

SGH Emerging Companies Fund

ARSN 098 375 798

Annual report For the year ended 30 June 2024

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This annual report covers SGH Emerging Companies Fund as an individual entity.

The Responsible Entity of SGH Emerging 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 SGH Emerging Companies Fund (the "Fund"), present their report together with the financial statements of the Fund for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Principal activities

The Fund seeks medium to long-term capital growth potential by investing in a diversified portfolio of equity securities, fixed interest securities and warrants in accordance with the Product Disclosure Statement and the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

The Fund did not have any employees during the year.

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

The various service providers for the Fund are detailed below:

Service	Provider
Responsible Entity	Equity Trustees Limited
Investment Manager	SG Hiscock & Company Limited
Administrator	Apex Fund Services Pty Ltd (an Apex Group Company)
Custodian	State Street Australia Limited
Statutory Auditor	BDO Audit Pty Ltd

Directors

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

Philip D Gentry	Chairman (resigned 6 June 2024)
Michael J O'Brien	Chairman (appointed 6 June 2024)
Russell W Beasley	
Mary A O'Connor	
David B Warren	
Andrew P Godfrey	(appointed 1 May 2024)

Review and results of operations

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

The SGH Emerging Companies Fund – Wholesale Class's performance was 4.15% and 3.99% for SGH Emerging Companies Fund – Institutional Class for the year ended 30 June 2024; the benchmark, the S&P/ASX Emerging Companies Accumulation Index returned 5.29% for the same period.

The SGH Emerging Companies Fund NSW SIV Class's performance was 6.27% for the year ended 30 June 2024; the Class's benchmark, 50% S&P/ASX Emerging Companies Accumulation Index + 50% NSW SIV Index (comprising NSW domiciled ASX listed companies with a market capitalisation of less than \$500 million) returned 7.14% for the same period.

The Fund's performance is calculated based on the percentage change in the Fund's redemption price over the period (with any distributions paid during the period reinvested). Returns are disclosed after fees and expenses.

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

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Profit/(loss) before finance costs attributable to unit holders for the year (\$'000)	6,421	(7,523)
Distributions - Wholesale Class		
Distributions paid and payable (\$'000)	1,303	2,409
Distributions (cents per unit)	4.5231	6.1996
Distributions - Institutional Class		
Distributions paid and payable (\$'000)	160	346
Distributions (cents per unit)	3.1541	6.7570
Distributions - NSW SIV Class		
Distributions paid and payable (\$'000)	1	3
Distributions (cents per unit)	0.6952	3.2015

Directors' report (continued)

Significant changes in the state of affairs

Andrew P Godfrey was appointed as a director of Equity Trustees Limited on 1 May 2024.

Philip D Gentry resigned as a director of Equity Trustees Limited on 6 June 2024.

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 year.

Matters subsequent to the end of the financial year

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2024 that has significantly affected, or may have a significant effect on:

- i. the operations of the Fund in future financial years; or
- ii. the results of those operations in future financial years; or
- iii. the state of affairs of the Fund in future financial years.

Likely developments and expected results of operations

The Fund will continue to be managed in accordance with the investment objectives and guidelines as set out in the Product Disclosure Statement and the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

The results of the Fund's operations will be affected by a number of factors, including the performance of investment markets in which the Fund invests. Investment performance is not guaranteed and future returns may differ from past returns. As investment conditions change over time, past returns should not be used to predict future returns.

Indemnification and insurance of officers

No insurance premiums are paid for out of the assets of the Fund in regard 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 auditor of the Fund is in no way indemnified out of the assets of the Fund.

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 year are disclosed in Note 14 to the financial statements.

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

The number of interests in the Fund held by the Responsible Entity or its associates as at the end of the financial year are disclosed in Note 14 to the financial statements.

Interests in the Fund

The movement in units on issue in the Fund during the year is disclosed in Note 7 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 thousand dollars

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

Directors' report (continued)

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 5.

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.



