# IFSL James Hambro Umbrella Fund

Interim Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024



#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

#### **Registered Office**

Marlborough House 59 Chorley New Road Bolton BL1 4QP

## **Authorised Corporate Director (ACD)**

Investment Fund Services Limited (IFSL) Marlborough House 59 Chorley New Road Bolton BL1 4QP

Investor Support: (0808) 178 9321 (FREEPHONE)

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

#### **Directors of IFSL**

Andrew Staley (Non-Executive)
Allan Hamer
Dom Clarke
Helen Redmond
Sally Helston
Katherine Damsell (Independent Non-Executive)
Sarah Peaston (Independent Non-Executive)

#### **Investment Manager**

James Hambro & Partners LLP 45 Pall Mall London SW1Y 5JG

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

## Depositary

NatWest Trustee & Depositary Services Limited 250 Bishopsgate London EC2M 4AA

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

## Administrator and Registrar (from 1 June 2024)

SS&C Financial Services International Limited New Marlborough House 55-57 Chorley New Road Bolton BL1 4QR

#### Auditor

Ernst & Young LLP Atria One 144 Morrison Street Edinburgh EH3 8EX

#### Administrator and Registrar (to 1 June 2024)

Investment Fund Services Limited (IFSL) Marlborough House 59 Chorley New Road Bolton BL1 4QP

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#### **AUTHORISED STATUS**

IFSL James Hambro Umbrella Fund (the Company) is an open-ended investment company (OEIC) with variable capital incorporated under the OEIC Regulations. The Company is a UCITS Scheme as defined in the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook (COLL) and is also an umbrella company for the purposes of the OEIC Regulations. The Company is incorporated in England and Wales with registered number IC000687. The Company was authorised by an order made by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) with effect from 13 June 2008 and laid dormant until the scheme of amalgamation on 1 October 2012. The Company has an unlimited duration.

The Company currently has four sub-funds: IFSL James Hambro Barnham Broom Fund; IFSL James Hambro Master Fund; IFSL James Hambro Penrhos Fund; and IFSL James Hambro Rires Fund.

Shareholders of the sub-funds do not have any proprietary interest in the underlying assets of the Company and will not be liable for the debts of the Company. A sub-fund is not a legal entity. If the assets attributable to a sub-fund were insufficient to meet its liabilities the shortfall will not be met out of the assets attributable to one or more other sub-funds of the Company. The sub-funds are segregated by law under the Protected Cell Regime.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### IFSL James Hambro Barnham Broom Fund

#### Investment objective

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to grow the value of your investment over a period of at least 5 years, through both capital growth, which is profit on investments, and income, which is money paid out from an investment, such as interest and dividends.

#### Investment policy

The sub-fund will invest in a broad range of asset classes and investments across different industries and geographical regions, however not all assets classes may be held at all times. This will include:

- 40% to 85% in shares in companies;
- up to 35% in bonds and loans issued by governments, supra-national organisations and companies;
- up to 30% in real assets such as property, infrastructure and commodities (e.g. gold and raw materials); and
- up to 40% in cash.

These asset classes may be held directly (although the sub-fund will not invest directly in real assets), through other funds (which could include other funds managed by the Authorised Corporate Director or the Investment Manager), exchange traded funds, exchange traded contracts, investment trusts, or structured products, which are securities whose returns are linked to underlying assets or markets.

The sub-fund may also invest in preference shares, bonds which may be converted into shares (known as convertible bonds) and money market instruments, which are shorter term loans.

The sub-fund can use derivatives or forward transactions to manage currency exposure and for efficient portfolio management. The sub-fund will not always hold these, however at times they may be held for extended periods. The use of derivatives is not expected to have a significant impact on the risk profile of the sub-fund. Any underlying funds held within this sub-fund may also use derivatives to varying degrees.

The sub-fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager decides which investments to buy and when. Investments selected are based on those the Investment Manager believes will deliver returns consistent with the overall investment objective.

The Investment Manager will decide the proportion of the sub-fund to be held in each asset class, aiming to achieve a balance which appears most likely to deliver returns consistent with the overall investment objective. This decision, at any given time, will be influenced by the Investment Manager's view of current economic and other circumstances.

#### Assessing performance

The Investment Association (IA), the trade body for UK investment managers, has created a number of 'sectors' as a way of dividing funds into broad groups with similar characteristics.

The sub-fund will be in the IA Mixed Investment 40-85% shares sector. You may want to assess the sub-fund's performance compared to the performance of this sector.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### **IFSL James Hambro Master Fund**

#### Investment objective

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to provide income, that is, money paid out from an investment such as dividends from shares or interest from bonds. The sub-fund aims to grow the total annual income distribution per share paid out to shareholders, in line with inflation, measured using the UK Consumer Price Index, each year. The sub-fund also aims to increase the value of an investment over a minimum of 10 years.

#### **Investment policy**

The sub-fund will invest in a diversified portfolio of assets. Typically, around 70% of the sub-fund will be invested in shares in companies. However, the sub-fund is unconstrained and the equity allocation may be significantly lower in volatile market conditions in order to protect the value of the sub-fund.

The sub-fund will also invest in bonds, which are loans issued by companies, governments and other institutions. This may include investment grade bonds, where the issuer has a higher capacity to repay the debt, as well as sub-investment grade bonds, which can be more vulnerable to changing market conditions but typically pay a higher rate of interest. Typically, around 10-30% of the sub-fund will be invested in bonds, however during extreme market conditions this may rise significantly higher, potentially up to 100% of the sub-fund.

The sub-fund may also invest in other securities whose returns are linked to the performance of a company, such as preference shares and warrants, money market instruments, which are shorter term loans. The sub-fund may also hold cash.

The sub-fund may invest in the above asset classes directly or gain exposure indirectly, through other funds (which could include other funds managed by the Authorised Corporate Director or the Investment Manager), including exchange-traded funds, which typically track an index and investment trusts.

The sub-fund is actively managed which means the Investment Manager decides the nature and timing of investment decisions in order to meet the overall objective. These decisions will be influenced by the Investment Manager's view of the current economic conditions and other factors such as interest rates.

Where the sub-fund invests directly in companies, there will be no particular emphasis on any industry or sector. However, there will be no investment in tobacco, alcohol or gambling companies (as defined by any of these activities representing more than 50% of the company's turnover).

The sub-fund may also use forward transactions and derivatives (which are instruments whose value is linked to the performance of an underlying asset or another variable factor, such as stock markets and currencies). These are used for efficient portfolio management; in order to protect the value of the sub-fund, to reduce the cost of investing, or to generate additional capital or income without significantly affecting the risk profile of the sub-fund. Whilst the sub-fund will not always use these instruments, at times they may be held for extended periods. Other funds held may also use derivatives to varying degrees.

#### Performance target

The performance target is the level of performance the sub-fund aims to deliver however there is no certainty this will be achieved. The sub-fund aims to grow the percentage of income paid out each year, net of fees, in line with (or better than) movements in the UK Consumer Price Index (UK CPI). The UK CPI is one of the most widely used measures of inflation.

#### Assessing performance

The Investment Association (IA), the trade body for UK investment managers, has created a number of 'sectors' as a way of dividing funds into broad groups with similar characteristics.

The sub-fund will be a member of the IA Flexible Sector. You may want to assess the sub-fund's performance compared to the performance of this sector. From time to time, due to the nature of the IA Flexible Investment sector, the sub-fund may have an asset allocation which is different to the average of the sector. This variable nature of the sector should be taken into consideration when comparing the performance of the sub-fund.

#### **IFSL James Hambro Penrhos Fund**

## Investment objective

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to grow the value of your investment over a period of at least 5 years, through both capital growth, which is profit on investments, and income, which is money paid out from an investment, such as interest and dividends.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### IFSL James Hambro Penrhos Fund (continued)

#### **Investment policy**

The sub-fund will invest in a broad range of asset classes and investments across different industries and geographical regions, however not all assets classes may be held at all times. This will include:

- 40% to 85% in shares in companies;
- up to 35% in bonds and loans issued by governments, supra-national organisations and companies;
- up to 30% in real assets such as property, infrastructure and commodities (e.g. gold and raw materials); and
- up to 40% in cash.

