

# **8IP AUSTRALIAN SMALL COMPANIES FUND**

ARSN 143 454 013

**ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2022 to 29 JUNE 2023**

# 8IP AUSTRALIAN SMALL COMPANIES FUND

ARSN 143 454 013

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2022 to 29 JUNE 2023

### CONTENTS

Directors' report

Auditor's independence declaration

Statement of comprehensive income

Statement of financial position

Statement of changes in equity

Statement of cash flows

Notes to the financial statements

Directors' declaration

Independent auditor's report to the unit holders of 8IP Australian Small Companies Fund

This annual report covers 8IP Australian Small Companies Fund as an individual entity.

The Responsible Entity of 8IP Australian Small Companies Fund is Equity Trustees Limited (ABN 46 004 031 298) (AFSL 240975).

The Responsible Entity's registered office is:

Level 1, 575 Bourke Street,  
Melbourne, VIC 3000.

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors of Equity Trustees Limited, the Responsible Entity of 8IP Australian Small Companies Fund (the "Fund"), present their report together with the financial statements of the Fund for the period 1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023.

### Principal activities

Until its termination on 29 June 2023, the Fund primarily invests in the ordinary shares (fully paid or contributing) of listed Australian and New Zealand companies, with a focus on companies outside the S&P/ASX 100 Index or companies of equivalent Australian dollar market capitalisation on the New Zealand stock exchange (NZX) in accordance with the Product Disclosure Statement and the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

During the period, all assets of the Fund were liquidated and returned to unit holders.

The Fund did not have any employees during the period.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the Fund's activities during the period.

The various service providers for the Fund are detailed below:

Service	Provider
Responsible Entity	Equity Trustees Limited
Investment Manager	Eight Investment Partners Pty Limited
Custodian and Administrator	Apex Fund Services Pty Ltd (an Apex Group Company)*
Statutory Auditor	Ernst & Young

\*Effective on 21 October 2022, Mainstream Fund Services Pty Ltd changed its name to Apex Fund Services Pty Ltd.

### Directors

The following persons held office as directors of Equity Trustees Limited during or since the end of the period and up to the date of this report:

Philip D Gentry	Chairman
Michael J O'Brien	
Russell W Beasley	
Mary A O'Connor	
David B Warren	(appointed 6 March 2023)

### Review and results of operations

This is the final financial statements for the Fund, which has been terminated.

During the period prior to its termination, the Fund continued to invest its funds in accordance with the Product Disclosure Statement and the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

The performance of the Fund, as represented by the results of its operations, was as follows:

	For the period 1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023	Year ended 30 June 2022
Profit/(loss) before finance costs attributable to unit holders for the period (\$)	45,995	(1,748,559)
Distributions paid and payable (\$)	83,909	519,075
Distributions (cents per unit)	1.6539	15.6761

### Significant changes in the state of affairs

David B Warren was appointed as a director of Equity Trustees Limited on 6 March 2023.

The Fund was terminated on 29 June 2023 when all unit holders' entitlements were redeemed.

In the opinion of the directors, there were no other significant changes in the state of affairs of the Fund that occurred during the financial period 1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023.

### Matters subsequent to the end of the financial period

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 29 June 2023 that has significantly affected, or may have a significant effect on:

- i. the operations of the Fund ; or
- ii. the results of those operations; or
- iii. the state of affairs of the Fund.

## DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### Indemnification and insurance of officers

No insurance premiums are paid for out of the assets of the Fund in regards to insurance cover provided to the officers of Equity Trustees Limited. So long as the officers of Equity Trustees Limited act in accordance with the Fund's Constitution and the Law, the officers remain indemnified out of the assets of the Fund against losses incurred while acting on behalf of the Fund.

### Indemnification of auditor

The Responsible Entity has not, during or since the end of the financial period, except to the extent permitted by law, indemnified or agreed to indemnify the auditor of the Fund against a liability incurred as auditor.

### Fees paid to and interests held in the Fund by the Responsible Entity and its associates

Fees paid to the Responsible Entity and its associates out of Fund property during the period are disclosed in Note 13 to the financial statements.

No fees were paid out of Fund property to the directors of the Responsible Entity during the period .

The number of interests in the Fund held by the Responsible Entity or its associates as at the end of the financial period are disclosed in Note 13 to the financial statements.

### Interests in the Fund

The movement in units on issue in the Fund during the period is disclosed in Note 6 to the financial statements.

The value of the Fund's assets and liabilities is disclosed in the statement of financial position and derived using the basis set out in Note 2 to the financial statements.

### Environmental regulation

The operations of the Fund are not subject to any particular or significant environmental regulations under Commonwealth, State or Territory law.

### Rounding of amounts to the nearest dollar

Amounts in the Directors' report have been rounded to the nearest dollar in accordance with *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191*, unless otherwise indicated.

### Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the Auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 4.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors of Equity Trustees Limited through a delegated authority given by Equity Trustees Limited's Board.



