respect of the scheme property or on the issue or redemption of Shares;
- i) any fees, dilution levy/adjustment, transactional costs and expenses in relation to, and expenses incurred in the holding of, an investment in another third-party collective investment scheme;
- j) interest on and other charges relating to permitted borrowings;
- k) benchmark licence fees and royalty fees incurred for the use of any index names;
- l) any value added or similar tax applicable to any of the other payments in this section; and
- m) any other charges or expenses which may be taken out of the scheme property in accordance with COLL.

Please note it is currently anticipated the above charges and expenses will normally be taken from the income generated by each fund, unless otherwise stated, and with the exception of fees b), c) and d) which will be taken from the capital of the fund.

In all cases, where there is insufficient income to meet the charge or it would not be appropriate in respect of the type of fee or expense to charge to income, then charge may then be taken from the capital of the fund. Where the charge is taken from the capital of the fund, this may result in capital erosion or constrain capital growth.

Expenses not directly attributable to a Fund will be allocated between the Funds.

Fees and expenses incurred by the Custodian in respect of the Retail Shares (including Retail CAT and Retail Founder Shares) ZB Accumulation Shares will be borne by the ACD.

### **Dealing Charge**

The ACD makes an additional charge to Institutional “S” Shares in abrdn North American Small & Mid-Cap Equity Fund, abrdn Europe ex UK Income Equity Fund, abrdn Global Smaller Companies Fund, abrdn High Yield Bond Fund, abrdn UK Smaller Companies Fund, abrdn American Income Equity Fund\*, abrdn Global Focused Equity Fund\* and abrdn Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund\*, in respect of dealing activities it has in connection with these shares. This dealing charge is payable out of the scheme property of the funds. The charge is calculated, accrued and paid on the same basis as the Annual Management Charge. The current rate of the dealing charge is 0.03% per annum (plus Value Added tax (if any)) of the net asset value of the share class.

This dealing charge is taken from the capital account of the abrdn UK High Income Equity Fund\* and from the capital account of the Institutional “S” Income Shares within the abrdn American Income Equity Fund\*, abrdn Europe ex UK Income Equity Fund and the abrdn UK Smaller Companies Fund. The deduction of this charge from these funds aims to maximize the income available for distribution. Under normal circumstances there is potential for capital growth. Any

such growth will be reduced by an amount equal to the annual dealing charge. This may constrain capital growth. In unfavourable market conditions it could result in the capital of this share class being eroded.

The ACD may not increase any charge it takes from the scheme property of any of the funds unless it does so in accordance with the FCA Rules.

\* Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.

## Stock Lending Income

The stock lending agent(s) is/are entitled to receive a fee out of the property of each of the funds (plus VAT thereon) for its/their services in relation to stock lending. The fee is calculated as a percentage of the gross income from stock lending. The current fee is 10% of the gross income generated by the stock lending activity. The Investment Manager will receive 5% of the gross income generated by the stock lending activity to cover its own administrative and operational costs (in line with ESMA Guidelines on ETFs and other UCITS issues (ESMA/2012/832EN)) and the remaining 85% of gross income generated is returned to the relevant fund.

Any other income or capital generated by efficient portfolio management techniques will be paid to the fund.

Further information on stock lending can be found on **pages** 83 to 86.

## PUBLICATION OF SHARE PRICES

The ACD will publish on each business day the most recent prices of shares in the funds except those relating to Institutional Regulated Accumulation Shares, ZC Accumulation Shares, ZA Income Shares and ZB Accumulation Shares in any fund, together with details of the current preliminary charges payable for each fund on the internet site <http://www.abrdn.com>. This information can also be obtained by calling the ACD on 0345 113 6966 (or +44 (0)1268 44 5488 from outwith the UK) on normal business days (Monday to Friday) between 9am and 5.30pm.

**It must be remembered that the value of the shares in the funds and the income from them may go down as well as up and is not guaranteed. Past performance should not be relied upon as a guide to future returns and an investor may not get back the amount he has invested. See Appendix I headed "Risks" on page 69.**

## SALE AND REDEMPTION OF SHARES

The price at which shares are sold and redeemed is based on the value of the scheme property of the relevant fund (adjusted to reflect any applicable dilution adjustment) plus any preliminary charge.

The ACD will normally be available to deal in and to receive applications for the sale and redemption of shares in all the funds and to receive enquiries regarding the funds on any day on which banks in London are open for business other than days (as determined by the ACD in its discretion) where, in respect of any exchange or market on which a substantial portion of a fund's portfolio is traded, such exchange or market is closed ("**Dealing Days**"). The days on which banks in London are open for business which are not Dealing Days will be available at the registered office of the ACD and on the website at [www.abrdn.com](http://www.abrdn.com). All references to "Dealing Days" in this prospectus should be read accordingly.

The FCA Rules contain provisions governing any transaction concerning the funds which is carried out by or with an "affected person", that is to say:-

- (a) the Company



- (b) the ACD;
- (c) an Associate of the ACD;
- (d) the Depositary;
- (e) an Associate of the Depositary;
- (f) any investment adviser;
- (g) an Associate of any investment adviser; and
- (h) the Auditor.

Investment of the property of the funds may be made on arm's length terms through a member of an investment exchange (acting as principal) who is an Associate of the ACD. Such a person may make a profit out of such dealings, although the ACD will always deal on best execution terms, and neither the ACD nor any such Associate will be liable to account for any such profit.

**NEITHER THE ACD NOR ANY OTHER "AFFECTED PERSON" IS UNDER OBLIGATION TO ACCOUNT TO ANOTHER AFFECTED PERSON OR TO THE HOLDERS FOR ANY PROFIT OR BENEFIT THEY MAKE OR RECEIVE IN CONNECTION WITH:**

- (A) THEIR ACTING AS AGENT FOR THE COMPANY IN THE SALE OR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY TO OR FROM THE FUNDS; OR
- (B) THEIR PART IN ANY TRANSACTION FOR THE SUPPLY OF SERVICES PERMITTED BY COLL; OR
- (C) THEIR DEALING IN PROPERTY EQUIVALENT TO ANY OWNED BY (OR DEALT IN FOR THE ACCOUNT OF) THE COMPANY.

The ACD may from time to time make an online dealing service available to shareholders. More information about this can be found at [www.abrdn.com](http://www.abrdn.com).

### **Client Money**

In certain circumstances (including in relation to the buying and selling of shares (see pages **53** to **55**), money in respect of shares will be transferred to a client money bank account with any recognised bank or banks that the ACD may from time to time select until such transactions can be completed. Money transferred to a client money account will be held in accordance with the rules made by the FCA relating to the holding of client money. The purpose of utilising client money accounts is to protect investors should the ACD become insolvent during such a period. No interest will be paid on money held in these client money bank accounts.

The ACD will not be responsible for any loss or damages suffered by shareholders because of any error or action taken or not taken by any third parties holding client money in accordance with the FCA's client money rules, unless the loss arises because the ACD has been negligent or acted fraudulently or in bad faith. Should the recognised bank or banks holding the client money bank account become insolvent, the ACD will attempt to recoup the money on behalf of shareholders. However, if the recognised bank or banks cannot repay all the persons to whom it owes money, any shortfall may have to be shared proportionally between all its creditors including shareholders. In this situation, shareholders may be eligible to claim under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme ("FSCS"). Further details of the FSCS are set out in the section headed "Financial Services Compensation Scheme" on page **66**.

The ACD may, in certain circumstances permitted by the FCA's client money rules (for example if the ACD decides to transfer all or part of its business to a third party), transfer any client money held in respect of the business being transferred in accordance with the FCA's client money rules, to that third party without that investor's prior consent. On request, the third party must return any balance of client money to the investor as soon as possible. Subject to the FCA's client money rules, the sums transferred may be held by the third party in accordance with the FCA's client money rules,

otherwise the ACD will exercise all due skill, care and diligence to assess whether the third party has adequate measures in place to protect shareholder money. The ACD will act at all times in accordance with the prevailing FCA's client money rules. In certain circumstances, if the ACD has lost touch with an investor, the ACD will be permitted to pay the investor's client money balance to charity after six years. The ACD will not do so until reasonable efforts have been made to contact the investor. The investor will still be entitled to recover this money from the ACD at a later date irrespective of whether the ACD has paid the money to charity.

Unless we notify you otherwise, we will treat you as a retail client.

## **Buying Shares**

Investors wishing to invest in any of the funds can contact their usual Financial Adviser or telephone the ACD's Customer Information Team on 0345 113 6966 (or +44 (0)1268 44 5488 from outwith the UK) for information in how to invest.

Applications for shares can be made by sending a completed application form together with a cheque (a cheque need not be provided if paying by direct debit as below) made payable to the ACD at the address below:

abrdn Fund Managers Limited  
PO Box 12233  
Chelmsford  
CM99 2EE

Applications for shares can also be made by telephone and must be followed by sending an application form and cheque (the latter need not be provided if paying by direct debit as below) made payable to the ACD at the address above.

Shares will be purchased on a forward pricing basis. The investor will receive the price at the next available valuation point after the ACD receives the instructions (verbal or written, as the case may be). For all funds, the valuation point is 12 noon.

Following a purchase of shares, a contract note detailing the investor's account number will be issued. Share certificates will not be issued.

Once shares have been purchased, the ACD will enter the name of the investor on the register. Payment for the shares is due and payable to the ACD in settlement of the purchase on the relevant fund's "Settlement Date" (as detailed below). Until payment has been passed on by the ACD to the Depositary, an investor will not have an irrevocable right of ownership in the shares. Where an investor applies to invest in a fund, the ACD will hold the money received in advance of the Settlement Date on trust for the investor as client money in a segregated client money account with any recognised bank or banks that the ACD may from time to time select until the Settlement Date. No interest will be paid on money held in these client money bank accounts. In the unlikely event that the ACD were to become insolvent between the purchase of shares and the Settlement Date, the money received from an investor would be protected by the FCA's client money rules. In this situation, an investor may not receive the shares allocated to them pending settlement; the shares may be cancelled. On an insolvency of the ACD in these circumstances the investor's right would be to the return of the money, which would be pooled with other client money.

Where payment for shares is made by telegraphic transfer, the ACD will generally rely on an exemption from putting that money in a client money account. This exemption is known as the "Delivery versus Payment" or "DvP" Exemption. When relying on this exemption, the ACD may treat money which is received from an investor by telegraphic transfer as not being client money for a period of 1 business day from the time that the ACD receives the money. If the ACD still holds money received by way of telegraphic transfer beyond the Settlement Date, the ACD will, from that point, treat that money as client money as detailed in the preceding paragraph until the relevant fund's Settlement Date in accordance with the FCA's client money rules.

Monthly payments to purchase retail shares can be made by direct debit into the funds. Direct debits will be collected on the sixth day of each month. If the collection date is a weekend or public holiday the direct debit will be collected on the following business day. For all funds, direct debit payments are subject to a minimum of £50. Shares purchased by monthly payments will reflect the price on the Dealing Day following collection of the direct debit. Combinations of lump sum and monthly payments will also be accepted.

As the Company is not registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended, nor has the Company been registered under the United States Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, its shares may not be offered

or sold, directly or indirectly, in the United States of America or its territories or possessions or areas subject to its jurisdiction, or to citizens or residents thereof (hereinafter referred to as “US Persons”).

Accordingly, the ACD may require any subscriber to provide it with any information that it may consider necessary for the purpose of deciding whether or not he is, or will be, a US Person.

Please see the section headed “US Foreign Account Tax Compliance” in Appendix IV.

The ACD has the right to reject on reasonable grounds an application for purchase of shares in whole or in part.

The ACD is not required to accept an application for the purchase of shares where it considers it necessary or appropriate to carry out or complete identification procedures in relation to the applicant concerned or another person pursuant to a statutory or regulatory obligation and the ACD’s requirements have not been fulfilled. The identification procedures referred to above may include an applicant’s identity being verified electronically against public records by an independent agency. This will disclose whether an applicant has a credit history but will not disclose details of any borrowings an applicant may have. The applicant’s credit history will show that an identification check has been carried out. This information will not be available to third parties or affect the applicant’s credit rating.

**The registrar will on request provide holders free of charge with a written statement of the entries on the register of the fund relating to them.**

Investors acting on the advice of a financial adviser will, normally, have the right to cancel any contract relating to an initial investment in any of the funds under the rules on cancellation contained in the Conduct of Business Sourcebook published by the FCA.

The ACD will inform the holder of any cancellation entitlement and the holder will have the option to withdraw from the contract by giving notice in writing within 30 days of the date the contract is entered into. If the holder exercises the cancellation entitlement and the price of shares falls over that time, the holder may not recover the amount originally invested.

If applications for shares made by telephone are not followed by payment, investors will be liable for any dealing costs incurred by the ACD.

### **Market Timing**

In general, “Market Timing” refers to the investment behaviour of a person or group of persons buying or selling shares on the basis of predetermined market indicators. Market Timing may also be characterised by the buying and selling of shares that seem to follow a short term timing pattern or by frequent or large transactions in shares. The ACD does not allow investments which are associated with Market Timing activities, as these may adversely affect the interests of all shareholders and will take active measures to prevent such practices where it has reasonable grounds to suspect these strategies are being or may be attempted. These measures may include the on-going monitoring of trading activity, the refusal of specific trading instructions and exclusion from funds.

### **Electronic Communications**

Currently, transfers of title to shares may not be effected on the authority of an electronic communication.

### **Selling Shares**

Holders can sell some or all of their shares through their usual financial adviser or by writing to the ACD at the above address (please see below for minimum value of holdings details). In either case the holder’s account number must be quoted and the request must be signed by the holder or all the joint holders if the shares are held in joint names.

Shares can also be sold by telephone, on any day that the ACD is open for business, on 0345 113 6966 (or +44 (0)1268 44 5488 from outwith the UK), although the request must be confirmed in writing. Shares will be sold on a forward pricing basis and the investor will receive the price at the next available valuation point after the ACD receives the instructions (verbal or written, as the case may be).

On the sale of shares, the register will be updated and the relevant holdings removed. Payment will be issued in accordance with the holder's instructions (by Sterling cheque, to a UK bank account or by such other method as may be agreed by the ACD) not later than the Settlement Date. However, the ACD is not required to issue payment if it has not received the money due on the earlier issue of those shares, or where it considers it necessary or appropriate to carry out or complete identification procedures in relation to the holder or another person pursuant to a statutory or regulatory obligation. Where payment is made by cheque the ACD will protect the payment under the FCA's client money rules from the Settlement Date until such time as the cheque is encashed. Where redemption proceeds are paid by BACS or by telegraphic transfer, typically cleared funds will be paid to the holder by the Settlement Date. If the ACD still holds redemption proceeds beyond the Settlement Date, the ACD will, from that point, treat the money as client money until it is paid out. Notwithstanding this, the ACD may, for a period of up to 1 business day from receipt of the money from the Depository rely on the Delivery versus Payment exemption irrespective of the payment method used.

If instructions given to sell shares by telephone are not confirmed in writing, investors will be liable for any dealing costs incurred by the ACD.

Where the ACD believes that a reliable price cannot be established as at the valuation point, dealing in the relevant fund may be suspended temporarily. See the "Suspension of Dealing" section on page 57 below for information regarding the possibility of a temporary suspension of dealing.

The ACD may at its discretion delay arranging for the issue of Shares until payment has been received.

If an applicant defaults in making any payment in money or a transfer of property due to the ACD in respect of the sale or issue of Shares, the subscription for the purchase of those Shares may lapse and be cancelled at the cost of the applicant or its financial intermediary. The Company is also entitled to make any necessary amendment to the register in which case the ACD will become entitled to the Shares in place of the applicant, (subject in the case of an issue of Shares to the ACD's payment of the purchase price to the Company).

Failure to make good settlement by the settlement date may result in the ACD bringing an action against the applicant or its financial intermediary or deducting any costs or losses incurred by the ACD against any existing holding of the applicant in a fund. In all cases any money returnable to the investor will be held by the ACD without payment of interest pending receipt of the moneys due.

## **Settlement Date**

For each of the funds, the Settlement Date is no later than close of business on the fourth business day following the "transaction date". The length of time to settlement will depend on the asset or share classes concerned and could potentially range from T+1 to T+4. (This can at times be referred to as "T + [number]" where "T" stands for "transaction date".) The transaction date is the date on which the ACD implements an instruction to buy or sell. The Settlement Date is the date on which ownership of the shares is transferred and when money passes. For the purposes of settlement "business day" shall (notwithstanding any other definition of "business day" within this prospectus) mean any day that the London Stock Exchange is open other than a weekend day, bank holiday or any other special concessionary holiday or other day that the London Stock Exchange is not operating normal business hours.

By way of example, if an investor instructs the ACD in writing to purchase shares at 09.00 on a Monday, the shares will be purchased at the following valuation point (in this case 12 noon on Monday for all funds. Monday will be the transaction date, as this is counted as a separate day, and Thursday, on a T+3 settlement basis, would be the Settlement Date when payment for the shares is due and payable.

## **Deferred Redemption**

The ACD may defer redemptions in times of high redemptions. For this purpose "high redemptions" are redemptions that at a valuation point on any given Dealing Day exceed 10% of a fund's net asset value.

The ability to defer redemptions is intended to protect the interests of shareholders remaining in the relevant fund and will give the ACD, in times of high redemptions, the ability to defer redemptions at a particular valuation point on a Dealing Day to the valuation point on the next Dealing Day. This is intended to allow the ACD to match the sale of scheme property to the level of redemptions. Subject to COLL and to sufficient Liquidity being raised at the next valuation point all deals relating to the earlier valuation point will be completed before those relating to the later valuation point are considered.

## MINIMUM VALUE OF HOLDINGS

**Note:** References to Institutional Shares in this section include P Shares, Q Shares, Z Shares, ZC Shares, ZA Shares and ZB Shares unless otherwise stated.

The following minimum values currently apply to holdings and dealings by a holder in the shares of a fund:

### Retail Shares

- (a) Minimum value of shares which any holder may hold (unless investing monthly in the relevant fund).  
£500 in any fund.
- (b) Minimum value of shares which may be the subject of a single purchase (unless investing monthly in the relevant fund).  
£500 in any fund and the minimum value of any subsequent purchase is £50.
- (c) Minimum value of shares which may be the subject of a single redemption request.  
£250 in any fund subject to the request not reducing the holder's holding below the minimum value referred to in (a) above.
- (d) Regular Monthly Payments (direct debit) may be made into any fund.  
£50 minimum per month.

