

PHOENIX UNIT TRUST MANAGERS

MANAGER'S INTERIM REPORT

For the half year: 1 October 2023 to 31 March 2024 (unaudited)

PUTM BOTHWELL FLOATING RATE ABS FUND



Contents

Investment review	2-3
Portfolio of investments	4-6
Top ten purchases and sales	7
Statistical information	8-10
Statements of total return & change in unitholders' funds	11
Balance sheet	12
Distribution table	13
Corporate information	14-15

1

Investment review

Dear Investor

Welcome to the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund interim report for the six months to 31 March 2024.

Performance Review

Over the review period, the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund returned 8.36% (Source: FactSet for six months to 31/03/24). This was compared to a return of 6.04% from its benchmark index. (Source: FactSet, Gross Return, GBP for six months to 31/03/24).

Standardised Past Performance

	Mar 23-24 % growth	Mar 22-23 % growth	Mar 21-22 % growth	Mar 20-21 % growth	Mar 19-20 % growth
PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund	8.36	1.87	1.61	5.49	-1.87
Benchmark Index	6.04	2.46	0.35	3.20	-0.49

Source: Fund performance is Factset, Gross of AMC, GBP, based upon the movement in the Cancellation Price to 31 March for each year. Benchmark Index performance is Factset, Barclays Pan Euro ABS FRN x IT/IE/PT/ES/US x UK EQRel, GBP hedged Gross return to 31 March for each year.

Past Performance is not a guide to future performance

The value of units and the income from them can go down as well as up and is not guaranteed. You may not get back the full amount invested.

Please note that all past performance figures are calculated without taking the initial charge into account.

Investment review

Portfolio and Market Review

The Fund outperformed the index over the period.

Towards the end of the period, the Fund underwent an agreed rebalance, to align with personnel changes within the Asset Backed Securities (ABS) team. In future, the Fund will adopt a lower credit risk approach, concentrated in sectors matching the target benchmark.

The allocation to commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) was reduced to 0.65% of the net asset value. removing the largest overweight versus benchmark. All positions were sold except for RGRNF 2020-1 C €1.8 million, which received a bid far below mark and expectations through the sale process. Collateralised loan obligations (CLO) exposure was reduced to just below 7.5% through the sale of all positions rated below single A and those from less favoured managers. The cash raised was reinvested in AAA Auto and residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) transactions. Auto transactions now account for 13.6%, cards 11.5%, RMBS 63.6% and 3% in covered bonds. The Fund finished the period with less than 1% cash. The move into higher rated, more liquid ABS sectors will allow a lower cash balance to be held; we expect this to be less than 5%. The Fund is well balanced against its target benchmark and its behaviour and volatility is expected to be lower than has been seen historically.

The ABS market was broadly insulated from the continued volatility in rates over the period. ABS softened briefly in late October and early November, due to supply in the market, but tightened into the end of 2023. In the new year, strong demand and a lack of supply meant strong performance across the ABS sector. The secondary market traded well, with strong competition for bid lists. This aided our rebalancing activity, and CMBS and CLOs made positive contributions towards performance as we exited positions.

New prime master Trust RMBS issues during January were added to the portfolio, utilising uninvested cash and proceeds raised from asset sales. These new issues tightened as the new issue premium was removed and markets continued to grind tighter. In terms of specific credit news, spreads on our Delamare Cards ABS moved noticeably tighter on the announcement of an agreement for the sale of Tesco Bank to Barclays Bank. This ends speculation that the assets could have been sold to a perceived less experienced or weaker balance sheet organisation, with potential future consequences for ratings.