Philip D Gentry  
Chairman

Melbourne  
14 September 2023



**Building a better  
working world**

Ernst & Young  
8 Exhibition Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia  
GPO Box 67 Melbourne VIC 3001

Tel: +61 3 9288 8000  
Fax: +61 3 8650 7777  
ey.com/au

## **Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Equity Trustees Limited as Responsible Entity for 8IP Australian Small Companies Fund**

As lead auditor for the audit of the financial report of 8IP Australian Small Companies Fund for the financial year ended 29 June 2023, I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit;
- b. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit; and
- c. No non-audit services provided that contravene any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Ernst & Young

Luke Slater  
Partner  
14 September 2023

**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

	Note	For the period	
		1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023	Year ended 30 June 2022
		\$	\$
<b>Investment income</b>			
Dividend and distribution income		60,866	73,444
Net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		29,869	(1,711,839)
Management fees and costs reimbursement	13(g)	216,967	75,926
Other income		-	2,279
<b>Total investment income/(loss)</b>		<b>307,702</b>	<b>(1,560,190)</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Management fees and costs		234,657	138,031
Transaction costs		27,036	50,333
Other expenses		14	5
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>261,707</b>	<b>188,369</b>
<b>Profit/(loss) before finance costs attributable to unit holders for the period</b>		<b>45,995</b>	<b>(1,748,559)</b>
<b>Finance costs attributable to unit holders</b>			
Distributions to unit holders	7	(83,909)	(519,075)
(Increase)/decrease in net assets attributable to unit holders	6	37,914	2,267,634
<b>Profit/(loss) for the period</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Other comprehensive income		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the period</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

*The above statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

	Note	As at	
		29 June 2023 \$	30 June 2022 \$
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	8	-	214,720
Receivables	10	-	24,117
Due from brokers - receivable for securities sold		-	21,311
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	5	-	2,494,559
<b>Total assets</b>		-	2,754,707
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Distributions payable	7	-	519,075
Payables	11	-	33,283
Due to brokers - payable for securities purchased		-	12,713
<b>Total liabilities (excluding net assets attributable to unit holders)</b>		-	565,071
<b>Net assets attributable to unit holders – liability</b>	6	-	2,189,636

*The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

	For the period 1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023 \$	Year ended 30 June 2022 \$
<b>Total equity at the beginning of the financial period</b>	-	-
Profit/(loss) for the period	-	-
Other comprehensive income	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	-	-
Transactions with unit holders	-	-
<b>Total equity at the end of the financial period *</b>	-	-

\* Under Australian Accounting Standards, net assets attributable to unit holders are classified as a liability rather than equity. As a result, there was no equity at the start or end of the financial period.

*The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	Note	For the period	
		1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023	Year ended 30 June 2022
		\$	\$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		10,812,008	21,125,660
Payments for purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		(8,278,982)	(9,115,119)
Dividends and distributions received		65,782	78,965
Management fees and costs reimbursement received		233,425	63,334
Other income received		-	2,279
Management fees and costs paid		(267,940)	(130,703)
Transaction costs paid		(27,036)	(50,333)
Other expenses paid		2,729	7,439
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities</b>	9(a)	<b>2,539,986</b>	<b>11,981,522</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Proceeds from applications by unit holders		1,532,043	2,380,312
Payments for redemptions by unit holders		(3,761,763)	(15,063,889)
Distributions paid to unit holders		(524,986)	(488,493)
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from financing activities</b>		<b>(2,754,706)</b>	<b>(13,172,070)</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>(214,720)</b>	<b>(1,190,548)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		214,720	1,405,268
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period</b>	8	<b>-</b>	<b>214,720</b>
Non-cash operating and financing activities	9(b)	77,998	1,862,319

*The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### CONTENTS

1. General information
2. Summary of significant accounting policies
3. Financial risk management
4. Fair value measurement
5. Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss
6. Net assets attributable to unit holders - liability
7. Distributions to unit holders
8. Cash and cash equivalents
9. Reconciliation of profit/(loss) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities
10. Receivables
11. Payables
12. Remuneration of auditors
13. Related party transactions
14. Events occurring after the reporting period
15. Contingent assets and liabilities and commitments

## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

These annual financial statements cover 8IP Australian Small Companies Fund (the "Fund") as an individual entity. The Fund is an Australian registered managed investment scheme which was constituted on 29 November 2007. The Fund terminated its operations on 29 June 2023 when all assets of the Fund were realised and all units were redeemed out of the Fund.

The Responsible Entity of the Fund is Equity Trustees Limited (ABN 46 004 031 298) (AFSL 240975) (the "Responsible Entity"). The Responsible Entity's registered office is Level 1, 575 Bourke Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000. The financial statements are presented in the Australian currency unless otherwise noted.

During the period, all assets of the Fund were liquidated and returned to the unit holders.

Until its termination on 29 June 2023, the Fund primarily invests in the ordinary shares (fully paid or contributing) of listed Australian and New Zealand companies, with a focus on companies outside the S&P/ASX 100 Index or companies of equivalent Australian dollar market capitalisation on the New Zealand stock exchange (NZX) in accordance with the Product Disclosure Statement and the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

The annual financial statements were authorised for issue by the directors on the date the Directors' declaration was signed. The directors of the Responsible Entity have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

## 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all periods presented, unless otherwise stated in the following text.