### Institutional Shares

- (a) Minimum value of shares which any holder may hold.  
£50,000 in any fund.
- (b) Minimum value of shares which may be the subject of a single purchase.  
£5,000,000 for the initial purchase in any fund and £50,000 for any subsequent purchase in that same fund.
- (c) Minimum value of shares which may be the subject of a single redemption request.  
£5,000 in any fund except for Institutional "S" Shares where the minimum value is £150,000,000 subject to the request not reducing the holder's holding below the minimum value referred to in (a) above.

The ACD may waive the above minimum requirements in any particular case prescribed by it.

## ISSUE OF SHARES IN EXCHANGE FOR IN SPECIE ASSETS

On request, the ACD may, at its discretion, arrange for the Company to issue shares in exchange for assets other than money, but will only do so where the Depositary has taken reasonable care to ensure that the Company's acquisition of those assets in exchange for the shares concerned is not likely to result in any material prejudice to the interests of holders.

The ACD will ensure that the beneficial interest in the assets is transferred to the Company with effect from the issue of the shares.

The ACD will not issue shares relating to any fund in exchange for assets the holding of which would be inconsistent with the investment objective of that fund.

## **IN SPECIE REDEMPTION**

Where a holder requests redemption or cancellation of shares, the ACD at its discretion may, by serving a notice of election on the holder before the proceeds of the redemption or cancellation would otherwise become payable in Cash, elect that the holder shall not be paid the redemption price of his shares but instead there shall be a transfer to that holder of scheme property of the relevant fund having the appropriate value. Where such a notice is so served on a holder, the holder may serve a further notice on the ACD not later than the close of business on the fourth business day following the day of receipt by the holder of the first mentioned notice requiring the ACD, instead of arranging for a transfer of scheme property, to arrange for a sale of that scheme property and the payment to the holder of the net proceeds of that sale.

The selection of scheme property to be transferred (or sold) is made by the ACD in consultation with the Depositary, only if the Depositary has taken reasonable care to ensure that the property concerned would not be likely to result in any material prejudice to the interests of holders. The Company may retain out of the scheme property to be transferred (or the proceeds of sale) scheme property or Cash of value or amount equivalent to any redemption charge or stamp duty to be paid in relation to the cancellation of the shares.

## **SUSPENSION OF DEALING**

The ACD may, with the prior agreement of the Depositary, and must, if the Depositary so requires, suspend the issue, sale, cancellation and redemption of shares in any of the funds if the ACD, or the Depositary in the case of any requirement by the Depositary, is of the opinion that due to exceptional circumstances it is in the interests of holders in the fund concerned.

The ACD will notify holders of the suspension as soon as practicable after suspension commences.

During a suspension the obligations relating to the issue, sale, cancellation and redemption of shares contained in Chapter 6 of the FCA Rules will cease to apply in respect of the fund concerned and the ACD must comply with as many of the obligations relating to the valuation of shares as is practicable in the light of the suspension.

In accordance with Chapter 7 of the FCA Rules, suspension of dealing in shares must cease as soon as practicable after the exceptional circumstances have ceased and the ACD and the Depositary must formally review the suspension at least every 28 days and inform the FCA of the results of this review.

The valuation of shares will commence at the valuation point (as defined in Appendix V) on the first normal Dealing Day following the day on which the suspension of redemption of shares ceased.

### **Mandatory Redemption of Shares**

No shares may be acquired or held directly or beneficially in circumstances which:

- (i) constitute a breach of any law or governmental regulation (or any interpretation of a law or regulation by a competent authority) of any country or territory; or
- (ii) would (or would if other shares were acquired or held in like circumstances) result in the Company incurring any liability to taxation or suffering any other adverse consequence (including a requirement to register under any securities or investment or similar laws or governmental regulation of any country or territory).

In this connection, the ACD may from time to time impose such restrictions as it may think necessary for the purpose of ensuring that no shares are so acquired or held.

If it comes to the notice of the ACD that any shares ("affected shares") are owned in any of those circumstances or if it reasonably believes this to be the case, the ACD may give notice to the holder(s) of the shares requiring the transfer of the shares to a person who is qualified or entitled to own them or the switch, where possible, of the shares for other shares the holding or acquisition of which would not fall within any of those circumstances or that a request in writing be given for the redemption or cancellation of such shares in accordance with the FCA Rules. If any person upon whom such a notice is served does not within 30 days after the date of such notice transfer his shares to a person qualified to own them or switch his shares or establish to the satisfaction of the ACD (whose judgement is final and binding) that he and any person on whose behalf he holds the shares are qualified and entitled to own the shares, he shall be deemed upon the expiration of that 30 day period to have given a request in writing for the redemption or cancellation of all the shares pursuant to the FCA Rules.

A person who becomes aware that he is holding or owns shares in any of those circumstances shall forthwith, unless he has already received a notice from the ACD, either transfer the shares to a person qualified to own them or, where possible, switch the shares or give a request in writing for the redemption or cancellation (at the discretion of the ACD) of the shares pursuant to the FCA Rules.

## SWITCHING

A holder is entitled to exchange shares in one fund for shares in another, or, within the same fund, exchange shares in one share class for shares in another subject always to any limitation on the issue of shares of that fund or class. The number of new shares to be issued or sold to the holder on an exchange will be determined by the following formula:

$$N = \frac{O \times RP \times (1-SC)}{SP}$$

where:

N is the number of new shares to be issued or sold, rounded down to the nearest whole number of smaller denomination shares;

O is the number of original shares which the holder has requested to exchange;

RP is the price at which a single original share may be cancelled or redeemed as at the valuation point applicable to the cancellation or redemption as the case may be;

SC is a charge made by the ACD when switching between different funds or between different share classes within the same fund. The charge will not exceed any excess of the amount of the preliminary charge that would be applicable to a sale of the shares being acquired (by reference to the current preliminary charge stated in the most recently published prospectus) over the sum of the preliminary charge actually paid on the original acquisition of the shares being redeemed and any switching charge previously incurred. This charge may be waived at the discretion of the ACD;

SP is the price at which a single new share may be issued or sold as at the valuation point applicable to the cancellation or redemption as the case may be (or, where the exchange is between funds which have different valuation points, as at the valuation point applicable to the issue or sale as the case may be).

The ACD may adjust the number of new shares to be issued or sold to reflect the effect of any stamp duty or other charges payable on the redemption, cancellation, issue or sale (as applicable) of the shares concerned.

An exchange of shares will be subject to the minimum purchase requirement for the new fund or share class and to any minimum holding as detailed on pages 56 and 59 for the fund or share class from which the shares are being changed and to any other eligibility requirements which may exist.

The ACD may decline to permit an exchange into a fund or share class in respect of which there are no shares in issue, or in any case in which it would be entitled by the FCA Rules to refuse to give effect to a request by the holder for the redemption of shares of the old class or the issue or sale of shares of the new class.

An exchange of shares in one fund for shares in another fund is treated as a redemption and sale and will, for persons subject to UK taxation, be a realisation for the purposes of capital gains tax. In no circumstances will the holder who exchanges shares be entitled to withdraw from or cancel the transaction.

## SHARE CONVERSIONS

Holders are entitled to convert their shares of one class for shares of another class within the same fund subject to any limitations on the issue of shares.

Conversions will be effected by the ACD recording the change of class on the Register.

Conversions may not be effected by the ACD at the next valuation point following receipt of instructions to convert from a holder and may be held over and processed at a subsequent valuation point or ultimately to the valuation point immediately following the end of the relevant fund's accounting period. For further information and to discuss the timing for the completion of conversions please contact the ACD.

Conversions are not generally treated as redemptions or sales and therefore will not, on the whole, be treated as a disposal for the purposes of capital gains taxation. No stamp duty reserve tax will be payable on a conversion.

The ACD may, upon appropriate notice to affected holders, effect a compulsory conversion of shares in one class of a fund for another class of the same fund. Such compulsory conversion shall be conducted as described above in this section. A compulsory conversion will only be undertaken where the ACD reasonably considers it is fair and in the best interests of the affected holders. By way of example, the ACD may effect a compulsory conversion where the ACD reasonably believes it is fair and in the best interests of holders to reduce the number of available classes. Examples of when this compulsory conversion power will be used, include (but are not limited to): to facilitate switching shareholders to better value share classes or for the consolidation of classes of shares.

## VALUATION

The scheme property of each of the funds will normally be valued at 12 noon on each Dealing Day for the purpose of determining the prices at which shares in the funds may (a) be purchased from, or redeemed by, the ACD and (b) issued or cancelled by the Depositary.

The ACD has the right to carry out an additional valuation of the scheme property of any of the funds at any time if the ACD considers it desirable to do so or if required by the FCA Rules.

If there is more than one class of share in issue in a fund, the proportionate interests of each class in the assets (and also the income) shall be determined by the ACD maintaining a notional account for each class. The proportionate interest in the scheme property of each class is determined on each business day to reflect the appropriate Annual Management Charge for that class of share.

In general, the scheme property of each of the funds will be valued on the following basis:

- valuing the proportion of the assets of the fund attributable to each class of share by reference to the latest dealing price. Where investments have different valuations depending on whether the investment is being bought or sold, their mid-market price will be used. If an investment is quoted at a single price, then it is that price which will be used. Where, in the opinion of the ACD, the price obtained for an investment is unreliable or no recent traded price is available or no price exists, or if the most recent price does not reflect the ACD's best estimate of the value of the investment, such investments shall be valued at what the ACD considers is a fair and reasonable value. Cash is



valued at its nominal value. Any other property will be valued in accordance with the provisions on the instrument of incorporation, as explained in Appendix V;

- dividing these values by the number of shares in issue.

For a more detailed explanation of how the scheme property of the funds will be valued, please refer to Appendix V.

## DILUTION ADJUSTMENT

When the Company buys or sells underlying investments in response to a request for subscription or redemption of Shares, it will generally incur a cost, made up of dealing costs and any spread between the buying and selling prices of the investment concerned.

The ACD will apply a dilution charge to prevent dilution of a fund as explained above and in the scenarios listed below. Rather than reduce the effect of dilution by making a separate charge to investors when they buy or sell Shares in the relevant fund, the FCA Rules permit an Authorised Fund Manager to move the price at which Shares are bought or sold on any given day. The single price can be swung higher or lower at the discretion of the ACD. This price movement from the basic midmarket price is known as a 'Dilution Adjustment'. The amount of the adjustment is paid into the Fund for the protection of existing/continuing Shareholders. Any dilution adjustment applied is included in the price applied to the deal.

The Dilution Adjustment shall make such reasonable allowance as the ACD determines is appropriate for the typical market spread of the value of the assets of a fund and the related costs of acquisition or disposal of these assets. Where a fund invests in another fund, unit trust, an open ended investment company or any other collective investment scheme ('a collective investment vehicle'), the ACD may base the calculation of that part of the Dilution Adjustment relating to that investment on the calculation of the Dilution Adjustment on a look-through to the underlying assets of that collective investment vehicle.

The ACD's policy will be to normally impose a Dilution Adjustment where there are net inflows or outflows on any given day, exceeding a level where the estimated potential cost to the relevant fund justifies its application.

The Dilution Adjustment may also be charged:

- (a) where a fund is in continual decline;
- (b) on a fund experiencing large levels of net sales relative to its size;
- (c) in any other case where the ACD is of the opinion that the interests of Shareholders require imposition of a Dilution Adjustment.

Where a Dilution Adjustment applies to a fund at a valuation point:

- i) if there is a net investment in that fund at that valuation point, the Share Price may (but will not always) be increased to allow for the rate of Dilution Adjustment; and
- ii) if there is a net divestment in that fund at the valuation point, the Share Price may (but will not always) be decreased to allow for the amount of the Dilution Adjustment.

Dilution is related to the inflows and outflows of monies from the funds and, as such, it is not possible to predict accurately whether dilution will occur at any future point in time.

Consequently it is also not possible to accurately predict how frequently the ACD will need to make such a dilution adjustment. The rate of any dilution adjustment made from time to time will differ for the fund and be dependent on dealing spreads, commissions and taxes and duties arising on the purchase or sale of the scheme property of the fund. These estimated rates may differ in practice.

*For illustrative purposes, the table below shows historic information on dilution adjustments to the share price over the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024.*

*The table below sets out recently estimated rates as at 31 December 2024.*

<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Estimated Dilution Adjustment (%) Applicable For Purchases</b>	<b>Estimated Dilution Adjustment (%) Applicable For Sales</b>	<b>Number Of Days On Which A Dilution Adjustment Has Been Applied</b>
abrdn Europe ex UK Income Equity Fund	0.17	0.03	1
abrdn Global Smaller Companies Fund	0.21	0.17	0
abrdn Emerging Markets Income Equity Fund	0.24	0.31	0
abrdn Europe ex UK Smaller Companies Fund	0.20	0.10	0
abrdn Sterling Corporate Bond Fund	0.28	0.28	5
abrdn American Income Equity Fund*	0.10	0.04	1
abrdn Global Infrastructure Equity Fund	0.19	0.11	3
abrdn UK Government Bond Fund	0.04	0.04	0
abrdn North American Small & Mid-Cap Equity Fund	0.10	0.09	0
abrdn AAA Bond Fund	0.11	0.11	1
abrdn UK Ethical Equity Fund	0.59	0.18	0
abrdn Global Focused Equity Fund*	0.12	0.07	1
abrdn High Yield Bond Fund	0.36	0.36	1
abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund	0.17	0.06	0
abrdn Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund*	0.32	0.32	7
abrdn UK Smaller Companies Fund	0.64	0.32	8

\* Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.

On the occasions when the dilution adjustment is not applied there may be an adverse impact on the total assets of the relevant fund.

The above is current Company practice and as such may be subject to change in the future.

## **STAMP DUTY RESERVE TAX**

From 30 March 2014, generally, there will be no charge to stamp duty reserve tax ("SDRT") when investors surrender or redeem their shares. However, where the redemption is satisfied by a non-pro rata in specie redemption, then a charge to SDRT may apply.

## WINDING UP AND TERMINATION

The Company or a fund may be wound up as an unregistered company under Part V of the Insolvency Act 1986 or under the FCA Rules. The Company may be wound up or a fund may be terminated under the FCA Rules.

The Company may be wound up or a fund terminated under the FCA Rules:-

- (a) if an extraordinary resolution to that effect is passed at a meeting of the Company or of the holders of shares of all classes relating to that fund; or
- (b) if the period (if any) fixed for the duration of the Company or a particular fund by the instrument of incorporation expires; or
- (c) if the event (if any) occurs on the occurrence of which the instrument of incorporation provides that the Company or a particular fund is to be wound up or terminated (as appropriate); or
- (d) on the date of effect stated in any agreement by the FCA in response to a request by the ACD for the revocation of the authorisation order in respect of the Company or for the termination of the fund; or
- (e) on the effective date of a duly approved scheme of arrangement which is to result in the Company ceasing to hold any scheme property; or
- (f) in the case of a fund, on the effective date of a duly approved scheme of arrangement which is to result in the fund ceasing to hold any scheme property; or
- (g) in the case of the Company, on the date when all of its funds fall within (f) above or have otherwise ceased to hold any scheme property, notwithstanding that the Company may have assets and liabilities that are not attributable to any particular fund.

Where the Company is to be wound up or a fund terminated under the FCA Rules, notice of the proposals for winding up the Company or termination of the relevant fund must be given to the FCA for approval (or deemed approval). This notice cannot be given to the FCA unless the ACD provides a statement (following an investigation into the affairs, business or property of the Company or the fund as the case may be) which either confirms that the Company or the fund will be able to meet all its liabilities within 12 months of the date of the statement or states that such confirmation cannot be given. The Company may not be wound up or a fund terminated under the FCA Rules if there is a vacancy in the position of the ACD at the relevant time.

On the winding up commencing:-

- (a) Chapter 5, 6.2 R and 6.3 R of the FCA Rules (which relate to the pricing of and dealing in shares and to investment and borrowing powers respectively) will cease to apply to the Company or the relevant fund;
- (b) the Company will cease to issue and cancel shares of all classes or (where a particular fund is to be terminated) shares of all classes relating to that fund and the ACD will cease to sell or redeem such shares or arrange for the Company to issue or cancel them;
- (c) no transfer of a Share or (where a particular fund is to be terminated) a Share in that fund will be registered and no other change to the Register will be made without the sanction of the ACD; and
- (d) where the Company is being wound up or a fund terminated, the Company or the fund will cease to carry on its business except in so far as may be required for the beneficial winding up of the Company or for the termination of the fund;
- (e) the corporate status and powers of the Company and (subject as mentioned above) the ACD shall continue until the Company is dissolved.

The ACD shall, as soon as practicable after the Company falls to be wound up or a fund terminated, realise the assets of the Company or (as the case may be) the relevant fund and, after paying out or retaining adequate provision for all liabilities properly payable and retaining provision for the costs of winding up or termination, may make one or more interim distributions of the proceeds to holders proportionately to their rights to participate in the scheme property of the Company or the relevant fund. On or prior to the date on which the final account is sent to holders, the ACD will also make a final distribution to holders of any remaining balance in the same proportions as mentioned above.

Following the completion of the winding up of the Company or termination of a fund, the Depositary must notify the FCA of that fact.

Following the completion of a winding up of the Company or termination of a fund, the ACD must prepare a final account showing how the winding up or termination was conducted and how the scheme property was disposed of. The auditors of the Company will make a report in respect of the final account and will state their opinion as to whether the final account has been properly prepared. This final account and the auditors' report must be sent to the FCA and to each holder within two months of the termination of the winding up or termination.

### Reports and Accounts During Winding Up

While the Company is being wound up, the annual and half-yearly accounting periods will continue to run, the provisions of the FCA Rules about annual and interim allocation of income shall continue to apply and annual and half-yearly reports will continue to be required. Notwithstanding the provisions of 4.5.13 R of the FCA Rules the ACD need not send to each holder a copy of a report relating to any accounting period commencing after the effective time if the directors after consultation with the FCA, are satisfied that it is not necessary in the interests of holders for the report to be sent to holders. Copies will however be available on request by the holders.

