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## PHOENIX UNIT TRUST MANAGERS

MANAGER'S ANNUAL REPORT For the year: 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022

## PUTM BOTHWELL FLOATING RATE ABS FUND



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\*These collectively comprise the Authorised Fund Manager's Report.

## Investment review

#### **Dear Investor**

Welcome to the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund report for the 12 months to 30 September 2022.

#### **Performance Review**

Over the review period, the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund returned -1.7% (Source: abrdn for 12 months to 30/09/22). This was compared to a return of -0.1% from its benchmark index. (Source: FactSet, GBP for 12 months to 30/09/22).

#### Standardised Past Performance

	Sept 21-22 % growth	Sept 20-21 % growth	Sept 19-20 % growth	Sept 18-19 % growth	Sept 17-18 % growth
PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund	-1.7	3.9	0.1	1.7	1.5
Benchmark Index	-0.1	1.1	1.0	1.4	1.0

Source: Fund performance is abrdn for 12 months to 30/09/22. Benchmark Index performance is HSBC / Barclays, Pan Euro ABS Floating Rate Note, GBP to 30/09 for each year.

#### Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

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

## 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.

### Investment review

#### Portfolio and Market Review

The strong outperformance in 2021 continued in the final quarter. The excess carry built up in the Fund across all sectors made a large contribution to the jump in outperformance over the final quarter. 2022 started with strength, but performance weakened in February as credit markets repriced on the inflation and interest rates backdrop. A sharper downturn was experienced after the Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February, leading to a very weak March.

The Fund underperformed in the second and third quarters of 2022, with increased volatility, weak credit and recessionary risks resulted in a repricing of risk continuing until July. By late July the market became extremely quiet, and there was limited trading and new issuance in August. The lack of primary and secondary ABS supply and the credit rally resulted in a positive total return for the month, driven by CLOs. This continued into early September. However, increased volatility, weak credit markets (with investment-grade sterling credit down a further -7% in September alone) and ultimately the UK mini-budget resulted in the forced sale of all liquid investments from DB pension funds running LDI strategies to raise cash.

RMBS remained the largest sector allocation at 37% of the portfolio. The allocation to commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) is 28% and remains our second-largest sector allocation. Rounding out the securitised sectors were ABS and CLOs with 13% and 19% allocation respectively. The Fund finished the quarter with 4% cash, as we held onto cash to support any potential outflows. The RMBS underweight is at -26% while the CMBS overweight was at 27.91%. The CLO and ABS overweights were broadly flat at 18.9% and 24% respectively.

There were 22 trades in the first half of the period – seven new issue and fifteen secondary across all sectors. Recently, the trades were focused on increasing RMBS exposure and generating cash for outflows. We rotated out of tight RMBS and any bonds trading at a premium into higher coupon AAA RMBS new issues in January. Short-dated and tight ABS trading at a premium, outsized positions and RMBS trading near par were sold/reduced to cover cash requirements to fund outflows. In the second quarter of 2022, we made 24 secondary sales in total across all sectors, resulting in 29% turnover for the Fund. All the sales were to cover cash requirements to Fund outflows which totalled £64 million. The cash calls were concentrated in April and May. The largest single request was in early April at £31.95 million or 15% of the Fund's net asset value. The remaining balance was spread evenly through May. We made no further trades late in the period; the Fund feels well balanced, but the focus will turn to credit as we head into recession.

#### Market Outlook and Fund Strategy

The market will remain weak and volatile as it continues to search for the new fair value risk premium driven by the macroeconomic uncertainty, the impending recession and the war in Ukraine. We have to consider the inflation and interest rate story in our portfolio construction. We have to consider its impact on consumer disposable income, the base case of a long recession, higher levels of unemployment, the impact on underlying asset performance and, ultimately, valuation. We remain concerned about the impact on household costs due to inflation in food and energy prices. However, our largest concerns have now switched to the impact of higher mortgage costs on UK borrowers. We still believe ABS deal performance will remain resilient, given the credit protection embedded in the structures. Nevertheless, we have to be vigilant across all deals, especially those exposed to extension risk, namely RMBS given volatile wholesale markets; consumer risk in RMBS and ABS: and property valuations in RMBS and CMBS, given the large shift higher in the yield curve. However, recent market moves have been driven by supply, rather than fundamental credit risk concerns. Furthermore, as a floating rate asset class, any rate rises will benefit the current yield and ultimately the Fund. Our regular stress testing across the portfolio also shows no expected loss on our current positions. Accordingly, our ability to hold our existing positions through this volatility will pay off as we run a higher vield, driven by our stock selection and detailed bottom-up credit research process.

We will maintain our current positioning in CMBS and CLOs. We expect to reduce our overweight further into stronger markets as these sectors remain the most volatile, but are still currently trading with the highest risk premiums. We believe our positioning remains conservative heading into a recession with only 8.11% total BBB exposure, and 52% of the Fund is rated AAA. Overall, we will increase diversity by cutting outsized positions; reduce our underweight to ABS and consider increasing our RMBS exposure to bring more balance to the portfolio construction; and consider cash demands and focus on liquidity for the Fund. However, the historic outflows and volatile market have put pressure on the Fund to maintain liquidity for flows and dampen volatility. Our focus remains on preserving cash and not increasing duration.

