



23 August 2024

ASX Market Announcements
Australian Securities Exchange

RESULTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

L1 Long Short Fund Limited (ASX: LSF) hereby lodges its:

- Appendix 4E for the year ended 30 June 2024; and
- Audited Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2024.

For any further enquiries please contact L1 Long Short Fund Limited on +61 3 9286 7000.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of L1 Long Short Fund Limited.

Appendix 4E

The Appendix 4E is for the reporting period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. The previous corresponding period end was 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

This report is based on the 2024 Audited Financial Report. All the documents comprise the information required by Listing Rule 4.3A.

Results for announcement to the market

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000	Up/Down	Movement %
Income from ordinary activities	441,084	396,448	Up	11
Income before income tax attributable to the ordinary equity holders	226,977	224,316	Up	1
Income after income tax attributable to the ordinary equity holders	170,290	163,272	Up	4

Dividend information

	Amount per Share (cents)	Franked amount per Share (cents)	Tax Rate for Franking Credit
Interim 2024 dividend (9 April 2024)	5.75c	5.75c	30%
Final 2024 dividend declared	6.00c	6.00c	30%

Final dividend dates

Ex dividend date	9 September 2024
Record date	10 September 2024
Last election date for the DRP	11 September 2024
Payment date	1 October 2024

Dividend Reinvestment Plan

The Dividend Reinvestment Plan (DRP) is in operation under which the shareholders may elect to have all or part of their dividend payment reinvested in new ordinary shares. Participating shareholders will be entitled to be allotted the number of shares (rounded down to the nearest whole number) which the cash dividend would purchase at the relevant allocation price. The relevant allocation price is the arithmetic average of the daily volume weighted average sale price (calculated to the nearest cent) of shares traded on the ASX over the five trading days commencing on the ex-dividend date for the relevant dividend, without any discount. The last day for the receipt of an election notice for participation in the DRP is 11 September 2024.

Net tangible assets*

	30 June 2024 \$	30 June 2023 \$
Net tangible asset backing (per share) before tax	3.2064	2.9793
Net tangible asset backing (per share) after tax	3.0840	2.9233

* The NTA before tax is calculated before the provision for deferred tax on unrealised gains and losses on the investment portfolio. The NTA after tax is calculated after all taxes.

Earnings per share

	30 June 2024 (cents)	30 June 2023 (cents)
Basic profits/(losses) per share attributable to the ordinary equity holders	27.49	26.60
Diluted profits/(losses) per share attributable to the ordinary equity holders	27.49	26.60

Appendix 4E (cont'd)

Explanation of results

For the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, the Company recorded a profit before tax of \$226.98 million and a net profit after tax of \$170.29 million.

The net tangible asset (NTA) backing per share before tax was \$3.21 as at 30 June 2024, an increase of 8% compared with \$2.98 as at 30 June 2023. The NTA post-tax of \$3.08 is calculated after all taxes. In addition to the increase in NTA, the Company paid fully franked dividends of 5.5 cents per share in October 2023 and 5.75 cents per share in April 2024.

The volatile global market backdrop was characterised by speculation over interest rates and inflation, euphoria around AI stocks, and continued equity flows toward large cap stocks both in Australia and globally. These dynamics created select stock picking opportunities for the portfolio, as well as some headwinds. A surge in Technology/AI-related companies led the continued bias towards Growth stocks over Value stocks and impacted certain short positions in expensive, non AI-related growth stocks in the portfolio. Further challenges came from the stock-market rally being led by a narrow set of large companies (ASX20, particularly domestic banks, and NASDAQ's 'Magnificent Seven') and a de-rate in some parts of the Resources sector.

Despite these headwinds, the investment team achieved strong performance overall, through detailed, bottom-up stock picking and timely trading decisions. Portfolio companies that contributed significant positive returns included Capstone, CRH, Downer, Hudbay Minerals, Imdex, NexGen Energy, QBE Insurance, Seven Group, Westgold Resources and Worley.

Looking forward, the investment team believes equity markets are relatively fully priced overall with continued narrow market leadership in both Australia and the U.S. driving gains, and sees ongoing risks from weakening consumer sentiment, geopolitical tensions and U.S. elections. They continue to find attractive opportunities in low P/E, highly cash generative companies where valuations remain compelling, along with select opportunities on the short side, particularly in some expensive growth stocks with overly optimistic market expectations.

Annual General Meeting

L1 Long Short Fund Limited advises that its Annual General Meeting will be held on 12 November 2024. The time and other details relating to the meeting will be advised in the Notice of Meeting to be sent to all shareholders and released to the ASX immediately after dispatch. In accordance with the ASX Listing Rules, valid nominations for the position of Director are required to be lodged at the registered office of the Company by 5 pm (AEST) 17 September 2024.

L1 Long Short Fund Limited

ABN 47 623 418 539

Financial Report

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Directors	Andrew Larke (Independent Chairman) John Macfarlane (Independent Director) Harry Kingsley (Independent Director) Raphael Lamm (Non Independent Director) Mark Landau (Non Independent Director)
Company secretary	Mark Licciardo
Registered office	Acclime Australia Corporate Services Pty Ltd Level 7, 330 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Phone: (03) 8689 9997
Investment manager	L1 Capital Pty Limited Level 45, 101 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Phone: (03) 9286 7000
Administrator	Apex Fund Services Pty Ltd (an Apex Group Company) Level 10, 12 Shelley Street Sydney NSW 2000 Phone: (02) 8259 8508
Share registrar	Link Market Services Limited Tower 4, 727 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3008 Phone: 1800 129 431
	For enquiries relating to shareholdings, dividends and related matters, please contact the share registrar.
Auditors	Ernst & Young 8 Exhibition Street, Melbourne VIC 3000 Phone: (03) 9288 8000
Securities exchange listing	Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) The home exchange is Melbourne ASX code: LSF Ordinary shares
Website	www.L1LongShort.com

L1 Long Short Fund Limited ABN 47 623 418 539
Financial Report - For the year ended 30 June 2024

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Directors' Report

The Directors present their report together with the financial statements of L1 Long Short Fund Limited (the "Company") for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Directors

The following persons held office as Directors during the year and up to the date of this report:

Andrew Larke	(Independent Chairman)
Raphael Lamm	(Non Independent Director)
Mark Landau	(Non Independent Director)
John Macfarlane	(Independent Director)
Harry Kingsley	(Independent Director)

Principal activities

During the year, the principal activity of the Company was to invest (both long and short) in predominantly Australian securities with the remaining exposure to global securities. The Company's investment objective is to deliver positive absolute returns to investors while seeking to preserve capital over the long term.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the activity of the Company during the year.

On 25 August 2023, the Directors declared a fully franked final dividend of 5.50 cents per share with record date of 12 September 2023 and paid to the shareholders on 3 October 2023.

On 22 February 2024, the Directors declared a fully franked interim dividend of 5.75 cents per share with record date of 19 March 2024 and paid to the shareholders on 9 April 2024.

On 23 August 2024, the Directors declared a fully franked final dividend of 6.00 cents per share with record date of 10 September 2024 and payable to the shareholders on 1 October 2024.

The Dividend Reinvestment Plan (DRP) is in operation under which the shareholders may elect to have all or part of their dividend payment reinvested in new ordinary shares. Participating shareholders will be entitled to be allotted the number of shares (rounded down to the nearest whole number) which the cash dividend would purchase at the relevant allocation price. The relevant allocation price is the arithmetic average of the daily volume weighted average sale price (calculated to the nearest cent) of shares traded on the ASX over the five trading days commencing on the ex-dividend date for the relevant dividend, without any discount. The last day for the receipt of an election notice for participation in the DRP is 11 September 2024.

Dividend Profit Reserve

The Company may transfer any current year or prior period accumulated profits not distributed as dividends to a dividend profit reserve. Doing so facilitates the payment of future dividends, rather than maintaining these profits within retained earnings.

On 1 February 2024, the Directors resolved to approve the transfer of any resulting net profit after tax for the half-year ended 31 December 2023 to the dividend profit reserve. Accordingly, on 31 December 2023, the transfer of \$55,698,000 was made to the reserve. Further transfer of \$114,592,000 was made to the reserve on 30 June 2024 which is in line with the board resolution dated 28 June 2024.

The balance of the dividend profit reserve as of 30 June 2024 is \$809,292,000 (2023: \$708,535,000).

Review of operations

The operating profit before tax was \$226,977,000 for the year ended 30 June 2024 (2023: \$224,316,000). The net result after tax was a profit of \$170,290,000 (2023: \$163,272,000).

The net tangible asset backing before tax as at 30 June 2024 was \$3.2064 per share (2023: \$2.9793).

The Company's performance exceeded its high watermark as of the performance calculation year ended 30 June 2024 giving the Investment Manager an entitlement to a performance fee. Please refer to Note 21 for further details.

The Company's on-market share buy-back program of up to 10% of its shares remained in place during the year and has been renewed for a period up until 2 June 2025. No shares were bought back over the year ended 30 June 2024 (2023: Nil). The Company retains the right to do so when market conditions and share prices are appropriate.

Directors' Report (continued)

Financial position

The net asset value of the Company for the financial year ended 30 June 2024 was \$1,921,897,000 (2023: \$1,804,566,000).

Significant changes in the state of affairs

On 5 April 2024, the Company announced that Joint Managing Director, Mr. Mark Landau, would be taking a leave of absence to undergo medical treatment for an early-stage, treatable cancer. With the support of the Board, Mr. Landau took leave of approximately three months starting in late April 2024 to allow time for treatment and a period of recovery. During this period, Mr. Raphael Lamm was the sole Managing Director. Mr. Landau resumed his duties on 5 August 2024.

In the opinion of the Directors, there were no other significant changes in the state of affairs of the Company that occurred during the year ended 30 June 2024.

Matters subsequent to the end of the financial year

No matter or circumstance has occurred subsequent to year end that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in subsequent financial years.

Likely developments and expected results of operations

The Company will continue to pursue its investment objectives for the long-term benefit of the members.

The results of the Company's operations will be affected by a number of factors, including the performance of investment markets in which the Company invests. Investment performance is not guaranteed and future returns may differ from past returns. As investment conditions change over time, past returns should not be used to predict future returns.

Business risks

The main areas of risk that have been identified for the Company are investment risk and operational risk. As a listed investment company, the Company bears investment risk as it invests its capital in assets that are not risk-free. Investment risk covers investment strategy, short-selling, leverage, investment manager, market price, collateral, credit, counterparties, liquidity, small cap stocks, portfolio turnover, derivatives, diversification, foreign currency, outsourcing, interest rates and the regulatory environment. Operational risks include key person risk, regulatory risk and cyber security risk.