These asset classes may be held directly (although the sub-fund will not invest directly in real assets), through other funds (which could include other funds managed by the Authorised Corporate Director or the Investment Manager), exchange traded funds, exchange traded contracts, investment trusts, or structured products, which are securities whose returns are linked to underlying assets or markets.

The sub-fund may also invest in preference shares, bonds which may be converted into shares (known as convertible bonds) and money market instruments, which are shorter term loans.

The sub-fund can use derivatives or forward transactions to manage currency exposure and for efficient portfolio management. The sub-fund will not always hold these, however at times they may be held for extended periods. The use of derivatives is not expected to have a significant impact on the risk profile of the sub-fund. Any underlying funds held within this sub-fund may also use derivatives to varying degrees.

The sub-fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager decides which investments to buy and when. Investments selected are based on those the Investment Manager believes will deliver returns consistent with the overall investment objective.

The Investment Manager will decide the proportion of the sub-fund to be held in each asset class, aiming to achieve a balance which appears most likely to deliver returns consistent with the overall investment objective. This decision, at any given time, will be influenced by the Investment Manager's view of current economic and other circumstances.

#### Assessing performance

The Investment Association (IA), the trade body for UK investment managers, has created a number of 'sectors' as a way of dividing funds into broad groups with similar characteristics.

The sub-fund will be in the IA Mixed Investment 40-85% shares sector. You may want to assess the sub-fund's performance compared to the performance of this sector.

#### **IFSL James Hambro Rires Fund**

## Investment objective

The investment objective of the sub-fund is to grow the value of your investment over a period of at least 5 years, through both capital growth, which is profit on investments, and income, which is money paid out from an investment, such as interest and dividends.

## Investment policy

The sub-fund will invest in a broad range of asset classes and investments across different industries and geographical regions, however not all assets classes may be held at all times. This will include:

- 40% to 85% in shares in companies;
- up to 35% in bonds and loans issued by governments, supra-national organisations and companies;
- up to 30% in real assets such as property, infrastructure and commodities (e.g. gold and raw materials); and
- up to 40% in cash.

These asset classes may be held directly (although the sub-fund will not invest directly in real assets), through other funds (which could include other funds managed by the Authorised Corporate Director or the Investment Manager), exchange traded funds, exchange traded contracts, investment trusts, or structured products, which are securities whose returns are linked to underlying assets or markets.

The sub-fund may also invest in preference shares, bonds which may be converted into shares (known as convertible bonds) and money market instruments, which are shorter term loans.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### IFSL James Hambro Rires Fund (continued)

#### Investment policy (continued)

The sub-fund can use derivatives or forward transactions to manage currency exposure and for efficient portfolio management. The sub-fund will not always hold these, however at times they may be held for extended periods. The use of derivatives is not expected to have a significant impact on the risk profile of the sub-fund. Any underlying funds held within this sub-fund may also use derivatives to varying degrees.

The sub-fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager decides which investments to buy and when. Investments selected are based on those the Investment Manager believes will deliver returns consistent with the overall investment objective.

The Investment Manager will decide the proportion of the sub-fund to be held in each asset class, aiming to achieve a balance which appears most likely to deliver returns consistent with the overall investment objective. This decision, at any given time, will be influenced by the Investment Manager's view of current economic and other circumstances.

#### Assessing performance

The Investment Association (IA), the trade body for UK investment managers, has created a number of 'sectors' as a way of dividing funds into broad groups with similar characteristics.

The sub-fund will be in the IA Mixed Investment 40-85% shares sector. You may want to assess the sub-fund's performance compared to the performance of this sector.

#### Rights and terms attached to each share class

A share of each class represents a proportional entitlement to the assets of the sub-fund. The allocation of income and taxation and the rights of each share in the event that a sub-fund is wound up are on the same proportional basis.

#### Task force on climate-related financial disclosures

A statement of the climate related financial disclosures is published on the website https://www.ifslfunds.com/tcfd-reporting.

#### Changes in prospectus

On 1 June 2024, SS&C Financial Services International Limited became the administrator and registrar of the Fund. Prior to this date the administrator and registrar was IFSL.

Up to date Key Investor Information Documents, Prospectus and Long Reports and Financial Statements for any fund within the ACD's range, can be requested by the investor at any time.

#### **Cross holdings**

The sub-funds of the Company do not hold shares in other sub-funds of the Company.

#### **AUTHORISED CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

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

Allan Hamer Director Helen Redmond Director

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Investment Fund Services Limited 22 November 2024

#### NOTES TO THE INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

#### Basis for preparation

The interim financial statements have been prepared in compliance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for UK Authorised Funds issued by The Investment Association in May 2014 and amended in June 2017.

The interim financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the sub-funds. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The interim financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of investments and certain financial instruments at fair value.

## **Accounting policies**

The accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 and are described in those annual financial statements.

The investments of the sub-funds have been valued at their fair value at 12 noon on 30 September 2024.

#### **AUTHORISED INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT**

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

#### Performance to 30 September 2024

	Six months	<u>1 year</u>	<u>3 years</u>	<u>5 years</u>
IFSL James Hambro Barnham Broom Fund	2.94%	13.12%	6.01%	24.52%
IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares sector	3.33%	13.84%	7.51%	25.46%

External Source of Economic Data: Morningstar (Income shares - quoted to quoted, net income reinvested).

The performance figures above are based on quoted prices and will, therefore, differ from the performance in the Comparative Table.

Capital at risk. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance; the value of your investment and any income from it can go down as well as up. Performance returns are based on the net asset value with distributable income reinvested and take account of all ongoing charges, but not entry charges (if applicable). The past performance of this share class is calculated in sterling.

#### Investment commentary

IFSL James Hambro Barnham Broom Fund (the sub-fund) made further ground during the six-month period.

The core of the sub-fund is invested in a collection of high quality, global companies. These equity holdings are complemented by a range of other assets such as government bonds, gold, alternatives and cash to provide protection when equity markets inevitably experience difficult times.

The balance of the sub-fund's investments was broadly unchanged over the period. The sub-fund started with c.68.5% invested in companies – a level which might be considered near 'neutral' over the long run – and finished with c.68.8% due to performance, despite additions to the sub-fund in September and early October ahead of the UK Budget.

Performance was strong across many of the sub-fund's equity positions, such as Intuitive Surgical, AIA and S&P Global. We have written before of our hopes that equity returns will broaden over time and we saw further evidence of this which supported the sub-fund's relative performance.

Some of our existing holdings such as JPMorgan and Amphenol had relatively tougher times in the period, but we remain confident in their underlying earnings growth and outlook going forwards, allowing them to remain structural winners in their respective markets.

The defensive portion of the sub-fund was maintained and delivered reasonable returns. This included the sub-fund's c.5.6% allocation to gold, with the gold price rising c.15% in dollar terms. The complexion of the sub-fund's bonds was adjusted during the period with the residual US Treasury holdings reinvested into UK government bonds.

Within the equity piece, there were changes driven by sales for holding-specific reasons, elevated valuations affecting some long-standing positions and new opportunities. Overall, the number of equity positions remained flat at 29 over the period, with one new equity fund position added, the M&G Japan Fund.

In the period, we added Synopsys, which produce low cost, value-add applications that are critical for their customers to design their latest semiconductor chips. The addition of Synopsys provides a way of participating in the structural growth of the semiconductor industry without some of the cyclicality of the sector. This is due to their revenues being linked to R&D budgets, which have not historically been cut in downturns. The business has 80% recurring revenues and 3yr rolling contracts, providing visibility of continued strong growth of the business.

We also initiated a position in Intercontinental Exchange (ICE), a leading global provider of data and technology with over half of its revenues recurring in nature. The company owns the New York Stock Exchange, dominates energy trading and derivatives, has leading pricing and reference data for fixed income markets. ICE also has the leading platform for end-to-end automation of mortgage workflows. This division should benefit as housing volumes recovery on the back of interest rate cuts.

Our core scenario coming into 2024 was that falling inflation would allow central banks to cut interest rates, supporting equity markets. We remain conscious of the range of outcomes that may yet come to fruition, following the election of Donald Trump and ongoing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East providing sources of uncertainty amongst other developments. At this juncture, the internal dynamics of portfolio construction are expected to be a more significant driver of returns than headline changes to asset classes.