### a. Basis of preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the *Corporations Act 2001* in Australia. The Fund is a for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

As the Fund was terminated on 29 June 2023, the going concern basis of preparation is no longer appropriate and the financial statements have been prepared on a non-going concern basis. The non-going concern basis means assets have been written down to the lower of their carrying amounts and net realisable value and additional liabilities have been recognised to the extent there was a present obligation at the reporting date. The accounting policies set out below have been applied within this context. As there were no assets or liabilities at the reporting date, adopting the non-going concern basis did not change the carrying amounts of any assets or liabilities.

#### i. Compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

The financial statements of the Fund also comply with IFRS as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

#### ii. New and amended standards adopted by the Fund

There are no standards, interpretations or amendments to existing standards that are effective for the first time for the financial period beginning 1 July 2022 that have a material impact on the amounts recognised in the prior periods or will affect the current or future periods.

### b. Financial instruments

#### i. Classification

- Financial assets

The Fund classifies its financial assets in the following measurement categories:

- those to be measured at fair value through profit or loss; and
- those to be measured at amortised cost.

The Fund classifies its financial assets based on its business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets.

The Fund's portfolio of financial assets is managed and its performance is evaluated on a fair value basis in accordance with the Fund's documented investment strategy. The Fund's policy is for the Investment Manager to evaluate the information about these financial assets on a fair value basis together with other related financial information.

For equity securities, the contractual cash flows of these instruments do not represent solely payments of principal and interest. Consequently, these investments are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

## **2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

### **b. Financial instruments (continued)**

#### *i. Classification (continued)*

For debt securities, the contractual cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest, however they are neither held for collecting contractual cash flows nor held both for collecting contractual cash flows and for sale. The collection of contractual cash flows is only incidental to achieving the Fund's business objective. Consequently, the debt securities are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

For cash and cash equivalents, receivables and due from brokers, these assets are held in order to collect the contractual cash flows and the contractual terms of these assets give rise, on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding. Consequently, these are measured at amortised cost.

- Financial assets (continued)
- Financial liabilities

For financial liabilities that are not classified and measured at fair value through profit or loss, these are classified as financial liabilities at amortised cost (due to brokers, distributions payable, management fees and costs payable, audit and tax fees payable, administration fees payable and custodian fees payable).

#### *ii. Recognition and derecognition*

The Fund recognises financial assets and financial liabilities on the date it becomes party to the contractual agreement (trade date) and recognises changes in the fair value of the financial assets or financial liabilities from this date.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or the Fund has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligation under the liabilities are discharged, cancelled or expires. When an existing financial liability is replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms, or the terms of an existing liability are substantially modified, such an exchange or modification is treated as the derecognition of the original liability and the recognition of a new liability. The difference in the respective carrying amounts is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### *iii. Measurement*

- Financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss

At initial recognition, the Fund measures a financial asset at its fair value. Transaction costs of financial assets carried at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in the statement of comprehensive income.

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 'financial assets or liabilities at fair value through profit or loss' category are presented in the statement of comprehensive income within 'net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss' in the period in which they arise.

For further details on how the fair value of financial instruments is determined please see Note 4 to the financial statements.

- Financial instruments at amortised cost

For financial assets and financial liabilities at amortised cost, they are initially measured at fair value including directly attributable costs and are subsequently measured using the effective interest rate method less any allowance for expected credit losses.

Cash and cash equivalents, due from brokers, receivables, distributions payable, payables and due to brokers are carried at amortised cost.

#### *iv. Impairment*

At each reporting date, the Fund shall estimate a loss allowance on each of the financial assets carried at amortised cost (cash and cash equivalents, due from brokers and receivables) at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Fund shall measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses. Significant financial difficulties of the counter party, probability that the counter party will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default in payments are all considered indicators that the asset is credit impaired. If the credit risk increases to the point that it is considered to be credit impaired, interest income will be calculated based on the net carrying amount adjusted for the loss allowance. A significant increase in credit risk is defined by management as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due. Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

The expected credit loss (ECL) approach is based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due in accordance with the contract and all the cash flows that the Fund expects to receive. The shortfall is then discounted at an approximation to the asset's original effective interest rate.

The amount of the impairment loss is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income within other expenses. When a trade receivable for which an impairment allowance had been recognised becomes uncollectible in a subsequent period, it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against other expenses in the statement of comprehensive income.

## **2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

### **b. Financial instruments (continued)**

#### *v. Offsetting financial instruments*

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the statement of financial position when the Fund has a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts, and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

As at the end of the reporting period, there are no financial assets or liabilities offset or with the right to offset in the statement of financial position.

#### **c. Net assets attributable to unit holders**

Units are redeemable at the unit holders' option; however, applications and redemptions may be suspended by the Responsible Entity if it is in the best interests of the unit holders.

