# WILLIAM BLAIR Global Leaders Fund

# Reference Guide

Issue Date 27 August 2024

#### About this Reference Guide

This Reference Guide ("RG") has been prepared and issued by Equity Trustees Limited ("Equity Trustees", "we" or "Responsible Entity"). The information in this document forms part of the Product Disclosure Statement ("PDS") for the A Class of the WILLIAM BLAIR Global Leaders Fund dated 1 August 2023 and the PDS for the M Class of the Fund dated 27 August 2024.

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 current PDS and RG as at the date of your investment.

You can request a copy of the PDS and RG by visiting www.eqt.com.au/insto or calling the Administrator on 1800 226 174. A paper copy of the updated information will also be provided free of charge on request.

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Investment Manager William Blair Investment Management, LLC 150 North Riverside Plaza Chicago, Illinois 60606 USA Administrator DDH Graham Limited ACN 010 639 219 Level 9, 324 Queen Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4001 Ph: 1800 226 174 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

Custodian

Certane CT Pty Ltd Level 6, 80 Clarence Street, Sydney 2000 Australia ACN 106 424 088, AFSL 258 829 Ph: +61 2 9053 2201

# 1. Investing in the WILLIAM BLAIR Global Leaders Fund

# Application cut-off times

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

- before 2pm (Brisbane time) on a Business Day and your application for units is accepted, you will generally receive the Application Price calculated for that Business Day; or
- on or after 2pm (Brisbane time) on a Business Day and your application for units is accepted, you will generally receive the Application Price calculated for the next Business Day.

Please see the relevant PDS for information regarding how to apply.

# Application terms

We will only start processing an application if:

- we consider that you have correctly completed the application
- 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.

# 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

- 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.

# 3. Withdrawing your investment

#### Withdrawal cut-off times

If we receive a withdrawal request:

- before 2pm (Brisbane time) on a Business Day and your withdrawal request is accepted, you will generally receive the Withdrawal Price calculated for that Business Day; or
- on or after 2pm (Brisbane time) on a Business Day and your withdrawal request is accepted, you will generally receive the Withdrawal Price calculated for the next Business Day.

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

#### Withdrawal terms

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

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

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

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

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

#### Withdrawal restrictions

Under the Corporations Act, you do not have a right to 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).

# 4. Other important information

## Risks of managed investment schemes

In addition to the risks set forth in the PDS, the following risks are also applicable to any investment in the Fund.

#### Market risk

The value of the securities owned by the Fund and the Underlying Fund may go up or down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably. Securities may decline in value due to factors affecting securities markets generally or particular industries represented in the securities markets. The value of a security may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a particular company, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in interest or currency rates or adverse investor sentiment generally. The value of a security may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labour shortages or increased production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. During a general downturn in the securities markets, multiple asset classes may decline in value simultaneously.

#### Concentration risk

To the extent that the Underlying Fund invests a large portion of its assets in a limited number of industries, sectors, or issuers, or within a limited geographical area, it can be more risky than a fund that invests more broadly. Focusing on any company, industry, sector, country, region, type of stock, type of economy, etc. makes the Fund, indirectly through its investment in the Underlying Fund, more sensitive to the factors that determine market value for the area of focus. These factors may include economic, financial or market conditions as well as social, political, environmental or other conditions. The result can be both higher volatility and a greater risk of loss.

# Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk exists when a particular instrument is difficult to purchase or sell. Investments that trade less can be more difficult or more costly to buy, or to sell, than more liquid or active investments. It may not be possible to sell or otherwise dispose of illiquid securities both at the price and within a time period deemed desirable by the Investment Manager. Securities subject to liquidity risk in which the Underlying Fund may invest include emerging market securities, stocks of smaller companies, private placements, Rule 144A securities, below investment grade securities and other securities without an established market. Illiquid securities involve the risk that the securities will not be able to be sold at the time desired by the Investment Manager or at prices approximating the value at which the Underlying Fund is carrying the securities on its books. During periods of high volatility, the Fund may experience increased redemptions, requiring the Underlying Fund to liquidate securities when it is difficult to do so.

