# Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund - Class A



#### **Product Disclosure Statement**

ARSN 649 899 301 APIR ETL7964AU Issue Date 03 April 2025

#### **About this PDS**

This Product Disclosure Statement ("PDS") has been prepared and issued by Equity Trustees Limited ("Equity Trustees", "we" or "Responsible Entity") and is a summary of the significant information relating to an investment in the Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund (the "Fund") and in particular the Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund - Class A ("Class A"). It contains a number of references to important information (including a glossary of terms) contained in the Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund Reference Guide ("Reference Guide"), which forms part of this PDS. You should carefully read and consider both the information in this PDS, and the information in the Reference Guide, before making a decision about investing in the Fund. The information provided in this PDS is general information only and does not take account of your personal objectives, financial situation or needs. You should obtain financial and taxation advice tailored to your personal circumstances and consider whether investing in the Fund is appropriate for you in light of those circumstances.

The offer to which this PDS relates is only available to persons receiving this PDS (electronically or otherwise) in Australia.

This PDS does not constitute a direct or indirect offer of securities in the US or to any US Person as defined in Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933 as amended ("US Securities Act"). Equity Trustees may vary this position and offers may be accepted on merit at Equity Trustees' discretion. The units in the Fund have not been, and will not be, registered under the US Securities Act unless otherwise approved by Equity Trustees and may not be offered or sold in the US to, or for, the account of any US Person (as defined in the Reference Guide) except in a transaction that is exempt from the registration requirements of the US Securities Act and applicable US state securities laws.

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#### The Reference Guide

Throughout the PDS, there are references to additional information contained in the Reference Guide. You can obtain a copy of the PDS and the Reference Guide, free of charge, by calling the Investment Manager on +617 3002 3855 or visiting www.eqt.com.au/insto or by calling the Responsible Entity.

The information contained in the Reference Guide may change between the day you receive this PDS and the day you acquire the product. You must therefore ensure that you have read the Reference Guide current as at the date of your application.

#### **Updated information**

Information in this PDS is subject to change. We will notify you of any changes that have a material adverse impact on you or other significant events that affect the information contained in this PDS. Any information that is not materially adverse information is subject to change from time to time and may be obtained by calling the Investment Manager on +617 3002 3855 or visiting www.eqt.com.au/insto. A paper copy of the updated information will be provided free of charge on request.

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#### Administrator

Apex Fund Services Client Services Registry Team GPO Box 4968 Sydney NSW 2001 Responsible Entity

Equity Trustees Limited ABN 46 004 031 298, AFSL 240975 GPO Box 2307 Melbourne VIC 3001 Ph: +613 8623 5000 Web: www.eqt.com.au/insto

## 1. About Equity Trustees Limited

#### The Responsible Entity

#### **Equity Trustees Limited**

Equity Trustees Limited ABN 46 004 031 298 AFSL 240975, a subsidiary of EQT Holdings Limited ABN 22 607 797 615, which is a public company listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX: EQT), is the Fund's responsible entity and issuer of this PDS. Established as a trustee and executorial service provider by a special Act of the Victorian Parliament in 1888, today Equity Trustees is a dynamic financial services institution which continues to grow the breadth and quality of products and services on offer.

Equity Trustees' responsibilities and obligations as the Fund's responsible entity are governed by the Fund's constitution ("Constitution"), the Corporations Act and general trust law. Equity Trustees has appointed Elston Asset Management Pty Ltd as the investment manager of the Fund. Equity Trustees has appointed a custodian to hold the assets of the Fund. The custodian has no supervisory role in relation to the operation of the Fund and is not responsible for protecting your interests.

#### The Investment Manager

#### Elston Asset Management Pty Ltd

Elston Asset Management Pty Ltd ("Elston" or "Investment Manager") is an active investment manager, focused on delivering investment solutions with the aim of helping investors build and preserve their wealth. Since being established in 2011, Elston has delivered a consistent track record of strong risk-adjusted returns within Australian equity and multi-asset products. The business is majority owned by its senior investment professionals.

