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# Perpetual Exact Market Return Fund

Annual Report  
for the year ended 30 June 2024  
ARSN 110 147 389

Perpetual Investment Management Limited  
ABN 18 000 866 535 AFSL 234426

Perpetual 

# Perpetual Exact Market Return Fund

ARSN 110 147 389

## Annual Report

for the year ended 30 June 2024

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## Directors' report

The directors of Perpetual Investment Management Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary of Perpetual Limited), the Responsible Entity of Perpetual Exact Market Return Fund (the Scheme), present their report together with the financial statements of the Scheme for the year ended 30 June 2024 and the auditor's report thereon.

### Responsible Entity

The Responsible Entity of Perpetual Exact Market Return Fund is Perpetual Investment Management Limited (ABN 18 000 866 535). The Responsible Entity's registered office and principal place of business is Level 18, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW 2000.

### Directors

The following persons held office as directors of Perpetual Investment Management Limited during the year or since the end of the year and up to the date of this report:

A Apted (appointed 9 April 2020)  
S Mosse (appointed 30 November 2023)  
A Serhan (appointed 1 July 2024)  
A Lo Proto (appointed 8 March 2022, resigned 30 November 2023)  
A Rozenauers (appointed 9 November 2022, resigned 1 July 2024)

### Principal activities

The principal activity of the Scheme is to provide unitholders with a return that matches the pre-tax benchmark performance of the Bloomberg Ausbond Bank Bill Index (referred to as Exact Benchmarking) on an ongoing basis.

The Scheme did not have any employees during the year.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the Scheme's activities during the year.

### Review and results of operations

During the year, the Scheme's assets were invested in accordance with the investment objective and guidelines as set out in the governing documents of the Scheme and in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme's Constitution.

The performance of the Scheme, as represented by the results of its operations, was as follows:

	<b>30 June 2024</b>	30 June 2023
Profit/(loss) (\$'000)	<u>7,001</u>	<u>5,026</u>
Distributions paid and payable (\$'000)	<u>6,997</u>	<u>5,178</u>
Distributions (cents per unit)	<u>4.45</u>	<u>3.12</u>

### Interests in the Scheme

The movement in units on issue in the Scheme during the year is disclosed in note 5 to the financial statements.

The value of the Scheme's assets and liabilities is disclosed in the statement of financial position and derived using the basis set out in note 2 to the financial statements.

## Directors' report (continued)

### Significant changes in state of affairs

In the opinion of the directors, there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Scheme during the financial year.

### Matters subsequent to the end of the financial year

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2024 that has significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- (i) the operations of the Scheme in future financial years; or
- (ii) the results of those operations in future financial years; or
- (iii) the state of affairs of the Scheme in future financial years.

### Likely developments and expected results of operations

The Scheme will continue to be managed in accordance with the investment objective and guidelines as set out in the governing documents of the Scheme and in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme's Constitution.

The results of the Scheme's operations will be affected by a number of factors, including the performance of investment market in which the Scheme 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.

### Environmental regulation

The operations of the Scheme are not subject to any particular or significant environmental regulations under a law of the Commonwealth, or of a State or Territory.

### Fees paid to the Responsible Entity or its related parties

Fees paid to the Responsible Entity and its related parties out of Scheme property during the year are disclosed in note 12 to the financial statements.

No fees were paid out of Scheme property to the directors of the Responsible Entity during the year.

### Indemnity and insurance of officers and auditors

No insurance premiums are paid for out of the assets of the Scheme in regards to insurance cover provided to either the officers of Perpetual Investment Management Limited or the auditor of the Scheme. So long as the officers of Perpetual Investment Management Limited act in accordance with the Scheme's Constitution and the law, the officers remain indemnified out of the assets of the Scheme against losses incurred while acting on behalf of the Scheme. The auditor of the Scheme is in no way indemnified out of the assets of the Scheme.

### Rounding of amounts to the nearest thousand dollars

The Scheme is an entity of a kind referred to in *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191*. Amounts in the directors' report have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars in accordance with the legislative instrument, unless otherwise indicated.

## Directors' report (continued)

### Lead auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the lead auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 5.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors.