Andrew P Godfrey
Director

Melbourne
19 September 2024

**DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE BY JAMES DIXON TO THE DIRECTORS OF EQUITY TRUSTEES
LIMITED AS RESPONSIBLE ENTITY FOR SGH EMERGING COMPANIES FUND**

As lead auditor of SGH Emerging Companies Fund for the year ended 30 June 2024, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

1. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
2. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



James Dixon
Director

BDO Audit Pty Ltd

Melbourne, 19 September 2024

Statement of comprehensive income

	Note	Year ended	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
		\$'000	\$'000
Income			
Interest income from financial assets at amortised cost		4	9
Dividend and distribution income		2,223	3,229
Net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		6,484	(8,223)
Other income		21	-
Total income/(loss)		8,732	(4,985)
Expenses			
Management fees and costs		2,015	2,321
Transaction costs		296	217
Total expenses		2,311	2,538
Profit/(loss) before finance costs attributable to unit holders for the year		6,421	(7,523)
Finance costs attributable to unit holders			
Distributions to unit holders	8	(1,464)	(2,758)
(Increase)/decrease in net assets attributable to unit holders	7	(4,957)	10,281
Profit/(loss) for the year		-	-
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	-

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

Statement of financial position

	Note	As at	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
		\$'000	\$'000
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	9	8	3,036
Receivables	11	61	159
Due from brokers - receivable for securities sold		1,026	25
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	5	166,453	206,436
Total assets		167,548	209,656
Liabilities			
Bank overdrafts	9	1,701	-
Distributions payable	8	1,464	2,758
Payables	12	152	202
Total liabilities (excluding net assets attributable to unit holders)		3,317	2,960
Net assets attributable to unit holders – liability	7	164,231	206,696

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

Statement of changes in equity

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Total equity at the beginning of the financial year*	-	-
Profit/(loss) for the year	-	-
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income	-	-
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners	-	-
Total equity at the end of the financial year*	-	-

*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 year.

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes with reference to Notes 2(c) and 7.

Statement of cash flows

	Note	Year ended	
		30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		102,068	54,987
Payments for purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		(56,602)	(55,249)
Interest income received from financial assets at amortised cost		4	9
Dividends and distributions received		2,281	3,171
Other income received		61	-
Management fees and costs paid		(2,065)	(2,556)
Transaction costs paid		(296)	(217)
Other expenses paid		-	(24)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	10(a)	45,451	121
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from applications by unit holders		11,717	33,978
Payments for redemptions by unit holders		(59,584)	(28,999)
Distributions paid to unit holders		(2,313)	(5,096)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from financing activities		(50,180)	(117)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(4,729)	4
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		3,036	3,032
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	9	(1,693)	3,036
Non-cash operating and financing activities	10(b)	445	1,046

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

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1. General information

These financial statements cover SGH Emerging Companies Fund (the "Fund") as an individual entity. The Fund is an Australian registered managed investment scheme which was constituted on 2 October 2001 and will terminate in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution or by Law.

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.

The Fund seeks medium to long-term capital growth potential by investing in a diversified portfolio of equity securities, fixed interest securities and warrants in accordance with the Product Disclosure Statement and the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

The 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 material 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 years 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.

The financial statements are prepared on the basis of fair value measurement of assets and liabilities, except where otherwise stated.

The statement of financial position is presented on a liquidity basis. Assets and liabilities are presented in decreasing order of liquidity and do not distinguish between current and non-current. All balances are expected to be recovered or settled within 12 months, except for investments in financial assets and liabilities and net assets attributable to unit holders.

The Fund manages financial assets at fair value through profit or loss based on the economic circumstances at any given point in time, as well as to meet any liquidity requirements. As such, it is expected that a portion of the portfolio will be realised within 12 months, however, an estimate of that amount cannot be determined as at reporting date.

In the case of net assets attributable to unit holders, the units are redeemable 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 12 months cannot be reliably determined.

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

The Fund has applied the following standards and amendments for the first time for its financial year beginning 1 July 2023:

- AASB 2021-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure of Accounting Policies and Definition of Accounting Estimates [AASB 7, AASB 101, AASB 108, AASB 134 & AASB Practice Statement 2].

The amendments have had an impact on the Fund's disclosures of accounting policies, including the requirement to disclose 'material' rather than 'significant' accounting policies, but not on the measurement, recognition or presentation of any items in the Fund's financial statements.