James Hambro & Partners LLP 15 November 2024

#### **Distributions**

	<u>Year 2024</u>	<u>Year 2023</u>	<u>Year 2022</u>	<u>Year 2021</u>
Income (pence per share)				
Net income paid 31 May	0.8027	0.5065	0.3325	-
Net income paid 30 November	0.8571	0.7347	0.7602	0.2387

# **AUTHORISED INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT**

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

# Portfolio changes

Largest purchases	Cost (£)
Synopsys UK Treasury 0.25% 31.07.31 UK Treasury 0.625% 31.07.35 Intercontinental Exchange M&G Japan 'PP' Sterling Ashtead Group Amundi Sand Grove Event Driven 'EB' GBP UK Treasury 1% 31.01.32 UK Treasury 0.875% 31.07.33 ASSA ABLOY 'B'	1,490,649 1,463,617 1,427,306 1,159,185 1,110,037 1,073,471 1,052,713 1,015,274 870,976 415,137
Other purchases	1,513,910
Total purchases for the period	12,592,275
<u>Largest sales</u>	Proceeds (£)
iShares \$ Treasury Bond 7-10yr UCITS ETF GBP Hedged UK Treasury 0.875% 31.07.33 Aon Pool Northrop Grumman Shell Polar Capital Global Technology 'I' Sterling Amphenol 'A' BlackRock ICS Sterling Liquidity 'Select' GBP	2,905,891 1,818,786 931,133 863,222 826,695 397,099 369,041 184,315 5,000
Total sales for the period	8,301,182

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLE**

Income shares Change in net assets per share	Period to 30.09.2024	Year to 31.03.2024	Year to 31.03.2023	Year to 31.03.2022
Onlinge in flet assets per share	pence	pence	pence	pence
Opening net asset value per share	197.24	182.42	192.21	180.73
Return before operating charges*	7.06	18.62	(6.23)	14.67
Operating charges	(1.24)	(2.26)	(2.29)	(2.62)
Return after operating charges*	5.82	16.36	(8.52)	12.05
Distributions on income shares	(0.86)	(1.54)	(1.27)	(0.57)
Closing net asset value per share	202.20	197.24	182.42	192.21
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.03	0.09	0.04	0.05
Performance				
Return after charges <sup>A</sup>	2.95%	8.97%	(4.43)%	6.67%
Other information				
Closing net asset value (£)	60,901,338	55,417,348	45,880,101	51,788,170
Closing number of shares	30,119,869	28,096,619	25,150,380	26,943,807
Operating charges	1.24% <sup>B,C</sup>	1.22% <sup>B</sup>	1.25%	1.36%
Direct transaction costs	0.02% <sup>C</sup>	0.05%	0.02%	0.03%
Prices (pence per share)				
Highest share price	203.80	198.50	191.80	203.90
Lowest share price	194.00	177.90	173.20	180.60

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>A</sup> The return after charges is calculated using the underlying investments bid prices.

Operating charges are normally the same as the Ongoing Charges Figures (OCFs) and are the total expenses paid by each share class in the period. Where it is considered unsuitable to use the total expenses paid by each share class in the period to calculate the OCF because of material changes to the sub-fund's charges an estimate will be calculated instead. The OCFs disclosed in the Key Investor Information Document (KIID) (available on IFSL's website, www.ifslfunds.com) give an estimate of future costs.

Direct transaction costs are the total charges for the period, included in the purchase and sale of investments in the portfolio of the subfund. These amounts are expressed as a percentage of the average net asset value over the period and the average shares in issue for the pence per share figures.

#### SYNTHETIC RISK AND REWARD INDICATOR

Lower risk						Higher risk	
<del></del>						<del></del>	
Typically lower re	wards				Typic	cally higher rewards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

This indicator aims to give you a measure of the price movement of the sub-fund based on past data. It uses historic returns over the last five years. If five years' data is not available, simulated data based on a representative portfolio are used.

The sub-fund has been measured as 4 because its investments have experienced moderate volatility in the past. During the period the synthetic risk and reward indicator has remained unchanged.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>B</sup> On 30 November 2023, The Investment Association amended the disclosure of fund charges and costs originally issued on the 2 July 2020. Consequently, we have excluded, where relevant, charges incurred by closed-ended vehicles such as investment trusts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>C</sup> These figures have been annualised.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

Holding or nominal value		Bid value	Percentage of total net assets
		£	%
	DEBT SECURITIES (31 March 2024 - 8.86%)		
	UK Treasury 0.25% 31.07.31	2,712,897	4.45
	UK Treasury 0.625% 31.07.35	1,408,853	2.31
	UK Treasury 0.875% 31.07.33	1,739,847	2.86
2,478,000	UK Treasury 1% 31.01.32	2,029,618	3.33
	Total Debt Securities	7,891,215	12.95
	EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS (31 March 2024 - 10.55%)		
90,000	iShares Physical Gold ETC USD	3,441,009	5.65
	Total Exchange Traded Funds	3,441,009	5.65
	UNIT TRUSTS / OEICS (31 March 2024 - 20.50%)		
	Amundi Sand Grove Event Driven 'EB' GBP	1,103,345	1.81
	BlackRock ICS Sterling Liquidity 'Select' GBP	1,000,734 1.095.813	1.64
	Brevan Howard Absolute Return Government Bond 'G' GBP	, , -	1.80
	Federated Hermes Asia ex-Japan Equity 'F2' Stg£	1,643,915	2.70 2.04
	Fidelity Sustainable Emerging Markets Equity 'R-G' GBP KLS Arete Macro 'SI-GBP'	1,240,000 997,895	2.04 1.64
•	Lansdowne European 'F' GBP	1,146,699	1.88
	Lazard Rathmore Alternative 'EA' GBP Hedged	1,140,099	1.92
·	Lumyna MW TOPS UCITS 'G' GBP	1,109,160	1.82
	M&G Japan 'PP' Sterling	1,102,478	1.81
	Polar Capital Global Technology 'I' Sterling	1,498,500	2.46
	T Rowe Price Health Sciences Equity 'I' GBP	1,254,650	2.06
110,000	Total Unit Trusts / OEICs	14,360,856	23.58
	<b>EQUITIES</b> (31 March 2024 - 57.58%)		
	United Kingdom (31 March 2024 - 11.72%)		
31,500	3i Group	1,042,650	1.71
19,130	Ashtead Group	1,109,923	1.82
47,250	Compass Group	1,139,670	1.87
11,490	Next	1,114,760	1.83
31,000	RELX	1,094,300	1.80
	Rio Tinto	1,008,693	1.66
40,470		982,005	1.61
	Total United Kingdom	7,492,001	12.30
	<b>Europe</b> (31 March 2024 - 5.90%)		
	ASSA ABLOY 'B'	1,262,043	2.07
	LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton	925,533	1.52
	Novo Nordisk	795,249	1.31
3,250		802,973	1.32
	Total Europe	3,785,798	6.22
450,000	Far East (31 March 2024 - 4.19%)	4 000 540	4.05
·	AIA Group	1,003,512	1.65
	Keyence	893,971	1.47
65,000	Total Far East	939,422 2,836,905	1.54 4.66
0.700	North America (31 March 2024 - 35.77%)	1 206 070	1.00
	Alphabet 'C' Amphenol 'A'	1,206,979	1.98
	Coca-Cola	1,229,062 1,309,095	2.02 2.15
	Intercontinental Exchange	1,276,656	2.10
	Intuitive Surgical	1,063,472	2.10 1.75
	JPMorgan Chase & Co	1,608,327	2.64
	Microsoft	1,308,715	2.15
	New Linde	1,260,580	2.13
	Progressive	1,535,516	2.52
0,200		1,000,010	2.02

## PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

as at 30 September 2024

Holding or nominal value		Bid value £	Percentage of total net assets %
	EQUITIES (continued)		
	North America (continued)		
3,400	S&P Global	1,300,114	2.13
3,330	Synopsys	1,275,061	2.09
9,000	Texas Instruments	1,404,267	2.31
3,000	Thermo Fisher Scientific	1,374,523	2.26
3,150	UnitedHealth Group	1,366,829	2.24
7,500	Visa 'A'	1,539,949	2.53
	Total North America	20,059,145	32.94
	Total Equities	34,173,849	56.12
	Portfolio of investments	59,866,929	98.30
	Net other assets	1,034,409	1.70
	Total net assets	60,901,338	100.00

All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities or regulated collective investment schemes within the meaning of the FCA rules unless otherwise stated.

# PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024	£
Total purchases cost, including transaction charges	12,592,275
Total sales proceeds, net of transaction charges	8,301,182

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

	30 Septem	ber 2024	30 Septemi	per 2023
	£	£	£	£
Income:				
Net capital gains/(losses)		1,445,907		(584,370)
Revenue	559,889		466,314	
Expenses	(290,405)	_	(251,164)	
Net revenue before taxation	269,484		215,150	
Taxation	(17,420)	_	(17,394)	
Net revenue after taxation		252,064	<u>-</u>	197,756
Total return before distributions		1,697,971		(386,614)
Distributions		(252,064)		(197,756)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders			-	
from investment activities		1,445,907	=	(584,370)

## STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

	30 September 2024		30 September 2024 30 September	
	£	£	£	£
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	А	55,417,348		45,880,101
Amounts receivable on issue of shares Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	5,167,242 (1,129,159)	4 000 000	7,135,049 (3,878,559)	2.050.400
		4,038,083		3,256,490
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		1,445,907		(584,370)
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	-	60,901,338	Α	48,552,221

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>A</sup> These figures are not the same as the comparatives are taken from the preceding interim period and not the last annual accounts.

# **BALANCE SHEET**

	30 September 2024 £	31 March 2024 £
Assets:	~	~
Fixed Assets:		
Investments	59,866,929	54,026,787
Current Assets:		
Debtors	64,698	88,393
Cash and bank balances	1,278,281	1,593,204
Total assets	61,209,908	55,708,384
Liabilities:		
Creditors:		
Bank overdrafts	-	4,535
Distribution payable on income shares	258,176	225,559
Other creditors	50,394	60,942
Total liabilities	308,570	291,036
Net assets attributable to shareholders	60,901,338	55,417,348

#### **AUTHORISED INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT**

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

#### Performance to 30 September 2024

	Six months	<u>1 year</u>	<u>3 years</u>	<u>5 years</u>
IFSL James Hambro Master Fund	3.63%	13.60%	13.17%	25.76%
IA Flexible sector	2.75%	12.99%	7.06%	28.23%

External Source of Economic Data: Morningstar (Income shares - quoted to quoted, net income reinvested).

The performance figures above are based on quoted prices and will, therefore, differ from the performance in the Comparative Table.

Capital at risk. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance; the value of your investment and any income from it can go down as well as up. Performance returns are based on the net asset value with distributable income reinvested and take account of all ongoing charges, but not entry charges (if applicable). The past performance of this share class is calculated in sterling.

#### Investment commentary

IFSL James Hambro Master Fund (the sub-fund) made further ground during the six-month period and outperformed its benchmark, the Investment Association Flexible Investment Sector.

The core of the sub-fund is invested in a collection of high quality, global companies. These equity holdings are complemented by a range of other assets such as government bonds, gold, alternatives and cash to provide protection when equity markets inevitably experience difficult times.

The balance of the sub-fund's investments was broadly unchanged over the period. The sub-fund started with c.70% invested in companies – a level which might be considered near 'neutral' over the long run – and finished with c.72% due to performance and a withdrawal made from the sub-fund in September.

Performance was strong across many of the sub-fund's equity positions, such as 3i Group, Experian and S&P Global. We have written before of our hopes that equity returns will broaden over time and we saw further evidence of this which supported the sub-fund's performance.

Some of our existing holdings such as JPMorgan and Ashtead had relatively tougher times in the period, but we remain confident in their underlying earnings growth and outlook going forwards, allowing them to remain structural winners in their respective markets.

The defensive portion of the sub-fund was maintained and delivered reasonable returns. This included the sub-fund's c.4% allocation to gold, with the gold price rising c.15% in dollar terms. The complexion of the sub-fund's bonds was adjusted during the period with the residual US Treasury holdings reinvested into UK government bonds.

Within the equity piece, there were changes driven by sales for holding-specific reasons, elevated valuations affecting some long-standing positions and new opportunities. Overall, the number of equity positions increased modestly from 30 to 31 over the period, having added a new position in AMETEK.

AMETEK manufactures highly-engineered products ranging from precision motion control solutions for factory automation to test and measurement instruments in commercial aircraft.

The company is built on a decentralised approach, using 40 operating units to sell tens of thousands of products to diverse customers spanning the healthcare to industrial arenas. Each unit has the autonomy to make decisions as they see best with excess cash sent back to headquarters to fund purchases of privately-owned businesses. This is a business model that has proven successful in the past, both at AMETEK and other companies.

Over 20 years, AMETEK has delivered 17% annualised returns for shareholders. Yet AMETEK trades at the low end of its valuation range relative to its own history and the wider stock market; an appealing prospect given the quality of the business and growth outlook.

Our core scenario coming into 2024 was that falling inflation would allow central banks to cut interest rates, supporting equity markets. We remain conscious of the range of outcomes that may yet come to fruition, following the election of Donald Trump and ongoing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East providing sources of uncertainty amongst other developments. At this juncture, the internal dynamics of portfolio construction are expected to be a more significant driver of returns than headline changes to asset classes.

James Hambro & Partners LLP 15 November 2024

#### Distributions

	<u>Year 2024</u>	Year 2023	Year 2022	Year 2021
Income (pence per share)				
Net income paid 31 May	3.9670	4.3201	3.7987	2.3026
Net income paid 30 November	5.1784	5.1605	4.7797	3.5718

# **AUTHORISED INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT**

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

# Portfolio changes

<u>Largest purchases</u>	Cost (£)
UK Treasury 4.25% 07.03.36 Schroder Strategic Credit 'L' GBP AMETEK Novo Nordisk UK Treasury 3.25% 31.01.33	2,205,191 1,370,724 868,129 635,533 217,578
Total purchases for the period	5,297,155
Largest sales	Proceeds (£)
iShares \$ Treasury Bond 7-10yr UCITS ETF GBP Hedged Schroder Strategic Credit 'L' GBP ILF GBP Liquidity '3' Pool The TJX Companies Progressive	2,409,043 1,369,334 1,350,000 620,061 439,835 414,976
Total sales for the period	6,603,249

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLE**

Income shares	Period to	Year to	Year to	Year to
Change in net assets per share	30.09.2024	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2022
	pence	pence	pence	pence
Opening net asset value per share	379.55	354.24	364.99	350.63
Return before operating charges*	15.00	37.19	1.77	25.43
Operating charges	(1.33)	(2.75)	(3.42)	(3.70)
Return after operating charges*	13.67	34.44	(1.65)	21.73
Distributions on income shares	(5.18)	(9.13)	(9.10)	(7.37)
Closing net asset value per share	388.04	379.55	354.24	364.99
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.01	0.09	0.10	0.08
Performance				
Return after charges <sup>A</sup>	3.60%	9.72%	(0.45)%	6.20%
Other information				
Closing net asset value (£)	54,999,362	55,101,048	53,944,751	56,454,363
Closing number of shares	14,173,592	14,517,644	15,228,474	15,467,185
Operating charges	0.69% <sup>B,C</sup>	0.76% <sup>B</sup>	0.97%	1.00%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.03%	0.03%	0.02%
Prices (pence per share)				
Highest share price	395.00	383.90	367.00	387.70
Lowest share price	372.30	344.50	327.10	345.90

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>A</sup> The return after charges is calculated using the underlying investments bid prices.

Operating charges are normally the same as the Ongoing Charges Figures (OCFs) and are the total expenses paid by each share class in the period. Where it is considered unsuitable to use the total expenses paid by each share class in the period to calculate the OCF because of material changes to the sub-fund's charges an estimate will be calculated instead. The OCFs disclosed in the Key Investor Information Document (KIID) (available on IFSL's website, www.ifslfunds.com) give an estimate of future costs.

