LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT

Pacific Assets Trust plc

(the â€œCompanyâ€)

Annual Results for the Year Ended 31 January 2025

The statements below are extracted from the Companyâ€™s annual report for the year ended 31 January 2025 (the â€œAnnual Reportâ€).Â The Annual Report, which includes the notice of the Companyâ€™s forthcoming annual general meeting, will be submitted to the Financial Conduct Authority and will shortly be available in full, unedited text for inspection on the National Storage Mechanism (NSM): https://data.fca.org.uk/#/nsm/nationalstoragemechanism

The Annual Report will be posted to shareholders on 9 May 2025. Members of the public may obtain copies by writing to Frostrow Capital LLP, 25 Southampton Buildings, London WC2A 1AL or from the Companyâ€™s website at www.pacific-assets.co.uk where up to date information on the Company, including daily NAV, share prices and fact sheets, can also be found.

Frostrow Capital LLP, Company Secretary
0203 709 8734
30 April 2025

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Company Performance

Performance Summary

Â Â Â	As at 31 January 2025	As at 31 January 2024
Shareholdersâ€™ funds	Â£503.4m	Â£464.8m
Market capitalisation	Â£431.7m	Â£422.1m

Â Â Â Performance	One year to 31 January 2025	One year to 31 January 2024
Net asset value per share total return[1 2]	9.7%	(1.3)%
Share price total return[1 2]	3.7%	(1.9)%
CPI +6%[3]	8.8%	10.4%
MSCI All Country Asia ex Japan Index total return, sterling adjusted[1]	22.3%	(10.5)%
Average discount of share price to net asset value per share[1 2]	11.5%	6.4%
Ongoing charges[2]	1.1%	1.1%
Revenue return per share[4]	5.4p	4.3p
Dividend per share	4.9p	4.0p

1 Source: Morningstar
2 Alternative Performance Measure (see Glossary beginning on page 80).
3 The Companyâ€™s Performance Objective (see Glossary beginning on page 80).
4 See Glossary beginning on page 80.

Chairâ€™s Statement

Introduction and Results

I am pleased to present this Annual Report for the year ended 31 January 2025. The Companyâ€™s net asset value total return for the year was 9.7% (2024: -1.3%), exceeding the performance objective of UK CPI + 6% which was 8.8% (2024: 10.4%).

While this is a good absolute return, which is the Companyâ€™s primary objective, the Company lagged the MSCI AC Asia ex Japan Index total return of 22.3%, and the Companyâ€™s bespoke peer group of four other trusts and an exchange traded fund. The year presented a number of challenges, in particular a strong market rally in China driven by stimulus measures and weaker performance in Indian equities towards the end of the year. Our portfolio is relatively underweight in China and overweight in India and so these conditions were not conducive to performance.

This performance is characteristic of Stewart Investorsâ€™ investment strategy, which typically leads the Company to underperform in sharply rising markets but has historically preserved capital during times of market stress; a particularly pertinent quality for investors to keep in mind today as global markets enter an increasingly volatile period. Capital preservation remains the Portfolio Managerâ€™s primary focus and shareholders may recall that the Companyâ€™s performance in a weak market in 2023 was the best of the peer group, when overweight positioning in India and underweight allocation to China contributed to outperformance.

The Board also notes that, over the longer periods against which we assess investment return, the Companyâ€™s performance is the best within the peer group over three years and third over five years. We have not done so well, however, against the long-term performance objective: over the last five years, our annualised NAV total return of 8.7% is behind the UK CPI + 6% figure of 11.0%, reflecting the period of persistently high inflation in Western economies during that time.

Despite these headwinds, Stewart Investors remain optimistic about the prospects for finding high-quality companies with strong growth prospects in the Asia Pacific Region. One of the yearâ€™s key developments was our increasing exposure to China and Hong Kong, as our Portfolio Manager has been able to identify a greater number of strong businesses, with attractive valuations, in those jurisdictions.

The downturn in the Indian market, and the increasing fund flows into China, continued to affect the Companyâ€™s performance after the year end. The Company has also been impacted by the significant volatility caused by President Trumpâ€™s tariff announcements, along with the rest of the market. However, SIâ€™s bottom-up approach to stock picking and long-term view ensures they stay focused on identifying high-quality, resilient companies, rather than simply following market trends. As you will read in their review, beginning on page 12, they continue to find good opportunities in India, as well as other markets.

The top two contributors to performance were, once again, Indian companies: Mahindra & Mahindra and CG Power and Industrial Solutions continue to be excellent investments for the Company. We note that Taiwanese companies also performed well, with four of the top ten contributors based in Taiwan. By contrast, South Korean companies performed poorly and the Portfolio Manager has sold Koh Young Technology, one of the top two detractors from performance.

Further analysis of the Companyâ€™s performance can be found in the Portfolio Managerâ€™s Review beginning on page 12.

Share price performance

The Companyâ€™s shares traded at an average discount to the net asset value per share of 11.5% through the 12-month period to the end of January (2024: 6.4%). In line with the investment trust sector generally, the discount widened during the financial year to close at 14.4% (2024: 9.2%) and this is reflected in the Companyâ€™s share price total return of 3.7%, which fell short of the net asset value total return.

During the year, the Company repurchased 370,000 shares, at a total cost of Â£1.4 million, and at an average discount of 14.0%. The Company has continued to buy back shares since the year end and, at the time of writing, had repurchased a further 1,855,000 shares, at a cost of Â£6.3m, at an average discount of 13.0%. The Board continues to carefully weigh up the circumstances in which the Company should buy back shares in the market. We have been conscious that share buybacks have their drawbacks and are not always effective but we are prepared to take action when the discount widens materially.

Buybacks are an immediate way of addressing the share rating but the Board continues to believe that a combination of effective marketing and good performance offers the potential to improve the Companyâ€™s rating on a more sustained basis. Accordingly, the Sales, Marketing and Communications Committee, working together with the Portfolio Manager, has continued to develop and oversee the marketing and promotional strategy for the Company. During the year, the Board appointed Kepler Partners LLP to produce research on and provide PR services to the Company. We hope that this will be effective in increasing demand for the Companyâ€™s shares.

Investment Policy

Shareholders will be aware that the definition of â€˜Asia Pacific Regionâ€™ in the Companyâ€™s investment objective currently excludes Australia, New Zealand and Japan. The Board reviews the Companyâ€™s investment objective and policy at every Board meeting and reviews the Companyâ€™s strategy annually. This year, following discussions with our AIFM and our Portfolio Manager, it was agreed to propose to shareholders that we broaden the Companyâ€™s investable universe by permitting investment in Australia and New Zealand. We also considered permitting investment in Japan but understand that many investors prefer to invest in that country on a standalone basis.

While there are a number of high-quality companies in Australia and New Zealand that Stewart Investors believe to be attractive, these companies are currently highly valued and consequently the proposed change is unlikely to result in many immediate new purchases and will not entail a material rebalancing of the portfolio. Nevertheless, this is considered to be a material change to the investment policy and therefore it will be put to shareholders at the forthcoming annual general meeting (â€œAGMâ€). Further information can be found on pages 101 to 108 of this report.

Dividend

The Company generated a revenue return of 5.3p per share during the year (2024: 4.3p per share) and, as a result, the Board recommends to shareholders the payment of a final dividend to ensure the Company complies with the investment trust rules regarding distributable income.

Subject to shareholder approval at the AGM, a final dividend of 4.9p per share will be paid on 11 July 2025 to shareholders on the register on 13 June 2025. The associated ex-dividend date will be 12Â June 2025.

The Board

During the year, and as previously announced, we were very pleased to appoint June Ang as a non-executive director with effect from 26 September 2024. In addition, Nandita Sahgal became Chair of the Audit Committee as planned.

Having served on the Board for just over nine years now, Sian Hansen will retire at the AGM in July. On behalf of the Board, I would like to express our gratitude to Sian for her outstanding contribution to the Company during her tenure as a non-executive director. Sianâ€™s insight, sound judgement and unwavering commitment have been invaluable in guiding the Company through key challenges. We will miss her presence on the Board and wish her the very best for the future.

Following Sianâ€™s retirement, June Ang will take over as Chair of the Engagement and Remuneration Committee.

Management

David Gait has ably led the Companyâ€™s investment management team since Stewart Investorsâ€™ appointment 15 years ago, with Douglas Ledingham as the co-manager for almost seven years. It has been agreed that, with effect from 1st July 2025, David will hand over the lead portfolio manager role to Douglas whilst continuing to play an integral role as co-portfolio manager (as well as head of the investment team at Stewart Investors). This swapping of roles is a natural evolution in the management of the Company and reflects Stewart Investorsâ€™ focus on team development and long-term succession planning. There are also practical advantages of having the lead manager based in the UK, to facilitate the opportunity for more regular and direct engagement with the Board and shareholders. This initiative by Stewart Investors has the full backing of the Board and we are confident that this will be a seamless transition, ensuring both the continuity of the investment strategy and depth of experience.

The Annual General Meeting

After holding our AGM in Edinburgh last year, this year the AGM will return to London. The AGM will be held at 12 noon on Tuesday, 1 July 2025, at the offices of Stewart Investors, Finsbury Circus House, 15 Finsbury Circus, London, EC2M 7EB.

As well as the formal proceedings, there will be an opportunity for shareholders to meet the Board and the Portfolio Manager, and to receive an update on the Companyâ€™s performance and its key investments.

The meeting, including the Portfolio Managerâ€™s presentation, will again be live streamed by Investor Meet Company for the benefit of those shareholders who are unable to attend in person. Shareholders joining the meeting remotely will not be able to speak or vote but will be able to submit questions via the platform and vote in advance of the meeting in the usual way. Full details of how to participate this way are set out on page 99.

I encourage all shareholders to exercise their right to vote at the AGM. The Board strongly encourages shareholders to register their votes online in advance (information on how to vote can be found on page 99). Registering your vote in advance will not restrict shareholders from attending and voting at the meeting in person should they wish to do so. The Board recommends that shareholders vote in favour of all the resolutions set out in the Notice of AGM, beginning on page 101, as the directors intend to do ourselves.

Outlook

The outlook for the Asia Pacific Region has become more uncertain following renewed trade tensions, in particular between the United States and China, prompted by the recent tariff announcements from the Trump administration. While the region had been expected to see modest economic growth supported by easing inflation and proactive monetary policies, the re-emergence of a trade war poses fresh challenges to supply chains, investor sentiment, and export-led growth.

While long-term opportunities persistâ€"particularly in areas aligned with sustainable developmentâ€"our Portfolio Managerâ€™s investment approach will need to account for heightened geopolitical risk and potential market dislocations. Their focus will continue to be on selecting high-quality companies with strong fundamentals, resilient balance sheets, and capable management teams that can navigate volatility and adapt to a more fragmented global trade environment.

Our Portfolio Managerâ€™s long-term investment horizon, careful risk management, and commitment to engaging actively with portfolio companies remain their key strengths. The Board continues to believe their approach is well-suited to delivering sustainable value for shareholders, even in a more complex and fast-evolving regional landscape.

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Andrew Impey
Chair

29 April 2025

Investment Portfolio

as at 31 January 2025

Company	Country	Sector	Value Â£â€™000	% Total Assets
Mahindra & Mahindra	India	Consumer Discretionary	30,390	6.0%
Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation	Singapore	Financials	19,998	3.9%
Voltronic Power Technology	Taiwan	Industrials	18,120	3.6%
Cholamandalam Financial	India	Financials	17,380	3.4%
Tube Investments of India	India	Consumer Discretionary	16,259	3.2%
Midea	China	Consumer Discretionary	16,217	3.2%
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	Taiwan	Information Technology	15,574	3.1%
CG Power & Industrial Solutions	India	Industrials	15,218	3.0%
Shenzhen Inovance Technology	China	Industrials	15,164	3.0%
MediaTek	Taiwan	Information Technology	13,870	2.7%
Top 10 Investments	**Â**	**Â**	**178,190**	**35.1%**
Hoya	Japan	Health Care	12,639	2.5%
Samsung Electronics	South Korea	Information Technology	12,486	2.4%
Ayala	Philippines	Industrials	12,398	2.4%
Techtronic Industries	Hong Kong	Industrials	12,116	2.4%
Info Edge India	India	Communication Services	11,591	2.3%
Triveni Turbine	India	Industrials	11,391	2.2%
Airtac International	Taiwan	Industrials	10,568	2.1%
Shanthi Gears	India	Industrials	10,174	2.0%
Bank OCBC	Indonesia	Financials	9,867	1.9%
HDFC Bank	India	Financials	9,400	1.8%
Top 20 Investments	**Â**	**Â**	**290,820**	**57.1%**
ELGI Equipments	India	Industrials	9,231	1.8%
Delta Electronics	Taiwan	Information Technology	8,896	1.7%
Samsung Biologics	South Korea	Health Care	8,371	1.6%
Marico	India	Consumer Staples	8,051	1.6%
Philippine Seven	Philippines	Consumer Staples	7,853	1.5%
Dongguan Yiheda Automation	China	Industrials	7,796	1.5%
Tata Communications	India	Communication Services	7,367	1.4%
Sheng Siong Group	Singapore	Consumer Staples	7,287	1.4%
Advantech	Taiwan	Information Technology	6,941	1.4%
DFI Retail	Hong Kong	Consumer Staples	6,508	1.3%
Top 30 Investments	**Â**	**Â**	**369,121**	**72.3%**

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Company	Country	Sector	Value Â£â€™000	% Total Assets
Selamat Sempurna	Indonesia	Consumer Discretionary	6,491	1.3%
Naver	South Korea	Communication Services	6,204	1.2%
Tech Mahindra	India	Information Technology	6,068	1.2%
Vitasoy International Holdings	Hong Kong	Consumer Staples	5,811	1.1%
Tata Consumer Products	India	Consumer Staples	5,747	1.1%
Vitrox	Malaysia	Information Technology	5,585	1.1%
Unicharm	Japan	Consumer Staples	5,306	1.0%
Kasikornbank	Thailand	Financials	5,163	1.0%
Kalbe Farma	Indonesia	Health Care	4,947	1.0%
Tata Consultancy Services	India	Information Technology	4,610	0.9%
Top 40 Investments	**Â**	**Â**	**425,053**	**83.2%**
Humanica	Thailand	Industrials	4,532	0.9%
Chroma ATE	Taiwan	Information Technology	4,509	0.9%
Aavas Financiers	India	Financials	4,493	0.9%
Godrej Consumer Products	India	Consumer Staples	4,366	0.9%