### Manner of Termination of a Fund

With respect to the termination of any fund the provisions of the section headed "Manner of Winding Up" above shall apply mutatis mutandis, with references to the Company being treated as references to the relevant fund, references to shares being treated as references to shares of the classes issued in respect of such fund, references to holders being treated as references to holders of such shares, references to scheme property being treated as references to the scheme property allocated or attributable to such fund, and references to winding up being treated as references to the relevant termination. The obligations under 6.8 R of the FCA Rules (Income: accounting, allocation and distribution) and 4.5 R of the FCA Rules (Reports and Accounts) continue until completion of the termination.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Reports and Accounts

The annual reports in respect of the Company will be published in long form within four months of the annual accounting date (currently the publication date is 30 June). The half yearly reports will be published in long form within two months of the half yearly accounting date (currently the publication date is 31 October). The accounts contained in the annual and half-yearly reports will be prepared in accordance with the FCA Rules and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Financial Statements of Authorised Funds (published from time to time). Copies of the long report and accounts will be available on request. A copy of the latest annual and half-yearly reports will be provided free of charge on the request of any person eligible to invest in the funds before the conclusion of any sale. The annual and half yearly reports of the Company will include a portfolio statement setting out the investments of each fund at the end of the period to which the report relates.

### Benchmarks Regulation

For those funds that may track their return against a benchmark index, or whose asset allocation is defined by reference to a benchmark index, the ACD will ensure, unless otherwise disclosed in this Prospectus, the indices or benchmarks utilised by those funds are, as at the date of this Prospectus, provided by an administrator that is listed on the register of benchmarks and administrators maintained by the FCA, as required by the Benchmark Regulation.

The ACD has adopted a written plan setting out actions, which it will take with respect to the relevant funds in the event that an index or benchmark materially changes or ceases to be provided, in accordance with the Benchmark Regulation. Copies of the descriptions of these plans may be accessed, free of charge, upon request, from the ACD.

#### Address for Service

The address for service on the Company of notices or other documents required or authorised to be served on it is 280 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4AG.

Any such notice or document must be given to or served on the Company in hard copy unless otherwise specified in this prospectus in relation to any specific notice or document.

#### Inspection of Documents

The prospectus, instrument of incorporation, any amending instrument and the most recent annual and half yearly reports may be inspected at and copies obtained free of charge from the head office of the Company at the above address. A copy of the Service Agreement between the Company and the ACD may be obtained by investors from the head office of the Company at the above address.

#### Risk Management Information

The ACD must establish, implement and maintain an adequate and documented risk management process for identifying the risks to which a fund is or might be exposed.

Holders may obtain from the ACD, on request, the following information supplementary to this prospectus relating to:-

- (a) the quantitative limits applying in the risk management of the Company;
- (b) the methods used in relation to (a);
- (c) any recent development of the risks and Yields of the main categories of investment.

#### Order Execution Information

In accordance with the Conduct of Business Sourcebook, published from time to time by the FCA as part of its handbook of rules, the ACD needs to put in place arrangements to execute orders most favourable to and in the interests of the Company.

As set out above, the ACD has delegated the investment management to the Investment Adviser, who in turn executes decisions to deal on behalf of the funds. The Investment Adviser must, in accordance with the FCA Rules, establish and implement an order execution policy to allow it to obtain the best possible results in accordance with its obligations under those rules.

On request, the ACD will, free from charge, provide a shareholder with information supplementary to this prospectus relating to the execution policy.

#### Voting Rights Strategy

In accordance with the FCA Rules, the ACD must develop strategies for determining when and how voting rights of assets held within the scheme property are to be exercised ("Voting Rights Strategy"). A summary copy of the ACD's Voting Rights Strategy, together with details of the actions which the ACD has taken on the basis of those strategies, are available, free of charge, from the ACD.

#### Conflicts of Duty or Interest

The ACD, the Investment Adviser and the Sub-Adviser may, from time to time, act as investment managers or advisers to other collective investment schemes (or funds thereof or to other persons), which follow similar investment objectives, policies or strategies to those of the Company or the funds. It is therefore possible that any of those parties may in the course of its business have potential conflicts of duty or interest with the Company or a particular fund. In addition, Derivative transactions may be effected in which the ACD, the Investment Adviser or the Sub-Adviser has either a direct or indirect interest that may potentially involve a conflict of its or their obligations to a fund. Each of the ACD, the Investment Adviser and the Sub-Adviser will, however, have regard in such event to their respective obligations under the ACD Agreement, the Investment Management Agreement, or other agreement and, in particular, having regard to their obligations to other clients when undertaking any investment where potential conflicts of interest may arise.

## **UCITS**

The Company has been granted Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS) certificates. These UCITS certificates will allow the ACD to market the funds in EU Member States, subject to the relevant local laws, specifically marketing laws.

## **TAXATION OF THE COMPANY**

Each of the funds of the Company will be taxed separately. For details about this, see Appendix IV.

## **COMPLAINTS**

In the event of an investor having a complaint, they should write to the ACD marked for the attention of the Complaints Team at PO Box 12233, Chelmsford CM99 2EE setting out the grounds for the complaint. Alternatively, you can also make a complaint by:

Telephone: 0345 113 6966 (+44 1268 445488 from overseas)

Fax: 0330 123 3580

All complaints will be investigated and, unless the complaint is resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant within eight weeks after its receipt by the ACD, the complainant in most cases will have a right to refer the complaint to the Financial Ombudsman Service.

The ACD's complaint handling procedure will be available by writing to the above address.

The Financial Ombudsman Service will normally only consider a complaint after having given the ACD the opportunity to resolve the complaint to the satisfaction of the customer.

The address for the Financial Ombudsman Service is:

Financial Ombudsman  
Exchange Tower  
London  
E14 9SR

Alternatively, you can contact the Financial Ombudsman Service by:

Telephone: 0800 023 4567 or from outside the UK + 44 20 7964 0500

E-mail: [complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk](mailto:complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk)

## FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPENSATION SCHEME

The ACD is covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme ("FSCS"), which means if the ACD becomes insolvent, you may be entitled to compensation. The level of compensation will depend on the type of business and the circumstances of your claim. Further information about compensation arrangements is available from the ACD on request or from the FSCS at:

The Financial Services Compensation Scheme  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Beaufort House  
15 St Botolph Street  
London  
EC3A 7QU

Telephone: 0800 678 1100 or 020 7741 4100

Website: [www.fscs.org.uk](http://www.fscs.org.uk)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Holders will be contacted by post at their last known address held on the register for the service of any notice or document in respect of a holder meeting or any such matter of which a holder should be notified.

A holder is not liable to make any further payment after he has paid the purchase price of his shares in full and no further liability can be imposed on him in accordance with the FCA Rules.

The information in this prospectus is based on the ACD's understanding of the current law and practice at the date of publication. It does not set out to give specific legal or tax advice.

Words and expressions which are defined in the Act, the FCA Rules, the Glossary of definitions published by the FCA ("the Glossary") or the OEIC Regulations have the same meanings where they are used in this prospectus (except where inconsistent with the context) and any references to any statute or statutory instrument or other regulation shall be deemed to include a reference to such statute, or statutory instrument, or other regulation, as from time to time amended and to any codifications, consolidation or re-enactment thereof, as from time to time in force.

Any person relying on this prospectus, which was current at the date shown on page 1 of this prospectus, should first check with the ACD that this is the most current version and that no revisions or corrections have been made since this version was issued.

## PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

In accordance with data protection laws and regulations applicable in the UK, including from 25 May 2018 the General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR"), the investors, the investors' individual representatives (where applicable) and the investors' ultimate beneficial owner or owners (each the "Data Subjects") are informed that the Company and the ACD (together the "Data Controllers") may collect, record, store and transfer or otherwise process any Personal Data (as defined below), either electronically or by other means, at the time of subscription by the investors and at any other time during the contractual relationship.

The data processed may include, but is not limited to, the name and other contact details, date of birth, tax identifier, passport number, holdings, bank account details, knowledge and investment experience, financial situation and investments objectives, and function and powers of the Data Subjects (the "Personal Data"). Personal Data is collected directly from Data Subjects in communications with us or may be collected through our online services such as websites, social media and mobile device applications.

Personal Data may be processed for the following purposes:

- (i) to offer investment in shares to investors and to perform the related services as contemplated in this prospectus (such as the provision of corporate, administrative and transfer agent services to the Company and the investors including the processing of subscriptions and redemptions or transfer of shares);
- (ii) to perform direct or indirect marketing activities (such as market research or in connection with investments in other investment funds managed by the ACD or any associated company); and
- (iii) to assist the Data Controllers to comply with their respective legal and regulatory obligations including, but not limited to, legal obligations under applicable fund and company law (such as maintaining the register of investors and recording orders), prevention of terrorism law, anti-money laundering law, prevention and detection of crime, and tax law.

The Data Controllers may collect, use, store, retain, transfer and/or otherwise process Personal Data as follows:

- (a) to the extent that the investor separately provides consent for direct or indirect marketing activities, the basis of such consent; and/or;
- (b) as a result of the subscription of shares or to take steps at the request of individuals prior to subscription, including the holding of shares in general; and/or;
- (c) to comply with a legal or regulatory obligation; and/or;
- (d) in the event the investor is represented by an individual representative, the investor's individual representative's Personal Data may be processed in order to allow the Data Controller to pursue its legitimate interests of providing the shares to the investors and performing the related services as contemplated in this prospectus.

The Data Controllers will take steps to ensure that all Personal Data in relation to the Data Subjects is recorded accurately and maintained in a secure and confidential format. Such Personal Data will be retained only as long as necessary for the purposes for which it has been collected in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

## DISCLOSURE OF DATA

The Company and the ACD may delegate the processing of Personal Data to one or several entities including but not limited to the Investment Adviser, the Sub-Advisers, any associated company of the ACD, SS&C, the Depositary, any distributor or sub-distributor, the Auditors, legal and financial advisers, IT providers as well as any other service providers to the Data Controllers and, any of the foregoing respective agents, delegates, affiliates, subcontractors and/or their successors and assigns (the "Data Processors").

The Data Processors may be located in the UK or the EEA and/or outside the EEA (including but not limited to the United States, Hong Kong, Singapore and India). The Data Controllers will ensure that the transfer of Personal Data outside the UK or the EEA is always done so securely and in compliance with applicable data protection laws and regulations. The Data Controllers may transfer Personal Data outside the UK or the EEA (i) on the basis of an adequacy decision of the UK or the European Commission with respect to the protection of personal data and/or on the basis of the EU-US Privacy Shield framework or (ii) on the basis of appropriate safeguards according to applicable data protection laws and regulations, such as standard contractual clauses, binding corporate rules.

The Company and the ACD undertake not to transfer the Personal Data to any third parties other than the Data Processors. The Company and the ACD may, however, disclose and transfer Personal Data to courts and/or legal regulatory, tax and Government Authorities in various jurisdictions (including jurisdictions located outside of the UK or the EEA) ("Authorities") pursuant to UK laws or regulations or foreign laws and regulations relating to any matter in connection with the services subscribed by the investors.

### **Data Subject Rights; Contact Details of the Data Protection Officer; ICO**

After providing Personal Data, Data Subjects have various rights in respect of the Personal Data they provide. These include the right to:

- request access to their personal data;



- obtain information about the use of their personal data including: (i) the purposes for which their personal data is being used; (ii) the categories of their personal data being used; (iii) to whom their personal data has been or will be disclosed; (iv) where possible, the period for which their data will be retained; (v) their right to require rectification or erasure of their personal data or restrict or object to its use; (vi) their right to lodge a complaint with the UK Information Commissioner's Office (the "ICO") or other supervisory authority; and (vii) whether their data is subject to any automated decision-making including profiling;
- require rectification (correction) of errors in their personal data without undue delay;
- have their personal data erased without undue delay in certain circumstances including where: (i) their personal data no longer needs to be processed for the purposes for which it was collected; (ii) their personal data has been processed unlawfully; and (iii) erasure is required by applicable law;
- restrict the processing of their personal data in certain situations including where: (i) they are contesting the accuracy of their personal data; (ii) their data is being processed unlawfully but they do not want their data erased; (iii) their personal data is no longer needed for the purposes for which they provided it but the Data Controllers require that data to help establish, exercise or defend legal claims;
- receive their personal data in a structured, commonly used and machine-readable format and transmit that data to a third party;
- request a copy of an agreement under which their Personal Data is transferred outside of the UK or the EEA;
- to be notified of a data breach which is likely to result in high risk to their rights and freedoms; and
- where consent is the basis for processing, withdraw such consent at any time.

If Data Subjects wish to exercise any of the rights set out above, contact details can be found below.

To the extent Data Subjects have any questions about the processing of their information, or wish to exercise any of the rights referred to above, please contact the Data Protection Officer at abrdn, 1 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2LL or [dataprotectionofficer@abrdn.com](mailto:dataprotectionofficer@abrdn.com).

Data Subjects can also bring any issues or concerns they have regarding their personal data to the attention of the ICO which, for the purposes of an investment in the fund(s), will be the relevant supervisory authority. Details regarding the ICO and its powers can be found at: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

## APPENDIX I

### RISKS

All investments involve risk. The risks of some of the funds may be comparatively high. The risk descriptions below correspond to the main risk factors for each fund. “**General Risks**” mostly apply to all funds; “**Specific Risks**” are particularly relevant where noted below each fund’s investment objective and policy. A fund could potentially be affected by risks beyond those listed described for it here, nor are these risk descriptions themselves intended as exhaustive. Each risk is described as if for an individual fund.

A number of the risks described in this section aren’t directly applicable to the securities held by the Company. However, if a fund invests into another fund which does hold securities where the risk is applicable then this is highlighted below the fund’s investment objective and policy.

The value of investments and income from them can go down as well as up, and you might get back less than you invested.

Any of these risks could cause a fund to lose money, to perform less well than similar investments or a benchmark, to experience high Volatility (ups and downs in NAV), or to fail to meet its objective over any period of time.

Statements made in this prospectus are based on the law and practice in force at the date of this prospectus.

Charges have the effect of reducing investment returns. Your investment must grow more than the rate of charges before you receive a positive return. A positive return is not guaranteed. Charges may reduce the value of your investment.

Some funds have charges taken from capital (as set out in the “Charges” section) which may limit the growth in value of the relevant fund. However, when charges are taken from capital, more income is generally available to distribute to shareholders.

#### **General Risks**

##### **Commodity Risk**

The value of the securities in which the fund invests may be influenced by movements in commodity prices which can be very volatile. The price of commodities may be disproportionately affected by political, economic, weather and terrorist-related activities and by changes in energy and transportation costs.

##### **Counterparty risk**

An entity with which the Company does business could become unwilling or unable to meet its obligations to the Company.

The bankruptcy or insolvency of counterparty could result in delays in getting back securities or Cash of the Company’s that were in the possession of the counterparty. This could mean the Company is unable to sell the securities or receive the income from them during the period in which it seeks to enforce its rights, which process itself is likely to create additional costs. Various operational risks could also cause delays even if there is no inability of the counterparty to pay.

If any collateral the Company holds as protection against counterparty risk declines in value, it may not fully protect the Company against losses from counterparty risk, including lost fees and income.

##### **Currency risk**

Changes in currency exchange rates could reduce investment gains or increase investment losses, in some cases significantly.

Exchange rates can change rapidly and unpredictably, and it may be difficult for the Company to unwind its Exposure to a given currency in time to avoid losses. Changes in exchange rates can be influenced by such factors as export-import balances, economic and political trends, governmental intervention, and investor speculation.

Intervention by a central bank, such as aggressive buying or selling of currencies, changes in Interest Rates, restrictions on capital movements or a “de-pegging” of one currency to another, could cause abrupt or Long Term changes in relative currency values.

#### **Inflation risk**

Over time, inflation can erode the real value of investment gains. With investments that produce low returns, inflation can negate any gains in buying power or even cause investors net buying power to decline over time.

#### **Liquidity risk**

Any security could become hard to value or to sell at a desired time and price.

Liquidity risk could affect the fund's ability to repay repurchase agreement proceeds by the agreed deadline.

Certain securities may, by their nature, be hard to value or sell quickly, especially in any quantity. This may include securities that are labelled as Illiquid as well as a security of any type that represents a small issue, trades infrequently, or is traded on markets that are comparatively small or that have long settlement times.

#### **Management risk**

The Company's management team may be wrong in its analysis, assumptions, or projections. This includes projections concerning industry, market, economic, demographic, or other trends.

During unusual market conditions, investment management practices that have worked well in the past, or are accepted ways of addressing certain conditions, could prove ineffective.

#### **Market risk**

Prices and Yields of many securities can change frequently and can fall based on a wide variety of factors. Examples of these factors include:

- Political and economic news
- Government policy
- Changes in technology and business practice
- Changes in demographics, cultures and populations
- Natural or human-caused disasters
- Weather and climate patterns
- Scientific or investigative discoveries
- Costs and availability of energy, commodities, and natural resources

The effects of market risk can be immediate or gradual, Short Term or Long Term, narrow or broad.

This risk can apply to both the design and operation of computer models and can apply whether a model is used to support human decision-making or to directly generate trading recommendations. Flaws in software programs can go undetected for long periods of time.

#### **Operational risk**

The operations of the fund could be subject to human error, faulty processes or governance, or technological failures.

Operational risks may subject the fund to errors affecting valuation, pricing, accounting, tax reporting, financial reporting, Custody and trading, among other things. Operational risks may go undetected for long periods of time, and even if they are detected it may prove impractical to recover prompt or adequate compensation from those responsible.

#### **Regulatory and Government policy**

The laws that govern the fund may change in future. Any such changes may not be in the best interest of the fund and may have a negative impact on the value of your investment.

## **Risks specific to investment in funds**

As with any investment fund, investing in the fund involves certain risks an investor would not face if investing in markets directly:

- The actions of other investors, in particular sudden large outflows of Cash, could interfere with orderly management of the Company and cause its NAV to fall.
- The investor cannot direct or influence how money is invested while it is in the Company.
- The Company's buying and selling of investments may not be optimal for the tax efficiency of any given investor.
- The fund is subject to various investment laws and regulations that limit the use of certain securities and investment techniques that might improve performance; to the extent that the fund decides to register in jurisdictions that impose narrower limits, this decision could further limit its investment activities.
- Because Company shares are not publicly traded, the only option for liquidation of shares is generally redemption, which could be subject to any redemption policies set by the Company.
- To the extent that the Company invests in other EEA and/or UK UCITS / UCIs, it will have less direct knowledge of, and no control over, the decisions of the EEA and/or UK UCITS / UCI's investment managers, it could incur a second layer of investment fees (which will further erode any investment gains), and it could face liquidity risk in trying to unwind its investment in an EEA and/or UK UCITS / UCI.
- The Company may not be able to hold a service provider fully responsible for any losses or lost opportunities arising from the service provider's misconduct.
- To the extent that the Company conducts business with affiliates of in the abrdn group, and these affiliates (and affiliates of other service providers) do business with each other on behalf of the Company, conflicts of interest may be created (although to mitigate these, all such business dealings must be conducted on an "arm's length" basis, and all entities, and the individuals associated with them, are subject to strict "fair dealing" policies that prohibit profiting from inside information and showing favouritism).