Market Outlook and Fund Strategy

Markets have been very strong over the six-month period. However, macroeconomic uncertainty persists, recession or stagnation risks remain and central banks have been holding rates higher for longer than market expectations. The level of inflation and interest rates continued to be uppermost in our portfolio construction strategy. We are mindful of the pressure of household costs on consumers and their ability to repay the debt within ABS asset pools. ABS deal performance remains resilient given the credit protection embedded in the structures, but we continue to be vigilant across all deals. We have instigated risk reduction across the portfolio, moving up in credit quality to AAA and AA senior tranches for the deals we purchase. We have also sold many of the idiosyncratic risk positions from the CMBS and CLO sectors. This work will continue as new issue/secondary opportunities arise in our favoured sectors and names. The issue calendar is expected to pick up as conditions remain good for issuers. We believe our positioning remains conservative heading into any economic or market stress, with 87% of the portfolio rated AAA and positioning closer to benchmark weighting. Our single remaining CMBS holding is currently in standstill after financial difficulties with the lead tenant (Atos) at this Paris office building. Valuations have moved to what our analyst believes to be worst-case scenario. We continue to monitor the situation closely. At the least, it will involve a drawn-out process involving bond holders, and special servicing is likely to result if the financial situation of the tenant continues to deteriorate.

Portfolio of investments

Investments held at 31 March 2024

		Market	Percentage of
		value	total net assets
Holding	Investment	£000	%
	United Kingdom (30/09/23 - 52.95%)		75.49
	Mortgage Bonds		
£3,200,000	Bavarian Sky UK 5 FRN 20/04/2031	3,204	1.92
£2,916,000	Castell 2021-1 FRN 25/11/2053	1,074	0.64
£7,000,000	Delamare Cards MTN Issuer FRN 19/10/2031	7,037	4.21
£4,000,000	Economic Master Issuer FRN 25/06/2072	4,012	2.40
£3,710,000	Economic Master Issuer FRN 25/06/2073	3,703	2.21
£15,584,000	Finsbury Square FRN 16/12/2067	4,560	2.73
£5,000,000	Friary FRN 21/10/2071	5,013	3.00
£1,100,000	Friary No.7 FRN 21/10/2070	864	0.52
£6,000,000	Holmes Master Issuer FRN 15/10/2072	6,019	3.60
£5,000,000	Holmes Master Issuer FRN 15/10/2072	5,011	3.00
£5,063,000	Holmes Master Issuer FRN 15/10/2072	5,074	3.03
£3,000,000	Lanark Master Issuer FRN 22/12/2069	3,003	1.80
£6,750,000	Lanark Master Issuer FRN 22/12/2069	6,762	4.04
£6,833,000	Lanebrook Mortgage Transaction 2021-1 FRN 20/07/2058	4,882	2.92
£8,000,000	Newday Funding Master Issuer FRN 15/07/2029	8,002	4.78
£1,350,000	Newday Funding Master Issuer FRN 15/11/2029	1,349	0.81
£2,900,000	Newday Funding Master Issuer FRN 15/11/2029	2,901	1.73
£4,000,000	Permanent Master Issuer FRN 15/07/2073	4,008	2.40
£3,900,000	Permanent Master Issuer FRN 15/07/2073	3,907	2.34
£5,214,000	Permanent Master Issuer FRN 15/07/2073	5,225	3.12
£2,500,000	PMF 2024-1 FRN 16/07/2060	2,499	1.49
£11,000,000	Polaris 2022-1 FRN 23/10/2059	7,087	4.24
£10,000,000	Precise Mortgage Funding 2019-1B FRN 12/12/2055	3,875	2.32
£4,020,000	Precise Mortgage Funding FRN 16/10/2056	493	0.29
£1,000,000	Precise Mortgage Funding FRN 16/10/2056	1,001	0.60
£5,000,000	Silverstone Master Issuer FRN 21/01/2070	5,028	3.01
£4,500,000	Stratton Mortgage Funding 2020-1 FRN 12/03/2052	2,489	1.49
£2,100,000	Stratton Mortgage Funding 2024-2 FRN 28/06/2050	2,093	1.25
£8,500,000	Towd Point Mortgage 2019 FRN 20/10/2051	8,495	5.08
£4,500,000	Tower Bridge Funding FRN 20/12/2063	1,917	1.15
£5,600,000	Twin Bridges 2023-2 FRN 15/05/2056	5,628	3.37