Dr. Reddyâ€™s Laboratories	India	Health Care	4,358	0.9%
Cyient	India	Information Technology	3,957	0.8%
Zhejiang Supor	China	Consumer Discretionary	3,898	0.8%
Dabur India	India	Consumer Staples	3,867	0.8%
Dr. Lal PathLabs	India	Health Care	3,766	0.7%
MANI	Japan	Health Care	3,563	0.7%
Top 50 Investments	**Â**	**Â**	**466,362**	**91.5%**
Glodon Company	China	Information Technology	3,443	0.7%
Blue Dart Express	India	Industrials	3,317	0.6%
Sundaram Finance	India	Financials	3,315	0.6%
Industri Jamu dan Farmasi Sido Muncul	Indonesia	Consumer Staples	3,070	0.6%
Hangzhou Robam	China	Consumer Discretionary	3,042	0.6%
Tarsons Products	India	Health Care	3,006	0.6%
Unicharm Indonesia	Indonesia	Consumer Staples	2,878	0.6%
Marico Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Consumer Staples	2,693	0.5%
Syngene International	India	Health Care	2,420	0.5%
ICICI Lombard General Insurance	India	Financials	2,400	0.5%
Esab India	India	Industrials	2,276	0.4%
Bajaj Auto	India	Consumer Discretionary	2,137	0.4%
Centre Testing International Group	China	Industrials	2,092	0.4%
Yifeng Pharmacy Chain	China	Consumer Staples	2,053	0.4%
Silergy	Taiwan	Information Technology	1,971	0.4%
Bajaj Holdings & Investment	India	Financials	1,939	0.4%
Tokyo Electron	Japan	Information Technology	1,770	0.3%
Bajaj Housing Finance	India	Financials	19	0.0%
Total Investments	**Â**	**Â**	**510,203**	**100.0%**

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Portfolio Managerâ€™s Review

Over the year to 31 January 2025, the net asset value of the Company returned 9.7%. As a reference, the MSCI AC Asia ex Japan Index (the â€˜Indexâ€™) return was 22.3% over the same period.

The performance was in keeping with the characteristic outcome of our investment philosophy. Historically, we trail rapidly rising markets but preserve capital better than others when markets are weak.

During the period, the Chinese government announced a stimulus package that resulted in a large and swift appreciation from the market as a whole and lower quality companies which are financially strained in particular. We do not invest in lower quality companies. This, along with some weakness in Indian equities towards the end of the year, created a challenging environment for performance.

More specific details on performance are in the Contributors and Detractors sections.

Investing in China and India

Over the last decade critics of the Companyâ€™s management have, from time to time, focused on a â€˜failure to allocateâ€™ capital to China. Typically, this criticism is greatest after a rapid appreciation in Chinese equity prices following a change in government policy or economic stimulus. Generally, the criticism ebbs as the China rally fades. We have experienced this at least three times over the years. It should be noted that a historic â€˜failure to allocateâ€™ to China has been beneficial for shareholders. Moreover, this criticism is increasingly unfounded.

Today, the Company is invested in a greater number of high-quality Chinese businesses than ever before. As little as five years ago the Company invested in only one company in China, or 0.6% of shareholder funds. As at the end of this period the Company is invested in eight Chinese companies which amount to 10.4% of shareholder funds. This is a considerable change over a short period of time. Moreover, this understated the true position in China. When the Companyâ€™s geographic outcome by revenue is considered, the â€˜allocation to Chinaâ€™ is almost double that amount. Companies such as **Vitasoy** (Hong Kong: Consumer Staples), **AirTAC International** (Taiwan: Industrials), **Silergy** (Taiwan: Information Technology) and **Unicharm** (Japan: Consumer Staples) all have substantial businesses and revenues from China.

The reason we are finding more investments in China is due to attractive valuations not a decrease in our quality standards. High quality people, franchises and financials exist in China, and at attractive valuations. It is valuation which explains why we have been trimming some investments in India and adding to some high-quality companies in China. Despite the contrasting economic fortunes, we are finding new exciting investments in both China and India. This is because we invest in companies not countries. **Dongguan Yiheda Automation** (China: Industrials) and **Sundaram Finance** (India: Financials) are two of the latest investments.

Dongguan Yiheda Automation is a one-stop supply chain solution for factory automation across China. Last year they shipped 3.3Â million items with an average price of USD 3.50. This is not a robot company, it supplies essential items to manufacturing companies, that need to automate, in a timely and cost-effective manner. The ageing population and falling workforce combined with the low penetration of automation in China are compelling long-term tailwinds here.

We first met the company in 2021 and noted high-quality owner/founder/manager stewards who exhibited intentions to build a strong franchise in the long term rather than a speedy enrichment programme. The market capitalisation after the initial public offering (â€œIPOâ€) in 2021 peaked around US 6 billion on a price-earnings ratio of over 100 times. After studying and meeting the company we recognised that it was vulnerable to cyclical end demand. This has impacted the rating severely, even though the absolute amount of net income has grown every year since listing. Today, the company has 179 million of net cash on the balance sheet and makes cyclically depressed gross margins of 35%[1]. We recently invested in Dongguan Yiheda when the market capitalisation was two-thirds off peak levels and the price earnings ratio was in the low twenties. Dongguan Yiheda may have to continue to endure some cyclical challenges but the long-term opportunity for growth is extremely attractive.

A recent visit to Chennai in the state of Tamil Nadu reacquainted us with Sundaram Finance, an extremely high-quality non-banking financial company. Sundaram Finance is a deposit-taking institution that has been trusted by over three generations of savers. The company proudly showcases its charter â€“ the Sundaram Way[2] - on the wall of each meeting room. The Sundaram Way consists of nine idioms and each is compelling but it was the final idiom that resonated most: *â€œto know that we are not merely the holders of peopleâ€™s money; but more importantly the custodians of their trustâ€.*

Trust is key in finance â€“ not only for deposit taking but also to lend or invest. We met the new managing director of this family-owned franchise, Rajiv Lochan. His curriculum vitae of experience was as impressive as his humility and competence. Rajiv trained at American Express before becoming a partner at McKinsey for 12 years. After a brief stint running a newspaper, he answered the call of his family friends to step up and run Sundaram Finance. Under his guidance we are confident that Rajiv will increase the growth part of the firmâ€™s holy trinity: *â€˜quality, profitability and growthâ€™*.

Such is his personal commitment to the organisation and the scale of the under-penetration of financial services that we were able to enjoy conversations about how the firm may look in 2040. It is this sort of meeting that makes the head and tummy ache of travel in India so rewarding, and the outlook for the Companyâ€™s investments so bright.

1 Stewart Investors, Bloomberg 24 February 2025
2 https://www.sundaramfinance.in/sundaram-way

China requires four rather than three golden rules

We have four golden rules when investing in China, compared with our normal three. First, the company must meet our quality requirements of management, franchise and financials. A growing number of listed Chinese companies are meeting these requirements. Second, they must be well positioned to contribute to Chinaâ€™s sustainable development. On this, we are particularly well aligned with the Chinese Government in almost all aspects of sustainable development. Sustainability talk is cheap, but very few countries have walked the walk as purposefully or far as China in terms of reorientating development toward a genuine sustainable path. Human rights risk is the clear and present exception. We try to navigate this challenge with an approach based on individual companies. Third, valuations must be attractive. The prolonged sell-off in Chinese assets has brought many companies back to attractive levels. We believe despite the recent bounce-from-the-bottom, valuations are still reasonable, particularly when factoring in a recovery in earnings.

Our fourth â€œChina-specificâ€ golden rule is the need to form a view on the Chinese Governmentâ€™s â€œallowable returnâ€ for a particular company. This tries to capture the idea that in China, returns can erode not just with new capital and competition entering a market, but with a change of strategic view by the Chinese Government. In other words, all Chinese companies are actively regulated by the Chinese Government, whether they sell soy sauce, build toll roads or connect small businesses with consumers via online shopping platforms. Over the past decade or so, the Chinese Government appears to have taken a much more proactive approach to allowable return, built on their goals and ambitions. Great companies are not just tolerated by Beijing but embraced and encouraged as part of the development solution, but excess returns are only acceptable to facilitate national development. In order to earn extended supernormal returns in China, not only must companies have sound business fundamentals, they must also be operating in the â€œbuild-outâ€ phase of industries of national importance, as decided by the government. The Chinese Government has been notably transparent in spelling out just what these industries are, with clear long-term development plans reaching out to 2035 and beyond.

Investing in a world of â€œallowableâ€ or â€œcappedâ€ returns comes with challenges of its own and we are still learning. Long-term sustainable development alignment is a critical first step, but looking through a â€œtoll-roadâ€ lens is also helpful. By this we mean, so long as new roads need to be built, toll-road companies are usually allowed to generate attractive returns well in excess of their cost of capital in order to reinvest in new roads. This cycle usually comes to an abrupt end once the last roadbuilding project is in sight. We are trying to apply this lens not just to our Chinese companies but more broadly. Where China leads, other countries often follow.

Contributors

During the year under review, the Companyâ€™s material ownership of Indian companies, especially those with exposure to capital spending and industrial growth, was a key contributor to performance.

Mahindra & Mahindra
(India: Consumer Discretionary)

Contribution: 3.9%

Mahindra & Mahindra have leadership positions in farm equipment, utility SUVs, information technology and financial services in India. It is the worldâ€™s largest tractor company by volume. Since Dr Anish Shah was appointed as group CEO and Managing Director, replacing the Chairman, Mr Anand Mahindra, the group has enjoyed superior decisions on capital allocation and improved operating metrics at key subsidiaries. Dr Shah, previously of GE Capital, is an excellent example of the powerful returns that can be derived from the combination of professional management within family-owned companies.

CG Power & Industrial Solutions
(India: Industrials)

Contribution: 1.8%

CG Power is the leading manufacturer of motors in India with a high-quality franchise and fantastic long-term avenues for growth. Historically the quality of stewardship was poor at CG Power but this changed when **Tube Investments** (India: Consumer Discretionary) took control of the company, at a low valuation, after a scandal with creditors. The company invested quickly after Tube Investments took control and has benefited from strong investment returns as high-quality stewardship maximises the opportunities of this high quality, but previously badly run, franchise.

Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company
(Taiwan: Information Technology)

Contribution: 1.5%

TSMC is the worldâ€™s largest independent semiconductor foundry. It benefits from economies of scale, engineering expertise, leading-edge technology, excellent operational execution and high levels of trust from clients. It continues to benefit from strong demand and positive sentiment regarding the long-term benefits of AI to semiconductor demand. It has delivered strong results.

Detractors

During the year under review the most significant detractors were technology companies operating in South Korea.

Samsung Electronics
(South Korea: Information Technology)

Contribution: -1.1%

Improving governance of the Samsung Chaebol meant the Company was able to invest in this franchise for which we have the utmost respect. Samsung has progressed from bankruptcy in 1997 to a world-renowned brand capable of spending tens of billions of US dollars a year on capital expenditure. Samsung Electronics has suffered over the year as it failed to compete with Hynix (South Korea: Information Technology), Micron (US: Information Technology) and TSMC in the manufacturing of semiconductors which enable growth in artificial intelligence. It is our contention that this is a short-term challenge rather than a fundamental weakness in the manufacturing capabilities of Samsung Electronics. We have been able to build the majority of our position at valuations last seen during previous fiscal crises. History teaches us that Samsung are formidable competitors with the human and financial capital to compete successfully.

Koh Young Technology
(South Korea: Information Technology)

Contribution: -0.8%

Koh Young manufactures and develops 3D measurement and inspection devices which detect accuracy and reliability in various machines. The Company was invested in Koh Young for many years but our concerns about the quality of the franchise were raised when we, accompanied by the Pacific Assets Trust Board, toured their plant in Seoul in November 2022. Since then, operating metrics were patchy, and our concerns grew on learning about higher-than-normal staff turnover. We have sold the holding.

Tube Investments
(India: Consumer Discretionary)

Contribution: -0.7%

Tube Investments is a manufacturer of precision-engineered metal-formed products and Indiaâ€™s largest bicycle maker. The founding Murugappa family are the largest shareholders. It saw its share price increase significantly over the last five years but short-term declines in the share price at the end of the reporting period have given back some of these gains. It fell following slower than expected growth in the core business but it is important that this is seen in the context of its longer term evolution.

Significant transactions

Over the course of the year, the portfolio turnover of the Company was 24.7%. This is higher than the previous year (18.3%) and is an outcome of finding a greater number of new ideas. Furthermore we have been strict this year on cutting smaller holdings in the tail of the portfolio. New ideas were driven by attractive valuations given how much investor despondency there is within the region.

New investments

During the year the Company made new investments in **MediaTek** (Taiwan: Information Technology), **Ayala** (Philippines: Industrials), **Techtronic Industries** (Hong Kong: Industrials), **Info Edge** (India: Communication Services), **Dongguan Yiheda Automation**, **DFI Retail** (Hong Kong: Consumer Staples), **Naver** (South Korea: Communication Services), **MANI** (Japan: Health Care), **Blue Dart Express** (India: Industrials) and **Sundaram Finance**.

Additions

The comparative weakness in many companies, particularly in China, allowed us to add to **Midea** (China: Consumer Discretionary) and **Shenzhen Inovance Technology** (China: Industrials). We also added to **Kasikornbank** (Thailand: Financials).

Reductions

As mentioned, most of the reductions were either to control position size or because of valuation concerns in India. We reduced **Mahindra & Mahindra**, **CG Power** and **Marico** (India: Consumer Staples). We also reduced companies where the valuation appeared to incorporate excess enthusiasm for the benefit to earnings of artificial intelligence. In this regard, we trimmed **Chroma ATE** (Taiwan: Information Technology) and **Tokyo Electron** (Japan: Information Technology).