## 2. How the Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund - Class A works

The Fund is a registered managed investment scheme governed by the Constitution. The Fund comprises assets which are acquired in accordance with the Fund's investment strategy. Direct investors receive units in the class when they invest. Different classes of units may be issued. These include the Class A units. In general, each unit represents an equal interest in the assets of the class subject to liabilities; however, it does not give investors an interest in any particular asset of the class.

If you invest in the Fund through an IDPS (as defined in the Reference Guide) you will not become an investor in the Fund. The operator or custodian of the IDPS will be the investor entered in the Fund's register and will be the only person who is able to exercise the rights and receive the benefits of a direct investor. Your investment in the Fund through the IDPS will be governed by the terms of your IDPS. Please direct any queries and requests relating to your investment to your IDPS Operator. Unless otherwise stated, the information in the PDS applies to direct investors.

#### Applying for units

You can acquire units by completing the Application Form that accompanies this PDS. The minimum initial investment amount for the class is \$20,000.

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

Apex Fund Services Client Services Registry Team GPO Box 4968 Sydney NSW 2001

Please note that cash cannot be accepted.

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.

The price at which units are acquired is determined in accordance with the Constitution ("Application Price"). The Application Price on a Business Day is, in general terms, equal to the Net Asset Value ("NAV") of the class, divided by the number of units on issue for that class and adjusted for transaction costs ("Buy Spread"). At the date of this PDS, the Buy Spread is 0.25%.

The Application Price will vary as the market value of assets in the class rises or falls.

#### Making additional investments

You can make additional investments into the class at any time by sending us your additional investment amount together with a completed Application Form. There is no minimum additional investment amount into the class

#### **Distributions**

An investor's share of any distributable income is calculated in accordance with the Constitution and is generally based on the number of units held by the investor in the class at the end of the distribution period.

The Fund usually distributes income semi-annually, subject to the Fund having sufficient distributable income at the end of June and December, however, Equity Trustees may change the distribution frequency without notice. Distributions are calculated effective the last day of each distribution period and are normally paid to investors as soon as practicable after the distribution calculation date.

Investors in the Fund can indicate a preference to have their distribution:

- reinvested back into the Fund; or
- directly credited to their AUD Australian domiciled bank account.

Investors who do not indicate a preference will have their distributions automatically reinvested. Applications for reinvestment will be taken to be received immediately prior to the next Business Day after the relevant distribution period. There is no Buy Spread on distributions that are reinvested.

In some circumstances, the Constitution may allow for an investor's withdrawal proceeds to be taken to include a component of distributable income.

Indirect Investors should review their IDPS Guide for information on how and when they receive any income distribution.

#### Access to your money

Investors in the Fund can generally withdraw their investment by completing a written request to withdraw from the Fund and mailing it to:

Apex Fund Services Client Services Registry Team GPO Box 4968 Sydney NSW 2001

The minimum withdrawal amount in the class is nil. Once we receive and accept 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).

Equity Trustees will generally allow an investor to access their investment within 3 days of acceptance of a withdrawal request by transferring the withdrawal proceeds to such investor's nominated AUD denominated Australian domiciled bank account. However, Equity Trustees is allowed to reject withdrawal requests, and also to make payment up to 21 days after acceptance of a request (which may be extended in certain circumstances) as outlined in the Constitution and Reference Guide.

We reserve the right to accept or reject withdrawal requests in whole or in part at our discretion.

The price at which units are withdrawn is determined in accordance with the Constitution ("Withdrawal Price"). The Withdrawal Price on a Business Day is, in general terms, equal to the NAV of the class, divided by the number of units on issue for that class and adjusted for transaction costs ("Sell Spread"). At the date of this PDS, the Sell Spread is 0.25%.

The Withdrawal Price will vary as the market value of assets in the class rises or falls

Equity Trustees reserves the right to fully redeem your investment if your investment balance in the class falls below \$20,000 as a result of processing your withdrawal request. In certain circumstances, for example, when there is a freeze on withdrawals, where accepting a withdrawal is not in the best interests of investors in the Fund including due to one or more circumstances outside its control or where the Fund is not liquid (as defined in the Corporations Act), Equity Trustees can deny or suspend a withdrawal request and you may not be able to withdraw your funds in the usual processing times or at all. When the Fund is not liquid, an investor can only withdraw when Equity Trustees makes a withdrawal offer to investors in accordance with the Corporations Act. Equity Trustees is not obliged to make such offers.