The units are classified as financial liabilities as the Fund is required to distribute its distributable income in accordance with the Fund's Constitution.

The units can be put back to the Fund at any time for cash based on the redemption price, which is equal to a proportionate share of the Fund's net asset value attributable to the unit holders.

The units are carried at the redemption amount that is payable at the reporting date if the holder exercises the right to put the units back to the Fund.

#### **d. Cash and cash equivalents**

For the purpose of presentation in the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions and other short term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Payments and receipts relating to the purchase and sale of investment securities are classified as cash flows from operating activities, as trading of these securities represents the Fund's main income generating activity.

#### **e. Investment income**

##### *i. Interest income*

Interest income from financial assets at amortised cost is recognised using the effective interest method and includes interest from cash and cash equivalents.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and of allocating the interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts throughout the expected life of the financial instrument, or a shorter period where appropriate, to the net carrying amount of the financial asset. When calculating the effective interest rate, the Fund estimates cash flows considering all contractual terms of the financial instruments (for example, prepayment options) but does not consider future credit losses. The calculation includes all fees paid or received between the parties to the contract that are an integral part of the effective interest rate, including transaction costs and all other premiums or discounts.

Changes in fair value of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss are recorded in accordance with the policies described in Note 2(b) to the financial statements.

##### *ii. Dividends and distributions*

Dividend income is recognised on the ex-dividend date with any related foreign withholding tax recorded as an expense. The Fund currently incurs withholding tax imposed by certain countries on investment income. Such income is recorded net of withholding tax in the statement of comprehensive income.

Trust distributions are recognised on an entitlement basis.

#### **f. Expenses**

All expenses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income on an accruals basis.

Management fees and costs covers certain ordinary expenses such as as management fees, custodian fees, and administration and audit fees.

## **2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

### **g. Income tax**

Under current legislation, the Fund is not subject to income tax provided it distributes the entirety of its taxable income to its unit holders on present entitlement basis.

The Fund currently incurs withholding taxes imposed by certain countries on investment income and capital gains. Such income or gains are recorded gross of withholding taxes in the statement of comprehensive income. Withholding taxes are included in the statement of comprehensive income as an expense.

### **h. Distributions**

The Fund distributes its distributable income, in accordance with the Fund's Constitution, to unit holders by cash or reinvestment. The distributions are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as finance costs attributable to unit holders.

### **i. Increase/decrease in net assets attributable to unit holders**

Income not distributed is included in net assets attributable to unit holders. As the Fund's units are classified as financial liabilities, movements in net assets attributable to unit holders are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as finance costs.

### **j. Foreign currency translation**

#### *i. Functional and presentation currency*

Balances included in the Fund's financial statements are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which it operates (the "functional currency"). This is the Australian dollar which reflects the currency of the economy in which the Fund competes for funds and is regulated. The Australian dollar is also the Fund's presentation currency.

#### *ii. Transactions and balances*

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translations at period end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

Non-monetary items that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date when fair value was determined.

The Fund does not isolate that portion of unrealised gains or losses on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss and which is due to changes in foreign exchange rates. Such fluctuations are included in the net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss.

### **k. Due from/to brokers**

Amounts due from/to brokers represent receivables for securities sold and payables for securities purchased that have been contracted for but not yet delivered by the end of the period. Trades are recorded on trade date, and normally settled within two business days. The due from brokers balance is held for collection and is recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

### **l. Receivables**

Receivables may include amounts for interest, dividends and trust distributions. Dividends and trust distributions are accrued when the right to receive payment is established. Where applicable, interest is accrued on a daily basis. Amounts are generally received within 30 days of being recorded as receivables.

### **m. Payables**

Payables include liabilities and accrued expenses owed by the Fund which are unpaid as at the end of the reporting period.

As the Fund has a contractual obligation to distribute its distributable income, a separate distribution payable is recognised in the statement of financial position as at the end of each reporting period where this amount remains unpaid as at the end of the reporting period.

Distributions declared effective 30 June in relation to unit holders who have previously elected to reinvest distributions are recognised as reinvested effective 1 July of the following financial period.

### **n. Applications and redemptions**

Applications received for units in the Fund are recorded net of any entry fees payable prior to the issue of units in the Fund. Redemptions from the Fund are recorded gross of any exit fees payable after the cancellation of units redeemed.

## **2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

### **o. Goods and services tax (GST)**

The GST incurred on the costs of various services provided to the Fund by third parties such as management, administration and custodian services where applicable, have been passed on to the Fund. The Fund qualifies for Reduced Input Tax Credits (RITC) at a rate of at least 55%. Hence, fees for these services and any other expenses have been recognised in the statement of comprehensive income net of the amount of GST recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Amounts payable are inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO is included in receivables in the statement of financial position. Cash flows relating to GST are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis.

### **p. Use of estimates and judgements**

The Fund makes estimates, assumptions and judgements that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities within the current and next financial period. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

For the majority of the Fund's financial instruments, quoted market prices are readily available.

The Fund estimates that the resultant ECL derived from using impairment model, has not materially impacted the Fund. Please see Note 3 for more information on credit risk.