Portfolio of investments

Investments held at 31 March 2024

		Market	Percentage of
Halding	lavostassat	value	total net assets
Holding	Investment	£000	%
	Germany (30/09/23 - 0.87%)		5.60
CE 000 000	Corporate Bonds Deutsche Pfandbriefbank FRN 26/04/2024	F 001	2.99
£5,000,000	Mortgage Bonds	5,001	2.99
€4,000,000	Cars Alliance Auto Loans Germany FRN 18/01/2036	3,422	2.05
€1,900,000	Red and Black Auto Germany 8 UG FRN 15/09/2030	945	0.56
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Ireland (30/09/23 - 20.40%)		5.41
	Mortgage Bonds		3.41
€2,750,000	Arini European CLO I DAC FRN 15/07/2036	2,396	1.43
€1,707,000	Invesco Euro CLO IV DAC FRN 15/04/2033	1,432	0.86
€5,000,000	Providus CLO V DAC FRN 15/02/2035	4,184	2.50
€1,800,000	River Green Finance 2020 DAC FRN 22/01/2032	1,037	0.62
	Italy (30/09/23 - 4.51%)		0.00
	Luxembourg (30/09/23 - 0.00%)		8.96
	Mortgage Bonds		
€1,000,000	Bavarian Sky Germany FRN 20/11/2031	856	0.51
£6,700,000	Compartment Driver UK 8 FRN 25/09/2031	6,705	4.01
£7,400,000	Compartment Private Driver UK 7 FRN 25/04/2031	7,413	4.44
	Netherlands (30/09/23 - 3.87%)		2.54
	Mortgage Bonds		
€5,000,000	Babson Euro CLO 2014 FRN 15/07/2031	4,254	2.54
	Money Markets (30/09/23 - 8.46%)		3.86
€ 6,451	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) –		
	Seabury Sterling Class Z-1+	6,450	3.86
	Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts (30/09/23 - (0.3	31%))	(0.01)
GBP 18,701,182	GBP Forward Currency Contract 18/04/2024	18,701	11.18
(EUR 21,877,586)	EUR Forward Currency Contract 18/04/2024	(18,716)	(11.19)
EUR 50,987	EUR Forward Currency Contract 18/04/2024	44	0.03
(GBP 43,624)	GBP Forward Currency Contract 18/04/2024	(44)	(0.03)
EUR 4,000,000	EUR Forward Currency Contract 23/04/2024	3,422	2.05
(GBP 3,420,184)	GBP Forward Currency Contract 23/04/2024	(3,420)	(2.05)

Portfolio of investments

Investments held at 31 March 2024

		Market	Percentage of
		value	total net assets
Holding	Investment	£000	%
	Portfolio of investments ^	170,297	101.85
	Net other assets	(3,093)	(1.85)
	Net assets	167,204	100.00

Unless otherwise stated, all investments with the exception of Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts are approved securities being either officially listed in a member state or traded on or under the rules of an eligible securities market.

The counterparties for the Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts are Goldman Sachs and Royal Bank of Canada.

⁺SICAVs (open ended investment schemes registered outside the UK).

Credit Ratings	£000	%
Investment grade	79,773	47.71
Unrated	84,087	50.29
Total investment in bonds	163,860	98.00

[^] Includes investment liabilities.

