

Vertium Equity Income Fund - Class A

Reference Guide

Vertium Equity Income Fund (ARSN 620 093 423)

About this Reference Guide

This Reference Guide ("RG") dated 8 October 2025 has been prepared and issued by Equity Trustees Limited ("Equity Trustees", "we" or "Responsible Entity"). The information in this document forms part of the Product Disclosure Statement ("PDS") for the Vertium Equity Income Fund – Class A ("Fund").

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

Updated information

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

You can request a copy of the PDS and RG by visiting www.vertium.com.au or by visiting Equity Trustees at www.eqt.com.au/insto. A paper copy of the updated information will also be provided free of charge on request by calling on +613 8623 5000.

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Investment Manager

Vertium Asset Management Pty Ltd
ABN 25 615 639 659
CAR No. 001258758 (a corporate authorised representative of Clime Asset Management Pty Ltd)
ABN 72 098 420 770 AFSL 221 146
Level 31, 123 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Ph: +61 2 8917 2100 (outside Australia)
Ph: 1300 788 568
Email: jteh@vertium.com.au
Web: www.vertium.com.au

Administrator

Apex Fund Services Pty Ltd
ABN 81 118 902 891, AFSL 303253
GPO Box 4968
Sydney NSW 2001
Ph: 1300 133 451
Fax: +61 2 9251 3525
Email: registry@apexgroup.com
Web: www.apexgroup.com

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. Investing in the Vertium Equity Income Fund - Class A

Application terms

We will only start processing an application if:

- we consider that you have correctly completed the Application Form;
- you have provided us with the relevant identification documents if required; and
- we have received the application money (in cleared funds) stated in your Application Form.

If we refuse or are unable to process your request, we will return your money. Law also requires that we return application moneys to you if units are not issued within 30 days of us receiving them. Any interest earned on lodged application monies is credited to the Fund and not to the individual applicant. Refunds are made generally less any taxes and transactions (such as bank) fees, and if we are sending money back overseas, the exchange rate applicable at the time will be used.

Direct debit & savings plan

This information applies only if you have indicated that you wish for your initial or additional investment amounts to be paid by direct debit. Please ensure you have provided the details of your financial institution and completed the direct debit request in the relevant sections of the Application Form, or contact Apex on 1300 133 451.

The following is your Direct Debit Service Agreement ("Agreement") with Apex Fund Services Pty Ltd ABN 81 118 902 891 ("Apex"), who acts as the Fund Administrator of the Fund. The Agreement is designed to explain what your obligations are when undertaking a Direct Debit arrangement with Apex. It also details what Apex's obligations are to you as your Direct Debit Provider. We recommend you keep this information in a safe place for future reference. It forms part of the terms and conditions of your Direct Debit Request in the relevant sections of the Application Form or Additional Application Form (as applicable).

Definitions within this section:

Account means the account held at your financial institution from which we are authorised to arrange for funds to be debited.

Agreement means the Direct Debit Request Service Agreement between you and Apex.

Banking Day means a day other than a Saturday or a Sunday or a public holiday listed throughout Australia.

Debit Day means the day that payment by you to Apex is due.

Direct Debit Request means the direct debit request in the Application Form or Additional Application Form.

Direct Payment means a particular transaction where a debit is made.

We means Apex, (the "Debit User") you have authorised by signing a Direct Debit Request.

You means the investor who has signed or authorised by other means the Direct Debit Request.

Your financial institution means the financial institution nominated by you on the Direct Debit Request at which the account is maintained.

1. Debiting your Account

1.1 By signing a direct debit request or by providing Apex with a valid instruction, you have authorised Apex to arrange for funds to be debited from your account. You should refer to the direct debit request and this agreement for the terms of the arrangement between Apex and you.

1.2 We will only arrange for funds to be debited from your account as authorised in the direct debit request; or

We will only arrange for funds to be debited from your account if we have sent to the address nominated by you in the direct debit request, a billing advice which specifies the amount payable by you to Apex and when it is due.