If you are an Indirect Investor, you need to provide your withdrawal request directly to your IDPS Operator. The time to process a withdrawal request will depend on the particular IDPS Operator and the terms of the IDPS.

#### 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 free of charge on request.

#### **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 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 lodgement 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 obligation 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.

#### **Further reading**

You should read the important information in the Reference Guide about:

- Application cut-off times;
- Application terms;
- Authorised signatories;
- Reports;
- Withdrawal cut-off times;
- Withdrawal terms; and
- Withdrawal restrictions,

under the "Investing in the Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund - Class A", "Managing your investment" and "Withdrawing your investment" sections before making a decision. Go to the Reference Guide which is available at www.eqt.com.au/insto. The material relating to these matters may change between the time when you read this PDS and the day when you acquire the product.

## 3. Benefits of investing in the Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund -Class A

#### Significant Benefits

- A small companies specialist with a minimum 90% of the Fund invested in companies outside of the S&P/ASX 100 Index;
- A concentrated portfolio with exposure to a select number of businesses assessed to be high quality and having sustainable competitive advantages and are capable of generating robust levels of earnings growth;
- Experienced and well-resourced investment team managing a structured, team-based investment process;
- A strongly aligned Investment Manager offering a competitive fee structure.

# 4. Risks of managed investment schemes

All investments carry risks. Different investment strategies may carry different levels of risk, depending on the assets acquired under the strategy. Assets with the highest long-term returns may also carry the highest level of short-term risk. The significant risks below should be considered in light of your risk profile when deciding whether to invest in the Fund. Your risk profile will vary depending on a range of factors, including your age, the investment time frame (how long you wish to invest for), your other investments or assets and your risk tolerance.

The Responsible Entity and the Investment Manager do not guarantee the liquidity of the Fund's investments, repayment of capital or any rate of return or the Fund's investment performance. The value of the Fund's investments will vary. Returns are not guaranteed, and you may lose money by investing in the Fund. The level of returns will vary and future returns may differ from past returns. Laws affecting managed investment schemes may change in the future. The structure and administration of the Fund is also subject to change.

In addition, we do not offer advice that takes into account your personal financial situation, including advice about whether the Fund is suitable for your circumstances. If you require personal financial or taxation advice, you should contact a licensed financial adviser and/or taxation adviser.

The significant risks for the Fund are:

#### Market risk

Market risk broadly refers to the potential for changes in share prices to result in a loss in the value of your investment in the Fund. The Fund primarily invests in listed entities and as a result is exposed to the movements in the share prices. Factors that drive changes in share prices may include changing profitability of companies and the sectors and markets in which they operate, investor demand levels, economic cycles, share issues, business confidence and government and central bank policies;

#### Performance risk

The Fund may fail to perform as expected in which case the Fund's investment objective may not be achieved;

#### Concentration risk

The Fund will hold a relatively small number of investments. This will result in the returns of the Fund being dependent on the returns of individual companies and industry sectors. This concentration of exposures may increase the volatility of the Fund's unit price, and increase the risk of poor performance. It may also result in the Fund's returns differing significantly from the benchmark;

#### Investment Manager risk

If the Investment Manager's investment strategy is not successful it may result in the underperformance of the Fund, either in absolute terms, or relative to the market and its peers or both. Also, there is a risk that the Investment Manager fails to implement the investment strategy successfully, does not perform as expected or its key staff leave;

#### Company specific risk

When a security in a company is purchased, the Fund will be exposed to many of the risks to which the individual company is itself exposed. These risks may impact the value of a security in the company. They include such factors as changes in management, actions of competitors and regulators, changes in technology and market trends;

#### Liquidity risk

Whilst the Fund is exposed to listed entities which are generally considered liquid investments, under extreme market conditions there is a risk that investments cannot be readily converted into cash at an appropriate price or at all. In these circumstances, the Fund may be unable to liquidate sufficient assets to meet its obligations within required timeframes, including payment of withdrawals, or it may be required to sell assets at a substantial loss in order to do so;