## Portfolio of investments (unaudited)

#### Investments held at 30 September 2022

		Market	Percentage of
		value	total net assets
Holding	Investment	£000	%
	United Kingdom (30/09/21- 57.45%)		60.60
	Mortgage Bonds		
£875,000	Atlas Funding FRN 25/07/2058	852	0.59
£2,916,000	Castell 2021-1 FRN 25/11/2053	2,198	1.51
£546,000	CMF 2020-1 FRN 16/01/2057	537	0.37
£7,000,000	Finsbury Square FRN 16/12/2067	6,345	4.37
£6,075,000	Jupiter Mortgage No1 FRN 20/07/2060	5,990	4.12
£6,833,000	Lanebrook Mortgage Transaction 2021-1 FRN		
	20/07/2058	6,419	4.42
£9,000,000	Magenta 2020 FRN 20/12/2024	7,896	5.44
£1,350,000	Newday Funding Master FRN 15/11/2029	1,299	0.89
£8,000,000	Newday Funding Master Issuer FRN 15/07/2029	7,871	5.42
£2,900,000	Newday Funding Master Issuer FRN 15/11/2029	2,836	1.95
£5,500,000	PCL Funding V FRN 15/10/2025	5,466	3.76
£11,000,000	Polaris 2022-1 FRN 23/10/2059	10,509	7.23
£4,020,000	Precise Mortgage Funding FRN 16/10/2056	1,898	1.31
£1,000,000	Precise Mortgage Funding FRN 16/10/2056	966	0.67
£3,000,000	Ribbon Finance 2018 FRN 20/04/2028	1,963	1.35
£3,820,000	Ribbon Finance FRN 20/04/2028	2,496	1.72
£7,924,000	Ribbon Finance FRN 20/04/2028	4,948	3.41
£1,245,000	Stratton Mortgage FRN 12/03/2052	1,215	0.84
£4,500,000	Stratton Mortgage Funding 2020-1 FRN		
	12/03/2052	3,216	2.21
£769,000	Stratton Mortgage Funding FRN 20/07/2060	761	0.52
£8,500,000	Towd Point Mortgage 2019 FRN 20/10/2051	8,120	5.59
£4,500,000	Tower Bridge Funding FRN 20/12/2063	4,227	2.91
	Germany (30/09/21- 0.69%)		1.11
	Mortgage Bonds		
€1,900,000	Red and Black Auto Germany 8 UG FRN		
	15/09/2030	1,606	1.11
	Ireland (30/09/21- 24.82%)		27.20
	Mortgage Bonds		
£2,000,000	Agora Securities 2021 DAC FRN 17/08/2031	1,942	1.34
€296,000	Aqueduct Europe FRN 15/07/2032	226	0.16
€890,000	Aqueduct European CLO 5-2020 DAC		
	FRN 20/04/2034	659	0.45
€500,000	Arbour CLO VIII DAC FRN 15/10/2034	382	0.26
€5,852,000	Avoca CLO FRN 15/07/2030	4,668	3.21

## Portfolio of investments (unaudited)

#### Investments held at 30 September 2022

(E

		Market	Percentage of
		value	total net assets
Holding	Investment	£000	%
	Mortgage Bonds (continued)		
€2,000,000	Avoca CLO XIX DAC FRN 15/10/2031	1,560	1.07
€2,500,000	Fair Oaks Loan Funding III DAC FRN 15/10/2034	1,884	1.30
€1,707,000	Invesco Euro CLO IV DAC FRN 15/04/2033	1,314	0.90
€1,802,000	Invesco Euro CLO IV DAC FRN 15/04/2033	1,375	0.95
€2,659,000	Last Mile Securities PE 2021 DAC FRN 17/08/2031	2,195	1.51
€4,000,000	Penta CLO 7 DAC FRN 25/01/2033	3,082	2.12
€654,000	Providus Clo III DAC FRN 18/07/2034	485	0.33
€3,947,000	Providus CLO V DAC FRN 15/02/2035	2,999	2.07
€5,000,000	Providus CLO V DAC FRN 15/02/2035	3,962	2.73
€1,273,000	River Green Finance 2020 DAC FRN 22/01/2032	1,072	0.74
€1,800,000	River Green Finance 2020 DAC FRN 22/01/2032	1,493	1.03
£3,000,000	Taurus 2019-3 UK DAC FRN 22/06/2029	2,848	1.96
€3,000,000	Taurus 2019-4 FIN DAC FRN 18/11/2031	2,221	1.53
£4,500,000	Taurus 2021-1 UK DAC FRN 17/05/2031	4,327	2.98
€1,000,000	Taurus 2021-3 DEU DAC FRN 22/12/2030	816	0.56
	Italy (30/09/21- 4.40%)		4.63
	Mortgage Bonds		
€5,000,000	Emerald Italy 2019 SRL FRN 24/09/2030	3,472	2.39
€500,000	Pietra Nera Uno SRL FRN 22/05/2030	411	0.28
€2,800,000	Pietra Nera Uno SRL FRN 22/05/2030	2,190	1.51
€2,338,000	Taurus CMBS FRN 18/05/2030	662	0.45
	Netherlands (30/09/21- 3.46%)		3.51
	Mortgage Bonds		
€5,000,000	Babson Euro CLO 2014 FRN 15/07/2031	3,913	2.69
€1,500,000	Jubilee CLO BV FRN 15/04/2030 'C'	1,184	0.82
	Money Markets (30/09/21- 8.57%)		3.42
£4,977	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) –		
	Seabury Sterling Class Z-1+	4,969	3.42
	Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts		
	(30/09/21 – (0.02%))		(0.62)
GBP 45,283,535	GBP Forward Currency Contract 11/10/2022	45,284	31.17
EUR 52,578,154)	EUR Forward Currency Contract 11/10/2022	(46,166)	(31.78)
EUR 1,286,957	EUR Forward Currency Contract 11/10/2022	1,130	0.78
(GBP 1,150,740)	GBP Forward Currency Contract 11/10/2022	(1,151)	(0.79)

## Portfolio of investments (unaudited)

#### Investments held at 30 September 2022

Hold

	Market	Percentage of
	value	total net assets
	£000	%
stments ^	145,042	99.85
5	211	0.15
	145,253	100.00
		£000 stments ^ 145,042 211

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 JP Morgan Chase and Morgan Stanley.