Our risk management framework, which is overseen by our Audit & Risk Committee, has been designed to monitor, review and continually improve risk management at the Company.

Environmental regulation

The Company is not affected by any significant environmental regulation in respect of its operations.

To the extent that any environmental regulations may have an incidental impact on the Company's operations, the Directors of the Company are not aware of any breach by the Company of those regulations.

Information on Directors

Andrew Larke (Independent Chairman)

Experience and expertise

Andrew Larke has over 25 years' experience in mergers, acquisitions, capital markets and senior executive leadership positions.

He was formerly CEO and Managing Director of IXOM chemicals group and prior to that he was Global Head of Strategy, Planning and Mergers & Acquisitions at Orica Limited. Mr Larke has been a director of DuluxGroup (2010 – 2019) and he is also a director of listed company Diversified United Investment Limited.

Other current directorships

Andrew Larke's current directorships in other listed companies include Diversified United Investment Limited (2015 – current).

Former directorships in last 3 years

Andrew Larke has not held any directorships in other listed companies within the last 3 years.

Directors' Report (continued)

Information on Directors (continued)

Interests in shares and options

Details of Andrew Larke's interests in shares of the Company are included in the Remuneration Report.

Interests in contracts

Andrew Larke has no interests in contracts of the Company.

John Macfarlane (Independent Director)

Experience and expertise

John Macfarlane is an experienced international banker. He served as CEO of Bankers Trust New Zealand (1998 – 1999), Chief Country Officer (Japan) and President of Deutsche Securities Japan (1999 – 2006), Executive Chairman of Deutsche Bank Australia and New Zealand (2007 – 2014) and Executive Chairman and CEO of Deutsche Bank Australia (2011 – 2014).

During his 15 years at Deutsche Bank he was a member of the Global Markets, Global Banking and Global Regional Management Executive Committees and he also served as a Co-Chair of the Asia Pacific Executive Committee (2004 – 2006). He has also previously worked for the New Zealand Government Treasury, the Department of Finance (PNG) and for Bankers Trust Company for 11 years in Australia, New Zealand and the USA.

Other current directorships

John Macfarlane does not currently hold directorships in other listed companies.

Former directorships in last 3 years

John Macfarlane's former directorships in other listed companies include Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (2014 - 2023).

Interests in shares and options

Details of John Macfarlane's interests in shares of the Company are included in Remuneration Report.

Interests in contracts

John Macfarlane has no interests in contracts of the Company.

Harry Kingsley (Independent Director)

Experience and expertise

Harry Kingsley is a Partner at K&L Gates. He is a senior corporate and commercial lawyer specialising in strategic advice and negotiated transactions. He has extensive legal industry experience working in private practice and organisations in the transport and financial services industries as well as working as an investment banking professional. He is a trusted advisor to private and ASX listed corporations, their directors and management throughout Australasia.

He is highly regarded for his general commercial expertise as well as specialist knowledge around private equity, private and public M&A, IPOs and equity and debt capital markets.

He was formerly a Partner at Holding Redlich (2015 – 2020), Senior Legal Counsel, Asciano Limited and Chief Legal Counsel, Pacific National (2011 – 2015), Executive Director, Austock Group (2005 – 2011) and a senior associate at Minter Ellison (2001 – 2005).

Other current directorships

Harry Kingsley does not currently hold directorships in other listed companies.

Former directorships in last 3 years

Harry Kingsley has not held any directorships in other listed companies within the last 3 years.

Interests in shares and options

Details of Harry Kingsley's interests in shares of the Company are included in Remuneration Report.

Directors' Report (continued)

Information on Directors (continued)

Interests in contracts

Harry Kingsley has no interests in contracts of the Company.

Raphael Lamm (Non Independent Director)

Experience and expertise

Raphael Lamm is the Joint Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer of L1 Capital Pty Limited ("L1 Capital"). Since co-founding L1 Capital in 2007, Raphael has jointly managed L1 Capital's Australian equities strategies including the flagship L1 Capital Long Short Strategy, which was launched in 2014.

Prior to founding L1 Capital, Raphael spent 5 years at Cooper Investors where he worked as an Investment Analyst and Portfolio Manager. During this time, Raphael was responsible for financial analysis, security selection and portfolio management of Australian Equities across the large cap universe.

He holds a double degree in Law and Commerce from Monash University, with Honours in Law and First Class Honours in Finance.

Other current directorships

Raphael Lamm does not currently hold directorships in other listed companies.

Former directorships in last 3 years

Raphael Lamm has not held any directorships in other listed companies within the last 3 years.

Interests in shares and options

Details of Raphael Lamm's interests in shares of the Company are included in Remuneration Report.

Interests in contracts

Details of Raphael Lamm's interests in contracts of the Company are included in Note 18(b).

Mark Landau (Non Independent Director)

Experience and expertise

Mark Landau is the Joint Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer of L1 Capital. Since co-founding L1 Capital in 2007, Mark has jointly managed L1 Capital's Australian equities strategies including the flagship L1 Capital Long Short Strategy, which was launched in 2014.

Prior to founding L1 Capital, Mark worked at Invesco Australia as an Investment Analyst in the large-cap Australian Equities Fund and an Investment Manager in the Invesco Smaller Companies Fund. Previously, he was a Senior Strategy Consultant at Accenture, providing financial analysis and corporate strategy advice to a range of ASX100 companies.

Mark holds a double degree in Commerce and Economics from Monash University, is an active CFA charterholder and is a Fellow of FINSIA.

Other current directorships

Mark Landau does not currently hold directorships in other listed companies.

Former directorships in last 3 years

Mark Landau has not held any directorships in other listed companies within the last 3 years.

Interests in shares and options

Details of Mark Landau's interests in shares of the Company are included in Remuneration Report.

Interests in contracts

Details of Mark Landau's interests in contracts of the Company are included in Note 18(b).

Directors' Report (continued)

Company Secretary

Mark Licciardo

Mark Licciardo is the founder of Mertons Corporate Services, now part of Acclime Australia and is currently the partner and managing director of Acclime Australia's Listed Services Division. Widely recognised as a leader in his field, Mark has extensive experience working with boards of ASX-listed companies guiding and implementing effective corporate governance practices. He is also an ASX-experienced director and chair of public and private companies, with expertise in the listed investment, infrastructure, bio-technology and digital sectors. He currently serves as a director of Frontier Digital Ventures (ASX:FDV) and a number of other Australian company boards as well as foreign controlled entities and private companies.

Mark holds a Bachelor of Business degree in accounting, a Graduate Diploma in Governance and is a Fellow of the Chartered Governance Institute, the Governance Institute of Australia and the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Meetings of Directors

The number of meetings of the Company's Board of Directors and of each board committee held during the year ended 30 June 2024 and up to the date of this audit report, and the number of meetings attended by each Director were:

1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024	Directors' Meetings		Meetings of committee	
			Audit, Risk and Compliance	
	A	B	A	B
Andrew Larke	4	4	2	2
Mark Landau	3	4	N/A	N/A
Raphael Lamm	4	4	N/A	N/A
John Macfarlane	4	4	2	2
Harry Kingsley	4	4	2	2

A = Number of meetings attended

B = Number of meetings held during the time the Director held office or was a member of the committee during the year

Remuneration report (Audited)

This report details the nature and amount of remuneration for each Director of the Company in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The Independent Directors are entitled to receive Directors' fees (inclusive of superannuation) up to \$600,000 (2023: \$600,000) per annum to be shared among the Directors. Additional remuneration may be paid in accordance with the Company's Constitution.

The remuneration for Directors will be reviewed by the Board on a periodic basis as the Company develops its business and, subject to the Listing Rules, may be increased.

Raphael Lamm and Mark Landau, being Non Independent Directors, are remunerated by the Investment Manager and do not receive Directors' fees from the Company.

Directors' remuneration is not directly linked to the Company's Performance.

Directors' Report (continued)

Remuneration report (Audited) (continued)

Details of remuneration

The following tables show details of the remuneration paid by the Company to the Directors of the Company for the current financial year and previous period.

2024

Name	Short-term employee benefits Salary and fees \$	Post-employment benefits Superannuation \$	Total \$
Independent Directors			
Andrew Larke	203,500	-	203,500
John Macfarlane	91,667	10,083	101,750
Harry Kingsley	91,667	10,083	101,750
Sub-total Independent Directors	386,834	20,166	407,000
Non Independent Directors			
Raphael Lamm*	-	-	-
Mark Landau*	-	-	-
Sub-total Non Independent Directors	-	-	-
Total key management personnel compensation	386,834	20,166	407,000

2023

Independent Directors			
Andrew Larke	195,000	-	195,000
John Macfarlane	88,235	9,265	97,500
Harry Kingsley	88,235	9,265	97,500
Sub-total Independent Directors	371,470	18,530	390,000
Non Independent Directors			
Raphael Lamm*	-	-	-
Mark Landau*	-	-	-
Sub-total Non Independent Directors	-	-	-
Total key management personnel compensation	371,470	18,530	390,000

*Raphael Lamm and Mark Landau are directly paid by L1 Capital. Refer to section *Remuneration of Executives*.

Director-Related Entity Remuneration

All transactions with related entities were made under normal commercial terms and conditions.

L1 Capital is a Director-related entity which operates a funds management business and has been appointed to manage the investment portfolio of the Company. In its capacity as Investment Manager, L1 Capital is entitled to be paid a management fee equal to 1.40% (plus GST) per annum of the value of the portfolio calculated daily.

Management fees (inclusive of the net impact of GST and Reduced Input Tax Credit ("RITC")) incurred during the year amounted to \$26,977,000 (2023: \$24,752,000) of which \$2,400,000 (2023: \$2,059,000) remained payable as at year end.

In addition, L1 Capital is entitled to be paid by the Company a fee equal to 20.00% (plus GST) of the Portfolio's outperformance, if any, over each semi-annual performance calculation period, subject to a high watermark mechanism. Further information in respect of the Company's performance fee calculation is contained in Section 9.1 of the Company's Prospectus which was issued on 16 February 2018.

Performance fees (inclusive of the net impact of GST and RITC) incurred during the year amounted to \$58,326,000 (2023: \$57,479,000) of which \$39,704,000 (2023: \$10,396,000) remained payable as at year end.