Top ten purchases and sales For the half year ended 31 March 2024

Purchases	Cost	Sales	Proceeds
	£000		£000
Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) –		Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) –	
Seabury Sterling Class Z-1	33,687	Seabury Sterling Class Z-1	39,136
Compartment Private Driver UK 7		Magenta 2020 FRN 20/12/2024	7,952
FRN 25/04/2031	7,416	Jupiter Mortgage No1 FRN 20/07/2060	6,075
Delamare Cards MTN Issuer FRN 19/10/2031	7,000	Taurus 2021-1 UK DAC FRN 17/05/2031	4,430
Lanark Master Issuer FRN 22/12/2069	6,760	Stark Financing 2023-1 DAC FRN 17/08/2033	4,339
Compartment Driver UK 8 FRN 25/09/2031	6,700	Penta CLO 7 DAC FRN 25/01/2033	3,356
Twin Bridges 2023-2 FRN 15/05/2056	5,600	Providus CLO V DAC FRN 15/02/2035	3,295
Permanent Master Issuer FRN 15/07/2073	5,214	Emerald Italy 2019 SRL FRN 24/09/2030	3,187
Holmes Master Issuer FRN 15/10/2072	5,063	Polaris 2022-1 FRN 23/10/2059	2,270
Holmes Master Issuer FRN 15/10/2072	5,017	Last Mile Securities PE 2021 DAC FRN	
Deutsche Pfandbriefbank FRN 26/04/2024	5,002	17/08/2031	2,236
Subtotal	87,459	Subtotal	76,276
Other purchases	50,583	Other sales	20,425
Total purchases for the half year	138,042	Total sales for the half year	96,701

Statistical information

Comparative table

	Class 'B' Accumulation				
	31/03/24	30/09/23	30/09/22	30/09/21	
	pence	pence	pence	pence	
Change in net assets per unit					
Opening net asset value per unit	123.86	114.74	116.52	111.79	
Return before operating charges*	5.22	9.15	(1.75)	4.76	
Operating charges	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.03)	
Return after operating charges*	5.20	9.12	(1.78)	4.73	
Distributions on accumulation units	(6.59)	(5.85)	(2.17)	(1.60)	
Retained distributions on accumulation units	6.59	5.85	2.17	1.60	
Closing net asset value per unit	129.06	123.86	114.74	116.52	
* after direct transaction costs of: ^	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Performance					
Return after charges	4.20%	7.95%	(1.53%)	4.23%	
Other information					
Closing net asset value (£000)	167,204	140,630	145,253	235,777	
Closing number of units	129,557,886	113,535,555	126,596,627	202,349,004	
Operating charges	0.03%	0.03%	0.02%	0.02%	
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
Prices+					
Highest unit price (pence)	129.23	124.36	117.52	116.91	
Lowest unit price (pence)	123.79	113.19	113.87	111.61	

[^] The direct transaction costs includes commission on futures and clearing house fees on swaps.

⁺ High and low price disclosures are based on quoted unit prices. Therefore the opening and closing NAV prices may fall outside the high/low price threshold.

Statistical information

Investment objective

The Fund aims to provide a total return (a combination of capital and income) by outperforming the benchmark (before fees) by 0.25% to 0.75% over any given 3 year period.

The benchmark is the Bloomberg Barclays Pan Euro Asset Backed Securities (GBP hedged) Index (the "Index").

Investment policy

The Fund aims to achieve its objective by investing at least 80% in floating rate asset backed securities denominated in any currency that are rated as investment grade including but not limited to: floating rate residential mortgage backed securities, collateralised debt obligations, collateralised loan obligations, small to medium enterprise collateralised debt obligations, commercial mortgage backed securities and other asset backed securities. Non-investment grade exposure will be limited to 10% of the net asset value of the scheme property. Non-Sterling denominated assets will typically be hedged back to Sterling to minimise exposure to currency rate movements.

The Fund's holdings will typically consist of floating rate asset backed securities, but the Fund may also invest in other transferable securities, units in collective investment schemes, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

Derivatives may be used for efficient portfolio management and hedging only.

Investment strategy

The Fund is actively managed. The Investment Adviser uses a stock selection model to select individual holdings, where they believe there is misalignment in the assessment of growth prospects and creditworthiness of the holdings and that of the market, while giving consideration to future economic and business conditions. The Fund is managed within constraints, so that divergence from the Index is controlled.

The Fund's portfolio may, therefore, be similar to the components of the Index.

Revenue distribution and pricing

Units of the Fund are available as Class 'B' Accumulation units (where revenue is reinvested to enhance the unit price). There will be two potential distributions in each accounting year: an interim distribution as at 31 March and a final distribution as at 30 September.