#### Counterparty risk

This is the risk that any of the counterparties which the Fund deals with may default on their obligations to pay monies or deliver securities to the Fund. This may result in a loss;

#### Regulatory risk

The value of some investments may be adversely affected by changes in government policies, regulations and laws, including tax laws and laws affecting registered managed investment schemes;

#### Class risk

Separate classes of the Fund are not separate legal entities and the assets of each class will not be segregated. All of the assets of the Fund are available to meet all of its liabilities, regardless of the class to which such assets or liabilities are attributable. In practice, cross class liability will usually only arise where any separate class becomes insolvent and is unable to meet all of its liabilities. In this case, all of the assets of the Fund attributable to other separate classes may be applied to cover the liabilities of the insolvent classes. If losses or liabilities are sustained by a class in excess of the assets attributable to such class, such excess may be apportioned to the other classes. The assets attributable to any one class will not be isolated from the liabilities attributable to other classes, and to the extent that the assets of one particular class are insufficient to satisfy the liabilities attributable to such class, then the assets of other classes may be charged with such liabilities; and

#### 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.

## 5. How we invest your money

**Warning**: When choosing to invest in the Fund or an option of the Fund, you should consider the likely investment returns, the risks of investing and your investment time frame.

#### Investment objective

The return objective is to outperform the S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index by 3.0% p.a. after fees on a rolling 5-year basis.

#### **Benchmark**

S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index

#### Minimum suggested time frame

The minimum suggested time frame for investment in the Fund is 5 years.

#### Risk level

High

#### **Investor suitability**

The Fund is constructed for investors who are looking for exposure to listed Australian equities, and are typically comfortable taking on a higher level of capital risk with the aim of achieving higher levels of growth in the long term. It is designed for investors who:

- are looking for long term capital growth above inflation
- are looking for a non-index weighted portfolio construction, and
- have a minimum investment timeframe of 5 years.

#### Investment style and approach

Investment process

The Elston investment process encompasses five stages:

- 1. Idea Generation: Quantitative ranking of the investment universe in a consistent and repeatable manner to generate research ideas and focus the research effort;
- 2. Investment research: Qualitative assessment of each company focused on understanding the structural dynamics, complexity of operations, competitive environment, earnings stability and predictability, balance sheet capacity and management quality;
- 3. Valuation: Valuation and 5 year expected return calculations using Elston derived financial models;
- 4. Portfolio construction: Determine target weights in accordance with strict policy guidelines to ensure diversification is achieved across both securities and sectors;
- 5. Portfolio management: Ongoing rebalancing to avoid individual position and sector exposures in excess of risk tolerances.

The Fund displays quality and growth style characteristics.

#### Asset allocation

The Fund invests across Australian shares and cash.

Strategic asset allocation	(% of NAV)						
Australian Equities	90 - 100%						
Cash & Cash Equivalents	0 - 10%						

#### Changing the investment strategy

The investment strategy and asset allocation parameters may be changed. If a change is to be made, investors in the Fund will be notified in accordance with the Corporations Act.

# Labour Standards, Environmental, Social and Ethical Factors ("ESG considerations")

Equity Trustees has delegated investment decisions including ESG considerations to Elston Asset Management Pty Ltd (Investment Manager). The Investment Manager integrates certain ESG considerations in the selection, retention and realisation of fund assets, to the extent that the Investment Manager considers those factors may have a material impact on the investment performance.

The Investment Manager applies a negative screening approach to exclude specific industries and activities that are considered to have negative ESG impacts.

#### Investment Exclusions

The Fund will not invest in companies which derive any revenue (0%) revenue threshold) from:

- Adult Entertainment: Production of adult entertainment and/or ownership/operation of adult entertainment establishments
- **Alcohol:** Manufacturing/production of alcoholic beverage products (as defined in GICS<sup>®</sup> Sub-industries - Brewers and Distillers & Vintners)
- Gambling: Ownership, operation or licensing of gambling facilities, including lottery and betting services (as defined in GICS\* Sub-industry -Casinos & Gamina)
- **Tobacco**: Manufacturing/production of tobacco products (as defined in GICS° Sub-industry - Tobacco)

#### Fossil Fuels:

- Exploration, extraction, production or refining of oil and gas (as defined in GICS® Energy Sector)
- Extraction of thermal coal (anthracite/bituminous coal) or financing of new thermal coal-fired power generation facilities
- **Uranium**: Exploration, extraction, production or refining
- Weapons: Manufacturing or selling assault weapons, small arms and ammunition, or manufacturing/distribution of controversial weapons (including cluster munitions, landmines, biological/chemical weapons, nuclear weapons, incendiary weapons and white phosphorous weapons) as per UN PRI standards.

