

## Perpetual Pure Series Funds

# PERPETUAL PURE CREDIT ALPHA FUND CLASS W

December 2025

### FUND FACTS

**Investment objective:** The Fund aims to provide investors with a positive return above the cash rate over rolling three-year periods (before fees and taxes) by primarily investing in and actively trading fixed income securities and related derivatives.

**Benchmark:** RBA Cash Rate  
**Inception date:** March 2012  
**Size of fund:** \$684.8 million as at 30 September 2025  
**Mgmt Fee:** 0.85% pa\*  
**Benchmark Yield:** 4.100% as at 31 December 2025  
**Suggested minimum investment period:** Three years or longer

### FUND BENEFITS

Perpetual aims to meet its objective by utilising an active and risk aware investment process that leverages the full use of the Perpetual Credit team's experience. The strategy allows the team discretion to invest in areas of the market or a company's capital structure where they see relative value. The portfolio is diversified, takes into account changes in market-wide and security-specific credit margins while seeking to maximise returns from liquidity premiums.

### FUND RISKS

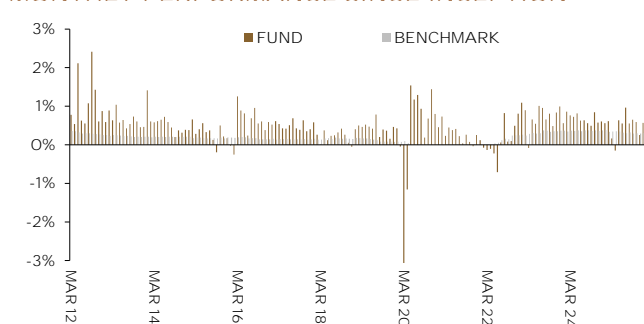
All investments carry risk and different strategies may carry different levels of risk. The relevant product disclosure statement or offer document for a fund should be considered before deciding whether to acquire or hold units in that fund. Your financial adviser can assist you in determining whether a fund is suited to your financial needs.

### TOTAL RETURNS % (AFTER FEES) AS AT 31 December 2025

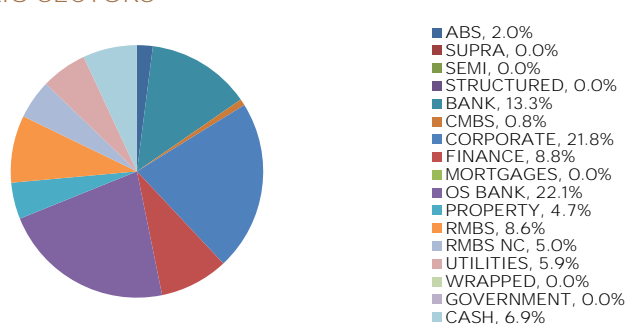
	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	1 YR	2 YRS PA	3 YRS PA	5 YRS PA	7 YRS PA	INCEPT PA
Perpetual Pure Credit Alpha Fund W Class	0.57	1.42	3.63	6.11	7.24	7.90	5.66	5.10	5.87
RBA Cash Rate	0.31	0.91	1.86	3.96	4.21	4.12	2.74	2.16	2.20

Please note: Performance for Perpetual's complete list of investment funds is available on [www.perpetual.com.au](http://www.perpetual.com.au). Past performance is not indicative of future performance.

### MONTHLY PERFORMANCE SINCE INCEPTION



### PORTFOLIO SECTORS



### PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION

	BREAKDOWN
Senior Debt	38.22%
Subordinated Debt	46.34%
Hybrid Debt	15.44%
% Geared	0.00%
Running Yield <sup>#</sup>	6.12%
Portfolio Weighted Average Life	3.31 yrs
No. Securities	178
Long	93.07%
Short	0.00%
Net	93.07%

### GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF MATERIAL ASSETS

The Fund holds no single international asset representing more than 10% of the Fund's net asset value.

\* Information on Management Costs (including estimated indirect costs) is set out in the Fund's PDS.

## MARKET COMMENTARY

December saw slightly increased volatility as financial markets behaved in a 'risk on' manner despite uncertain economic conditions – exacerbated by data limitations following the US government shutdown. Global bond yields rose sharply while credit spreads were more resilient and equities moved higher. Central banks worldwide navigated challenging inflation data, with the Federal Reserve delivering a 25bp cut amid dissenting voices and concerns around upcoming nominations. Elsewhere the ECB remained on hold while the Bank of Japan raised its policy rate to 0.75%.

