



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

CORPORATE DIRECTORY

Directors of Trustee Company

Steven Pritchard
Enzo Pirillo
Brett Hall

Company secretary

Enzo Pirillo

Registered Office

10 Murray Street
Hamilton NSW 2303
Telephone +61 2 4920 2877
Facsimile +61 2 4920 2878
Email: mail@hamiltonam.com.au
Web: www.hamiltonam.com.au

Principal Place of Office

10 Murray Street
Hamilton NSW 2303
Telephone +61 2 4920 2877
Facsimile +61 2 4920 2878

Unit Registry

Rees Pritchard Investor Services Pty Limited
10 Murray Street
Hamilton NSW 2303
Telephone +61 2 4920 2877
Facsimile +61 2 4920 2878

Auditors

PKF Newcastle
755 Hunter Street
Newcastle West NSW 2302
Telephone +61 2 4962 2688
Facsimile +61 2 4962 3245

CONTENTS

	Page
Directors' Report	1
Auditor's Independence Declaration	3
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	4
Statement of Financial Position	5
Statement of Changes in Equity	6
Statement of Cash Flows	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8
Directors' Declaration	15
Independent Auditor's Report	16

Newcastle Securities and General Trust

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors of Hamilton Asset Management Limited, the Trustee Company of the Newcastle Securities and General Trust ("the Fund"), present their report for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 and the independent auditor's report thereon.

Directors

The names of directors of the Trustee Company in office at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

Name	Period of directorship
Steven S Pritchard	Appointed 18 September 2009
Enzo Pirillo	Appointed 18 September 2009
Brett A Hall	Appointed 18 September 2009

Review of operations

The Fund aims to achieve a return of 8% per annum over the medium to long term.

The Fund's value raised by 5.53% after all costs, for investors who held their units for the entire period.

During the year, the Fund issued an additional 55,948 units for \$89,925, leaving a total amount of units on issue at the end of the year of 989,359 and unit holder funds of \$1,542,267.

Currently, the Fund is available for investment to those persons who are classified as wholesale investors under the Corporations Act.

Results

The results of the operations of the Fund are disclosed in the Statement of Comprehensive Income of these financial statements.

The profit attributable to unit holders for the year ended 30 June 2023 was \$83,565 (2022: \$156,988 loss).

Distributions

The distribution payable to unit holders for the year ended 30 June 2023 was \$27,820 (2022: no distribution payable).

Unit price history

The Fund calculates the net asset value of Fund's units as at the last business day of each month. The net asset value of the Fund is calculated by deducting the gross value of the Fund's assets from the liabilities of the Fund.

The following table shows the ex-distribution unit exit price for the Fund at the close of business on the reporting date/ redemption date and the highest and lowest exit price during the period.

Ordinary units	2023	2022
	\$	\$
At 30 June		
- Pre-distribution	1.5789	1.4962
- Post-distribution	1.5509	1.4962
Period to 30 June:		
- High	1.5930	1.8041
- Low	1.5138	1.4962

Changes in state of affairs

There were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Fund during the financial year.

Interests in the Fund

Details of the units in the Fund issued during the financial period, withdrawals from the Fund during the financial period and the number of units on issue in the Fund as at the end of the financial period are contained in Note 9 to the financial statements. Units in the Fund held by Hamilton Asset Management Limited and its associates are contained in Note 12 to the financial statements.

Future Developments, Prospects and Business Strategies

Disclosure of information regarding likely developments in the operations of the Fund in future financial periods and the expected results of those operations is likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the Fund. Accordingly, this information has not been disclosed in this report.

Newcastle Securities and General Trust

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Options granted

No options were:

- (i) Granted over unissued units in the Fund during or since the end of the financial period; or
- (ii) Granted to the Trustee Company

No unissued units in the Fund were under option as at the date on which this Report is made.

No units were issued in the Fund during or since the end of the financial period as a result of the exercise of an option over unissued units in the Fund.

Indemnification of officers and auditors

During the financial period, the Trustee Company paid a premium in respect of a contract insuring the directors of the Trustee Company (as named above) against a liability incurred as such a director, secretary or executive officer to the extent permitted by the *Corporations Act 2001*. The contract of insurance prohibits disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium.

The Trustee Company has not otherwise, during or since the end of the financial period, except to the extent permitted by law, indemnified or agreed to indemnify an officer or auditor of the Trustee Company or of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as such an officer or auditor.

Subsequent events

There has not been any matter or circumstance occurring subsequent to the end of the financial year that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Fund, the results of the Fund, or the state of affairs of the Fund in future financial periods.

Auditor's independence declaration

The auditor's independence declaration is included on page 3 of this report.