The Investment Manager implements these exclusions through:

- Initial screening of investments prior to acquisition.
- Ongoing monitoring of portfolio holdings against exclusion criteria.
- Immediate divestment of any holding found to breach the exclusion

The Investment Manager's approach to ESG integration and exclusions may evolve over time as improved data and new ESG considerations emerge. Material changes to ESG criteria will be disclosed in updated PDS documents. More information about the Investment Manager's approach to responsible investment can be provided by the Investment Manager at request.

#### **Fund performance**

Up to date information on the performance of the Fund will be available by calling Elston on +617 3002 3855 or visit www.eat.com.au/insto.

#### 6 Fees and costs

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Small differences in both investment performance and fees and costs can have a substantial impact on your long-term

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) has a managed funds fee calculator to help you check out different fee options.

The information in the following Fees and Costs Summary can be used to compare costs between different simple managed investment schemes. Fees and costs can be paid directly from an investor's account or deducted from investment returns. For information on tax please see Section 7 of this PDS.

#### Foos and Costs Summary

Fees and Costs Summary Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund - Class A									
Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund - Class A									
Type of fee or cost	Amount								
Ongoing annual fe	es and costs¹								
Management fees and costs The fees and costs for managing your investment <sup>2</sup>	0.88% p.a. of the NAV of the class	The management fees component of management fees and costs are accrued daily and paid from the class 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 class as they are incurred.							
Performance fees Amounts deducted from your investment in relation to the performance of the product	0.37% of the NAV of the Fund <sup>3</sup>	Performance fees are calculated daily and paid semi-annually in arrears from the Fund and reflected in the unit price.							
Transaction costs The costs incurred by the scheme when buying or selling assets	0.07% p.a. of the NAV of the class	Transaction costs are variable and deducted from the class as they are incurred and reflected in the unit price. They are disclosed net of amounts recovered by the buy-sell spread.							
	lated fees and costs								
	moves in or out of th								
Establishment fee The fee to open your investment	Not applicable	Not applicable							
Contribution fee The fee on each amount contributed to	Not applicable	Not applicable							

The fee to open your investment		
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	0.25% upon entry and 0.25% 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 class and are not separately charged to the investor. The Buy Spread is paid into the class as part of an application and the Sell Spread is left in the class as part of a redemption.

Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund - Class A										
Type of fee or cost	Amount	How and when paid								
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								

<sup>1</sup> 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.

#### **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 0.88% p.a. of the NAV of the class 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 daily and paid from the class 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 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 0.37% p.a. 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.

In respect of the Fund that was not in operation for the previous five financial years, the performance fee average is calculated by reference to the number of financial years in which the Fund was operated.

Performance fees for Class A are payable to the Investment Manager where the investment performance of the Fund exceeds the performance of the S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index ("Benchmark"). The performance fees are 20% of this excess, calculated daily and paid semi-annually in arrears from the Fund and calculated based on the beginning NAV of the class over the relevant period. No performance fees are 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.

#### 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.

The Buy/Sell Spread that is disclosed in the Fees and Costs Summary is a reasonable estimate of transaction costs that the class will incur when buying or selling assets of the class. 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 class and are not separately charged to the investor. The Buy Spread is paid into the class as part of an application and the Sell Spread is left in the class as part of a redemption and not paid to Equity Trustees or the Investment Manager. The estimated Buy/Sell Spread is 0.25% upon entry and 0.25% upon exit. The dollar value of these costs based on an application or a withdrawal of \$20,000 is \$50 for each individual transaction. The Buy/Sell Spread can be altered by the Responsible Entity at any time and 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 class's assets and are reflected in the class's unit price as an additional cost to the investor, as and when they are incurred.