Disposals

We also identified deteriorating quality and/or found better investments elsewhere. Accordingly the Company sold out of Koh Young Technology, Kotak Mahindra Bank (India: Financials), Advanced Energy Solution, (Taiwan: Industrials), Amoy Diagnostics (China: Health Care), RBL Bank (India: Financials), Telekom Indonesia (Indonesia, Communication Services), Unilever Indonesia (Indonesia: Consumer Staples), IndiaMART (India: Industrials), WuXi Biologics (China: Health Care), Samsung C&T (South Korea: Industrials), Pigeon (Japan: Consumer Staples), Kingmed Diagnostics (China: Health Care), Pentamaster (Malaysia: Information Technology), DBH Finance (Bangladesh: Financials) and lastly Vinda International (China: Consumer Staples) after it was acquired by a trade buyer.

Looking forward

Given the number of attractively valued companies in Asia at present itâ€™s hard not to get excited about future returns. As always, there are plenty of things that could go wrong at any time. Political risk is rising in almost every Asian country, with impeachments, International Criminal Court arrests and attempted coups a growing feature in the region. If the US economy falters and global demand falls, Asian economies will all be impacted, to differing degrees. Asiaâ€™s technology hub, built around Taiwan, South Korea and China, is particularly vulnerable. Elsewhere, India remains largely isolated from the global economy, while the Philippines would receive a significant economic boost from falling oil prices. Very recently we have seen dramatic share price moves as Asia markets caught up with US-imposed tariff announcements and subsequent global share price movements. Fortunately an outcome of our investment philosophy means our companies are both financially strong and comparatively isolated from sales to the USA. Predicting these events is beyond us though. Fortunately, most of our Asian companies have very long memories and the scar tissue from multiple previous crises from which to learn and adapt. We hope they are set up not just to sail in fair weather but to navigate safely through unpredictable political and economic storms which could appear at any time. Ultimately, the key attraction lies in the opportunity to invest in such companies in Asia.
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Stewart Investors
Portfolio Manager

29 April 2025

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Business Review

The Strategic Report, set out on pages 1 to 32, contains a review of the Companyâ€™s business model and strategy, an analysis of its performance during the financial year and its future developments as well as details of the principal risks and challenges it faces. Its purpose is to inform shareholders and help them to assess how the Directors have performed their duty to promote the success of theÂ Company.

The Strategic Report contains certain forward-looking statements. These statements are made by the Directors in good faith based on the information available to them up to the time of their approval of this report. Such statements should be treated with caution due to the inherent uncertainties, including both economic and business risk factors, underlying any such forward-looking information.

Business Model

The Company is an externally managed investment trust and its shares are admitted to the closed-ended investment funds category of the FCAâ€™s Official List and to trading on the main market of the London Stock Exchange.

The purpose of the Company is to achieve long-term growth in its shareholdersâ€™ capital by providing a vehicle for investors to gain exposure to a portfolio of companies in the Asia Pacific region and the Indian sub-continent, but excluding Japan, Australia and New Zealand, through a single investment.

The Companyâ€™s strategy is to create value for shareholders by addressing its investment objective.

As an externally managed investment trust, all of the Companyâ€™s day-to-day management and administrative functions are outsourced to service providers. As a result, the Company has no executive directors, employees or internal operations.

The Company is an Alternative Investment Fund (â€œAIFâ€) pursuant to the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Regulations and the EU AIFM Directive. The Company employs Frostrow Capital LLP (â€œFrostrowâ€) as its Alternative Investment Fund Manager (â€œAIFMâ€) and they provide corporate management, risk management, company secretarial and administrative services. The Company employs Stewart Investors as its Portfolio Manager (see page 45 for further information).

The Board remains responsible for all aspects of the Companyâ€™s affairs, including setting the parameters for monitoring the investment strategy and the review of investment performance and policy. It also has responsibility for all strategic policy issues, including share issuance and buybacks, share price and discount/ premium monitoring, corporate governance matters, dividends and gearing.

Further information on the Boardâ€™s role and the topics it discusses with the Portfolio Manager is provided in the Corporate Governance report beginning on page 36.

Investment Objective and Policy

The Company aims to achieve long-term capital growth through investment in selected companies in the Asia Pacific region and the Indian sub-continent, but excluding Japan, Australia and New Zealand (the â€œAsia Pacific Regionâ€). Up to a maximum of 20% of the Companyâ€™s total assets (at the time of investment) may be invested in companies incorporated and/or listed outside the Asia Pacific Region (as defined above); at least 25% of their economic activities (at the time of investment) are within the Asia Pacific Region with this proportion being expected to grow significantly over the long term.

The Company invests in companies which Stewart Investors believe will be able to generate long-term growth for shareholders.

The Company invests principally in listed equities although it is able to invest in other securities, including preference shares, debt instruments, convertible securities and warrants. In addition, the Company may invest in open and closed-ended investment funds and companies.

The Company is only able to invest in unlisted securities with the Boardâ€™s prior approval. It is the current intention that such investments are limited to those which are expected to be listed on a stock exchange or which cease to be listed and the Company decides to continue to hold or is required to do so.

Risk is diversified by investing in different countries, sectors and stocks within the Asia Pacific Region. No more than 45% of the Companyâ€™s total assets (at the time of investment) may be invested in any single jurisdiction.

If the proportion of the Companyâ€™s total assets invested in a single jurisdiction exceeds 49% at any time, the AIFM and the Portfolio Manager will, as soon as reasonably practicable, seek to re-balance the Companyâ€™s portfolio below this threshold.

No single investment may exceed 7.5% of the Companyâ€™s total assets at the time of investment. This limit is reviewed from time to time by the Board and may be revised as appropriate.

No more than 10% of the Companyâ€™s total assets may be invested in other listed closed-ended investment companies unless such investment companies themselves have published investment policies to invest no more than 15% of their total assets in other closed-ended investment companies, in which case the limit is 15%.

When deemed appropriate, the Company may borrow for investment purposes up to the equivalent of 10% of the net asset value of the Company at the time of drawdown of such borrowing.

The use of derivatives is permitted with prior Board approval and within agreed limits. However, Stewart Investors are unlikely to use derivatives as they do not form part of their investment strategy.

Proposed Change to Investment Policy

As noted in the Chairâ€™s Statement on page 7, the definition of â€˜Asia Pacific Regionâ€™ in the Companyâ€™s investment objective currently excludes Australia, New Zealand and Japan. The Board is proposing to broaden the Companyâ€™s investable universe by removing the exclusion of Australia and New Zealand from the definition of â€˜Asia Pacific Regionâ€™ in the investment objective.

Accordingly, an ordinary resolution to approve this amendment to the investment objective is included in the Notice of AGM, beginning on page 101, and the full text of the proposed new investment policy can be found in the explanatory notes on pages 106 and 107. For the avoidance of doubt, the amendment of the investment objective is the only proposed change to the Companyâ€™s investment policy. The proposed amendment has been approved in principle by the Financial Conduct Authority in accordance with the requirements of the Listing Rules.

Performance Measurement

The Board measures Stewart Investorsâ€™ performance against a performance objective, which is to provide shareholders with a net asset value total return in excess of the UK Consumer Price Index (â€œCPIâ€) plus 6% (calculated on an annual basis) measured over three to five years (the â€œPerformance Objectiveâ€). The Board also monitors the Companyâ€™s performance against its peer group (see page 4 for details). Please refer to the Chairâ€™s Statement beginning on page 6 and the Glossary on page 80 for further information.

Dividend Policy

It is the Companyâ€™s policy to pursue capital growth for shareholders with income being a secondary consideration. This reflects that the Portfolio Manager is frequently drawn to companies whose future growth profile is more important than the generation of dividend income for shareholders.

The Company complies with the United Kingdomâ€™s investment trust rules which require investment trusts to retain no more than 15% of their distributable income each year. The Companyâ€™s dividend policy is that the Company will pay a dividend as a minimum to maintain investment trust status.

The Board

At the date of this report, the Board of the Company comprises Andrew Impey (Chair), Nandita Sahgal (Chair of the Audit Committee), Sian Hansen (Chair of the Engagement and Remuneration Committee), Robert Talbut, (the Senior Independent Director) Edward Troughton (the Chair of the Sales, Marketing and Communications Committee) and June Ang. All of these Directors are non-executive, independent Directors. They all served throughout the year except for June Ang who joined the Board with effect from 26 September 2024.

Further information on the Directors can be found on pages 34 and 35 and information on the Boardâ€™s diversity can be found in the Corporate Governance Report on pages 42 and 43.

Key Performance Indicators (â€œKPIsâ€)

The Board of Directors reviews performance against the following KPIs, which are unchanged from the prior year.

- NAV total return against the Performance Objective*
- NAV per share total return against the peer group*
- Average discount/premium of share price to NAV per share over the year
- Ongoing charges ratio

*Calculated on an annual basis and measured over three to five years.
Alternative Performance Measure (see Glossary beginning on page 80).

NAV per share total return â€“ Performance Objective

The Directors regard the Companyâ€™s net asset value total return as being the overall measure of value generated by the Portfolio Manager over the long term. Total return reflects both the net asset value growth of the Company and the dividends paid to shareholders. The performance objective of the Company is inflation (represented by the Consumer Price Index) plus 6%, measured over three to five years. The 6% represents what the Board considers to be a reasonable premium on investorsâ€™ capital, which investing in the faster growing Asian economies ought to provide over time. The Performance Objective is designed to reflect that the Portfolio Managerâ€™s approach does not consider index composition when building and monitoring the portfolio.

During the year under review, the NAV per share total return was 9.7% outperforming the Performance Objective by 0.9% (2024: NAV per share total return of 1.3%, underperforming the Performance Objective by 11.7%). Over the past three years, the annualised NAV per share total return was 4.6%, underperforming the Performance Objective by 7.5%. Over five years, the annualised NAV per share total return was 8.7%, underperforming the Performance Objective by 2.3% per annum.

A full description of performance during the year under review is contained in the Portfolio Managerâ€™s Review beginning on page 12.

NAV total return â€“ peer group

The Board also monitors the Companyâ€™s performance against its peer group of four other investment trusts with similar investment mandates and one exchange traded fund.

Over the one, three and five years ended 31 January 2025, the Company ranked 6th, 1st and 3rd, respectively, in its peer group. The Companyâ€™s performance is discussed in the Chairâ€™s Statement beginning on page 6; further information can be found in the Portfolio Managerâ€™s Review beginning on page 12.

Average discount/premium of share price to NAV per share

The Board believes that the principal drivers of an investment trustâ€™s share price discount or premium over the long term are investment performance and a proactive marketing strategy. However, there can be volatility in the discount or premium during the year. Therefore, the Board takes powers each year to buy back and issue shares with a view to limiting the volatility of the share price discount or premium, in normal market conditions.

During the year under review no new shares were issued by the Company. The Companyâ€™s share price discount to the NAV per share was wider this year, in comparison with last year. As a result, the Company repurchased 370,000 shares during the year, at a total cost of Â£1.4 million, and at an average discount of 14.0%. The Board keeps the level of the discount under close review. Please refer to the Chairâ€™s Statement and pages 30 and 31 for further information regarding how the Board addressed this issue during the year.

Average discount of share price to NAV per share* during the year ended

31 January 2025Â	31 January 2024
11.5%Â	**6.4%**
Peer group averageÂ discount **10.8%Â**	Peer group average discount **9.3%**

* Source: Morningstar.
Alternative Performance Measure (see Glossary beginning on page 80).

Ongoing charges ratio

Ongoing charges represent the costs that the Company can reasonably expect to pay from one year to the next, under normal circumstances. The Board continues to be conscious of expenses and seeks to maintain a sensible balance between high quality service and costs.

The Board therefore considers the ongoing charges ratio to be a KPI and reviews the figure both in absolute terms and in relation to the Companyâ€™s peers.

Ongoing charges ratio

31 January 2025Â	31 January 2024
1.1%Â	**1.1%**
Peer group average **0.9%Â**	Peer group average **0.9%**

Alternative Performance Measure (see Glossary beginning on page 80).

The Board believes that the Companyâ€™s relatively low turnover, and the absence of any costs associated with gearing, will mean that the Companyâ€™s overall running costs â€“ should these costs be factored into the calculation â€“ are not necessarily as high as some other investment vehicles. It should also be noted that the Company does not have a performance fee. Performance fees are not included in the peer group average ongoing charges ratio.

Risk Management

The Board is responsible for managing the risks faced by the Company. Through delegation to the Audit Committee, the Board has established procedures to manage risk, to review the Companyâ€™s internal control framework and to establish the level and nature of the principal risks the Company is prepared to accept in order to achieve its long-term strategic objective. The Board, meeting as the Audit Committee, has carried out a robust assessment of the principal and emerging risks facing the Company with the assistance of the AIFM. A process has been established to identify and assess risks, their likelihood and the possible severity of their impact.

These principal risks are set out on the following pages with a high-level summary of their management through mitigation and arrows to indicate any change in assessment during the year. The risks faced by the Company have been categorised under three headings as follows:

- Investment and financial risks
- Strategic risks
- Operational risks

A summary of these risks and their mitigation is set out below:

Principal Risks and Uncertainties	**Mitigation**	**Change in risk assessment over the last financial year**
Investment and Financial Risks	**Â**	**Â**
Market and Foreign Exchange Risk	Â	Increased
The Companyâ€™s portfolio is exposed to fluctuations in market prices (from both individual security prices and foreign exchange rates) in the regions and sectors in which it invests. Emerging markets in the Asia Pacific region, in which the portfolio companies operate, are expected to be more volatile than developed markets. **Â**	To an extent, this risk is accepted as being inherent to the Companyâ€™s activities. However, the Board has set limits in the investment policy which ensure that the portfolio is diversified, reducing the risks associated with individual stocks and markets. Compliance with the investment objective and policy limits is monitored daily by Frostrow and Stewart Investors and reported to the Board monthly. Stewart Investors report at each Board meeting on the performance of the Companyâ€™s portfolio, including the impact of wider market trends and events. As part of its review of the viability of the Company, the Board also considers the sensitivity of the Company to changes in market prices and foreign exchange rates (see note 14 beginning on page 75), how the portfolio would perform during a market crisis, and the ability of the Company to liquidate its portfolio if the need arose. Further details are included in the Going Concern and Viability Statements on page 29. In light of the material effect that recent geopolitical events have had on global markets and the volatility of certain markets that the Company invests in, during the year the Board increased the market risk rating.	
Investment Performance		Unchanged
Investment performance may not achieve the Companyâ€™s investment objective. Stewart Investorsâ€™ investment strategy and approach is expected to lead to performance that will deviate from that of both market indices and other investment companies investing in the Asia Pacific Region.	To manage this risk, the Board: • reviews and challenges reports from Stewart Investors, which cover portfolio composition, asset allocation, concentration and performance at each Board meeting; • reviews investment performance over the long term against the Companyâ€™s performance objective and peer group; • monitors Stewart Investorsâ€™ performance against set KPIs; and • formally reviews Stewart Investorsâ€™ appointment, including their performance, service levels and contractual arrangements, each year.	