Direct transaction costs are the total charges for the period, included in the purchase and sale of investments in the portfolio of the subfund. These amounts are expressed as a percentage of the average net asset value over the period and the average shares in issue for the pence per share figures.

#### SYNTHETIC RISK AND REWARD INDICATOR

Lower risk		Higher risk					
<del></del>						<del></del>	
Typically lower re	wards				Typic	cally higher rewards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

This indicator aims to give you a measure of the price movement of the sub-fund based on past data. It uses historic returns over the last five years. If five years' data is not available, simulated data based on a representative portfolio are used.

The sub-fund has been measured as 4 because its investments have experienced moderate volatility in the past. During the period the synthetic risk and reward indicator has remained unchanged.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>B</sup> On 30 November 2023, The Investment Association amended the disclosure of fund charges and costs originally issued on the 2 July 2020. Consequently, we have excluded, where relevant, charges incurred by closed-ended vehicles such as investment trusts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>C</sup> These figures have been annualised.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

Holding or nominal value		Bid value	Percentage of total net assets
	DEDT SECURITIES (24 Moreh 2024   5 569/)	£	%
2 022 200	<b>DEBT SECURITIES</b> (31 March 2024 - 5.56%) UK Treasury 1% 31.01.32	1,656,375	3.01
	UK Treasury 3.25% 31.01.33	1,642,847	2.99
	UK Treasury 4.25% 07.03.36	2,180,756	3.97
2,130,000	Total Debt Securities	5,479,978	9.97
	Total Debt Securities	5,419,310	9.91
	EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS (31 March 2024 - 7.86%)		
12,000	Invesco Physical Gold ETC USD	2,275,385	4.14
	Total Exchange Traded Funds	2,275,385	4.14
	UNIT TRUSTS/OEICS (31 March 2024 - 12.73%)		
605,160	BlackRock ICS Sterling Liquidity 'Select' GBP	605,160	1.10
	ILF GBP Liquidity '3'	900,000	1.64
	Janus Henderson UK Absolute Return 'I'	629,582	1.14
7,742	KLS Arete Macro 'SI-GBP'	906,815	1.65
3,683,345	M&G Corporate Bond 'I' Sterling	1,323,057	2.41
1,545,000	Schroder Strategic Credit 'L' GBP	1,387,873	2.52
	Total Unit Trusts/OEICs	5,752,487	10.46
	<b>EQUITIES</b> (31 March 2024 - 72.77%)		
	<b>United Kingdom</b> (31 March 2024 - 16.59%)		
54,370	3i Group	1,799,647	3.27
25,615	Ashtead Group	1,486,182	2.70
47,820	Compass Group	1,153,418	2.10
27,185	Experian	1,068,099	1.94
14,295	Next	1,386,901	2.52
22,180	Rio Tinto	1,183,747	2.15
65,140	Shell	1,580,622	2.87
	Total United Kingdom	9,658,616	17.55
	<b>Europe</b> (31 March 2024 - 14.78%)		
963,010	BBGI Global Infrastructure	1,265,395	2.30
190,600		2,123,453	3.86
1,670	LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton	966,025	1.76
17,510	Nestlé	1,319,203	2.40
10,485	Novartis	900,101	1.64
5,745	Novo Nordisk	507,634	0.92
39,410	RELX	1,393,024	2.53
	Total Europe	8,474,835	15.41
	Far East (31 March 2024 - 3.61%)		
196,000	AIA Group	1,311,256	2.38
69,500	·	1,004,459	1.83
	Total Far East	2,315,715	4.21
	North America (31 March 2024 - 37.79%)		
8 270	Amazon.com	1,159,015	2.11
•	AMETEK	871,361	1.58
•	Coca-Cola	1,635,432	2.97
	Danaher	523,183	0.95
•	International Business Machines	990,661	1.80
•	JPMorgan Chase & Co	2,295,593	4.17
	Microsoft	1,492,893	2.72
	New Linde	1,736,203	3.16
	Progressive	1,254,629	2.28
	S&P Global	929,199	1.69
	Synopsys	670,077	1.22
	Texas Instruments	1,958,173	3.56
	The TJX Companies	1,122,697	2.04
	Union Pacific	1,519,712	2.76

## PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

as at 30 September 2024

Holding or nominal value		Bid value £	Percentage of total net assets %
	EQUITIES (continued)		
	North America (continued)		
3,240	UnitedHealth Group	1,405,881	2.56
5,240	Visa 'A'	1,075,911	1.96
	Total North America	20,640,620	37.53
	Total Equities	41,089,786	74.70
	Portfolio of investments	54,597,636	99.27
	Net other assets	401,726	0.73
	Total net assets	54,999,362	100.00

All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities or regulated collective investment schemes within the meaning of the FCA rules unless otherwise stated.

## **PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS**

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024	£
Total purchases cost, including transaction charges	5,297,155
Total sales proceeds, net of transaction charges	6,603,249

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

		30 September 2024		30 Septem	30 September 2023	
		£	£	£	£	
Income:						
Net capi	tal gains/(losses)		1,329,570		(488,768)	
Revenue	<del>)</del>	855,994		829,412		
Expenses		(173,684)		(191,218)		
Net revenue before t	axation	682,310		638,194		
Taxation		(42,610)		(42,339)		
Net revenue after tax	cation		639,700		595,855	
Total return before d	intuibtinno		4 000 070		107.007	
rotal return before d	istributions		1,969,270		107,087	
Distributions			(750,277)		(785,474)	
			(:,:)		(**************************************	
Change in net assets	s attributable to shareholders					
from investment activ	vities		1,218,993		(678,387)	

## STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

	30 September 2024		30 Septen	30 September 2023	
	£	£	£	£	
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	А	55,101,04	8	53,944,751	
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	(1,320,679)	(1,320,67	9) (65,881)	(65,881)	
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities		1,218,99	3	(678,387)	
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders		54,999,36	2	53,200,483	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>A</sup> These figures are not the same as the comparatives are taken from the preceding interim period and not the last annual accounts.

# **BALANCE SHEET**

	30 September 2024	31 March 2024
Assets:	£	£
Fixed Assets:		
Investments	54,597,636	54,504,646
Current Assets:		
Debtors	164,365	192,679
Cash and bank balances	1,028,795	2,374,840
Total assets	55,790,796	57,072,165
Liabilities:		
Creditors:		
Distribution payable on income shares	733,975	575,922
Other creditors	57,459	1,395,195
Total liabilities	791,434	1,971,117
Net assets attributable to shareholders	54,999,362	55,101,048

#### **AUTHORISED INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT**

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

#### Performance to 30 September 2024

	Six months	<u> 1 year</u>	<u>3 years</u>	<u>5 years</u>
IFSL James Hambro Penrhos Fund	2.16%	12.19%	4.15%	19.86%
IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares sector	3.33%	13.84%	7.51%	25.46%

External Source of Economic Data: Morningstar (Income shares - quoted to quoted, net income reinvested).

The performance figures above are based on quoted prices and will, therefore, differ from the performance in the Comparative Table.

Capital at risk. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance; the value of your investment and any income from it can go down as well as up. Performance returns are based on the net asset value with distributable income reinvested and take account of all ongoing charges, but not entry charges (if applicable). The past performance of this share class is calculated in sterling.

#### Investment commentary

IFSL James Hambro Penrhos Fund (the sub-fund) made further ground during the six-month period.

The core of the sub-fund is invested in a collection of high quality, global companies. These equity holdings are complemented by a range of other assets such as government bonds, gold, alternatives and cash to provide protection when equity markets inevitably experience difficult times.

The balance of the sub-fund's investments was broadly unchanged over the period. The sub-fund started with c.69.0% invested in companies – a level which might be considered near 'neutral' over the long run – and finished with c.69.5% due to performance and withdrawals to the sub-fund in September ahead of the UK Budget.

Performance was strong across many of the sub-fund's equity positions, such as 3i Group, AIA and Progressive. We have written before of our hopes that equity returns will broaden over time, and we saw further evidence of this which supported the sub-fund's relative performance.

Some of our existing holdings such as JPMorgan and Amphenol had relatively tougher times in the period, but we remain confident in their underlying earnings growth and outlook going forwards, allowing them to remain structural winners in their respective markets.

