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## PHOENIX UNIT TRUST MANAGERS

MANAGER'S ANNUAL REPORT For the year: 16 April 2022 to 15 April 2023

## PUTM BOTHWELL SUB-SOVEREIGN BOND FUND



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

## Investment review

#### **Dear Investor**

Welcome to the PUTM Bothwell Sub Sovereign Bond Fund annual report for the 12 months to 15 April 2023.

#### Performance Review

Over the review period, the PUTM Bothwell Sub Sovereign Bond Fund returned -3.1%. (Source: FactSet for 12 months to 15/04/23). This was compared to a return of -3.8% for its benchmark index. (Source: FactSet, iBoxx Sterling Sub-Sovereigns from Bloomberg for 12 months to 15/04/23).

#### Standardised Past Performance

	Apr 22-23 % growth	Apr 21-22 % growth	Apr 20-21 % growth	Apr 19-20 % growth	Apr 18-19 % growth
PUTM Bothwell Sub-Sovereign Bond Fund	-3.1	-5.6	-0.1	6.3	2.5
Benchmark Index	-3.8	-6.4	0.2	6.0	2.4

Source: Facstset. Index: iBoxx Sterling Sub-Sovereigns.

#### 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 significantly outperformed the benchmark over the past 12 months.

During the review period, inflation and monetary tightening by central banks continued to grab headlines along with volatility in energy prices, largely due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

In fixed income, most government bond prices fell during 2022. Central banks acted to control inflation by reducing policy support and hiking interest rates for most of the period. As a result, investors sold government bonds, pushing yields higher. Corporate bond prices also fell, as investor fears over the withdrawal of central bank support increased. In the UK, September's mini-budget prompted a wave of selling in bond markets, driving Gilt yields higher (BoE). In November, corporate and sovereign bonds ended higher, as investors saw slowing US inflation data as positive for the global economy. In December, US corporate bonds, Treasuries, Gilts and European sovereign and corporate bonds all fell.

However, moving on to 2023, bonds performed well in January, as lower inflation data suggested a moderation in central bank policy. Corporate bonds outperformed sovereign issues. But falling unemployment and stickier inflation dominated February data, creating an ugly environment for bonds, and hawkish central bank rhetoric pushed the yield curve higher and flatter. This changed again in March as fears mounted about the banking system. Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) was shuttered by US regulators due to solvency concerns. In Europe, Credit Suisse became the next victim, culminating in a purchase by UBS that included Swiss government guarantees. In March, central banks hiked rates in Europe, the UK and the US. Government bond vields subsequently fell sharply as investors began to call the end of the rate-hiking cycle. Overall, vields ended the quarter lower.

During this first half of the review period, the Fund was positioned with a long-duration bias early on but shifted towards a short-duration bias. The speed and scale of violent moves in bond yields meant duration management was quite tactical in nature. Cross-market underweights in UK government bonds versus Australia and the US were positive, while yield curve steepeners were negative. The rationale for being underweight UK was a lack of confidence in the BoE and a severe lack of confidence in Truss/Kwarteng fiscal policy. The Fund took profits on the UK versus US strategy in September but continued to hold the UK versus Australia position. Australia is our preferred long. We believe Australia is in a very different economic environment to the rest of the developed world, and that the Reserve Bank of Australia will be less inclined to tighten monetary policy as vigorously as other economies.

The final quarter of 2022 proved to be a strong one for the Fund. As an asset class, sub-sovereign and supranational debt recovered some of the losses suffered earlier in 2022. Sovereign, Supranational and Agency (SSA) spread risk strategies significantly boosted performance as SSA bonds at the short end of the curve underperformed swaps sharply. Stock selection also performed well, with Transport for London (TfL) – where we were overweight – outperforming all others in the index. Our interest rate overlay also made a significant positive contribution, with notable gains across our relative duration and cross-market strategy buckets. Duration management was a net positive, with the Fund adopting a short bias relative to benchmark.

Within our country spread strategy bucket, our decision to adopt underweights in UK government bonds relative to Germany before the appointment of Truss as UK Prime Minister paid dividends early on. Later in the fourth quarter, we also adopted a medium-term strategy to underweight medium-dated interest rates in the UK relative to Australia. This, too, generated positive excess returns.

In terms of activity in the fourth quarter, the Fund was short SSA bonds versus interest rate swaps in the short end of the curve, preferring to hold overweight SSA spread risk positions in the medium- and long-dated maturity buckets. We decided to add SSA spread risk at the five-year point via purchases of Canadian issuers Province of Quebec and Province of Ontario. We also added at the long end of the curve, primarily via TfL. As an issuer, TfL debt had been hurt by widening spreads, political turmoil and speculation over whether a long-term funding settlement would be agreed. We felt the risks had been adequately priced and recent spread widening presented us with a great opportunity to move overweight the issuer. In mid-December, we reduced the overweight by half following a sharp tightening in spreads into a tender offer.

In managing interest-rate risk, we adopted a flexible approach to duration management, although predominantly positioned with a short bias relative to the benchmark in the hunt for higher yields. Early in the quarter, the Fund took profits on a cross-market strategy whereby it was underweight UK government bonds relative to Germany. Following a period of sharp underperformance and widening spreads between the two markets, we closed this strategy, fearing that the BoE intervention and appointment of the new Chancellor Hunt would lead to a retracement. In early December, we reinstated an underweight cross-market strategy in UK government bonds, on this occasion versus

### Investment review

Australia, in the medium-dated part of the yield curve. We view this a structural medium-term strategy for the Fund.

Then in the first quarter of 2023, another strong period for the Fund, there were notable contributions across all the main strategy types: SSA, duration, relative value, yield curve and country spreads. SSA stock selection and asset allocation added excess returns. Duration management and yield curve strategies were also positive. A steepening bias in the UK and Europe added to performance, offset only slightly by losses arising in our US curve-steepening strategy. Within our country spread strategy bucket, the UK underweight versus Australia was a notably strong performer. The UK versus Germany relative position in 10year bonds, added towards the end of the quarter, made a small negative contribution. However, we believe this should work during the second quarter.

In terms of activity in the first quarter of 2023, most SSA issuance has been concentrated in the short end of the market. The Fund participated in most of these transactions, harvesting the associated new-issue premium on offer, and established an overweight position in SSA spread risk versus the benchmark. As we entered 2023. our approach to relative duration management was to oppose extreme pricing at various points and take profits where they were presented. Early in the first quarter of 2023, the Fund traded with a short bias. As yields rebounded higher in February, we took profits. By the end of February, the Fund was trading with a long bias. We further added to this position in early March. When the lagged impact of prior policy rate hikes fed into stresses in the banking sector, driving yields lower, we once again took profits on our relative duration stance. Towards the end of the quarter, we began scaling back into long duration positions, mainly in the front end of the UK yield curve. Turning to cross-market positioning, the Fund entered 2023 with an underweight in UK medium-dated interest rates relative to an overweight in Australia. This strategy performed well. We have hedged the exposure with futures. aiming to reopening it on any spread widening. In yield curve strategies, we entered the year with a steepening bias across the UK curve. As the curve steepened, we took profits. As of 31 March, the Fund holds a UK flattener at the long end of the curve.