1.3 If the debit day falls on a day that is not a banking day, we may direct your financial institution to debit your account on the following banking day. If you are unsure about which day your account has or will be debited you should ask your financial institution.

2. Amendments by Apex

2.1 We may vary any details of this agreement or a direct debit request at any time by giving you at least fourteen (14) days written notice.

3. Amendments by You

3.1 You may change, stop or defer a debit payment, or terminate this agreement by providing Apex with at least fourteen (14) days notification by writing to:

Unit Registry, Apex Fund Services Pty Ltd, GPO BOX 4968, Sydney NSW 2001

or

by telephoning Apex on 1300 133 451 during business hours;

or

arranging it through your own financial institution.

4. Your Obligations

4.1 It is your responsibility to ensure that there are sufficient clear funds available in your account to allow a debit payment to be made in accordance with the direct debit request.

4.2 If there are insufficient clear funds in your account to meet a debit payment:

a) you may be charged a fee and/or interest by your financial institution;

b) you may also incur fees or charges imposed or incurred by Apex; and

c) you must arrange for the debit payment to be made by another method or arrange for sufficient clear funds to be in your account by an agreed time so that we can process the debit payment.

4.3 You should check your account statement to verify that the amounts debited from your account are correct.

4.4 If we are liable to pay goods and services tax ("GST") on a supply made in connection with this agreement, then you agree to pay Apex on demand an amount equal to the consideration payable for the supply multiplied by the prevailing GST rate.

5. Dispute

5.1 If you believe that there has been an error in debiting your account, you should notify Apex directly on 1300 133 451 and confirm that notice in writing with Apex as soon as possible so that we can resolve your query more quickly. Alternatively you can take it up with your financial institution directly.

5.2 If we conclude as a result of our investigations that your account has been incorrectly debited we will respond to your query by arranging for your financial institution to adjust your account (including interest and charges) accordingly. We will also notify you in writing of the amount by which your account has been adjusted.

5.3 If we conclude as a result of our investigations that your account has not been incorrectly debited we will respond to your query by providing you with reasons and any evidence for this finding in writing.

6. Accounts

6.1 You should check:

a) with your financial institution whether direct debiting is available from your account as direct debiting is not available on all accounts offered by financial institutions;

b) your account details which you have provided to Apex are correct by checking them against a recent account statement; and

c) with your financial institution before completing the direct debit request if you have any queries about how to complete the direct debit request.

7. Confidentiality

7.1 We will keep any information (including your account details) in your direct debit request confidential. We will make reasonable efforts to keep any such information that we have about you secure and to ensure that any of our employees or agents who have access to information about you do not make any unauthorised use, modification, reproduction or disclosure of that information.

7.2 We will only disclose information that we have about you:

- a) to the extent specifically required by law; or
- b) for the purposes of this agreement (including disclosing information in connection with any query or claim).

8. Notice

8.1 If you wish to notify Apex in writing about anything relating to this agreement, you should write to:

Apex Fund Services Pty Ltd GPO Box 4968 Sydney NSW 2001

8.2 We will notify you by sending a notice in the ordinary post to the address you have given Apex in the Direct Debit Request.

8.3 Any notice will be deemed to have been received on the third banking day after posting.

2. Managing your investment

Authorised signatories

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

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

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

If you do appoint an authorised signatory:

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

Reports

Investors will be provided with the following reports:

- application and withdrawal confirmation statements;
- transaction statements; and
- (where applicable), distribution and tax statements.

Annual audited financial accounts are available on Equity Trustees' website at www.eqt.com.au/insto.