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Principal Risks and Uncertainties	**Mitigation**	**Change in assessment of risk over the last financial year**
Strategic Risks		
Geopolitical Risk		Unchanged
Geopolitical events may have an adverse impact on the Companyâ€™s performance by causing exchange rate volatility, changes in tax or regulatory environments, a reduced investment universe and/or a fall in market prices.	The Board regularly discusses global geopolitical issues and general economic conditions and developments. Political changes in recent years, particularly in the US and Asia Pacific region and more recently in the Middle East, as well as Ukraine and Eastern Europe, have increased uncertainty and volatility in financial markets. The Board discusses such developments and how they may impact decision making with Stewart Investors. The Boardâ€™s discussions with the Portfolio Manager often focus on geopolitical themes or trends that affect social and environmental sustainability, for example conflict minerals and water scarcity. These are often subjects on which the Portfolio Manager engages with investee companies.	
Climate Change Risk		Unchanged
The Board is cognisant of risks arising from climate change and the impact climate change events could have on portfolio companies and their operations, as well as on service providers to the Company.	The Board regularly reviews global environmental, geopolitical and economic developments with the Portfolio Manager and the implications of these risks and events on portfolio construction and the Companyâ€™s operations. Given Stewart Investorsâ€™ focus on sustainability as set out on pages 17 to 21, the Board considers the portfolio to be relatively well positioned in this regard.	
Black Swan Risk		Unchanged
A significant unpredictable event (e.g. a pandemic/war/closure of a major shipping route) could lead to increased market volatility, and in a worst-case scenario, major global trade and supply chain breakdown resulting in significant volatility/declines in market prices. The Companyâ€™s service providers and their operational systems may also be affected.	The Board monitors emerging risks and the robustness of Stewart Investorsâ€™ and other service providersâ€™ business continuity plans. Stewart Investorsâ€™ investment approach includes a focus on sustainability and stewardship, which emphasises quality investments with strong balance sheets, a proven track record	

Principal Risks and Uncertainties | **Mitigation** | **Change in risk assessment over the last financial year**

in previous crises, and the protection of shareholdersâ€™ funds, leaving them relatively well positioned to deal with unforeseen events.

All of the Companyâ€™s service providers are required to have business continuity / disaster recovery policies and test them at least annually. Service providers provide updates on contingency plans for coping with major disruption to their operations.

Key Persons Risk — Unchanged

There is a risk that the team responsible for managing the Companyâ€™s portfolio may leave their employment or may be prevented from undertaking their duties.

The Board manages this risk by:

- receiving regular reports from the Portfolio Manager, including any significant changes in the make-up of the portfolio management team;
- meeting the wider team supporting the designated lead manager, at both Board meetings and at the Portfolio Managerâ€™s offices; and
- delegating to the Engagement & Remuneration Committee responsibility to perform an annual review of the service received from the Portfolio Manager, including, *inter alia*, the team supporting the lead manager and their succession planning.

Share Price Risk — Increased

The Company is exposed to the risk, particularly if the investment strategy and approach are unsuccessful, that the Company underperforms its peer group, fails to achieve its Performance Objective and becomes unattractive to shareholders, resulting in a widening of the share price discount to the NAV per share.

In managing this risk the Board:

- reviews the Companyâ€™s investment objective and policy, and Stewart Investorsâ€™ investment approach, in relation to investment performance, market and economic conditions and the performance of the Companyâ€™s peers;
- regularly discusses the Companyâ€™s future development and strategy;
- undertakes a regular review of the level of the share price discount/premium to the NAV per share and considers ways in which share price performance may be enhanced, including the effectiveness of marketing, share issuance and share buybacks, where appropriate; and
- reviews an analysis of the shareholder register at each Board meeting and is kept informed of shareholder sentiment.

Noting recent developments in the investment trust sector, including widening share price discounts, and action taken by activist investors and arbitrageurs, the Board considered that this risk had increased during the year.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties | **Mitigation** | **Change in risk assessment over the last financial year**

Operational Risk Â

Operational Risk — Unchanged

As an externally managed investment trust, the Company is reliant on the systems of its service providers for dealing, trade processing, administration, financial and other functions. If such systems were to fail or be disrupted (including, for example, as a result of cyber-crime or a pandemic) this could lead to a failure to comply with applicable laws, regulations and governance requirements and/or to a financial loss.

Credit risk arising from the use of counterparties forms part of this risk. If a counterparty were to fail, the Company could be adversely affected through either delay in settlement or loss of assets.

To manage these risks the Board:

- periodically visits all key service providers to gain a better understanding of their control environment, and the processes in place to mitigate any disruptive events;
- receives a monthly report from Frostrow, which includes, *inter alia*, confirmation of compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- reviews internal control reports and key policies of its service providers, including disaster recover procedures and business continuity plans;
- maintains a risk matrix with details of the risks to which the Company is exposed, the approach to managing those risks, the key controls relied upon and the frequency of the controls operation;
- receives updates on pending changes to the regulatory and legal environment and progress towards the Companyâ€™s compliance with such changes;
- has considered the increased risk of cyber-attacks and received reports and assurance from its service providers regarding the information security controls in place;
- has reviewed the arrangements (including sub-

Principal Risks and Uncertainties	Mitigation	Change in assessment of risk over the last financial year
	custodial arrangements, and services provided by the Custodian to ensure that the security of the Companyâ€™s custodial assets is maintained; and • reviews Stewart Investorsâ€™ approved list of counterparties, the process for monitoring and adding to the approved counterparty list, and the Companyâ€™s use of those counterparties. Under the terms of the contract with J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, the Companyâ€™s investments are required to be segregated from J.P. Morgan Chase Bankâ€™s own assets. Further information on credit risk and other financial risks can be found in note 14 beginning on page 75.	

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Emerging Risks

Emerging risks are discussed as part of the risk review process. During the year the Board identified the following emerging risks:

1. As well as offering investment opportunities, the development and exploitation of technological breakthroughs, such as artificial intelligence, may challenge and damage the addressable market, revenue and operations of portfolio companies to the extent that they no longer offer the promise of returns consistent with the Companyâ€™s investment objective.
2. The risk that increasing water scarcity will affect economic development, potentially leading to mass migration and political conflict in the Asia Pacific Region. This is a particular threat in India, where a high proportion of the Companyâ€™s assets are invested, and which the UN identifies as one of the most water-stressed countries in the world.
3. The continued rise of misinformation is contributing to the perceived decay of political and social norms, and the diminishing role of generally accepted truth and reason. This trend has encouraged mistrust in democratic institutions and public discourse and the success in many countries of more extreme political parties. Businesses and brands can be drawn into such debates which may have uncertain direct or indirect consequences for portfolio companies.
4. Heightened geopolitical tensions and assertive state behaviour are increasing the risk of state-backed armed conflicts. Governments may leverage military capabilities to advance strategic interests, potentially engaging in proxy wars or direct military confrontations. This emerging risk could lead to regional instability, disrupted supply chains and trade flows, regulatory unpredictability, significant market volatility and adverse impacts on economic growth.

Going Concern

The Companyâ€™s portfolio, investment activity, the Companyâ€™s cash balances and revenue forecasts, and the trends and factors likely to affect the Companyâ€™s performance are reviewed and discussed at each Board meeting. The Board has considered a detailed assessment of the Companyâ€™s ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due, including stress tests which modelled the effects of substantial falls in portfolio valuations and liquidity constraints on the Companyâ€™s NAV, cash flows and expenses. Further details of the stress tests and scenarios considered can be found in the Audit Committee Report beginning on page 51 and Notes 1 and 14 to the financial statements. Based on the information available to the Directors at the date of this report, the conclusions drawn in the Viability Statement (including the results of the stress tests undertaken) below and the Companyâ€™s cash balances, the Directors are satisfied that the Company has adequate financial resources to continue in operation for at least the next 12 months from the date of signing this report and that, accordingly, it is appropriate to continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Viability Statement

The Directors have carefully assessed the Companyâ€™s financial position and prospects as well as the principal risks facing the Company and have formed a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue in operation and meet its liabilities as they fall due over the next five financial years. The Board has chosen a five year horizon in view of the long-term outlook adopted by the Portfolio Manager when making investment decisions.

To make this assessment and in reaching this conclusion, the Audit Committee has considered the Companyâ€™s financial position and its ability to liquidate its portfolio and meet its liabilities as they fall due and notes the following:

- The portfolio is comprised of investments traded on major international stock exchanges. Based on historic analysis, it is estimated that approximately 72% of the current portfolio could be liquidated within two weeks (based on current market volumes with 20% participation);
- The Audit Committee has considered the viability of the Company under various scenarios, including periods of acute stock market and economic volatility. In view of the results of these stress tests, the Board has concluded that it would expect to be able to ensure the financial stability of the Company through the benefits of having a diversified portfolio of listed and realisable assets. Further details of the stress tests can be found in Note 1 to the financial statements;
- With an ongoing charges ratio of 1.1%, the expenses of the Company are predictable and modest in comparison with the assets and there are no capital commitments currently foreseen which would alter that position;
- The Board has considered the Companyâ€™s average cash balance over the past three years and noted that the Company has consistently retained levels of cash that are significantly higher than its annual operating expenses;
- The Company has no employees, only non-executive Directors. Consequently it does not have redundancy or other employment related liabilities or responsibilities; and
- The closed ended nature of the Company means that, unlike open ended funds, it does not need to realise investments when shareholders wish to sell their shares.

The Directors, as well as considering the potential impact of the principal risks and various severe but plausible downside scenarios, have also made the following assumptions in considering the Companyâ€™s longer-term viability:

- There will continue to be demand for investment trusts;
- The Portfolio Manager will continue to adopt a long-term view when making investments, and anticipated holding periods will be at least five years;

- The Company invests in the securities of listed companies traded on international stock exchanges to which investors will wish to continue to have exposure;
- Regulation will not increase to a level that makes running the Company uneconomical; and
- The performance of the Company will continue to be satisfactory.

Stakeholder Interests and Board Decision-Making (Section 172 of the Companies Act 2006)

As an externally managed investment trust, the Company has no employees, customers, operations or premises. Therefore, the Companyâ€™s key stakeholders (other than its shareholders) are considered to be its service providers, including its Portfolio Manager. The need to foster good business relationships with service providers and maintain a reputation for high standards of business conduct are central to the Directorsâ€™ decision-making as the Board of an externally managed investment trust.

The following disclosure, which is required by the Companies Act 2006 and the AIC Code of Corporate Governance, describes how the Directors have had regard to the views of the Companyâ€™s stakeholders in their decision-making.

STAKEHOLDER GROUP	HOW THE BOARD HAS ENGAGED WITH THE COMPANYâ€™S STAKEHOLDERS
Investors	The Boardâ€™s key mechanisms of engagement with investors include: • The Annual General Meeting • The Companyâ€™s website which hosts reports, articles and insights, and monthly fact sheets • One-to-one investor meetings • Group meetings with professional investors • The Annual and Half yearly Reports The Portfolio Manager and the Companyâ€™s broker, on behalf of the Board, completed a programme of investor relations throughout the year, reporting to the Board on the feedback received. In addition, the Chair was (and remains) available to engage with the Companyâ€™s shareholders.
Portfolio Manager	The Board met regularly with Stewart Investors (the Portfolio Manager) throughout the year, both formally at quarterly Board meetings and informally, as required. The Board engaged with the portfolio management team, discussing the Companyâ€™s overall performance and strategy, as well as developments in individual portfolio companies and wider macroeconomic developments. The Board periodically visits different countries and investee companies in the Asia Pacific Region with the Portfolio Manager, to gain first-hand insight into the Portfolio Managerâ€™s investment process and engagement with portfolio companies. The Board considers these visits to be an important part of their oversight of the Portfolio Manager. This year, the Board accompanied the Portfolio Manager to meetings with portfolio companies in Mumbai, India, engaging with representatives from portfolio companies and potential investee companies.
Other Service Providers	The Board met regularly with Frostrow (the AIFM), representatives of which attend every quarterly Board meeting to provide updates on risk management, accounting, administration, corporate governance and regulatory matters. The Board, meeting as the Engagement and Remuneration Committee, reviewed the performance of all the Companyâ€™s service providers, receiving feedback from Frostrow in their capacity as AIFM and Company Secretary. The AIFM, which is responsible for the day-to-day operational management of the Company, meets and interacts with the other service providers including the Depositary, the Custodian and the Registrar, on behalf of the Board, on a daily basis. This can be through email, one-to-one meetings and/or regular written reporting. The Audit Committee met with BDO LLP to review the audit plan for the year, agree their remuneration, review the outcome of the annual audit and to assess the quality and effectiveness of the audit process. Please refer to the Audit Committee Report beginning on page 51 for further information.
Portfolio Companies	The Board supports and endorses the Portfolio Managerâ€™s approach to responsible and sustainable investing. The Board has delegated authority to Stewart Investors, as Portfolio Manager, to engage with the companies held in the portfolio and to vote the shares owned by the Company. The Board reviews the Portfolio Managerâ€™s voting and engagement reports, and any exceptions to the Portfolio Managerâ€™s position statement on harmful and controversial products, services or practices. As mentioned above, the Board periodically visits different countries and investee companies in the Asia Pacific Region with the Portfolio Manager and during the year, the Board engaged directly with representatives from companies based in Mumbai, India.