#### Market Outlook and Fund Strategy

The failures of SVB and Credit Suisse will have a big impact on investor psychology. While inflation remains a problem. there is now a concern that central banks may have moved too far too fast on policy normalisation. We will probably see further episodes of market stress arise as we uncover the next victim of the abrupt shift in global central bank policy away from easy money. This leaves policymakers in a difficult position. In the current market environment. owning fixed income – and specifically government bonds as a risk-free asset - makes sense given how cheap they appear relative to equities, and also due to their historically safe-haven characteristics. We will use any opportunities presented by a rise in bond yields over the coming months to add to our long relative-duration stance. With respect to the SSA sector, we believe these assets offer significant value versus government bonds, with spreads having been somewhat unfairly dragging wider in the fourth quarter of 2022.

		Market	Percentage of
		value	total net assets
Holding	Investment	£000	%
	Government Bonds (15/04/22 - 18.01%)		16.28
	United Kingdom (15/04/22 - 7.85%)		6.38
£24,520,000	Affordable Housing Finance 2.893% 11/08/2045	19,611	0.91
£34,740,000	LCR Finance 4.5% 07/12/2028	35,578	1.64
£7,228,000	LCR Finance 4.5% 07/12/2038	7,360	0.34
£17,981,000 £15,213,000	LCR Finance 5.1% 07/03/2051 Network Rail Infrastructure Finance 4.375% 09/12/2030	20,123 15,637	0.93 0.72
£13,213,000 £31,722,000	Network Rail Infrastructure Finance 4.75% 29/11/2035	33,247	1.54
£552,000	Saltaire Finance PLC 2.711% 09/05/2054	388	0.02
£4,493,800	UK Treasury 1.25% 31/07/2051	2,436	0.11
£3,481,100	UK Treasury 4.25% 07/12/2055	3,673	0.17
	Austria (15/04/22 - 1.73%)		1.27
£15,555,000	Oesterreichische Kontrollbank 0.5% 15/12/2025	14,015	0.66
£7,554,000	Oesterreichische Kontrollbank 5.75% 07/12/2028	8,163	0.38
£4,995,000	Oesterreichische Kontrollbank 4.25% 17/03/2026	4,978	0.23
	Belgium (15/04/22 - 0.27%)		0.24
£4,800,000	Belgium Kingdom 5.7% 28/05/2032	5,284	0.24
	Canada (15/04/22 - 1.33%)		1.90
£30,315,000	CPPIB Capital 0.875% 17/12/2024	28,402	1.31
£5,000,000	Export Development Canada 2.625% 15/07/2027	4,690	0.22
£7,987,000	Export Development Canada 4% 19/02/2026	7,919	0.37
	Germany (15/04/22 - 6.24%)		5.09
£5,000,000	FMS Wertmanagement 1.25% 19/06/2025	4,686	0.22
£5,000,000 £38,762,000	FMS Wertmanagement 1.375% 07/03/2025 KFW 6% 07/12/2028	4,705 42,515	0.22 1.97
£778,000	Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau 0.75% 07/12/2027	42,515	0.03
£23,000,000	Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau 3.75% 30/07/2027	22,701	1.05
£12,000,000	Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank 0.875% 15/12/2026	10,639	0.49
£14,000,000	Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank 1.375% 08/09/2025	13,032	0.60
£12,260,000	Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank 2.125% 15/12/2028	11,052	0.51
	Guernsey (15/04/22 - 0.00%)		0.07
£1,933,000	Guernsey (States Of) 3.375% 12/12/2046	1,538	0.07
	Isle of Man (15/04/22 - 0.71%)		0.55
£12,089,000	Isle of Man 1.625% 14/09/2051	6,179	0.29
£5,200,000	Isle of Man 5.375% 14/08/2034	5,532	0.26
	Japan (15/04/22 - 0.15%)		0.15
£3,598,000	Japan Bank for International Cooperation 0.375% 22/07/2026	3,160	0.15
	Jersey (15/04/22 - 0.00%)		0.63
£400,000	Jersey (Govt Of) 3.75% 09/06/2054	335	0.02
£18,775,000	Jersey International Bond 2.875% 06/05/2052	13,127	0.61

		Market	Percentage of
		value	total net assets
Holding	Investment	£000	%
	Corporate Bonds (15/04/22 - 6.76%)		6.06
	United Kingdom (15/04/22 - 2.34%)		2.22
£10,440,000	PRS Finance 1.5% 24/08/2034	7,744	0.36
£20,650,000	PRS Finance 1.75% 24/11/2026	17,832	0.82
£14,773,000	PRS Finance 2% 23/01/2029	13,025	0.60
£5,142,000	Saltaire Finance 1.527% 23/11/2051	2,687	0.12
£3,061,000	Saltaire Finance 4.809% 14/03/2055	3,221	0.15
£3,700,000	Welcome Trust 4.625% 25/07/2036	3,769	0.17
	France (15/04/22 - 3.85%)		3.27
£7,200,000	Dexia Credit Local 0.25% 11/12/2024	6,664	0.31
£11,000,000	Dexia Credit Local 0.25% 10/12/2026	9,434	0.44
£32,200,000	Dexia Credit Local 1.25% 21/07/2025	29,976	1.39
£23,000,000	Dexia Credit Local 2.125% 12/02/2025	21,960	1.02
£2,400,000	Dexia Credit Local 4.375% 18/02/2026	2,391	0.11
	Germany (15/04/22 - 0.57%)		0.57
£9,900,000	Deutsche Bahn Finance 1.375% 07/07/2025	9,294	0.43
£3,230,000	Deutsche Bahn Finance 1.875% 13/02/2026	3,019	0.14
	Supranational Bonds (15/04/22 - 28.46%)		24.41
£10,000,000	African Development Bank 0.5% 22/06/2026	8,916	0.41
£20,000,000	African Development Bank 1.125% 18/06/2025	18,720	0.87
£3,500,000	Asian Development Bank 0.625% 15/09/2026	3,107	0.14
£3,770,000	Asian Development Bank 0.75% 07/12/2027	3,244	0.15
£5,590,000	Asian Development Bank 1.125% 10/06/2025	5,232	0.24
£8,197,000	Asian Development Bank 1.375% 07/03/2025	7,741	0.36
£12,500,000	Asian Development Bank 2.5% 19/12/2024	12,050	0.56
£5,000,000	Asian Development Bank 3.875% 10/02/2026	4,947	0.23
£14,384,000	Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank 0.2% 15/12/2025	12,829	0.59
£10,000,000	Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank 1.125% 15/09/2026	8,960	0.41
£22,000,000	Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank 4.375% 11/06/2026	21,911	1.01
£27,000,000	Council Of Europe Development Bank 0.375% 15/12/2025	24,327	1.12
£5,000,000	Council Of Europe Development Bank 1.25% 15/09/2026	4,537	0.21
£3,868,000	Council Of Europe Development Bank 4.25% 16/03/2026	3,853	0.18
£1,370,000	Eurofima 5.5% 07/06/2032	1,493	0.07
£21,957,000	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development 5.625%		
0050 000	07/12/2028	23,667	1.09
£350,000	European Investment Bank 0% 07/12/2028	279	0.02
£800,000	European Investment Bank 0.125% 14/12/2026	689	0.03
£60,500,000	European Investment Bank 1.0% 21/09/2026	54,566	2.52
£8,002,000	European Investment Bank 3.75% 07/12/2027	7,886	0.36
£6,172,000	European Investment Bank 3.875% 08/06/2037	5,989	0.28
£429,000 £22,057,000	European Investment Bank 4.5% 07/03/2044 European Investment Bank 4.5% 07/06/2029	441 22,580	0.02 1.04
£22,057,000 £300,000	European Investment Bank 4.5% 07/06/2029 European Investment Bank 4.625% 12/10/2054	22,580 319	0.01
2300,000		515	0.01