None of the other standards, interpretations or amendments to existing standards that are effective for the first time for the financial year beginning 1 July 2023 have a material impact on the amounts recognised in the prior periods or will affect the current or future periods.

iii. New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

A number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 July 2024 and have not been early adopted in preparing these financial statements.

None of these are expected to have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

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 derivatives, 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.

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, due from brokers and receivables, these assets are held in order to collect the contractual cash flows. 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 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 and management fees and costs 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 liability is 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 and a financial liability at its fair value. Transaction costs of financial assets and liabilities 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 financial assets and financial liabilities at amortised cost, they are initially measured at fair value including directly attributable costs and are subsequently measured according to their classification.

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 and receivables are carried at amortised cost.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

b. Financial instruments (continued)

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.

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. 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. Interest from financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is determined based on the contractual coupon interest rate and includes interest from debt securities measured at fair value through profit or loss.

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 or liability. 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.

Interest income on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is also recognised in the statement of comprehensive income, included in the net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss. 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.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

e. Income (continued)

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 gross 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.

As per the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement (PDS), ordinary expenses such as investment management fees, Responsible Entity fees, custodian fees, administration fees, audit fees and other ordinary expenses of operating the Fund are covered by the management fees and costs.

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.

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.

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 year. 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 and any distributions declared which are unpaid as at the end of the reporting period.

A separate distribution payable is recognised in the statement of financial position.

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 year.

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 material 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 year. 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. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods effected.

For the majority of the Fund's financial instruments, quoted market prices are readily available. However, certain financial instruments, for example over-the-counter derivatives or unquoted securities, are fair valued using valuation techniques. Where valuation techniques (for example, pricing models) are used to determine fair values, they are validated and periodically reviewed by experienced personnel of the Investment Manager.

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

Models use observable data, to the extent practicable. However, areas such as credit risk (both own and counterparty), volatilities and correlations, require management to make estimates and judgements. Changes in assumptions about these factors could affect the reported fair value of financial instruments.

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 thousand dollars, unless otherwise indicated.

3. Financial risk management

The Fund's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including market risk (which incorporates price risk and cash flow and fair value interest rate risk), credit risk and liquidity risk.

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. The Fund's policy allows it to use derivative financial instruments in managing its financial risks.

All investments present a risk of loss of capital. The maximum loss of capital on long equity securities is limited to the fair value of those positions. The maximum loss of capital on derivatives is limited to the notional contract values of those positions.

The investments of the Fund, and associated risks, are managed by a specialist Investment Manager, SG Hiscock & Company Limited ("SGH") under an Investment Management Agreement (IMA) approved by the Responsible Entity, and containing the investment strategy and guidelines of the Fund, consistent with those stated in the Product Disclosure Statement.

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.

SGH seeks to mitigate price risk by ensuring that the Fund is managed in line with IMA, including a restriction on the maximum holding as a percentage of the overall Fund of any single security (which is 10%). SGH monitors the portfolio on a daily basis to ensure compliance with IMA requirements.

3. Financial risk management (continued)

a. Market risk (continued)

i. Price risk (continued)

The Fund also actively maintains a high level of diversification in its holdings, thus potentially reducing the amount of risk in the Fund. The Investment Manager's process seeks to exploit the inefficient pricing of securities of similar companies. Its investment process aims to construct a portfolio intended to have the maximum potential to outperform while minimizing risk.

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% (2023: +/-10%).

ii. Cash flow and fair value 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 instruments expose it to risks associated with the effects of fluctuations in the prevailing market interest rates on its financial position and cash flows. The impact of the 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 net assets attributable to unit holders	
	Price risk	
	+10% \$'000	-10% \$'000
As at 30 June 2024	16,645	(16,645)
As at 30 June 2023	20,644	(20,644)

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 carrying of these balances at 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 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023, all receivables, amounts due from brokers, cash and short-term deposits are held with counterparties with a credit rating of AA or higher and are either callable on demand or due to be settled within 1 week. Management consider the probability of default to be close to zero as these instruments have a low risk of default and the counterparties have a strong capacity to meet their contractual obligations in the near term. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognised based on 12-month expected credit losses as any such impairment would be wholly insignificant to the Fund.