This directors' report is signed in accordance with a resolution of directors made pursuant to s.298(2) of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Signed on behalf of the Directors of the Trustee Company Hamilton Asset Management Limited.



Steven Shane Pritchard

Director

Hamilton, 20 September 2023

Hamilton Asset Management Limited as Responsible Entity for the
Newcastle Securities & General Trust

Auditors Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act
2001

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2023, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



PKF



MARTIN MATTHEWS
PARTNER

20 SEPTEMBER 2023
NEWCASTLE, NSW

Newcastle Securities and General Trust
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Investment Income		
Dividends received	23,086	19,129
Interest	6,626	531
Trust distributions	23,697	88
Net changes to fair value of investments	53,559	(144,121)
Total investment income	106,968	(124,373)
Operating Expenses		
Bank charges	30	-
Expense recovery	7,791	8,154
Management fees	15,582	24,461
Total expenses from operating activities	23,403	32,615
Operating profit/(loss)	83,565	(156,988)
Finance costs and other comprehensive income		
Distribution to unit holders	(27,820)	-
Change in Net Assets Attributable to Unit holders	(55,745)	156,988
Total comprehensive income	-	-

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Newcastle Securities and General Trust

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
		\$	\$
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	155,957	25,480
Trade and other receivables	4	24,342	3,533
Investments	5	1,391,729	1,370,090
TOTAL ASSETS		1,572,028	1,399,103
LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	6	1,941	2,506
Distributions payable	7	27,820	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES		29,761	2,506
 NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNIT HOLDERS	 8	 1,542,267	 1,396,597
Liability attributable to unit holders		(1,542,267)	(1,396,597)
NET ASSETS		-	-

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Newcastle Securities and General Trust
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	\$
Balance at 01.07.2021	-
Profit or Loss for the period	-
Other comprehensive income for the period	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	-
Balance at 30.06.2022	-
Balance at 01.07.2022	-
Profit or Loss for the period	-
Other comprehensive income for the period	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	-
Balance at 30.06.2023	-

For the purposes of these Financial Reports net assets attributable to unit holders is classified as a financial liability and disclosed as such in the statement of financial position.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Newcastle Securities and General Trust

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
		\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Distributions received		-	1,428
Dividends received		22,165	18,232
Interest received		6,625	531
Administration expenses		(22,825)	(35,620)
Bank charges		(30)	-
Other receipts		1,923	2,509
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	10	7,858	(12,920)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from the sale of investments		2,586,483	132,147
Payments to acquire investments		(2,553,789)	(239,058)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		32,694	(106,911)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from the issue of units		89,925	2,879
Net cash provided by financing activities		89,925	2,879
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		130,477	(116,952)
Cash at beginning of period		25,480	142,432
Cash at end of period	3	155,957	25,480

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Newcastle Securities and General Trust

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

NOTE 1: FINANCIAL REPORTING FRAMEWORK

Statement of compliance and basis of preparation

The financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Fund's Constitution, Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Act 2001. Newcastle Securities and General Trust ("the Fund") is a wholesale managed investment scheme domiciled in Australia.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs, except where stated, in accordance with the requirements of the Fund's constitution. Fund investments are revalued to fair value. Cost is based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The address of its registered office and principal place of business is 10 Murray Street, Hamilton, New South Wales.

The principal activity of the Fund is disclosed in the directors' report.

All amounts are presented in Australian dollars, unless otherwise noted.

The financial report was approved by the Board of directors and authorised for issue on 20 September 2023.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions and other events is reported.

The following significant accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation and presentation of the Financial Report:

(a) Income recognition

Income revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the relevant financial asset.

Trust distributions are recognised on a receivable basis as of the date the unit value is quoted ex-distribution. If the distributions are capital returns the amount of the distribution is treated as an adjustment to the carry value of the securities.

(b) Taxation

Under current legislation the Fund is not subject to income tax, provided taxable income including assessable capital gains is fully distributed to unitholders for the financial year. The Fund fully distributes its distributable income, calculated in accordance with the Fund's constitution and applicable taxation legislation, to the unitholders who are presently entitled under the constitution.

If the Fund makes a net realised capital loss, the loss is not distributed to unitholders, but is retained in the Fund to be offset against any future realised capital gains.

(c) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments, which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value and have a maturity of three months or less at the date of acquisition.

Newcastle Securities and General Trust

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(d) Fair value of financial assets and liabilities

Recognition and initial measurement

Financial assets and liabilities are recognised when each Fund becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. For financial assets this is equivalent to the date that the Fund commits itself to either the purchase or sale of the assets (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

At initial recognition, the Fund measures financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition, all financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value. Gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of the 'financial assets or liabilities at fair value through profit or loss' category are presented in the statement of comprehensive income in the period in which they arise.