## **Single Swinging Price – Impact on Company value and performance**

The Company has a single swinging price. The single price can be swung up or down in response to inflows or outflows from the Company, in order to protect investors from the effect of dilution. Dilution occurs where the Company is forced to incur costs as a result of the investment manager buying or selling assets following inflows or outflows. A change to the pricing basis will result in a movement to the Company's published price and reported investment performance.

## **Suspension and Termination**

Investors should note that in exceptional circumstances, the ACD may, after consultation with the Depositary, suspend the issue, cancellation, sale and redemption (including switching) of shares in any and all funds and Classes.

## **Taxation risks**

A country could change its tax laws or treaties in ways that affect investors.

Tax changes potentially could be retroactive and could affect investors with no direct investment in the country.

## **Turnover**

When securities are bought and sold they incur transaction costs, which are paid for by the Company. This is known as turnover. High levels of turnover may have a negative impact on a fund's performance.

## **Specific Risks**

### **Asset Backed/ Mortgage Backed Securities / To-be-announced risk**

Mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities (MBSs and ABSs) typically carry prepayment and extension risk and can carry above-average liquidity risk.

MBSs and ABSs represent an interest in a pool of debt, such as credit card receivables, auto loans, student loans, equipment leases, home mortgages and home equity loans. MBSs and ABSs also tend to be of lower credit quality

than many other types of debt securities. To the extent that the debts underlying an MBS or ABS go into default or become noncollectable, the securities based on those debts will lose some or all of their value.

Some securities are structured into tranches with different levels, and potentially greater levels, of credit and liquidity risk. These include collateralised loan obligations (CLOs), collateralised debt obligations (CDOs) and collateralised mortgage obligations (CMOs).

“Prepayment” occurs when the issuer of a debt security repays the instrument earlier than expected. “Extension” occurs when the issuer of a debt security postpones the date when they will repay. Either event may impact a fund investing in these securities, either through incurring unexpected transaction charges or through a change in value of the security.

To-be-announced (TBA) securities, which are MBSs or ABSs that are purchased sight unseen 48 hours before they are issued, can fall in value between the time the fund commits to the purchase and the time of delivery.

### **China A / Stock Connect risk**

Investing in China A shares involves special considerations and risks, including without limitation greater price volatility, less developed regulatory and legal framework, economic, social and political instability of the stock market in the People’s Republic of China (“PRC”).

There are restrictions on the amount of China A shares which a single foreign investor is permitted to hold and restrictions on the combined holdings of all foreign investors in a single company’s China A shares. Where those limits are reached, no further purchase of those shares will be permitted until the holding is reduced below the threshold and if the thresholds are exceeded, the relevant issuer of the China A shares may sell those shares to ensure compliance with Chinese law which may mean that the relevant China A shares are sold at a loss.

China A shares are denominated in Renminbi (“RMB”) and as RMB is not the base currency of these funds the ACD may have to convert payments from RMB into Sterling when realising China A shares and convert Sterling into RMB when purchasing shares. The exchange rate for RMB may be affected by, amongst other things, any exchange control restrictions imposed by the government in the PRC which may adversely affect the market value of these funds.

Trading China A Shares through the Hong Kong – China Stock Connect platform will be primarily traded in the offshore RMB currency, as RMB is the domestic Chinese currency and cannot be traded outside of China.

China A shares through the Hong Kong – China Stock Connect platform are held by third party securities settlement systems in Hong Kong (Hong Kong Securities Clearing Company (“HKSCC”)) and the PRC (“ChinaClear”) where they are mixed with other investors’ assets and may be subject to lower safekeeping, segregation and record keeping requirements than investments held domestically or in the European Union.

It is considered unlikely that ChinaClear will become insolvent but, if it does so, HKSCC is likely to seek to recover any outstanding China A shares from ChinaClear through available legal channels but it is not obligated to do so. If HKSCC does not enforce claims against ChinaClear these funds may not be able to recover their China A shares.

Investors should note “Taxation of Chinese Equities” section under “Taxation”.

### **Stock Connect Risk**

Stock Connect is now an established scheme, however its rules may change at any time in a manner which may adversely impact these funds.

Stock Connect will only operate when banks in Hong Kong and the PRC are both open.

The ability of these funds to invest through Stock Connect is subject to the performance by HKSCC of its obligations and any failure or delay by HKSCC may result in the failure of settlement, or loss of China A shares.

It is not possible to buy and sell shares on the same day on Stock Connect.

Not all China A shares are eligible for trading through Stock Connect, and if a China A share ceases to be eligible, further purchases of such shares will not be permitted, although these funds will always be able to sell such shares.

Stock Connect is currently subject to both daily and aggregate trading caps which if exceeded will lead to suspension of trading for that day or other relevant period which may mean that an order to purchase China A shares cannot be processed. Under the Stock Connect rules these funds will always be able to sell China A shares regardless of whether the daily or aggregate quota has been exceeded. The daily or aggregate quotas can be changed from time to time without prior notice.

China A shares traded through Stock Connect are uncertificated and are held in the name of HKSCC or its nominee. PRC law may not recognise the beneficial ownership of the China A shares by these funds and, in the event of a default of ChinaClear, it may not be possible for the China A shares held by these funds to be recovered.

Transactions in Stock Connect will not be covered by the Investor Compensation Scheme in Hong Kong nor the equivalent scheme in the PRC.

### **Concentration risk**

To the extent that the fund invests a large portion of its assets in a limited number of industries, Sectors, or issuers, or within a limited geographical area, it can be more risky than a fund that invests more broadly.

Focusing on any company, industry, Sector, country, region, type of stock, type of economy, etc. makes the fund more sensitive to the factors that determine market value for the area of focus. These factors may include economic, financial or market conditions as well as social, political, economic, environmental or other conditions. The result can be both higher Volatility and a greater risk of loss.

### **Convertible Securities and CoCos risk**

Because convertible securities are structured as Bonds that typically can, or must, be repaid with a predetermined quantity of equity shares, rather than Cash, they carry both equity risk and the credit and default risks typical of Bonds.

Contingent convertible securities (coco Bonds) are comparatively untested, their income payments may be cancelled or suspended, they are more vulnerable to losses than equities, they carry extension risk, and they can be highly Volatile. A coco Bond can lose some or all of its value instantaneously if a trigger event occurs (such as the issuer experiencing certain capital ratios). Because coco Bonds are in effect perpetual loans, the principal amount may be paid off on the call date, anytime afterward, or never.

How coco Bonds will behave in various market situations is unknown, but there is a risk that Volatility or price collapses could spread across issuers and that the Bonds could become Illiquid.

### **Country risk - China**

The legal rights of investors in China are uncertain, government intervention is common and unpredictable, and some of the major trading and custody systems are unproven.

In China, it is uncertain whether a court would protect the fund's right to securities it may purchase via the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect or other programs, whose regulations are untested and subject to change. The structure of these schemes does not require full accountability of some of its component entities and leaves investors such as the fund with relatively little standing to take legal action in China. In addition, the security exchanges in China may tax or limit short-swing profits, recall eligible stocks, set maximum trading volumes (at the investor level or at the market level) or otherwise block, limit or delay trading.

In China, the government maintains two separate currencies: internal renminbi (which must remain within China and generally cannot be owned by foreigners) and external renminbi (which can be owned by anyone). The exchange rate, and the extent to which the currencies can be exchanged, is determined by a combination of market and government actions. This effectively creates currency risk within a single nation's currency, as well as Liquidity risk.

### **Credit and High Yield Credit risk**

A Bond or money market security could lose value if the issuer's financial health deteriorates, or in extreme cases could go into default (cease to make timely payments of principal or interest).

This risk is greater the lower the credit quality of the debt, and the greater the fund's Exposure to below Investment Grade Bonds (also known as "High Yield Bonds"). A decline in Creditworthiness may also cause a Bond or money market security to become more Volatile and less liquid.

Bonds that are in default may become Illiquid or worthless. Below Investment Grade Bonds are considered speculative. Compared to Investment Grade Bonds, the prices, and Yields of below Investment Grade Bonds are more sensitive to economic events and more Volatile, and the Bonds are less liquid. In general, lower quality Bonds are more likely to default on obligations, and to be unable to repay principal if they do, particularly if they are unsecured or subordinate to other obligations.

Debt issued by governments and government-owned or -controlled entities can be subject to many risks, especially in cases where the government is reliant on payments or extensions of credit from external sources, is unable to institute the necessary systemic reforms or control domestic sentiment, or is unusually vulnerable to changes in geopolitical or economic sentiment. Even if a government issuer is financially able to pay off its debt, investors may have little recourse should it decide to delay, discount or cancel its obligations.

#### **Derivatives risk**

Certain Derivatives could behave unexpectedly or could expose the fund to losses that are significantly greater than the cost of the Derivative. Derivatives in general are highly Volatile and do not carry any voting rights. The pricing and Volatility of many Derivatives (especially credit default Swaps) may diverge from strictly reflecting the pricing or Volatility of their underlying reference(s).

In difficult market conditions, it may be impossible or unfeasible to place orders that would limit or offset the market Exposure or financial losses created by certain Derivatives. Using Derivatives also involves costs that the fund would not otherwise incur.

Regulations may limit the fund from using Derivatives in ways that might have been beneficial to the fund. Changes in tax, accounting, or securities laws could cause the value of a Derivative to fall or could force the fund to terminate a Derivative position under disadvantageous circumstances.

Certain Derivatives, in particular Futures, Options, contracts for difference and some contingent liability contracts, could involve margin borrowing, meaning that the fund could be forced to choose between liquidating securities to meet a margin call or taking a loss on a position that might, if held longer, have Yielded a smaller loss or a gain.

To the extent that the Company uses Derivatives to increase its net Exposure to any market, rate, basket of securities or other financial reference source, fluctuations in the price of the reference source will be amplified at the fund level.

As many financial Derivatives instruments have a Leveraged component, adverse changes in the value or level of the underlying asset, reference rate or index can result in a loss substantially greater than the amount invested in the Derivative itself. The funds are managed on a non-Leveraged basis unless Otherwise specified.

#### **• Over the counter (OTC) Derivatives risk**

Because OTC Derivatives are in essence private agreements between a fund and one or more counterparties, they are regulated differently than market-traded securities. They also carry greater counterparty and Liquidity risks; in particular, it may be more difficult to force a counterparty to honour its obligations to a fund. A downgrade in the Creditworthiness of counterparty can lead to a decline in the value of OTC contracts with that counterparty. If counterparty ceases to offer a Derivative that a fund had been planning on using, the fund may not be able to find a comparable Derivative elsewhere and may miss an opportunity for gain or find itself unexpectedly exposed to risks or losses, including losses from a Derivative position for which it was unable to buy an offsetting Derivative.

Because it is generally impractical for the Company to divide its OTC Derivative transactions among a wide variety of counterparties, a decline in the financial health of any one counterparty could cause significant losses. Conversely, if any fund experiences any financial weakness or fails to meet an obligation, counterparties could become unwilling to do business with the Company, which could leave the Company unable to operate efficiently and competitively.

#### **• Exchange Traded Derivatives (ETD) risk**

While exchange-traded Derivatives are generally considered lower-risk than OTC Derivatives, there is still the risk that a suspension of trading in Derivatives or in their underlying assets could make it impossible for a fund to realise gains

or avoid losses, which in turn could cause a delay in handling redemptions of shares. There is also a risk that settlement of exchange-traded Derivatives through a transfer system may not happen When or as expected.

### • **Short positions**

Some funds can take Short Positions by using Derivatives. A Short Position will reduce in value if the security it is linked to increases in value. The opposite also applies, in that the Short Position will rise in value if the underlying security reduces in value.

There is no limit to the loss on a Short Position, and so they carry higher risk than direct investment in a security. The risk of holding Short Positions is mitigated by the ACD's Risk Management Policy.

### **Emerging Markets risk**

Emerging Markets are less established, and more Volatile, than developed markets. They involve higher risks, particularly market, credit, Illiquid security, and currency risks, and are more likely to experience risks that in developed markets are associated with unusual market conditions.

Reasons for this higher level of risk include:

- Political, economic, or social instability
- Economies that are heavily reliant on particular industries, commodities, or trading partners
- High or capricious tariffs or other forms of protectionism
- Quotas, regulations, laws, or practices that place outside investors (such as the fund) at a disadvantage
- Failure to enforce laws or regulations, to provide fair or functioning mechanisms for resolving disputes or pursuing recourse, or to otherwise recognise the rights of investors as understood in developed markets
- Significant government control of businesses or intervention in markets • excessive fees, trading costs, taxation, or outright seizure of assets
- Inadequate reserves to cover issuer or counterparty defaults
- Incomplete, misleading, or inaccurate information about securities and their issuers
- Lack of uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards
- Manipulation of market prices by large investors
- Arbitrary delays and market closures
- Market Infrastructure that is unable to handle peak trading volumes
- Fraud, corruption and error

In certain countries, securities markets may also suffer from impaired efficiency and Liquidity, which may worsen price Volatility and market disruptions.

To the extent that Emerging Markets are in different time zones from the UK the fund might not be able to react in a timely fashion to price movements that occur during hours when the fund is not open for business.

- For purposes of risk, the category of Emerging Markets includes markets that are less developed, such as most countries in Asia, Africa, South America and Eastern Europe, as well as countries such as China, Russia and India that have successful economies but may not offer the highest levels of investor protection

### **Equity risk**

Equities can lose value rapidly, and typically involve higher (often significantly higher) market risks than Bonds or Money Market Instruments. If a company goes through bankruptcy or a similar financial restructuring, its equities may lose most or all of their value.

### **ESG investment risk**

Applying ESG and sustainability criteria in the investment process will result in the exclusion of securities in which the fund might otherwise invest. Such securities could be part of the benchmark against which the fund is managed, or be



within the universe of potential investments. This may have a positive or negative impact on performance and may mean that the fund's performance profile differs to that of funds which are managed against the same benchmark or invest in a similar universe of potential investments but without applying ESG or sustainability criteria. Furthermore, the lack of common or harmonised definitions and labels regarding ESG and sustainability criteria may result in different approaches by managers when setting ESG objectives. This means that it may be difficult to compare funds with ostensibly similar objectives and that these funds will employ different security selection and exclusion criteria. Consequently, the performance profile of otherwise similar funds may deviate more substantially than might otherwise be expected. Additionally, in the absence of common or harmonised definitions and labels, a degree of subjectivity is required and this will mean that a fund may invest in a security that another manager or an investor would not.

#### **Interest rate risk**

When Interest Rates rise, Bond values generally fall. This risk is generally greater the longer the Duration of a Bond investment is.

#### **Small and mid-cap Stock risk**

Stocks of small and mid-size companies can be more Volatile than stocks of larger companies.

Small and mid-size companies often have fewer financial resources, shorter operating histories, and less diverse business lines, and as a result can be at greater risk of Long Term or permanent business setbacks. Initial public offerings (IPOs) can be highly Volatile, giving them disproportionate impact on the fund's share price, and can be hard to evaluate because of a lack of trading history and relative lack of public information.

#### **Variable Interest Entity Risk**

Variable Interest Entity (VIE) structures may be adversely affected by changes in the legal and regulatory framework. This may result in losses, or force the fund to sell the VIE which could have a negative impact on the fund's performance.

## APPENDIX II

### INVESTMENT AND BORROWING

The scheme property of each fund will be invested with the aim of achieving the investment objective of that fund but subject to the limits on investment set out in Chapter 5 of the FCA Rules which apply to a UCITS scheme.

The following is a summary of the investment limits under the FCA Rules which apply to a UCITS scheme and to each fund unless otherwise stated:-

1. The scheme property of a fund may except where otherwise provided for in Chapter 5 of the FCA Rules, consist of any one or more of:-
  - transferable securities;
  - approved Money-Market Instruments;
  - units in collective investment schemes;
  - Derivatives and forward transactions; and
  - deposits.

Transferable securities, including warrants, and approved Money-Market Instruments must, subject to 2 and 3 below, (i)(a) be admitted to or dealt in on an eligible market, or (i)(b) be recently issued transferable securities provided the terms of the issue include an undertaking that application will be made to be admitted to an eligible market and such admission is secured within a year of issue, or (i)(c) be approved Money-Market Instruments not admitted to or dealt in on an eligible market provided they fall within (b) of 15 below.

The eligible markets for each fund are set out in Appendix II.

2. Not more than 10% in value of the scheme property of a fund may consist of transferable securities which are not within 1(i) above.
- 2A. Not more than 5% in value of the scheme property of a fund may consist of transferable securities which are warrants. Call options are not deemed to be warrants for the purposes of this 5% restriction.
3. Not more than 10% in value of the scheme property of a fund may consist of approved money-market instruments which do not fall within 15 below.
4. The limitations in 5 to 8 do not apply in respect of transferable securities or approved Money Market Instruments issued by the UK or an EEA State, a local authority of the UK or an EEA State, a non-EEA State or a public international body to which the UK or one or more EEA States belong.
5. Not more than 20% in value of the scheme property of a fund may consist of deposits with a single body.
6. Not more than 5% in value of the scheme property of a fund may consist of transferable securities or approved Money-Market Instruments issued by any single body, except that (i) the figure of 5% may be increased to 10% in respect of up to 40% in value of the scheme property and (ii) the figure of 5% may be increased to 25% in respect of covered Bonds provided that when the fund invests more than 5% in covered Bonds issued by a single body, the total value of covered Bonds must not exceed 80% of the Net Asset Value of the scheme property of a fund. Certificates representing certain securities are treated as equivalent to the underlying security. Where the investment policy of the scheme is to replicate the composition of a relevant index, the scheme may invest up to 20% of the value of its scheme property in shares and debentures which are issued by the same body, which limit can be raised to 35% in respect of one body only and where justified by exceptional market conditions. A relevant index is one which satisfies three criteria: the composition must be sufficiently diversified; the index must be a representative benchmark for the market and the index must be published in an appropriate manner. **This does not currently apply to any of the funds.**
7. The Exposure to any one counterparty in an over the counter Derivative transaction must not exceed 5% in value of the scheme property of a fund but this limit may be raised to 10% where the counterparty is an Approved

Bank. The ACD may net the over the counter Derivative positions with the same counterparty, provided that certain conditions of the FCA Rules are complied with. The ACD may reduce the Exposure of the scheme property to a counterparty to an over the counter Derivative transaction through the receipt of collateral. Collateral received must be sufficiently liquid so that it can be sold quickly at a price that is close to its pre-sale valuation.