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.

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.

3. Financial risk management (continued)

d. Liquidity risk (continued)

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 2024 and 2023.

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/liabilities at fair value through profit or loss (see Note 5)
- Derivative financial instruments (see Note 6)

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. Valuations using level 1 inputs

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets (such as listed equity securities) 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. When the Fund holds derivatives with offsetting market risks, it uses mid-market prices as a basis for establishing fair values for the offsetting risk positions and applies this bid or asking price to the net open position, as appropriate.

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. Valuation using level 2 inputs

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.

The fair value of derivatives that are not exchange traded is estimated at the amount that the Fund would receive or pay to terminate the contract at the end of the reporting period taking into account current market conditions (volatility and appropriate yield curve) and the current creditworthiness of the counterparties.

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. Valuation using level 3 inputs

The fair value of financial instruments that are determined using valuation techniques that rely on material inputs that are not observable are included in level 3 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.

4. Fair value measurement (continued)

c. Valuation using level 3 inputs (continued)

Specific valuation techniques using observable inputs used to value financial instruments include:

- Securities which are suspended from trading are valued using the last traded price or other valuation techniques (described above) where the investment manager determines that the last traded price no longer reflects the fair value of the securities.
- There are instruments in the level 3 portfolio held at cost at year end because there was no material difference between cost and fair value.

d. Recognised fair value measurements

The table below presents the Fund's financial assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
As at 30 June 2024				
Financial assets				
Warrants	215	-	-	215
Equity securities	137,962	391	27,635	165,988
Fixed interest securities	-	-	250	250
Total financial assets	138,177	391	27,885	166,453
As at 30 June 2023				
Financial assets				
Warrants	6	-	-	6
Equity securities	174,466	21	28,628	203,115
Fixed interest securities	-	-	3,315	3,315
Total financial assets	174,472	21	31,943	206,436

e. 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 in the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period.

The following table presents the transfers between levels for the year ended 30 June 2023.

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000
Year ended 30 June 2023			
Transfers from level 2 to level 3			
Equity securities	-	(6,785)	6,785

f. Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

The following table presents the movement in level 3 instruments for the year ended 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023 by the class of financial instrument.

	Equity securities \$'000	Fixed interest securities \$'000	Total \$'000
Opening balance - 1 July 2022	28,460	4,471	32,931
Transfers into/(out) from level 3	6,785	-	6,785
Purchases	476	(61)	415
Sales	(2,083)	-	(2,083)
Gains/(losses) recognised in the statement of comprehensive income	(5,010)	(1,095)	(6,105)
Closing balance - 30 June 2023*	28,628	3,315	31,943
Purchases	4,201	(1,500)	2,701
Sales	(3,020)	(1,352)	(4,372)
Gains/(losses) recognised in the statement of comprehensive income	(2,174)	(213)	(2,387)
Closing balance - 30 June 2024*	27,635	250	27,885

*Includes unrealised gains or (losses) recognised in profit or loss attributable to balances held at the end of the reporting period.

4. Fair value measurement (continued)

f. Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3) (continued)

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	Valuation Method	Fair value \$'000	Unobservable inputs	Range of inputs (probability-weighted average)	Relationship of unobservable inputs to fair value
As at 30 June 2024					
Equity securities		27,635	Last market price	10%/(10%)	2,764/(2,764)
Fixed interest securities		250	Historical cost	10%/(10%)	25/(25)
As at 30 June 2023					
Equity securities		28,628	Last market price	10%/(10%)	2,863/(2,863)
Fixed interest securities		3,315	Historical cost	10%/(10%)	332/(332)

There were no significant inter-relationships between unobservable inputs that materially affect fair values.

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 and are disclosed in Note 4(d) above.

g. Financial instruments not carried at fair value

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

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

5. Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

	As at	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Warrants	215	6
Equity securities	165,988	203,115
Fixed interest securities	250	3,315
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	166,453	206,436

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. Derivative financial instruments

In the normal course of business, the Fund enters into transactions in various derivative financial instruments which have certain risks. A derivative is a financial instrument or other contract which is settled at a future date and whose value changes in response to the change in a specified interest rate, financial instrument price, commodity price, foreign exchange rate, index of prices or rates, credit rating or credit index or other variable.