^ Includes investment liabilities.

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

#### **Credit Ratings**

	£000	%
Investment grade	107,456	73.98
Unrated	33,520	23.07
Total investment in bonds	140,976	97.05

## Top ten purchases and sales For the year ended 30 September 2022

Purchases	Cost £000	Sales	Proceeds £000
Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux)	) —	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux)	_
Seabury Sterling Class Z-1	99,426	Seabury Sterling Class Z-1	114,656
Polaris 2022-1 FRN 23/10/2059	11,000	Paragon Mortgages FRN 15/05/2050	10,907
Fair Oaks Loan Funding III DAC FRN		Fair Oaks Loan Funding III DAC FRN	
15/10/2034	8,545	15/10/2034	8,295
Towd Point Mortgage 2019 FRN		Stratton Mortgage Funding 2019-1 FRN	
20/10/2051	8,500	10/12/2050	7,260
Newday Funding Master Issuer FRN		Newday Partnership Funding FRN	
15/11/2029	5,900	15/12/2027 'A'	6,000
Tower Bridge Funding FRN		RMAC Securities No1 FRN	
20/12/2063	4,500	12/06/2046 'A'	5,705
Castell 2021-1 FRN 25/11/2053	2,916	Taurus 2019-3 UK DAC FRN	
Fair Oaks Loan Funding III DAC FRN		22/06/2029	5,527
15/10/2034	2,136	PCL Funding IV FRN 15/09/2024	5,511
Newday Funding Master FRN		Finsbury Square FRN 16/12/2067	5,352
15/11/2029	1,350	Precise Mortgage Funding FRN	
Stratton Mortgage FRN 12/03/2052	1,264	12/03/2055	5,311
Subtotal	145,537	Subtotal	174,524
Other purchases	1,785	Other sales	55,067
Total purchases for the year	147,322	Total sales for the year	229,591

## Statistical information

#### **Comparative table**

comparative table			
	20/00/22	Class 'B' Accumulation	
Change in net assets per unit	30/09/22 pence	30/09/21 pence	30/09/20 pence
Opening net asset value per unit	116.52	111.79	112.04
Return before operating charges*	(1.75)	4.76	(0.21)
Operating charges	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.04)
Return after operating charges*	(1.78)	4.73	(0.25)
Distributions on accumulation units	(2.17)	(1.60)	(1.84)
Retained distributions on			
accumulation units	2.17	1.60	1.84
Closing net asset value per unit	114.74	116.52	111.79
*after direct transaction costs of: ^	0.00	0.00	0.00
Performance			
Return after charges	(1.53%)	4.23%	(0.22%)
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£000)	145,253	235,777	255,095
Closing number of units	126,596,627	202,349,004	228,197,695
Operating charges	0.02%	0.02%	0.03%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Prices <sup>+</sup>			
Highest unit price (pence)	117.52	116.91	113.71
Lowest unit price (pence)	113.87	111.61	106.72
Lowest unit price (perice)	113.07	111.01	100.72

<sup>^</sup>The direct transaction costs includes clearing house fees on swaps.

<sup>+</sup>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, ← lower risk				ly higher re higher risk			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

This Fund is ranked at 2 (30/09/21: 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 risk 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.

## Annual financial statements

For the year ended 30 September 2022

#### Statement of total return

		3	30/09/22	30/09/21		
No	tes	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Income						
Net capital (losses)/gains Revenue	4 5	3,509	(5,876)	3,461	6,671	
Expenses	6	(48)		(63)		
Interest payable and similar charges		(10)		(7)		
Net revenue before taxation		3,451		3,391		
Taxation	7	-		-		
Net revenue after taxation			3,451		3,391	
Total (deficit)/return before distributions			(2,425)		10,062	
Distributions	8		(3,461)		(3,405)	
Change in unitholders' funds from investment		_				
activities		_	(5,886)		6,657	

#### Statement of change in unitholders' funds

	£000	30/09/22 £000	£000	30/09/21 £000
Opening net assets		235,777		255,095
Amounts receivable on issue of units	8,748		3,974	
Amounts payable on cancellation of units	(96,611)		(33,294)	
		(87,863)		(29,320)
Change in unitholders' funds from investment activities		(5,886)		6,657
Retained distributions on accumulation units		3,225		3,345
Closing net assets	-	145,253		235,777

## Annual financial statements

As at 30 September 2022

#### Balance sheet

Dulance sheet			30/09/22		30/09/21
N	otes	£000	£000	£000	£000
Assets: Fixed assets: Investments			145,945		234,328
Current assets: Debtors Cash and bank balances Total current assets	9 10	475 3,262	3,737	396 4,424	4,820
Total assets			149,682		239,148
Liabilities: Investment liabilities			(903)		(48)
Creditors: Bank overdraft Other creditors	11 12	(3,526)		(197) 3,126	
Total creditors			(3,526)		(3,323)
Total liabilities			(4,429)		(3,371)
Net assets			145,253		235,777
Unitholders' funds			145,253		235,777

#### Note 1 Accounting policies

#### (a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of investments and in compliance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102) and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice ('SORP') for Financial Statements of UK Authorised Funds issued by The Investment Association ('IA') in May 2014, and as amended in June 2017.

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. The Manager has made an assessment of the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, and is satisfied it has the resources to continue in business for the foreseeable future and is not aware of any material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt on this assessment. This assessment is made for a period of 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue and considers liquidity, declines in global capital markets, known redemption levels, expense projections and key service provider's operational resilience.