8. Not more than 20% in value of the scheme property of a fund is to consist of transferable securities and approved Money-Market Instruments issued by the same group.
9. Subject to 17 below up to 20% in value of the scheme property of a fund may consist of the units of any one collective investment scheme. For this purpose, each sub-fund of an umbrella scheme is treated as a separate scheme. However, not more than 10% in value of the scheme property of any of the funds (with the exception of the abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund) may be invested in units or shares of any collective investment scheme.
10. In applying the limits in 5, 6 and 7 and subject to 6(ii) not more than 20% in value of the scheme property of a fund is to consist of any combination of two or more of the following: (a) transferable securities (including covered Bonds) or approved Money-Market Instruments issued by; or (b) deposits made with; or (c) Exposure from over the counter Derivatives transactions made with; a single body. Subject to 11 and 12 below, in applying this 20% limit with respect to a single body which is the UK or an EEA State, a local authority of the UK or an EEA State, a non-EEA State or a public international body to which the UK or one or more EEA States belong, transferable securities or approved Money Market Instruments issued by that body shall be taken into account.
11. Up to 35% in value of the scheme property of a fund may be invested in transferable securities or approved Money Market Instruments issued by any one body which is the UK or an EEA State, a local authority of the UK or an EEA State, a non-EEA State or a public international body to which the UK or one or more EEA States belong, in which case there is no limit on the amount which may be invested in such securities or instruments or in any one issue.
12. More than 35% in value of the scheme property can be invested in transferable securities or approved Money Market Instruments issued by any one body which is the UK or an EEA STATE, a local authority of the UK or an EEA State, a non-EEA State or a public international body to which the UK or one or more EEA States belong provided that (a) the ACD has before any such investment is made consulted with the Depositary and as a result considers that the issuer of such securities or instruments is one which is appropriate in accordance with the investment objective of the fund; (b) no more than 30% in value of the scheme property consists of such securities or instruments of any one issue; (c) the scheme property includes such securities or instruments issued by that or another issuer of at least six different issues; and (d) certain details have been disclosed in the instrument of incorporation and prospectus. Currently, more than 35% in value of the scheme property of the abrdn UK Government Bond Fund may be invested in transferable securities or approved Money Market Instruments issued by (or on behalf of) or guaranteed by the Government of the UK and Northern Ireland.
13. A fund may invest in deposits only with an Approved Bank and which are repayable on demand or have the right to be withdrawn, and mature in no more than twelve months.
14. In and for the purposes of 6, 11 and 12 above, “issue”, “issued” and “issuer” include “guarantee”, “guaranteed” and “guarantor” and an issue differs from another if there is a difference as to repayment date, rate of interest, guarantor or other material terms of the issue.
15. A fund may invest in approved Money-Market Instruments which are dealt in on the money-market, are liquid and whose value can be accurately determined at any time, provided:
  - (a) the approved money-market instrument is admitted to or dealt on an eligible market; or
  - (b) the issue or issuer of the approved money-market instrument is regulated for the purpose of protecting investors and savings and the instrument is:
    - (i) issued or guaranteed by a central, regional or local authority of the UK or an EEA State, the Bank of England, a central bank of an EEA State, the European Central Bank, the European Union or the European Investment Bank, a non-EEA State or, in the case of a Federal State,

by one of the members making up the federation, or by a public international body to which the UK or one or more EEA States belong; or

- (ii) issued by a body, any securities of which are dealt in on an eligible market; or
- (iii) issued or guaranteed by an establishment subject to prudential supervision in accordance with criteria defined by UK or EU law or by an establishment which is subject to and complies with prudential rules considered by the FCA to be at least as stringent as those laid down by UK or EU law; or
- (iv) it is another money-market instrument with a regulated issuer and the FCA has given its express consent (in the form of a waiver) for the fund to invest in it.

## **NIL AND PARTLY PAID SECURITIES**

16. Transferable securities or approved Money-Market Instruments on which any sum is unpaid falls within a power of investment only if it is reasonably foreseeable that the amount of any existing and potential call for any sum unpaid could be paid by the fund, at the time when payment is required, without contravening the rules of Chapter 5 of the FCA Rules.

## **UNITS IN COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT SCHEMES**

17. Not more than 30% in value of the scheme property of a fund can be invested in collective investment schemes which do not comply with the conditions necessary in order to enjoy the rights conferred by the UCITS Directive. As stated at 9 above, no more than 10% of the net asset value of the scheme property of any of the funds (with the exception of the abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund) may consist of units or shares in collective investment schemes.

A fund must not invest in units in a collective investment scheme unless that other scheme (1) (a) is a UK UCITS or satisfies the conditions necessary for it to enjoy the rights conferred by the UCITS Directive as implemented in the EEA; or (b) is a non-UCITS retail scheme (provided also that the requirements of COLL 5.2.13AR(1), (3) and (4) are met); or (c) is a recognised scheme as defined in the FCA Rules that is authorised by the supervisory authorities of Guernsey, Jersey or the Isle of Man (provided that the requirements of COLL 5.2.13AR are met); or (d) is authorised in an EEA State (and provided also that the requirements of COLL 5.2.13AR are met); or (e) is authorised by the competent authority of an OECD member country (other than an EEA State) which has (i) signed the IOSCO Multilateral Memorandum of Understanding and (ii) approved the scheme's management company, rules and depositary / custody arrangements (and provided also that the requirements of COLL 5.2.13AR are met); (2) complies with the rules on investment in associated collective investment schemes and other group schemes; and (3) has terms prohibiting more than 10% in value of the property of its scheme property consisting of units in collective investment schemes.

For this purpose, each sub-fund of an umbrella scheme is treated as a separate scheme.

The scheme property attributable to a fund may include shares in another fund of the Company (the "Second fund") subject to the requirements below.

A fund may invest in or dispose of shares of a Second fund provided that:

- the Second fund does not hold Shares in any other fund of the Company;
- the requirements set out at paragraph 18 below are complied with; and
- the investing or disposing fund is not a feeder UCITS (as defined for the purposes of the FCA Rules) to the Second fund.

18. A fund may invest in a Second fund or another collective investment scheme managed or operated by, or which has as its authorised corporate director, the manager or an associate of the manager provided that certain provisions of the FCA Rules regarding investment in such Second fund or scheme are complied with.

## **DERIVATIVES AND FORWARD TRANSACTIONS**

19. Only certain types of Derivatives and forward transactions can be effected for a fund, namely:-

- transactions in approved Derivatives (i.e. traded or dealt in on an eligible Derivatives market); and
- permitted over the counter transactions in Derivatives.

The underlying must consist of any or all of the following (to which the fund is dedicated): permitted transferable securities; permitted approved Money-Market Instruments; permitted deposits; permitted Derivatives; permitted collective investment scheme units; financial indices (which satisfy the criteria in 5.2.20 A R of the FCA Rules); Interest Rates; foreign exchange rates and currencies. A transaction in an approved Derivative must be effected on or under the rules of an eligible Derivatives market. A Derivatives transaction must not cause a fund to diverge from its stated investment objective and must not be entered into if the intended effect is to create the potential for an uncovered sale of one or more transferable securities, approved Money-Market Instruments, collective investment scheme units or Derivatives.

A fund may invest in Derivatives and forward transactions as long as the Exposure to which the fund is committed by that transaction itself is suitably covered from within its scheme property. Exposure will include any initial outlay in respect of that transaction.

Any forward transaction must be with an eligible institution or an Approved Bank.

Where a fund invests in Derivatives, the Exposure to the underlying assets must not exceed the limits in points 5 to 12 above.

Where a transferable security or approved money-market instrument embeds a Derivative this must be taken into account for the purposes of compliance.

Where a fund invests in an index based Derivative, provided the relevant index falls within 5.2.33 R of the FCA Rules the underlying constituents of the index do not have to be taken into account for the purposes of 5.2.11 R and 5.2.12 R of the FCA Rules.

A Derivative or forward transaction which will or could lead to the delivery of property to the Depositary (or the Company) may be entered into only if such property can be held for the account of that fund and the ACD having taken reasonable care determines that delivery of the property under the transaction will not occur and will not lead to a breach of the FCA Rules.

Except in relation to deposits, no agreement to dispose of property or rights may be made unless the obligation (and any other similar obligation) could immediately be honoured by delivery of the property or the assignment (or, in Scotland, assignation) of rights and the property and rights are owned by the fund at the time of the agreement.

A transaction in an over the counter Derivative must be (1) with an approved counterparty (namely an eligible institution, an Approved Bank, a person whose permission, as published in the Financial Services register, permits it to enter into the transaction as principal off-exchange, a CCP (as defined in the FCA Rules) that is authorised in that capacity for the purposes of EMIR (as defined in the FCA Rules) a CCP that is recognised in that capacity in accordance with the process set out in article 25 of EMIR or a CCP supervised in a jurisdiction that: (i) has implemented the relevant G20 reforms on over-the-counter derivatives to at least the same extent as the UK; and (ii) is identified as having done so by the Financial Stability Board in its summary report on progress in implementation of G20 financial regulatory reforms dated 25 June 2019); (2) on approved terms (i.e. the ACD carries out, at least daily, a reliable and verifiable valuation in respect of that transaction corresponding to its fair value and which does not rely only on market quotations by the counterparty and can enter into one or more further transactions to sell, liquidate or close out that transaction at any time, at its fair value); and (3) capable of reliable valuation (i.e. if the ACD having taken reasonable care determines that, throughout the life of the Derivative (if the transaction is entered into), it will be able to value the investment concerned with

reasonable accuracy on the basis of an up-to-date market value which the ACD and the Depositary have agreed is reliable or (if this is not available) on the basis of a pricing model which the ACD and the Depositary have agreed uses an adequate recognised methodology); and (4) subject to verifiable valuation (i.e. if throughout the life of the Derivative (if the transaction is entered into) verification of the valuation is carried out by an appropriate third party which is independent from the counterparty at an adequate frequency in such a way that the ACD is able to check it, or by a department within the ACD which is independent from the department managing the scheme property and which is adequately equipped for such a purpose).

For the purposes of the above, “fair value” is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm’s length transaction.

Investment in Derivatives and forward transactions may be made as long as the Exposure to which the funds are committed by that transaction itself is suitably covered from within the scheme property of the relevant fund. Each fund is required to hold scheme property sufficient in value or amount to match the Exposure arising from a Derivative obligation to which the fund is committed. In other words, the Exposure must be covered “globally”. The ACD must calculate global Exposure on at least a daily basis, taking into account the current value of the underlying assets, the counterparty risk, future market movements and the time available to liquidate positions. The ACD must ensure that the global Exposure relating to Derivatives and forward transactions do not exceed the net value of the scheme property of a fund.

#### Global Exposure

The ACD must calculate the global Exposure of a fund either as: the incremental Exposure and Leverage generated through the use of Derivatives and forward transactions (including embedded Derivatives), which may not exceed 100% of the net value of the scheme property (“Commitment Approach”); or the market risk of the scheme property by way of value at risk (“VaR”) approach.

The ACD must ensure that the method selected above is appropriate, taking into account the investment strategy pursued by the fund, types and complexities of the Derivatives and forward transactions used, the proportion of the scheme property comprising Derivatives and forward transactions and any law or regulation applicable to a particular fund.

- Commitment Approach

The ACD uses the “commitment approach” for the calculation of global Exposure for all funds save for those set out in the table on page **82**.

Accordingly, for all funds save for those set out in the table on page **82**, the ACD must:

1. ensure that it applies this approach to all Derivative and forward transactions (including embedded Derivatives, whether used as part of the fund’s general investment policy, for stock lending or EPM); and
2. convert each Derivative or forward transaction into the market value of an equivalent position in the underlying asset of that Derivative or forward (standard commitment approach).

The ACD may apply other calculation methods which are equivalent to the standard commitment approach.

The ACD may take account of netting and hedging arrangements when calculating global Exposure of a fund, where these arrangements do not disregard obvious and material risks and result in a clear reduction in risk Exposure.

Where the use of Derivatives or forward transactions does not generate incremental Exposure for the fund, the underlying Exposure need not be included in the commitment calculation.

Temporary borrowing arrangements entered into on behalf of the fund need not form part of the global Exposure calculation.

- VaR Approach

The funds whose global Exposure is calculated using the VaR approach are set out in the table below.

VaR is a measure of the potential loss to the fund due to market risk (rather than Leverage). Where it is possible to determine an appropriate risk benchmark for a fund, the ACD will apply a relative VaR risk management approach which will measure the risk profile of each Fund against a reference portfolio or risk benchmark ("Risk Benchmark"). If for any reason it is not possible or appropriate to determine a Risk Benchmark for any fund, then the ACD will consider adopting an Absolute VaR risk management approach on all of a fund's portfolio positions.

The column in the table below entitled "Maximum" refers to the regulatory risk limits applied to funds in accordance with their risk management approach. Under the relative VaR approach, the global Exposure of a Fund is determined calculating the VaR of the fund's current portfolio versus the VaR of the reference portfolio: the VaR of the fund must be lower than twice the VaR of the reference portfolio (i.e. 200%). In a case of a fund for which an absolute VaR approach is used, the maximum absolute VaR that a fund can have is 20% of its NAV.

As noted above, the VaR approach relates to a measurement of market risk and accordingly the ACD also regularly monitors the Leverage of the fund. The table below sets out the expected approximate leverage figure for each fund. Please note that these are expected levels which are not a guarantee of future levels. In accordance with current industry guidelines, Leverage is calculated as the sum of the notional value of each derivative used, however this calculation takes no account of offsetting positions and is not a true measure of market risk.

Fund	Risk Management Approach	Maximum (%)	Risk Benchmark	Expected Level of Leverage (approximate) (%) based on "Sum of Notionals" approach
abrdn AAA Bond Fund	Relative VaR	200	Markit iBoxx Sterling Non Gilts AAA	50
abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund	Absolute VaR	20	N/A	200
abrdn High Yield Bond Fund	Relative VaR	200	ICE BofA GBP/Euro Fixed & Floating High Yield Non-Financial 3% Constrained Index (Hedged to GBP)	100
abrdn Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund*	Relative VaR	200	Markit iBoxx Sterling Collateralized & Corporates Index	30
abrdn Sterling Corporate Bond Fund	Relative VaR	200	Markit iBoxx Sterling Collateralized & Corporates Index	30
abrdn UK Government Bond Fund	Relative VaR	200	FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks Index	100

\* Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.

## USE OF DERIVATIVES

The investment objective and policy for each fund will provide details on the extent of Derivative usage.

Use of one or more separate counterparties may be made to undertake Derivative transactions and collateral may be required to pledge or transfer collateral paid from within the assets of a fund to secure such contracts. Counterparties to Derivative transactions may fail to honour their contractual obligations under the Derivative instruments in whole or in part. Any such failures may potentially result in loss to a fund. There are, however, limits on Exposure to any one counterparty, as set out in paragraph 7 above.

## **OTHER EFFICIENT PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES**

The ACD may, in addition to the use of Derivatives, make use of other techniques for efficient portfolio management purposes to reduce risk and/or costs in the funds and from time to time to produce additional capital or income in the funds, as the ACD may at its discretion consider appropriate. Such other techniques include stock lending, underwriting, borrowing and the use of Cash and near Cash.

Any income or capital generated by efficient portfolio management techniques will be paid into the scheme property of the relevant fund.

### **20. STOCK LENDING**

- 20.1 As an extension of efficient portfolio management techniques explained above, the Company or the Depositary acting in accordance with the instructions of the ACD, may enter into certain stock lending arrangements or Repo contracts, in respect of any fund, subject to any law or regulation that is applicable in respect of a particular fund. Briefly, such transactions are those where the seller/lender sells/delivers securities which are the subject of the transaction in return for which it is agreed that securities of the same kind and amount should be resold/redelivered to the seller/lender at a later date and, at the time of initial delivery, the seller/lender receives collateral to cover against the risk of the future resale/redelivery not being completed.
- 20.2 Any stock lending arrangements or Repo entered into must be of the kind described in section 263 B of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 (without extension by section 263 C), but only if:
  - 20.2.1 all the terms of the agreement under which securities are to be reacquired by the Depositary for the account of the Company are in a form which is acceptable to the Depositary and are in accordance with good market practice;
  - 20.2.2 the counterparty is:
    - 20.2.2.1 an authorised person; or
    - 20.2.2.2 a person authorised by a home state regulator; or
    - 20.2.2.3 a person registered as a broker-dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States of America; or
    - 20.2.2.4 a bank, or a branch of a bank, supervised and authorised to deal in investments as principal, with respect to OTC Derivatives by at least one of the following federal banking supervisory authorities of the United States of America: the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency; the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and
  - 20.2.3 high quality and liquid collateral is obtained to secure the obligation of the counterparty under the terms referred to in 20.2.1 and the collateral is:
    - 20.2.3.1 acceptable to the Depositary;
    - 20.2.3.2 adequate;
    - 20.2.3.3 sufficiently immediate; and



- 20.2.3.4 compliant with the requirements of ESMA Guidelines on ETFs and other UCITS issues (ESMA/2012/832EN).
- 20.3 The counterparty for the purpose of paragraph 20.2 is the person who is obliged under the agreement referred to in paragraph 20.2.1 to transfer to the Depositary the securities transferred by the Depositary under the stock lending arrangement or securities of the same kind.
- 20.4 Paragraph 20.2.3 does not apply to a stock lending transaction made through Euroclear Bank SA/NV's Securities Lending and Borrowing Programme.
- 20.5 The maximum amount of scheme property which will be used for stock lending purposes for each fund is 50% of NAV. The expected amount of the scheme property which will be used for stock lending purposes for each fund is from 0 to 50% of NAV.
- 20.6 The ACD and the stock lending agent have agreed minimum requirements for a counterparty to be approved for the purposes of entering into a stock lending transaction; including that the counterparty is an "approved counterparty" as defined in the Glossary. Any counterparty shall also be subject to an appropriate internal credit assessment carried out by the ACD, which shall include amongst other considerations, legal status of the counterparty, country of origin of the counterparty, external credit ratings of the counterparty, the regulatory supervision applied to the relevant counterparty, industry sector risk and concentration risk. Subject to this, the ACD has discretion as to the appointment of counterparties when entering into stock lending transactions in furtherance of the relevant fund's investment objectives and policies. It is not possible to comprehensively list in this prospectus all the counterparties as they may change from time to time.
- 20.7 Collateral is adequate for the purposes of paragraph 20.2.3.2 only if it is:
- 20.7.1 transferred to the Depositary or its agent;
  - 20.7.2 received under a title transfer arrangement; and
  - 20.7.3 at all times equal in value to the market value of the securities transferred by the Depositary plus a premium.
- 20.8 Where the collateral is invested in units in a qualifying money market fund managed or operated by (or, for an ICVC, whose authorised corporate director is) the ACD or an associate of the ACD, the conditions in paragraph 18 of this Appendix II must be complied with.
- 20.9 Collateral is sufficiently immediate for the purposes of paragraph 20.2.3.3 if:
- 20.9.1 it is transferred before or at the time of the transfer of the securities by the Depositary; or
  - 20.9.2 the Depositary takes reasonable care to determine at the time referred to in paragraph 20.9.1 that it will be transferred at the latest by the close of business on the day of the transfer.
- 20.10 The Depositary must ensure that the value of the collateral at all times meet the requirements of paragraph 20.7.3.
- 20.11 The duty in paragraph 20.10 may be regarded as satisfied in respect of collateral the validity of which is about to expire or has expired where the Depositary takes reasonable care to determine that sufficient collateral will again be transferred at the latest by the close of business on the day of expiry.
- 20.12 Any agreement for transfer at a future date of securities or of collateral (or of the equivalent of either) under this paragraph may be regarded, for the purposes of valuation and pricing of the Company or this Appendix, as an unconditional agreement for the sale or transfer of property, whether or not the property is part of the property of the authorised fund.
- 20.13 Collateral transferred to the Depositary is part of the scheme property for the purposes of the rules in COLL, except in the following respects:

20.14.1 it does not fall to be included in any calculation of NAV or this Appendix, because it is offset under paragraph 20.12 by an obligation to transfer; and

20.14.2 it does not count as scheme property for any purpose of this Appendix other than this paragraph.