Director

Sydney  
18 September 2024



# Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

To the Directors of Perpetual Investment Management Limited as the  
Responsible Entity of Perpetual Exact Market Return Fund

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit of Perpetual Exact Market Return Fund for the financial year ended 30 June 2024 there have been:

- i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

KPMG

Andrew Reeves

*Partner*

Sydney

18 September 2024

## Statement of comprehensive income

	Notes	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
<b>Investment income</b>			
Distribution income		42	2
Interest income	3	8,359	6,468
Net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		<u>(54)</u>	<u>(361)</u>
<b>Total investment income/(loss)</b>		<u>8,347</u>	<u>6,109</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Swap expenses		<u>1,346</u>	<u>1,083</u>
<b>Total expenses</b>		<u>1,346</u>	<u>1,083</u>
<b>Profit/(loss)</b>		<u>7,001</u>	<u>5,026</u>
Other comprehensive income		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		<u>7,001</u>	<u>5,026</u>

*The above statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*

## Statement of financial position

	Notes	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	10(b)	3,255	390
Receivables	8	2,074	2,208
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	6	<u>156,653</u>	<u>165,011</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>161,982</u>	<u>167,609</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Distributions payable	4	1,904	2,317
Payables	9	338	1,231
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	7	<u>397</u>	-
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>2,639</u>	<u>3,548</u>
<b>Net assets attributable to unitholders - equity</b>	5	<u>159,343</u>	<u>164,061</u>

*The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*



## Statement of changes in equity

	Notes	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
<b>Total equity at the beginning of the year</b>	5	164,061	187,566
<b>Comprehensive income</b>			
Profit/(loss)		7,001	5,026
Other comprehensive income		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		<u>7,001</u>	<u>5,026</u>
<b>Transactions with unitholders</b>			
Applications	5	78,884	84,411
Redemptions	5	(83,606)	(107,764)
Distributions to unitholders	4, 5	<u>(6,997)</u>	<u>(5,178)</u>
<b>Total transactions with unitholders</b>		<u>(11,719)</u>	<u>(28,531)</u>
<b>Total equity at the end of the year</b>	5	<u>159,343</u>	<u>164,061</u>

*The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*

## Statement of cash flows

		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss*		112,453	103,230
Payments for purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss*		(103,752)	(82,770)
Distributions received		28	1
Interest received		8,361	6,053
Swap expenses paid		(1,373)	(1,069)
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities*</b>	10(a)	<u>15,717</u>	<u>25,445</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Proceeds from applications by unitholders		79,030	82,978
Payments for redemptions by unitholders		(84,472)	(106,708)
Distributions paid		(7,410)	(3,024)
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from financing activities</b>		<u>(12,852)</u>	<u>(26,754)</u>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>2,865</b>	<b>(1,309)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>390</u>	<u>1,699</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	10(b)	<u><b>3,255</b></u>	<u>390</u>

\*The comparatives have been presented to align with the changes adopted for current year. Refer to note 2.

*The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*

## 1 General information

These financial statements cover Perpetual Exact Market Return Fund (the Scheme) as an individual entity. The Scheme is a registered managed investment scheme under the *Corporations Act 2001*. The Scheme was constituted on 16 July 2004. The Scheme will terminate on 14 July 2084 unless terminated earlier in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme's Constitution (as amended). The Scheme is domiciled in Australia.

The Responsible Entity of the Scheme is Perpetual Investment Management Limited. The Responsible Entity's registered office is Level 18, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW 2000.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the directors of the Responsible Entity on 18 September 2024. The directors of the Responsible Entity have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

## 2 Summary of material accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented, unless otherwise stated.

### (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 (AASB) and the *Corporations Act 2001* in Australia. The Scheme is a for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared on the basis of fair value measurement of assets and liabilities except where otherwise stated.

The statement of financial position is presented on a liquidity basis. Assets and liabilities are presented in decreasing order of liquidity and do not distinguish between current and non-current. All balances are expected to be recovered or settled within twelve months, except for financial assets at fair value through profit or loss and net assets attributable to unitholders.

The Scheme manages financial assets at fair value through profit or loss based on the economic circumstances at any given point in time, as well as to meet any liquidity requirements. As such, it is expected that a portion of the portfolio will be realised within twelve months, however, an estimate of that amount cannot be determined at the reporting date.

#### *Compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards*

The financial statements also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards and Interpretations issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

#### *Functional and presentation currency*

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the Scheme's functional currency.

#### *Use of estimates*

Management makes estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Estimates and associated assumptions are reviewed regularly and are based on historical experience and various other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Where applicable to the fair value measurement, the current changing market conditions are assessed and estimated. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The use of estimates and critical judgements in fair value measurement that can have significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements is described in note 14(d).

## 2 Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

### (a) Basis of preparation (continued)

#### *Comparatives*

Certain comparative figures in the statement of cash flows have been presented to align with the changes adopted for current year:

- Cash flow presentation for the proceeds from sale and payments for purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss have been reclassified from investing activities to operating activities due to voluntary changes in the Scheme's accounting policy.

There is no impact on the Scheme's financial performance, changes in equity, net assets or any other quantitative metric of the Scheme.