#### (b) Valuation of investments

The quoted investments of the Fund have been valued at bid dealing prices as at close of business on 30 September 2022, the last valuation point in the accounting year, in accordance with the Trust Deed.

Investments in collective investment schemes have been valued at bid price for dual priced funds or the single price for single priced funds. Where these investments are managed by the Manager or an associate of the Manager, the holdings have been valued at the cancellation price for dual priced funds or the single price for single priced funds. This price is the last available published price at the year end.

Derivatives are valued as at close of business on 30 September 2022, the last valuation point of the accounting year.

Over-the-counter derivatives are priced at fair value using valuation models or data sourced from market data providers.

#### (c) Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies during the year are translated into Sterling (the functional currency of the Fund), at the rates of exchange ruling on the transaction date. Amounts held in foreign currencies have been translated at the rate of exchange ruling at close of business, 30 September 2022, the last valuation point in the accounting year.

#### (d) Revenue

Interest receivable on bank deposits is accounted for on a receipts basis and money market funds is accounted for on an accruals basis. Interest receivable from debt securities is accounted for on an effective interest rate basis. Accrued interest purchased or sold is excluded from the cost of the security and is accounted for as revenue.

Interest received from or paid to the Fund from over-the-counter derivatives designed to protect capital is treated as capital.

#### (e) Expenses

Expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenses of the Fund are charged against revenue, except for the safe custody charge and costs associated with the purchase and sale of investments, which are charged to capital.

#### Note 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### (f) Taxation

The Fund satisfied the rules of SI 2006/964, Reg 19 throughout the period. All distributions made are therefore made as interest distributions. The Fund has no corporate tax liability as interest distributions are tax deductible.

#### (g) Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is provided at current rates of corporation tax on all timing differences which have originated but not reversed by the Balance sheet date. Deferred tax is not recognised on permanent differences.

Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that the Manager considers it is more likely than not that there will be taxable profits from which underlying timing differences can be deducted.

#### Note 2 Distribution policies

#### (a) Basis of distribution

Revenue produced by the Fund's investments accumulates during each accounting period. If, at the end of each accounting period, revenue exceeds expenses, the net revenue of the Fund is available to be accumulated to unitholders.

The Fund is more than 60% invested in qualifying investments (as defined by SI 2006/964, Reg 20) and will pay an interest distribution.

#### (b) Unclaimed distributions

Distributions remaining unclaimed after six years are paid into the Fund as part of the capital property.

#### (c) Interest from debt securities

Future cash flows on all assets are considered when calculating revenue on an effective interest rate basis and where, in the Manager's view there is doubt as to the final maturity value, an estimate of the final redemption proceeds will be made in determining those cash flows. The impact of this will be to reduce the revenue from debt securities, and therefore the revenue distributed, whilst preserving capital within the Fund.

#### (d) Expenses

In determining the net revenue available for distribution, charges in relation to the safe custody of investments are ultimately borne by capital.

#### Note 3 Risk management policies

The risks arising from the Fund's financial instruments are market price risk, interest rate risk, foreign currency risk, liquidity risk and counterparty risk. The Manager's policies for managing these risks are summarised below and have been applied throughout the year.

#### (a) Market price risk

Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments held. It represents the potential loss the Fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements. The Fund's investment portfolio is exposed to market fluctuations which are monitored by the Manager in pursuit of the investment objectives and policies. Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Trust Deed, the Prospectus and in the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook ("the Sourcebook") mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

#### Note 3 Risk management policies (continued)

#### (b) Interest rate risk

The Fund's assets are comprised of mainly fixed interest rate securities. There is therefore a risk that the capital value of investments will vary as a result of the market's sentiment regarding future interest rates.

Expectations of future rates may result in an increase or decrease in the value of investments held. In general, if interest rates rise the revenue potential of the Fund also rises but the value of fixed interest rate securities will decline. A decline in interest rates will in general have the opposite effect.

Any transactions in fixed interest securities must be used in accordance with the investment objective of the Fund and must be deemed by the Investment Manager to be economically appropriate. Regular production of portfolio risk reports highlight concentrations of risk, including interest rate risk, for this Fund.

Interest receivable on bank deposits or payable on bank overdraft positions will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates.

#### (c) Foreign currency risk

A substantial proportion of the Fund's investment portfolio is invested in overseas securities and the Balance sheet can be significantly affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The Fund may be subject to short term exposure to exchange rate movements between placing the purchase or sale of securities and agreeing a related currency transaction albeit usually the two transactions are agreed at the same time.

Any such currency transactions must be used in accordance with the investment objective of the Fund and must be deemed by the Investment Manager to be economically appropriate. Regular production of portfolio risk reports highlight concentrations of risk, including currency risk, for the Fund.

#### (d) Liquidity risk

The Fund's assets are comprised of mainly readily realisable securities. If insufficient cash is available to finance unit holder redemptions then securities held by the Fund may need to be sold. The risk of low market liquidity, through reduced trading volumes, may affect the ability of the Fund to trade financial instruments at values previously indicated by financial brokers. From time, liquidity may also be affected by stock specific or economic events. To manage these risks the Manager performs market research in order to achieve the best price for any transactions entered into on behalf of the Fund. All stocks are valued daily but those stocks identified as being less liquid are reviewed on a regular basis for pricing accuracy.

#### (e) Credit risk

At the Balance sheet date some 97.05% (30/09/21: 90.82%%) of the Fund's assets were held in corporate bonds. Corporate bonds involve the risk that the bond issuer will be unable to meet its liability to pay interest or redeem the bond. The Fund Manager selects bonds taking into account the credit rating, bearing in mind the Fund's objective.

#### (f) Counterparty risk

Certain transactions in securities that the Fund enters into expose it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the investment (purchase) or cash (sale) after the Fund has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the Manager as an acceptable counterparty. This list is reviewed annually.