Directors' Report (continued)

Remuneration report (Audited) (continued)

Director-Related Entity Remuneration (continued)

No Director has received or become entitled to receive a benefit (other than those detailed above) by reason of a contract made by the Company or a related Company with the Director or with a firm of which he is a member or with a Company in which he has substantial financial interest.

Remuneration of Executives

There are no executives that are directly paid by the Company. L1 Capital, the Investment Manager of the Company, remunerated Raphael Lamm and Mark Landau as employees and/or as Directors of the Investment Manager during the financial year. The Investment Manager is appointed to provide day-to-day management of the Company and is remunerated as outlined above.

Equity Instrument Disclosures Relating to Directors

As at the date of the report, the Company's Directors and their related parties held the following interests in the Company:

Ordinary Shares Held

2024

Director	Position	No. of shares as at date of the report
Andrew Larke	Independent Chairman	1,208,275
John Macfarlane	Independent Director	696,019
Harry Kingsley	Independent Director	27,840
Raphael Lamm*	Non Independent Director	47,185,530
Mark Landau*	Non Independent Director	50,164,254
		99,281,918

2023

Andrew Larke	Independent Chairman	1,064,018
John Macfarlane	Independent Director	669,431
Harry Kingsley	Independent Director	26,777
Raphael Lamm*	Non Independent Director	42,212,443
Mark Landau*	Non Independent Director	45,424,653
		89,397,322

Refer to Note 18(b) for the movement of interests held in the Company by the Company's Directors and their related parties as at 30 June 2024.

* Raphael Lamm and Mark Landau have an interest in the shares held by L1 Employees Remuneration Trust and L1 Investment Trust by virtue of s608(1) of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Ordinary shares held by the following Directors are subject to voluntary escrow for a period which is the earlier of: (a) the period of 10 years from the date that the Company is listed on the exchange or (b) the duration of the Investment Management Agreement:

- Raphael Lamm: 17,785,179 shares (2023: 17,785,179 shares)
- Mark Landau: 17,785,179 shares (2023: 17,785,179 shares)

Directors and Director-related entities disposed of and acquired ordinary shares in the Company on the same terms and conditions available to other shareholders.

Options Held

None of the Directors held options during the period up to the date of the report (2023: Nil).

End of remuneration report

Insurance and indemnification of officers and auditors

During the financial year, the Company paid a premium in respect of a contract insuring the Directors of the Company, the Company Secretary and any related body corporate against liability incurred as such by a Director or Secretary to the extent permitted by the *Corporations Act 2001*. The contract of insurance prohibits disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium.

Directors' Report (continued)

Insurance and indemnification of officers and auditors (continued)

To the extent permitted by law, the Company has agreed to indemnify its auditors, Ernst & Young, as part of the terms of its audit engagement agreement against claims by third parties arising from the audit (for an unspecified amount). No payment has been made to indemnify Ernst & Young during or since the financial year.

Proceedings on behalf of the Company

No person has applied to the Court under section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001* for leave to bring proceedings on behalf of the Company, or to intervene in any proceedings to which the Company is a party, for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Company for all or part of those proceedings.

No proceedings have been brought or intervened in on behalf of the Company with leave of the Court under section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Audit and non-audit services

Details of the amounts paid or payable to Ernst & Young for audit and non-audit services provided during the period are set out in Note 19 to the financial statements on page 33 of this report.

The Board of Directors, in accordance with advice from the Audit and Risk Committee, is satisfied that the provision of non-audit services during the period is compatible with the general standard of independence for auditors imposed by the *Corporations Act 2001*. The Directors are satisfied that the services disclosed in Note 19 did not compromise the external auditor's independence for the following reasons:

- (a) all non-audit services have been reviewed and approved by the Audit and Risk Committee to ensure they do not impact the impartiality and objectivity of the auditor;
- (b) none of the services undermine the general principles relating to auditor independence as set out in *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (including Independence Standards).

Rounding of amounts

In accordance with *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191*, the amounts in the Directors' Report and in the Financial Report have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, unless otherwise specified.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

A copy of the Auditor's Independence Declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 9.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of Directors.



Andrew Larke
Chairman

Melbourne
23 August 2024



**Building a better
working world**

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Auditor's independence declaration to the directors of L1 Long Short Fund Limited

As lead auditor for the audit of the financial report of L1 Long Short Fund Limited for the financial year ended 30 June 2024, I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit;
- b. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit; and
- c. No non-audit services provided that contravene any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Ernst & Young

Emma Reekie
Partner
23 August 2024

L1 Long Short Fund Limited
Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income
For the year ended 30 June 2024

		Year Ended	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
Investment Income			
Net gains on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		314,636	329,421
Dividend income		78,849	62,885
Interest income from financial assets at amortised cost		37,707	21,834
Expense reimbursement from Investment Manager	21	730	682
Net foreign exchange gains/(losses)		9,160	(18,399)
Other income		2	25
Total income		441,084	396,448
Expenses			
Management fees	21	(26,977)	(24,752)
Performance fees	21	(58,326)	(57,479)
Interest expense		(75,879)	(35,818)
Dividend expense on short positions		(27,350)	(28,060)
Brokerage expense		(15,356)	(16,359)
Stock loan fees		(4,320)	(4,683)
Withholding tax on foreign dividends		(3,812)	(2,875)
Other expenses		(881)	(846)
Directors' fees	18	(407)	(390)
Administration fees		(269)	(286)
ASX fees		(199)	(193)
Audit fees	19	(94)	(92)
Share registry fees		(172)	(209)
Secretarial fees		(58)	(58)
Legal fees		(7)	(32)
Total operating expenses		(214,107)	(172,132)
Profit before income tax attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company		226,977	224,316
Income tax expense	7	(56,687)	(61,044)
Profit after income tax		170,290	163,272
Other comprehensive income, net of tax		-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company		170,290	163,272
		Cents	Cents
Profits per share for profit attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company:			
Basic profits per share	23	27.49	26.60
Diluted profits per share	23	27.49	26.60

The above Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

L1 Long Short Fund Limited
Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2024

		As at	
	Notes	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	8	1,009,100	969,816
Other receivables	9	28,637	21,850
Receivable from Manager	21	34	61
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	10	3,402,357	2,795,665
Prepaid income tax		37,087	111,535
Other current assets		515	572
Total current assets		4,477,730	3,899,499
Total assets		4,477,730	3,899,499
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Broker advances		1,272,868	945,120
Other payables	13	88,838	138,955
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	14	1,118,097	976,134
Total current liabilities		2,479,803	2,060,209
Non-current liabilities			
Deferred tax liabilities	12	76,030	34,724
Total non-current liabilities		76,030	34,724
Total liabilities		2,555,833	2,094,933
Net assets		1,921,897	1,804,566
EQUITY			
Issued capital	15	1,259,096	1,242,522
Dividend profit reserve	17	809,292	708,535
Accumulated losses		(146,491)	(146,491)
Total equity		1,921,897	1,804,566

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

L1 Long Short Fund Limited
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	Issued Capital \$'000	Dividend Profit Reserve \$'000	Accumulated Losses \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance as at 1 July 2022		1,228,460	603,457	(146,491)	1,685,426
Profit after income tax		-	-	163,272	163,272
Other comprehensive income		-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income		-	-	163,272	163,272
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Dividend reinvestment	15	14,062	-	-	14,062
Dividend declared	17	-	(58,194)	-	(58,194)
Transfer to dividend profit reserve account	17	-	163,272	(163,272)	-
		14,062	105,078	(163,272)	(44,132)
Balance as at 30 June 2023		1,242,522	708,535	(146,491)	1,804,566
Balance as at 1 July 2023		1,242,522	708,535	(146,491)	1,804,566
Profit after income tax		-	-	170,290	170,290
Other comprehensive income		-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income		-	-	170,290	170,290
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Dividend reinvestment	15	16,574	-	-	16,574
Dividend declared	17	-	(69,533)	-	(69,533)
Transfer to dividend profit reserve account	17	-	170,290	(170,290)	-
		16,574	100,757	(170,290)	(52,959)
Balance as at 30 June 2024		1,259,096	809,292	(146,491)	1,921,897

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

L1 Long Short Fund Limited
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 30 June 2024

		Year Ended	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
		\$'000	\$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		(6,598,522)	(6,097,715)
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		6,362,489	6,873,703
Dividends received		75,593	62,922
Interest income received from financial assets at amortised cost		37,361	22,356
Expense reimbursement received		757	681
Other income received		2	25
Brokerage expenses paid		(15,356)	(16,359)
Dividends paid on short positions		(27,461)	(28,420)
Stock loan fees paid		(4,312)	(5,050)
ASX fees paid		(199)	(193)
Net GST received/(paid)		(729)	129
Interest paid		(75,882)	(35,331)
Management fees paid		(26,636)	(25,094)
Performance fees paid		(29,018)	(49,017)
Income tax refunded/(paid)		59,067	(192,762)
Other expenses paid		(1,819)	(1,851)
Net cash (used in)/inflow from operating activities	22	(244,665)	508,024
Cash flows from financing activities			
Dividends paid		(52,959)	(44,133)
Broker advances (repaid)/received		327,748	(786,504)
Net cash (used in)/inflow from financing activities		274,789	(830,637)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		30,124	(322,613)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		969,816	1,310,828
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		9,160	(18,399)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	8	1,009,100	969,816

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

L1 Long Short Fund Limited (the "Company") is a listed public company domiciled in Australia. The Company's registered address is Acclime Australia Corporate Services Pty Ltd, Level 7, 330 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000.

The Company's investment strategy is to invest in a portfolio of predominantly Australian securities with the remaining exposure to global securities (both long and short). The Company's investment objectives are to deliver positive absolute returns to investors while seeking to preserve capital over the long term.

The Company was registered with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) on 14 December 2017, commenced operations on 19 April 2018 and was officially admitted to the Official List of the Australian Securities Exchange on 20 April 2018.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 23 August 2024. The Directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial report.

2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

(a) Basis of preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the *Corporations Act 2001*. The Company is a for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

(i) Compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

The financial statements of the Company also comply with IFRS as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

(ii) New standards and interpretations adopted by the Company

The Company has applied the following standards and amendments for the first time for its financial year beginning 1 July 2023:

- AASB 2021-2 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure of Accounting Policies and Definition of Accounting Estimates* [AASB 7, AASB 101, AASB 108, AASB 134 & AASB Practice Statement 2].

The amendments have had an impact on the Company's disclosures of accounting policies, including the requirement to disclose 'material' rather than 'significant' accounting policies, but not on the measurement, recognition or presentation of any items in the Company's financial statements.