		Market	Percentage of
		value	total net assets
Holding	Investment	£000	%
	Supranational Bonds (continued)		
£2,914,000	European Investment Bank 5% 15/04/2039	3,177	0.15
£35,000,000	European Investment Bank 5.5% 15/04/2025	35,659	1.65
£17,461,000	European Investment Bank 5.625% 07/06/2032	19,709	0.91
£43,160,000	European Investment Bank 6% 07/12/2028	47,302	2.19
£25,000,000	InterAmerican Development Bank 0.5% 15/09/2026	22,068	1.02
£12,053,000	InterAmerican Development Bank 2.125% 15/12/2028	10,873	0.50
£300,000	InterAmerican Development Bank 2.375% 03/08/2029	272	0.01
£15,000,000	InterAmerican Development Bank 2.375% 03/08/2029	13,587	0.63
£13,459,000	InterAmerican Development Bank 2.5% 22/07/2027	12,605	0.58
£10,000,000	InterAmerican Development Bank 4% 17/12/2029	9,995	0.46
£16,520,000	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development 1.25%		
	13/12/2028	14,204	0.66
£5,472,000	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development		
	4.875% 07/12/2028	5,699	0.26
£21,529,000	International Development Association 0.75% 21/09/2028	18,002	0.83
£8,000,000	International Finance Corporation 0.75% 22/07/2027	6,953	0.32
£6,770,000	International Finance Corporation 2.875% 18/12/2024	6,565	0.30
£4,000,000	International Finance Corporation 4.125% 28/11/2025	3,970	0.18
£19,171,000	Nordic Investment Bank 1.125% 18/06/2025	17,914	0.83
£15,000,000	Nordic Investment Bank 2.375% 22/07/2026	14,152	0.65
£7,969,000	Nordic Investment Bank 3.875% 19/02/2026	7,859	0.36
	Public Authorities (15/04/22 - 44.23%)		51.12
	United Kingdom (15/04/22 - 3.54%)		2.90
£8,236,000	International Finance Facility f 2.75% 07/06/2025	7,944	0.37
£14,900,000	Transport For London 2.125% 24/04/2025	13,985	0.65
£5,860,000	Transport for London 3.625% 15/05/2045	4,602	0.21
£17,414,000	Transport For London 3.875% 23/07/2042	14,464	0.67
£506,000	Transport For London 4% 12/09/2033	459	0.02
£18,704,000	Transport For London 4% 07/04/2064	15,400	0.71
£6,000,000	Transport For London 5% 31/03/2035	5,925	0.27
	Canada (15/04/22 - 9.04%)		13.40
£31,843,000	CPPIB Capital 1.125% 14/12/2029	26,105	1.21
£75,298,000	CPPIB Capital 1.25% 07/12/2027	65,780	3.04
£42,437,000	CPPIB Capital 1.625% 22/10/2071	18,267	0.84
£10,181,000	CPPIB Capital 4.375% 02/03/2026	10,151	0.47
£51,136,000	Ontario Teachers Finance Trust 1.125% 15/05/2026	46,165	2.13
£56,515,000	Province of Ontario Canada 0.25% 15/12/2026	48,423	2.24
£32,381,000	Province of Ontario Canada 2.25% 26/05/2026	30,264	1.40
£3,000,000	Province of Quebec Canada 0.75% 13/12/2024	2,808	0.13
£45,000,000	Province of Quebec Canada 2.25% 15/09/2026	41,927	1.94
	Denmark (15/04/22 - 0.43%)		1.55
£10,048,000	Kommunekredit 0.375% 15/11/2024	9,374	0.43
£25,000,000	Kommunekredit 2% 25/06/2024	24,152	1.12

		Market	Percentage of
		value	total net assets
Holding	Investment	£000	%
	Public Authorities (continued)		
	Finland (15/04/22 - 1.66%)		1.64
£12,086,000	Kuntarahoitus 0.375% 17/12/2025	10,845	0.50
£17,797,000	Kuntarahoitus 0.875% 16/12/2024	16,681	0.77
£8,493,000	Kuntarahoitus 1.125% 19/06/2025	7,922	0.37
,,	France (15/04/22 - 6.16%)		7.31
£10,000,000	Agence Française de Développement 1.25% 18/06/2025	9,336	0.43
£4,800,000	Agence Française de Développement 4.375% 16/03/2026	4,770	0.22
£10,100,000	Agence France Locale 1.375% 20/06/2025	9,439	0.44
£2,400,000	Bpifrance SACA 4% 30/01/2026	2,366	0.11
£19,000,000	Caisse d'Amortissement de la Dette Sociale 0.125% 15/12/2025	16,922	0.78
£3,600,000	Caisse des dépôts et consignations 0.25% 25/02/2026	3,206	0.15
£9,800,000	Caisse des dépôts et consignations 1.125% 16/12/2024	9,221	0.43
£9,900,000	SNCF 0.875% 28/12/2026	8,690	0.40
£21,490,000	SNCF Mobilites 5.375% 18/03/2027	22,100	1.02
£11,338,000	SNCF Réseau 4.83% 25/03/2060	11,339	0.52
£9,000,000	SNCF Réseau 5% 11/03/2052	9,012	0.42
£25,231,000	SNCF Réseau 5.25% 07/12/2028	26,358	1.22
£23,988,000	SNCF Réseau 5.25% 31/01/2035	25,300	1.17
	Germany (15/04/22 - 8.10%)		6.47
£18,596,000	Deutsche Bahn Finance 3.125% 24/07/2026	17,891	0.83
£19,820,000	Landeskreditbank Baden Wuerttemberg 0.375% 09/12/2024	18,449	0.85
£10,600,000	Landeskreditbank Baden Wuerttemberg 0.625% 15/12/2025	9,598	0.44
£3,500,000	Landeskreditbank Baden Wuerttemberg 1% 15/12/2026	3,109	0.14
£14,400,000	NRW Bank 0.375% 16/12/2024	13,390	0.62
£33,200,000	NRW Bank 0.5% 15/12/2025	29,935	1.38
£4,000,000	NRW Bank 0.5% 18/12/2026	3,492	0.16
£35,000,000	State of North Rhine Westphalia 0.625% 16/12/2024	32,658	1.51
£12,200,000	State of SaxonyAnhalt 2.125% 16/12/2024	11,655	0.54
	Ireland (15/04/22 - 0.05%)		0.35
£16,757,000	UK Municipal Bonds Agency Finance 1.625% 26/08/2060	7,518	0.35
	Japan (15/04/22 - 1.29%)		1.19
£20,329,000	Development Bank of Japan Inc 1.25% 31/01/2025	19,070	0.88
£6,737,000	Development Bank of Japan Inc 4.5% 06/06/2025	6,721	0.31
	Netherlands (15/04/22 - 6.14%)		8.61
£13,813,000	Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten 0.375% 15/12/2025	12,386	0.57
£8,258,000	Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten 0.5% 21/12/2026	7,167	0.33
£34,100,000	Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten 1.625% 26/08/2025	32,019	1.48
£9,000,000	Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten 5.2% 07/12/2028	9,392	0.43
£2,300,000	Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten 5.2% 07/12/2028	2,400	0.11
£30,000,000	Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten NV 2% 12/04/2024	29,146	1.35
£40,312,000	Nederlandse Waterschapsbank 0.25% 15/12/2025	36,061	1.67
£13,421,000	Nederlandse Waterschapsbank 0.875% 30/09/2026	11,955	0.55