#### Note 3 Risk management policies (continued)

#### (g) Derivatives

Derivative transactions may be used by the Fund for the purposes of meeting its investment objectives and also for hedging. In doing so the Manager may make use of a variety of derivative instruments in accordance with the Sourcebook. The use of derivatives for investment purposes means that the net asset value of the Fund may at times have high volatility, although derivatives will not be used with the intention of raising the risk profile of the Fund. Where derivatives are used for hedging this will not compromise the risk profile of the Fund. Use of derivatives will not knowingly contravene any relevant investment objective or limits.

The Manager has used forward foreign currency contracts to hedge the portfolio where assets are denominated in foreign currency. The purpose of undertaking these contracts is to protect the portfolio as far as possible from a movement in the value of exchange rates.

The derivative counterparties are shown at the bottom of the Portfolio of investments on page 6.

#### Note 4 Net capital (losses)/gains

The net capital (losses)/gains during the year comprise:

	30/09/22 £000	30/09/21 £000
(Losses)/gains on non-derivative securities Gains on derivative contracts Currency gains Handling charges	(6,118) 212 30 -	2,612 4,019 41 (1)
Net capital (losses)/gains	(5,876)	6,671
Revenue	30/09/22 £000	30/09/21 £000
Interest on debt securities Bank interest Liquidity interest	3,459 2 48	3,453 8
Total revenue	3,509	3,461

Note 5

Note 6	Expenses	30/09/22 £000	30/09/21 £000
(a)	Payable to the Manager or associates of the Mana and agents of either of them:		2000
	Manager's periodic charge	11	26
(b)	Payable to the Trustee or associates of the Trustee and agents of either of them:		
	Trustee's fees	9	13
(c)	Other expenses:		
	Audit fee	9	9
	Safe custody charges	10	14
	Printing & stationery FTSE licence fees	1 5	1
	Professional fees	3	_
		28	24
	Total expenses	48	63
Note 7	Taxation	30/09/22 £000	30/09/21 £000
(a)	Analysis of tax charge for the year		
	Total taxation (Note 7(b))	_	
(b)	Factors affecting the tax charge for the year The tax assessed for the year is higher than that cc rate of corporation tax for Authorised Unit Trusts is return. The differences are explained below:		
	Net revenue before taxation	3,451	3,391
	Corporation tax at 20% (30/09/21: 20%)	690	678
	Effects of: Deductible interest distributions	(690)	(678)
	Total tax charge for the year (Note 7(a))		

Authorised Unit Trusts are exempt from tax on capital gains in the UK.

(c) Provision for deferred taxation

No deferred tax asset has been recognised in the year or the prior year.

#### Note 8 Distributions

The distributions take account of amounts added on the issue of units and amounts deducted on the cancellation of units, and comprise:

	30/09/22 £000	30/09/21 £000
Interim Final	1,510 1,715	1,687 1,658
Amounts deducted on cancellation of units Amounts added on issue of units	3,225 277 (41)	3,345 86 (26)
Net distribution for the year	3,461	3,405
Net revenue after taxation Expenses taken to capital	3,451 10	3,391 14
Net distribution for the year	3,461	3,405

Details of the distribution per unit are set out in the tables on page 24.

Note 9	Debtors	30/09/22 £000	30/09/21 £000
	Creations awaiting settlement Accrued income	50 425	396
	Total debtors	475	396
Note 10	Cash and bank balances	30/09/22 £000	30/09/21 £000
	Cash and bank balances Amounts held at futures clearing houses Time deposits	1,917 1,345 -	2,189 350 1,885
	Total cash and bank balances	3,262	4,424
Note 11	Bank overdraft	30/09/22 £000	30/09/21 £000
	Bank overdraft	-	197
	Total bank overdraft		197
Note 12	Other creditors	30/09/22 £000	30/09/21 £000
	Cancellations awaiting settlement Purchases awaiting settlement Manager's periodic charge payable Trustee's fees payable Safe custody charges payable Audit fee payable	3,510 2 2 3 9	17 3,082 11 5 2 9
	Total other creditors	3,526	3,126

Note 13 Reconciliation of units	Class 'B' Accumulation
Opening units issued at 01/10/21 Unit movements in year:	202,349,004
Units issued Units cancelled	7,555,639 (83,308,016)
Closing units at 30/09/22	126,596,627

#### Note 14 Contingencies and commitments

At 30 September 2022 the Fund had no outstanding calls on partly paid shares, no potential underwriting commitments or any other contingent liabilities  $(30/09/21: \pm nil)$ .

#### Note 15 Related party transactions

The Manager is a related party to the Fund by virtue of its controlling influence.

The Manager is part of the Phoenix Group. Phoenix Life Limited which is also part of the Phoenix Group, is a material unitholder in the Fund and therefore a related party, holding 100% of the units in Class 'B' Accumulation at the year end (30/09/21: 100%).

Manager's periodic charge paid to the Manager, Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited, or its associates, is shown in Note 6(a) and details of the units issued and cancelled by the Manager are shown in the Statement of change in unitholders' funds and Note 8.

Any balances due to/from the Manager or its associates at 30 September 2022 in respect of these transactions are shown in Notes 9 and 11.

#### Note 16 Financial instruments

In accordance with the investment objective, the Fund holds certain financial instruments. These comprise:

- · securities held in accordance with the investment objective and policies;
- derivative transactions which the Fund may also enter into, the purpose of which is to manage the currency and market risks arising from the Fund's investment activities; and
- · cash and short term debtors and creditors arising directly from operations.

#### **Counterparty exposure**

At 30 September 2022, the Fund has no counterparty exposure on each open Forward Foreign Exchange Contract, as they are investment liabilities.