3. Withdrawing your investment

Withdrawal terms

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

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

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

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

- Withdrawals will only be paid to the investor.
- We reserve the right to fully redeem your investment if, as a result of processing your request, your investment balance in the Fund falls below the minimum balance for the relevant class set out in the PDS.
- If we cannot satisfactorily identify you as the withdrawing investor, we may suspend the payment of your withdrawal proceeds if we believe it is in the best interests of the unitholders of the Fund as a whole. We are not responsible for any loss you consequently suffer.
- As an investor who is withdrawing, you agree that any payment made according to instructions received by post, courier, email or fax, shall be a complete satisfaction of our obligations, despite any fact or circumstances such as the payment being made without your knowledge or authority.
- You agree that if the payment is made according to these terms, you, and any person claiming on your behalf, shall have no claim against us with regards to such payment.
- We are permitted, in accordance with the Constitution, to pay proceeds in kind (i.e. in specie).

Withdrawal restrictions

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

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

Equity Trustees can suspend a withdrawal request in certain other circumstances if Equity Trustees believes that it is in the best interests of the unitholders as a whole. Please see the PDS for details.

Electronic Instructions

If an investor instructs Equity Trustees by electronic means, such as via email, the investor releases Equity Trustees from and indemnifies Equity Trustees against, all losses and liabilities arising from any payment or action Equity Trustees makes based on any instruction (even if not genuine) that Equity Trustees receives by an electronic communication bearing the investor's investor code and which appears to indicate to Equity Trustees that the communication has been provided by the investor e.g. a signature which is apparently the investor's and that of an authorised signatory for the investment or an email address which is apparently the investor's. The investor also agrees that neither they nor anyone claiming through them has any claim against Equity Trustees or a Fund in relation to such payments or actions. There is a risk that a fraudulent withdrawal request can be made by someone who has access to an investor's investor code and a copy of their signature or email address. Please take care.

4. Risks

Environmental Social & Governance risk

Environment, social and governance (ESG) considerations are ultimately considered as medium-term quality factors which can influence investments. Improperly managed or identified ESG considerations can erode the quality aspect of, and thus present a risk to, investment returns.

The Investment Manager of the Fund does not take into account all ESG considerations, and any assessment of what is or is not such a factor and should or need not be taken into consideration is subjective. Remember that this policy can change, and that investing having regard to such factors may not result in environmental, social or governance outcomes improving or desired investment outcomes being achieved. Investments may form part of the Fund even though they do not meet such standards. Based on Vertium and Clime's organisational size and structure, they are not currently signatories to the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI).

Fund structure risk

This is the risk associated with having someone invest for you.

Risks associated with investing in the Fund include that the Fund could be closed and your money returned to you at the prevailing valuations at that time, those entities or key people responsible for operating the Fund or managing its investments could change.

There is also the risk that someone involved with your investment (even remotely) does not meet their obligations or perform as expected, assets may be lost, not recorded properly or misappropriated, laws may adversely change, insurers may not pay when expected, systems may fail or insurance may be inadequate.

Investment decisions, although taken carefully, are not always successful.

Investing through an administration platform also brings some risks that the operator of the administration platform may not perform its obligations properly.

Investing in the Fund may give inferior results compared to investing directly (where you may be able to better manage your individual tax circumstances).

Valuation risk

The quoted value of the Fund's investments may not accurately reflect the value of those investments if they are sold. The Fund seeks to reduce this risk by seeking that all the assets of the Fund are valued independently on a daily basis and wherever possible using market prices.

Information risk

We are committed to ensuring that your information is kept secure and protected from misuse and loss and from unauthorised access, modification and disclosure. We use the Internet in operating the Fund and may store records in a cloud system. If stored overseas, different privacy and other standards may apply there. Our Privacy Policy is discussed in Section 6 of this Reference Guide.

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.

Investment risk

This is the risk that the value of an investment may change or become more volatile, potentially causing a reduction in the value of the Fund and increasing its volatility. Reasons can be many, and include changes in an investment's operations, management or business environment or in investors' perceptions of the risk of an investment.