The defensive portion of the sub-fund was maintained and delivered reasonable returns. This included the sub-fund's c.5.3% allocation to gold, with the gold price rising c.15% in dollar terms. The complexion of the sub-fund's bonds was adjusted during the period with the residual US Treasury holdings reinvested into UK government bonds.

Within the equity piece, there were changes driven by sales for holding-specific reasons, elevated valuations affecting some long-standing positions and new opportunities. Overall, the number of equity positions increased marginally from 26 to 27 over the period.

In the period, we added Synopsys, which produce low cost, value-add applications that are critical for their customers to design their latest semiconductor chips. The addition of Synopsys provides a way of participating in the structural growth of the semiconductor industry without some of the cyclicality of the sector. This is due to their revenues being linked to R&D budgets, which have not historically been cut in downturns. The business has 80% recurring revenues and 3yr rolling contracts, providing visibility of continued strong growth of the business.

We also initiated a position in Intercontinental Exchange (ICE), a leading global provider of data and technology with over half of its revenues recurring in nature. The company owns the New York Stock Exchange, dominates energy trading and derivatives, has leading pricing and reference data for fixed income markets. ICE also has the leading platform for end-to-end automation of mortgage workflows. This division should benefit as housing volumes recovery on the back of interest rate cuts.

Our core scenario coming into 2024 was that falling inflation would allow central banks to cut interest rates, supporting equity markets. We remain conscious of the range of outcomes that may yet come to fruition, following the election of Donald Trump and ongoing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East providing sources of uncertainty amongst other developments. At this juncture, the internal dynamics of portfolio construction are expected to be a more significant driver of returns than headline changes to asset classes.

James Hambro & Partners LLP 15 November 2024

#### **Distributions**

<u>21</u>
94
3
35
50
3

# AUTHORISED INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

# Portfolio changes

Largest purchases	Cost (£)
UK Treasury 0.625% 31.07.35 UK Treasury 0.25% 31.07.31 Intercontinental Exchange Amundi Sand Grove Event Driven 'EB' GBP Synopsys S&P Global Ashtead Group UK Treasury 1% 31.01.32 Coca-Cola RELX	219,219 198,823 110,674 108,527 107,802 105,492 99,999 82,553 75,906 73,335
Other purchases	(83)
Total purchases for the period	1,182,247
<u>Largest sales</u>	Proceeds (£)
iShares \$ Treasury Bond 7-10yr UCITS ETF GBP Hedged Coca-Cola Aon Northrop Grumman Pool Ashtead Group Brevan Howard Absolute Return Government Bond 'G' GBP Amphenol 'A' Microsoft	446,360 150,140 140,527 132,271 121,581 91,699 46,578 43,528 35,896
Total sales for the period	1,208,580

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLE**

Income shares	Period to	Year to 31.03.2024	Year to	Year to
Change in net assets per share	30.09.2024		31.03.2023	31.03.2022
Onening not constructive new share	pence	pence	pence	pence
Opening net asset value per share	3,404.31	3,196.61	3,391.27	3,242.33
Return before operating charges*	100.21	313.56	(94.32)	249.61
Operating charges	(27.06)	(49.43)	(49.63)	(57.54)
Return after operating charges*	73.15	264.13	(143.95)	192.07
Distributions on income shares	(28.49)	(56.43)	(50.71)	(43.13)
Closing net asset value per share	3,448.97	3,404.31	3,196.61	3,391.27
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.56	1.21	0.68	0.74
Performance				
Return after charges <sup>A</sup>	2.15%	8.26%	(4.24)%	5.92%
Other information				
Closing net asset value (£)	7,253,229	7,454,580	7,706,309	8,663,572
Closing number of shares	210,301	218,975	241,077	255,467
Operating charges	1.58% <sup>B,C</sup>	1.54% <sup>B</sup>	1.54%	1.68%
Direct transaction costs	0.04% <sup>C</sup>	0.04%	0.02%	0.02%
Prices (pence per share)				
Highest share price	3,478.30	3,422.80	3,376.90	3,629.80
Lowest share price	3,343.80	3,081.40	3,046.30	3,191.20
Lowest shale phoe	3,343.00	3,001.40	3,040.30	3,181.20

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>A</sup> The return after charges is calculated using the underlying investments bid prices.

Operating charges are normally the same as the Ongoing Charges Figures (OCFs) and are the total expenses paid by each share class in the period. Where it is considered unsuitable to use the total expenses paid by each share class in the period to calculate the OCF because of material changes to the sub-fund's charges an estimate will be calculated instead. The OCFs disclosed in the Key Investor Information Document (KIID) (available on IFSL's website, www.ifslfunds.com) give an estimate of future costs.

Direct transaction costs are the total charges for the period, included in the purchase and sale of investments in the portfolio of the subfund. These amounts are expressed as a percentage of the average net asset value over the period and the average shares in issue for the pence per share figures.

#### SYNTHETIC RISK AND REWARD INDICATOR

Lower risk		Higher risk					
<del></del>						<del></del>	
Typically lower re	wards				Typic	cally higher rewards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

This indicator aims to give you a measure of the price movement of the sub-fund based on past data. It uses historic returns over the last five years. If five years' data is not available, simulated data based on a representative portfolio are used.

The sub-fund has been measured as 4 because its investments have experienced moderate volatility in the past. During the period the synthetic risk and reward indicator has remained unchanged.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>B</sup> On 30 November 2023, The Investment Association amended the disclosure of fund charges and costs originally issued on the 2 July 2020. Consequently, we have excluded, where relevant, charges incurred by closed-ended vehicles such as investment trusts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>C</sup> These figures have been annualised.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

·			
Holding or nominal value		Bid value	Percentage of total net assets
		£	%
400.000	<b>DEBT SECURITIES</b> (31 March 2024 - 6.10%)	0.40.504	4.70
	UK Treasury 0.25% 31.07.31	340,561	4.70
	UK Treasury 0.625% 31.07.35	216,384	2.98
	UK Treasury 0.875% 31.07.33	146,875	2.02
308,000	UK Treasury 1% 31.01.32	252,269	3.48
	Total Debt Securities	956,089	13.18
11 500	<b>EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS</b> (31 March 2024 - 10.99%) iShares Physical Gold ETC USD	439,684	6.06
11,500	Total Exchange Traded Funds	439,684	6.06
	Total Exchange Traded Funds	459,004	0.00
	UNIT TRUSTS/OEICS (31 March 2024 - 22.29%)		
,	Amundi Sand Grove Event Driven 'EB' GBP	108,811	1.50
	Brevan Howard Absolute Return Government Bond 'G' GBP	115,959	1.60
	Federated Hermes Asia ex-Japan Equity 'F2' Stg£	206,429	2.85
	Fidelity Sustainable Emerging Markets Equity 'R-G' GBP	219,821	3.03
	KLS Arete Macro 'SI-GBP'	188,396	2.60
	Lansdowne European 'F' GBP	188,635	2.60
	Lazard Rathmore Alternative 'EA' GBP Hedged	163,545 204,008	2.26
	Lumyna MW TOPS UCITS 'G' GBP Polar Capital Global Technology 'I' Sterling	199,800	2.81 2.75
	T Rowe Price Health Sciences Equity 'I' GBP	•	
17,100	Total Unit Trusts/OEICs	186,561 1,781,965	2.57 24.57
	<b>EQUITIES</b> (31 March 2024 - 56.28%)		
	United Kingdom (31 March 2024 - 11.12%)		
5,060	3i Group	167,486	2.31
	Compass Group	200,558	2.77
1,900		184,338	2.54
2,000	RELX	70,600	0.97
2,960	Rio Tinto	157,975	2.18
6,500	Shell	157,722	2.17
	Total United Kingdom	938,679	12.94
	<b>Europe</b> (31 March 2024 - 5.58%)		
5,270	ASSA ABLOY 'B'	133,019	1.83
235	LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton	135,938	1.88
1,250	Novo Nordisk	110,451	1.52
	Total Europe	379,408	5.23
	Far East (31 March 2024 - 4.10%)		
17,800	AIA Group	119,083	1.64
	Keyence	107,277	1.48
7,500	,	108,395	1.50
	Total Far East	334,755	4.62
	<b>North America</b> (31 March 2024 - 35.48%)		
	Alphabet 'C'	172,602	2.38
·	Amphenol 'A'	169,693	2.34
	Coca-Cola	80,313	1.11
	Intercontinental Exchange	121,276	1.67
	Intuitive Surgical	178,735	2.47
	JPMorgan Chase & Co	219,674	3.03
	Microsoft	175,559	2.42
	New Linde	193,110	2.66
	Progressive	200,366	2.76
	S&P Global	114,716	1.58
	Synopsys Toyog Instruments	86,153 170,434	1.19
1,150	Texas Instruments	179,434	2.47

## PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

as at 30 September 2024

Holding or nominal value		Bid value £	Percentage of total net assets %
	EQUITIES (continued)		
	North America (continued)		
365	Thermo Fisher Scientific	167,234	2.31
420	UnitedHealth Group	182,244	2.51
880	Visa 'A'	180,687	2.49
	Total North America	2,421,796	33.39
	Total Equities	4,074,638	56.18
	Portfolio of investments	7,252,376	99.99
	Net other assets	853	0.01
	Total net assets	7,253,229	100.00

All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities or regulated collective investment schemes within the meaning of the FCA rules unless otherwise stated.