None of the other standards, interpretations or amendments to existing standards that are effective for the first time for the financial year beginning 1 July 2023 have a material impact on the amounts recognised in the prior periods or will affect the current or future periods.

(iii) Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for financial assets and financial liabilities held at fair value through profit or loss, that have been measured at fair value.

(iv) Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Company's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in Note 5.

(v) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

The following new and revised Australian Accounting Standard, Interpretation and amendment that has been issued but is not yet effective is in the process of assessment by the Company:

- AASB 18 *Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements* (application date 1 January 2027)

Other than above, a number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 July 2024, and have not been early adopted in preparing these financial statements.

None of these are expected to have a material effect on the financial statements of the Company.

2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(b) Foreign currency translation

(i) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements of the Company are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates (the "functional currency"). The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars ("A\$"), which is the Company's functional and presentation currency.

(ii) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

Non-monetary items that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date when the fair value was determined. Translation differences on assets and liabilities carried at fair value are reported as part of the fair value gain or loss in the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

(c) Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

(i) Investment income

Profits and losses realised from the sale of investments and unrealised gains and losses on securities at fair value are included in the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income in the period they are earned in accordance with the policies described in Note 2(j).

(ii) Interest income

Interest income from financial assets at amortised cost is recognised on a time-proportionate basis using the effective interest method and includes interest from cash and cash equivalents. Interest from financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is determined based on the contractual coupon interest rate and includes interest from debt securities.

(iii) Dividend income

Dividend income from financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is recognised on the ex-dividend date with any related foreign withholding tax recorded as an expense. The Company currently incurs withholding tax imposed by certain countries on dividend income. Such income is recorded gross of withholding tax in the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

(iv) Other income

The Company recognises other income when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured and it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the Company.

(d) Expenses

All expenses are recognised in the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income on an accrual basis.

(e) Income Tax

The income tax expense for the year comprises current income tax expense and deferred tax expense.

Current income tax expense charged to profit or loss is the tax payable on taxable income. Current tax liabilities/(assets) are measured at the amounts expected to be paid to/(recovered from) the relevant taxation authority.

Deferred income tax expense reflects movements in deferred tax asset and deferred tax liability balances during the year.

Current and deferred income tax (expense)/benefit is charged or credited outside profit or loss when the tax relates to items that are recognised outside profit or loss.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period when the asset is realised or the liability is settled and their measurement also reflects the manner in which management expects to recover or settle the carrying amount of the related asset or liability.

Deferred tax assets relating to temporary differences are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the benefits of the deferred tax asset can be utilised.

2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(e) Income Tax (continued)

Current tax assets and liabilities are offset where a legally enforceable right of set-off exists and it is intended that net settlement or simultaneous realisation and settlement of the respective asset and liability will occur. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset where: (a) a legally enforceable right of set-off exists; and (b) the deferred tax assets and liabilities relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on either the same taxable entity or different taxable entities where it is intended that net settlement or simultaneous realisation and settlement of the respective asset and liability will occur in future periods in which significant amounts of deferred tax assets or liabilities are expected to be recovered or settled.

Uncertain Taxes

AASB Interpretation 23 *Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments* requires the evaluation of whether a tax position of the Company is more likely than not to be sustained upon examination by the applicable taxing authority, including resolution of any related appeals or litigation processes, based on the technical merits of the position. Tax positions not deemed to meet the more-likely-than-not threshold would be recorded as a tax expense, including interest and penalties, in the current year in the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income. The guidance establishes a minimum threshold for financial statement recognition of positions taken in filing tax returns, including whether an entity is taxable in a particular tax jurisdiction, and requires certain expanded tax disclosures.

(f) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of presentation in the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

(g) Broker advances

Broker advances comprise cash paid by brokers on behalf of the Company under the facility in the prime brokerage agreement for the day-to-day settlement of the Company's sales and purchases of financial instruments in foreign currencies. Broker advances are payable on demand.

(h) Due from/to brokers

Amounts due from/to brokers represent receivables for securities sold and payables for securities purchased that have been contracted for but not yet delivered by the end of the year. The due from brokers balance is held for collection and are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

(i) Other receivables

Receivables may include amounts for interest and dividends. Dividends are accrued when the right to receive payment is established. Where applicable, interest is accrued on a daily basis. Amounts are generally received within 30 days of being recorded as receivables.

(j) Financial assets and liabilities

Classification

(i) Financial assets

The Company classifies its financial assets in the following measurement categories:

- Those to be measured at fair value through profit or loss; and
- Those to be measured at amortised cost.

The Company classifies its investments based on its business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The Company's portfolio of financial assets is managed and performance is evaluated on a fair value basis in accordance with the Company's documented investment strategy. The Company's policy is to evaluate the information about these financial assets on a fair value basis together with other related financial information.

For equity securities and derivatives, the contractual cash flows of these instruments do not represent solely payments of principal and interest. Consequently, these investments are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

For cash and cash equivalents and receivables, these assets are held in order to collect the contractual cash flows. The contractual terms of these assets give rise, on specified dates, to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding. Consequently, these are measured at amortised cost.

2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(j) Financial assets and liabilities (continued)

Classification (continued)

(ii) Financial liabilities

The Company makes short sales in which a borrowed security is sold in anticipation of a decline in the market value of that security, or it may use short sales for various arbitrage transactions. Short sales are held for trading and are consequently classified as financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss. Derivative contracts that have a negative fair value are presented as financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss.

For financial liabilities that are not classified and measured at fair value through profit or loss, these are classified as financial liabilities at amortised cost (due to brokers, short dividends payable, management fees payable, interest payable and other payables).

Recognition and derecognition

Purchases and sales of financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are recognised on trade date, the date on which the Company commits to purchase or sell the asset or liability. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the Company has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligation under the liabilities are discharged.

Measurement

At initial recognition, the Company measures financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. Transaction costs of financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income. Financial assets and liabilities (other than those classified at fair value through profit or loss) are measured initially at their fair value plus any directly attributable incremental costs of acquisition or issue.

Subsequent to initial recognition, all instruments at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value. Gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value and foreign currency translation of financial assets or liabilities at fair value through profit or loss category are presented in the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income within net gains on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss in the period in which they arise. Dividends and interest earned or paid on these instruments are recorded separately in dividend and interest income or expense.

Financial liabilities, other than those classified at fair value through profit or loss, are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss when the liabilities are derecognised, as well as through the amortisation process.

The effective interest method (EIR) is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or a financial liability and of allocating and recognising the interest income or interest expense in profit or loss over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts through the expected life of the financial asset or financial liability to the gross carrying amount of the financial asset or to the amortised cost of the financial liability. When calculating the effective interest rate, the Company estimates cash flows considering all contractual terms of the financial instruments, but does not consider expected credit losses. The calculation includes all fees paid or received between parties to the contract that are an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and all other premiums or discounts.

When an investment is disposed, the cumulative gain or loss, net of tax thereon, is recognised as net gains on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss in the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

Impairment

At each reporting date, the Company shall measure the loss allowance on financial assets at amortised cost (e.g. cash, due from broker) at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses (ECL) if the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Company shall measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12 month expected credit losses. The Company's approach to ECL reflects a probability-weighted outcome, the time value of money and reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort at the reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions. However, where there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, the loss allowance will be based on the lifetime expected credit loss. Significant financial difficulties of the counterparty, probability that the counterparty will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default in payments are all considered indicators that credit risk may have significantly increased. A significant increase in credit risk is defined by management as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due. If the credit risk increases to the point that it is considered to be credit impaired, interest income will be calculated based on the gross carrying amount adjusted for the loss allowance. Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

(k) Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the Statement of Financial Position where the Company currently has a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts, and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. Refer to Note 11 to the financial statements for further information.

2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(l) Other payables

Payables include liabilities and accrued expenses owed by the Company which are unpaid as at the end of the reporting period.

(m) Issued capital

Ordinary shares are classified as equity and presented as Issued Capital within the Statement of Changes in Equity.

Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares or options are recognised in equity as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds.

(n) Dividends

Provision is made for the amount of any dividend declared, being appropriately authorised and no longer at the discretion of the entity, on or before the end of the reporting period but not distributed at the end of the reporting period.

In accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, the Company may pay a dividend where the Company's assets exceed its liabilities, the payment of the dividend is fair and reasonable to the Company's shareholders as a whole and the payment of the dividend does not materially prejudice the Company's ability to pay its creditors.

Dividend Reinvestment Plan

The Dividend Reinvestment Plan (DRP) is in operation under which the shareholders may elect to have all or part of their dividend payment reinvested in new ordinary shares. Participating shareholders will be entitled to be allotted the number of shares (rounded down to the nearest whole number) which the cash dividend would purchase at the relevant allocation price. The relevant allocation price is the arithmetic average of the daily volume weighted average sale price (calculated to the nearest cent) of shares traded on the ASX over the five trading days commencing on the ex-dividend date for the relevant dividend, without any discount.

(o) Earnings per share

(i) Basic earnings per share

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing:

- The profit attributable to owners of the Company, excluding any costs of servicing equity other than ordinary shares; and
- By the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the financial year, adjusted for bonus elements in ordinary shares issued during the year.

(ii) Diluted earnings per share

Diluted earnings per share adjusts the figures used in the determination of basic earnings per share to take into account:

- The after income tax effect of interest and other financing costs associated with dilutive potential ordinary shares; and
- The weighted average number of additional ordinary shares that would have been outstanding assuming the conversion of all dilutive potential ordinary shares.

(p) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Where applicable, the Company qualifies for RITC at a rate of at least 75%; hence fees for these services have been recognised in the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income net of the amount of GST recoverable from the ATO.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the ATO, are presented as operating cash flows.

(q) Rounding of amounts

In accordance with *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191*, the amounts in the Directors' Report and in the Financial Report have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, unless otherwise specified.

2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(r) Comparative revisions

Comparative information is revised where appropriate to enhance comparability. Where necessary, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation in the current year.

3. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Company's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (including interest rate risk, foreign exchange risk and price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The Board of the Company has implemented a risk management framework to mitigate these risks.

(a) Market risk

Market risk is defined as the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: interest rate risk, foreign exchange risk and other price risk, such as equity price risk.

The Directors believe that there is no significant concentration risk in any particular sector or industry.

(i) Price risk

Exposure

The Company is exposed to financial instrument price risk. This arises from financial instrument held by the Company and classified in the Statement of Financial Position as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

The Company and the Investment Manager seek to manage the risk that the Portfolio will decrease in value over each financial year.