At each distribution the net revenue after deduction of expenses, from the investments of the Fund, is apportioned amongst the unitholders. Unitholders receive a tax voucher giving details of the distribution and the Manager's Report no later than two months after these dates.

Statistical information

Risk and reward profile

The Risk and Reward Indicator table demonstrates where the Fund ranks in terms of its potential risk and reward. The higher the rank the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money. It is based on past data, may change over time and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the Fund. The shaded area in the table below shows the Fund's ranking on the Risk and Reward Indicator.

Typically lower rewards,			Typica	Typically higher rewards, higher risk				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

This Fund is ranked at 2 (30/09/23: 2) because funds of this type have experienced low rises and falls in value in the past. The above figure applies to the following unit class:

· Class 'B' Accumulation

Please note that even the lowest risk class can lose you money and that extreme market circumstances can mean you suffer severe losses in all cases. Please note the Fund's risk category may change in the future. The indicator does not take into account the following risks of investing in this Fund:

- Bonds are affected by changes in interest rates, inflation and any decline in creditworthiness of the bond issuer. Bonds that produce a higher level of income usually also carry greater risk as such bond issuers may have difficulty in paying their debts.
- Although the Investment Manager will use currency trades to reduce exchange rate risk on investments not priced in Sterling, this may not completely eliminate the Fund's exchange rate risk.
- The Fund may use derivatives to reduce risk or cost or to generate additional capital
 or income at low risk, or to meet its investment objective.

For more information on the Risk and Reward profiles of our Funds, please refer to the most up to date relevant fund and Unit Class Key Investor Information Documents (KIIDs). These are available online at www.phoenixunittrust.co.uk.

Directors' statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook as issued and amended by the Financial Conduct Authority.

29 May 2024

Mike Eakins, Director

Frances Clare Maclachlan, Director

Interim financial statements

For the half year ended 31 March 2024

Statement of total return

funds from investment

Retained distributions

on accumulation units
Closing net assets

activities

	£000	31/03/24 £000	£000	31/03/23 £000
Income				
Net capital (losses)/gains Revenue	8,033	(1,626)	2,935	1,796
Expenses	(20)		(19)	
Interest payable and similar charges	(3)			
Net revenue for the half year		8,010		2,916
Total return before distribution		6,384		4,712
Distributions		(8,014)		(2,893)
Change in unitholders' funds from investment activities	1	(1,630)		1,819
Statement of change in unitho	lders' funds			
	£000	31/03/24 £000	£000	31/03/23 £000
Opening net assets		140,630		145,253
Amounts receivable on issue of units	29,236		2,079	
Amounts payable on cancellation of units	(9,576)		(6,142)	
Change in unitholders'		19,660		(4,063)

(1,630)

8,544

167,204

1,819

2,885

145,894

^{*}Please note that the comparative figures are for the comparative interim period. The brought forward net assets for the current period do not, therefore, equal the carried forward figure in the comparative.

Interim financial statements

As at 31 March 2024

Bal	 	- 1	

Dalaines enect	£000	31/03/24 £000	£000	30/09/23 £000
Assets: Fixed assets: Investments		170,312		128,052
Current assets: Debtors Cash and bank balances	1,253 87		944 12,079	
Total current assets		1,340		13,023
Total assets		171,652		141,075
Liabilities: Investment liabilities		(15)		(427)
Creditors: Other creditors	(4,433)		(18)	
Total creditors		(4,433)		(18)
Total liabilities		(4,448)		(445)
Net assets		167,204		140,630
Unitholders' funds		167,204		140,630

Notes to the interim financial statements

Accounting policies

The interim financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the valuation of investments and in compliance with FRS 102 and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (2014 SORP) for financial statements of Authorised Funds issued by The Investment Association in May 2014 (and amended in June 2017). Unless otherwise stated all accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the Annual Report for the year ended 30 September 2023 and are described in those financial statements.