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KEY AREAS OF ENGAGEMENT	MAIN DECISIONS AND ACTIONS TAKEN
Investors • Ongoing dialogue with shareholders concerning the strategy of the Company, performance and the portfolio. • Share price performance. • The Portfolio Manager's approach to sustainable development and investment.	The Board and the Portfolio Manager provided updates on performance via RNS, the Companyâ€™s website and the usual financial reports and monthly fact sheets. The Board continued to monitor share price movements closely, both in absolute terms and in relation to the Companyâ€™s peer group. As the discount widened during the year, the Board. initiated a limited buyback programme. As a result, 370,000 shares were bought back during the year. No shares were issued at a premium to the net asset value per share during the year. The Board, meeting as the Sales, Marketing and Communications Committee, also continued its work to improve the visibility of the Company and the Portfolio Managerâ€™s sustainability credentials, in particular to retail investors. Further information is provided in the Chairâ€™s Statement beginning on pageÂ 6.
Portfolio Manager	

KEY AREAS OF ENGAGEMENT	MAIN DECISIONS AND ACTIONS TAKEN
• Portfolio composition, performance, outlook and business updates. • Matters relating to sustainability, including the sustainability credentials of the portfolio companies, and regulatory developments affecting the Company itself. • The promotion and marketing strategy of the Company. • The terms and conditions of the Portfolio Management Agreement.	The Board agreed that high standards of research and decision-making have been maintained and the Portfolio Managerâ€™s strategy has been implemented consistently, leading to good returns over the past year and over longer periods. The Board considered that accompanying the Portfolio Manager to meetings with portfolio companies in India was a useful part of this assessment. The Board concluded that it was in the interests of shareholders for Stewart Investors to continue in their role as Portfolio Manager on the same terms and conditions. Further information is provided on page 46. The Sales, Marketing and Communications Committee continued to work with the Portfolio Manager on improving the marketing strategy of the Company. Further information is provided in the Chairâ€™s Statement beginning on page 6. The Board considered and subsequently approved (subject to shareholder approval) a proposal from Stewart Investors to widen the investment policy to include investment in Australia and New Zealand. Further information is provided in the Chairâ€™s Statement and the Notice of AGM. The Portfolio Management Agreement was restated and amended to reflect the Portfolio Managerâ€™s governance framework for complying with the FCAâ€™s Consumer Duty and to reflect the Portfolio Managerâ€™s responsibility for marketing the Company. The amendments were not considered to be material.
Other Service Providers • The quality of service provision and the terms and conditions under which service providers are engaged. • The assessment of the effectiveness of the audit and the Auditor's reappointment. • The terms and conditions under which the Auditor is engaged.	The Board concluded that it was in the interests of shareholders for Frostrow to continue in their role as AIFM on the same terms and conditions. See pages 46 and 47 for further details. The Board agreed that the Companyâ€™s other service providers continued to perform satisfactorily and should continue in their roles. The Board approved the Audit Committeeâ€™s recommendation to propose to shareholders that BDO LLP be re-appointed as the Companyâ€™s auditor for a further year. Please refer to the Audit Committee Report beginning on page 51 and the Notice of AGM beginning on page 101 for further information.
Portfolio Companies • Business and investment plans. • ESG and sustainability matters.	Investment decisions are made at the discretion of the Portfolio Manager, however the Board values the opportunity to engage directly with representatives from portfolio companies. Direct engagement enhances the Directorsâ€™ understanding of the relevant companies, as well as their understanding of the Portfolio Managerâ€™s investment process.

Social, Human Rights and Environmental Matters

As an externally managed investment trust, the Company does not have any employees or maintain any premises, nor does it undertake any manufacturing or other physical operations itself. All its operational functions are outsourced to third party service providers. Therefore the Company has no material, direct impact on the environment or any particular community and, as a result, the Company itself has no environmental, human rights, social or community policies.

The Portfolio Manager engages with the Companyâ€™s underlying investee companies in relation to their corporate governance practices and the development of their policies on social, community and environmental matters. The Portfolio Manager (under their parent, legal entity name, First Sentier Investors) is a Tier 1 signatory to the UN Principles of Responsible Investment, an investor signatory of Climate Action 100+ and an investor member of the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change.

Integrity and Business Ethics

The Board is committed to carrying out the Companyâ€™s business in an honest and fair manner with a zero-tolerance approach to bribery, tax evasion and corruption. As such, policies and procedures are in place to prevent this and can be found on the Companyâ€™s website. In carrying out the Companyâ€™s activities, the Board aims to conduct itself responsibly, ethically and fairly, including in relation to social and human rights issues.

Taskforce for Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (â€œTCFDâ€)

The Company notes the TCFD recommendations on climate-related financial disclosures. The Company is an investment trust and, as such, it is exempt from the Listing Rules requirement to report against the TCFD framework.

Stewart Investors is committed to reporting annually on its progress against its climate change objectives which are set out in its climate change statement[10]. This reporting is modelled on TCFD recommendations to the degree it is relevant to their activities and to support shareholders with their reporting requirements.

10 https://www.stewartinvestors.com/uk/en/private-investor/insights/climate-change-statement.html

Stewart Investors have signed up to the Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative. They published their first climate report[11] in 2022 which provides details about their plan; this will be updated annually. They are engaging with their investee companies to set ambitious targets and have credible action plans to achieve net zero by 2050. They are targeting outcomes that are aligned with their commitment to the Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative and prioritising engagement with companies that have inadequate disclosures and targets, and/or rising emissions.

11 https://www.stewartinvestors.com/content/dam/pacific-assets/trust-information/climate-report/Climate-Report-2021.pdf

Climate reporting, at both the Stewart Investors[12] and Pacific Assets Trust[13] level, is available via the Companyâ€™s website.

12 https://www.stewartinvestors.com/all/insights/annual-report-2023.html

13 https://www.stewartinvestors.com/content/dam/pacific-assets/trust-information/PAC-TCFD-report.pdf
https://www.stewartinvestors.com/content/dam/stewartinvestors/pdf/annual-report-2023/pac/pac-annual-review-2023.pdf

Performance and Future Developments

A review of the Companyâ€™s performance over the year and the outlook for the Company can be found in the Chairâ€™s Statement beginning on page 6 and in the Portfolio Managerâ€™s Review beginning on page 12.

The Companyâ€™s overall strategy remains unchanged.

By order of the Board

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Frostrow Capital LLP
Company Secretary

29 April 2025

Report of the Directors

The Directors present this Annual Report on the affairs of the Company together with the audited financial statements and the Independent Auditorâ€™s Report for the year ended 31 January 2025.

Business and Status of the Company

The Company is registered as a public limited company in Scotland (Registered Number SC091052) and is an investment company within the terms of Section 833 of the Companies Act 2006 (the â€œActâ€). Its shares are admitted to the closed-ended investment funds category of the FCAâ€™s Official List and to trading on the main market of the London Stock Exchange, which is a regulated market as defined in Section 1173 of the Act.

The Company has been accepted as an investment trust under Section 1158 of the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 and Part 2 Chapter 1 of Statutory Instrument 2011/2999. This approval relates to accounting periods commencing on or after 1 February 2012. The Directors are of the opinion that the Company has conducted its affairs so as to be able to retain such approval.

It is the Directorsâ€™ intention that the Company should continue to manage its affairs so as to be a qualifying investment for inclusion in the stocks and shares components of an Individual Savings Account (â€œISAâ€) and Junior ISA.

The Company is a member of the Association of Investment Companies.

Alternative Performance Measures

The financial statements (on pages 66 to 79) set out the required statutory reporting measures of the Companyâ€™s financial performance. In addition, the Board assesses the Companyâ€™s performance against a range of criteria which are viewed as particularly relevant for investment trusts. These measures are summarised on page 1 and explained in greater detail in the Strategic Report, under the heading â€˜Key Performance Indicatorsâ€™ on pages 24 and 25. The Directors believe that these measures enhance the comparability of information between reporting periods and aid investors in understanding the Companyâ€™s performance.

The measures used for the year under review have remained consistent with the prior year.

Definitions of the terms used and the basis of their calculation are set out in the Glossary beginning on page 80.

Annual General Meeting

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE FORTHCOMING ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.

If you are in any doubt about the action you should take, you should seek advice from your stockbroker, bank manager, solicitor, accountant or other financial adviser authorised under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (as amended). If you have sold or transferred all of your ordinary shares in the Company, you should pass this document, together with any other accompanying documents, including the form of proxy, at once to the purchaser or transferee, or to the stockbroker, bank or other agent through whom the sale or transfer was effected, for onward transmission to the purchaser or transferee.

Resolutions relating to the following items of business will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 1 July 2025.
Resolution 11 Approval of the proposed, amended Investment Policy

Resolution 12 Authority to allot shares

Resolution 13 Authority to disapply pre-emption rights

Resolution 14 Authority to buy back shares

Resolution 15 Authority to hold General Meetings (other than the AGM) on at least 14 clear daysâ€™ notice The full text of the resolutions can be found in the Notice of Annual General Meeting on pagesÂ 101 and 102.

Explanatory notes regarding the resolutions can be found on pages 106 to 108.

Results and Dividend

The results attributable to shareholders for the year are shown on page 66. Details of the Companyâ€™s dividend record can be found on page 5 and the dividend policy is outlined in the Strategic Report on page 23.

A final dividend of 4.9p per ordinary share has been proposed and, subject to shareholder approval,Â will be paid on 11 July 2025 to shareholders on the register on 13 June 2025. TheÂ associated ex-dividend date is 12 June 2025.

Capital Structure

As at 31 January 2025, there were 120,588,386 ordinary shares of 12.5p each (â€œsharesâ€) in issue (2024: 120,958,386). All shares rank equally for dividends and distributions. Each shareholder is entitled to one vote on a show of hands and, on a poll, to one vote for every share held. Details of the substantial shareholders in the Company are listed on page 47.

At the start of the year under review, the Directors had shareholder authority to issue up to 12,095,838 shares on a non-pre-emptive basis and to buy back up to 18,131,662 shares in the market. At the Companyâ€™s annual general meeting held on Tuesday, 9 July 2024, these authorities expired and new authorities to allot up to 12,095,838 shares (representing 10% of the Companyâ€™s issued share capital) on a non-pre-emptive basis and to buy back up to 18,131,662 shares (representing 14.99% of the Companyâ€™s issued share capital) were granted.

During the year, no new shares were issued (2024: nil). 370,000 shares were repurchased and then cancelled during the year (2024: nil) and there are no shares held in Treasury.

The powers to issue or buy back the Companyâ€™s shares require the relevant resolution to be passed by shareholders. Proposals for the renewal of the Boardâ€™s authorities to issue and buy back shares are detailed in the Notice of AGM beginning on page 101.

There are no restrictions concerning the transfer of securities in the Company; no special rights with regard to control attached to securities; no restrictions on voting rights; no agreements between holders of securities regarding their transfer known to the Company; and no agreements which the Company is party to that might affect its control following a successful takeover bid.

Financial Instruments

The Companyâ€™s financial instruments comprise its investment portfolio, cash balances, debtors and creditors which arise directly from its operations such as sales and purchases awaiting settlement, and accrued income. The financial risk management objectives and policies arising from its financial instruments and the exposure of the Company to risk are disclosed in note 14 to the financial statements, beginning on page 75.

Principal Service Providers

Portfolio Manager

The Companyâ€™s investment portfolio has been managed by Stewart Investors since 1 July 2010. Stewart Investors are engaged under the terms of a Portfolio Management Agreement (the â€œPMAâ€) effective from 24 March 2025, which replaced two previous agreements.

Under the terms of the PMA, Stewart Investors provide, *inter alia*, the following services:

- seeking out and evaluating investment opportunities;
- recommending the manner by which cash should be invested, divested, retained or realised;
- advising on how rights conferred by the investments should be exercised;
- analysing the performance of investments made;
- advising the Company in relation to trends, market movements and other matters which may affect the investment objective and policy of the Company; and
- marketing and investor relations services.

The PMA is terminable by six monthsâ€™ notice. Stewart Investors complied with the terms of the PMA dated 30 April 2021 throughout the year to 31 January 2025. Stewart Investors are entitled to a fee, paid quarterly, of 0.85% of the Companyâ€™s net assets.

Alternative Investment Fund Manager

Frostrow Capital LLP acts as the AIFM. It is an independent provider of services to the investment companies sector.

The Board resolved to appoint Frostrow Capital LLP as the Companyâ€™s AIFM with effect from 30 April 2021 on the terms and subject to the conditions of the alternative investment fund management agreement between the Company and Frostrow (the â€œAIFM Agreementâ€). The AIFM Agreement assigns to Frostrow overall responsibility to manage the Company, subject to the supervision, review and control of the Board, and ensures that the relationship between the Company and Frostrow is compliant with the requirements of the AIFMD. Frostrow, under the terms of the AIFM Agreement provides, *inter alia*, the following services:

- risk management services;
- administrative and secretarial services;
- advice and guidance in respect of corporate governance requirements;
- maintenance of the Companyâ€™s accounting records;
- preparation and dispatch of the annual and half yearly reports; and
- ensuring compliance with applicable tax, legal and regulatory requirements.

Under the AIFM Agreement, Frostrow receives a fixed fee of Â£75,000 per annum plus 0.11% per annum of net assets up to Â£250 million, plus 0.075% per annum of net assets in excess of Â£250Â million.

The AIFM Agreement is terminable on six monthsâ€™ notice given by either party.

Further details of the fees payable to Stewart Investors and Frostrow Capital LLP during the year are set out in note 3 to the financial statements on page 70.

Depositary and Custodian

The Board resolved to appoint J.P. Morgan Europe Limited (the â€œDepositaryâ€) as the Companyâ€™s depositary in accordance with the AIFMD on the terms and subject to the conditions of the depositary agreement between the Company, Frostrow and the Depositary (the â€œDepositary Agreementâ€), with effect from 30 April 2021.

The Depositary provides the following services, *inter alia*, under its agreement with the Company:

- safekeeping and custody of the Companyâ€™s custodial investments and cash;
- processing of transactions; and
- foreign exchange services.

The Depositary must take reasonable care to ensure that the Company is managed in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authorityâ€™s Investment Funds Sourcebook, the AIFMD and the Companyâ€™s Articles of Association.

Under the terms of the Depositary Agreement, the Depositary is entitled to receive an annual fee of the higher of Â£30,000 or 0.015% of the net assets of the Company up to Â£150 million, 0.0125% of the net assets in excess of Â£150 million and up to Â£300 million, 0.01% of the net assets in excess of Â£300Â million and up to Â£500 million and 0.005% of the net assets in excess of Â£500 million.

The Depositary has delegated the custody and safekeeping of the Companyâ€™s assets to JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., London branch under a Global Custody Agreement. Custody fees are charged according to the jurisdiction in which the holdings are based. Variable transaction fees are also chargeable.

The notice period on the Depositary Agreement is 90 days if terminated by the Company and 120Â days if terminated by the Depositary.