Derivative financial instruments require no initial net investment or an initial net investment that is smaller than would be required for other types of contracts that would be expected to have a similar response to changes in market factors.

6. Derivative financial instruments (continued)

Derivative transactions include many different instruments such as forwards, futures and options. Derivatives are considered to be part of the investment process and the use of derivatives is an essential part of the Fund's portfolio management. Derivatives are not managed in isolation. Consequently, the use of derivatives is multifaceted and includes:

- hedging to protect an asset or liability of the Fund against a fluctuation in market values, foreign exchange risk or to reduce volatility;
- a substitution for trading of physical securities; and
- adjusting asset exposures within the parameters set in the investment strategy, and adjusting the duration of fixed interest portfolios or the weighted average maturity of cash portfolios.

While derivatives are used for trading purposes, they are not used to gear (leverage) a portfolio. Gearing a portfolio would occur if the level of exposure to the markets exceeds the underlying value of the Fund.

The Fund holds the following derivatives:

Warrants

Warrants are an option to purchase additional securities from the issuer at a specified price during a specified period. Warrants are valued at the prevailing market price at the end of each reporting period. The Fund recognises a gain or loss equal to the change in fair value at the end of each reporting period.

The Fund's derivative financial instruments measured at fair value at year end are detailed below:

	Contractual/ notional \$'000	Assets \$'000	Liabilities \$'000
As at 30 June 2024			
Warrants	3,145	215	-
Total derivatives	3,145	215	-
As at 30 June 2023			
Warrants	569	6	-
Total derivatives	569	6	-

Information about the Fund's exposure to credit risk, interest rate risk and about the methods and assumptions used in determining fair values is provided in Note 3 and Note 4 to the financial statements. The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period is the carrying amount of each class of derivative financial instruments disclosed above.

7. 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 year were as follows:

	Year ended		Year ended	
	30 June 2024 Units '000	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 Units '000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Wholesale Class				
Opening balance	38,852	181,368	37,627	183,988
Applications	2,330	11,143	6,610	33,609
Redemptions	(12,433)	(58,602)	(5,511)	(27,841)
Reinvestment of distributions	52	246	126	625
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unit holders	-	3,453	-	(9,013)
Closing balance	28,801	137,608	38,852	181,368
Institutional Class				
Opening balance	5,124	25,281	5,196	26,909
Applications	113	574	68	369
Redemptions	(196)	(982)	(220)	(1,158)
Reinvestment of distributions	39	196	80	420
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unit holders	-	624	-	(1,259)
Closing balance	5,080	25,693	5,124	25,281

7. Net assets attributable to unit holders - liability (continued)

	Year ended		Year ended	
	30 June 2024 Units '000	30 June 2024 Units \$'000	30 June 2023 Units '000	30 June 2023 Units \$'000
NSW SIV Class				
Opening balance	101	47	100	55
Applications	-	-	-	-
Redemptions	-	-	-	-
Reinvestment of distributions	4	3	1	1
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unit holders	-	880	-	(9)
Closing balance	105	930	101	47
Total		164,231		206,696

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 three separate classes of units. Each unit within the same class has the same rights as all other units within that class. Each unit class has a different management fee rate.

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.

8. Distributions to unit holders

The distributions declared during the year were as follows:

	Year ended		Year ended	
	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2024 CPU	30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 CPU
Distributions - Wholesale Class				
June (payable)	1,303	4.5231	2,409	6.1996
Total distributions	1,303	4.5231	2,409	6.1996
Distributions - Institutional Class				
June (payable)	160	3.1541	346	6.7570
Total distributions	160	3.1541	346	6.7570
Distributions - NSW SIV Class				
June (payable)	1	0.6952	3	3.2015
Total distributions	1	0.6952	3	3.2015
Total distributions	1,464		2,758	

9. Cash and cash equivalents

	As at	
	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Cash at bank	8	3,036
Bank overdrafts	(1,701)	-
Total cash and cash equivalents	(1,693)	3,036