Market risk

This is the risk that an entire market, country or economy changes in value or becomes more volatile, including the risk that the country's credit rating is downgraded, which reduces the nation's perceived through inflation or deflation), and/or other market-wide factors, like economic growth or the unemployment rate, deteriorate, which can cause a reduction in the value of the Fund and increase its volatility. This may be because, amongst many other things, there are adverse changes in economic, financial, climate, technological, political or legal conditions, natural and man-made disasters, conflicts and shifts in market sentiment.

Managing risk

As risk cannot be entirely avoided when investing, the Fund aims to identify and manage risk as far as is practicable. Whenever investments are made, the potential for returns in light of the likely risks involved are assessed.

Risk is considered throughout the investment process. As far as is practicable, risk is managed at the Fund level in selection of the underlying funds or securities within the fund depending on the investment universe for the Fund.

However, many risks are difficult or impracticable to manage effectively and some risks are beyond our and the Investment Manager's control altogether.

Remember, investing involves risk, and you can lose as well as make money. Neither returns nor the money you invest in the Fund is guaranteed.

Risk generally

The significant risks of investing in managed investment schemes generally include the risks that:

- the value of investments will vary,
- the level of returns will vary, and future returns will differ from past returns,
- returns are not guaranteed and investors may lose some or all of their money, and
- laws change.

The level of risk for you particularly will vary depending on a range of other factors, including age, investment time frame, how other parts of your wealth are invested, and your risk tolerance. If you are unsure whether this investment is suitable for you, we recommend you consult a Financial Adviser.

Further information about the risks of investing in managed investment schemes can be found on the ASIC's MoneySmart website at www.moneysmart.gov.au.

5. Additional information on 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 returns.

For example, total annual fees and costs of 2% of your investment balance rather than 1% could reduce your final return by up to 20% over a 30-year period (for example, reduce it from \$100,000 to \$80,000).

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

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

TO FIND OUT MORE

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

Fees and other costs

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

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

Fees and Costs Summary

Vertium Equity Income Fund		
Type of fee or cost	Amount	How and when paid
Ongoing annual fees and costs¹		
<i>Management fees and costs</i> The fees and costs for managing your investment	0.97% of the NAV of the Class ²	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. The management fees component of management fees and costs can be negotiated. Please see "Differential fees" in the "Additional Explanation of Fees and Costs" for further information.
<i>Performance fees</i> Amounts deducted from your investment in relation to the performance of the product	Not applicable	Not applicable
<i>Transaction costs</i> The costs incurred by the scheme when buying or selling assets	0.28% of the NAV of the Class ²	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.
Member activity related fees and costs (fees for services or when your money moves in or out of the scheme)		
<i>Establishment fee</i> The fee to open your investment	Not applicable	Not applicable
<i>Contribution fee</i> The fee on each amount contributed to your investment	Not applicable	Not applicable

Type of fee or cost	Amount	How and when paid
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.
Withdrawal fee The fee on each amount you take out of your investment	Not applicable	Not applicable
Exit fee The fee to close your investment	Not applicable	Not applicable
Switching fee The fee for changing investment options	Not applicable	Not applicable

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

² The indirect costs component of management fees and costs and transaction costs is based on a reasonable estimate of the costs for the current financial year to date, adjusted to reflect a 12 month period. See "Additional Explanation of Fees and Costs" below.

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 0.97% 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 the 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 based on a reasonable estimate of the costs for the current financial year to date, adjusted to reflect a 12 month period.

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.

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 \$10,000 is \$25 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 0.52% p.a. of the NAV of the Class, which is based on a reasonable estimate of the costs for the current financial year to date, adjusted to reflect a 12 month period.

In relation to the costs that have been estimated, they have been estimated on the basis of quotes obtained 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 1.50% of the NAV 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 RG. Equity Trustees also has the right to recover all reasonable expenses incurred in relation to the proper performance of its duties in managing the Fund and as such these expenses may increase or decrease accordingly, without notice.

Payments to IDPS Operators

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

Differential fees

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

Taxation

Please refer to Section 7 of the Product Disclosure Statement and Section 5 of this Reference Guide for further information on taxation.