For more information on how fair value is calculated refer to Note 4 to the financial statements.

### **q. Rounding of amounts**

The Fund is an entity of a kind referred to in *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191* relating to the "rounding off" of amounts in the financial statements. Amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollars, unless otherwise indicated.

### **r. Comparative revisions**

Comparative information has been revised where appropriate to enhance comparability. Where necessary, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation in the current period.

## **3. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Fund's overall risk management programme focuses on ensuring compliance with the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement and the investment guidelines of the Fund. It also seeks to maximise the returns derived for the level of risk to which the Fund is exposed and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Fund's financial performance.

All investments present a risk of loss of capital. The maximum loss of capital on long equity securities and unit trusts is limited to the fair value of those positions.

The investments of the Fund, and associated risks, are managed by a specialist Investment Manager, Eight Investment Partners Pty Limited ("8IP") under an Investment Management Agreement ("IMA") that contains the investment strategy and guidelines of the Fund consistent with those stated in the Product Disclosure Statement.

The Fund held no assets or liabilities at the end of the period. As a result, the Fund was not exposed to market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk as at 29 June 2023.

The Fund uses different methods to measure different types of risk to which it is exposed. These methods are explained below.

### **a. Market risk**

#### *i. Price risk*

The Fund is exposed to price risk on equity securities listed or quoted on recognised securities exchanges and debt securities measured at fair value. Price risk arises from investments held by the Fund for which prices in the future are uncertain. Where non-monetary financial instruments are denominated in currencies other than the Australian dollar, the price in the future will also fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates which are considered a component of price risk.

The Investment Manager mitigates this price risk through diversification and a risk-based selection of securities and other financial instruments. The Fund's focus is small capitalisation companies, defined as those outside the ASX/S&P100 index.

The table at Note 3(b) summarises the sensitivities of the Fund's assets and liabilities to price risk. The analysis is based on the reasonably possible shift that the investment portfolio in which the Fund invests moves by +/-10% (2022: +/-10%).

### 3. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

#### a. Market risk (continued)

##### ii. Interest rate risk

The Fund is exposed to cash flow interest rate risk on financial instruments with variable interest rates. Financial instruments with fixed rates expose the Fund to fair value interest rate risk.

The Fund's interest bearing financial assets expose them to risks associated with the effects of fluctuation in the prevailing levels of market interest rate on its financial positions and cash flows. The impact of interest rate risk on profit and net assets attributable to unit holders is considered immaterial to the Fund.

Interest rate risk management is undertaken by maintaining as close to a fully invested position as possible thus limiting the exposure of the Fund to interest rate risk.

#### b. Summarised sensitivity analysis

The following table summarises the sensitivity of the Fund's operating profit and net assets attributable to unit holders to market risks. The reasonably possible movements in the risk variables have been determined based on management's best estimate, having regard to a number of factors, including historical levels of changes in foreign exchange rates, interest rates and the historical correlation of the Fund's investments with the relevant benchmark and market volatility. However, actual movements in the risk variables may be greater or less than anticipated due to a number of factors, including unusually large market movements resulting from changes in the performance of and/or correlation between the performances of the economies, markets and securities in which the Fund invests. As a result, historic variations in risk variables should not be used to predict future variances in the risk variables.

	Impact on operating profit/net assets attributable to unit holders	
	Price risk	
	+10%	-10%
	\$	\$
<b>As at 29 June 2023</b>	-	-
As at 30 June 2022	249,456	(249,456)

#### c. Credit risk

The Fund is exposed to credit risk, which is the risk that a counterparty will be unable to pay its obligations in full when they fall due, causing a financial loss to the Fund.

The Fund does not have a significant concentration of credit risk that arises from an exposure to a single counterparty or group of counterparties having similar characteristics. The main concentration of credit risk, to which the Fund is exposed, arises from cash and cash equivalents and amounts due from brokers balances. None of these assets are impaired nor past their due date. The maximum exposure to credit risk is the carrying amount of these balances at the reporting date.

The Fund determines credit risk and measures expected credit losses for financial assets measured at amortised cost using probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default. Management consider both historical analysis and forward looking information in determining any expected credit loss. At 29 June 2023, the Fund did not hold any assets and had no credit risk exposure.

#### d. Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund may not be able to generate sufficient cash resources to settle its obligations in full as they fall due or can only do so on terms that are materially disadvantageous.

Exposure to liquidity risk for the Fund may arise from the requirement to meet daily unit holder redemption requests or to fund foreign exchange related cash flow requirements.

Liquidity risk is managed by investing the majority of its assets in investments that are traded in an active market and can be readily disposed of.

In order to manage the Fund's overall liquidity, the Responsible Entity has the discretion to reject an application for units and to defer or adjust redemption of units if the exercise of such discretion is in the best interests of unit holders. The Fund did not reject or withhold any redemptions during 2023 and 2022.

##### i. Maturities of non-derivative financial liabilities

All non-derivative financial liabilities of the Fund in the current period have maturities of less than 1 month.

