

# Cooper Investors Australian Equities Fund – Wholesale Class

## Reference Guide

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### ABOUT THIS REFERENCE GUIDE

This Reference Guide ("RG") has been prepared and issued by Equity Trustees Limited ("Equity Trustees", "we" or "Responsible Entity"). The information in this document forms part of the Product Disclosure Statement ("PDS") for the Cooper Investors Australian Equities Fund – Wholesale Class ("Fund") dated 23 January 2025.

The information provided in this RG is for general information only and does not take into account your individual objectives, financial situation or needs. You should obtain financial and taxation advice tailored to your personal circumstances.

### UPDATED INFORMATION

Information in the PDS and this RG is subject to change. Before making an investment in the Fund, you should ensure that you have read the PDS and RG current as at the date of your investment.

You can request a copy of the PDS and RG by visiting [www.eqt.com.au/insto](http://www.eqt.com.au/insto) or calling the Investment Manager on +613 9660 2600. a paper copy of the updated information will also be provided free of charge on request.

#### INVESTMENT MANAGER

Cooper Investors Pty Limited  
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AFS Licence Number 221794  
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Phone: +613 9660 2600 Fax: +613 9660 2699  
Web: [www.cooperinvestors.com](http://www.cooperinvestors.com)

#### ADMINISTRATOR AND CUSTODIAN

Citigroup Pty Limited  
Level 22, 2 Park Street  
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Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia

#### RESPONSIBLE ENTITY

Equity Trustees Limited  
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ABN 46 004 031 298, AFSL 240975  
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Web: [www.eqt.com.au/insto](http://www.eqt.com.au/insto)

# 1. Investing in the Cooper Investors Australian Equities Fund

## HOW TO INVEST

To invest in the Fund, please complete the Application Form that accompanies the PDS and make payment via electronic bank transfer (see details in the Application Form).

Completed Application Forms should be sent along with your identification documents (if applicable) to:

Cooper Investors Pty Ltd

GPO Box 5193, Sydney NSW 2000

Please note that cash cannot be accepted.

## APPLICATION CUT-OFF TIMES

If we receive a correctly completed Application Form, acceptable identification documents (if applicable) and cleared application money:

- before 1pm (Sydney time) on a Business Day and your application for units is accepted, you will generally receive the Application Price calculated for that Business Day; or
- on or after 1pm (Sydney time) on a Business Day, and your application for units is accepted you will generally receive the Application Price calculated for the next Business Day.

We reserve the right to accept or reject applications in whole or in part at our discretion. We have the discretion to delay processing applications where we believe this to be in the best interest of the Fund's investors.

# 2. Managing your investment

## AUTHORISED SIGNATORIES

You can appoint a person, partnership or company as your authorised signatory. To do so, please nominate them on the initial Application Form and have them sign the relevant sections. If a company is appointed, the powers extend to any director and officer of the company. If a partnership is appointed, the powers extend to all partners. Such appointments will only be cancelled or changed once we receive written instructions from you to do so.

Once appointed, your authorised signatory has full access to operate your investment account for and on your behalf. This includes the following:

- making additional investments;
- requesting income distribution instructions to be changed;
- withdrawing all or part of your investment;
- changing bank account details; and
- enquiring and obtaining copies of the status of your investment.

If you do appoint an authorised signatory:

- you are bound by their acts;
- you release, discharge and indemnify us from and against any losses, liabilities, actions, proceedings, claims and demands arising from instructions received from your authorised signatory; and
- you agree that our acting on any instructions received from your authorised signatory shall amount to complete satisfaction of our obligations, even if these instructions were made without your knowledge or authority.

## REPORTS

Investors will be provided with the following reports:

- Application and withdrawal confirmation statements;
- Transaction statements; and
- (where applicable), distribution and tax statements.

Annual audited financial accounts are available on Equity Trustees' website.

## UNIT PRICE AND VALUATIONS

Your investment is represented by the number of units you are allocated at the time of investment.

The NAV of the Fund is generally calculated on each Business Day, and is calculated by deducting the value of the liabilities of the Fund from the value of its gross assets. The unit price may rise or fall.

The Application Price of a unit in the Fund is based on the NAV divided by the number of units on issue adjusted for the Buy Spread.

## UNIT PRICING DISCRETIONS POLICY

Equity Trustees has developed a formal written policy in relation to the guidelines and relevant factors taken into account when exercising any discretion in calculating unit prices (including determining the value of the assets and liabilities). A copy of the policy and, where applicable and to the extent required, any other relevant documents in relation to the policy will be made available to investors free of charge on request to Equity Trustees.

## LABOUR, ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS ("ESG")

EQT has delegated the investment function (including ESG responsibilities) to the Investment Manager and the Investment Manager has contemplated that Labour, Environmental, Social and Ethical considerations may be taken into account in relation to the investment of the Fund.

The Investment Manager's decision to invest in a company is informed by Cooper Investors Responsible Investing (RI) Principles. When assessing whether a company is a risk or opportunity, where ESG considerations are factored into the overall investment thesis and ongoing research that goes into each specific security. This is a qualitative and quantitative approach developed by the Investment Manager whereby a number of ESG questions are used to determine a standalone RI rating and score. Additionally, notes on ESG issues outside of the mandatory questions are saved which feed through to a general overview of the company.

If the extent to which these matters are taken into account is important to your investment decision please refer to Cooper Investors Responsible Investing Principles and approach to ESG which is available at [www.cooperinvestors.com/forms-documents](http://www.cooperinvestors.com/forms-documents).

## 3. Withdrawing your investment

### WITHDRAWAL CUT-OFF TIMES

If we receive a withdrawal request before 1.00pm (Sydney time) each Tuesday or the last business day of the month, and your withdrawal request is accepted, you will generally receive the Redemption Price calculated as at the close of business on that Tuesday or the last day of the month.

We reserve the right to accept or reject withdrawal requests in whole or in part at our discretion. We have the discretion to delay processing withdrawal requests where we believe this to be in the best interest of the Fund's investors.

Please see the PDS for information regarding how to request a withdrawal.