		Market	Percentage of
		value	total net assets
Holding	Investment	£000	%
	Public Authorities (continued)		
£25,000,000	Nederlandse Waterschapsbank 2% 16/12/2024	23,844	1.10
£4,000,000 £16,412,000	Nederlandse Waterschapsbank 4.5% 18/06/2025 Nederlandse Waterschapsbank 5.375% 07/06/2032	4,002 17,929	0.19 0.83
210,412,000	·	17,929	1.94
£12,286,000	Norway (15/04/22 - 1.35%) Kommunalbanken AS 0.25% 15/12/2025	10,992	0.51
£18,658,000	Kommunalbanken AS 1% 12/12/2024	17,531	0.81
£13,509,000	Kommunalbanken AS 4% 13/02/2026	13,345	0.62
213,303,000		10,040	0.62
EUR8,235,000	Singapore (15/04/22 - 0.62%) Temasek Financial 1.5% 01/03/2028	6,663	0.81
£6,248,000	Temasek Financial 5.125% 26/07/2040	6,420	0.30
20,210,000	Sweden (15/04/22 - 4.44%)	0,120	3.91
SEK931,030,000	Kommuninvest I Sverige 1% 12/05/2025	68,845	3.18
£6,558,000	Svensk Exportkredit AB 0.125% 15/12/2025	5,828	0.27
£10,000,000	Svensk Exportkredit AB 4.5% 11/03/2026	9,984	0.46
	United States (15/04/22 - 1.14%)		1.24
£6,672,000	Federal National Mortgage Association 5.375% 07/12/202	8 7,044	0.33
£3,130,000	Tennessee Valley Authority 4.625% 07/06/2043	2,999	0.14
£15,350,000	Tennessee Valley Authority 5.625% 07/06/2032	16,655	0.77
CQ 201	Money Markets (15/04/22 - 0.00%)		0.38
£8,291	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) - Seabury Sterling 3 Fund Class Z-1~	8,287	0.38
	Futures (15/04/22 - 0.21%)	0,207	(0.08)
864	United Kingdom (15/04/22 - 0.16%) ICF Long GILT Future June 2023	(1,796)	<b>(0.08)</b> (0.08)
004	Ŭ	(1,750)	
(1,079)	Australia (15/04/22 - (0.02%)) SFE Australian 10 Year Bond Future January 2023	(375)	<b>(0.02)</b> (0.02)
(1,075)	Germany (15/04/22 - 0.03%)	(373)	0.02
(430)	EUX Euro Bund Future June 2023	460	0.02
(100)	United States (15/04/22 - 0.04%)	-	0.02
	Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts (15/04/22 - (0.04%)		0.02
GBP 6,710,554	GBP Forward Currency Contract 13/07/2023	6,711	0.31
(EUR 7,603,998)	EUR Forward Currency Contract 13/07/2023	(6,746)	(0.31)
GBP 70,417,267	GBP Forward Currency Contract 13/07/2023	70,417	3.27
(SEK 899,368,408)	SEK Forward Currency Contract 13/07/2023	(70,290)	(3.25)
	Interest Rate Swaps - Capital Protection (15/04/22 - 0.0	0%)	0.06
AUD 104,560,000	Morgan Stanley 3.807% 10/08/2032	8,470	0.39
(AUD 104,560,000)	Morgan Stanley BBSW 10/08/2032	(9,454)	(0.44)
AUD 150,139,000	Morgan Stanley 4.407% 02/09/2032	14,043	0.65
(AUD 150,139,000)	Morgan Stanley BBSW 02/09/2032	(13,571)	(0.63)

		Market	Percentage of
		value	total net assets
Holding	Investment	£000	%
	Interest Rate Swaps – Capital Protection (continued)	l	
(SEK 888,000,000)	Morgan Stanley 3.180% 12/05/2025	(4,333)	(0.20)
SEK 888,000,000	Morgan Stanley STIB 12/05/2025	4,752	0.22
(EUR 8,235,000)	Morgan Stanley 2.921% 06/02/2028	(936)	(0.04)
EUR 8,235,000	Morgan Stanley EURIB 06/02/2028	998	0.05
EUR30,886,000	Morgan Stanley 2.848% 06/01/2036	6,174	0.29
(EUR 30,886,000)	Morgan Stanley EURIB 06/01/2036	(6,353)	(0.29)
(EUR 12,199,000)	Morgan Stanley 2.082% 06/01/2056	(4,243)	(0.20)
EUR 12,199,000	Morgan Stanley EURIB 06/01/2056	4,943	0.23
EUR 30,886,000	Morgan Stanley 2.849% 06/01/2036	6,176	0.29
(EUR 30,886,000)	Morgan Stanley EURIB 06/01/2036	(6,352)	(0.29)
(EUR 12,199,000)	Morgan Stanley 2.071% 06/01/2056	(4,221)	(0.20)
EUR 12,199,000	Morgan Stanley EURIB 06/01/2056	4,943	0.23
	Overnight Index Swaps – Capital Protection (15/04/2	22 - (0.75%))	0.12
(GBP 8,000,000)	Morgan Stanley 2.9199% 28/10/2072	(5,654)	(0.26)
GBP 8,000,000	Morgan Stanley VA 28/10/2072	6,094	0.28
(GBP 71,690,500)	Morgan Stanley 2.846% 30/11/2032	(7,796)	(0.36)
GBP 71,690,500	Morgan Stanley SONIA 30/11/2032	8,805	0.41
(GBP 71,690,500)	Morgan Stanley 2.764% 01/12/2032	(7,571)	(0.35)
GBP 71,690,500	Morgan Stanley SONIA 01/12/2032	8,805	0.41
(GBP 7,753,000)	Morgan Stanley 3.056% 12/03/2064	(5,209)	(0.24)
GBP 7,753,000	Morgan Stanley SONIA 12/03/2064	5,537	0.26
GBP 72,590,000	Morgan Stanley 4.55% 16/12/2024	5,218	0.24
(GBP 72,590,000)	Morgan Stanley SONIA 16/12/2024	(5,076)	(0.23)
GBP 64147000	Morgan Stanley 4.335% 15/12/2025	6,879	0.32
(GBP 64,147,000)	Morgan Stanley SONIA 15/12/2025	(6,626)	(0.31)
(GBP 3,846,000)	Morgan Stanley 3.3039% 22/01/2071	(3,046)	(0.14)
GBP 3,846,000	Morgan Stanley SONIO VA 22/01/2071	2,911	0.13
GBP 10,527,100	Morgan Stanley 3.275% 07/12/2042	4,812	0.22
(GBP 10,527,100)	Morgan Stanley SONIA 07/12/2042	(5,122)	(0.24)
GBP 58,750,000	Morgan Stanley 4.188% 30/06/2025	4,580	0.21
(GBP 58,750,000)	Morgan Stanley SONIA 30/06/2025	(4,658)	(0.22)
GBP 58,750,000	Morgan Stanley 4.193% 30/06/2025	4,585	0.21
(GBP 58,750,000)	Morgan Stanley SONIA 30/06/2025	(4,657)	(0.22)
GBP 47,240,000	Morgan Stanley 4.41% 16/12/2024	3,296	0.15
(GBP 47,240,000)	Morgan Stanley SONIA 16/12/2024	(3,303)	(0.15)
(GBP 21,270,000)	Morgan Stanley 4.03% 16/12/2026	(2,867)	(0.13)
GBP 21,270,000	Morgan Stanley SONIA 16/12/2026	2,854	0.13