#### Note 16 Financial instruments (continued)

#### **Currency exposure**

An analysis of the monetary assets and liabilities at the year end is shown below:

		Net currency a 30/09/22			Net currency as 30/09/21	sets
Currency	Monetary	Non-monetary	Total	Monetary	Non-monetary	Total
	exposure £000	exposure £000	exposure £000	exposure £000	exposure £000	exposure £000
Sterling	(1,213)	146,248	145,035	2,128	232,175	234,303
Euro	1,424	(1,206)	218	(631)	2,105	1,474
	211	145,042	145,253	1,497	234,280	235,777

Income received in other currencies is converted to Sterling on or near the date of receipt. The Fund does not hedge or otherwise seek to avoid, movement risk on accrued income.

#### **Interest profile**

The interest rate risk profile of financial assets and liabilities at 30 September 2022 was:

Currency	Floating rate financial assets	Financial assets not carrying interest	Total
	£000	£000	£000
Sterling	104,136	45,575	149,711
Euro	45,071	1,313	46,384
	149,207	46,888	196,095
Currency	Floating rate	Financial liabilities	Total
Currency	financial liabilities	not carrying interest	
,		not carrying interest £000	£000
Currency Sterling	financial liabilities	not carrying interest	
,	financial liabilities	not carrying interest £000	£000

The interest rate risk profile of financial assets and liabilities at 30 September 2021 was:

the second se			a special second second
Currency	Floating rate financial assets	Financial assets not carrying interest	Total
	£000	£000	£000
Sterling	175,908	62,515	238,423
Euro	62,833	4,153	66,986
	238,741	66,668	305,409
Currency		Financial liabilities not carrying interest	Total
		£000	£000
Sterling	(197)	(3,923)	(4,120)
Euro	-	(65,512)	(65,512)
	(197)	(69,435)	(69,632)

Interest rates earned/paid on deposits are earned/paid at a rate linked to SONIA (Sterling Overnight Index Average) or international equivalent. Interest was also earned on the investments in the Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund.

#### Note 16 Financial instruments (continued)

#### Sensitivity analysis Interest rate risk sensitivity

Changes in interest rates or changes in expectation of future interest rates may result in an increase or decrease in the the market value of the investments held. A one percent increase in interest rates (based on current parameters used by the Manager's Investment Risk department) would have the effect of decreasing the return and net assets by £72,627 (30/09/21: £1,391,087). A one percent decrease would have an equal and opposite effect.

#### Foreign currency risk sensitivity

A five percent increase in the value of the Fund's foreign currency exposure would have the effect of increasing the return and net assets by  $\pounds 10,914$  (30/09/21:  $\pounds 73,743$ ). A five percent decrease would have an equal and opposite effect.

#### Market price risk sensitivity

A five percent increase in the value of the Fund's portfolio would have the effect of increasing the return and net assets by  $\pounds$ 7,252,083 (30/09/21:  $\pounds$ 11,714,007). A five percent decrease would have an equal and opposite effect.

#### Note 17 Fair value of investments

The fair value of the Fund's investments has been determined using the hierarchy below.

This complies with the 'Amendments to FRS 102 – Fair value hierarchy disclosures' issued by the Financial Reporting Council in March 2016.

- Level 1 The unadjusted quoted price in an active market for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable (i.e. developed using market data) for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 Inputs are unobservable (i.e. for which market data is unavailable) for the asset or liability.

#### For the year ended 30/09/22

Level	1	2	3	Total
Investment assets	£000	£000	£000	£000
Bonds	-	140,976	-	140,976
Money markets	4,969	-	-	4,969
	4,969	140,976	-	145,945
Investment liabilities	£000	£000	£000	£000
Derivatives	-	(903)	-	(903)
	-	(903)	-	(903)
For the year ended 30/09/21				
Level	1	2	3	Total
Investment assets	£000	£000	£000	£000
Bonds	-	214,107	-	214,107
Derivatives	-	10	-	10
Money markets	20,211	-	-	20,211
	20,211	214,117	-	234,328
Investment liabilities	£000	£000	£000	£000
Derivatives	-	(48)	-	(48)
	_	(48)	-	(48)

#### Note 18 Portfolio transaction costs

For the year ended 30/09/22

Analysis of total purchases c	Value osts £000	Commission £000	%	Taxes £000	%	Other expenses £000	%	Total costs £000	
Bond transactions Money markets	47,896 99,426	-	-	-	-		-	47,896 99,426	
Total	147,322	-		_		_		147,322	
Analysis of total sales costs	Value £000	Commission £000	%	Taxes £000	%	Other expenses £000	%	Total costs £000	
Bond transactions Money markets	99,634 114.656	-	-	-	_	-	-	99,634 114.656	
Corporate actions	15,301	_			-		-	15,301	
Total .	229,591	-		_				229,591	

The Fund has paid  $\pounds$ nil as commission on purchases and sales of derivatives transactions for the year ended 30/09/22. Commission, taxes and other expenses as % of average net assets:

Commission	. 0.00%
Taxes	0.00%
Other expenses	0.00%

#### For the year ended 30/09/21

Analysis of total purchases	Value costs £000	Commission £000	%	Taxes £000	%	Other expenses £000	%	Total costs £000
Bond transactions Money markets	114,449 140,599		-		-	-	-	114,449 140,599
Total	255,048	_	-	-				255,048
Analysis of total sales costs	Value £000	Commission £000	%	Taxes £000	%	Other expenses £000	%	Total costs £000
Bond transactions Money markets	109,466 120,685	-	-		-		-	109,466 120,685
Corporate actions Total	46,778				-		-	46,778

The Fund has paid  $\pounds$ nil as commission on purchases and sales of derivatives transactions for the year ended 30/09/21. Commission, taxes and other expenses as % of average net assets:

Commission	0.00%
Taxes	0.00%
Other expenses	0.00%

The purchases and sales of securities incurred no direct transaction costs during the year or prior year.