For financial assets and financial liabilities at amortised cost, they are initially measured at fair value including directly attributable costs and are subsequently measured according to their classification.

Fixed deposits, cash and cash equivalents, due from brokers and receivables are carried at amortised cost.

(e) Distributions

Distributions paid and payable on units are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income and as a liability where not paid. Distributions paid are included in cash flows from financing activities in the statement of cash flows.

(f) Goods and Services Tax

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST), except:

- a. Where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority, the GST amount is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as an expense.
- b. For receivables and payables, which are recognised inclusive of GST.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from or payable to the taxation authority is classified as cash flows from operating activities.

(g) Application and redemption prices

The application and redemptions prices are determined as the net asset value of the Fund adjusted for the estimated transaction costs, divided by the number of units on issue on the date of the application or redemption.

(h) Segment Information

The Fund has adopted AASB 8 Operating Segments. Since the Fund is unlisted and is not in the process of issuing any class of instruments in the public market, disclosure of segment information is not required in the Fund's annual report.

(i) Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial reports in conformity with AIFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. This requires the Board and management to exercise their judgement in the process of applying the Fund's accounting policies.

The carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities are often determined based on estimates and assumptions of future events. In accordance with AASB 9, the fair value of the fund's Financial Assets have in the absence of an active market for those assets been determined by the directors of the Trustee Company.

Apart from this, there are no key assumptions or sources of estimation uncertainty that have a risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities within the next annual reporting period.

Newcastle Securities and General Trust

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(j) Adoption of new and revised accounting standards

The Fund has not applied any Australian Accounting Standards or AASB Interpretations that have been issued at balance date but are not yet operative for the year ended 30 June 2023 (“the inoperative standards”). The impact of the inoperative standards has been assessed and the impact has been identified as not being material. The Fund only intends to adopt inoperative standards at the date at which their adoption becomes mandatory.

The adoption of the various Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations in issue but not yet effective will not impact the Fund’s accounting policies. However, the pronouncements will result in changes to information currently disclosed in the financial statements. The Fund does not intend to adopt any of these pronouncements before their effective dates.

Newcastle Securities and General Trust
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
NOTE 3: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash at bank	155,957	25,480
Total cash and cash equivalents	155,957	25,480
NOTE 4: TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES		
Trade and other receivables	24,342	3,533
	24,342	3,533
NOTE 5: INVESTMENTS		
Investments measured at fair value through profit or loss	1,391,729	1,370,090
	1,391,729	1,370,090
NOTE 6: TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
Accrued charges	1,941	2,506
	1,941	2,506
NOTE 7: DISTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE		
Distribution payable to unit holders	27,820	-
NOTE 8: NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNIT HOLDERS		
At beginning of the year	1,396,597	1,550,706
Unit applications	89,925	2,879
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unit holders	55,745	(156,988)
Net assets attributable to unit holders	1,542,267	1,396,597
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	Units	Units
NOTE 9: NUMBER OF ISSUED UNITS		
At beginning of the year	933,411	931,676
Unit applications	55,948	1,735
Reinvestment of distribution	-	-
On issue at year-end	989,359	933,411

Newcastle Securities and General Trust

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
NOTE 10: CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
Profit/(loss) attributable to unit holders	83,565	(156,988)
Changes to net fair value of investments	(53,559)	144,121
Dividends/distributions reinvested	(921)	(897)
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(20,662)	945
Decrease in trade payables and accruals	(565)	(101)
Cash flow from operations	7,858	(12,920)

NOTE 11: FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Fund's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, investments, distributions receivable and payable and accounts payable. The capital structure of the Fund consists of the proceeds from the issue of the units of the Fund. The Trustee Company aims to ensure that there is sufficient capital for possible redemptions by Unitholders.

Financial instruments held by the Fund:

Financial assets

Cash and cash equivalents	155,957	25,480
Trade and other receivables	24,342	3,533
Investments at fair value	1,391,729	1,370,090
	1,572,028	1,399,103

Financial liabilities

Trade and other payables	1,941	2,506
Distributions payable	27,820	-
	29,761	2,506

a) Market risk

i. Price risk

The Fund is exposed to equity securities price risk. This arises from investments held by the Fund. A majority of the Fund's equity investments are publicly traded.

A general rise/ (fall) in market prices of 5% or 10%, if spread equally over all assets in the portfolio, would lead to an increase/ (decrease) in the Fund's portfolio value of \$69,586 or \$139,173 respectively.

ii. Interest rate risk

The majority of the Fund's financial assets are not interest-bearing. The Fund's exposure to interest rate risk is the risk that a financial instrument's value will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates.

b) Credit risk

This is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

Credit risk is managed as noted in the Notes to the financial statements with respect to cash and trade and other receivables. None of these assets are overdue or considered to be impaired.