### PAYMENT OF WITHDRAWALS

Where we receive a large withdrawal request, we have discretion to determine that the withdrawal price applicable to that withdrawal request will be the first withdrawal price calculated following the expiry of five Business Days after the Business Day on which we have received and accepted the withdrawal request.

For these purposes, a large withdrawal request is a request that is:

- in respect of 5% or more of the Gross Asset Value (GAV) of the Fund at the time the withdrawal request is received and accepted by us; or
- received on a day on which we receive aggregate withdrawal requests for 5% or more of the GAV of the Fund on that day.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If and when the Fund has 100 or more direct investors, it will be classified by the Corporations Act as a 'disclosing entity'. As a disclosing entity, the Fund will be subject to regular reporting and disclosure obligations. Investors (but not Indirect Investors) would then have a right to obtain a copy, free of charge, of any of the following documents:

- the most recent annual financial report lodged with ASIC ("Annual Report");
- any subsequent half yearly financial report lodged with ASIC after the lodgment of the Annual Report; and
- any continuous disclosure notices lodged with ASIC after the Annual Report but before the date of this PDS.

Equity Trustees will comply with any continuous disclosure obligations by lodging documents with ASIC as and when required. Copies of these documents lodged with ASIC in relation to the Fund may be obtained from ASIC through ASIC's website.

### WITHDRAWAL TERMS

Once we receive your withdrawal request, we may act on your instruction without further enquiry if the instruction bears your account number or investor details and your (apparent) signature(s), or your authorised signatory's (apparent) signature(s).

We may contact you to check your details before processing your withdrawal request but are not obliged to. This may cause a delay in finalising payment of your withdrawal money. No interest is payable for any delay in finalising payment of your withdrawal money.

We are not responsible or liable if you do not receive, or are late in receiving, any withdrawal money that is paid according to your instructions.

When you are withdrawing, you should take note of the following:

- Withdrawals will only be paid to the investor.
- We reserve the right to fully redeem your investment if, as a result of processing your request, your investment balance in the Fund falls below the minimum balance set out in the PDS.
- If we cannot satisfactorily identify you as the withdrawing investor, we may reject your withdrawal request or payment of your withdrawal proceeds will be delayed. We are not responsible for any loss you consequently suffer.
- As an investor who is withdrawing, you agree that any payment made according to instructions received by post, courier, email or fax, shall be a complete satisfaction of our obligations, despite any fact or circumstances such as the payment being made without your knowledge or authority.

- You agree that if the payment is made according to these terms you, and any person claiming on your behalf, shall have no claim against us with regards to such payment.

### WITHDRAWAL RESTRICTIONS

Under the Corporations Act, you do not have a right to redeem from the Fund if the Fund is illiquid. In such circumstances, you will only be able to redeem your investment if Equity Trustees makes a withdrawal offer in accordance with the Corporations Act. Equity Trustees is not obliged to make such offers.

The Fund will be deemed liquid if at least 80% of its assets are liquid assets (generally cash and marketable securities). In addition we may at any time suspend consideration of withdrawal requests or defer our obligation to pay withdrawal proceeds, if it is not possible, or not in the best interests of investors or former investors for us to do so, due to circumstances outside our control (such as restricted or suspended trading in a Fund asset).

## 4. Fees & other Costs

### DID YOU KNOW?

Small differences in both investment performance and fees and costs can have a substantial impact on your long term returns. For example, total annual fees and costs of 2% of your investment balance rather than 1% could reduce your final return by up to 20% over a 30 year period (for example, reduce it from \$100,000 to \$80,000).

You should consider whether features such as superior investment performance or the provision of better member services justify higher fees and costs.

You may be able to negotiate to pay lower fees. Ask the fund or your financial adviser.

### TO FIND OUT MORE

If you would like to find out more, or see the impact of the fees based on your own circumstances, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) Moneysmart website ([www.moneysmart.gov.au](http://www.moneysmart.gov.au)) has a managed funds fee calculator to help you check out different fee options.

### FEES AND OTHER COSTS

This section shows fees and other costs that you may be charged. These fees and costs may be deducted from your money, from the returns on your investment or from the assets of the managed investment scheme as a whole.

Taxes are set out in another part of this document. You should read all the information about fees and costs because it is important to understand their impact on your investment.

### Cooper Investors Australian Equities Fund – Wholesale Class

Type of fee or cost	Amount	How and when paid
<b>Ongoing annual fees and costs<sup>1</sup></b>		
Management fees and costs The fees and costs for managing your investment	0.75% of the NAV of the Fund	The management fees component of management fees and costs are accrued weekly and paid from the Fund monthly in arrears and reflected in the unit price. Otherwise, the fees and costs are variable and deducted and reflected in the unit price of the Fund as they are incurred. The management fees component of management fees and costs can be negotiated. Please see “Differential fees” in the “Additional Explanation of Fees and Costs” for further information.
Performance fees Amounts deducted from your investment in relation to the performance of the product	0.03% of the NAV of the Fund <sup>2</sup>	Performance fees are calculated and paid monthly in arrears from the Fund and reflected in the unit price.
Transaction costs <sup>3</sup> The costs incurred by the scheme when buying or selling assets	0.11% of the NAV of the Fund	Transaction costs are variable and deducted from the Fund as they are incurred and reflected in the unit price. They are disclosed net of amounts recovered by the buy-sell spread.

Type of fee or cost	Amount	How and when paid
<b>Member activity related fees and costs (fees for services or when your money moves in or out of the scheme)</b>		
Establishment fee The fee to open your investment	Not applicable	Not applicable
Contribution fee The fee on each amount contributed to your investment	Not applicable	Not applicable
Buy-sell spread An amount deducted from your investment representing costs incurred in transactions by the scheme	0.20% upon entry and 0.20% upon exit	These costs are an additional cost to the investor but are incorporated into the unit price and arise when investing application monies and funding withdrawals from the Fund and are not separately charged to the investor. The Buy Spread is paid into the Fund as part of an application and the Sell Spread is left in the Fund as part of a redemption.
Withdrawal fee The fee on each amount you take out of your investment	Not applicable	Not applicable
Exit fee The fee to close your investment	Not applicable	Not applicable
Switching fee The fee for changing investment options	Not applicable	Not applicable

1 All fees quoted above are inclusive of Goods and Services Tax (GST) and net of any Reduced Input Tax Credits (RITC). See below for more details as to how the relevant fees and costs are calculated.