#### Portfolio turnover risk

The Underlying Fund does not intend to trade portfolio securities for the purpose of realizing short-term profits. However, the Underlying Fund's portfolio will be adjusted as considered advisable in view of prevailing or anticipated market conditions and the Fund's investment objective, and there is no limitation on the length of time securities must be held by the Underlying Fund prior to being sold. Portfolio turnover rate will not be a limiting factor and will vary from year to year. Higher portfolio turnover rates involve correspondingly higher transaction costs, which are borne directly or indirectly by the Fund. In addition, the Fund may realize significant short term and long-term capital gains.

# Operating expenses risk

Because the Fund, and indirectly through the Underlying Fund, invests primarily in non-Australian securities, it is expected to incur operating expenses that are higher than those of funds investing exclusively in Australian securities because expenses such as custodial fees related to foreign investments are usually higher than those associated with investments in Australian securities. In addition, dividends and interest from non-Australian securities may be subject to foreign withholding taxes.

# Small cap and mid cap stock risk

Stocks of small cap companies involve greater risk than those of larger, more established companies. This is because small cap companies may be in earlier stages of development, may be dependent on a small number of products or services, may lack substantial capital reserves and/or do not have proven track records. Small cap companies may be more adversely affected by poor economic or market conditions, and may be traded in low volumes, which may increase volatility and liquidity risks. From time to time, the Underlying Fund may invest in the equity securities of very small cap companies, often referred to as "micro-cap" companies. For the purpose of the Fund, "micro-cap" companies are those with market capitalizations of U.S.\$1 billion or less at the time of investment. The considerations noted above are generally intensified for these investments. Any convertible debentures issued by small cap companies are likely to be lower-rated or non-rated securities, which generally involve more credit risk than debentures in the higher rating categories and generally include some speculative characteristics, including uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial or economic conditions that could lead to inadequate capacity to meet timely interest and principal payments. Stocks of mid cap companies involve greater risk than those of larger, more established companies. The value of securities issued by mid-cap companies may go up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably, due to narrower markets and more limited managerial and financial resources than large-cap companies. A Fund's investments in mid-cap companies may increase the volatility of its portfolio.

### Exchange rate risk

Changes in foreign currency exchange rates may affect the value of the investments held by the Fund and the Underlying Fund.

# Initial public offering (IPO) risk

The Underlying Fund may participate in IPOs. IPOs are subject to high volatility and are of limited availability. The Underlying Fund's ability to obtain allocations of IPOs is subject to allocation by members of the underwriting syndicate to various clients and allocation by the Investment Manager among its clients. When the Underlying Fund is small in size, the Underlying Fund's participation in IPOs may have a magnified impact on the Fund's performance.

### Private placement risk

The Underlying Fund may invest in private placements. Investments in private placements may be difficult to sell at the time and at the price desired. Companies making private placements may make less information available than publicly offered companies; and privately placed securities are more difficult to value than publicly traded securities. These factors may have a negative effect on the performance of the Fund. Securities acquired through private placements are not registered for resale in the general securities market and may be classified as illiquid.

## 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.

# Additional information on environmental, social and ethical considerations

The Investment Manager's assessment of current and prospective portfolio holdings typically integrates an analysis of applicable environmental, social and governance (collectively, "ESG") factors. Typically, the ESG factors considered by the Investment Manager include sustainability risks related to (i) environmental factors such as climate change, natural resources stewardship, and pollution and waste, (ii) social factors such as labour standards, human capital, customer well-being, supply chain management, and community relations, and (iii) governance factors such as corporate governance and corporate culture. The Investment Manager believes ESG factor integration assists the Fund's investment team to better understand the risks and the opportunities that may affect the company's business or operations. ESG factors are considered based on criteria developed by the Investment Manager's investment teams, and they are integrated with other relevant factors to provide a holistic assessment of companies. The Investment Manager may use research from third parties such as global investment banks and ESG rating providers as a complement to its analysis. The Investment Manager seeks to ensure that the investment teams are fully aware of companies' ESG risks and opportunities by integrating ESG factors into the investment process in a systematic manner. The emphasis on ESG factors depends on the importance of these factors to the relevant industry and the unique circumstances of each company. The use of such factors and the individual factors utilised may be changed by the Investment Manager without Fund shareholder approval. Integrating ESG analysis into investment decisions requires qualitative determinations and is often subjective by nature, and there can be no assurance that the process utilised by the Fund or any judgment exercised by the Investment Manager will reflect the beliefs or values of any particular investor. Certain investments may be dependent on U.S. and foreign government policies, including tax incentives and subsidies, which may change without notice. Additionally, there is no guarantee that the Investment Manager's use of ESG factors will operate as expected when addressing positive social or environmental benefits. The Investment Manager does not use ESG factors as the sole criteria to include or exclude companies or sectors from its investable universe. Rather, when evaluating potential benefits and risks of an investment, the Investment Manager focuses on ESG issues when and to the extent that it believes ESG issues may have a significant impact on a company's financial performance during the Fund's investment information horizons. can found https://www.williamblair.com/Investment-Management/ ESG-Integration.