## **PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS**

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024	£
Total purchases cost, including transaction charges	1,182,247
Total sales proceeds, net of transaction charges	1,208,580

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

		30 September 2024		30 Septem	ber 2023
		£	£	£	£
Income:					
Net capital gains/(losses)			135,961		(116,351)
Revenue		66,677		71,878	
Expenses	<u>_</u>	(46,691)		(48,623)	
Net revenue before taxation		19,986		23,255	
Taxation	_	(2,012)		(3,366)	
Net revenue after taxation			17,974		19,889
Total return before distributions			153,935		(96,462)
			(00.00=)		(00.004)
Distributions			(60,095)		(63,801)
Change in net assets attributable to sh	arenoiders				(400,000)
from investment activities			93,840		(160,263)

## STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

	30 September 2024		30 September 2024 30 September		er 2023
	£	£	£	£	
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	А	7,454,580		7,706,309	
Amounts receivable on issue of shares Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	13,903 (309,094)		183,506 (670,613)		
, ,		(295,191)		(487,107)	
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from					
investment activities		93,840		(160,263)	
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	<del>-</del>	7,253,229	Α	7,058,939	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>A</sup> These figures are not the same as the comparatives are taken from the preceding interim period and not the last annual accounts.

# **BALANCE SHEET**

	30 September 2024 £	31 March 2024 £
Assets:	L	Ł
Fixed Assets:		
Investments	7,252,376	7,131,107
Current Assets:		
Debtors	4,689	11,777
Cash and bank balances	42,734	361,926
Total assets	7,299,799	7,504,810
Liabilities:		
Creditors:		
Distribution payable on income shares	32,874	30,275
Other creditors	13,696	19,955
Total liabilities	46,570	50,230
Net assets attributable to shareholders	7,253,229	7,454,580

#### **AUTHORISED INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT**

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

#### Performance to 30 September 2024

	Six months	<u>1 year</u>	<u>3 years</u>	<u>5 years</u>
IFSL James Hambro Rires Fund	1.77%	11.71%	3.68%	15.68%
IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares sector	3.33%	13.84%	7.51%	25.46%

External Source of Economic Data: Morningstar (Income shares - quoted to quoted, net income reinvested).

The performance figures above are based on quoted prices and will, therefore, differ from the performance in the Comparative Table.

Capital at risk. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance; the value of your investment and any income from it can go down as well as up. Performance returns are based on the net asset value with distributable income reinvested and take account of all ongoing charges, but not entry charges (if applicable). The past performance of this share class is calculated in sterling.

#### Investment commentary

IFSL James Hambro Rires Fund (the sub-fund) made further ground during the six-month period.

The core of the sub-fund is invested in a collection of high quality, global companies. These equity holdings are complemented by a range of other assets such as government bonds, gold, alternatives and cash to provide protection when equity markets inevitably experience difficult times.

The balance of the sub-fund's investments was broadly unchanged over the period. The sub-fund started with c.69.7% invested in companies – a level which might be considered near 'neutral' over the long run – and finished with c.70.0% due to performance, despite additions to the sub-fund in September and early October ahead of the UK Budget.

Performance was strong across many of the sub-fund's equity positions, such as Intuitive Surgical, AIA and Progressive. We have written before of our hopes that equity returns will broaden over time, and we saw further evidence of this which supported the sub-fund's relative performance.

Some of our existing holdings such as JPMorgan and Amphenol had relatively tougher times in the period, but we remain confident in their underlying earnings growth and outlook going forwards, allowing them to remain structural winners in their respective markets.

The defensive portion of the sub-fund was maintained and delivered reasonable returns. This included the sub-fund's c.5.2% allocation to gold, with the gold price rising c.15% in dollar terms. The complexion of the sub-fund's bonds was adjusted during the period with the residual US Treasury holdings reinvested into UK government bonds.

Within the equity piece, there were changes driven by sales for holding-specific reasons, elevated valuations affecting some long-standing positions and new opportunities. Overall, the number of equity positions reduced from 28 to 27 over the period, with one new equity fund position added, the M&G Japan Fund.

In the period, we added Synopsys, which produce low cost, value-add applications that are critical for their customers to design their latest semiconductor chips. The addition of Synopsys provides a way of participating in the structural growth of the semiconductor industry without some of the cyclicality of the sector. This is due to their revenues being linked to R&D budgets, which have not historically been cut in downturns. The business has 80% recurring revenues and 3yr rolling contracts, providing visibility of continued strong growth of the business.

We also initiated a position in Intercontinental Exchange (ICE), a leading global provider of data and technology with over half of its revenues recurring in nature. The company owns the New York Stock Exchange, dominates energy trading and derivatives, has leading pricing and reference data for fixed income markets. ICE also has the leading platform for end-to-end automation of mortgage workflows. This division should benefit as housing volumes recovery on the back of interest rate cuts.

Our core scenario coming into 2024 was that falling inflation would allow central banks to cut interest rates, supporting equity markets. We remain conscious of the range of outcomes that may yet come to fruition, following the election of Donald Trump and ongoing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East providing sources of uncertainty amongst other developments. At this juncture, the internal dynamics of portfolio construction are expected to be a more significant driver of returns than headline changes to asset classes.

James Hambro & Partners LLP 15 November 2024

#### **Distributions**

	<u>Year 2024</u>	<u>Year 2023</u>	<u>Year 2022</u>	<u>Year 2021</u>
Income (pence per share)				
Net income paid 31 May	7.1800	4.2564	2.5699	-
Net income paid 30 November	7.1376	6.0354	5.2001	1.5166

# **AUTHORISED INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT**

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

# Portfolio changes

Largest purchases	Cost (£)
Synopsys	552,054
Federated Hermes Asia ex-Japan Equity 'F2' Stg£	525,059
Intercontinental Exchange	506,473
UK Treasury 0.25% 31.07.31	469,221
UK Treasury 0.625% 31.07.35	467,557
Amundi Sand Grove Event Driven 'EB' GBP	369,221
S&P Global	282,226
Sony	72,947
RELX	37,161
M&G Japan 'PP' Sterling	775
Total purchases for the period	3,282,694
<u>Largest sales</u>	Proceeds (£)
iShares \$ Treasury Bond 7-10yr UCITS ETF GBP Hedged	1,132,958
SPDR S&P US Dividend Aristocrats UCITS ETF	425,137
Schroder Asian Income 'Z' GBP	419,250
Brevan Howard Absolute Return Government Bond 'G' GBP	380,839
Aon	367,883
Northrop Grumman	347,212
Pool	346,504
UK Treasury 0.875% 31.07.33	231,936
iShares Physical Gold ETC USD	200,701
Polar Capital Global Technology 'I' Sterling	199,500
Other sales	2,392,422
Total sales for the period	6,444,342

#### **COMPARATIVE TABLE**

Income shares	Period to	Year to	Year to	Year to
Change in net assets per share	30.09.2024	31.03.2024	31.03.2023	31.03.2022
	pence	pence	pence	pence
Opening net asset value per share	1,687.31	1,561.62	1,648.25	1,567.96
Return before operating charges*	40.26	158.52	(57.57)	107.27
Operating charges	(10.57)	(19.61)	(19.60)	(22.89)
Return after operating charges*	29.69	138.91	(77.17)	84.38
Distributions on income shares	(7.14)	(13.22)	(9.46)	(4.09)
Closing net asset value per share	1,709.86	1,687.31	1,561.62	1,648.25
* after direct transaction costs of:	0.20	0.65	0.44	0.35
Performance				
Return after charges <sup>A</sup>	1.76%	8.90%	(4.68)%	5.38%
Other information				
Closing net asset value (£)	17,744,911	21,003,379	16,990,755	15,743,355
Closing number of shares	1,037,797	1,244,789	1,088,023	955,154
Operating charges	1.25% <sup>B,C</sup>	1.24% <sup>B</sup>	1.25%	1.38%
Direct transaction costs	0.02% <sup>C</sup>	0.04%	0.03%	0.02%
Prices (pence per share)				
Highest share price	1,723.20	1,695.10	1,640.60	1,747.90
Lowest share price	1,656.70	1,523.40	1,489.80	1,541.30

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>A</sup> The return after charges is calculated using the underlying investments bid prices.