#### Investments held at 15 April 2023

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		Market	Percentage of
		value	total net assets
olding	Investment	£000	%
	Portfolio of investments ^	2,127,530	98.37
	Net other assets	35,282	1.63
	Net assets	2,162,812	100.00

Unless otherwise stated, all investments with the exception of Forwards, Interest Rate Swaps and Overnight Index Swaps are approved securities being either officially listed in a member state or traded on or under the rules of an eligible securities market.

The counterparty for the Futures is Morgan Stanley.

The counterparty for the Forwards Foreign Exchange Contracts is Goldman Sachs. The counterparty for the Overnight Index Swaps and and Interest Rate Swaps is Morgan Stanley.

^ Includes investment liabilities.

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

Credit Ratings	£000	%
Investment grade	2,117,035	100.00
Total investment in bonds	2,117,035	100.00

## Top ten purchases and sales For the year ended 15 April 2023

Purchases	Cost £000	Sales	Proceeds £000
Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) -		Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) -	
Seabury Sterling 3 Fund Class Z-1	872,516	Seabury Sterling 3 Fund Class Z-1	864,229
Province of Ontario Canada 0.25%		International Bank for Reconstruction	
15/12/2026	26,562	and Development 0.875% 13/12/2024	47,751
Nederlandse Waterschapsbank NV 2%		Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank	
16/12/2024	25,059	1.125% 15/12/2023	28,441
Kommunekredit 2% 25/06/2024	24,961	FMS Wertmanagement 0.625%	
FMS Wertmanagement 0.625%		15/12/2023	23,838
15/12/2023	24,531	European Investment Bank 4.5%	
Council Of Europe Development Bank		07/03/2044	21,867
0.375% 15/12/2025	23,716	Svensk Exportkredit 1.375%	
Nederlandse Waterschapsbank 0.25%		15/12/2023	20,409
15/12/2025	23,563	KFW 1.125% 04/07/2025	20,298
Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau 3.75%		Oesterreichische Kontrollbank 1.25%	
30/07/2027	22,926	15/12/2023	19,381
Province of Quebec Canada 2.25%		European Investment Bank 1.125%	
15/09/2026	42,674	19/06/2025	18,837
Jersey International Bond 2.875%		European Investment Bank 3.875%	
06/05/2052	18,233	08/06/2037	18,350
Subtotal	1,104,741	Subtotal	1,083,401
Other purchases	472,192	Other sales	328,306
Total purchases for the year	1,576,933	Total sales for the year	1,411,707

#### **Comparative tables**

		Class 'A' Accumulatio	n
	15/04/23	15/04/22	15/04/21
	pence	pence	pence
Change in net assets per unit			
Opening net asset value per unit	98.03	105.04	106.18
Return before operating charges*	(5.53)	(5.85)	0.06
Operating charges	(1.04)	(1.16)	(1.20)
Return after operating charges*	(6.57)	(7.01)	(1.14)
Distributions on accumulation units Retained distributions on	(0.53)	(0.01)	-
accumulation units	0.53	0.01	-
Closing net asset value per unit	91.46	98.03	105.04
*after direct transaction costs of: ^	0.01	0.01	0.00
Performance			
Return after charges	(6.70%)	(6.67%)	(1.07%)
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£000) Closing number of units Operating charges Direct transaction costs	17,087 18,683,211 1.11% 0.01%	18,338 18,706,990 1.11% 0.01%	18,114 17,245,249 1.11% 0.00%
Prices <sup>+</sup>			
Highest unit price (pence)	106.56	106.17	116.82
Lowest unit price (pence)	85.57	98.03	104.28

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^ The direct transaction costs includes commission on futures.

+ 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.

#### **Comparative tables**

		Class 'B' Accumula	tion
	15/04/23	15/04/22	15/04/21
	pence	pence	pence
Change in net assets per uni	t		
Opening net asset value per unit	101.04	107.08	107.05
Return before operating charges*	(5.72)	(6.02)	0.05
Operating charges	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.02)
Return after operating charges*	(5.73)	(6.04)	0.03
Distributions on accumulation un Retained distributions on	its (1.61)	(1.17)	(1.18)
accumulation units	1.61	1.17	1.18
Closing net asset value per unit	95.31	101.04	107.08
*after direct transaction costs of:	^ 0.01	0.01	0.00
Performance			
Return after charges	(5.67%)	(5.64%)	0.03%
Other information			
Closing net asset value (£000) Closing number of units Operating charges Direct transaction costs	2,145,725 2,251,277,595 0.01% 0.01%	2,202,446 2,179,823,313 0.01% 0.01%	1,915,161 1,788,589,303 0.01% 0.00%
Prices <sup>+</sup>			
Highest unit price (pence)	102.24	108.57	110.27
Lowest unit price (pence)	88.64	101.03	106.22

^ The direct transaction costs includes commission on futures.

+ 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.

#### Investment objective

The Fund aims to provide a total return (a combination of growth and income) by outperforming the benchmark (before fees) by 0.1% to 0.5% per annum over any given 3 year period.

The benchmark is the Markit iBoxx £ Sub-Sovereign All Maturities Index (the "Index").

#### Investment policy

The Fund aims to achieve its objective by investing at least 70% in Sterling denominated fixed interest or index linked Sub-Sovereign bonds. The Fund may also invest in non-Sterling denominated fixed interest or index-linked Sub-Sovereign bonds, bonds issued by governments, companies, or institutions worldwide which may be denominated in any currency.

The Fund may also invest in other transferable securities, money-market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash and other collective investment schemes.

The Fund may invest more than 35% in individual issuers of government and public securities.

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

#### Investment strategy

Although at least 70% of the Fund is invested in components of the index, 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 either Class 'A' Accumulation or '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 15 October and a final distribution as at 15 April.

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.

#### **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,			_		ly higher re higher risk		•
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

This Fund is ranked at 3 (15/04/22: 3) because funds of this type have experienced low to medium rises and falls in value in the past. The above figure applies to the following unit classes:

- · Class 'A' Accumulation
- · 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 credit worthiness of the security issuer.
- Securities that produce a higher level of income usually also carry greater risk as such security issuers may have difficulty in paying their debts.
- There may be cases where the organisation from which we buy a security fails to carry out its obligations, which could cause losses to the Fund.
- There is no guarantee that an asset which provides the security for a bond will maintain its value.
- 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.