Domestic bond yields continued to sell off through December in line with the broader global trend and reflecting the increasingly hawkish monetary policy outlook. This upward pressure was fuelled by robust household spending and a notable rebound in private investment growth. As inflation concerns mounted, market participants began to fully price in a rate hike by year-end 2026, with RBA Governor Bullock signalling readiness to tighten policy should inflation remain elevated. By mid-December, expectations for a February rate increase gained traction. The latest RBA minutes revealed a divided board, with some members viewing monetary conditions as no longer restrictive, while others maintained a more cautious stance.

Domestic credit spreads traded in a tight range throughout December tightening very marginally on aggregate. Robust US economic data alongside better than expected domestic consumer spending were supportive. Spreads remain tight relative to historical levels and credit fundamentals are supportive reflecting accommodative liquidity conditions and conservative corporate balance sheets.

December concluded a record year for issuance volumes in the Australian credit market. While the latter half of the month was affected by the seasonal shutdown, a number of new corporate deals were priced in the first week of the month. NatWest's \$1B senior deal reflected the trend towards elevated kangaroo financial issuance that has been observed throughout 2025. Ausgrid came to market for \$750M across 5 and 10-year fixed rate tranches while Dexu raised \$500M in subordinated paper. Securitisation markets continued in earnest, with issuance stretching into the second week of December before primary markets closed for the year.

## PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY

Credit spread dynamics were marginally constructive for performance over the month despite spreads trading in a relatively tight range. The Fund's allocation to domestic and offshore banks were the key contributing sectors to credit spread return, led by longer dated fixed rate major bank paper. While credit spreads are near the bottom of their fair value range, credit fundamentals are supported by recent rate cuts and running yields on offer remain attractive. The Fund also benefitted from swap to bond spreads moving further negative. The Fund hedges its fixed rate exposures via short government bond futures which results in sensitivity to changes in swap spreads.

Income return remains the most substantial contributing factor to performance. The Fund continues to collect a healthy yield premium above the RBA cash rate, led by allocation to non-financial corporate loans alongside contributions from securitised assets and domestic banks. At month end, the Fund's running yield was 6.1% with the average spread measured at 2.2%.

During a relatively quiet month of primary issuance, the Manager was selective in adding new issues to the portfolio. Sector and risk allocations were broadly maintained over the month. The Manager elected to take part in the new hybrid deal from Dexu finance which priced wide of comparable real estate hybrids. The deal built a book more than 5 times the issue size and traded well, tightening in secondary and contributing marginally to outperformance.

The outlook improved over the month to end the year with a neutral reading. The Fund's credit exposures are relatively short and well diversified by sector and across the credit risk spectrum. The Fund remains defensively positioned while retaining the capacity to add risk where it is best rewarded and take advantage of relative opportunities in primary and secondary markets.

## OUTLOOK

The credit outlook improved over December returning to a neutral reading by year end.

Valuation indicators worsened slightly, reflecting swap to bond spreads which moved further negative in mid-December. Opportunistic issuance and domestic vs offshore spreads remain balanced while US investment grade and high yield and domestic investment grade spreads are neutral despite remaining near the bottom of their historical fair value range.

The macroeconomic outlook improved over the month. While soft global growth expectations continue to weigh slightly on the outlook, the ratio of upgrades to downgrades has entered positive territory. The credit rating outlook is benign with market participants anticipating further upgrades in 2026.

Supply and demand indicators improved marginally to neutral. Upcoming maturity volumes have normalised while elevated recent issuance volumes continue to detract from the outlook. Market demand remained resilient into year end.

Technical indicators improved to marginally positive reflecting supportive US credit, equity and equity volatility indicators. Cash balances among real money accounts are neutral while intermediary positioning is conservative.

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Total return shown for the fund(s) have been calculated using exit prices after taking into account all of Perpetual's ongoing fees and assuming reinvestment of distributions. No allowance has been made for entry or exit fees or taxation (except in the case of superannuation funds, as applicable).

Past performance is not indicative of future performance.

\*\* UBS Australian Bond Index changed to Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index effective 26 September 2014

## MORE INFORMATION

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