#### Note 18 Portfolio transaction costs (continued)

Portfolio transaction costs are incurred by the Fund when buying and selling underlying investments. These costs vary depending on the class of investment, country of exchange and method of execution.

These costs can be classified as either direct or indirect transaction costs:

Direct transaction costs: Broker commissions, fees and taxes.

Indirect transaction costs: "Dealing spread" - the difference between buying and selling prices of the underlying investments.

At the Balance sheet date the portfolio dealing spread was 0.59% (30/09/21: 0.32%) being the difference between the respective bid and offer prices for the Fund's investments.

## Distribution tables

For the year ended 30 September 2022

#### **Interest distributions**

#### Interim distribution in pence per unit

Group 1: units purchased prior to 1 October 2021 Group 2: units purchased 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022

			2022	2021
			pence	pence
			per unit	per unit
	Gross		paid	paid
	income	Equalisation	31 May	31 May
Class 'B' Accumulation				
Group 1	0.8187		0.8187	0.7770
Group 2	0.3005	0.5182	0.8187	0.7770

#### Final distribution in pence per unit

Group 1: units purchased prior to 1 April 2022 Group 2: units purchased 1 April 2022 to 30 September 2022

			2022	2021
			pence	pence
			per unit	per unit
	Gross		payable	paid
	income	Equalisation	30 Nov	30 Nov
Class 'B' Accumulation				
Group 1	1.3551	_	1.3551	0.8196
Group 2	0.7745	0.5806	1.3551	0.8196

#### **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.

## Responsibilities of the manager and the trustee

a) The Manager of the Fund is required by the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook ('the Sourcebook') to prepare financial statements for each annual accounting period which give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund at the end of that period and the net revenue or expense and the net gains or losses on the property of the Fund for the period then ended.

In preparing these financial statements, the Manager is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the basis that the Fund will continue in operation unless it is inappropriate to presume this.

The Manager is also required to manage the Fund in accordance with the Trust Deed, the Prospectus and the Sourcebook, maintain proper financial records to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds as issued by the IA in May 2014 (amended June 2017) and the Sourcebook and take reasonable steps for prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

b) The Depositary in its capacity as Trustee of the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund must ensure that the Trust is managed in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook, the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended, (together "the Regulations"), the Trust Deed and Prospectus (together "the Scheme documents") as detailed below.

The Depositary must in the context of its role act honestly, fairly, professionally, independently and in the interests of the Trust and its investors.

The Depositary is responsible for the safekeeping of all custodial assets and maintaining a record of all other assets of the Trust in accordance with the Regulations.

The Depositary must ensure that:

- the Trust's cash flows are properly monitored and that cash of the Trust is booked in cash accounts in accordance with the Regulations;
- the sale, issue, repurchase, redemption and cancellation of units are carried out in accordance with the Regulations;
- the value of units of the Trust are calculated in accordance with the Regulations;
- any consideration relating to transactions in the Trust's assets is remitted to the Trust within the usual time limits
- · the Trust's income is applied in accordance with the Regulations; and
- the instructions of the Authorised Fund Manager ("the AFM"), which is the UCITS Management Company, are carried out (unless they conflict with the Regulations).

The Depositary also has a duty to take reasonable care to ensure that the Trust is managed in accordance with the Regulations and the Scheme documents of the Trust in relation to the investment and borrowing powers applicable to the Trust.

## Trustee's report and directors' statement

## Statement of the Depositary's Responsibilities in Respect of the Scheme and Report of the Depositary to the Unitholders of the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund ("the Trust") for the Period Ended 30th September 2022.

Having carried out such procedures as we considered necessary to discharge our responsibilities as Depositary of the Trust, it is our opinion, based on the information available to us and the explanations provided, that, in all material respects the Trust, acting through the AFM:

- has carried out the issue, sale, redemption and cancellation, and calculation of the price of the Trust's units and the application of the Trust's income in accordance with the Regulations and the Scheme documents of the Trust; and
- has observed the investment and borrowing powers and restrictions applicable to the Trust in accordance with the Regulations and the Scheme documents of the Trust.

London 27 January 2023 HSBC Bank plc

#### **Directors' statement**

In accordance with the requirements of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook as issued and amended by the Financial Conduct Authority, we hereby certify the report on behalf of the Directors of Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited.

27 January 2023

Craig Baker, Director Brid Meaney, Director

# Independent auditor's report to the unitholders of the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund ("the Fund") for the year ended 30 September 2022 which comprise the Statement of Total Return, the Statement of Change in Unitholders Funds, the Balance Sheet, the Distribution Tables and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland'(United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 30 September 2022 and of the net revenue and the net capital losses on the scheme property of the Fund for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting
  Practice.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report below. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the Financial Reporting Council's (FRC) Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

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

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Fund Manager's ("the Manager") use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue. Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Manager with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report. However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Manager is responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# Independent auditor's report to the unitholders of the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund

## Opinions on other matters prescribed by the rules of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook of the Financial Conduct Authority ("the FCA").

In our opinion:

- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice relating to Authorised Funds, the rules of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook of the Financial Conduct Authority and the Trust Deed;
- there is nothing to indicate that proper accounting records have not been kept or that the financial statements are not in agreement with those records; and
- the information given in the Manager's report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matter in relation to which the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook of the Financial Conduct Authority rules requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

 we have not received all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit

#### Responsibilities of the Manager

As explained more fully in the Manager's responsibilities statement set out on page 25, the Manager is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Manager determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Manager is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Manager either intends to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

## Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect irregularities, including fraud.