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 15 April 2023

#### Statement of total return

		15	/04/23	15	5/04/22
No	otes	£000	£000	£000	£000
Income					
Net capital losses Revenue	4 5	37,224	(172,565)	23,366	(152,627)
Expenses	6	(496)		(533)	
Interest payable and similar charges		(20)		(59)	
Net revenue before taxation		36,708		22,774	
Taxation	7				
Net revenue after taxation			36,708		22,774
Total deficit before distributions			(135,857)		(129,853)
Distributions	8		(36,840)		(22,904)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders					
from investment activities			(172,697)		(152,757)

#### Statement of change in net assets attributable to unitholders

	15/0	04/23	15/04/22	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Opening net assets attributable to unitholders	2	2,220,784		1,933,275
Amounts receivable on issue of units	391,584		257,229	
Amounts receivable on in-specie transfer*	-		327,413	
Amounts payable on cancellation of units	(313,012)		(167,875)	
		78,572		416,767
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders from investment activities		(172,697)		(152,757)
Retained distributions				
on accumulation units		36,153		23,499
Closing net assets attributable to unitholders	-2	2,162,812		2,220,784
	_	,102,012		2,223,701

\*Represents the value of units cancelled by in-specie transfer of assets during the year.

## Annual financial statements

As at 15 April 2023

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Dai	an	υu	31	icc	τ.

Dulunoo Shoot		1	5/04/23	1	5/04/22
N	otes	£000	£000	£000	£000
Assets: Fixed assets: Investments			2,131,690		2,174,959
Current assets: Debtors	9	24,460		65,413	
Cash and bank balances	10	13,674		28,588	
Total current assets			38,134		94,001
Total assets			2,169,824		2,268,960
Liabilities: Investment liabilities Creditors: Bank overdraft Other creditors Total creditors Total liabilities Net assets attributable to unitholders	11 12	(12) (2,840)	(4,160) (2,852) (7,012) 2,162,812	(4,840) (21,569)	(21,767) (26,409) (48,176) 2,220,784

#### 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 14 April 2023, 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 14 April 2023, the last valuation point of the accounting year.

Exchange traded derivatives are priced at fair value, which is deemed to be the bid price.

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, 14 April 2023, the last valuation point in the accounting year.

#### (d) Revenue

Interest receivable on bank deposits 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.

Any commission arising from stocklending is recognised on an accruals basis and is disclosed net of fees.

Interest received from or paid to the Fund from over-the-counter derivatives designed to protect income is treated 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) Apportionment to multiple unit classes

With the exception of the Manager's periodic charge, the allocation of revenue and expenses to each unit class is based upon the proportion of the Fund's assets attributable to each unit class on the day the revenue is earned or the expense is suffered. The Manager's periodic charge is specific to each unit class. Tax will be allocated between the unit classes according to income. Consequently, the revenue available to distribute for each unit class will differ.

#### (d) 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.

#### (e) 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, credit risk and counterparty risk. The Manager's policies for managing these risks are summarised below and have been applied throughout the year.

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

#### (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.

#### (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 unitholder 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 to 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.

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

#### (e) Credit risk

At the Balance sheet date some 24.41% (15/04/22: 28.46%) of the Fund's assets were held in supranational bonds and 16.04% (15/04/22: 18.01%) in government bonds, 51.36% (15/04/22: 44.23%) in public authorities and 6.06% (15/04/22: 6.76%) in corporate bonds. Corporate, supranational and government 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.

#### (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 exchange traded futures to hedge the value of those assets denominated in foreign currency.

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.

Interest rate swaps and Overnight index rate swaps have been used to hedge the interest rate risk of holding fixed rate bonds during the year.

The derivative counterparty is shown at the bottom of the Portfolio of investments on page 10.

#### Note 4 Net capital losses

	15/04/23 £000	15/04/22 £000
The net capital losses during the year comprise:		
Losses on non-derivative securities	(190,064)	(160,827)
Gains on derivative contracts	17,314	7,439
Currency gains	76	177
Handling charges	(1)	(2)
Interest on derivative contracts	110	586
Net capital losses	(172,565)	(152,627)

Note 5	Revenue	15/04/23 £000	15/04/22 £000
	Interest on debt securities Stocklending commission Bank interest Liquidity interest	35,751 48 521 904	23,244 19 20 83
	Total revenue	37,224	23,366
Note 6	Expenses	15/04/23 £000	15/04/22 £000
(a)	Payable to the Manager or associates of the Manag and agents of either of them: Manager's periodic charge	er 302	346
(b)	Payable to the Trustee or associates of the Trustee and agents of either of them:		
	Trustee's fees	48	42
(c)	Other expenses:		
	Audit fee Safe custody charges	10 131	13 129
	Printing & stationery	-	1
	Professional fees	5	2
	<b>T</b>	146	145
	Total expenses	496	533
Note 7	Taxation	15/04/23 £000	15/04/22 £000
(a)	Analysis of tax charge for the year	-	-
	Total taxation		
(b)	Factors affecting the tax charge for the year The tax assessed for the year is lower than that cal- rate of corporation tax for Authorised Unit Trusts is return. The differences are explained below:		
	Net revenue before taxation	36,708	22,774
	Corporation tax at 20% (15/04/22: 20%)	7,342	4,555
	Effects of: Deductible interest distributions	(7,342)	(4,555)
	Total tax charge for the year (Note 7(a))		
	Authorised Unit Trusts are exempt from tax on capi	tal 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:

	15/04/23 £000	15/04/22 £000
Interim Final	15,680 20,473	10,389 13,110
	36,153	23,499
Amounts deducted on cancellation of units Amounts added on issue of units	1,394 (707)	511 (1,106)
Net distribution for the year	36,840	22,904
Net revenue after taxation Expenses taken to capital Movement of undistributed revenue	36,708 131 1	22,774 129 1
Net distribution for the year	36,840	22,904

Details of the distribution per unit are set out in the tables on page 31.

Note 9	Debtors	15/04/23 £000	15/04/22 £000
	Creations awaiting settlement	_	44,900
	Sales awaiting settlement Accrued income	1,207 23,253	(3) 20,516
	Total debtors	24,460	65,413
Note 10	Cash and bank balances	15/04/23 £000	15/04/22 £000
	Cash and bank balances Amounts held at futures clearing houses Swaps collateral	115 10,666 2,893	4,738 1,669 22,181
	Total cash and bank balances	13,674	28,588
Note 11	Bank overdraft	15/04/23 £000	15/04/22 £000
	Bank overdraft Amounts due to futures clearing houses Swaps collateral	- 1 11	4,827 13 -
	Total bank overdraft	12	4,840
Note 12	Other creditors	15/04/23 £000	15/04/22 £000
	Cancellations awaiting settlement Purchases awaiting settlement	30 2,725	21,501 3
	Manager's periodic charge payable Trustee's fees payable	38 9	40 10
	Safe custody charges payable Audit fee payable Transaction charge payable	27 10 1	5 10
	Total other creditors	2,840	21,569

#### Note 13 Reconciliation of units

	Class 'A'	Class 'B'
	Accumulation	Accumulation
Opening units issued at 16/04/22	18,706,990	2,179,823,313
Unit movements in year:		
Units issued	-	398,324,295
Units cancelled	(23,779)	(326,870,013)
Closing units at 15/04/23	18,683,211	2,251,277,595

#### Note 14 Contingencies and commitments

At 15 April 2023 the Fund had no outstanding calls on partly paid shares, no potential underwriting commitments or any other contingent liabilities (15/04/22: £nil).