Portfolio Manager and AIFM Evaluation and Re-Appointment

The review of the performance of Stewart Investors as Portfolio Manager and Frostrow Capital LLP as AIFM is a continuous process carried out by the Board and the Engagement and Remuneration Committee (the â€œERCâ€), with a formal evaluation being undertaken each year. As part of this process the Board monitors the services provided by Stewart Investors and Frostrow and receives regular reports and views from them. The Board also receives comprehensive performance measurement reports to enable it to determine whether or not the Performance Objective set by the Board has beenÂ met.

The ERC formally reviewed the appointment of Stewart Investors in January 2025 with a recommendation being made to the Board to continue their appointment on the existing terms.

The Board believes the continuing appointment of Stewart Investors, under the terms described earlier in this report, is in the interests of shareholders. In coming to this decision the Board took into consideration the following reasons:

- the terms of the Portfolio Management Agreement, in particular the level and method of remuneration and the notice period, and the comparable arrangements of a group of the Companyâ€™s peers; and
- the quality and depth of experience of the Stewart Investors team and the level of performance of the portfolio in absolute terms and also by reference to the Performance Objective and the Companyâ€™s peer group over the medium to longer term.

The ERC also formally reviewed Frostrowâ€™s appointment in January 2025 with a formal recommendation being made to the Board. The Board believes the continuing appointment of Frostrow Capital LLP, under the terms described earlier in this report, is in the interests of shareholders. In coming to this decision, the Board took into consideration the quality and depth of experience of the management, administrative and company secretarial team that Frostrow allocates to the Company.

Directors

Directorsâ€™ and Officersâ€™ Liability Insurance Cover

Directorsâ€™ and officersâ€™ liability insurance cover was maintained by the Board during the year ended 31Â January 2025 and to the date of this report. It is intended that this cover will continue throughout the year ending 31 January 2026 and subsequent years.

Directorsâ€™ Indemnities

As at the date of this report, a deed of indemnity has been entered into by the Company and each of its Directors under which the Company has agreed to indemnify each Director, to the extent permitted by law, in respect of certain liabilities as a result of carrying out his or her role as a Director of the Company. Each Director is indemnified against the costs of defending any criminal or civil proceedings or any claim by the Company or a regulator as they are incurred provided that where the defence is unsuccessful the Director must repay those defence costs to the Company. TheÂ indemnities are qualifying third party indemnity provisions for the purposes of the Companies ActÂ 2006.

A copy of each deed of indemnity is available for inspection at Frostrowâ€™s offices during normal business hours and will be available for inspection at the AGM.

Articles of Association

Amendment of the Companyâ€™s Articles of Association requires a special resolution to be passed by shareholders.

The Directors have not proposed any changes to the Articles of Association this year.

Substantial Interests in Share Capital

As at 31 January 2025 the Company had been notified of the following substantial interests in the Companyâ€™s voting rights:

Â	**Number of shares held**	**% held**
Evelyn Partners	14,520,035	12.0
Rathbones	12,374,668	10.2
Brewin Dolphin (Ireland)	11,332,765	9.4
Charles Stanley	6,038,409	4.9

These disclosures reflect those shareholders that have notified the Company of a substantial interest in its shares when they have crossed certain thresholds and may not reflect their current holdings. The table does not reflect the full range of investors in the Company. The shareholder register is principally comprised of private wealth managers and retail investors who own their shares through a variety of online platforms. A profile of the Companyâ€™s ownership is shown on page 99.

After the year end, on 4 February 2025, EQ Investors notified the Company that they held 4,099,121 shares (3.4%) in the Company. At the date of this report, there had been no other substantial interests or changes to substantial interests notified to the Company.

Beneficial Owners of Shares â€“ Information Rights

The beneficial owners of shares who have been nominated by the registered holder of those shares to receive information rights under Section 146 of the Companies Act 2006 are required to direct all communications to the registered holder of their shares rather than to the Companyâ€™s registrar, Equiniti, or to the Company directly.

Modern Slavery Act 2015

The Company does not provide goods or services in the normal course of business, and as a financial investment vehicle, does not have customers. Therefore, the Directors do not consider that the Company is required to make a statement under the Modern Slavery Act 2015 in relation to slavery or human trafficking. The Companyâ€™s suppliers are typically professional advisers and the Companyâ€™s supply chains are considered to be low risk in this regard.

Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy

The Board has adopted a zero tolerance approach to instances of bribery and corruption. Accordingly, it expressly prohibits any Director or associated persons when acting on behalf of the Company, from accepting, soliciting, paying, offering or promising to pay or authorise any payment, public or private, in the United Kingdom or abroad to secure any improper benefit for themselves or for the Company.

The Board applies the same standards to its service providers in their activities for the Company.

A copy of the Companyâ€™s Anti Bribery and Corruption Policy can be found on its website at www.pacific-assets.co.uk. The policy is reviewed annually by the Audit Committee.

Prevention of the Facilitation of Tax Evasion

In response to the implementation of the Criminal Finances Act 2017, the Board adopted a zero-tolerance approach to the criminal facilitation of tax evasion. A copy of the Companyâ€™s policy on preventing the facilitation of tax evasion can be found on the Companyâ€™s website www.pacific-assets.co.uk. The policy is reviewed annually by the Audit Committee.

Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Company is an investment trust, with no employees or premises, nor has it any financial or operational control of the assets it owns. It has no greenhouse gas emissions to report from its operations, nor does it have responsibility for any other emissions producing sources under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Reports and Directorsâ€™ Reports) Regulations 2013 or the Companies (Directorsâ€™ Report) and Limited Liability Partnerships (Energy and Carbon Report) Regulations 2018, including those within the Companyâ€™s underlying investment portfolio. The Company consumed less than 40,000 kWh of energy during the year and therefore is exempt from the disclosures required under the Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting criteria.

Political Donations

The Company has not made and does not intend to make any political donations.

Corporate Governance

The Corporate Governance report, which includes the Companyâ€™s corporate governance policies and forms part of the Report of the Directors, is set out on pages 36 to 43.

Common Reporting Standard (â€œCRSâ€)

CRS is a global standard for the automatic exchange of information commissioned by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and incorporated into UK law by the International Tax Compliance Regulations 2015. CRS requires the Company to provide certain additional details to HMRC in relation to certain shareholders. The reporting obligation began in 2016 and is an annual requirement. The Registrar, Equiniti, has been engaged to collate such information and file the reports with HMRC on behalf of the Company.

UK Sanctions

The Board has made due diligence enquiries of the service providers that process the Companyâ€™s shareholder data, to ensure the Companyâ€™s compliance with the UK sanctions regime. The relevant service providers have confirmed that they check the Companyâ€™s shareholder data against the UK sanctions list on a daily basis. At the date of this report, no sanctioned individuals had been identified on the Companyâ€™s shareholder register. The Board notes that stockbrokers and execution-only platforms also carry out their own due diligence.

By order of the Board

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Frostrow Capital LLP
Company Secretary

29 April 2025

Statement of Directorsâ€™ Responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including FRS 102 â€˜The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Irelandâ€™.

Under company law, the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business; and
- prepare a directorsâ€™ report, a strategic report and a directorsâ€™ remuneration report which comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Companyâ€™s transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Directors are responsible for ensuring that the Annual Report and financial statements, taken as a whole, are fair, balanced, and understandable and provide the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Companyâ€™s performance, business model and strategy.

Under applicable law and regulations, the Directors are also responsible for preparing a Strategic Report, Directorsâ€™ Report, Directorsâ€™ Remuneration Report and Corporate Governance Statement which comply with that law and those regulations.

The Directors are responsible for ensuring the Annual Report and the financial statements are made available on the Companyâ€™s website, which is maintained by the Portfolio Manager. Financial statements are published on the Companyâ€™s website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements, which may vary from legislation in other jurisdictions. The maintenance and integrity of the Companyâ€™s website is the responsibility of the Directors. The Directorsâ€™ responsibility also extends to the ongoing integrity of the financial statements contained therein.

Disclosure of Information to the Auditor

The Directors who held office at the date of approval of this report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Companyâ€™s auditor is unaware; and each Director has taken all the steps that he/she might reasonably be expected to have taken as a Director to make himself/ herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Companyâ€™s auditor is aware of that information.

Responsibility Statement of the Directors in respect of the Annual Financial Report

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge:

- the financial statements, prepared in accordance with the applicable set of accounting standards, give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and the return of the Company for the year ended 31 January 2025; and
- the Annual Report includes a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the financial position of the Company, together with a description of the principal risks and uncertainties that they face.

We consider the Annual Report, taken as a whole, is fair, balanced and understandable and provides the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Companyâ€™s position and performance, business model and strategy.

On behalf of the Board

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Andrew Impey
Chair

29 April 2025

Income Statement

for the year ended 31 January 2025

Â	Â	Year ended 31 January 2025			Year ended 31 January 2024		
Â	Â	Revenue	Capital	Total	Revenue	Capital	Total
Â	Notes	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Gains/(losses) on investments	8	-	49,989	49,989	-	(2,018)	(2,018)
Exchange differences	Â	-	(414)	(414)	-	(642)	(642)
Income	2	9,687	-	9,687	7,861	-	7,861
Portfolio management	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â
and AIFM fees	3	(1,211)	(3,634)	(4,845)	(1,123)	(3,369)	(4,492)
Other expenses	4	(863)	-	(863)	(795)	-	(795)
Return/(loss) before taxation	**Â**	**7,613**	**45,941**	**53,554**	**5,943**	**(6,029)**	**(86)**
Taxation	5	(1,049)	(7,684)	(8,733)	(772)	(5,203)	(5,975)
Return/(loss) after taxation	**Â**	**6,564**	**38,257**	**44,821**	**5,171**	**(11,232)**	**(6,061)**
Return/(loss) per share (p)	**7**	**5.4**	**31.7**	**37.1**	**4.3**	**(9.3)**	**(5.0)**

The Total column of this statement represents the Companyâ€™s Income Statement. The Revenue and Capital columns are supplementary to this and are prepared under guidance published by the Association of Investment Companies.

All revenue and capital items in the Income Statement derive from continuing operations.

The Company had no recognised gains or losses other than those shown above and therefore no separate Statement of Other Comprehensive Income has been presented.

The accompanying notes on pages 69 to 79 are an integral part of these statements.

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 31 January 2025

Â	Â	Ordinary	Â	Capital	Â	Â	Â	Â
Â	Â	share	Share	redemption	Special	Capital	Revenue	Â
Â	Â	capital	premium	reserve	reserve	reserve	reserve	Total
Â	Note	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
At 31 January 2023	**Â**	**15,120**	**8,811**	**1,648**	**14,572**	**426,502**	**7,009**	**473,662**
(Loss)/return after taxation	Â	-	-	-	-	(11,232)	5,171	(6,061)
Ordinary dividends paid	6	-	-	-	-	-	(2,782)	(2,782)
At 31 January 2024	**Â**	**15,120**	**8,811**	**1,648**	**14,572**	**415,270**	**9,398**	**464,819**
Return after taxation	Â	-	-	-	-	38,257	6,564	44,821
Repurchase of own shares for cancellation	Â	(46)	-	46	-	(1,361)	-	(1,361)
Ordinary dividends paid	6	-	-	-	-	-	(4,838)	(4,838)
At 31 January 2025	**Â**	**15,074**	**8,811**	**1,694**	**14,572**	**452,166**	**11,124**	**503,441**

The accompanying notes on pages 69 to 79 are an integral part of these statements.

Statement of Financial Position

as at 31 January 2025

Â	Â	2025		2024	
Â	Notes	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Fixed assets	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â
Investments	8	Â	510,203	Â	470,109
Current assets	**Â**	**Â**	**Â**	**Â**	**Â**
Debtors	9	1,252	Â	1,032	Â
Cash	Â	8,028	Â	6,191	Â
Â	Â	9,280	Â	7,223	Â
Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	10	(2,397)	Â	(1,307)	Â
Net current assets	**Â**	**Â**	**6,883**	**Â**	**5,916**
Total assets less current liabilities	**Â**	**Â**	**517,086**	**Â**	**476,025**
Creditors (amounts falling due after one year)	**Â**	**Â**	**Â**	**Â**	**Â**
Provision for liabilities	11	Â	(13,645)	Â	(11,206)
Net assets	**Â**	**Â**	**503,441**	**Â**	**464,819**
Capital and reserves	**Â**	**Â**	**Â**	**Â**	**Â**
Called up share capital	12	Â	15,074	Â	15,120
Share premium account	Â	Â	8,811	Â	8,811
Capital redemption reserve	15	Â	1,694	Â	1,648
Special reserve	15	Â	14,572	Â	14,572
Capital reserve	15	Â	452,166	Â	415,270
Revenue reserve	15	Â	11,124	Â	9,398
Equity shareholdersâ€™ funds	**Â**	**Â**	**503,441**	**Â**	**464,819**
Net asset value per Ordinary Share (p)	**13**	**Â**	**417.5p**	**Â**	**384.3p**

The financial statements on pages 66 to 79 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 29 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

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Andrew Impey
Chair

The accompanying notes on pages 69 to 79 are an integral part of these statements.

Pacific Assets Trust Public Limited Company â€“ Company Registration Number: SC091052 (Registered in Scotland)

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting Policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies adopted is set out below or as appropriate within the relevant note to the financial statements.

(a) Basis of Accounting

These financial statements have been prepared under UK Company Law, FRS 102 â€˜The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Irelandâ€™, and in accordance with guidelines set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice (â€œSORPâ€), published in July 2022, for Investment Trust Companies and Venture Capital Trusts issued by the Association of Investment Companies, the historical cost convention, as modified by the valuation of investments at fair value through profit orÂ loss.

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing a Cash Flow Statement under FRS 102, as it is an investment fund whose investments are substantially highly liquid, carried at fair (market) value and provides a statement of changes in equity.

The Board is of the opinion that the Company is engaged in a single segment of business, namely investing in accordance with the Investment Objective, and consequently no segmental analysis is provided.

Going concern

The Directors are required to make an assessment of the Companyâ€™s ability to continue as a going concern and have concluded that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least 12 months from the date these financial statements were approved.