2 This represents the performance fee of the Fund which is payable as an expense of the Fund to the Investment Manager. See "Performance fees" below for more information.

3 The disclosed transaction costs (net of amounts recovered by the Buy/Sell Spread) is based on the relevant costs incurred during the financial year ended 30 June 2024. Transaction costs are subject to change annually based on actual costs incurred.

## ADDITIONAL EXPLANATION OF FEES AND COSTS

### Management fees and costs

The management fees and costs include amounts payable for administering and operating the Fund, investing the assets of the Fund, expenses and reimbursements in relation to the Fund and indirect costs if applicable.

Management fees and costs do not include performance fees or transaction costs, which are disclosed separately.

The management fees component of management fees and costs of 0.75% p.a. of the NAV of the Fund is payable to the Responsible Entity of the Fund for managing the assets and overseeing the operations of the Fund. The management fees component is accrued weekly and paid from the Fund monthly in arrears and reflected in the unit price. As at the date of this PDS, the management fees component covers certain ordinary expenses such as Responsible Entity fees, investment management fees, custodian fees, and administration and audit fees.

The indirect costs and other expenses component of 0.00% p.a. of the NAV of the Fund may include other ordinary expenses of operating the Fund, as well as management fees and costs (if any) arising from interposed vehicles in or through which the Fund invests. The indirect costs and other expenses component is variable and reflected in the unit price of the Fund as the relevant fees and costs are incurred. They are borne by investors, but they are not paid to the Responsible Entity or Investment Manager.

The indirect costs and other expenses component is based on the relevant costs incurred during the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

Actual indirect costs for the current and future years may differ. If in future there is an increase to indirect costs disclosed in this PDS, updates will be provided on Equity Trustees' website at [www.eqt.com.au/insto](http://www.eqt.com.au/insto) where they are not otherwise required to be disclosed to investors under law.

### Performance fees

Performance fees include amounts that are calculated by reference to the performance of the Fund. The performance fees for the Fund are 0.03% of the NAV of the Fund.

The performance fee figure that is disclosed in the Fees and Costs Summary is generally based on an average of the performance fees over the previous five financial years, where each performance fee relevant to the Fund is averaged and totalled to give the performance fees for the Fund.

A performance fee is payable to the Investment Manager where the investment performance of the Fund exceeds the performance of the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index. The performance fee is 10.25% of this excess, calculated and paid monthly in arrears and is calculated based on the weekly net asset value of the Fund over the relevant period. No performance fee is payable until any accrued underperformance (in dollar terms) from prior periods has been made up (this feature is sometimes referred to as a high-watermark).



Please note that the performance fees disclosed in the Fees and Costs Summary is not a forecast as the actual performance fee for the current and future financial years may differ. The Responsible Entity cannot guarantee that performance fees will remain at their previous level or that the performance of the Fund will outperform the Benchmark.

It is not possible to estimate the actual performance fee payable in any given period, as we cannot forecast what the performance of the Fund will be. Information on current performance fees will be updated from time to time and available at [www.eqt.com.au/insto](http://www.eqt.com.au/insto)

### **Performance fee example**

The example below is provided for illustrative purposes only and does not represent any actual or prospective performance of the Fund. We do not provide any assurance that the Fund will achieve the performance used in the example and you should not rely on this example in determining whether to invest in the Fund.

Assume that the balance of the account at the start of the year is \$550,000, with a contribution of \$50,000 at the end of the year. If the year-end closing balance of the account is \$559,000 (excluding the \$50,000 contribution) and the same dollar investment in the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index in Australian dollars is \$550,000, a performance fee equal to 10.25% of outperformance of \$9000 (\$559,000 less \$550,000), or \$922.50, will be payable.

### **Transaction costs**

In managing the assets of the Fund, the Fund may incur transaction costs such as brokerage, buy-sell spreads in respect of the underlying investments of the Fund, settlement costs, clearing costs and applicable stamp duty when assets are bought and sold. Transaction costs also include costs incurred by interposed vehicles in which the Fund invests (if any), that would have been transaction costs if they had been incurred by the Fund itself. Transaction costs are an additional cost to the investor where they are not recovered by the Buy/Sell Spread, and are generally incurred when the assets of the Fund are changed in connection with day-to-day trading or when there are applications or withdrawals which cause net cash flows into or out of the Fund.

### **Buy/Sell Spread**

The Buy/Sell Spread that is disclosed in the Fees and Costs Summary is a reasonable estimate of transaction costs that the Fund will incur when buying or selling assets of the Fund. These costs are an additional cost to the investor but are incorporated into the unit price and arise when investing application monies and funding withdrawals from the Fund and are not separately charged to the investor. The Buy Spread is paid into the Fund as part of an application and the Sell Spread is left in the Fund as part of a redemption and not paid to Equity Trustees or the Investment Manager. The estimated Buy/Sell Spread is 0.20% upon entry and 0.20% upon exit. The dollar value of these costs based on an application or a withdrawal of \$500,000 is \$1,000 for each individual transaction. The Buy/Sell Spread can be altered by the Responsible Entity at any time and [www.eqt.com.au/insto](http://www.eqt.com.au/insto) will be updated as soon as practicable to reflect any change. The Responsible Entity may also waive the Buy/Sell Spread in part or in full at its discretion. The transaction

costs figure in the Fees and Costs Summary is shown net of any amount recovered by the Buy/Sell Spread charged by the Responsible Entity.

Transaction costs generally arise through the day-to-day trading of the Fund's assets and are reflected in the Fund's unit price as an additional cost to the investor, as and when they are incurred.

The gross transaction costs for the Fund are 0.15% p.a. of the NAV of the Fund, which is based on the relevant costs incurred during the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

However, actual transaction costs for future years may differ.