#### Note 15 Stocklending

The total value of securities on loan at the Balance sheet date was £8,768,760  $(15/04/22: \pm 16,962,971)$ . Collateral was held in the following form:

	15/04/23	15/04/22
	£000	£000
Government bonds	9,016	11,052
Equities	339	7,187
	9,355	18,239

The gross earnings and fees paid for the year were £58,443 (15/04/22: £23,609) and  $\pm$ 10,520 (15/04/22: £4,250) respectively.

The gross earnings were split by the lending agent as follows:

- 82% to the Lender (PUTM Bothwell Sub-Sovereign Bond Fund)
- 8% to the Manager (Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited)
- 10% retained by the Lending Agent (eSec)

The counterparties for the securities on loan are shown in the appendix on page 37.

#### Note 16 Unitholders' funds

There are two unit classes in issue within the Fund. These are Class "A' Accumulation and Class 'B' Accumulation The Manager's periodic charge in respect of Class 'A' and Class 'B' units is expressed as an annual percentage of the value of the property of the Fund attributable to each unit class and is currently 1.1050% in respect of Class 'A' units and 0.0050% in respect of Class 'B' units.

Consequently, the level of net revenue attributable to each unit class will differ. Should it be necessary to wind-up the Fund, each unit class will have the same rights as regards to the distribution of the property of the Fund.

#### Note 17 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 'A' Accumulation at the year end (15/04/22: 100%) and 100% of the units in Class 'B' Accumulation at the year end (15/04/22: 100%).

#### Note 17 Related party transactions (continued)

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 net assets attributable to unitholders and Note 8.

Any balances due to/from the Manager or its associates at 15 April 2023 in respect of these transactions are shown in Notes 9 and 12.

#### Note 18 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, 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 15 April 2023, the Fund had following counterparty exposure on open Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts:

Goldman Sachs £127,418

At 15 April 2023, the Fund had the following counterparty exposure on Ovenight Index Swaps and Interest Rate Swaps:

Morgan Stanley £5,780,284

The economic exposure of future derivative contracts is equal to the market value. The value of exposure and the related counterparty are disclosed in the Portfolio of investments.

#### **Currency exposure**

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

		Net currency assets 15/04/23			Net currency assets 15/04/22			
Currency	Monetary	Non-	Total	Monetary	Non-	Total		
	exposure	monetary exposure	exposure	exposure	monetary exposure	exposure		
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000		
Sterling	35,135	2,127,938	2,163,073	65,590	2,153,338	2,218,928		
Australian Dollar	1	(887)	(886)	(1)	(471)	(472)		
Euro	115	1,505	1,620	1,337	679	2,016		
Swedish Krona	31	(1,026)	(995)	678	(1,192)	(514)		
US Dollar	-	-	-	(12)	838	826		
	35,282	2,127,530	2,162,812	67,592	2,153,192	2,220,784		

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.

#### Note 18 Financial instruments (continued)

#### Interest profile

The interest rate risk profile of financial assets and liabilities at 15 April 2023 was:

Currency	Fixed rate	Floating rate	Financial assets	Total
	financial assets	financial assets	not carrying interest	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Sterling	2,041,528	21,847	104,950	2,168,325
Australian Dollar		2	472	474
Euro	6,663	111	1,956	8,730
Swedish Krona	68,845	1	449	69,295
	2,117,036	21,961	107,827	2,246,824
Currency		Floating rate	Financial liabilities	Total
,		financial liabilities	not carrying interest	
		£000	£000	£000
Sterling		(1)	(5,251)	(5,252)
Australian Dollar		(1)	(1,359)	(1,360)
Euro		(10)	(7,100)	(7,110)
LUIU				
Swedish Krona		-	(70,290)	(70,290)

The interest rate risk profile of financial assets and liabilities at 15 April 2022 was:

Currency	Fixed rate financial assets	Floating rate financial assets	Financial assets not carrying interest	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Sterling	2,085,729	27,269	158,721	2,271,719
Euro	6,884	1,324	3,197	11,405
Swedish Krona	71,602	-	2,138	73,740
US Dollar	-	-	838	838
	2,164,215	28,593	164,894	2,357,702
Currency		Floating rate financial liabilities	Financial liabilities not carrying interest	Total
		£000	£000	£000
Sterling		(4,827)	(47,964)	(52,791)
Australian Dollar		(1)	(471)	(472)
Euro		-	(9,389)	(9,389)
Swedish Krona		-	(74,254)	(74,254)
US Dollar		(12)	-	(12)
		(4,840)	(132,078)	(136,918)

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 18 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 increasing the return and net assets by £97,326,540 (15/04/22: £119,922,336). 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 (£13,076) (15/04/22: £92,791). 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  $\pounds 106,376,498$  ( $15/04/22: \pounds 107,659,617$ ). A five percent decrease would have an equal and opposite effect.

#### Note 19 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.

#### Note 19 Fair value of investments (continued)

For the year ended 15/0	4/23			
Level	1	2	3	Total
Investment assets	£000	£000	£000	£000
Bonds	2,056,443	60,592	-	2,117,035
Derivatives	460	5,908	-	6,368
Money markets	8,287	-	-	8,287
	2,065,190	66,500	-	2,131,690
Investment liabilities	£000	£000	£000	£000
Derivatives	(2,171)	(1,989)	-	(4,160)
	(2,171)	(1,989)	-	(4,160)
For the year ended 15/0		(1,989)	_	(4,160)
For the year ended 15/0 Level		(1,989) <b>2</b>	- 3	(4,160) <b>Total</b>
•	4/22		3 £000	
Level	4/22	2		Total
Level Investment assets	4/22 1 £000	2 £000		Total £000
Level Investment assets Bonds	<b>4/22</b> <u>1</u> £000 2,099,559	<b>2</b> <b>£000</b> 64,655		<b>Total</b> <b>£000</b> 2,164,214
Level Investment assets Bonds Derivatives	<b>4/22</b> <b>1</b> <b>£000</b> 2,099,559 7,615	<b>2</b> <b>£000</b> 64,655		<b>Total</b> <b>£000</b> 2,164,214 10,740
Level Investment assets Bonds Derivatives	<b>4/22</b> <b>1</b> <b>£000</b> 2,099,559 7,615 5	<b>£000</b> 64,655 3,125 –		<b>Total</b> <b>£000</b> 2,164,214 10,740 5
Level Investment assets Bonds Derivatives Money markets	<b>4/22</b> <b>1</b> <b>£000</b> 2,099,559 7,615 5 2,107,179	<b>2</b> <b>£000</b> 64,655 3,125 	- - - - -	<b>Total</b> <b>£000</b> 2,164,214 10,740 5 2,174,959

#### Note 20 Portfolio transaction costs

For the year ended 15/04/23

Analysis of total purchases	Value costs £000	Commission £000	%	Taxes £000	%	expenses £000	%	expenses £000
Bond transactions	704,417	-	-	-	-	-	_	704,417
Pooled Investment Vehicle	872,452	-	-	-	-	-	-	872,452
Corporate actions	64		-	-	-		-	64
Total	1,576,933	-		_		_		1,576,933

Analysis of total sales costs	Value £000	Commission £000	%	Taxes £000	%	expenses £000	%	expenses £000
Bond transactions	514,904	-	-	-	_	-	-	514,904
Pooled Investment Vehicle	864,229	-	-	-	-	-	-	864,229
Corporate actions	32,574	-	-	-	-	-	-	32,574
Total	1,411,707	-						1,411,707

The Fund has paid £95,351 as commission on purchases and sales of derivatives transactions for the year ended 15/04/23.