20.14 Paragraphs 20.12 and 20.13.1 do not apply to any valuation of collateral itself for the purposes of paragraphs 20.7 to 20.13.

20.15 For stock lending transactions, permitted collateral includes (subject to the rules on stock lending under COLL 5.4) cash and government or other public securities. The maximum expected maturity of all such assets is up to 50 years.

20.16 Any collateral obtained under a stock lending transaction will be valued daily at mark-to-market prices. Sometimes a 'haircut' will be applied to non-cash collateral. A haircut is a nominal reduction applied to the market value of collateral to provide a buffer against rises and falls in the value or the exposure of that type of collateral. Daily variation margin may be used if the value of collateral, as adjusted for any haircut, falls below the value of the relevant counterparty exposure.

20.17 When a fund engages in stock lending it will be exposed to counterparty credit risk in that the borrower may default on a loan, become insolvent, or otherwise be unable to meet, or refuse to honour, its obligations to return loaned or equivalent securities. In this event, the relevant fund could experience delays in recovering the loaned securities, may not be able to recover the loaned securities, and/or may incur a capital loss which might result in a reduction in the net asset value of the fund. A fund's exposure to its counterparty will be mitigated by the fact that the counterparty will be requested to post collateral, in the form acceptable to the Depositary, as set out above, and will forfeit its collateral if it defaults on the transaction. If a counterparty defaults and fails to return equivalent securities to those loaned, the fund may suffer a loss equal to the shortfall between the value of the realised collateral and the market value of the replacement securities.

Such collateral shortfall may arise as a result of inaccurate pricing of the collateral, unfavourable market movements in the value of the collateral, or a lack of liquidity in the market on which the collateral is traded. If the relevant transaction with a counterparty is not fully collateralised, then the fund's credit exposure to the counterparty in such circumstances will be higher than if the transaction had been fully collateralised.

Where a fund reinvests cash collateral in one or more of the permitted types of investments as set out in the "Risk Management" section below, there is a risk that the investment will earn less than the interest that is due to the counterparty in respect of that cash and that it will return less than the amount of cash that was invested. In such circumstances the fund would be required to cover the difference in value between the collateral originally received and the amount available to be returned to the counterparty and would therefore suffer a loss.

A fund will be subject to the risk of the inability of any counterparty to perform with respect to transactions, whether due to insolvency, bankruptcy or other causes. Cash or other assets may be passed to counterparties as margin or collateral. Subject to applicable regulations, at any one time, a fund may be exposed to the creditworthiness of its counterparties in respect of all or part of such margin or collateral. In the event of the insolvency of a counterparty, a fund may not be able to recover cash or assets of equivalent value in full. In particular, stock lending transactions may, in the event of a default by a counterparty, result in the securities lent being recovered late or only in part. This may result in losses for investors.

For stock lending purposes, a schedule of permitted collateral will be agreed with the stock lending agent and this will be reviewed regularly to assess for risks such as liquidity and credit risks. Where the review highlights concerns on either of these risks, the relevant asset will be removed from the schedule of permitted collateral. Collateral is valued and monitored on a daily basis to ensure compliance with the ACD's collateral requirements. The collateral received must be issued by an entity that is independent from the stock lending counterparty and is expected not to display a high correlation with the performance of that counterparty.

Other risks linked to the management of collateral, such as operational and legal risks, will be identified, managed and mitigated in accordance with the ACD's risk management policy.

Custody risk is managed by virtue of the Depositary holding securities taken as collateral in custody, and cash is only accepted as collateral where it is held for the benefit of the fund by a tri-party collateral agent. Securities taken as collateral are safe-kept by the Depositary with sub-custody arrangements in place with the collateral custodian.

Legal risk is managed by the ACD ensuring that appropriate contractual arrangements are in place with third parties. For derivative transactions, this involves contractual arrangements between the Depositary and the derivatives counterparty. For stock lending transactions, the ACD has contractual arrangements in place with the stock lending agent (including but not limited to an indemnity programme), whilst the Depositary has contractual arrangements in place with the collateral custodian.

## **UNDERWRITING PLACINGS**

21. Agreements and understandings with regard to the underwriting and sub-underwriting or the acceptance of placing commitments may also, subject to certain conditions set out in the FCA Rules, be entered into for the account of a fund.

## **BORROWING**

22. The Company may, in accordance with the FCA Rules borrow from eligible institutions or Approved Banks (both as defined in the FCA Rules) for the use of any fund on the terms that the borrowing is repayable out of the scheme property of that fund within the limits prescribed in the FCA Rules from time to time.

Borrowings must not be persistent. Each borrowing must be on a temporary basis and in any event must not be for a period exceeding 3 months without the prior consent of the Depositary which may be given only on such conditions as appear appropriate to the Depositary to ensure that the borrowing does not cease to be on a temporary basis.

The FCA Rules currently provide that the ACD must ensure that a fund's borrowing must not, on any business day, exceed 10% of the value of the property of the fund. These restrictions on the borrowing powers do not apply to a back-to-back borrowing for currency hedging purposes.

## **CASH AND NEAR CASH**

23. Cash and near Cash may be held in the scheme property of each fund to the extent that this may reasonably be regarded as necessary to enable the pursuit of the fund's investment objectives, shares to be redeemed, efficient management of that fund in accordance with its investment objectives or other purposes which may reasonably be regarded as ancillary to the investment objectives of that fund.

The ACD's policy is to make use of the flexibility to hold Cash and near Cash as it considers appropriate.

## **Risk management**

The ACD must use a risk management process enabling it to monitor and measure at any time the risk of a fund's positions and their contribution to the overall risk profile of the fund. Before using this process in connection with Derivatives and forwards positions, the ACD will notify the FCA of the relevant details of the risk management process. In the opinion of the ACD, at no time does the use of Derivatives increase the risk profile of any of the funds.

The ACD's Risk Management Policy ("RMP"), which is available on request, details how risks are managed in relation to counterparties and collateral. The RMP requires compliance with a Counterparty Credit Risk Policy ("CCRP"), which is subject to change and regular review. A counterparty must be a highly rated financial institution specializing in Derivative transactions. The ACD's CCRP defines "eligible" collateral including any applicable haircuts. Collateral will generally be of high quality and liquid (i.e. Cash and government securities).

All collateral used to reduce counterparty risk will comply with the following criteria at all times:

- it must be highly liquid and traded on a regulated market;
- it must be valued at least daily;
- it must be of high credit quality;
- it will not be highly correlated with the performance of the counterparty;
- it will be sufficiently diversified in terms of country, markets and issuers (in accordance with ESMA Guidelines on ETFs and other UCITS issues (ESMA/2012/832EN));
- it will be held by the Depositary or a third party custodian which is subject to prudential supervision and which is unrelated to the provider of the collateral; and
- it will be capable of being fully enforced by the ACD at any time without reference or approval from the counterparty.

Permitted collateral includes (subject to the rules on stock lending under COLL 5.4) cash and government or other public securities.

Non-cash collateral will not be sold, re-invested or pledged.

Cash collateral will only be:

- placed on deposit with an Approved Bank; or
- invested in high-quality government bonds; or
- used for the purpose of Reverse Repo transactions with credit institutions that are subject to prudential supervision (and on terms that permit the ACD to recall at any time the full amount of cash on an accrued basis); or
- invested in short-term money market funds as defined in ESMA's (then CESR's) Guidelines on a Common Definition of European Money Market Funds.

The reuse of collateral is limited by COLL to certain asset classes. Such reuse should neither result in a change to a fund's investment objectives nor increase substantially its risk profile.

As at the date of this Prospectus, whilst the funds may reuse collateral in line with the limitations in COLL, the funds currently do not reuse collateral. However, the ACD reserves the right to permit such reuse of collateral in the future.

The ACD's CCRP may from time to time include any additional restrictions which the ACD considers appropriate.

Investment Limits applicable to the Company as a whole

There are some limits which apply to the Company as a whole:

1) The Company must not acquire:

- (a) Transferable securities (other than debt securities) which do not carry a right to vote on any matter at a general meeting of the body corporate that issued them and which represent more than 10% of those securities issued by that body corporate;
- (b) More than 10% of the debt securities issued by any single body;
- (c) More than 25% of the units in a collective investment scheme; or
- (d) More than 10% of the approved Money-Market Instruments issued by a single body

but need not comply with those limits in (b), (c) and (d) above if, at the time of acquisition, the net amount in issue of the relevant investment cannot be calculated.

- 2) The Company may only acquire transferable securities issued by a body corporate carrying rights to vote at a general meeting of that body corporate if the aggregate number of such securities held by the Company does not give the Company power significantly to influence the conduct of business of that body corporate immediately before the acquisition and the acquisition will not give the Company such power. The power significantly to influence is assumed if such securities allow the Company to exercise or control the exercise of 20% or more of the voting rights in any body corporate.

## APPENDIX III

### ELIGIBLE MARKETS FOR THE FUNDS

All funds may invest in transferable securities through eligible markets, as defined in COLL. These include (but are not limited to) securities markets established in the UK or in an EEA State on which transferable securities admitted to official listing in the UK or an EEA State are dealt in or traded (approved securities).

In addition, up to 10% in value of any fund may be invested in transferable securities which are not approved securities.

The funds may also deal through the securities markets and derivatives markets indicated below, subject to their investment objective and policy.

A market may be added to each of the lists below in accordance with the FCA Rules.

#### ELIGIBLE SECURITIES MARKETS

Countries	Markets
Argentina	Buenos Aires Stock Exchange
Australia	Australian Securities Exchange (ASX Limited)
Bangladesh	Dhaka Stock Exchange
Bermuda	Bermuda Stock Exchange
Brazil	BM & F BOVESPA S.A.
Canada	Toronto Stock Exchange
Chile	Santiago Stock Exchange & Bolsa Electronica de Chile (SSE)
China	Shanghai Stock Exchange (SSE) Shenzen Stock Exchange (SZSE) Bond Connect Stock Connect
Colombia	Bolsa de Valores de Colombia (BVC)
Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic Securities Exchange
Egypt	Egyptian Exchange

Ghana	Ghana Stock Exchange (GSE)
Guernsey	Channel Islands Securities Exchange
Hong Kong	Hong Kong Exchanges (HKEx)
India	Bombay Stock Exchange National Stock Exchange of India
Indonesia	Indonesia Stock Exchange (Bursa Efek Indonesia)
Israel	Tel Aviv Stock Exchange
Japan	Tokyo Stock Exchange  Osaka Securities Exchange Nagoya Stock Exchange  Sapporo Securities Exchange  JASDAQ Securities Exchange
Kenya	Nairobi Securities Exchange
Kuwait	Kuwait Stock Exchange
Malaysia	Bursa Malaysia BHD
Mexico	Mexican Stock Exchange (Bolsa Mexicana de Valores)
Morocco	Casablanca Stock Exchange
New Zealand	New Zealand Stock Market (NZSX/NZX)
Nigeria	Nigeria – Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE)
Oman	Muscat Securities Market (MSM)
Pakistan	Pakistan Stock Exchange
Peru	Lima Stock Exchange (Bolsa de Valores de Lima)
Philippines	Philippine Stock Exchange
Qatar	Qatar Stock Exchange
Russia	Moscow Stock Exchange  Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange (MICE)  Russian Trading System (RTS)

	Saint Petersburg Stock Exchange  MICEX  MICEX - RTS
Saudi Arabia	Tadawul Stock Exchange
Serbia	Belgrade Stock Exchange
Singapore	Singapore Exchange
South Africa	The JSE Securities Exchange
South Korea	KOSDAQ  Korea Stock Exchange
Sri Lanka	Colombo Stock Exchange
Switzerland	Switzerland SIX Swiss Exchange  SwissAtMid
Taiwan	Taiwan Stock Exchange (TWSE)  Taipei Exchange (TPEX)
Thailand	Stock Exchange of Thailand
Turkey	Istanbul Stock Exchange (Borsa Istanbul)
Uganda	Uganda Securities Exchange
United Arab Emirates Abu Dhabi	Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange
United Arab Emirates Dubai	Dubai Financial Market  NASDAQ Dubai Limited
Uruguay	Montevideo Stock Exchange
United States of America	New York Stock Exchange NYSE Arca NYSE American NYSE Chicago NYSE National Nasdaq



	Nasdaq BX Nasdaq PSX CBOE BZX CBOE BYX CBOE EDGX CBOE EDGA Investors Exchange MEMX Long Term Stock Exchange (LTSE) MIAX
Vietnam	Hanoi Stock Exchange  Ho Chi Minh Stock Exchange

## ELIGIBLE DERIVATIVES MARKETS

Countries	ETD	OTC
Australia	Australian Securities Exchange	LCH EUREX ICE
Austria	Austrian Futures and Options Exchange	
Belgium	Euronext Derivatives - Brussels	
Brazil	Bolsa De Mercadorias & Futuros (BMF)	
Canada	Montreal Exchange Inc	LCH EUREX ICE
Denmark	OMX Nordic Exchange Copenhagen	
EU/EEA (General)	Eurex	LCH EUREX ICE
Hong Kong	Hong Kong Futures Exchange Limited	
Italy	Borsa Italiana (IDEM)	
Japan	Osaka Exchange	
Korea	Korea Exchange	
Mexico	Bolsa Mexicana de Valores Mercado Mexicano de Deriva	

	Mercado Mexicano de Deriva	
Netherlands	Euronext Derivatives Amsterdam	
Singapore	Singapore Exchange	
South Africa	The South African Futures Exchange	
Spain	MEFF Renta Variable Madrid	
Sweden	OMX Nordic Exchange Stockholm	LCH EUREX ICE
Taiwan	Taiwan Futures Exchange Hong Kong Futures Exchange Limited Singapore Exchange	
UK	ICE Futures Europe	LCH EUREX CME ICE
USA	CME Group (Chicago Mercantile Exchange) CBOT Group (Chicago Board of Trade) ICE Futures US	LCH CME ICE

## APPENDIX IV

### TAXATION

#### Taxation of Funds

**The following statements are intended as a general guide only, are based upon the UK law and HM Revenue & Customs practice currently in force. Tax rules may change and this section may be subject to change.**

#### Capital Gains Tax

As each fund is an authorised unit fund scheme, they are not normally liable to corporation tax on their capital gains arising from the disposal of investments.

#### Corporation Tax

The funds are liable to Corporation Tax on their taxable income net of management expenses as if they were companies resident in the UK but at a tax rate of 20%.

Dividends received by the funds from a UK or overseas company are generally exempt from UK Corporation Tax. Other sources of income, for example bank deposit interest are, however, liable to Corporation Tax.

Income and gains received by the funds in respect of investments located outside the UK may be subject to non-recoverable overseas tax. Where overseas withholding tax has been suffered on income, it may be possible to offset such tax against UK corporation tax liabilities as double tax relief.

Stamp duty and other transfer taxes including financial transaction taxes may be incurred on the purchase, sale, transfer or any other financial transaction involving investments located in the UK or outside the UK.

Certain EU member states have implemented financial transaction tax regimes. A number of EU member states have proposed introducing a wider financial transaction tax in future.

If a fund invests more than 60% of its market value in cash, gilts, corporate bonds and similar assets, rather than equities, at all times during a distribution period, it may pay interest distributions. The gross interest distribution is relievable as an expense against income of the fund.

Where a fund holds an investment in any other UK or offshore fund that during the fund's accounting period is invested directly or indirectly (through similar funds or Derivatives) primarily in Cash, gilts, corporate Bonds and similar assets any amounts accounted for as income will be taxed as income of the fund for the period concerned. In addition any dividends paid by such funds will be taxed as interest income.

Where a fund holds an interest in an offshore fund that has not been certified by HM Revenue & Customs as a distributing or reporting fund, the fund will not be exempt from tax on gains realised on disposal of the interest in the offshore fund.

#### Taxation of Individual Investors

**The following statements are intended to offer some guidance and relate only to the position of investors who are UK resident individuals and are beneficial owners of their shares. This summary should not be regarded as definitive and prospective investors should consult their own professional advisers on the potential tax consequences of acquiring, holding or selling shares.**

#### Capital Gains Tax

A liability to Capital Gains Tax may arise when an investor disposes of shares or exchanges shares in one fund for shares in another (see "Switching" on page 58). A conversion of Shares between share classes within the same fund is generally not regarded as a disposal for capital gains tax purposes. (See "Share Conversions" on page 59.)