Operating charges are normally the same as the Ongoing Charges Figures (OCFs) and are the total expenses paid by each share class in the period. Where it is considered unsuitable to use the total expenses paid by each share class in the period to calculate the OCF because of material changes to the sub-fund's charges an estimate will be calculated instead. The OCFs disclosed in the Key Investor Information Document (KIID) (available on IFSL's website, www.ifslfunds.com) give an estimate of future costs.

Direct transaction costs are the total charges for the period, included in the purchase and sale of investments in the portfolio of the subfund. These amounts are expressed as a percentage of the average net asset value over the period and the average shares in issue for the pence per share figures.

#### SYNTHETIC RISK AND REWARD INDICATOR

Lo	wer risk						Higher risk	
<b>←</b>								
Ту	pically lower rew	/ards				Typic	cally higher rewards	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

This indicator aims to give you a measure of the price movement of the sub-fund based on past data. It uses historic returns over the last five years. If five years' data is not available, simulated data based on a representative portfolio are used.

The sub-fund has been measured as 4 because its investments have experienced moderate volatility in the past. During the period the synthetic risk and reward indicator has remained unchanged.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>B</sup> On 30 November 2023, The Investment Association amended the disclosure of fund charges and costs originally issued on the 2 July 2020. Consequently, we have excluded, where relevant, charges incurred by closed-ended vehicles such as investment trusts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>C</sup> These figures have been annualised.

# PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

Holding or nominal value		Bid value	Percentage of total net assets
		£	%
	<b>DEBT SECURITIES</b> (31 March 2024 - 7.95%)		
	UK Treasury 0.25% 31.07.31	780,452	4.40
	UK Treasury 0.625% 31.07.35	461,512	2.60
	UK Treasury 0.875% 31.07.33	695,723	3.92
355,000	UK Treasury 1% 31.01.32	290,765	1.64
	Total Debt Securities	2,228,452	12.56
04.000	EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS (31 March 2024 - 12.02%)	0.17.000	5.4 <del>7</del>
24,000	iShares Physical Gold ETC USD	917,602	5.17
	Total Exchange Traded Funds	917,602	5.17
	UNIT TRUSTS/OEICS (31 March 2024 - 21.32%)		
	Amundi Sand Grove Event Driven 'EB' GBP	380,839	2.15
	Federated Hermes Asia ex-Japan Equity 'F2' Stg£	379,365	2.14
	Fidelity Sustainable Emerging Markets Equity 'R-G' GBP	372,000	2.10
-, -	KLS Arete Macro 'SI-GBP'	404,374	2.28
	Lansdowne European 'F' GBP	386,546	2.18
	Lazard Rathmore Alternative 'EA' GBP Hedged	347,086	1.95
	Lumyna MW TOPS UCITS 'G' GBP	403,721	2.27
	M&G Japan 'PP' Sterling	367,493	2.07
	Polar Capital Global Technology 'I' Sterling	457,875	2.58
34,000	T Rowe Price Health Sciences Equity 'I' GBP	370,940	2.09
	Total Unit Trusts/OEICs	3,870,239	21.81
	<b>EQUITIES</b> (31 March 2024 - 56.45%)		
	United Kingdom (31 March 2024 - 13.56%)		
	3i Group	331,000	1.87
	Brompton Bicycle <sup>A</sup>	498,630	2.81
	Compass Group	289,440	1.63
3,000		291,060	1.64
	RELX	282,400	1.59
	Rio Tinto	426,960	2.41
15,500		376,108	2.12
	Total United Kingdom	2,495,598	14.07
	<b>Europe</b> (31 March 2024 - 6.62%)		
	ASSA ABLOY 'B'	328,131	1.85
	LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton	439,628	2.48
3,250	Novo Nordisk	287,173	1.62
	Total Europe	1,054,932	5.95
	Far East (31 March 2024 - 3.31%)		
42,000	AIA Group	280,983	1.58
	Keyence	250,312	1.41
19,000		274,600	1.55
	Total Far East	805,895	4.54
	North America (31 March 2024 - 32.96%)		
	Alphabet 'C'	456,162	2.57
	Amphenol 'A'	436,353	2.46
	Coca-Cola	388,178	2.19
	Intercontinental Exchange	414,115	2.33
	Intuitive Surgical	411,090	2.32
	JPMorgan Chase & Co	407,181	2.29
	Microsoft	446,878	2.52
	New Linde	429,134	2.42
	Progressive	430,693	2.43
	S&P Global	305,909	1.72
1,250	Synopsys	478,627	2.70

## PORTFOLIO STATEMENT

as at 30 September 2024

Holding or nominal value		Bid value £	Percentage of total net assets %
	EQUITIES (continued)		
	North America (continued)		
2,700	Texas Instruments	421,280	2.37
900	Thermo Fisher Scientific	412,357	2.32
950	UnitedHealth Group	412,218	2.32
2,000	Visa 'A'	410,653	2.31
	Total North America	6,260,828	35.27
	Total Equities	10,617,253	59.83
	Portfolio of investments	17,633,546	99.37
	Net other assets	111,365	0.63
	Total net assets	17,744,911	100.00

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>A</sup> Unlisted security.

All investments are listed on recognised stock exchanges and are approved securities or regulated collective investment schemes within the meaning of the FCA rules unless otherwise stated.

# PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024	£
Total purchases cost, including transaction charges	3,282,694
Total sales proceeds, net of transaction charges	6,444,342

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

	30 Septem	ber 2024	30 Septem	per 2023
	£	£	£	£
Income:				
Net capital gains/(losses)		230,547		(213,834)
Revenue	191,565		163,806	
Expenses	(101,840)		(92,496)	
Net revenue before taxation	89,725		71,310	
Taxation	(5,753)		(5,875)	
Net revenue after taxation		83,972		65,435
Total return before distributions		314.519		(148,399)
Total Total T boloro diotributions		014,010		(140,000)
Distributions		(83,972)		(65,435)
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders				
from investment activities		230,547		(213,834)

## STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

for the six month period ended 30 September 2024

	30 September 2024		30 Septemb	er 2023
	£	£	£	£
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	А	21,003,379		16,990,755
Amounts receivable on issue of shares Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	1,021,313 (4,510,328)		1,696,140 (700,997)	
		(3,489,015)		995,143
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from				
investment activities		230,547		(213,834)
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	<u>-</u>	17,744,911	A	17,772,064

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>A</sup> These figures are not the same as the comparatives are taken from the preceding interim period and not the last annual accounts.

# **BALANCE SHEET**

	30 September 2024 £	31 March 2024 £
Assets:		
Fixed Assets:		
Investments	17,633,546	20,528,898
Current Assets:		
Debtors	34,355	37,523
Cash and bank balances	166,524	545,755
Total assets	17,834,425	21,112,176
Liabilities:		
Creditors:		
Bank overdrafts	-	2,635
Distribution payable on income shares	74,075	89,376
Other creditors	15,439	16,786
Total liabilities	89,514	108,797
Net assets attributable to shareholders	17,744,911	21,003,379

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