#### 4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

The Fund measures and recognises financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss on a recurring basis.

- Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (see Note 5)

The Fund has no assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis in the current reporting period.

AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level of the following fair value measurement hierarchy:

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

The Fund values its investments in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 2 to the financial statements. For the majority of its investments, the Fund relies on information provided by independent pricing services for the valuation of its investments.

##### a. Fair value in an active market (level 1)

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets (such as publicly traded equity securities and unit trusts) are based on quoted market prices at the close of trading at the end of the reporting period without any deduction for estimated future selling costs.

The quoted market price used for financial assets held by the Fund is the current bid price; the quoted market price for financial liabilities is the current asking price.

A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service, or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.

An active market is a market in which transactions for the asset or liability take place with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

##### b. Fair value in an inactive or unquoted market (level 3)

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. These include the use of recent arm's length market transactions, reference to the current fair value of a substantially similar other instrument, discounted cash flow techniques, option pricing models or any other valuation technique that provides a reliable estimate of prices obtained in actual market transactions.

Some of the inputs to these models may not be market observable and are therefore estimated based on assumptions. The output of a model is always an estimate or approximation of a value that cannot be determined with certainty, and valuation techniques employed may not fully reflect all factors relevant to the positions the Fund holds. Valuations are therefore adjusted, where appropriate, to allow for additional factors including liquidity risk and counterparty risk.

##### c. Recognised fair value measurements

As at 29 June 2023, the Fund had no financial assets and liabilities. The table below presents the Fund's financial assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value as at and 30 June 2022.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
As at 30 June 2022				
Financial assets				
Equity securities	2,481,916	-	12,643	2,494,559
Total financial assets	2,481,916	-	12,643	2,494,559

##### d. Transfer between levels

Management's policy is to recognise transfers into and transfers out of fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period.

There were no transfers between levels for the period ended 29 June 2023.

The following table presents the transfers between levels for the period ended 30 June 2022.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
As at 30 June 2022			
Transfers between level 3 and level 1			
Equity securities	12,322	-	(12,322)

At the end of the current reporting period, management have transferred the Fund's investments in equity securities from level 3 to 1 on the fair value hierarchy on the basis that equity securities were actively traded. There were no other transfers between levels in the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period.

#### 4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT (CONTINUED)

##### e. Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs

The following table presents the movement in level 3 instruments for the period ended 29 June 2023 and 30 June 2022 by class of financial instrument.

	Unlisted equity securities \$
<b>Opening balance - 1 July 2022</b>	<b>12,643</b>
Sales	(4,059)
Gains/(losses) recognised in the statement of comprehensive income	(8,584)
<b>Closing balance - 29 June 2023</b>	<b>-</b>
Opening balance - 1 July 2021	180,521
Transfers into/(out) from level 3	(180,521)
Purchases	17,553
Sales	(1,278)
Gains/(losses) recognised in the statement of comprehensive income	(3,632)
<b>Closing balance - 30 June 2022</b>	<b>12,643</b>

##### i. Valuation inputs and relationships to fair value

The following table summarises the quantitative information about the significant unobservable inputs used in the level 3 fair value measurements. See Note 4(b) for the valuation techniques adopted.

Description	Fair value \$	Unobservable inputs	Range of inputs (probability-weighted average)	Relationship of unobservable inputs to fair value
As at 30 June 2022				
Equity securities	12,643	Initial public offering (IPO) price	10%/(10%)	1,234 / (1,264)

##### ii. Valuation processes

Portfolio reviews are undertaken regularly by management to identify securities that potentially may not be actively traded or have stale security pricing. This process identifies securities which possibly could be regarded as being level 3 securities. Further analysis, should it be required, is undertaken to determine the accounting significance of the identification. For certain security types, in selecting the most appropriate valuation model, management performs back testing and considers actual market transactions. Changes in allocation to or from level 3 are analysed at the end of each reporting period.

##### f. Financial instruments not carried at fair value

The financial instruments not measured at fair value through the profit and loss include:

- i. Cash and cash equivalent, balances due from/to brokers and receivables/payables under sale and repurchase agreements. These are short-term financial assets and financial liabilities whose carrying values approximate fair value, because of their short-term nature and the high credit quality of counterparties; and
- ii. Net assets attributable to unit holders, as the Fund routinely redeems and issues units at an amount equal to the proportionate share of the Fund's net assets at the time of redemption, calculated on a basis consistent with that used in these financial statements. Accordingly, the carrying value of net assets attributable to unit holders approximates their fair value. Any difference is not material in the current year or prior year.

#### 5. FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

	As at	
	29 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Equity securities	-	2,494,559
<b>Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,494,559</b>

An overview of the risk exposures and fair value measurements relating to financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is included in Note 3 and Note 4 to the financial statements.

## 6. NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNIT HOLDERS - LIABILITY

The Fund's units are classified as a liability as they do not meet the definition of a financial instrument to be classified as equity.