10. 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

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Profit/(loss) for the year	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unit holders	4,957	(10,281)
Distributions to unit holders	1,464	2,758
Proceeds from maturity of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	102,068	54,987
Payments for purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	(56,602)	(55,249)
Net (gains)/losses on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	(6,484)	8,223
Net change in receivables	98	(82)
Net change in payables	(50)	(235)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	45,451	121

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

	445	1,046
Total non-cash operating and financing activities	445	1,046

11. Receivables

	As at	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Dividends and distributions receivable	-	58
GST receivable	61	101
Total receivables	61	159

12. Payables

	As at	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Management fees and costs payable	152	202
Total payables	152	202

13. Remuneration of auditors

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

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
BDO Audit Pty Ltd		
<i>Audit and other assurance services</i>		
Audit and review of financial statements	18,615	18,000
Other assurance services	2,500	2,500
Total auditor remuneration and other assurance services	21,115	20,500
<i>Taxation services</i>		
Tax compliance services	6,500	6,000
Total remuneration for taxation services	6,500	6,000
Total remuneration of BDO Audit Pty Ltd	27,615	26,500
PricewaterhouseCoopers		
<i>Audit and other assurance services</i>		
Audit of compliance plan	2,400	2,346
Total auditor remuneration and other assurance services	2,400	2,346
Total remuneration of PricewaterhouseCoopers	2,400	2,346

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

14. Related party transactions

The Responsible Entity of SGH Emerging 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 SG Hiscock & Company Limited, to act as Investment Manager for the Fund, and State Street Australia Limited to act as Custodian and Apex Fund Services Pty Ltd to act as Administrator 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 year and up to the date of this report.

Philip D Gentry	Chairman (resigned 6 June 2024)
Michael J O'Brien	Chairman (appointed 6 June 2024)
Russell W Beasley	
Mary A O'Connor	
David B Warren	
Andrew P Godfrey	(appointed 1 May 2024)

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 year.

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 30 June 2024 (30 June 2023: nil).

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 the 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 financial year and there were no material contracts involving management personnel's interests existing at year end.

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

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

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
Management fees for the year	1,678,536	2,014,433
Responsible Entity fees for the year	107,369	121,292
Management fees payable at year end	109,938	168,110
Responsible Entity fees payable at year end	25,019	20,515

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.

14. Related party transactions (continued)

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) hold units in the Fund, as follows:

Unit holder	Number of units held opening	Number of units held closing	Fair value of investment (\$)	Interest held (%)	Number of units acquired	Number of units disposed	Distributions paid/payable by the Fund (\$)
As at 30 June 2024							
SG Hiscock & Company Limited	429,598	353,907	1,380,036	0.84%	3,687	(79,378)	8,585
As at 30 June 2023							
SG Hiscock & Company Limited	428,389	429,598	1,644,025	0.80%	1,209	-	25,430

i. Investments

The Fund did not hold any investments in Equity Trustees Limited or its related parties during the year (30 June 2023: nil).

15. Events occurring after the reporting period

No significant events have occurred since the end of the year which would impact on the financial position of the Fund as disclosed in the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024 or on the results and cash flows of the Fund for the year ended on that date.

16. Contingent assets and liabilities and commitments

There were no outstanding contingent assets, liabilities or commitments as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

Directors' declaration

In the opinion of the directors of the Responsible Entity:

- a. The financial statements and notes set out on pages 5 to 24 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 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date.
- b. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
- 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.



Andrew P Godfrey
Director

Melbourne
19 September 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of SGH Emerging Companies Fund

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of SGH Emerging Companies Fund (the Scheme), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial report, including material accounting policy information and the directors' declaration.

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

- (i) Giving a true and fair view of the Scheme's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Scheme in accordance with 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 confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the directors of the Scheme, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

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

Other information

The directors of the Responsible Entity are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is information included in the Director's report, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

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 on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, 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 Responsible Entity for the Financial Report

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

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Scheme's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Scheme or to cease operations, or has 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website (<http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>) at:

http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

BDO Audit Pty Ltd



James Dixon
Director

Melbourne, 19 September 2024