In making this assessment, the Directors have considered a wide variety of emerging and current risks to the Company, as well as the mitigation strategies that are in place. The Board has also reviewed stress-testing and scenario analyses prepared by the AIFM. The stress tests and scenario analyses considered the effect of various downturns, based on historic bear markets, on the asset value and expenses of the Company. The tests modelled the impact of decreases of up to and over 80% on the value of the investment portfolio and decreases in current market liquidity of up to 80%.

These tests are carried out as an arithmetic exercise, which can apply equally to any set of circumstances in which asset value and income are significantly impaired. It was concluded that even in an extreme downside scenario, the Company would be able to continue to meet its liabilities as they fell due. Whilst the economic future is uncertain, the opinion of the Directors is that there is no foreseeable downside scenario that would threaten the Companyâ€™s ability to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

Based on the information available to the Directors at the time of this report, including the results of the stress tests and scenario analyses, and having taken account of the liquidity of the investment portfolio, the Companyâ€™s cash flow and borrowing position (the Company is not currently geared), the Directors are satisfied that the Company has adequate financial resources to continue in operation for at least 12 months from the date of signing these financial statements and that, accordingly, it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis.

Significant Judgement

There is one significant judgement involved in the presentation of the Companyâ€™s accounts, being the judgement on the functional currency of the Company.

The Companyâ€™s investments are made in foreign currencies, however the Board considers the Companyâ€™s functional currency to be sterling. In arriving at this conclusion, the Board considered that the shares of the Company are listed on the London Stock Exchange, it is incorporated in the United Kingdom and pays dividends and expenses in sterling.

Presentation of the Income Statement

In order to reflect better the activities of an investment trust company and in accordance with the SORP, supplementary information which analyses the Income Statement between items of a revenue and capital nature has been presented alongside the Income Statement. The net revenue return is the measure the Directors believe appropriate in assessing the Companyâ€™s compliance with certain requirements set out in Section 1158 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

(b) Foreign Currencies

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the exchange rates on the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the date of the Statement of Financial Position. Profits or losses on the translation of foreign currency balances, whether realised or unrealised, are taken to the capital or revenue column of the Income Statement, depending on whether the gain or loss is of a capital or revenue nature.

All values are rounded to the nearest thousand pounds (Â£â€™000) except where otherwise indicated.

(c) Cash

Cash is defined as cash at bank and money market funds that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

2. Income

Â	2025	2024
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Overseas dividends	9,469	7,701
Interest income	218	160
Â	**9,687**	**7,861**

Dividends receivable are recognised on the ex-dividend date. Where no ex-dividend date is quoted, dividends are recognised when the Companyâ€™s right to receive payment is established. Overseas dividends are gross of withholding tax.

Where the Company has elected to receive its dividends in the form of additional shares rather than cash the amount of cash foregone is recognised in the revenue column with any excess above this recognised in the capital column.

3. Portfolio Management and AIFM Fees

Â	Â	2025	Â	Â	2024	Â
Â	Revenue	Capital	Total	Revenue	Capital	Total
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Portfolio management fee	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â
â€ƒ â€“ Stewart Investors	1,075	3,227	4,302	996	2,989	3,985
AIFM fee â€“ Frostrow	136	407	543	127	380	507
Â	**1,211**	**3,634**	**4,845**	**1,123**	**3,369**	**4,492**

Frostrowâ€™s AIFM fee is for risk management, corporate management, company secretarial and administrative services. Further information regarding Stewart Investors and Frostrowâ€™s fees can be found on pages 45 and 46.

All expenses and interest are accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenses and interest are charged to the Income Statement as revenue items except where incurred in connection with the maintenance or enhancement of the value of the Companyâ€™s assets and taking account of the expected long-term returns, when they are split as follows:

ÂÂ Portfolio Management and AIFM fees payable have been allocated 25% to revenue and 75% to capital.

ÂÂ Transaction costs incurred on the purchase and sale of investments are taken to the Income Statement as a capital item, within gains on investments held at fair value through profit or loss.

4. Other Expenses

Â	2025	2024
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Directorsâ€™ fees	215	189
Employers NIC on directorsâ€™ remuneration	16	15
Auditorâ€™s remuneration for annual audit	48	46
Depository fees	70	57
Custody fees	195	175
Registrar fees	28	25
Broker retainer	45	38
Listing fees	25	24
Legal and professional fees	26	41
Other expenses	195	185
Total expenses	**863**	**795**

For accounting policy, see note 3 on the prior page.

5. Taxation

(a) Analysis of Charge in the Year

Â	Â	2025	Â	Â	2024	Â
Â	Revenue	Capital	Total	Revenue	Capital	Total
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Overseas taxation	1,224	-	1,224	985	-	985
Indian capital gains tax charge	(175)	7,684	7,509	(213)	5,203	4,990
Â	**1,049**	**7,684**	**8,733**	**772**	**5,203**	**5,975**

Overseas tax arose as a result of irrecoverable withholding tax on overseas dividends and Indian capital gains tax.

As an investment trust, the Company is generally not subject to UK tax on capital gains. However, Indian capital gains tax arises on capital gains on the sale of Indian securities at a rate of 20% on short-term capital gains (defined as those where the security was held for less than a year) and 12.5% on long-term capital gains. Â£2,439,000 (2024: Â£1,456,000) of the charge arose on unrealised long-term capital gains on securities still held and is included in deferred taxation on unrealised capital gains on Indian securities as set out in note 11 on page 75. Â£5,070,000 (2024: Â£3,534,000) of the charge relates to capital gains tax paid on disposals during the year.

(b) Reconciliation of Tax Charge

The UK corporation tax rate was 19% until 31 March 2023 and 25% from 1 April 2023, giving an effective rate of 25.0% for the year (2024: 24.0%). The tax assessed for the year is lower than the corporation tax rate. The differences are explained below.

The differences are explained below:

Â	Â	2025	Â	Â	2024	Â
Â	Revenue	Capital	Total	Revenue	Capital	Total
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Total return on ordinary activities	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â
â€ƒ before tax	7,613	45,941	53,554	5,943	(6,029)	(86)
Corporation tax charged at 25.0%	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â
â€ƒ (2024: 24.0%)	1,903	11,486	13,389	1,428	(1,449)	(21)
Effects of:	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â
(Gains)/losses on investment not subject to	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â
UK corporation tax	-	(12,291)	(12,291)	-	485	485
Non-taxable exchange differences	-	(103)	(103)	-	154	154
Unutilised management expenses	464	908	1,372	422	810	1,232
Income not subject to corporation tax	(2,367)	-	(2,367)	(1,850)	-	(1,850)
Indian capital gains tax charge	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â
â€ƒ (see note 5a)	(175)	7,684	7,509	(213)	5,203	4,990
Overseas taxation	1,224	-	1,224	985	-	985
Tax charge for the year	**1,049**	**7,684**	**8,733**	**772**	**5,203**	**5,975**

As at 31 January 2025 the Company had unutilised management expenses and other reliefs for taxation purposes of Â£68,461,000 (2024: Â£62,974,000). It is not anticipated that these will be utilised in the foreseeable future and as such no related deferred tax asset has been recognised.

The tax effect of different items of income/gain and expenditure/loss is allocated between capital and revenue as set out in this note. The standard rate of corporation tax is applied to taxable net revenue. Any adjustment resulting from relief for overseas tax is allocated to the revenue reserve.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the Statement of Financial Position date where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more, or right to pay less, tax in future have occurred at the Statement of Financial Position date. This is subject to deferred tax assets only being recognised if it is considered more likely than not that there will be suitable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted. Timing differences are differences arising between the Companyâ€™s taxable profits and its results as stated in the accounts which are capable of reversal in one or more subsequent periods. Deferred tax is measured without discounting and based on enacted tax rates. Due to the Companyâ€™s status as an investment trust, and the intention to meet the conditions required to obtain approval under Section 1158 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010, the Company has not provided for deferred UK tax on any capital gains and losses arising on the revaluation or disposal of investments.

Deferred tax has been provided for on capital gains arising on Indian securities as noted in 5(a) above.

6. Dividends

Amounts recognised as distributable to shareholders for the year ended 31 January 2025, were as follows:

Â	2025	2024
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Final dividend paid for the year ended 31 January 2024 of 4.0p per share	4,838	-
Final dividend paid for the year ended 31 January 2023 of 2.3p per share	-	2,782

In respect of the year ended 31 January 2025, a final dividend of 4.9p per share has been proposed and will be reflected in the Annual Report for the year ending 31 January 2026. Details of the ex-dividend and payment dates are provided on page 45.

The Boardâ€™s current policy is to pay dividends only out of revenue reserves. Therefore the amount available for distribution as at 31 January 2025 is Â£11,124,000 (2024: Â£9,398,000).

The dividends payable in respect of both the current and the previous financial year, which meet the requirements of Section 1158 CTA 2010, are set out below:

Â	2025	2024
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Revenue available for distribution by way of dividend for the year	6,564	5,171
Final dividend of 4.9p per share (2024: final dividend of 4.0p)	(5,818)	(4,838)
Transfer to revenue reserves	**682**	**333**

Dividends paid by the Company on its shares are recognised in the financial statements in the year in which they are paid and are shown in the Statement of Changes in Equity.

7. Return per Share

The return per share is as follows:

Â	Â	2025	Â	Â	2024	Â
Â	Revenue	Capital	Total	Revenue	Capital	Total
Â	pence	pence	pence	pence	pence	pence
Basic	5.4	31.7	37.1	4.3p	(9.3)p	(5.0)p

The total return per share is based on the total return attributable to shareholders of Â£44,821,000 (2024: loss of Â£6,061,000).

The revenue return per share is based on the net revenue return attributable to shareholders of Â£6,564,000 (2024: Â£5,171,000).

The capital return per share is based on the net capital return attributable to shareholders of Â£38,257,000 (2024: loss of Â£11,232,000).

The total return, revenue return and the capital return per share are based on the weighted average number of shares in issue during the year of 120,899,602 (2024: 120,958,386).

The calculations of the returns per Ordinary Share have been carried out in accordance with IAS 33 Earnings per Share.

8. Investments

Â	2025	2024
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Investments	**Â**	**Â**
Opening cost	352,944	320,883
Opening investment holding gains	117,165	153,516
Opening Valuation	**470,109**	**474,399**
Purchases at cost	123,228	84,889
Disposal proceeds	(133,123)	(87,161)
Gains/(losses) on investments	49,989	(2,018)
Valuation at end of year	**510,203**	**470,109**
Cost at 31 January	372,632	352,944
Investment holding gains at 31 January	137,571	117,165
Valuation at 31 January	**510,203**	**470,109**

The Company received Â£133,123,000 (2024: Â£87,161,000) from investments sold in the year. The book cost of these investments when they were purchased was Â£103,540,000 (2024: Â£52,828,000). These investments have been revalued over time and until they were sold any unrealised gains/losses were included in the fair value of the investments.

During the year the Company incurred transaction costs on purchases of Â£155,000 (2024: Â£110,000) and transaction costs on sales of Â£263,000 (2024: Â£169,000).

Valuation of Investments

Investments are measured initially and at subsequent reporting dates at fair value. Purchases and sales are recognised on the trade date when a contract exists whose terms require delivery within the time frame established by the market concerned. For quoted securities fair value is either bid price or last traded price, depending on the convention of the exchange on which the investment is listed. Changes in fair value and gains or losses on disposal are included in the Income Statement as a capital item.

In addition, for financial reporting purposes, fair value measurements are categorised into a fair value hierarchy based on the degree to which the inputs to the fair value measurements are observable and the significance of the inputs to the fair value measurement in its entirety, which are described as follows:

Level 1 â€“ Quoted prices in active markets.

Level 2 â€“ Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable (i.e. developed using market data), either directly or indirectly.

Level 3 â€“ Inputs are unobservable (i.e. for which market data is unavailable).

All investments are in equity shares and have been classified as Level 1 (2023: All Level 1).

9. Debtors

Â	2025	2024
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Amounts due from brokers	1,008	746
Accrued income	179	279
Other debtors	65	7
Â	**1,252**	**1,032**

10. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

Â	2025	2024
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Amounts due to brokers	781	-
Portfolio management fee â€“ Stewart Investors	1,081	1,002
AIFM fee â€“ Frostrow	135	128
Other creditors	400	177
Â	**2,397**	**1,307**

11. Provisions for Liabilities

Â	2025	2024
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Deferred taxation on unrealised capital gains on Indian securities	13,645	11,206

See note 5 for further details and accounting policy.

12. Share Capital

Â	2025	2024
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Allotted and fully paid:	Â	Â
120,588,386 Ordinary shares of 12.5p each (2024: 120,958,386)	15,074	15,120

During the current and prior year, no Ordinary shares were issued. 370,000 (2024: Nil) Ordinary shares were bought back for cancellation.

The capital of the Company is managed in accordance with its investment policy which is detailed in the Strategic Report on pages 22 and 23.

The Company does not have any externally imposed capital requirements.

13. Net Asset Value Per Share

The net asset value per share of 417.5 p (2024: 384.3p) is calculated on net assets of Â£503,441,000 (2024: Â£464,819,000) divided by 120,588,386 (2024: 120,958,386) shares, being the number of shares in issue at the year end.

14. Financial Instruments

The Companyâ€™s financial instruments comprise its investment portfolio, cash balances, and debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations. As an investment trust, the Company holds an investment portfolio of financial assets in pursuit of its investment objective.

Fixed asset investments (see note 8 on page 74) are valued at fair value in accordance with the Companyâ€™s accounting policies. The fair value of all other financial assets and liabilities is represented by their carrying value in the Statement of Financial Position shown on page 68.

The main risks that the Company faces arising from its financial instruments are:

Â(i)Â Â market risk, including:

- ÂÂÂ other price risk, being the risk that the value of investments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices;
- ÂÂÂ interest rate risk, being the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument willÂ fluctuate because of changes in interest rates;
- ÂÂÂ foreign currency risk, being the risk that the value of financial assets and liabilities will fluctuate because of movements in currency rates;

Â(ii)Â credit risk, being the risk that a counterparty to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation or commitment that it has entered into with the Company; and

Â(iii) liquidity risk, being the risk that the Company will not be able to meet its liabilities when they fall due. This may arise should the Company not be able to liquidate its investments. Under normal market trading volumes, the majority of the investment portfolio could be realised within a week.

Other price risk

The management of other price risk is part of the portfolio management process and is typical of equity investment.