The gross transaction costs for the class are 0.19% p.a. of the NAV of the class, which is based on the relevant costs incurred during the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

In relation to the costs that have been estimated, they have been estimated on the basis of quotes from vendors.

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 2.00% of the GAV of the class. 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>The management fee component of management fees and costs can be negotiated. See "Differential fees" in the "Additional Explanation of Fees and Costs" below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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.

#### 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 Australian Wholesale Clients. Please contact the Investment Manager on +617 3002 3855 for further information.

# Example of annual fees and costs for an investment option

This table gives an example of how the ongoing annual fees and costs in the investment option for this product can affect your investment over a 1-year period. You should use this table to compare this product with other products offered by managed investment schemes.

EXAMPLE – Elston Class A	Australian Eme	erging Leaders Fund -
BALANCE OF \$50, DURING THE YEAR		ONTRIBUTION OF \$5,000
Contribution Fees	Nil	For every additional \$5,000 you put in, you will be charged \$0
<b>Plus</b> Management fees and costs	0.88% p.a.	And, for every \$50,000 you have in the Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund - Class A you will be charged or have deducted from your investment \$440 each year
<b>Plus</b> Performance fees	0.37% p.a.	And, you will be charged or have deducted from your investment \$185 in performance fees each year
<b>Plus</b> Transaction costs	0.07% p.a.	<b>And</b> , you will be charged or have deducted from your investment \$35 in transaction costs
Equals Cost of Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund - Class A		If you had an investment of \$50,000 at the beginning of the year and you put in an additional \$5,000 during that year, you would be charged fees and costs of: \$660*  What it costs you will depend on the investment option you choose and the fees you negotiate.

<sup>\*</sup> Additional fees may apply. Please note that this example does not capture all the fees and costs that may apply to you such as the Buy/Sell Spread. This example assumes the \$5,000 contribution occurs at the end of the first year, therefore the fees and costs are calculated using the \$50,000 balance only.

Warning: If you have consulted a financial adviser, you may pay additional fees. You should refer to the Statement of Advice or Financial Services Guide provided by your financial adviser in which details of the fees are set out.

ASIC provides a fee calculator on www.moneysmart.gov.au, which you may use to calculate the effects of fees and costs on account balances. The performance fees stated in this table are based on the average performance fee for the Fund over the previous three financial years. The performance of the Fund for this financial year, and the performance fees, may be higher or lower or not payable in the future. It is not a forecast of the performance of the Fund or the amount of the performance fees in the future.

The indirect costs and other expenses component of management fees and costs and transaction costs may also be based on estimates. As a result, the total fees and costs that you are charged may differ from the figures shown in the table.

#### **Further reading**

You should read the important information in the Reference Guide about fees and costs under the "Fees and other costs" section before making a decision. Go to the Reference Guide which is available at www.eqt.com.au/insto. The material relating to these matters may change between the time when you read this PDS and the day when you acquire the product.

# 7. How managed investment schemes are taxed

Warning: Investing in a registered managed investment scheme (such as the Fund) is likely to have tax consequences. You are strongly advised to seek your own professional tax advice about the applicable Australian tax (including income tax, GST and duty) consequences and, if appropriate, foreign tax consequences which may apply to you based on your particular circumstances before investing in the Fund.

The Fund is an Australian resident for tax purposes and does not generally pay tax on behalf of its investors. Australian resident investors are assessed for tax on any income and capital gains generated by the Fund to which they become presently entitled or, where the Fund has made a choice to be an Attribution Managed Investment Trust ("AMIT") and the choice is effective for the income year, are attributed to them.

#### **Further reading**

You should read the important information in the Reference Guide about Taxation under the "Other important information" section before making a decision. Go to the Reference Guide which is available at www.eqt.com.au/insto. The material relating to these matters may change between the time when you read this PDS and the day when you acquire the product.

# 8. How to apply

To invest please complete the Application Form accompanying this PDS, send funds (see details in the Application Form) and your completed Application Form to:

Apex Fund Services Client Services Registry Team GPO Box 4968 Sydney NSW 2001

Please note that cash cannot be accepted and all applications must be made in Australian dollars.

#### Who can invest?

Eligible persons (as detailed in the 'About this PDS' section) can invest, however individual investors must be 18 years of age or over.