6. Other important information

Taxation

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

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

General

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Deemed Capital Gains Tax ("CGT") Election

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

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

Controlled Foreign Company ("CFC") Provisions

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

Taxation of Financial Arrangements ("TOFA")

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

Taxation Reform

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

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

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

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

GST

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

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

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

Australian Taxation of Australian Resident Investors

Distributions

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

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

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

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

Foreign Income

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

Disposal of Units by Australian Resident Investors

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

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

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

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

Australian Taxation of Non-Resident Investors

Tax on Income

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

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

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

Disposal of Units by Non-Resident Investors

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

Your privacy

The Australian Privacy Principles contained in the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) ("Privacy Act") regulate the way in which we collect, use, disclose, and otherwise handle your personal information. Equity Trustees is committed to respecting and protecting the privacy of your personal information, and our Privacy Policy details how we do this.

It is important to be aware that, in order to provide our products and services to you, Equity Trustees may need to collect personal information about you and any other individuals associated with the product or service offering. In addition to practical reasons, this is necessary to ensure compliance with our legal and regulatory obligations (including under the Corporations Act, the AML/CTF Act and taxation legislation). If you do not provide the information requested, we may not be able to process your application, administer, manage, invest, pay or transfer your investment(s).

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

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

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

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

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

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

Full details of Equity Trustees' Privacy Policy are available at www.eqt.com.au. You can also request a copy by contacting Equity Trustees' Privacy Officer on +61 3 8623 5000 or by email to privacy@eqt.com.au.

The Constitution

The Fund is governed by a constitution that sets out the Fund's operation (the "Constitution"). The Constitution, together with the Fund's PDS, the Corporations Act and other laws, regulate our legal relationship with investors in the Fund. If you invest in the Fund, you agree to be bound by the terms of the Fund's PDS and the Fund's Constitution as amended or issued from time to time. Some provisions are discussed in the PDS and elsewhere in this Reference Guide, and others include:

- the nature of units of the Fund all units of each class are identical,
- our powers and how and when we can exercise them,
- when the Fund terminates - we can terminate the Fund at any time and relevant investors share the net proceeds relevant to their class on a pro-rata basis, and
- when we can retire and what happens if we do - usually a replacement will be appointed.

You can request a copy of the Constitution free of charge from Equity Trustees. Please read these documents carefully before investing in the Fund.

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

Transferring your units

To transfer units, complete a Transfer Form available free from the Investment Manager's website or by contacting the Administrator.

You will receive confirmation when your transfer is processed. You may need to pay stamp duty on the transfer.

Changes in ownership affecting indirect investors should be directed to the operator of your Administration Platform.

Meetings and changes of responsible entity

Investor meetings are uncommon.

Investors can generally attend and vote and meetings are largely regulated by the Corporations Act.

Changes of Responsible Entity are also uncommon. They too are largely regulated by the Corporations Act. Investors can requisition a meeting as law allows.

Terminating the Fund

We may wind up the Fund at any time. If we do, we will generally sell all the investments, pay all monies owing (including fees and expenses) and distribute the net proceeds to investors.

Limits on our responsibility

The Fund's constitution has some limits on when we are liable to investors for example and generally speaking, when we rely on experts and on documents, which we have no reason to doubt are authentic, accurate or genuine. Subject always to any liability which the Corporations Act may impose on us, if we act in good faith and without gross negligence, we are not liable to investors for any loss suffered in any way relating to an investment in the Fund.

The Fund's constitution also contains a provision that the Fund's constitution is the source of our relationship with direct investors and not any other laws, except those laws we cannot exclude.

Limits on your responsibility

We have included provisions in the Fund's constitution designed to protect investors. The Fund's constitution limits each investor's liability to the value of their investment in the Fund and provides that they will not, by reason of being an investor alone, be personally liable to indemnify us and/or any creditor of ours in the event that the liabilities of the Fund exceed the assets of the Fund. However, an absolute assurance about these things cannot be given – the issue has not been finally determined by Australian courts.

Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism Financing ("AML/CTF")

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

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

In order to comply with AML/CTF Laws, Equity Trustees may also disclose information including your personal information that it holds about the applicant, an investor, or any beneficial owner, to its related bodies corporate or service providers, or relevant regulators of AML/CTF Laws (whether inside or outside Australia). Equity Trustees may be prohibited by law from informing applicants or investors that such reporting has occurred.

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

Indirect Investors

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

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

Information on underlying investments

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

Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA")

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

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

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

Common Reporting Standard ("CRS")

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

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

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

7. Glossary

AFSL

Australian Financial Services Licence.

Apex

Apex Fund Services Pty Ltd ACN 118 902 891, AFSL 303253, the administrator for the Fund.

APIR Code

This is a unique code for products in the financial services industry.

Application Form

The application form for direct investment into the Fund.

APRA

Australian Prudential Regulation Authority.

ARSN

Australian Registered Scheme Number.

ASIC

Australian Securities and Investments Commission

ATO

Australian Taxation Office.

AUSTRAC

Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre.

Business Day

A business day in Sydney, NSW

Constitution

The document which describes the rights, responsibilities and beneficial interest of both investors and the Responsible Entity in relation to a Fund, as amended from time to time.

Equity Trustees

Equity Trustees Limited ABN 46 004 031 298, AFSL 240975 the responsible entity of the Fund

Fund

The Vertium Equity Income Fund ARSN 620 093 423.

IDPS

Investor-Directed Portfolio Service or investor-directed portfolio service-like managed investment scheme. An IDPS is generally the vehicle through which an investor purchases a range of underlying investment options from numerous investment managers.

IDPS Operator

The entity responsible for operating an IDPS.

Indirect Investors

Individuals who invest in the Fund through an IDPS.

Investment Manager

Vertium Asset Management Pty Ltd (ABN 40 100 834 393)

Net Asset Value (NAV)

The value of the assets of the Fund or a class (as the case may be) less the value of the liabilities of that Fund or class.

Responsible Entity

Refers to Equity Trustees.

Retail Client

Persons or entities defined as such under section 761G of the Corporations Act.

US Person

A person so classified under securities or tax law in the United States of America ("US") including, in broad terms, the following persons:

(a) any citizen of, or natural person resident in, the US, its territories or possessions; or

(b) any corporation or partnership organised or incorporated under any laws of or in the US or of any other jurisdiction if formed by a US Person (other than by accredited investors who are not natural persons, estates or trusts) principally for the purpose of investing in securities not registered under the US Securities Act of 1933; or

(c) any agency or branch of a foreign entity located in the US; or

(d) a pension plan primarily for US employees of a US Person; or

(e) a US collective investment vehicle unless not offered to US Persons; or

(f) any estate of which an executor or administrator is a US Person (unless an executor or administrator of the estate who is not a US Person has sole or substantial investment discretion over the assets of the estate and such estate is governed by non-US law) and all the estate income is non-US income not liable to US income tax; or

(g) any trust of which any trustee is a US Person (unless a trustee who is a professional fiduciary is a US Person and a trustee who is not a US Person has sole or substantial investment discretion over the assets of the trust and no beneficiary (or settlor, if the trust is revocable) of the trust is a US Person); or

(h) any discretionary account or similar account (other than an estate or trust) held by a dealer or other fiduciary for the benefit or account of a US Person; or

(i) any non-discretionary account or similar account (other than an estate or trust) held by a dealer or other fiduciary organised, incorporated or (if an individual) resident in the US for the benefit or account of a US Person.

Valuation Time

A time at which the Responsible Entity calculates the Net Asset Value.

We, us

Refers to Equity Trustees.

Wholesale Client

Persons or entities defined as such under section 761G of the Corporations Act.