Distribution table

For the half year ended 31 March 2024

Interest distributions

Interim distribution in pence per unit

Group 1: units purchased prior to 1 October 2023

Group 2: units purchased 1 October 2023 to 31 March 2024

			2024	2023
			pence	pence
			per unit	per unit
	Gross		payable	paid
	income	Equalisation	31 May	31 May
Class 'B' Accumulation				
Group 1	6.5945	_	6.5945	2.3455
Group 2	3.4714	3.1231	6.5945	2.3455

Equalisation

This applies only to units purchased during the distribution period (Group 2 units). It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of all Group 2 units and is refunded to the holders of these units as a return of capital. Being capital it is not liable to income tax but must be deducted from the cost of the units for capital gains tax purposes.

Corporate information

The information in this report is designed to enable unitholders to make an informed judgement on the activities of the Fund during the period it covers and the results of those activities at the end of the period.

Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited is part of the Phoenix Group.

Unit prices appear daily on our website www.phoenixunittrust.co.uk

Administration & Dealing: 0345 584 2803 (between the hours of 9am & 5pm).

Remuneration

The Manager has adopted a remuneration policy, up-to-date details of which can be found on www.phoenixunittrust.co.uk. These details describe how remuneration and benefits are calculated and identify the committee which oversees and controls the policy. A paper copy of these details can be requested free of charge from the Manager. Following the implementation of UCITS V in the UK on 18 March 2016, all authorised UK UCITS Managers are required to comply with the UCITS V Remuneration Code from the start of their next accounting year. Under the UCITS V Directive, the Manager is required to disclose information relating to the remuneration paid to its staff for the financial year, split into fixed and variable remuneration.

Fund Climate Report

We're working towards a more sustainable way of investing. For the latest information about what we're doing and our fund climate report, go to phoenix-unit-trust-managers.co.uk/fund-climate-report.

Risks

The price of units and the revenue from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back the amount they invested, particularly in the case of early withdrawal. Tax levels and reliefs are those currently applicable and may change. The value of any tax relief depends on personal circumstances.

Management charges on some funds are charged to capital and therefore a reduction in capital may occur.

Depending on the fund, the value of your investment may change with currency movements.

Corporate information

Manager

Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited (PUTM)

1 Wythall Green Way

Wythall

Birmingham B47 6WG Tel: 0345 584 2803

Registered in England - No.03588031

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Directors

Mike Eakins PUTM Director, Group Chief

Investment Officer:

Frances Clare Maclachlan PUTM Director. Chief Finance

Officer, SLF UK- Sun Life of

Canada;

Timothy Harris Non Executive Director of PUTM;

Nick Poyntz-WrightNon Executive Director of PUTM.

Registrar and correspondence address

Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited Floor 1, 1 Grand Canal Square

Grand Canal Harbour

Dublin 2 Ireland

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Investment Adviser

Abrdn Investment Management Limited

1 George Street

Edinburgh EH2 2LL

Registered in Scotland - No.SC123321

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Trustee

HSBC Bank plc 1-2 Lochside Way Edinburgh Park Edinburgh EH12 9DT

Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority

and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the

Prudential Regulation Authority.

Independent Auditor

Ernst & Young LLP

Atria One

144 Morrison Street Edinburgh EH3 8EX

Authorised status

This Fund is an Authorised Unit Trust scheme under section 243 of the Financial Services & Markets Act 2000 and is categorised under the Collective Investment Schemes

Sourcebook as a UK UCITS fund.

Notes



Contact: Client Services
Call: 0345 584 2803

Correspondence Address: Floor 1, 1 Grand Canal Square, Grand Canal Harbour, Dublin 2, Ireland

Visit: phoenixunittrust.co.uk

Telephone calls may be monitored and/or recorded for the purposes of security, internal training, accurate account operation, internal customer monitoring and to improve the quality of service.

Please note the Key Investor Information Document (KIID), the Supplementary Information Document (SID) and the full prospectus are available free of charge. These are available by contacting Client Services on 0345 584 2803.

Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited does not accept liability for any claims or losses of any nature arising directly or indirectly from use of the data or material in this report. The information Supplied is not intended to constitute investment, tax, legal or other advice.

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