Investors investing through an IDPS should use the Application Form provided by the operator of the IDPS.

#### 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, 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 a 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

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 Phone: 1800 931 678 Email: 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.

#### 9. Other information

#### Consent

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 it which are specifically attributed to it, in the form and context in which

The Investment Manager has not otherwise been involved in the preparation of this PDS or caused or otherwise authorised the issue of this PDS. None of the Investment Manager nor their employees or officers accept any responsibility arising in any way for errors or omissions, other than those statements for which they have provided their written consent to Equity Trustees for inclusion in this PDS.

#### **Further reading**

You should read the important information in the Reference Guide about:

- Your privacy;
- The Constitution;
- Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism Financing ("AML/CTF");
- Indirect Investors;
- Information on underlying investments;
- Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA"); and
- Common Reporting Standard ("CRS"),

under the "Other important information" section before making a decision. Go to the Reference Guide which is available at www.eqt.com.au/insto. The material relating to these matters may change between the time when you read this PDS and the day when you acquire the product.



# ELSTON AUSTRALIAN EMERGING LEADERS FUND APPLICATION FORM

This application form accompanies the Product Disclosure Statement (PDS)/Information Memorandum (IM) relating to units in the following product/s issued by Equity Trustees Limited (ABN 46 004 031 298, AFSL 240975). The PDS/IM contains information about investing in the Fund/Trust. You should read the PDS/IM in its entirety before applying.

- Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund Class A
- Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund Class Z

The law prohibits any person passing this Application Form on to another person unless it is accompanied by a complete PDS/IM.

- If completing by hand, use a black or blue pen and print within the boxes in BLOCK LETTERS, if you
  make a mistake, cross it out and initial. DO NOT use correction fluid
- The investor(s) must complete and sign this form
- Keep a photocopy of your completed Application Form for your records

U.S. Persons: This offer is not open to any U.S. Person. Please refer to the PDS/IM for further information.

#### Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) and Common Reporting Standard (CRS)

We are required to collect certain information to comply with FATCA and CRS, please ensure you complete section 7.

#### If investing with an authorised representative, agent or financial adviser

Please ensure you, your authorised representative, agent and/or financial adviser also complete Section 6.

#### Provide certified copies of your identification documents

Please refer to section 9 on AML/CTF Identity Verification Requirements.

#### Send your documents & make your payment

See section 2 for payment options and where to send your application form.

#### **SECTION 1 – YOUR CONSUMER ATTRIBUTES**

In relation to our Design and Distribution Obligations (DDO) under the Corporations Act, we seek the following information about your attributes as an investor (please tick only 1 box for each question below)

Further information in relation to these questions can be found in the Target Market Determination (TMD) for the Fund. If you wish to access the TMD, please visit <a href="https://www.eqt.com.au/insto/">https://www.eqt.com.au/insto/</a>

1. Have y	ou received advice prior to applying to invest in	the Fun	d?						
	I/We have received personal advice in relation to my investment in this Fund								
	I/We have received general advice in relation to my investment in this Fund								
	I/We have not received any advice in relation to my investment in this Fund								
2. What is	s your primary investment objective(s)?								
	Capital growth		Capital preservation						
	Capital guaranteed								
3. Please	select the intended use of this Fund in your inve	estment	portfolio						
	Solution/Standalone – A large allocation (75%-100% of portfolio)								
	Core component – A medium allocation (25%-75% of portfolio)								
	Satellite/Small Allocation – A small allocation (<25% of portfolio)								
4. Please	select the Intended investment timeframe								
	Short term (<=2 years)		Medium term (>2 years)						
	Long term (>8 years)								
5. What is	s your tolerance for risk?								
	Low - I/we can tolerate up to 1 period of underperformance over 20 years		Medium - I/we can tolerate up to 4 periods of underperformance over 20 years.						
	High - I/we can tolerate up to 6 periods of underperformance over 20 years  Very High - I/we can tolerate more that periods of underperformance over 20 years								
6. What o	lo you anticipate your withdrawal needs may be?	?							
	Daily		Weekly						
	Monthly		Quarterly						
	Annually or longer								

#### Please note:

- 1. Failure to complete the above questions may result in your application not being accepted;
- 2. Acceptance of your application should not be taken as a representation or confirmation that an investment in the Fund is, or is likely to be, consistent with your intentions, objectives and needs as indicated in your responses to these questions; and
- 3. For further information on the suitability of this product, please refer to your financial adviser and/or the TMD

# SECTION 1.2 – ARE YOU AN EXISTING INVESTOR IN THE FUND/TRUST AND WISH TO ADD TO YOUR INVESTMENT?

Do you have an existing investment in the Fund/Trust and the information provided remains current and correct?