The investment portfolio is managed with an awareness of the effects of adverse price movements through detailed and continuing analysis with an objective of maximising overall returns to shareholders. Further information on how the investment portfolio is managed is set out on page 2. Although it is the Companyâ€™s current policy not to use derivatives they may be used from time to time, with prior Board approval, to hedge specific market risk or gain exposure to a specific market.

If the investment portfolio valuation rose or fell by 10% at 31 January, the impact on the net asset value would have been Â£51.0 million (2024: Â£46.3 million). The calculations are based on the investment portfolio valuation as at the respective Statement of Financial Position dates and are not necessarily representative of the year as a whole.

Interest rate risk

Floating rate

When the Company retains cash balances the majority of the cash is held in overnight call accounts. The benchmark rate which determines the interest payments received on cash balances is the bank base rate for the relevant currency for each deposit.

Foreign currency risk

The Company invests in overseas securities and holds foreign currency cash balances which give rise to currency risks. Foreign currency risks are managed alongside other market risks as part of the management of the investment portfolio. It is currently not the Companyâ€™s policy to hedge this risk on a continuing basis but it can do so from time to time.

Foreign currency exposure:

Â	2025				2024			
Â	Investments	Cash	Debtors	Creditors/ Provisions	Investments	Cash	Debtors	Creditors/ Provisions
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Indian rupee	208,458	437	1,061	(13,942)	218,067	2,063	783	(11,206)
New Taiwanese dollar	80,473	-	-	-	51,623	5	-	-
Chinese renminbi	53,787	-	-	-	43,006	-	-	-
Singapore dollar	27,286	485	-	-	21,562	688	-	-
Indonesian rupiah	27,224	-	15	-	36,489	-	-	-
Korean won	27,060	-	74	-	25,379	-	95	-
Japanese yen	23,279	-	29	-	37,707	-	106	-
Philippine peso	20,251	-	-	(484)	4,688	-	-	-
Hong Kong dollar	17,927	-	-	-	13,173	-	-	-
Thai baht	9,672	-	-	-	9,471	-	-	-
US dollar	6,508	434	-	-	-	464	-	-
Malaysian ringgit	5,585	-	-	-	4,586	-	-	-
Bangladesh taka	2,693	-	-	-	4,358	-	-	-
Euro	-	8	-	-	-	2	-	-
Total	**510,203**	1,364	**1,179**	**(14,426)**	**470,109**	**3,222**	**984**	**(11,206)**

At 31 January 2025 the Company had Â£7,096,000 of sterling cash balances (2024: Â£2,969,000).

During the year sterling weakened 1.1% (2024: strengthened by 7.5%) against all of the currencies in the investment portfolio (weighted for exposure at 31 January). If the value of sterling had strengthened against each of the currencies in the portfolio by 10%, the impact on the net asset value would have been negative Â£46.4 million (2024: negative Â£43.3 million). If the value of sterling had weakened against each of the currencies in the investment portfolio by 10%, the impact on the net asset value would have been positive Â£56.7 million (2024: positive Â£52.9 million). The calculations are based on the investment portfolio valuation and cash balances as at the year end and are not necessarily representative of the year as a whole.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a counterparty to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation or commitment that it has entered into with the Company. The Portfolio Manager has in place a monitoring procedure in respect of counterparty risk which is reviewed on an ongoing basis. The carrying amounts of financial assets best represents the maximum credit risk exposure at the Statement of Financial Position date, and the main exposure to credit risk is via the Custodian which is responsible for the safeguarding of the Companyâ€™s investments and cash balances.

At the reporting date, the Companyâ€™s financial assets exposed to credit risk amounted to the following:

Â	2025	2024
Â	Â£â€™000	Â£â€™000
Cash	8,028	6,191
Debtors	1,252	1,032
Â	9,280	7,223

All the assets of the Company which are traded on a recognised exchange are held by J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, the Custodian. Bankruptcy or insolvency of the Custodian may cause the Companyâ€™s rights with respect to securities held by the Custodian to be delayed or limited. The Board monitors the Companyâ€™s risk as described in the Strategic Report on pages 25 to 28.

The credit risk on cash is controlled through the use of counterparties or banks with high credit ratings (rated AA or higher), assigned by international credit rating agencies. Cash is currently held at JP Morgan Chase Bank. Bankruptcy or insolvency of such financial institutions may cause the Companyâ€™s ability to access cash placed on deposit to be delayed, limited or lost.

Liquidity risk

The Companyâ€™s liquidity risk is managed on an ongoing basis by the Portfolio Manager. Substantially all of the Companyâ€™s portfolio would be realisable within two weeks under normal market conditions. There may be circumstances where market liquidity is lower than normal. Stress tests have been performed to understand how long the portfolio would take to realise in such situations. The Board is comfortable that in such a situation the Company would be able to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

Capital management policies and procedures

The Companyâ€™s capital management objectives are to ensure that it will be able to continue as a going concern and to maximise the return to its equity shareholders.

The Companyâ€™s policy on gearing and leverage is set out on page 23. The Company had no gearing or leverage during the current or prior year.

The capital structure of the Company consists of the equity share capital, retained earnings and other reserves as shown in the Statement of Financial Position on page 68.

The Board, with the assistance of the AIFM and the Portfolio Manager, monitors and reviews the broad structure of the Companyâ€™s capital on an ongoing basis. This includes a review of:

- the need to buy back equity shares, either for cancellation or to hold in treasury, in light of any share price discount to net asset value per share in accordance with the Companyâ€™s share buy back policy;
- the need for new issues of equity shares, including issues from treasury; and
- the extent to which revenue in excess of that which is required to be distributed should be retained.

The Companyâ€™s objectives, policies and processes for managing capital are unchanged from the prior year.

15. Reserves

Capital redemption reserve

This reserve arose when ordinary shares were redeemed by the Company and subsequently cancelled, at which point the amount equal to the par value of the ordinary share capital was transferred from the ordinary share capital to the Capital Redemption Reserve.

Special reserve

The Special Reserve arose following court approval in February 1999 to transfer Â£24.2 million from the share premium account.

Capital reserve

The following are accounted for in this reserve: gains and losses on the disposal of investments; changes in the fair value of investments; and expenses and finance costs, together with the related taxation effect, charged to capital in accordance with note 5 on page 71. Any gains in the fair value of investments that are not readily convertible to cash are treated as unrealised gains in the capital reserve.

Revenue reserve

The Revenue Reserve reflects all income and expenses that are recognised in the revenue column of the Income Statement.

Distributable reserves

The Revenue, Special and Capital Reserves are distributable. It is the Boardâ€™s current policy to pay dividends only from the revenue reserve.

16. Related Party Transactions and Transactions with the Managers

The following are considered to be related parties:

- Frostrow Capital LLP (under the Listing Rules only)
- Stewart Investors (under the Listing Rules only)
- The Directors of the Company.

Details of the relationship between the Company and Frostrow Capital LLP, the Companyâ€™s AIFM, are disclosed on pages 45 and 46. During the year ended 31 January 2025, Frostrow earned Â£543,000 (2024: Â£507,000) in respect of company management fees, of which Â£135,000 (2024: Â£128,000) was outstanding at the year end.

The Company employs Stewart Investors as its Portfolio Manager. Details of this arrangement are disclosed on page 45. During the year ended 31 January 2025, Stewart Investors earned Â£4,302,000 (2024: Â£3,985,000) in respect of portfolio management fees, of which Â£1,081,000 (2024: Â£1,002,000) was outstanding at the year end.

All material related party transactions have been disclosed in notes 3 and 4 on pages 70 and 71. Details of the remuneration and the shareholdings of all Directors can be found on page 57.

Â

The figures and financial information for 2024 are extracted from the published Annual Report for the year ended 31 January 2024 and do not constitute the statutory accounts for that year. The Annual Report for the year ended 31 January 2024 has been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and included the Independent Auditorâ€™s Report which was unqualified and did not contain a statement under either section 498(2) or section 498(3) of the Companies Act 2006.

The figures and financial information for 2025 are extracted from the Annual Report and financial statements for the year ended 31 January 2025 and do not constitute the statutory accounts for the year.Â The Annual Report for the year ended 31 January 2025 includes the Independent Auditorâ€™s Report which is unqualified and does not contain a statement under either section 498(2) or section 498(3) of the Companies Act 2006.Â The Annual Report and financial statements have not yet been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

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Glossary of Terms and Alternative Performance Measures (unaudited)

Absolute Performance

Absolute performance is the percentage (%) rise or fall in the share price of the investment over the stated period. Relative performance, on the other hand, is the difference between the absolute return and the performance of the market (or other similar investments), which is gauged by a benchmark, or index such as the MSCI AC Asia ex Japan Index.

AIFMD

The Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive (the â€˜Directiveâ€™) is a European Union Directive that entered into force on 22 July 2013. The Directive, which was retained in UK law following the withdrawal of the UK from the European Union, regulates fund managers that manage alternative investment funds (including investment trusts).

Where an entity falls within the scope of the Directive, it must appoint a single Alternative Investment Fund Manager (â€˜AIFMâ€™). The core functions of an AIFM are portfolio and risk management. An AIFM can delegate one but not both of these functions. The entity must also appoint an independent depositary whose duties include the following: safeguarding and verification of the ownership of assets; monitoring cashflows; and ensuring that appropriate valuations are applied to the entityâ€™s assets.

Average Discount

The average share price for the period divided by the average net asset value for the period minus 1.

Â	2025	2024
Â	pence	pence
Average share price for the year	369.1	363.1
Average net asset value for the year	417.3	388.0
Average Discount	**11.5%**	**6.4%**

Bottom-Up Approach

An investment approach that focuses on the analysis of individual stocks rather than the significance of macroeconomic factors.

Discount or Premium

A description of the difference between the share price and the net asset value per share. The size of the discount or premium is calculated by subtracting the share price from the net asset value per share and is usually expressed as a percentage (%) of the net asset value per share. If the share price is higher than the net asset value per share the result is a premium. If the share price is lower than the net asset value per share, the shares are trading at a discount.

Gearing

The term used to describe the process of borrowing money for investment purposes. The expectation is that the returns on the investments purchased will exceed the finance costs associated with those borrowings.

There are several methods of calculating gearing and the following has been selected:

Total assets less current liabilities (before deducting any prior charges) minus cash/cash equivalents divided by shareholdersâ€™ funds, expressed as a percentage.

Net Asset Value (â€œNAVâ€)

The value of the Companyâ€™s assets, principally investments made in other companies and cash being held, minus any liabilities. The NAV is also described as â€œshareholdersâ€™ fundsâ€ per share. The NAV is often expressed in pence per share after being divided by the number of shares which have been issued. The NAV per share is unlikely to be the same as the share price which is the price at which the Companyâ€™s shares can be bought or sold by an investor. The share price is determined by the relationship between the demand for and supply of the shares.

NAV Per Share Total Return

The total return on an investment over a specified period assuming dividends paid to shareholders were reinvested at net asset value per share at the time the shares were quoted ex-dividend. This is a way of measuring investment management performance of investment trusts which is not affected by movements in discounts or premiums.

Â	31 January	31 January
Â	2025	2024
NAV Total Return	p	p
Opening NAV	384.3	391.6
Increase/(decrease) in NAV	37.2	(5.0)
Dividend paid	(4.0)	(2.3)
Closing NAV	**417.5**	**384.3**
Increase/(decrease) in NAV	**9.7%**	**(1.3)%**
Impact of reinvested dividends	0.0%	0.0%

NAV Total Return	**9.7%**	**(1.3)%**

Ongoing Charges

Ongoing charges are calculated by taking the Companyâ€™s annualised operating expenses as a proportion of the average daily net asset value of the Company over the year. The costs of buying and selling investments are excluded, as are interest costs, taxation, cost of buying back or issuing ordinary shares and other non-recurring costs.

Â Â Â Â	31 January 2025 Â£â€™000	31 January 2024 Â£â€™000
Operating expenses[1]	5,708	5,287
Average net assets during the year	504,629	469,515
Ongoing charges	**1.1%**	**1.1%**

1 See notes 3 and 4 on pages 70 and 71.

Performance Objective

The Companyâ€™s performance objective, against which the Portfolio Managerâ€™s performance is measured, is to provide shareholders with a net asset value total return in excess of the UK Consumer Price Index (â€œCPIâ€) plus 6% (calculated on an annual basis) measured over three to five years. The Consumer Price Index is published by the UK Office for National Statistics and represents inflation. The additional 6% is a fixed element to represent what the Board considers to be a reasonable premium on investorsâ€™ capital which investing in the faster-growing Asian economies ought to provide over time. The performance objective is designed to reflect that the Portfolio Managerâ€™s approach does not consider index composition when investing.

Â	Total Return (annualised)		
Â	Share Price	NAV	CPI + 6%
Â	(%)	(%)	(%)
One year to 31 January 2025	3.7	9.7	8.8
Three years to 31 January 2025	2.5	4.6	12.1
Five years to 31 January 2025	6.9	8.7	11.0

Portfolio Turnover

Portfolio turnover is a measure of how quickly securities in a fund are either bought or sold by the fundâ€™s managers, over a given period of time. The rate of turnover is important for potential investors to consider, as funds that have a high rate will also have higher fees to reflect the turnover costs.

It is calculated as the average of the purchases and sales for the year divided by the average net assets for the year.

Revenue Return per Share

The revenue return per share is calculated by taking the return on ordinary activities after taxation and dividing it by the weighted average number of shares in issue during the year (see note 7 on page 73 for further information).

Share Price Total Return

The total return on an investment over a specified period assuming dividends paid to shareholders were reinvested in the Companyâ€™s shares at the share price at the time the shares were quoted ex-dividend.

Â	31 January	31 January
Â	2025	2024
Share Price Total Return	p	p
Opening share price	349.0	358.0
Increase/(decrease) in share price	13.0	(6.7)
Dividend paid	(4.0)	(2.3)
Closing share price	**358.0**	**349.0**
Increase/(decrease) in share price	**3.7%**	**(1.9)%**
Impact of reinvested dividends	0.0%	0.0%
Share Price Total Return	**3.7%**	**(1.9)%**

Volatility

A measure of the range of possible returns for a given security or market index.

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ANNOUNCEMENT ENDS

Neither the contents of the Company's website nor the contents of any website accessible from hyperlinks on the Company's website (or any other website) is incorporated into, or forms part of, this announcement.

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