The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and management.

# Independent auditor's report to the unitholders of the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Fund and determined that the most significant are United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, the Investment Management Association Statement of Recommended practice (the "IMA SORP"), the FCA Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook, the Fund's Trust Deed and the Prospectus.
- We understood how the Fund is complying with those frameworks through discussions with the Manager and the Fund's administrator and a review of the Fund's documented policies and procedures.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Fund's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur by considering the risk of management override, specifically management's propensity to influence revenue and amounts available for distribution
- Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Our procedures involved review of the reporting to the Manager with respect to the application of the documented policies and procedures and review of the financial statements to test compliance with the reporting requirements of the Fund.
- Due to the regulated nature of the Fund, the Statutory Auditor considered the experience and expertise
  of the engagement team to ensure that the team had the appropriate competence and capabilities to
  identify non-compliance with the applicable laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the unitholders of the Fund, as a body, pursuant to Paragraph 4.5.12 of the rules of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook of the Financial Conduct Authority.

Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the unitholders of the Fund those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Fund and the unitholders of the Fund as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Ernst & Young LLP Statutory Auditor Edinburgh 27 January 2023

## Corporate information (unaudited)

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.

Ignis Investment Services Limited is part of the Standard Life Aberdeen plc group and its subsidiaries.

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. This statement describes how remuneration and benefits are calculated and identifies the committee which oversees and controls this policy. A paper copy of these details can be requested free of charge from the Manager.

This statement fulfils Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited's ('the Manager') obligations as an authorised UK UCITS Manager in respect of compliance with the UCITS V Remuneration Code and contains relevant remuneration disclosures.

PUTM Unit Trusts are managed by Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited, which is a subsidiary of Phoenix Life Limited, part of The Phoenix Group plc ('the Group').

The Remuneration Committee ('the Committee') of the Group has established a Remuneration Policy which applies to all entities of the Group. The guiding principles of this policy ensure sound and effective risk management so as not to encourage risk-taking outside of the Group's risk appetite, and support management in the operation of their business through identification of minimum control standards and key controls. The Committee approves the list of UK UCITS Code Staff annually and identified UK UCITS Code Staff are annually notified of their status and the associated implications.

Further information on the Group Remuneration Policy can be found in the Group annual reports and accounts which can be found on www.phoenixgroup.com.

The below table provides detail of remuneration provided, split between fixed and variable remuneration, for UK UCITS Code Staff (defined as all staff whose professional activities have material impact on the risk profiles of the fund it manages).

#### As at 31 December 2021

	Headcount	Total remuneration
Phoenix Unit Trust Managers	2	90,655.88
of which		
Fixed Remuneration	2	59,744.92
Variable Remuneration	1	30,910.96
Carried Interest	n/a	
Highest paid Director's Remuneration		40,843.47

The Directors are employed by fellow entities of the Group. The total compensation paid to the Directors of the Manager is in respect of services to the Manager, irrespective of which entity within the Phoenix Group has paid the compensation.

Please note that due to the employment structure and resourcing practices of the Group, the staff indicated in this table may also provide services to other companies in the Group.

## Corporate information (unaudited)

The table states the actual number of employees who are fully or partly involved in the activities of the Manager, no attempt has been made to apportion the time spent specifically in support of each fund as this data is not captured as part of the Manager's normal processes.

The remuneration disclosed is the total remuneration for the year and has been apportioned between the provisions of services to the Manager and not the Fund.

Total remuneration can include any of the following;

- · Fixed pay and annual/long term incentive bonuses.
- Where fixed pay is directly attributable to PUTM Unit Trusts (for example, fees for Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited), 100% of those fees.
- For other individuals, pro-rated using the average AUM of PUTM Unit Trusts (as a proportion of the
  aggregate average AUM of The Phoenix Group plc) as proxy.

Senior Management includes - PUTM Board and PUTM Executive Committees.

Other Code Staff includes all other UCITS Code Staff not covered by the above.

#### Assessment of Value

We are required to perform an annual assessment of the value for money for each unit class of PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund. This has been performed based on the information available as at 30 September 2022.

We have performed this review having regard to a wide range of factors. In doing so, we have made comparison with the other unit classes of the relevant fund, with the unit classes and sub-funds within our fund ranges and also with comparable unit classes and sub-funds in the rest of the market.

Broadly speaking, assessment of value requires consideration of a combination of factors, including the return achieved, the price paid, the risk taken and the quality and range of services provided by the asset manager. This also needs to be considered in the context of the investment objectives and policy for the Fund, the target investor and the recommended holding period.

In considering cost, regard needs to be had to the total cost of investing, including any adviser charges, platform charges, adviser fees and the on-going annual management charge. Regard also needs to be had to the degree of active management; as an investor, you would not be receiving value, if you were being charged fees for active portfolio management, where in fact, the Fund's composition of performance is staying very close to a benchmark. These factors also need to be considered in the context of the size of the portfolio and the ability of larger funds to benefit from economies of scale. As regards performance, it is important that performance is considered over an appropriate timescale given the Fund's objectives, and should be measured net of fees.

Based on our assessment of the value of each unit class, PUTM are comfortable that the Fund meets the required Assessment of Value criteria. No immediate action is required.

Further details of the Assessment of Value can be found at the following link:

https://www.phoenixunittrust.co.uk/report-and-accounts.aspx

#### 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 (unaudited)

#### 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

PUTM Director, Chief Executive
Phoenix Life;
PUTM Director, Head of Investment
Management Phoenix Life;
Non Executive Director of PUTM;
Non 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**

Ignis Investment Services Limited 1 George Street Edinburgh EH2 2LL Registered in Scotland – No.SC101825 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.

## **T** Phoenix

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.

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