Yes, if you can tick both of the boxes below, complete Sections 2 and 8							
I/We confirm there are no changes to our identification documents previously provided and that these remain current and valid.							
	I/We confirm there have been no changes to our FATCA or CRS status						
Exist	ting investor number:						
	ere have been changes in your identification documents or FATCA/CRS status since your last ication, please complete the full Application Form as indicated below.						
No, please complete sections relevant to you as indicated below:							
Inve	stor Type:						
	Individuals/Joint: complete section 2, 3, 6 (if applicable), 7, 8 & 9						
Companies: complete section 2, 4, 6 (if applicable), 7, 8 & 9							
	Custodians on behalf of underlying clients: complete section 2, 4, 5, 5.1, 6 (if applicable), 7, 8 & 9						
	<ul> <li>Trusts/superannuation funds:</li> <li>with an individual trustee – complete sections 2, 3, 5, 6 (if applicable), 7, 8 &amp; 9</li> <li>with a company as a trustee – complete sections 2, 4, 5, 6 (if applicable), 7, 8 &amp; 9</li> </ul>						

If you are an Association, Co-operative, Partnership, Government Body or other type of entity not listed above, please contact Equity Trustees.

## **SECTION 2 - INVESTMENT DETAILS**

Investment to be	held in the	e name	e(s) of (	(must	inclu	de na	me(s)	of in	nves	tor(	s))					
Postal address																
															_	
Suburb		•	State				F	osto	code	:			(	Coı	untry	
			-													
Email address								Cont	act n	10.						
FUND/TRUST I	NAME							APIR CODE APPLICATION AMOUNT (AUD)								
Elston Australia	ın Emergir	ng Lea	ders Fu	ınd –	Class	А		ET	L796	34A	U				\$	
Elston Australia	ın Emergir	ng Lead	ders Fu	ınd –	Class	. Z		ET	L770	)2A	U				\$	
The minimum ini	tial investr	nent is	\$20,00	00.												
Distribution I	Instruct	ions														
If you do not sele ensure you provi					∕ill aut	.omati	cally ı	reinv	est y	/oui	r dis	tribu	ıtior	n. If	f you select cash, ple	ease
☐ Reinvest	distributio	ons if y	ou sele	ect thi	is opti	ion yc	our dis	tribu	ition	will	be	reinv	/est	ted	in the Fund/Trust	
		_			-	-									d to the bank accoun	nt belo
-																
Investor ban			(if appl	!:aabl	a) the	m	at m	-toh	tha i	:51/6	- ata	-/a\'	~ar	~~	and must be an ALIF	<u> </u>
denominated bar									lii <del>c</del> i	llive	<b>;</b> 510	(5)	Hai	IIC	and must be an AUI	)-
Financial instituti	ion name a	and bra	anch lo	catior	1											
BSB number			Accou	unt nı	ımber	-										
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Account name																
Payment met	thod				_	_			_	_	_		_	_		_
☐ Direct credi	it – pay to:															
	Financial institution name and branch location NAB, 105 Miller St, North Sydney NSW 2060															
BSB number		08	82 401													
Account numbe	er	87	872 717 711													
Account name		Equity Trustees Limited as RE for Elston Australian Emerging Leaders Fund Application Account														
Reference		<	<investor name=""></investor>													

#### **Source of investment**

Please indicate the source of the investment amount (e.	g. retirement savings, employment income):
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### **Send your completed Application Form to:**

Apex Fund Services Client Services Registry Team GPO Box 4968 Syndey NSW 2001 Additional applications may be faxed to: +61 2 9251 3525

Please ensure you have completed all relevant sections and signed the Application Form