Newcastle Securities and General Trust

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

NOTE 11: FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

c) Liquidity risk

The liquidity risks associated with the need to satisfy Unit holders' requests for redemptions are mitigated by requiring a 30 day notice period for redemption requests.

d) Net fair value of financial assets and liabilities

The Fund's financial assets and liabilities are measured at fair value at the end of each reporting period.

Fair value measurements

The following table provides the fair values of the Fund's asset and liabilities measured and recognised on a recurring basis after initial recognition and their categorisation within the fair value hierarchy.

1. quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1);
2. inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices) (level 2); and
3. inputs for the asset or liabilities that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs) (level 3).

30 June 2023	Note	Level 1 \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$	Total \$
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss					
Investment Portfolio (Equities)	5	751,024	640,705	-	1,391,729
Total		751,024	640,705	-	1,391,729

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets (including publicly traded derivatives) is based on quoted market prices at the end of the reporting year. These instruments are included in level 1.

The company's level 2 investments consist of unlisted shares and trusts. The valuation of these investments have been determined on the basis of the net asset value of the investments as at 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2022.

There were no transfers between Level 1, 2 and 3 for assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis during the reporting period (2022: no transfers).

NOTE 12: RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The Trustee of Newcastle Securities and General Trust is Hamilton Asset Management Limited ACN 139 473 699. Hamilton Asset Management Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hamilton Asset Management Proprietary Holdings Limited ACN 133 313 069 whose ultimate parent entity is Hamilton Capital Proprietary Limited ACN 099 837 199. Accordingly transactions with entities related to the Hamilton Capital Group are disclosed below.

Transactions with related parties have taken place at arm's length and in the ordinary course of business.

The trustee is entitled to be paid \$23,373 (2022: \$32,615) for fees and expense reimbursements incurred on behalf of the Fund including amounts payable to Rees Pritchard Investor Services Pty Limited.

Newcastle Securities and General Trust

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

NOTE 12: RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES (CONTINUED)

Rees Pritchard Investor Services Pty Limited

Steven Pritchard, Enzo Pirillo and Brett Hall directors of the trustee, have an indirect beneficial ownership interest in Rees Pritchard Investor Services Pty Limited.

Rees Pritchard Investor Services Pty Limited provides fund administration services to the trustee. Transactions with the trustee are undertaken on normal commercial terms and conditions. Amounts payable to Rees Pritchard Investor Services Pty Limited for the period were:

	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Expense recovery fees	7,791	8,154

Loans to directors of the Trustee

The Fund has not made, guaranteed or secured, directly or indirectly, any loans to the directors or their personally-related entities at any time during the reporting period.

Trustee Company Unitholdings

As at 30 June 2023, the Trustee, held no units in the Fund.

NOTE 13: KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL COMPENSATION

a. Names and positions held of Directors of the Trustee Company in office at any time during the financial year are:

Directors:

Steven Shane Pritchard	Director
Enzo Pirillo	Director
Brett Hall	Director

b. Transactions in units – (includes units both directly and indirectly held)

	Units held as at 1 July 2022	Units redeemed	Units reinvested	Units purchased	Units held as at 30 June 2023
Steven Shane Pritchard	932,334	-	-	55,948	988,282
Enzo Pirillo	807,468	-	-	55,948	863,416
Brett Hall	1,077	-	-	-	1,077

NOTE 14: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

There were no subsequent events after year-end that require disclosure other than those matters referred to elsewhere in this report.

NOTE 15: CONTINGENCIES

At balance date, the Directors are not aware of any other material contingent liabilities or contingent assets other than those already disclosed elsewhere in the financial report.

Newcastle Securities and General Trust

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

The directors of the trustee company declare that the trust is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors, the directors of the trustee company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes as set out on page 4 to 14, present fairly the trust's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements;
2. In the trustees' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the trust will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors of the Trustee Company, Hamilton Asset Management Limited.



Steven Shane Pritchard

20 September 2023

Independent Audit Report

TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF NEWCASTLE SECURITIES & GENERAL TRUST

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Newcastle Securities & General Trust (the Trust), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Fund is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Trust's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the Directors of the Responsible Entity, would be in the same terms if given to the Directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Directors of the Responsible Entity for the Financial Report

The Directors of the Responsible Entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

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

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Trust to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



PKF



MARTIN MATTHEWS

PARTNER

20 SEPTEMBER 2023
NEWCASTLE, NSW