### **Can the fees change?**

Yes, all fees can change without investor consent, subject to the maximum fee amounts specified in the Constitution. The current maximum management fee to which Equity Trustees is entitled is 3% of the NAV of the Fund. However, Equity Trustees does not intend to charge that amount and will generally provide investors with at least 30 days' notice of any proposed increase to the management fees component of management fees and costs. In most circumstances, the Constitution defines the maximum level that can be charged for fees described in this PDS. Equity Trustees also has the right to recover all reasonable expenses incurred in relation to the proper performance of its duties in managing the Fund and as such these expenses may increase or decrease accordingly, without notice.

### **Payments to IDPS Operators**

Subject to the law, annual payments may be made to some IDPS Operators because they offer the Fund on their investment menus. Product access is paid by the Investment Manager out of its investment management fee and is not an additional cost to the investor.

### **Differential fees**

The Investment Manager may from time to time negotiate a different fee arrangement (by way of a rebate or waiver of fees) with certain investors who are Wholesale Clients and Wholesale Investors. Please contact the Investment Manager on +613 9660 2600 for further information.

### **Taxation**

Please refer to Section 7 of the Product Disclosure Statement and Section 7 of this Reference Guide for further information on taxation.

## 5. Additional Risks

In evaluating the Fund and its prospects, investors should also consider the following:

- the success and profitability of the Fund will depend on the ability of the Investment Manager to make investments which will increase in value over time;
- the Fund, as a result of its strategies, will deviate materially from broader stock indices. Every investment is influenced by many factors that can affect both its value and the income it produces and the investment can decline as well as increase in value. As a Fund that invests in the stock market, market risk is significant;
- the value of the assets of the Fund may be affected by the general economic environment, legislation or government policy or other factors beyond the control of the Investment Manager. As a result, no guarantee can be given in respect of the future earnings of the Fund or the earnings or capital appreciation of the Fund's investments; and
- the past performance of this Fund and other funds and portfolios managed by CI are not necessarily a guide to future performance of the Fund.

In addition, unitholders should consider the following specific risks:

### **Market risk**

This is the risk that an entire market, country or economy (such as Australia) changes in value or becomes more volatile, including the risk that the purchasing power of the currency changes (either through inflation or deflation), potentially causing a reduction in the value of the Fund and increasing its volatility. Reasons can be many, and include changes in economic, financial, technological, political or legal conditions, natural and man-made disasters, conflicts and changes in market sentiment.

### **Exchange rate risk**

Where the Fund purchases assets denominated in a foreign currency, currency movements between the Australian dollar and the relevant foreign currency might lead to gains or losses in the value of the assets. The Investment Manager will generally not hedge its exposure to foreign currency movements in respect of such assets, but has the ability to hedge up to 30% of its exposure. However unit holders should be aware that hedging also carries its own risks.

### **Derivatives risk**

The Fund can use derivatives, including exchange traded options, to gain exposure to underlying assets or currencies. The Fund can suffer losses in excess of the amounts committed to relevant derivatives. The Fund will also be exposed to the risk that a derivative may not necessarily reflect the performance of the underlying asset or currency to which it is exposed. In addition, the Fund will be exposed to the counterparty risk that the other party to the derivative may not perform its obligations under the derivative.

### **Foreign investment risk**

When the Fund holds assets in another jurisdiction it will be exposed to different legal systems, foreign currency controls, different economic and political systems, foreign legislation and foreign taxation, all of which may adversely impact on the Fund.

### **Tax risk**

The Fund or an investment in the Fund can also be subject to tax risk on the basis that tax laws and relevant administrative practices are subject to change, possibly with retrospective effect.

### **Pandemic and other unforeseen event risk**

Health crises, such as pandemic and epidemic diseases, as well as other catastrophes that interrupt the expected course of events, such as natural disasters, war or civil disturbance, acts of terrorism, power outages and other unforeseeable and external events, and the public response to or fear of such diseases or events, have and may in the future have an adverse effect on the economies and financial markets either in specific countries or worldwide and consequently on the value of the Fund's investments. Further, under such circumstances the operations, including functions such as trading and valuation, of the Investment Manager and other service providers could be reduced, delayed, suspended or otherwise disrupted.

### **Liquidity risk**

There may be times when securities may not be readily saleable (for example a securities exchange imposed limit on price fluctuations on a particular day in both falling and rising market conditions) and this may impact the investment and markets to which the Fund has exposure. If there is an interruption to regular trading in a market generally, or for a particular investment to which the Fund has exposure, there may be delays in processing withdrawal requests.

### **Concentration Risk**

Concentration Risk is the risk of a material impact to the value or liquidity of the Fund caused by lack of portfolio diversification. The Investment Manager aims to mitigate this risk by adhering to minimum diversification levels and limits on individual asset exposure, to avoid the materiality of the impact on the whole Fund should any individual asset underperform.

## 6. Enquiries and complaints

### KEEPING IN TOUCH

If you have an enquiry regarding the management of the Fund please contact the Investment Manager on (03) 9660 2600.

### COOLING OFF PERIOD

If you are a Retail Client who has invested directly in the Fund, you may have a right to a 'cooling off' period in relation to your investment in the Fund for 14 days from the earlier of:

- confirmation of the investment being received; and
- the end of the fifth Business Day after the units are issued.

A Retail Client may exercise this right by notifying Equity Trustees in writing. A Retail Client is entitled to a refund of their investment adjusted for any increase or decrease in the relevant Application Price between the time we process your application and the time we receive the notification from you, as well as any other tax and other reasonable administrative expenses and transaction costs associated with the acquisition and termination of the investment.

The right of a Retail Client to cool off does not apply in certain limited situations. The right to cool off in relation to the Fund is not directly available to an Indirect Investor, such as if the issue is made under a distribution reinvestment plan, switching facility or represents additional contributions required under an existing agreement. Also, the right to cool off does not apply to you if you choose to exercise your rights or powers as a unit holder in the Fund during the 14 day period. This could include selling part of your investment or switching it to another product.