Movements in the number of units and net assets attributable to unit holders during the period were as follows:

	For the period		Year ended	
	1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023	1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023	30 June 2022	30 June 2022
	Units	\$	Units	\$
Opening balance	3,311,253	2,189,636	13,244,642	15,278,528
Applications	2,106,354	1,532,043	2,079,865	2,380,312
Redemptions	(5,534,809)	(3,761,763)	(13,618,840)	(15,063,889)
Reinvestment of distributions	117,202	77,998	1,605,586	1,862,319
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unit holders	-	(37,914)	-	(2,267,634)
<b>Closing balance</b>	-	-	3,311,253	2,189,636

As stipulated within the Fund's Constitution, each unit represents a right to an individual share in the Fund and does not extend to a right in the underlying assets of the Fund.

There are no separate classes of units and each unit has the same rights attaching to it as all other units of the Fund.

Units are redeemed on demand at the unit holders' option. However, holders of these instruments typically retain them for the medium to long term. As such, the amount expected to be settled within twelve months after the end of the reporting period cannot be reliably determined.

### Capital risk management

The Fund considers its net assets attributable to unit holders as capital, notwithstanding that net assets attributable to unit holders are classified as a liability. The amount of net assets attributable to unit holders can change significantly on a daily basis as the Fund is subject to daily applications and redemptions at the discretion of unit holders.

Daily applications and redemptions are reviewed relative to the liquidity of the Fund's underlying assets on a daily basis by the Responsible Entity. Under the terms of the Fund's Constitution, the Responsible Entity has the discretion to reject an application for units and to defer or adjust redemption of units if the exercise of such discretion is in the best interests of unit holders.

## 7. DISTRIBUTIONS TO UNIT HOLDERS

The distributions declared during the period were as follows:

	For the period		Year ended	
	1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023	1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023	30 June 2022	30 June 2022
	\$	CPU	\$	CPU
<b>Distributions</b>				
June (paid)	83,909	1.6539	-	-
June (payable)	-	-	519,075	15.6761
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>83,909</b>	<b>1.6539</b>	<b>519,075</b>	<b>15.6761</b>

## 8. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	As at	
	29 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	-	214,720
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>214,720</b>

## 9. RECONCILIATION OF PROFIT/(LOSS) TO NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

### a. Reconciliation of profit/(loss) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	Note	For the period	
		1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023	Year ended 30 June 2022
		\$	\$
Profit/(loss) for the period		-	-
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unit holders		(37,914)	(2,267,634)
Distributions to unit holders		83,909	519,075
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		10,812,008	21,125,660
Payments for purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		(8,278,982)	(9,115,119)
Net (gains)/losses on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		(29,869)	1,711,839
Net change in receivables		24,117	373
Net change in payables		(33,283)	7,328
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities</b>		<b>2,539,986</b>	<b>11,981,522</b>

### b. Non-cash operating and financing activities

The following distribution payments to unit holders were satisfied by the issue of units under the distribution reinvestment plan

	77,998	1,862,319
<b>Total non-cash operating and financing activities</b>	<b>77,998</b>	<b>1,862,319</b>

As described in Note 2(i), income not distributed is included in net assets attributable to unit holders. The change in this amount for the period (as reported in (a) above) represents a non-cash financing cost as it is not settled in cash until such time as it becomes distributable.

## 10. RECEIVABLES

	As at	
	29 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Dividends receivable	-	4,916
GST receivable	-	2,743
Management fees and costs reimbursement receivable	-	16,458
<b>Total receivables</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,117</b>

## 11. PAYABLES

	As at	
	29 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Management fees and costs payable	-	33,283
<b>Total payables</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,283</b>

## 12. REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS

During the period the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by the auditors of the Fund:

	For the period 1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023 \$	Year ended 30 June 2022 \$
<b>Ernst &amp; Young</b>		
<i>Audit and other assurance services</i>		
Audit of financial statements	8,000	12,948
<b>Total auditor remuneration and other assurance services</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>12,948</b>
<i>Taxation services</i>		
Tax compliance services	15,250	10,364
<b>Total remuneration for taxation services</b>	<b>15,250</b>	<b>10,364</b>
<b>Total remuneration of Ernst &amp; Young</b>	<b>23,250</b>	<b>23,312</b>
<b>PricewaterhouseCoopers</b>		
<i>Audit and other assurance services</i>		
Audit of compliance plan	2,346	2,346
<b>Total auditor remuneration and other assurance services</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>2,346</b>
<b>Total remuneration of PricewaterhouseCoopers</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>2,346</b>

The auditors' remuneration is borne by the Fund. Fees are stated exclusive of GST.

## 13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Responsible Entity of 8IP Australian Small Companies Fund is Equity Trustees Limited (ABN 46 004 031 298) (AFSL 240975). Accordingly, transactions with entities related to Equity Trustees Limited are disclosed below.

The Responsible Entity has contracted services to Eight Investment Partners Pty Limited to act as Investment Manager for the Fund, Apex Fund Services Pty Ltd to act as Administrator and Custodian for the Fund effective 21 October 2022 and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (Sydney Branch) to act as Sub-Custodian for the Fund. The contracts are on normal commercial terms and conditions.