The Investment Strategy, investment process, investment guidelines and risk measurement tools used by the Investment Manager are directed towards managing the risk that the Portfolio will fall in value whilst targeting an Absolute Return.

Industry/sector limitations will not be applied to the Company's Investment Strategy. This is because the Investment Manager believes that there is a wide variability in risk levels between sectors over time and also some correlation between sector based risks such that limits at a portfolio level are more appropriate to manage portfolio risk.

The portfolio is expected to be diversified across a broad range of sectors and industry groups, thereby reducing the risk that portfolio returns will be dependent on the performance of an individual security, sector or industry.

Sensitivity

The following table illustrates the effect on the Company's equity from possible changes in market risk that were reasonably possible based on the risk the Company was exposed to at reporting date, assuming a flat tax rate of 30%. The analysis is based on the assumption that the net investment portfolio had increased by 5% and 15% or decreased by 5% and 15% with all other variables held constant.

	Impact on net assets		Impact on post-tax income	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Decrease 5%	(114,213)	(90,977)	(79,949)	(63,684)
Increase 5%	114,213	90,977	79,949	63,684
Decrease 15%	(342,639)	(272,930)	(239,847)	(191,051)
Increase 15%	342,639	272,930	239,847	191,051

Net assets and profit after tax for the year would increase/(decrease) as a result of gains/(losses) on equity securities classified at fair value through profit or loss.

At balance date, the net position of financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss was \$2,284,260,000 (2023: \$1,819,531,000).

(ii) Interest rate risk

Exposure

The Company's interest bearing financial assets expose it to risks associated with the effects of fluctuations in the prevailing levels of market interest rates on its financial position and cash flows. The risk is measured using sensitivity analysis.

3. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(ii) Interest rate risk (continued)

Exposure (continued)

The table below summarises the Company's exposure to interest rate risks. It includes the Company's assets and liabilities at fair values, categorised by the earlier of contractual repricing or maturity dates.

At 30 June 2024	Floating interest rate \$'000	Fixed interest rate \$'000	Non-interest bearing \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	1,009,100	-	-	1,009,100
Other receivables	-	-	28,637	28,637
Other current assets	-	-	515	515
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	3,402,357	3,402,357
Receivable from Manager	-	-	34	34
	1,009,100	-	3,431,543	4,440,643
Financial liabilities				
Broker advances	(1,272,868)	-	-	(1,272,868)
Other payables	-	-	(88,838)	(88,838)
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	(1,118,097)	(1,118,097)
	(1,272,868)	-	(1,206,935)	(2,479,803)
Net exposure to interest rate risk	(263,768)	-	2,224,608	1,960,840
At 30 June 2023				
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	969,816	-	-	969,816
Other receivables	-	-	21,850	21,850
Other current assets	-	-	572	572
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	2,795,665	2,795,665
Receivable from Manager	-	-	61	61
	969,816	-	2,818,148	3,787,964
Financial liabilities				
Broker advances	(945,120)	-	-	(945,120)
Other payables	-	-	(138,955)	(138,955)
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	(976,134)	(976,134)
	(945,120)	-	(1,115,089)	(2,060,209)
Net exposure to interest rate risk	24,696	-	1,703,059	1,727,755

Sensitivity

At 30 June 2024, if interest rates had increased or decreased by 100 (2023: 100) basis points ("bps") from the year end rates with all other variables held constant, net assets would have been \$2,638,000 lower/\$2,638,000 higher (2023: \$247,000 higher/\$247,000 lower) and profit after tax for the year would have been \$1,846,000 lower/\$1,846,000 higher (2023: \$173,000 higher/\$173,000 lower), mainly as a result of higher/lower interest income from cash and cash equivalents, net of broker advances.

(iii) Foreign exchange risk

Exposure

The Company operates internationally and holds both monetary and non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the Australian dollar. The foreign exchange risk relating to non-monetary assets and liabilities is a component of price risk. Foreign exchange risk arises as the value of monetary securities denominated in other currencies will fluctuate due to changes in exchange rates. The Investment Manager monitors this risk on an ongoing basis. The Investment Manager manages risk on an absolute return basis in the reporting currency (i.e. Australian dollars), rather than the underlying currencies. Foreign exchange rate risk is managed by depositing surplus foreign currency in a foreign currency account for later use, or by borrowing foreign currency to pay for foreign currency purchases, and then using the foreign currency to repay the borrowing.

3. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(iii) Foreign exchange risk (continued)

Exposure (continued)

The following table summarises the fair value of the Company's financial assets and liabilities, monetary and non-monetary, which are denominated in a currency other than the Australian dollars.

The Company's exposure to foreign currency risk at the end of the reporting period, monetary and non-monetary, expressed in Australian dollars, was as follows:

30 June 2024	USD \$'000	EUR \$'000	HKD \$'000	GBP \$'000	CAD \$'000	Others \$'000
Monetary						
Cash and cash equivalents	-	-	5,934	-	70,957	-
Other receivables	-	-	-	-	237	58
Broker advances	(583,154)	(252,735)	(38,172)	(235,437)	(81,963)	(55,623)
Other payables	(9,462)	(5,334)	-	(1,663)	-	(1)
Total Monetary	(592,616)	(258,069)	(32,238)	(237,100)	(10,769)	(55,566)
Non-monetary						
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	295,730	279,202	31,515	308,822	426,965	30,370
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	(293,934)	-	-	-	(32,394)	(28,955)
Total Non-monetary	1,796	279,202	31,515	308,822	394,571	1,415
Net exposure	(590,820)	21,133	(723)	71,722	383,802	(54,151)
30 June 2023						
Monetary						
Cash and cash equivalents	-	-	-	-	-	16,325
Other receivables	2,474	-	-	-	2,914	-
Broker advances	(353,997)	(79,016)	(109,484)	(127,858)	(51,888)	(42,346)
Other payables	(33,636)	(11,916)	-	-	-	-
Total Monetary	(385,159)	(90,932)	(109,484)	(127,858)	(48,974)	(26,021)
Non-monetary						
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	504,940	92,413	42,209	126,427	293,223	-
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	(300,316)	-	-	-	-	(42,252)
Total Non-monetary	204,624	92,413	42,209	126,427	293,223	(42,252)
Net exposure	(180,535)	1,481	(67,275)	(1,431)	244,249	(68,273)

Sensitivity

The analysis is based on the assumption that the Australian dollar weakened and strengthened by 15% against the foreign currencies to which the Company's monetary securities are exposed. The impact on post-tax profit for the period would be as follows:

	Impact on net assets		Impact on post-tax income	
	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
USD/AUD exchange rate – (increase) 15% (2023: 10%)	(88,893)	(38,516)	(62,225)	(26,961)
USD/AUD exchange rate – decrease 15% (2023: 10%)	88,893	38,516	62,225	26,961

3. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(iii) Foreign exchange risk (continued)

Sensitivity (continued)

	Impact on net assets		Impact on post-tax income	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
EUR/AUD exchange rate – (increase) 15% (2023: 10%)	(38,710)	(9,093)	(27,097)	(6,365)
EUR/AUD exchange rate – decrease 15% (2023: 10%)	38,710	9,093	27,097	6,365
HKD/AUD exchange rate – (increase) 15% (2023: 10%)	(4,836)	(10,949)	(3,385)	(7,664)
HKD/AUD exchange rate – decrease 15% (2023: 10%)	4,836	10,949	3,385	7,664
GBP/AUD exchange rate – (increase) 15% (2023: 10%)	(35,565)	(12,786)	(24,896)	(8,950)
GBP/AUD exchange rate – decrease 15% (2023: 10%)	35,565	12,786	24,896	8,950
CAD/AUD exchange rate – (increase) 15% (2023: 10%)	(1,615)	(4,897)	(1,131)	(3,428)
CAD/AUD exchange rate – decrease 15% (2023: 10%)	1,615	4,897	1,131	3,428
Others/AUD exchange rate – (increase) 15% (2023: 10%)	(8,335)	(2,601)	(5,834)	(1,821)
Others/AUD exchange rate – decrease 15% (2023: 10%)	8,335	2,601	5,834	1,821

(b) Credit risk

Credit risk is defined as the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

Under the arrangements which the Company has entered into to facilitate stock borrowing for covered short selling, borrowed stock is collateralised by the long stock portfolio. If the stock borrowing counterparty became insolvent, it is possible that the Company may not recover all of the collateral that the Company gave to the counterparty. The collateral on securities sold short is set at 100% of the borrowed stock.

The maximum exposure to credit risk, excluding the value of any collateral or other security, at balance date to recognised financial assets, is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position and Notes to the Financial Statements. The Company is also exposed to counterparty credit risk on cash and cash equivalents, amounts due from brokers and other receivables.

Financial assets subject to AASB 9's impairment requirements

The Company determines credit risk and measures expected credit losses for financial assets at amortised cost using probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default. Management consider both historical analysis and forward looking information in determining any expected credit loss. At 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023, all receivables, amounts due from brokers, cash and short-term deposits are held with counterparties with a credit rating of AA- or higher and are either callable on demand or due to be settled within 1 week. Management consider the probability of default to be close to zero as these instruments have a low risk of default and the counterparties have a strong capacity to meet their contractual obligations in the near term. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognised based on 12-month expected credit losses as any such impairment would be wholly insignificant to the Company.

The Company manages credit risk by only entering into agreements with creditworthy parties.

At 30 June 2024, the long-term credit ratings of the Company's bank, prime brokers and debtors as per Standard and Poor's were as follows:

	2024	2023
National Australia Bank	AA-	AA-
Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc	A+	A+
Macquarie Bank Limited	A+	A+
Merrill Lynch	A+	A+
Goldman Sachs International	A+	A+
L1 Capital Pty Ltd	N/A	N/A

The Company's cash at bank is held mainly with National Australia Bank. The Company held 31.03% of cash at broker with Goldman Sachs International, 34.91% with Merrill Lynch and the remaining with Morgan Stanley (2023: 81.72% of cash at broker with Goldman Sachs International, 11.50% with Merrill Lynch and the remaining with Morgan Stanley). The Investment Manager monitors the financial position of the counterparties on a regular basis.

3. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

(b) Credit risk (continued)

Financial assets not subject to AASB 9's impairment requirements

The credit risk factors relating to the over-the-counter derivatives have been considered and credit valuation adjustments (CVA) for counterparty credit risk and debit valuation adjustments (DVA) for own credit risk have been assessed to be not significant in the current period.