Indirect Investors should seek advice from their IDPS Operator as to whether cooling off rights apply to an investment in the Fund by the IDPS. The right to cool off in relation to the Fund is not directly available to an Indirect Investor. This is because an Indirect Investor does not acquire the rights of a unit holder in the Fund. Rather, an Indirect Investor directs the IDPS Operator to arrange for their monies to be invested in the Fund on their behalf. The terms and conditions of the IDPS Guide or similar type document will govern an Indirect Investor's investment in relation to the Fund and any rights an Indirect Investor may have in this regard.

### COMPLAINTS RESOLUTION

Equity Trustees has an established complaints handling process and is committed to properly considering and resolving all complaints. If you have a complaint about your investment, please contact us on:

Phone: 1300 133 472

Post: Equity Trustees Limited  
GPO Box 2307, Melbourne VIC 3001

Email: [compliance@eqt.com.au](mailto:compliance@eqt.com.au)

We will acknowledge receipt of the complaint within 1 Business Day or as soon as possible after receiving the complaint. We will seek to resolve your complaint as soon as practicable but not more than 30 calendar days after receiving the complaint.

If you are not satisfied with our response to your complaint, you may be able to lodge a complaint with the Australian Financial Complaints Authority ("AFCA").

Contact details are:

Online: [www.afca.org.au](http://www.afca.org.au)

Phone: 1800 931 678

Email: [info@afca.org.au](mailto:info@afca.org.au)

Post: GPO Box 3, Melbourne VIC 3001.

The external dispute resolution body is established to assist you in resolving your complaint where you have been unable to do so with us. However, it's important that you contact us first.



## 7. Other important information

### CONSENTS

#### Investment Manager

The Investment Manager has given and, as at the date of this PDS, has not withdrawn:

its written consent to be named in this PDS as the investment manager of the Fund; and

its written consent to the inclusion of the statements made about the Fund and which are specifically attributed to the Investment Manager in the form and context in which they appear.

The Investment Manager has not otherwise been involved in the preparation of this PDS or caused or otherwise authorised the issue of this PDS. Neither the Investment Manager nor its employees or officers accept any responsibility arising in any way for errors or omissions, other than those statements for which it has provided its written consent to Equity Trustees for inclusion in this PDS.

#### Custodian

The Custodian has no liability or responsibility to you for any act done or omission made in accordance with the terms of the Custody Agreement. The Custodian makes no statement in this PDS and has not authorised or caused the issue of it. CPL has given and not withdrawn its consent to be named in this PDS. The Custodian holds investments of the Fund as bare trustee and such investments are not investments of, CPL or any other member of the CPL group of companies (CPL Group). Neither CPL, nor any other member of CPL Group, guarantees the performance of the investment or the underlying assets of the Fund, or provide a guarantee or assurance in respect of the obligations of the Responsible Entity or its related entities.

### TAXATION

The following information summarises some of the Australian taxation issues you may wish to consider before making an investment in the Fund and assumes that you hold your investment in the Fund on capital account and are not considered to be carrying on a business of investing, trading in investments or investing for the purpose of profit making by sale. The information should be used as a guide only and does not constitute professional tax advice as individual circumstances may differ.

A number of tax reform measures are currently under review by the Australian Government. These reforms may impact on the tax position of the Fund and its investors. Accordingly, it is recommended that investors seek their own professional advice, specific to their own circumstances, of the taxation implications of investing in the Fund.

### General

The Fund is an Australian resident trust for Australian tax purposes. Therefore, the Fund is required to determine its net income (taxable income) for the year of income. On the basis that investors are presently entitled (which is the intention of Equity Trustees) to the net income of the Fund (including net taxable capital gains) or will be attributed their share of assessable income, exempt income, non-assessable non-exempt income and tax offsets (i.e. credits) of the Fund and the Fund is not a public trading trust, the Fund should be treated as a flow-through trust for tax purposes. This means that investors should be taxed on their share of the Fund's net taxable income or the amount attributed to them, and the Fund should not be subject to Australian income tax.

In the case where the Fund makes a loss for Australian tax purposes, the Fund cannot distribute the tax loss to investors. However, the tax loss may be carried forward by the Fund for offset against taxable income of the Fund in subsequent years, subject to the operation of the trust loss rules.

#### Attribution Managed Investment Trust ("AMIT") – core rules

The Fund may qualify as an eligible Attribution Managed Investment Trust (AMIT), and if so, intends to elect into the AMIT regime. The AMIT legislation applies an attribution model whereby Equity Trustees as the Responsible Entity of the Fund attributes amounts of trust components of a particular character to investors on a fair and reasonable basis consistent with the operation of the Fund's Constitution, which includes provisions in relation to AMIT. Under the AMIT rules, the following will apply:

**Fair and reasonable attribution:** Each year, the Fund's determined trust components of assessable income, exempt income, non-assessable non-exempt income and tax offsets (i.e. credits) will be allocated to investors on a "fair and reasonable" attribution basis, rather than being allocated proportionally based on each investor's present entitlement to the income of the Fund.

**Unders or overs adjustments:** Where the Fund's determined trust components for a year are revised in a subsequent year (e.g. due to actual amounts differing to the estimates of income, gains / losses or expenses), then unders and overs may arise. Unders and overs will generally be carried forward and adjusted in the year of discovery.

**Cost base adjustments:** Where the distribution made is less than (or more than) certain components attributed to investors then the cost base of an investor's units may be increased (or decreased). Details of cost base adjustments will be included on an investor's annual tax statement, referred to as an AMIT Member Annual Statement ("AMMA").

**Large withdrawals:** In certain circumstances, gains may be attributed to a specific investor, for example, gains on disposal of assets to fund a large withdrawal being attributed to the redeeming investor.

Penalties: In certain circumstances (e.g. failure to comply with certain AMIT rules), specific penalties may be imposed.

The new rules are intended to reduce complexity, increase certainty and reduce compliance costs for managed investment trusts and their investors. Where the Fund does not elect into the AMIT regime, or has made the election but the election is not effective for the income year (e.g. the Fund does not satisfy the requirements to be a managed investment trust for the income year), the Tax Law applicable to non-AMITs should be relevant. In particular, the Fund should not generally pay tax on behalf of its investors and instead, investors should be assessed for tax on any income and capital gains generated by the Fund to which they become presently entitled.