However a liability to Capital Gains Tax will not arise unless the total of an investor's realised taxable gains from all disposals of assets less allowable losses in a tax year exceeds the annual exemption. If gains in excess of this annual exemption are realised the excess is taxable at 10% where the investor is a basic rate taxpayer or 20% where the investor is a higher rate or additional rate taxpayer. Trustees may have different exemptions and tax rates from individuals. Investors should contact a professional adviser in respect of their own position.

The capital gain in respect of a disposal of shares is the value of the shares at the time of disposal less the total of the following:

- (a) the cost of acquiring the shares, less any equalisation received as detailed in the section headed Income Equalisation (below);
- (b) in the case of accumulation shares only, all reinvested distributions during the period shares have been held.

## **Income Tax**

On the specified allocation dates each eligible investor becomes entitled to a distribution of any income. The distribution is treated as income for tax purposes regardless of the fact that the shares may be accumulation shares. With each distribution the ACD will send each investor a tax voucher showing the amount of income to which they are entitled, the nature of the distribution and related tax. Notes printed on the tax voucher indicate how the amount should be reflected in the investor's tax return.

- Distributions paid may be either dividend distributions or interest distributions, depending on the nature of the income of the fund concerned.
- Dividend income in excess of the taxpayer's annual Dividend Allowance will be taxed at a rate on dividends which is dependent on the investors Income Tax band.
- UK taxpayers are liable to tax on an interest distribution at income tax rates which is dependent on the investors Income Tax band subject to the personal savings allowance detailed below.

The UK's personal savings allowance exempts some interest income, including amounts taxable as interest, received or deemed to be received by UK resident individuals, from tax in the hands of basic rate taxpayers. The exempt amount is reduced for higher rate taxpayers and additional rate taxpayers will not receive an allowance. A UK resident individual shareholder who holds his shares in an ISA will be exempt from Income Tax on dividend distributions in respect of shares.

**Investors should contact a professional adviser if they require any more information or advice regarding their own personal circumstances.**

## **Taxation of Corporate Investors**

**The following statements are intended to offer some guidance and relate to the position of UK resident corporate bodies which hold shares as investments. This summary should not be regarded as definitive and prospective investors should consult their own professional advisers on the potential tax consequences of acquiring, holding or selling units.**

### **Distributions from the Funds**

Distributions paid may be either dividend distributions or interest distributions, depending on the nature of the income of a fund.

Dividend distributions received by UK resident corporate bodies have to be split into that part which relates to dividend income of a fund and that part which relates to other income of a fund. The part relating to dividend income of a fund is not liable to tax in the hands of the investor unless the distribution is paid in respect of a fund holding to which section 490 of the Corporation Tax Act 2009 applies. The part relating to other income of a fund is taxable as if it were an annual payment in the hands of the investor and is subject to Corporation Tax. This part of the income is deemed to be

received net of an Income Tax deduction of 20% which can be reclaimed or offset against the investor's liability to Corporation Tax.

A fund may receive income net of foreign tax and may offset this foreign tax against its UK tax liability. In these circumstances a corresponding element of the other income part of the dividend distribution and related Income Tax credit will be treated respectively as foreign income received and foreign tax paid by the corporate investor. The foreign tax paid can be used to reduce the investor's liability to Corporation Tax on the foreign income.

Interest distributions are taxable in the hands of the investor as interest income.

A fund fails to satisfy the "qualifying investments" test at any time when more than 60% of its assets by market value comprise cash, gilts, corporate bonds and similar assets. If a fund fails to satisfy the "qualifying investments" test at any time in an accounting period it will be treated for corporation tax purposes as within the loan relationships regime with the result that all returns on the shares in respect of the UK resident corporate bodies' accounting period (including gains, profits and losses) will be taxed or relieved as an income receipt or expense on a "fair value accounting" basis. Accordingly, such a person who acquires shares in such a fund may, depending on its own circumstances, incur a charge to corporation tax on an unrealised increase in the value of its holding of shares (and, likewise, obtain relief against corporation tax for an unrealised reduction in the value of its holding of shares).

### **Profits on Disposal of Shares**

Any profits arising on the disposal of shares by a UK resident corporate investor may be subject to Corporation Tax on chargeable gains except where a fund does not satisfy the qualifying investments test set out at section 493 Corporation Tax Act.

The chargeable gain arising in respect of a disposal of shares is the value of the shares at the time of disposal less the total of the following:

- (a) the cost of acquiring the shares less any equalisation received as detailed in the section headed Income Equalisation (below);
- (b) in the case of accumulation shares only, all reinvested distributions during the period shares have been held;
- (c) an indexation factor, based on increases in the Retail Price Index during the period shares have been held.

Certain types of corporate investor (e.g. life insurance companies) are subject to special tax rules which may take precedence over the general rules summarised above.

**Investors should contact a professional adviser if they require any more information or advice regarding their own personal circumstances.**

### **Income Equalisation**

Income Equalisation is permitted by the instrument of incorporation. The price of any shares is based on the value of its entitlement in the relevant fund, including its entitlement to income of the fund since the previous income allocation period (the Income Allocation Periods are detailed on pages **33**, **34** and **35**). In respect of the first income allocation after an acquisition of shares (known, from the date of acquisition to the end of the income allocation period, as Group 2 shares, all other shares being known as Group 1 shares), part of the amount, the equalisation payment, is treated as a return of capital and is not liable to Income Tax. It must be deducted from the cost of the shares for the purposes of calculating any gains.

Income equalisation is calculated on a day by day basis and is Averaged over the Group 2 shares issued or sold during the income allocation period.

### **US Foreign Account Tax Compliance**

Due to US tax legislation, the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA"), which can affect financial institutions such as the Company, the Company may need to disclose the name, address, taxpayer identification number and investment information relating to certain US investors who fall within the definition of Specified US Person in FATCA that own, directly or indirectly, an interest in certain entities, as well as certain other information relating to such interest,

to HM Revenue & Customs, who will in turn exchange this information with the Internal Revenue Service of the United States of America. The UK has entered into an inter-governmental agreement (“IGA”) with the US to facilitate FATCA Compliance. Under this IGA, FATCA Compliance will be enforced under UK tax legislation and reporting.

While the Company shall use reasonable endeavours to cause the Company to avoid the imposition of US federal withholding tax under FATCA, the extent to which the Company is able to do so and report to HM Revenue & Customs will depend on each affected shareholder in the Company providing the Company or its delegate with any information that the Company determines is necessary to satisfy such obligations. The 30% withholding tax regime could apply if there is a failure by shareholders to provide certain required information.

By signing the application form to subscribe for shares in the Company, each affected shareholder is agreeing to provide such information upon request from the Company or its delegate. If the required information is not passed to us, information about an investor’s shareholding may be passed to HM Revenue & Customs in order to be passed on to other tax authorities including the IRS. The Company may exercise its right to completely redeem the holding of an affected shareholder (at any time upon any or no notice) if he fails to provide the Company with the information the Company requests to satisfy its obligations under FATCA.

### **Other Reporting to Tax Authorities**

The UK and a number of other jurisdictions have also agreed to enter into multilateral arrangements modelled on the Common Reporting Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information (“CRS”) published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (“OECD”). This allows for the automatic exchange of financial information between tax authorities. These agreements and arrangements, as transposed into UK law, may require the Company, as a UK Financial Institution, (or the ACD on its behalf) to provide certain information to HM Revenue & Customs about investors from the jurisdictions which are party to such arrangements (which information will in turn be provided to the relevant tax authorities). The information that may be exchanged includes (but is not limited to) name, address, date of birth, taxpayer identification number and investment information.

In light of the above, Shareholders in the Company and, in some cases their financial intermediaries, may be required to provide certain information (including personal information) to the ACD to enable the Company to comply with the terms of the UK law. If the required information is not provided to us, information about an investor’s shareholding may be passed on to other tax authorities. Where a Shareholder fails to provide any requested information (regardless of the consequences), the Company reserves the right to take any action and/or pursue all remedies at its disposal to avoid any resulting sanctions including, without limitation, compulsory redemption or withdrawal of the Shareholder concerned.

### **Taxation of Chinese Equities**

#### **Chinese Withholding Income Tax**

Under the current China Corporate Income Tax (“CIT”) regime, Chinese tax resident enterprises should be subject to CIT on its worldwide income. Non-resident enterprises with establishments or places of business (“PE”) in China should be subject to CIT on taxable income derived by such PE in China. To the extent that the Company or each fund is not Chinese tax resident enterprises or non-tax resident enterprises with PE in China for CIT purposes, the Company should only be subject to Chinese Withholding Income Tax (“WHT”) on taxable income sourced from China (e.g. dividends, interest, capital gains, etc.), unless otherwise reduced or exempted pursuant to the applicable tax agreements or arrangements between China and the jurisdiction where the Company or each fund is tax resident, or applicable China tax regulations.

The Ministry of Finance (“MOF”), the State Taxation Administration (“STA”) and China Securities Regulatory Commission of the People’s Republic of China (“CSRC”) jointly issued notices in relation to the taxation rules on Shanghai – Hong Kong Stock Connect and Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect under Caishui 2014 No.81 (“Notice No.81”) on 31 October 2014 and Caishui 2016 No. 127 (“Notice No. 127”) on 5 December 2016, respectively. Under Notice No.81 and Notice No. 127, CIT and individual income tax should be temporarily exempted on gains derived by Hong Kong and overseas investors (including the Funds) on the trading of China A-Shares through Stock Connect. However, Hong Kong and overseas investors are required to pay tax on dividends and/or bonus shares at the rate of 10% which will be withheld and paid to the relevant authority by the listed companies. Where an investor is a tax resident of another country that has signed a tax treaty with China and in which the stipulated income tax rate on stock dividends

is less than 10%, the investor may apply to the competent tax authority of the relevant listed company to enjoy the preferential treatment under the tax treaty, insofar as such a preferential treatment is granted to a fund.

#### Chinese Value-Added Tax ("VAT")

Based on Notice No. 36 and Notice No. 127, gains derived by Hong Kong market investors (including the funds) from trading of A-Shares through the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect are exempt from VAT.

#### Tax provision

In the event that actual tax is collected by the STA to make payments reflecting tax liabilities for which no provision has been made, investors should note that the Net Asset Value of the funds may be adversely affected, as the funds will ultimately have to bear the full amount of tax liabilities. In this case, the additional tax liabilities of the funds will only impact shares in issue of the funds at the relevant time, and the then existing shareholders and subsequent shareholders of such funds will be disadvantaged as such shareholders will bear, through the funds, a disproportionately higher amount of tax liabilities as compared to that borne at the time of investment in the funds. On the other hand, if the actual applicable tax rate levied by STA is lower than that provided for by the fund so that there is an excess in the tax provision amount, shareholders who have redeemed their shares before STA's ruling, decision or guidance in this respect will be disadvantaged as they would have borne the loss from the overprovision. In this case, the then existing and new shareholders may benefit if the difference between the tax provision and the actual taxation liability under that lower tax rate can be returned to the account of the funds as assets thereof. Notwithstanding the above change in tax provisioning approach, persons who have already redeemed their shares in the funds before the return of any overprovision to the account of the funds will not be entitled to or have any right to claim any part of such overprovision.

Shareholders may be advantaged or disadvantaged depending upon the final tax liabilities, the level of provision and when they subscribed and/or redeemed their Shares in the funds. Shareholders should seek their own tax advice on their tax position with regard to their investment in the funds.

## APPENDIX V

### VALUATIONS

#### General

Each share linked to a fund represents, in microcosm, the overall scheme property of the fund: so valuation of shares in a fund is achieved, in broad outline, by valuing the scheme property in the fund, and dividing that value (or that part of that value attributed to shares of the class in question) by the number of shares (of the class in question) in existence.

#### Valuations

Valuations are normally made at 12 noon for all funds ("the valuation point") on each normal Dealing Day (see "Valuation" on page 59).

\*Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.

The calculation of prices of shares commences at or about the valuation point on each business day. The ACD may carry out additional valuations in accordance with the FCA Rules if it considers it desirable to do so. Valuations will not be made during a period of suspension of dealings (see page 57). The ACD is required to notify share prices to the Depositary on completion of each valuation.

#### Determination of Net Asset Value

The net asset value of the scheme property of the Company or fund (as the case may be) shall be the value of its assets less the value of its liabilities and shall be determined in accordance with the following provisions:

1. all the scheme property (including receivables) is to be included, subject to the following provisions;
2. property which is not an asset dealt with in paragraphs 3 to 4A (inclusive) below shall be valued as set out below and the prices used shall (subject as set out below) be the most recent prices which it is practicable to obtain:
  - (a) units or shares in a collective investment scheme:
    - (i) if a single price for buying and selling units or shares is quoted, at that price; or
    - (ii) if separate buying and selling prices are quoted, at the Average of the two prices provided the buying price has been reduced by any preliminary charge included therein and the selling price has been increased by any exit or redemption charge attributable thereto; or
    - (iii) if, in the opinion of the ACD, the price obtained is unreliable or no recent traded price is available or if no recent price exists or if the most recent price available does not reflect the ACD's best estimate of the value of the units or shares, at a value which, in the opinion of the ACD, is fair and reasonable;
  - (b) any other transferable security:
    - (i) if a single price for buying and selling the security is quoted, at that price; or
    - (ii) if separate buying and selling prices are quoted, at the Average of the two prices; or
    - (iii) if, in the opinion of the ACD, the price obtained is unreliable or no recent traded price is available or if no price exists or if the most recent price available does not reflect the ACD's best estimate of the value of the security, at a value which, in the opinion of the ACD, is fair and reasonable;
  - (c) property other than that described in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) above, at a value which, in the opinion of the ACD, represents a fair and reasonable mid-market price;



3. Cash and amounts held in current, deposit and margin accounts and in other time-related deposits shall be valued at their nominal values;
- 3A. approved Money-Market Instruments which have a residual maturity of less than three months and have no specific sensitivity to market parameters, including credit risk, shall be valued on an amortised cost basis;
4. exchange-traded Derivative contracts:
  - (a) if a single price for buying and selling the exchange-traded Derivative contract is quoted, at that price; or
  - (b) if separate buying and selling prices are quoted, at the Average of the two prices;
- 4A. over the counter Derivative contracts shall be valued on the basis of an up-to-date market valuation which the ACD and the Depositary have agreed is reliable or if this is not available, on the basis of a pricing model which the ACD and the Depositary have agreed;
5. all instructions given to issue or cancel shares shall be assumed to have been carried out (and any Cash paid or received) whether or not this is the case;
6. subject to paragraph 7 below, agreements for the unconditional sale or purchase of property (excluding Futures or contracts for differences which are not yet due to be performed and unexpired and unexercised written or purchased Options) which are in existence but uncompleted shall be assumed to have been completed and all consequential action required to have been taken. Such unconditional agreements need not be taken into account if they are made shortly before the valuation takes place and, in the opinion of the ACD, their omission will not materially affect the final net asset amount;
7. all agreements are to be included under paragraph 6 which are, or ought reasonably to have been, known to the person valuing the property assuming that all other persons in the ACD's employment take all reasonable steps to inform it immediately of the making of any agreement;
8. deduct an estimated amount for anticipated tax liabilities (on unrealised gains where the liabilities have accrued and are payable out of the property of the Scheme; on realised gains in respect of previously completed and current accounting periods; and on income where liabilities have accrued) at that point in time including (as applicable and without limitation) any liability for capital gains tax, income tax, corporation tax, value added tax, stamp duty or other transfer taxes such as financial transactions tax and stamp duty reserve tax;
9. deduct an estimated amount for any liabilities payable out of the scheme property and any tax thereon, for this purpose treating periodic items as accruing from day to day;
10. deduct the principal amount of any outstanding borrowings whenever payable and any accrued but unpaid interest on borrowings;
11. add an estimated amount for accrued claims for tax of whatever nature which may be recoverable;
12. add any other credits or amounts due to be paid into the scheme property;
13. add a sum representing any interest or any income accrued due or deemed to have accrued but not received and any stamp duty reserve tax provision anticipated to be received;
14. currencies or values in currencies other than base currency of the Company or (as the case may be) the designated currency of a fund shall be converted at the relevant valuation point at a rate of exchange that is not likely to result in any material prejudice to the interests of shareholders or potential shareholders.

In circumstances where the accuracy of the securities data supplied by the vendor employed by the ACD for such purposes is in question, or there is a failure on the part of the vendor's data delivery system, the ACD's data collection system, or the communication between the two, the ACD reserves the right to make use of validated market indices for pricing purposes. This method of pricing known as Indexation would be used in the pricing of the funds until such time

as the ACD is satisfied that the accuracy of the data received from the vendor is no longer in question, or until restoration of the relevant delivery or collection system, or the communication between the two.

#### **Allocation of Assets and Liabilities to Funds**

Each fund has credited to it the proceeds of all shares linked to it, together with the assets in which such proceeds are invested or reinvested and all income, earnings, profits or assets deriving from such investments.

The funds are segregated portfolios of assets and, accordingly, the assets of a fund belong exclusively to that fund and shall not be used or made available to discharge (directly or indirectly) the liabilities of, or claims against any other person or body, including the Company and any other fund and shall not be available for any such purpose. Please also see Appendix I headed "Risks" on page 69.

Subject to the above, each fund will be charged with the liabilities, expenses, costs and charges of the Company attributable to that fund, and within each fund charges will be allocated between classes in accordance with the terms of issue of shares of those classes. Any assets, liabilities, expenses, costs or charges not attributable to a particular fund may be allocated by the ACD in a manner which it believes is fair to the Shareholders generally. This will normally be pro rata to the Net Asset Value of the relevant funds.