The Company is exposed to credit risk on debt instruments and derivative assets. These classes of financial assets are not subject to AASB 9's impairment requirements as they are measured at fair value through profit or loss. The carrying value of these assets represents the Company's maximum exposure to credit risk on financial instruments not subject to the AASB 9 impairment requirements on the respective reporting dates. Hence, no separate maximum exposure to credit risk disclosure is provided for these instruments.

(c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is defined as the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities.

The Investment Manager manages liquidity risk by monitoring the asset size of the Company as a whole on executing transactions.

The assets of the Company are largely in the form of readily tradeable securities which can be sold on-market if necessary. Accordingly, the Company is not considered to be exposed to material liquidity risk.

Maturities of financial liabilities

All non-derivative financial liabilities of the Company have maturities of less than 1 month.

Maturities of net settled derivative financial instruments

All net settled derivative financial instruments of the Company have maturities of 1 to 6 months.

4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The Company measures and recognises the following assets and liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Equity securities
- Derivatives
- Listed unit trusts

The Company has no assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis in the current reporting period.

AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level of the following fair value measurement hierarchy:

- (a) quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1),
- (b) inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices) (level 2), and
- (c) inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs) (level 3).

(i) Fair value in an active market (level 1)

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets (such as listed equity securities and futures) is based on quoted market prices at the close of trading at the end of the reporting period without any deduction for estimated future selling costs.

The quoted market price used for financial assets held by the Company is the last sale price. When the Company holds derivatives with offsetting market risks, it uses mid-market prices as a basis for establishing fair values for the offsetting risk positions and applies this bid or asking price to the net open position, as appropriate.

A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service, or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.

An active market is a market in which transactions for the asset or liability take place with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (CONTINUED)

(ii) Fair value in an inactive or unquoted market (level 2 and level 3)

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. These include the use of recent arm's length market transactions, reference to the current fair value of a substantially similar other instrument, discounted cash flow techniques, option pricing models or any other valuation technique that provides a reliable estimate of prices obtained in actual market transactions.

Where discounted cash flow techniques are used, estimated future cash flows are based on management's best estimates and the discount rate used is a market rate at the end of the reporting period applicable for an instrument with similar terms and conditions.

For other pricing models, including equity swaps, inputs are based on market data at the end of the reporting period. Fair values for unquoted equity investments are estimated, if possible, using applicable price/earnings ratios for similar listed companies adjusted to reflect the specific circumstances of the issuer.

Some of the inputs to these models may not be market observable and are therefore estimated based on assumptions. The output of a model is always an estimate or approximation of a value that cannot be determined with certainty, and valuation techniques employed may not fully reflect all factors relevant to the positions the Company holds. Valuations are therefore adjusted, where appropriate, to allow for additional factors including liquidity risk and counterparty risk.

The fair value of derivatives that are not exchange traded is estimated at the amount that the Fund would receive or pay to terminate the contract at the end of the reporting period taking into account current market conditions (volatility and appropriate yield curve) and the current creditworthiness of the counterparties. The fair value of an option contract is determined by applying the Black Scholes option valuation model which includes inputs such as underlying share prices, their volatility over time, and liquidity discounts that may be used for measuring the fair value of these options and derivatives of a similar nature.

(iii) Recognised fair value measurements

The following table presents the Company's assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value:

At 30 June 2024	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Equity swap	-	30,370	-	30,370
Australian listed equity securities	2,029,752	-	-	2,029,752
International listed equity securities	1,342,235	-	-	1,342,235
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	3,371,987	30,370	-	3,402,357

At 30 June 2024	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss				
Australian share price index futures	2,729	-	-	2,729
Australian listed equity securities	760,085	-	-	760,085
International listed equity securities	355,283	-	-	355,283
Total financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	1,118,097	-	-	1,118,097

At 30 June 2023

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Options	-	1,063	-	1,063
Australian listed equity securities	1,735,391	-	-	1,735,391
International listed equity securities	1,059,211	-	-	1,059,211
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	2,794,602	1,063	-	2,795,665

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss				
Australian share price index futures	8,026	-	-	8,026
Australian listed equity securities	625,541	-	-	625,541
International listed equity securities	342,567	-	-	342,567
Total financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	976,134	-	-	976,134

The Company's policy is to recognise transfers into and transfers out of fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period.

There were no transfers between levels in the fair value hierarchy for the year ended 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (CONTINUED)

(iv) Disclosed fair values

For all financial instruments other than those measured at fair value, their carrying value approximates fair value.

The carrying amounts of trade and other receivables and payables are reasonable approximations of their fair values due to their short-term nature.

5. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the entity and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

(a) Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The Company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

Income taxes

The Company has recognised deferred tax liabilities from unrealised gains on financial instruments and other temporary differences of \$76,193,000 at 30 June 2024 (30 June 2023: \$55,168,000) and deferred tax assets relating to other temporary differences of \$163,000 at 30 June 2024 (30 June 2023: \$20,444,000). Refer to Note 12 for further discussion of accounting for deferred taxes.

Uncertain taxes

For the year ended 30 June 2024, the Directors have evaluated the Company's tax positions and concluded that no recognition of uncertain tax position is required in the Company's financial statements.

The Company identifies its major tax jurisdictions as those where the Company is domiciled and makes significant investments. The Directors do not believe there are positions for which it is reasonably possible that the total amounts of unrecognized tax liabilities will materially change within 12 months of the reporting date.

Financial instruments

For the majority of the Company's financial instruments, quoted market prices are readily available. However, certain financial instruments, for example over-the-counter derivatives or unquoted securities, are fair valued using valuation techniques. Where valuation techniques (for example, pricing models) are used to determine fair values, they are validated and periodically reviewed by experienced personnel of the Investment Manager, independent of the area that created them.

Models use observable data, to the extent practicable. However, areas such as credit risk (both own and counterparty), volatilities and correlations require management to make estimates. Changes in assumptions about these factors could affect the reported fair value of financial instruments. For more information on how fair value is calculated please see Note 4 to the financial statements.

For financial instruments measured at amortised cost, the expected credit loss impairment assessment considers the probability of default which was assessed to be close to zero.

6. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Company has only one reportable segment. The Company operates in one industry being the securities industry, deriving revenue from dividend and trust distribution income, interest income and from the sale of its trading portfolio.

7. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

(a) Income tax expense through profit or loss

	Year Ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Income tax expense	56,687	61,044
	<u>56,687</u>	<u>61,044</u>
<i>Income tax expense composition:</i>		
Current income tax (benefit)/expense	23,537	(18,317)
Prior year refundable tax offset	(8,155)	-
Deferred income tax expense/(benefit)	41,305	79,361
	<u>56,687</u>	<u>61,044</u>
<i>Income tax expense is attributable to:</i>		
Profit from continuing operations	56,687	61,044

(b) Numerical reconciliation of income tax benefit to prima facie tax payable

	Year Ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Profit from continuing operations before income tax benefit	226,977	224,316
Tax at the Australian tax rate of 30.0% (2023: 30.0%)	68,093	67,295
Tax effect of amounts which are not deductible (taxable) in calculating taxable income:		
Imputation credit gross up	(11,406)	(6,251)
Income tax expense	<u>56,687</u>	<u>61,044</u>
The applicable weighted average effective tax rates are as follows:	24.97%	27.21%

8. CURRENT ASSETS – CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	As at	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Cash at bank	1,545	597
Cash at broker	1,007,555	969,219
	<u>1,009,100</u>	<u>969,816</u>

The Company has pledged part of its cash at broker in order to fulfil the collateral requirements for the derivatives contracts. At 30 June 2024 and 2023, respectively, the fair values of the cash at broker pledged were disclosed in Note 11 *Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities*. There are no other significant terms and conditions associated with the use of collateral.

9. CURRENT ASSETS – OTHER RECEIVABLES

	As at	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Dividends receivable	1,051	1,361
Interest receivable	346	-
GST receivable	1,230	486
Withholding tax receivable	213	459
Due from brokers	25,797	19,544
	28,637	21,850

Receivables are non-interest bearing and unsecured.

10. CURRENT ASSETS – FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

	As at	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Equity swap	30,370	-
Options	-	1,063
Australian listed equity securities	2,029,752	1,735,391
International listed equity securities	1,342,235	1,059,211
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	3,402,357	2,795,665

Listed securities are readily saleable with no fixed terms.

Changes in fair values of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are recorded in net gains on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss in the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

(a) Investment transactions

The total number of contract notes that were issued for transactions in securities during the financial year was 7,668 (2023: 5,350). Each investment transaction may involve multiple contract notes.

The total brokerage paid on these contract notes was \$15,356,000, inclusive of GST (2023: \$16,359,000).

(b) Risk exposure and fair value measurements

Information about the Company's exposure to price risk and about the methods and assumptions used in determining fair value is provided in Note 3 and Note 4 to the financial statements.

11. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

In the normal course of business, the Company enters into transactions in derivative financial instruments with certain risks. A derivative is a financial instrument or other contract whose value depends on, or is derived from, underlying assets, liabilities or indices. Derivative transactions include a wide assortment of instruments, such as forwards, futures, options and swaps.

Derivatives are considered to be part of the investment process. The use of derivatives is an essential part of the Company's portfolio management. Derivatives are not managed in isolation. Consequently, the use of derivatives is multi-faceted and includes:

- (i) hedging to protect an asset of the Company against a fluctuation in market values or to reduce volatility;
- (ii) as a substitute for physical securities; and
- (iii) adjustment of asset exposures within the parameters set out in the investment strategy.

Derivative financial instruments require no initial net investment or an initial net investment that is smaller than would be required for other types of contracts that would be expected to have a similar response to changes in market factors.

11. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

The Company holds the following derivative instruments:

Futures

Futures are contractual obligations to buy or sell financial instruments on a future date at a specified price established in an organised market. The futures contracts are collateralised by cash or marketable securities. Changes in futures contracts' values are usually settled net daily with the exchange.

Equity/index swaps

An equity/index swap is an agreement between counterparties to exchange a set of payments, determined by a stock or index return, with another set of payments (usually an interest-bearing (fixed or floating rate) instrument, but they can also be the return on another stock or index). Equity/index swaps are used to substitute for a direct transaction in stock. The two cash flows are usually referred to as "legs". As with other swaps, the difference in the payment streams is netted.

Options

An option is a contractual arrangement under which the seller (writer) grants the purchaser (holder) the right, but not the obligation, either to buy (a call option) or sell (a put option) at or by a set date or during a set period, a specific amount of securities or a financial instrument at a predetermined price. The seller receives a premium from the purchaser in consideration for the assumption of future securities price risk. Options held by the Fund are over-the-counter (OTC). The Fund is exposed to credit risk on purchased options to the extent of their carrying amount, which is their fair value. Options are settled on a gross basis.