### **Deemed Capital Gains Tax ("CGT") Election**

Eligible managed investment trusts ("MITs") may make an election to apply a deemed capital account treatment for gains and losses on disposal of certain eligible investments (including equities and units in other trusts but excluding derivatives, debt securities and foreign exchange contracts). Where the election is made the Fund should hold its eligible investments on capital account and gains/ (losses) from the disposal of eligible investments should be treated as capital gains/(losses). Capital gains arising on the disposal of eligible investments held for 12 months or greater may be eligible to be treated as discount capital gains.

Where the CGT election is not made, the Fund should hold its eligible investments on revenue account and gains/(losses) from the disposal of eligible investments should be treated as revenue gains or losses.

### **Controlled Foreign Company ("CFC") Provisions**

There are certain tax rules (i.e. the CFC provisions) which may result in assessable income arising in the Fund in relation to investments in foreign equities, where certain control thresholds are met. If such interests were to be held at the end of the income year, the taxable income of the Fund may include a share of net income and gains (i.e. CFC attributable income) from such investments.

### **Taxation of Financial Arrangements ("TOFA")**

The TOFA rules may apply to certain "financial arrangements" held by the Fund. In broad terms, the TOFA regime seeks to recognise "sufficiently certain" returns on certain financial arrangements on an accruals basis for tax purposes rather than on a realisation basis. Where returns from derivative instruments are not "sufficiently certain" they will continue to be recognised on a realisation basis, unless specific tax timing elections are made.

## **Taxation Reform**

The tax information included in this PDS is based on the taxation legislation and administrative practice as at the issue date of this PDS, together with proposed changes to the taxation legislation as announced by the Government. However, the Australian tax system is in a continuing state of reform, and based on the Government's reform agenda, it is likely to escalate rather than diminish. Any reform of a tax system creates uncertainty as to the full extent of announced reforms, or uncertainty as to the meaning of new law that is enacted pending interpretation through the judicial process. These reforms may impact on the tax position of the Fund and its investors. Accordingly, it will be necessary to closely monitor the progress of these reforms, and investors should seek their own professional advice, specific to their own circumstances, of the taxation implications of investing in the Fund.

### **Tax File Number ("TFN") and Australian Business Number ("ABN")**

It is not compulsory for an investor to quote their TFN or ABN. If an investor is making this investment in the course of a business or enterprise, the investor may quote an ABN instead of a TFN. Failure by an investor to quote an ABN or TFN or claim an exemption may cause the Responsible Entity to withhold tax at the top marginal rate, plus the Medicare Levy, on gross payments including distributions or attribution of income to the investor. The investor may be able to claim a credit in their tax return for any TFN or ABN tax withheld. Collection of TFNs is permitted under taxation and privacy legislation.

By quoting their TFN or ABN, the investor authorises Equity Trustees to apply it in respect of all the investor's investments with Equity Trustees. If the investor does not want to quote their TFN or ABN for some investments, Equity Trustees should be advised.

### **GST**

The Fund is registered for GST. The issue or withdrawal of units in the Fund and receipt of distributions are not subject to GST.

The Fund may be required to pay GST included in management and other fees, charges costs and expenses incurred by the Fund. However, to the extent permissible, the Responsible Entity will claim on behalf of the Fund a proportion of this GST as a reduced input tax credit. Unless otherwise stated, fees and charges quoted in this PDS are inclusive of GST and take into account any available reduced input tax credits. The Fund may be entitled to as yet undetermined additional input tax credits on the fees, charges or costs incurred. If the Responsible Entity is unable to claim input tax credits on behalf of the Fund, the Responsible Entity retains the ability to recover the entire GST component of all fees and charges.

The impact of GST payments and credits will be reflected in the unit price of the Fund. Investors should seek professional advice with respect to the GST consequences arising from their unit holding.

## AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENT INVESTORS

### Distributions

For each year of income, each Australian resident investor will be required to include within their own tax calculations and tax return filings the assessable income, exempt income, non-assessable non-exempt income and tax offsets (i.e. credits) of the Fund attributed to them by Equity Trustees as the Responsible Entity of the Fund.

The tax consequences for investors in the Fund depends on the tax components of assessable income, exempt income, non-assessable non-exempt income and tax offsets (i.e. credits) of the Fund attributed to them.

Investors will receive an Annual Tax Statement (or an "AMMA" for an AMIT) detailing all relevant taxation information concerning attributed amounts and distributions, including any Foreign Income Tax Offset ("FITO") and franking credit entitlements, returns of capital, assessable income, and any upwards or downwards cost base adjustment in the capital gains tax cost base of their units in the Fund (in the case of an AMIT).

An investor may receive their share of attributed tax components of the Fund or net income in respect of distributions made during the year or where they have made a large withdrawal from the Fund, in which case their withdrawal proceeds may include their share of net income or attributed tax components of assessable income, exempt income, non-assessable non-exempt income and tax offsets (i.e. credits). In addition, because Australian investors can move into and out of the Fund at different points in time, there is the risk that taxation liabilities in respect of gains that have benefited past investors may have to be met by subsequent investors.

### Foreign Income

The Fund may derive foreign source income that is subject to tax overseas, for example withholding tax. Australian resident investors should include their share of both the foreign income and the amount of the foreign tax withheld in their assessable income. In such circumstances, investors may be entitled to a FITO for the foreign tax paid, against the Australian tax payable on the foreign source income. To the extent the investors do not have sufficient overall foreign source income to utilise all of the FITOs relevant to a particular year of income, the excess FITOs cannot be carried forward to a future income year.

### Disposal of Units by Australian Resident Investors

If an Australian resident investor transfers or redeems their units in the Fund, this may constitute a disposal for tax purposes depending on their specific circumstances.

Where an investor holds their units in the Fund on capital account, a capital gain or loss may arise on disposal and each investor should calculate their capital gain or loss according to their own particular facts and circumstances. As noted above, proceeds on disposal may include a component of distributable income. In calculating the taxable amount of a capital gain, a discount of 50% for individuals and trusts or 33 & 1/3% for complying Australian superannuation funds may be allowed where the units in the Fund have been held for 12 months or more. No CGT discount is available to corporate investors.