### a. Key management personnel

#### i. Directors

Key management personnel include persons who were directors of Equity Trustees Limited at any time during or since the end of the financial period and up to the date of this report.

Philip D Gentry	Chairman
Michael J O'Brien	
Russell W Beasley	
Mary A O'Connor	
David B Warren	(appointed 6 March 2023)

#### ii. Responsible Entity

Other than fees paid to the Responsible Entity, there were no other transactions.

#### iii. Other key management personnel

There were no other key management personnel with responsibility for planning, directing and controlling activities of the Fund, directly or indirectly during the financial period.

### b. Transactions with key management personnel

There were no transactions with key management personnel during the reporting period.

### c. Key management personnel unit holdings

Key management personnel did not hold units in the Fund as at 29 June 2023 (30 June 2022: nil).

### 13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (CONTINUED)

#### d. Key management personnel compensation

Key management personnel are paid by EQT Services Pty Ltd. Payments made from the Fund to Equity Trustees Limited do not include any amounts directly attributable to the compensation of key management personnel.

#### e. Key management personnel loans

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

#### f. Other transactions within the Fund

Apart from those details disclosed in this note, no key management personnel have entered into a material contract with the Fund during the period ended 29 June 2023 and there were no material contracts involving management personnel's interests existing at period end.

#### g. Responsible Entity fees, Investment Manager's fees and other transactions

The transactions during the period and amounts payable as at period end between the Fund, the Responsible Entity and the Investment Manager were as follows:

	For the period 1 July 2022 to 29 June 2023 \$	Year ended 30 June 2022 \$
Management fees for the period	-	102
Responsible Entity fees for the period	51,281	47,063
Management fees reimbursement for the period	(216,967)	(75,926)
Responsible Entity fees payable at period end	-	7,500
Management fees reimbursement receivable at period end	-	16,458

Under the terms of the Fund's Constitution and Product Disclosure Statement, management fees and costs includes responsible entity fees paid to the Responsible Entity, management fees paid to the Investment Manager and other costs (such as custody fees, administration fees and audit fees) paid to other unrelated parties. Please refer to the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement for information on how management fees and costs are calculated.

Management fees reimbursed represent monies put into the Fund to ensure that the Fund's overall management costs remain within that disclosed in the Product Disclosure Statement

#### h. Related party unit holdings

Parties related to the Fund (including Equity Trustees Limited, its related parties and other schemes managed by Equity Trustees Limited and the Investment Manager), held no units in the Fund as at 29 June 2023 (30 June 2022: nil).

#### i. Investments

The Fund did not hold any investments in Equity Trustees Limited or its related parties during the period ended 29 June 2023 (2022:nil).

### 14. EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

No other significant events have occurred since the end of the period which would impact on the financial position of the Fund as disclosed in the statement of financial position as at 29 June 2023 or on the results and cash flows of the Fund for the period ended on that date.

### 15. CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS

There were no outstanding contingent assets, liabilities or commitments as at 29 June 2023 and 30 June 2022.

**DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**

In the opinion of the directors of the Responsible Entity:

- a. The financial statements and notes set out on pages 5 to 21 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
  - i. complying with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
  - ii. giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 29 June 2023 and of its performance for the financial period ended on that date.
- b. As disclosed in Note 2 to the financial statements the Fund is terminated and is closed. The Fund has discharged all its debts and obligations.
- c. Note 2(a) confirms that the financial statements also comply with the International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors of Equity Trustees Limited through a delegated authority given by Equity Trustees Limited's Board.



Philip D Gentry  
Chairman

Melbourne  
14 September 2023



**Building a better  
working world**

Ernst & Young  
8 Exhibition Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia  
GPO Box 67 Melbourne VIC 3001

Tel: +61 3 9288 8000  
Fax: +61 3 8650 7777  
ey.com/au

## **Independent auditor's report to the unitholders of 8IP Australian Small Companies Fund**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of 8IP Australian Small Companies Fund (the Registered Scheme), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 29 June 2023, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in net assets attributable to unitholders and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the declaration of the directors of Equity Trustees Limited (the directors), the Responsible Entity of the Registered Scheme.

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

- a. Giving a true and fair view of the Registered Scheme's financial position as at 29 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b. 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 Registered Scheme and the Responsible Entity 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 (including Independence Standards)* (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 believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Information other than the financial report and auditor's report thereon**

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information is the directors' report accompanying the financial report.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Responsibilities of the directors for the financial report**

The directors 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 Registered Scheme's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Registered Scheme or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

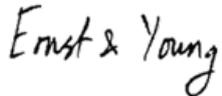
### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report**

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 the 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 this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism 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 Registered Scheme'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. When such use is inappropriate and the directors use an alternative basis of accounting, we conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the alternative basis of accounting. We also evaluate the adequacy of the disclosures describing the alternative basis of accounting and reasons for its use. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report.
- ▶ 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.



Ernst & Young



Luke Slater  
Partner  
Melbourne  
14 September 2023