The Company's derivative financial instruments at year end are detailed below:

	Notional values	Fair values	
	\$'000	Assets \$'000	Liabilities \$'000
30 June 2024			
Equity swap	62,633	30,370	-
Options	6,819	-	-
Australian share price index futures	(705,300)	-	2,729
30 June 2023			
Options	19,044	1,063	-
Australian share price index futures	(692,857)	-	8,026

Risk exposures and fair value measurements

Information about the Company's exposure to price risk, credit risk, foreign exchange risk, interest rate risk and liquidity risk and about the methods and assumptions used in determining fair values is provided in Note 3 and Note 4 to the financial statements.

Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities

Financial assets and financial liabilities are presented net in the Statement of Financial Position where the Company currently has a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Certain derivative assets and liabilities are subject to legally enforceable master netting arrangements, such as an International Swaps and Derivatives Association ("ISDA") master netting agreement. The ISDA agreements in place meet the criteria for offsetting in the Statement of Financial Position as the Company has a currently legally enforceable right of payment netting to net same day, same currency payments by derivative transaction type.

In certain circumstances, for example, when a credit event such as a default occurs, all outstanding transactions under an ISDA agreement are terminated, the termination value is assessed and only a net amount is payable in settlement of all transactions.

The tables below set out the carrying amounts of recognised financial assets and liabilities that are subject to the above arrangements, together with collateral held or pledged against these assets and liabilities as at 30 June 2024 and 2023:

11. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities (continued)

	Gross amounts \$'000	Amounts set off in the Statement of Financial Position \$'000	Net amounts presented in the Statement of Financial Position \$'000	Cash collateral (received)/ pledged \$'000	Net amount \$'000
30 June 2024					
Derivative assets					
<i>Equity swap</i>					
Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc	30,370	-	30,370	-	30,370
Derivative liabilities					
<i>Australian share price index futures</i>					
Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc	(2,729)	-	(2,729)	60,574	57,845
30 June 2023					
Derivative assets					
<i>Options</i>					
Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc	1,063	-	1,063	-	1,063
Derivative liabilities					
<i>Australian share price index futures</i>					
Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc	(8,026)	-	(8,026)	65,733	57,707

12. DEFERRED TAXES

	As at	
	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
The balance comprises temporary differences attributable to:		
Deferred tax assets		
Current year tax losses carried forward	-	18,317
Net unrealised losses on investments	-	2,089
Other temporary differences	163	38
Deferred tax assets	<u>163</u>	<u>20,444</u>
Deferred tax liabilities		
Net unrealised gains on investments	75,838	54,916
Other temporary differences	355	252
Deferred tax liabilities	<u>76,193</u>	<u>55,168</u>
Deferred tax (liabilities)/assets, net	<u>(76,030)</u>	<u>(34,724)</u>
Movements:		
Deferred tax assets		
Opening balance	20,444	34,277
Debited/(Credited):		
Directly to profit or loss	(20,281)	(13,833)
Closing balance, Deferred tax assets	<u>163</u>	<u>20,444</u>
Deferred tax liabilities		
Opening balance	55,168	5,366
Debited/(Credited):		
Directly to profit or loss	21,025	49,802
Closing balance, Deferred tax liabilities	<u>76,193</u>	<u>55,168</u>
Closing balance, Deferred tax (liabilities)/assets, net	<u>(76,030)</u>	<u>(34,724)</u>

13. CURRENT LIABILITIES – OTHER PAYABLES

	As at	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Management fees payable	2,400	2,059
Performance fees payable	39,704	10,396
Interest payable	1,619	1,622
Due to brokers	43,238	122,880
Short dividends payable	1,412	1,569
Other payables	465	429
	88,838	138,955

Other payables are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Due to their short-term nature, the carrying amounts of other payables are reasonable approximations of their fair values.

14. CURRENT LIABILITIES – FINANCIAL LIABILITIES AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

	As at	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Australian share price index futures	2,729	8,026
Australian listed equity securities	760,085	625,541
International listed equity securities	355,283	342,567
Total financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	1,118,097	976,134

When the Company sells securities it does not possess, it has to cover this short position by acquiring securities at a later date and is therefore exposed to price risk of those securities sold short. The sales agreement is usually settled by delivering borrowed securities. However, the Company is required to return those borrowed securities at a later date.

15. ISSUED CAPITAL

(a) Share capital

		30 June 2024	30 June 2023	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
		Shares	Shares	\$'000	\$'000
	Notes	'000	'000		
Ordinary Shares	15(c)	622,413	616,618	1,284,436	1,267,862

(b) Movements in issued capital

	Notes	Shares '000	\$'000
Opening balance - 30 June 2023	15(d)	616,618	1,242,522
Dividend reinvestment		5,795	16,574
Closing balance - 30 June 2024		622,413	1,259,096
Opening balance - 30 June 2022	15(d)	611,162	1,228,460
Dividend reinvestment		5,456	14,062
Closing balance - 30 June 2023		616,618	1,242,522

(c) Ordinary shares

Ordinary shares entitle the holder to participate in dividends and the proceeds on winding up of the Company in proportion to the number of and amounts paid on the shares held.

On a show of hands, every holder of ordinary shares present at a meeting in person or by proxy, is entitled to one vote, and upon a poll each share is entitled to one vote.

15. ISSUED CAPITAL (CONTINUED)

(d) Shares issued

The Company's on-market share buy-back program of up to 10% of its shares remained in place during the year and has been renewed for a period up until 2 June 2025. No shares were bought back over the year ended 30 June 2024 (2023: Nil). The Company retains the right to do so when market conditions and share prices are appropriate.

During the reporting year, the Company issued no ordinary shares in relation to the reinvestment of performance fee.

(e) Capital risk management

The Board of Directors will actively manage the capital of the Company. The overriding intention is to deliver value to shareholders.

To achieve this, the Board monitors the monthly NTA results, investment performance, the Company's indirect cost ratio and share price movements.

The Company is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements.

16. DIVIDENDS

(a) Dividend rate

On 25 August 2023, the Directors declared a fully franked final dividend of 5.50 cents per share with record date of 12 September 2023 and paid to the shareholders on 3 October 2023.

On 22 February 2024, the Directors declared a fully franked interim dividend of 5.75 cents per share with record date of 19 March 2024 and paid to the shareholders on 9 April 2024.

On 23 August 2024, the Directors declared a fully franked final dividend of 6.00 cents per share with record date of 10 September 2024 and payable to the shareholders on 1 October 2024.

(b) Dividend franking account

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
The amount of franking credits for subsequent financial years are:		
• Franking account balance as at the end of the financial year at tax rate of 30% (2023: 30%)	225,955	302,436
• Franking credits that will arise from franked dividends receivable as at the end of the financial year	42	-
• Franking credits that will arise from the payment/(refund) of income tax payable/(prepaid) as at the end of the financial year	(37,087)	(111,535)
	188,910	190,901
The amount of franking credits available for future reporting periods:		
• Impact on the franking credit account of the dividend declared but not recognised as a liability at the end of the financial year at tax rate of 30% (2023: 30%)	(16,005)	(14,535)
	172,905	176,366

The Company's ability to pay franked dividends is dependent upon receipt of franked dividends from investments and the Company paying tax.

17. DIVIDEND PROFIT RESERVE

The dividend profit reserve is made up of amounts allocated from retained earnings that are preserved for future dividends payments. The allocation is determined at the end of each half-year where the Company reported a profit subject to the approval of the Directors.

	As at	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Movement in Dividend Profit Reserve		
Balance at the beginning of the year	708,535	603,457
Transferred from current period profits	170,290	163,272
Dividend declared	(69,533)	(58,194)
Closing balance at the end of the year	809,292	708,535

17. DIVIDEND PROFIT RESERVE (CONTINUED)

On 1 February 2024, the Directors resolved to approve the transfer of any resulting net profit after tax for the half-year ended 31 December 2023 to the dividend profit reserve. Accordingly, on 31 December 2023, the transfer of \$55,698,000 was made to the reserve. Further transfer of \$114,592,000 was made to the reserve on 30 June 2024 which is in line with the board resolution dated 28 June 2024.

The balance of the dividend profit reserve as of 30 June 2024 is \$809,292,000 (2023:\$708,535,000).

18. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL DISCLOSURES

(a) Key management personnel compensation

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	386,834	371,470
Post-employment benefits	20,166	18,530
	407,000	390,000

Detailed remuneration disclosures are provided in the remuneration report.

(b) Equity instrument disclosures relating to key management personnel

Shareholdings

The number of shares in the Company held during the financial year by each Director of the Company and other key management personnel of the Company, including their personally related parties, are set out below. There were no shares granted during the reporting period as compensation.

30 June 2024	Balance at the start of the year Number of Shares	Acquisitions Number of Shares	Disposals Number of Shares	Balance at end of the year Number of Shares
Directors of L1 Long Short Fund Limited				
Andrew Larke	1,064,018	144,257	-	1,208,275
John Macfarlane	669,431	26,588	-	696,019
Harry Kingsley	26,777	1,063	-	27,840
Raphael Lamm*	42,212,443	4,956,559	-	47,169,002
Mark Landau*	45,424,653	4,723,073	-	50,147,726
	89,397,322	9,851,540	-	99,248,862
30 June 2023	Balance at the start of the year Number of Shares	Acquisitions Number of Shares	Disposals Number of Shares	Balance at end of the year Number of Shares
Directors of L1 Long Short Fund Limited				
Andrew Larke	1,025,846	38,172	-	1,064,018
John Macfarlane	645,414	24,017	-	669,431
Harry Kingsley	25,816	961	-	26,777
Raphael Lamm*	39,201,507	3,010,936	-	42,212,443
Mark Landau*	43,663,329	1,761,324	-	45,424,653
	84,561,912	4,835,410	-	89,397,322

* Raphael Lamm and Mark Landau have an interest in the shares held by L1 Employees Remuneration Trust and L1 Investment Trust by virtue of s608(1) of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Ordinary shares held by the following Directors are subject to voluntary escrow for a period which is the earlier of: (a) the period of 10 years from the date that the Company is listed on the exchange or (b) the duration of the Investment Management Agreement:

- Raphael Lamm: 17,785,179 shares (2023: 17,785,179 shares)
- Mark Landau: 17,785,179 shares (2023: 17,785,179 shares)

All of the key management personnel held shares during the years ended 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

19. REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS

During the year, the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by the auditor of the Company and its related practices:

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
Fees to Ernst & Young (Australia)		
Fees for auditing the statutory financial report	74,500	73,000
Fees for assurance services that are required by legislation to be provided by the auditor		
• Review of the half-year financial report	19,300	18,900
Fees for other assurance and agreed-upon-procedures services under other legislation or contractual arrangements where there is discretion as to whether the service is provided by the auditor or another firm		
• Agreed-upon-assurance procedures on investment mandate compliance	13,900	13,600
• Agreed-upon-assurance procedures on performance fees	27,800	27,200
• Controls report on tax	37,000	-
Total fees to Ernst & Young (Australia)	172,500	132,700
Fees to other overseas member firms of Ernst & Young (Australia)	-	-
Total auditor's remuneration	172,500	132,700

The Investment Manager, on behalf of the Company, records and pays income tax return filing services of Ernst & Young. The Company's Audit and Risk Committee oversees the relationship with the Company's External Auditors. The Audit and Risk Committee reviews the scope of the audit and the proposed fee.

20. CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS

The Company had no contingent assets, liabilities or commitments as at 30 June 2024 (2023: Nil).

21. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

(a) Key management personnel

Disclosures relating to key management personnel are set out in Note 18.

(b) Transactions with other related parties

All transactions with related entities were made under normal commercial terms and conditions at arm's length no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

Management fees (inclusive of the net impact of GST and Reduced Input Tax Credit ("RITC")) incurred during the year amounted to \$26,977,000 (2023: \$24,752,000) of which \$2,400,000 (2023: \$2,059,000) remained payable as at year end.

In addition, L1 Capital is entitled to be paid by the Company a fee equal to 20.00% (plus GST) of the Portfolio's outperformance, if any, over each performance calculation period, subject to a high watermark mechanism. Further information in respect of the Company's performance fee calculation is contained in Section 9.1 of the Company's Prospectus which was issued on 16 February 2018.

Performance fees (inclusive of the net impact of GST and RITC) incurred during the year amounted to \$58,326,000 (2023: \$57,479,000) of which \$39,704,000 (2023: \$10,396,000) remained payable as at year end.

The expense recoveries borne by the Company are paid directly to the service provider and are subsequently reimbursed by the Investment Manager. Expense recoveries include ASX fees, ASIC fees, custodian, administrator, tax professional fees and other expenses. Total amount reimbursed by the Investment Manager for the year ended 30 June 2024 was \$730,000 (2023: \$682,000), of which \$34,000 (2023: \$61,000) was receivable at year end.

No Director has received or become entitled to receive a benefit (other than those detailed above) by reason of a contract made by the Company or a related Company with the Director or with a firm of which he is a member or with a Company in which he has substantial financial interest.

22. RECONCILIATION OF PROFIT AFTER INCOME TAX TO NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Profit for the year	170,290	163,272
Purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	(6,598,522)	(6,094,941)
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	6,362,489	6,873,703
Net gains on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	(314,636)	(329,421)
Dividend reinvestment from financial assets through profit or loss	46	39
Effects of foreign currency exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(9,160)	18,399
Change in operating assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/decrease in other receivables (current)	(507)	3,565
Decrease/(increase) in prepaid income tax	74,448	(111,535)
Decrease/(increase) in other current assets	57	(4)
Decrease in deferred tax assets	20,281	13,833
Increase in other payables	29,524	7,904
Increase in deferred tax liabilities	21,025	49,802
Decrease in provision for income tax	-	(83,818)
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	(244,665)	510,798

23. PROFITS PER SHARE

(a) Basic profits per share

	Year Ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	Cents	Cents
Basic profits per share attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company	27.49	26.60

(b) Diluted profits per share

	Year Ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	Cents	Cents
Diluted profits per share attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company	27.49	26.60

Diluted profits per share are the same as basic profits per share.

(c) Weighted average number of shares used as denominator

	Year Ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	Number of Shares	Number of Shares
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used as the denominator in calculating basic profits per share	619,382,752	613,819,988
Weighted average number of ordinary and potential ordinary shares used as the denominator in calculating diluted profits per share	619,382,752	613,819,988

24. EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

On 23 August 2024, the Directors declared a fully franked final dividend of 6.00 cents per share with record date of 10 September 2024 and payable to the shareholders on 1 October 2024.

The Dividend Reinvestment Plan (DRP) is in operation under which the shareholders may elect to have all or part of their dividend payment reinvested in new ordinary shares. Participating shareholders will be entitled to be allotted the number of shares (rounded down to the nearest whole number) which the cash dividend would purchase at the relevant allocation price. The relevant allocation price is the arithmetic average of the daily volume weighted average sale price (calculated to the nearest cent) of shares traded on ASX over the five trading days commencing on the ex-dividend date for the relevant dividend, without any discount. The last day for the receipt of an election notice for participation in the DRP is 11 September 2024.

No other matter or circumstance that has occurred since the end of the year that has significantly affected, or may affect, the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in subsequent financial years.

CONSOLIDATED ENTITY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Disclosure of subsidiaries and their country of tax residency, as required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, does not apply to the Company as the Company is not required by accounting standards to prepare consolidated financial statements.

In the opinion of the Directors of L1 Long Short Fund Limited:

- (a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 10 to 35 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) complying with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
 - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) the consolidated entity disclosure statement required by section 295(3A) of the *Corporations Act 2001* is true and correct; and
- (c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Note 2(a) confirms that the financial statements also comply with the International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

The Directors have been given the declarations by the Joint Managing Directors of the Investment Manager required by section 295A of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.



Andrew Larke
Independent Chairman

Melbourne
23 August 2024

Independent auditor's report to the members of L1 Long Short Fund Limited

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of L1 Long Short Fund Limited (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, the consolidated entity disclosure statement, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- a. Giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b. Complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

Key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the financial report of the current year. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial report as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, but we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. For each matter below, our description of how our audit addressed the matter is provided in that context.

We have fulfilled the responsibilities described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report* section of our report, including in relation to these matters. Accordingly, our audit included the performance of procedures designed to respond to our assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report. The results of our audit procedures, including the procedures performed to address the matters below, provide the basis for our audit opinion on the accompanying financial report.

1. Investment existence and valuation

Why significant	How our audit addressed the key audit matter
<p>The Company has a significant investment portfolio consisting of securities in listed equities, options, equity swaps, and futures contracts.</p> <p>As at 30 June 2024, the values of these financial assets and financial liabilities as disclosed in Notes 10 and 14 of the financial report, were \$3,402,357,000 and \$1,118,097,000 respectively, which equate to 76% and 44% of the total assets and total liabilities of the Company.</p> <p>As disclosed in the Company's accounting policy in Note 2(j) of the financial report, these financial assets and financial liabilities are measured at fair value through profit or loss in accordance with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards.</p> <p>Pricing, exchange rates and other market drivers can have a significant impact on the value of these financial assets and financial liabilities. Accordingly, existence and valuation of the investment portfolio were considered a key audit matter.</p>	<p>Our audit procedures included the following:</p> <p>We obtained and considered the assurance report on the controls of the Company's administrator, in relation to the fund administration services for the year ended 30 June 2024 and assessed the auditor's competence and objectivity, and the results of their audit procedures.</p> <p>We independently obtained investment and cash confirmations from the Company's custodians, prime brokers, counterparties and banks.</p> <p>We assessed whether the fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities were determined in accordance with the relevant Australian Accounting Standards. Our procedures further included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ For listed securities; the values were agreed to independently sourced market prices; ▶ For derivatives; we recalculated their fair value based on independently sourced observable market inputs. <p>We assessed the adequacy of the disclosures included in Note 3, Note 4, Note 10, Note 11 and Note 14 to the financial report.</p>

2. Management and performance fees

Why significant	How our audit addressed the key audit matter
<p>Management and performance fees paid to L1 Capital Pty Ltd ("L1" or "the Manager") for the year ended 30 June 2024 totalled \$26,977,000 and \$58,326,000, which equates to 13% and 27% of total expenses respectively. The Company's accounting policy for management and performance fees is disclosed in Note 21 of the financial report.</p> <p>The management fee is calculated daily and paid monthly in arrears. The Manager is entitled to be paid a monthly management fee equal to 1.4% (plus GST) per annum of the value of the portfolio.</p>	<p>Our audit procedures included the following:</p> <p>We assessed the effectiveness of the relevant controls in relation to the calculation of management and performance fees of the Company's administrator which has responsibility for the calculations.</p> <p>We recalculated management and performance fees in accordance with relevant service arrangements including agreeing the contract rate to the calculations.</p> <p>We assessed the performance fee calculation, including testing the inputs into the calculation model, and assessed whether the calculation</p>

Why significant	How our audit addressed the key audit matter
<p>Performance fees are recognised when the performance hurdles for the Company have been met at the end of the relevant measurement period, which is the date that the performance criteria are met and the obligation has crystallised.</p> <p>The quantum of these expenses, the impact that market volatility can have on the recognition of performance fees and the complexity involved in the assessment of performance fee arrangements resulted in management and performance fees being considered a key audit matter.</p>	<p>was in accordance with the relevant services agreement.</p> <p>We assessed the adequacy of the disclosures included in Note 21 to the financial report.</p>

Information other than the financial report and auditor's report thereon

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company's 2024 annual report, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon, with the exception of the Remuneration Report and our related assurance opinion.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the directors for the financial report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of:

- a. The financial report (other than the consolidated entity disclosure statement) that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001*; and;
- b. The consolidated entity disclosure statement that is true and correct in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, and

for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of:

- i. The financial report (other than the consolidated entity disclosure statement) that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- ii. The consolidated entity disclosure statement that is true and correct and is free of misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

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

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- ▶ Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- ▶ Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- ▶ Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- ▶ Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- ▶ Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

From the matters communicated to the directors, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial report of the current year and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

Report on the audit of the Remuneration Report

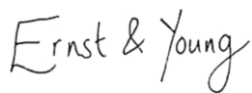
Opinion on the Remuneration Report

We have audited the Remuneration Report included in pages 5 to 7 of the directors' report for the year ended 30 June 2024.

In our opinion, the Remuneration Report of L1 Long Short Fund Limited for the year ended 30 June 2024, complies with section 300A of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Responsibilities

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the Remuneration Report in accordance with section 300A of the *Corporations Act 2001*. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Remuneration Report, based on our audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.



Ernst & Young



Emma Reekie
Partner
Melbourne
23 August 2024