Any capital losses arising from the disposal of the investment may be used to offset other capital gains the investor may have derived. Net capital losses may be carried forward for offset against capital gains of subsequent years but may not be offset against ordinary income.

The discount capital gains concession may be denied in certain circumstances where an investor (together with associates) holds 10% or more of the issued units of the Fund, the Fund has less than 300 beneficiaries and other requirements are met. Investors who together with associates are likely to hold more than 10% of the units in the Fund should seek advice on this issue.

## AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OF NON-RESIDENT INVESTORS

### Tax on Income

The Fund expects to derive income which may be subject to Australian withholding tax when attributed by Equity Trustees as the Responsible Entity of the Fund to non-resident investors.

Australian withholding tax may be withheld from distributions of Australian source income and gains attributed to a non-resident investor. The various components of the net income of the Fund which may be regarded as having an Australian source include Australian sourced interest, Australian sourced other gains, Australian sourced dividends and CGT taxable Australian property.

We recommend that non-resident investors seek independent tax advice before investing, taking into account their particular circumstances and the provisions of any relevant Double Taxation Agreement/ Exchange of Information Agreement ("EOI") between Australia and their country of residence.

### Disposal of Units by Non-Resident Investors

Based on the Fund's investment profile, generally non-resident investors holding their units on capital account should not be subject to Australian capital gains tax on the disposal of units in the Fund unless the units were capital assets held by the investor in carrying on a business through a permanent establishment in Australia. Australian tax may apply in certain circumstances if the non-resident holds their units on revenue account. CGT may also apply in some cases where the Fund has a direct or indirect interest in Australian real property. We recommend that non-resident investors seek independent tax advice in relation to the tax consequences of the disposal of their units.

## YOUR PRIVACY

The Australian Privacy Principles contained in the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) ("Privacy Act") regulate the way in which we collect, use, disclose, and otherwise handle your personal information. Equity Trustees is committed to respecting and protecting the privacy of your personal information, and our Privacy Policy details how we do this. It is important to be aware that, in order to provide our products and services to you, Equity Trustees may need to collect personal information about you and any other individuals associated with the product or service offering.

In addition to practical reasons, this is necessary to ensure compliance with our legal and regulatory obligations (including under the Corporations Act, the AML/ CTF Act and taxation legislation). If you do not provide the information requested, we may not be able to process your application, administer, manage, invest, pay or transfer your investment(s).

You must therefore ensure that any personal information you provide to Equity Trustees is true and correct in every detail.

If any of this personal information (including your contact details) changes, you must promptly advise us of the changes in writing. While we will generally collect your personal information from you, your broker or adviser or the Investment Manager and Administrator directly, we may also obtain or confirm information about you from publicly available sources in order to meet regulatory obligations.

In terms of how we deal with your personal information, Equity Trustees will use it for the purpose of providing you with our products and services and complying with our regulatory obligations. Equity Trustees may also disclose it to other members of our corporate group, or to third parties who we work with or engage for these same purposes. Such third parties may be situated in Australia or offshore, however we take reasonable steps to ensure that they will comply with the Privacy Act when collecting, using or handling your personal information.

The types of third parties that we may disclose your information to include, but are not limited to:

- stockbrokers, financial advisers or adviser dealer groups, their service providers and/or any joint holder of an investment;
- those providing services for administering or managing the Fund, including the Investment Manager, Custodian and Administrator, auditors, or those that provide mailing or printing services;
- our other service providers;
- regulatory bodies such as ASIC, ATO, APRA and AUSTRAC; and
- other third parties who you have consented to us disclosing your information to, or to whom we are required or permitted by law to disclose information to.

Equity Trustees or the Investment Manager may from time to time provide you with direct marketing and/or educational material about products and services they believe may be of interest to you. You have the right to “optout” of such communications by contacting us using the contact details below.

In addition to the above information, Equity Trustees’ Privacy Policy contains further information about how we handle your personal information, and how you can access information held about you, seek a correction to that information, or make a privacy-related complaint.

Full details of Equity Trustees’ Privacy Policy is available at [www.eqt.com.au](http://www.eqt.com.au). You can also request a copy by contacting Equity Trustees’ Privacy Officer on +61 3 8623 5000 or by email to [privacy@eqt.com.au](mailto:privacy@eqt.com.au).

## THE CONSTITUTION

The Fund is governed by a constitution that sets out the Fund’s operation (the “Constitution”). This Constitution, together with the Fund’s PDS, this RG, the Corporations Act and other laws, regulate our legal relationship with investors in the Fund. If you invest in the Fund, you agree to be bound by the terms of the Fund’s PDS, this RG and the Fund’s Constitution. You can request a copy of the Constitution free of charge. Please consider these documents before investing in the Fund.

We may amend the Constitution from time to time in accordance with the provisions in the Constitution and the Corporations Act.

## ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTER TERRORISM FINANCING (AML/CTF)

Australia’s AML/CTF laws require Equity Trustees to adopt and maintain a written AML/CTF Program. A fundamental part of the AML/CTF Program is that Equity Trustees must hold up-to-date information about Investors (including beneficial owner information) in the Fund.

To meet this legal requirement, we need to collect certain identification information (including beneficial owner information) and documentation (“KYC Documents”) from new investors. Existing investors may also be asked to provide KYC Documents as part of an ongoing customer due diligence/verification process to comply with AML/CTF laws. If applicants or investors do not provide the applicable KYC Documents when requested, Equity Trustees may be unable to process an application, or may be unable to provide products or services to existing Investors until such time as the information is provided.

Under the AML/CTF laws, Equity Trustees is required to submit ongoing regulatory reports to, and share collected information with, AUSTRAC. This may include the disclosure of your personal information. Equity Trustees may be prohibited by law from informing applicants or investors that such reporting has occurred. AUSTRAC may require Equity Trustees to deny you access to your investment (temporarily or permanently). This could result in loss of the capital invested or you may experience significant delays when you wish to transact on your investment. In order to comply with AML/CTF Laws, the Responsible Entity may also disclose information that it holds about the applicant, an investor, or any beneficial owner, to its related bodies corporate or service providers, or relevant regulators of AML/CTF Laws (whether inside or outside Australia).