**APPENDIX VI**

**CITIBANK UK LIMITED**

**LIST OF SUB-DELEGATES**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Citibank N.A. (Global Custody London &amp; Luxembourg Global Window)</b>
<b>Argentina</b>	The Branch of Citibank, N.A. in the Republic of Argentina
<b>Australia</b>	Citigroup Pty. Limited
<b>Austria</b>	Citibank Europe plc
<b>Bahrain</b>	Citibank, N.A., Bahrain Branch
<b>Bangladesh</b>	Citibank, N.A., Bangladesh Branch
<b>Belgium</b>	Citibank Europe plc
<b>Bermuda</b>	The Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited acting through its agent, HSBC Bank Bermuda Limited
<b>Bosnia-Herzegovina (Sarajevo)</b>	UniCredit Bank d.d.
<b>Bosnia-Herzegovina: Srpska (Banja Luka)</b>	UniCredit Bank d.d.
<b>Botswana</b>	Standard Chartered Bank of Botswana Limited
<b>Brazil</b>	Citibank, N.A., Brazilian Branch
<b>Bulgaria</b>	Citibank Europe plc Bulgaria Branch
<b>Canada</b>	Citibank, N.A., Canadian Branch
<b>Chile</b>	Banco de Chile
<b>China B Shanghai</b>	Citibank, N.A., Hong Kong Branch (For China B shares)

<b>China B Shenzhen</b>	Citibank, N.A., Hong Kong Branch (For China B shares)
<b>China A Shares</b>	Citibank (China) Co., Ltd (except for B shares as noted above)
<b>China Hong Kong Stock Connect</b>	Citibank, N.A., Hong Kong Branch
<b>Clearstream ICSD</b>	ICSD
<b>Colombia</b>	Cititrust Colombia S.A. Sociedad Fiduciaria
<b>Costa Rica</b>	Banco Nacional de Costa Rica
<b>Croatia</b>	Privedna Banka Zagreb d.d.
<b>Cyprus</b>	Citibank Europe plc, Greece Branch
<b>Czech Republic</b>	Citibank Europe plc, organizacni slozka
<b>Denmark</b>	Citibank Europe plc
<b>Egypt</b>	Citibank, N.A., Egypt
<b>Estonia</b>	Swedbank AS
<b>Euroclear</b>	Euroclear Bank SA/NV
<b>Finland</b>	Citibank Europe plc
<b>France</b>	Citibank Europe plc
<b>Georgia</b>	JSC Bank of Georgia
<b>Germany</b>	Citibank Europe plc
<b>Ghana</b>	Standard Chartered Bank of Ghana Limited
<b>Greece</b>	Citibank Europe plc, Greece Branch

<b>Guinea-Bissau</b>	Standard Chartered Bank Cote d'Ivoire
<b>Hong Kong</b>	Citibank N.A., Hong Kong Branch
<b>Hungary</b>	Citibank Europe plc, Hungarian Branch Office
<b>Iceland</b>	Islandsbanki hf
<b>India</b>	Citibank, N.A. Mumbai Branch
<b>Indonesia</b>	Citibank, N.A., Jakarta Branch
<b>Ireland</b>	Not Applicable. Citibank is a direct member of Euroclear Bank SA/NV, which is an ICSD.
<b>Israel</b>	Citibank, N.A., Israel Branch
<b>Italy</b>	Citibank Europe plc
<b>Ivory Coast</b>	Standard Chartered Bank Cote d'Ivoire
<b>Jamaica</b>	Scotia Investments Jamaica Limited
<b>Japan</b>	Citibank N.A., Tokyo Branch
<b>Jordan</b>	Standard Chartered Bank - Dubai DIFC Branch
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	Citibank Kazakhstan JSC
<b>Kenya</b>	Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Limited
<b>Korea (South)</b>	Citibank Korea Inc.
<b>Kuwait</b>	Citibank N.A., Kuwait Branch
<b>Latvia</b>	Swedbank AS, acting through its agent Swedbank AB
<b>Lebanon</b>	Bloominvest Bank S.A.L
<b>Lithuania</b>	Swedbank AS, acting through its agent Swedbank AB

<b>Luxembourg</b>	Only offered through the ICSDs- Euroclear & Clearstream
<b>Macedonia (republic of North Macedonia)</b>	Raiffeisen Bank International AG
<b>Malaysia</b>	Citibank Berhad
<b>Malta</b>	Citibank is a direct member of Clearstream Banking, which is an ICSD.
<b>Mauritius</b>	The Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited
<b>Mexico</b>	Banco Nacional de Mexico, SA
<b>Morocco</b>	Citibank Maghreb S.A
<b>Namibia</b>	Standard Bank of South Africa Limited acting through its agent, Standard Bank Namibia Limited
<b>Netherlands</b>	Citibank Europe plc
<b>New Zealand</b>	Citibank, N.A., New Zealand Branch
<b>Niger</b>	Standard Chartered Bank Cote d'Ivoire
<b>Nigeria</b>	Citibank Nigeria Limited
<b>Norway</b>	Citibank Europe plc
<b>Oman</b>	Standard Chartered Bank Oman Branch
<b>Pakistan</b>	Citibank, N.A., Pakistan Branch
<b>Panama</b>	Citibank N.A., Panama Branch
<b>Peru</b>	Citibank del Peru S.A
<b>Philippines</b>	Citibank, N.A., Philippine Branch
<b>Poland</b>	Bank Handlowy w Warszawie SA

<b>Portugal</b>	Citibank Europe plc
<b>Qatar</b>	The Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited acting through its agent, HSBC Bank Middle East Limited
<b>Romania</b>	Citibank Europe plc, Dublin - Romania Branch
<b>Russia</b>	AO Citibank*
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	Citigroup Saudi Arabia
<b>Serbia</b>	UniCredit Bank Srbija a.d.
<b>Singapore</b>	Citibank, N.A., Singapore Branch
<b>Slovak Republic</b>	Citibank Europe plc pobočka zahraničnej banky
<b>Slovenia</b>	UniCredit Banka Slovenia d.d. Ljubljana
<b>South Africa</b>	Citibank N.A., South Africa Branch
<b>Spain</b>	Citibank Europe plc
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	Citibank, N.A. Sri Lanka Branch
<b>Sweden</b>	Citibank Europe plc, Sweden Branch
<b>Switzerland</b>	Citibank N.A., London Branch
<b>Taiwan</b>	Citibank Taiwan Limited
<b>Tanzania</b>	Standard Bank of South Africa acting through its affiliate Stanbic Bank Tanzania Ltd
<b>Thailand</b>	Citibank, N.A., Bangkok Branch
<b>Tunisia</b>	Union Internationale de Banques

<b>Turkey</b>	Citibank, A.S.
<b>Uganda</b>	Standard Chartered Bank of Uganda Limited
<b>Ukraine</b>	JSC Citibank
<b>UAE- Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange</b>	Citibank N.A., UAE
<b>United Arab Emirates DFM</b>	Citibank N.A., UAE
<b>United Arab Emirates NASDAQ Dubai</b>	Citibank N.A., UAE
<b>UK</b>	Citibank N.A., London Branch
<b>United States</b>	Citibank N.A., New York offices
<b>Uruguay</b>	Banco Itau Uruguay S.A.
<b>Vietnam</b>	Citibank N.A., Hanoi Branch

\* Due to international sanctions, at the date of this Prospectus investing in or transferring assets in and/or out of Russia is not permitted.



## APPENDIX VII

### ANNUAL MANAGEMENT CHARGE

The following table shows the current rate of Annual Management Charge for each share class of the funds and the policy for allocation of this charge.

The Annual Management Charge is taken from the capital of the fund or the income generated by it. Where the charge is normally deducted from income of a fund but the income generated by the fund is insufficient to meet it, the charge may then be deducted from the capital of that fund. Where the charge is taken from the capital of the fund, this may result in capital erosion or constrain capital growth.

Fund Name	Current Rate of Annual Management Charge for shares currently available in the respective Fund												Charge deducted from capital or income
	Retail*		Institutional**										
	Retail	Retail Founder	Inst	Inst "A"	Inst "S"	Inst Regulated	Inst Founder	P	Q	Z	ZC and ZA Shares	ZB Acc	
abrdn AAA Bond Fund	0.60%		0.30%		0.25%	0.30%					0%		Income
abrdn American Income Equity Fund  (Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment)	1.30%		0.75%		0.60%						0%		Income in respect of accumulation shares. Capital in respect of income shares.
abrdn North American Small & Mid-Cap Equity Fund	1.30%		0.75%		0.65%						0%		Income

abrdn Asian Pacific Growth Equity Fund  (Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment)	1.30%		0.75%								0%		Income
abrdn Sterling Corporate Bond Fund	1%		0.50%					0.25%	0.25%	0%	0%	0%	Capital
abrdn Europe ex UK Smaller Companies Fund	1.30%		0.75%								0%		Income
abrdn Europe ex UK Growth Equity Fund  (Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment. )	1.30%		0.75%								0%		Income
abrdn Europe ex UK Income Equity Fund	1.30%		0.75%		0.60%						0%		Income in respect of accumulations on shares. Capital in respect of income shares.
abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund	1%		0.50%								0%		Income

abrdn Emerging Markets Opportunities Equity Fund  (Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment)	1.30%		0.75%									0%	Income
abrdn Emerging Markets Income Equity Fund	1.30%		0.75%									0%	Income in respect of accumulation shares. Capital in respect of income shares.
Global Emerging Markets Equity Unconstrained Fund  (Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment)	1.80%		0.80%									0%	Income
abrdn Global Focused Equity Fund  (Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment)	1.35%		0.80%		0.72%	0.40%						0%	Income

abrdn Global Infrastructure Equity Fund	1.30%	1%	0.75%		0.50%		0.50%			0%	0%		Income in respect of accumulation shares. Capital in respect of income shares.
abrdn Global Smaller Companies Fund	1.45%		0.85%		0.65%						0%		Income
abrdn High Yield Bond Fund	1%		0.60%		0.45%	0.30%				0%	0%		Income
abrdn Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund  (Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment)	1%		0.50%		0.30%	0.30%					0%	0%	Income
abrdn UK Growth Equity Fund  (Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment.)	1.30%		0.75%								0%		Income

abrdn UK High Alpha Equity Fund  (Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment. )	1.30%		0.75%								0%		Capital
abrdn UK High Income Equity Fund (Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment. )	1.30%		0.75%			0.30%					0%		Capital
ASI UK Recovery Equity Fund (Please note that this fund is in the process of being terminated and is therefore not available for investment. )	1.35%		0.80%								0%		Income
abrdn UK Ethical Equity Fund	1.30%		0.75%			0.30%					0%		Income
abrdn UK Government Bond Fund	0.40%		0.20%							0%	0%		Income

abrdn UK Smaller Companies Fund	1.35%		0.80%	1.60%	0.65%	0.40%				0%	0%		Income in respect of accumulati on shares. Capital in respect of income shares.
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\* Retail Shares includes: Retail Accumulation Shares, Retail Income Shares, Retail CAT Standard Accumulation Shares, Retail CAT Standard Income Shares, Retail Founder Accumulation Shares, Retail Founder Income Shares

\*\* Institutional Shares includes: Institutional Accumulation Shares, Institutional Income Shares, Institutional Founder Accumulation Shares, Institutional Founder Income Shares, Institutional Regulated Accumulation Shares, Institutional "A" Accumulation Shares, Institutional "A" Income Shares, Institutional "S" Accumulation Shares, Institutional "S" Income Shares, P Shares, Q Shares, Z Shares, ZC Shares, ZA Shares and ZB Shares.

**\*Note:** The maximum rate of Annual Management Charge in respect of Retail CAT Accumulation Shares and Retail CAT Income Shares in the abrdn AAA Bond Fund and Retail CAT Accumulation Shares in the abrdn Global Balanced Growth Fund is currently 1%. This may increase in future if the level of permitted charges in respect of CAT Standard ISAs is increased by HM Treasury.

## APPENDIX VIII

### INVESTMENT APPROACH

#### abrdn UK Ethical Equity Fund Investment Approach

The investment approach detailed below applies to the abrdn UK Ethical Equity Fund. For the purpose of the approach the capitalised terms shall have the meaning given to such term in the investment objective and policy of the fund or the glossary of terms, unless specifically defined below.

The fund uses a number of ethical assessment criteria:

#### Exclusions / Restrictions criteria

The fund targets to exclude at least 20% of the fund's benchmark investable universe, through a combination of internal assessment and the use of negative screening criteria to avoid investing in certain industries and activities that our customers are concerned with. The fund avoids investing in areas that are set out in the table below.

Screen	Criteria	Source
	<b>The fund excludes investments that:</b>	
UN Global Compact	Fail to uphold one or more principles.	MSCI, Investment research
Weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>have any tie to controversial weapons covering; cluster munitions, anti-personnel landmines, nuclear weapons, chemical and biological weapons, non-detectable fragments, incendiary devices, depleted uranium ammunition or blinding lasers</li> <li>manufacture or sell whole or strategic parts of weapons systems and weapons platforms.</li> <li>derive more than 20% of revenue from non-offensive military sales, such as vehicles or support to the military.</li> </ul>	MSCI
Tobacco –	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>produce tobacco products or grow or process raw tobacco leaves.</li> <li>derive more than 20% of revenue from supplying products essential to the tobacco industry.</li> </ul>	MSCI
Gambling –	have a revenue contribution of 10% or more from gambling	MSCI
Alcohol Production -	have a revenue contribution of 10% or more from alcohol production	MSCI
Animal testing -	conduct animal testing for medical and non-medical products	MSCI, Investment research
Animal husbandry -	companies with significant exposure to activities which may lead to poor animal husbandry, such as intensive or factory farming, where there is evidence of poor practices	MSCI, Investment research
Fur -	manufacture or sell fur products that are not a by-product of the meat industry	MSCI, Investment research
Marketing breast milk substitutes -	are identified to be in violation of the International Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes	MSCI
Nuclear energy -	are involved in the mining of uranium, and operators and owners of nuclear power stations, deriving more than 5% revenue from nuclear power generation.	MSCI
Adult Entertainment -	derive 3% or more revenue from adult entertainment products in which the dominant theme is sexually explicit conduct	MSCI

Employment -	are in breach of the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Core Labour Conventions	MSCI, Investment research
Human rights -	are in breach of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights	MSCI, Investment research
Environmental protection –	<p>Thermal coal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have a revenue contribution of 5% or more from mining thermal coal</li> <li>• have a revenue contribution of 30% or more from power generated from thermal coal</li> </ul> <p>Oil &amp; gas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have a revenue contribution of 30% or more from oil &amp; gas exploration and production, equipment and services, distribution or refining.</li> <li>• own proved oil shale &amp; tar sands reserves</li> </ul> <p>Chemicals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• manufacture chemicals of concern (such as ozone depleting chemicals and pesticides) without stringent policies, processes, and practices to mitigate the harmful impact of their processes and products</li> </ul> <p>Genetically modified organisms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• produce and sell genetically modify plants, such as seeds and crops, and other organisms intended for agricultural use or human consumption</li> </ul> <p>Raw materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are sourcing or utilising raw materials with high environmental concerns that lack appropriate management, policies and processes.</li> </ul>	MSCI, Investment research
Poor business practices -	evidence poor business practices that cause harm to society or their employees that have not already been captured under other criteria	MSCI, Investment research

The above sets out the screens that are applied for this fund. We cannot exhaustively list screens that are not applied and it is important for investors to be clear that the interpretation of ethical and the environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria is subjective, meaning that the fund may invest in companies which do not align with the personal views of individual investors. We regularly review the criteria, both positive and negative, through customer surveys and consultations to ensure they remain relevant.

### ESG Quality Rating

We utilise abrdn's equity investment process, where companies invested in are given overall quality rating, which includes the assessment of its business model, the industry they operate in and their financial strength.

We also consider the quality of its management team and analyse the ESG opportunities and risks impacting the business and appraise how well these are managed. We assign a proprietary rating (1 indicates best in class and 5 indicates laggard) to articulate the quality attributes of each company.

Companies eligible for inclusion in the fund must have an ESG Quality rating of 3 or better.

### ESG House Score



The ESG House Score is an analytical tool developed by our investments sustainability group in collaboration with the quantitative investment team. The score is calculated by combining a variety of data inputs within a proprietary framework, combining our underlying governance and operational scores:

- The governance score assesses the corporate governance structure and the quality and behaviour of its leadership and management. Scores range from 0-100. Low scores indicate poor practices or a lack of information available for scoring; higher scores indicate a strong governance approach.
- The operational score assesses how well companies address their adverse environmental impacts and promote societal welfare. Scores range from 0-100. Low scores indicate poor practices or a lack of information available for scoring; higher scores indicate that a company is implementing strong operational standards and practices in relation to each issue.

The final ESG score combines the standardised operational and governance scores. The weights of operational and governance scores are driven by the company's home market. For companies in developed markets, operational factors contribute 55% and governance factors contribute 45% to the overall score. In most emerging markets, governance has proved to be a larger risk factor as standards are less well developed. For companies in these regions, governance and operational are both rated at 50% when calculating the overall ESG score.

The abrdn ESG House Score global universe is segregated into seven equal groups. The fund will invest at least 70% its net asset value in those companies that pass the negative screens (outlined in more detail above), and are in one of the top two groups. This corresponds to companies scoring in the top 29% (2/7).

To complement this, we also utilise our active stewardship and engagement activities.

## **Active Stewardship**

### **Active Ownership**

In our view, good governance and stewardship are vital to safeguard the way in which a company is managed and to ensure that it operates responsibly in relation to its customer, employees, shareholders, and the wider community. We also believe that markets and companies which adopt best practices in corporate governance and risk management – including the management of environmental and social risks – are more likely to deliver sustainable, long-term investment performance.

As owners of companies, the process of stewardship is a natural part of our investment approach as we seek to benefit from their long-term success of our clients' behalf. Our fund managers and analysts seek to engage with the companies in which we invest at least annually, typically through meetings with their management and non-executive directors.

### **Voting**

Voting analysis is carried out for all general meetings in actively-held companies. Vote instructions on our holdings are decided by analysts in our regional and ESG investment teams. We subscribe to proxy research providers IVIS and ISS and use their research to support our own analysis rather than automatically following recommendations of any third party. Our decisions will reflect our knowledge of companies, and insights gained through engagement. The involvement of our investment managers in voting decisions allows us to ensure proxy voting remains an integral part of the investment process.

### **ESG Engagement**

Engagement with company management teams is key and a standard part of our equity investment process and ongoing stewardship programme. It provides us with a more holistic view of a company, including current and future ESG risks that the firm needs to manage and opportunities from which it may benefit. It also provides the opportunity for us to discuss areas of concern, share best practice and drive positive change. Priorities for engagement are established by:

- The use of the abrdn ESG House Score, in combination with

- Bottom-up research insights from investment teams across asset classes, and
- Areas of thematic focus from our company level stewardship activities

### **Divestment approach**

Disinvestment from companies is required if:

- They become in breach of any of the negative screens; or
- Less than 70% of the net asset value is invested in companies that are in the top 29% (2/7) of the abrdn ESG House Score global universe; or
- The ESG Quality rating falls below 3

Should the review of a security result in it being deemed non-compliant, the intention would be exit as soon as is practicably possible, but generally no longer than 3 months, allowing for market conditions.