# **Taxation**

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

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

#### General

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Controlled Foreign Company ("CFC") Provisions

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

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

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

#### Taxation Reform

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

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

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

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

# GST

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

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

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

#### Australian Taxation of Australian Resident Investors

#### Distributions

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

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

Investors will receive an Annual Tax Statement (or an "AMMA" for an AMIT) detailing all relevant taxation information concerning attributed amounts and 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.

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 CGT 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

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

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.

Certane CT Pty Ltd may collect your personal information for primarily purpose of providing custodial services to the Fund and for ancillary purposes detailed in the Privacy Policy. Certane CT may disclose your personal information, such as, your name and contact details, along with your account information to its related bodies corporate, the trustee, manager, professional advisers, the land titles office and/or as otherwise instructed by the manager. Certane CT is also permitted to collect and disclose your personal information when required or authorised to do so by law. Certane CT is not likely to disclose your personal information to overseas recipients. Your personal information will be used in accordance with Certane CT's Privacy Policy. The Privacy Policy contains information about how you may access or correct your personal information held by Certane CT and how you may complain about a breach of the Australian Privacy Principles. You may obtain a copy of Certane CT's Privacy Policy at https://cdn.sargon.cloud/66460bcf-423f-45d1-9c38-397277dbcc30/ Sargon%20-%20Privacy%20Policy.pdf

### 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. 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.

# 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

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.

# 5. Glossary

Means the A Class of the Fund.

# **Application Form**

The application form that accompanies the PDS.

#### **ATO**

Australian Taxation Office

#### **AUSTRAC**

Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre

#### Business Day

A day other than Saturday or Sunday on which banks are open for general banking business in Brisbane or if the administrator of the Trust primarily performs its administrative functions in respect of the Trust in a city other than Brisbane, the city in which the administrator performs such functions.

#### Class

Means A Class or M Class, as the context requires.

Means the WILLIAM BLAIR Global Leaders Fund ARSN 644 462 420

### Gross Asset Value (GAV)

The value of the assets of the Fund without taking into account the liabilities of that Fund.

## **Indirect Investors**

Individuals who invest in the Fund through an IDPS.

Investor-Directed Portfolio Service or investor-directed portfolio-like managed investment scheme. An IDPS is generally the vehicle through which an investor purchases a range of underlying investment options from numerous investment managers. In New Zealand, the IDPS Operator needs to be licensed as a Discretionary Investment Management Service provider for anyone other than a Wholesale Investor to invest in the William Blair Global Leaders Fund - M Class though an IDPS.

# **IDPS** Guide

Investor-Directed Portfolio Service guide

#### **IDPS** Operator

An entity responsible for operating an IDPS.

#### M Class

Means the M Class of the Fund.

#### Net Asset Value (NAV)

The value of the assets of the Fund less the value of the liabilities of that Fund.

#### 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 fund 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.

#### We, us

Refers to Equity Trustees.

#### Wholesale Client

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

#### Wholesale Investor

In the case of a New Zealand investor, means a Wholesale Client who also meets the definition of wholesale investor under clause 3(2) of Schedule 1 of the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013 (New Zealand)