Equity Trustees shall not be liable to applicants or investors for any loss you may suffer because of compliance with the AML/CTF laws.

## INFORMATION ON UNDERLYING INVESTMENTS

Information regarding the underlying investments of the Fund will be provided to an investor of the Fund on request, to the extent Equity Trustees is satisfied that such information is required to enable the investor to comply with its statutory reporting obligations. This information will be supplied within a reasonable time frame having regard to these obligations.

## INDIRECT INVESTORS

You may be able to invest indirectly in the Fund via an IDPS by directing the IDPS Operator to acquire units on your behalf. If you do so, you will need to complete the relevant forms provided by the IDPS Operator and not the Application Form accompanying the PDS. This will mean that you are an Indirect Investor in the Fund and not a unitholder or member of the Fund. Indirect Investors do not acquire the rights of a unitholder as such rights are acquired by the IDPS Operator who may exercise, or decline to exercise, these rights on your behalf.

Indirect Investors do not receive reports or statements from us and the IDPS Operator's application and withdrawal conditions determine when you can direct the IDPS Operator to apply or redeem. Your rights as an Indirect Investor should be set out in the IDPS Guide or other disclosure document issued by the IDPS Operator.

## FOREIGN ACCOUNT TAX COMPLIANCE ACT ("FATCA")

In April 2014, the Australian Government signed an intergovernmental agreement ("IGA") with the United States of America ("U.S."), which requires all Australian financial institutions to comply with the FATCA Act enacted by the U.S. in 2010.

Under FATCA, Australian financial institutions are required to collect and review their information to identify U.S. residents and U.S. controlling persons that invest in assets through non-U.S. entities. This information is reported to the Australian Taxation Office ("ATO"). The ATO may then pass that information onto the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

In order to comply with the FATCA obligations, we may request certain information from you. Failure to comply with FATCA obligations may result in the Fund, to the extent relevant, being subject to a 30% withholding tax on payment of U.S. income or gross proceeds from the sale of certain U.S. investments. If the Fund suffers any amount of FATCA withholding and is unable to obtain a refund for the amounts withheld, we will not be required to compensate investors for any such withholding and the effect of the amounts withheld will be reflected in the returns of the Fund.

## COMMON REPORTING STANDARD ("CRS")

The CRS is developed by the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development and requires certain financial institutions resident in a participating jurisdiction to document and identify reportable accounts and implement due diligence procedures. These financial institutions will also be required to report certain information on reportable accounts to their relevant local tax authorities.

Australia signed the CRS Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement and has enacted provisions within the domestic tax legislation to implement CRS in Australia. Australian financial institutions need to document and identify reportable accounts, implement due diligence procedures and report certain information with respect to reportable accounts to the ATO. The ATO may then exchange this information with foreign tax authorities in the relevant signatory countries.

In order to comply with the CRS obligations, we may request certain information from you. Unlike FATCA, there is no withholding tax that is applicable under CRS.



## 8. Glossary

<b>Application Form</b>	The application form that accompanies the PDS.
<b>ATO</b>	Australian Taxation Office
<b>AUSTRAC</b>	Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre
<b>Benchmark</b>	MSCI All Countries World Net Dividends AUD
<b>Business Day</b>	A day other than Saturday or Sunday on which banks are open for general banking business in Melbourne and Sydney.
<b>GICS</b>	Global Industry Classification Standard
<b>High Water Mark</b>	No performance fees are payable until any accrued underperformance (in dollar terms) from prior periods has been made up.
<b>IDPS</b>	Investor-Directed Portfolio Service or investor-directed portfolio-like managed investment scheme. An IDPS is generally the vehicle through which an investor purchases a range of underlying investment options from numerous investment managers.
<b>IDPS Operator</b>	The entity responsible for operating an IDPS.
<b>Indirect investor</b>	A person who invests in the Fund through an IDPS.
<b>Investor</b>	Unless the context otherwise requires, a unit holder in the Fund. A unit holder is a member of the Fund.
<b>Net Asset Value (NAV)</b>	The value of the assets of the Fund less the value of the liabilities of that Fund
<b>Retail Client</b>	Persons or entities defined as such under section 761G of the Corporations Act.
<b>US Person</b>	<p>A person so classified under securities or tax law in the United States of America ("US") including, in broad terms, the following persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) any citizen of, or natural person resident in, the US, its territories or possessions; or</li> <li>(b) any corporation or partnership organised or incorporated under any laws of or in the US or of any other jurisdiction if formed by a US Person (other than by accredited investors who are not natural persons, estates or trusts) principally for the purpose of investing in securities not registered under the US Securities Act of 1933; or</li> <li>(c) any agency or branch of a foreign entity located in the US; or</li> <li>(d) a pension plan primarily for US employees of a US Person; or</li> <li>(e) a US collective investment vehicle unless not offered to US Persons; or</li> <li>(f) any estate of which an executor or administrator is a US Person (unless an executor or administrator of the estate who is not a US Person has sole or substantial investment discretion over the assets of the estate and such estate is governed by non-US law) and all the estate income is non-US income not liable to US income tax; or</li> <li>(g) any trust of which any trustee is a US Person (unless a trustee who is a professional fiduciary is a US Person and a trustee who is not a US Person has sole or substantial investment discretion over the assets of the trust and no beneficiary (or settlor, if the trust is revocable) of the trust is a US Person); or</li> <li>(h) any discretionary account or similar account (other than an estate or trust) held by a dealer or other fiduciary for the benefit or account of a US Person; or</li> <li>(i) any non-discretionary account or similar account (other than an estate or trust) held by a dealer or other fiduciary organised, incorporated or (if an individual) resident in the US for the benefit or account of a US Person.</li> </ul>
<b>We, us</b>	Refers to Equity Trustees.
<b>Wholesale Client</b>	Persons or entities defined as such under section 761G of the Corporations Act.
<b>Wholesale Investor</b>	In the case of a New Zealand investor, means a Wholesale Client who also meets the definition of a wholesale investor under clause 3(2) of Schedule 1 of the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013 (New Zealand).