Commission, taxes and other expenses as % of average net assets:

Commission	0.00%
Taxes	0.00%
Other expenses	0.00%

#### For the year ended 15/04/22

Analysis of total purchases	Value costs £000	Commission £000	%	Taxes £000	%	Other expenses £000	%	Total expenses £000
Bond transactions	1,135,459	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,135,459
Pooled Investment Vehicle	850,998	-	-	-	-	-	-	850,998
Corporate actions	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
In-specie transactions	298,748	_		_	-		-	298,748
Total	2,285,208	-		-		-		2,285,208
			-					
			-					Total
	Value	Commission	-	Taxes		expenses		Total expenses
Analysis of total sales costs	Value £000	Commission £000	~	Taxes £000	%	expenses £000	%	
Analysis of total sales costs Bond transactions			%		%		%	expenses
	£000		- 		% _ _		% _ _	expenses £000
Bond transactions	<b>£000</b> 758,307		% _ _ _		% _ _ _		% _ _ _	<b>expenses</b> <b>£000</b> 758,307

The Fund has paid  $\pounds$ 89,627 as commission on purchases and sales of derivatives transactions for the year ended 15/04/22.

Commission, taxes and other expenses as % of average net assets:

Commission	0.00%
Taxes	0.00%
Other expenses	0.00%

#### Note 20 Portfolio transaction costs (continued)

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

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 0.33% (15/04/22: 0.31%) being the difference between the respective bid and offer prices for the Fund's investments.

## Distribution tables

For the year ended 15 April 2023

#### **Interest distributions**

#### Interim distribution in pence per unit

Group 1: units purchased prior to 16 April 2022 Group 2: units purchased 16 April 2022 to 15 October 2022

			2022	2021
			pence	pence
			per unit	per unit
	Gross		paid	paid
	income	Equalisation	15 Dec	15 Dec
Class 'A' Accumulation				
Group 1	0.1550	_	0.1550	_
Group 2	0.1550	0.0000	0.1550	
Class 'B' Accumulation				
Group 1	0.7004	_	0.7004	0.5710
Group 2	0.5488	0.1516	0.7004	0.5710

#### Final distribution in pence per unit

Group 1: units purchased prior to 16 October 2022 Group 2: units purchased 16 October 2022 to 15 April 2023

			2023	2022
			pence	pence
			per unit	per unit
	Gross		payable	paid
	income	Equalisation	15 Jun	15 Jun
Class 'A' Accumulation				
Group 1	0.3717	—	0.3717	0.0061
Group 2	0.3717	0.0000	0.3717	0.0061
Class 'B' Accumulation				
Group 1	0.9063	—	0.9063	0.6014
Group 2	0.6852	0.2211	0.9063	0.6014

#### 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 the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

b) The Depositary in its capacity as Trustee of the PUTM Bothwell Sub-Sovereign Bond 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 Sub-Sovereign Bond Fund of the PUTM Bothwell Unit Trusts ("the Trust") for the Period Ended 15 April 2023.

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 11 August 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.

Birmingham 11 August 2023 Craig Baker, Director Andrew Moss, Director

# Independent auditor's report to the unitholders of PUTM Bothwell Sub-Sovereign Bond Fund

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the PUTM Bothwell Sub-Sovereign Bond Fund ("the Fund") for the year ended 15 April 2023 which comprise the Statement of Total Return, the Statement of Change in Net Assets attributable to Unitholders, the Balance Sheet, the Distribution Tables and the related Notes 1 to 20, 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 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 15 April 2023 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 PUTM Bothwell Sub-Sovereign Bond 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 33, 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 PUTM Bothwell Sub-Sovereign Bond 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 11 August 2023

## Appendix (unaudited)

The Fund carried out stocklending activities for the purpose of efficient portfolio management and in order to generate income.

Revenue earned from these activities is shown in the Statement of Total Return.

#### **Global Data**

#### Amount of securities and commodities on loan

	% of total lendable assets*
Securities	0.41
Amount of assets engaged in each type of SFT	

, means of access ongages in each type of or i	
Amount of assets	% of AUM
£8,768,760	0.41

\* Total lendable assets excludes cash and cash equivalents. It also excludes other monetary amounts such as net debtors and creditors which are not deemed 'lendable assets'.

#### **Concentration Data**

#### Top Ten collateral issuers (across all SFT)

	Collateral	
Issuer	Holding	Fair value £000
- France (Government of) 5.5% 25/04/2029	8,763,500	8,925.00
iShare	512	60
Trin	31,500	31
International Consolidated Airlines	13,755	20
Ventas	572	20
Whithehaven	5,350	20
Boston	484	20
Digital Reality	272	20
Igo	2,900	20
Healthpeak	1,165	20

#### All counterparties

Counterparty	Gross volume of outstanding transactions Fair value £000
Barclays	8,423
Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Limited	346

## Appendix (unaudited)

#### **Aggregate Data**

#### Type and quality of collateral

Туре	Quality*	Fair value £000
Bonds	Investment grade	9,016
Equities	n/a	339
		9,335

\* Quality of collateral has been interpreted as pertaining to bond instruments, which have been assessed and reported in accordance with whether they are considered investment grade, below investment grade or not-rated.

#### Maturity tenor of collateral

Maturity	Fair value £000
Rolling Maturity	9,355
	9,355

#### **Currency of collateral**

Currency	Fair value £000
Sterling	9,355
	9,355

#### Maturity tenor of SFTs

Maturity	Fair value £000
Rolling Maturity	8,769
	8,769

#### Country in which counterparties are established

#### Counterparty

#### **Return and cost**

	Gross return £000	Cost £000	% of overall returns	Net return £000
Fund	59	11	82.00	48
	59	11		48

The gross earnings were split by the lending agent as follows:

- 82% to the Lender (PUTM Bothwell Sub-Sovereign Bond Fund)
- 8% to the Manager (Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited)
- 10% retained by the Lending Agent (eSec)

## 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.

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 2022

	Headcount	Total remuneration
Phoenix Unit Trust Managers of which	2	99,305.63
Fixed Remuneration	2	65,211.04
Variable Remuneration	1	34,094.59
Carried Interest	n/a	
Highest paid Director's Remuneration		39,922.40

## Corporate information (unaudited)

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.

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 Sub-Sovereign Bond Fund. This has been performed based on the information available as at 14 April 2023.

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; http://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

Brid Meaney	PUTM Director, Chief Executive Phoenix Life;
Craig Baker	PUTM Director, Head of Policyholder Assets;
Timothy Harris	Non Executive Director of PUTM;
Nick Poyntz-Wright	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**

Abrdn Investment Management 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.

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.

Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited\* is a Phoenix Group Company. Registered in England No 3588031. Registered office: 1 Wythall Green Way, Wythall, Birmingham B47 6WG. \*Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.