#### *New standards, amendments and interpretations adopted by the Scheme*

The Scheme has adopted the following Australian Accounting Standards for the reporting period beginning 1 July 2023:

- (i) 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]

AASB 2021-2 became effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023. The amendments require the disclosure of material accounting policies rather than significant accounting policies and clarify the distinction between accounting policies and accounting estimates. The amendments do not result in any changes to the accounting policies.

There are no other new accounting standards, amendments and interpretations that are effective for the first time for the reporting period beginning 1 July 2023 and have a material impact on the financial statements of the Scheme.

#### *New standards, amendments and interpretations effective after 1 July 2024 and have not been early adopted*

A number of new accounting standards, amendments and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2024 reporting period and have not been early adopted in preparing these financial statements. None of these are expected to have a material impact on the financial statements of the Scheme.

### (b) Financial instruments

#### *(i) Classification*

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

Derivatives and unlisted unit trusts are classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

For debt securities, the contractual cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest, however, they are neither held for collecting contractual cash flows nor held for both collecting contractual cash flows and for sale. The collection of contractual cash flows is only incidental to achieving the Scheme's business model's objective. Consequently, debt securities are classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

Derivative contracts that have negative values are presented as financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss.

#### *(ii) Recognition/derecognition*

The Scheme recognises its investments on the date it becomes party to the purchase contractual agreement (trade date) and recognises changes in fair value of the financial instruments from this date.

Investments are derecognised on the date the Scheme becomes party to the sale contractual agreement (trade date).

## 2 Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

### (b) Financial instruments (continued)

#### (iii) Measurement

At initial recognition, investments are measured at fair value. Transaction costs are expensed in profit or loss as incurred. Subsequently, all investments are measured at fair value without any deduction for estimated future selling costs. Gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value measurement are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise.

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Further details of fair value measurement are disclosed in note 14(d).

#### (iv) Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the statement of financial position when there is 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.

### (c) Net assets attributable to unitholders

Units are redeemable at unitholders' option, however applications and redemptions may be suspended by the Responsible Entity if it is in the best interests of the unitholders.

The units can be put back to the Scheme at any time for cash based on the redemption price, which is a reasonable approximation of the proportionate share of the Scheme's net asset value. The carrying amount of these units at the redemption price represents the expected cash flows on redemption of these units at the reporting date if the unitholders exercise their right to put the units back to the Scheme.

Under AASB 132 *Financial instruments: Presentation*, puttable financial instruments are classified as equity where certain strict criteria are met. The Scheme classifies the net assets attributable to unitholders as equity as it satisfies the following criteria:

- the puttable financial instruments entitle the holder to a pro-rata share of net assets in the event of the Scheme's liquidation;
- the puttable financial instruments are in the class of instruments that is subordinate to all other classes of instruments and the class features are identical;
- no contractual obligations to deliver cash or another financial asset, or to exchange financial instruments with another entity under potentially unfavourable conditions to the Scheme, and it is not a contract settled in the Scheme's own equity instrument; and
- the total expected cash flows attributable to the puttable financial instruments over the life are based substantially on the profit or loss.

### (d) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of presentation in the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and other short term and highly liquid financial assets with a maturity period of three months or less from the date of acquisition that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

The carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents is a reasonable approximation of fair value.

## 2 Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

### (e) Receivables

Receivables include accrued income and application monies receivable.

These amounts are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. At each reporting date, the Scheme measures the loss allowance on receivables at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses 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 Scheme measures the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses. 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 a loss allowance may be required. 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.

The amount of the impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss within other expenses. When a trade receivable for which an impairment allowance had been recognised becomes uncollectible in a subsequent period, it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against other expenses in profit or loss.

The carrying amount of receivables is a reasonable approximation of fair value due to their short term nature.

### (f) Payables

Payables include accrued expenses and redemption monies owing by the Scheme.

The carrying amount of payables is a reasonable approximation of fair value due to their short term nature.

### (g) Investment income

Interest income from financial assets at amortised cost is recognised 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.

Distribution income from financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is recognised in profit or loss when the Scheme's right to receive payment is established.

Other changes in fair value for such instruments are recorded in accordance with the accounting policies described in note 2(b).

### (h) Expenses

All expenses, including swap expenses, are recognised in profit or loss on an accruals basis.

### (i) Income tax

The Scheme is not subject to income tax provided the taxable income of the Scheme is attributed to its unitholders each financial year. Unitholders are subject to income tax at their own marginal tax rates on amounts attributable to them.

### (j) Distributions

In accordance with the Scheme's Constitution, the Scheme distributes its distributable income and any other amounts as determined by the Responsible Entity.

## 2 Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

### (k) Goods and Services Tax

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is incurred on the cost of various services provided to the Scheme by third parties. The Scheme qualifies for Reduced Input Tax Credit (RITC); hence expenses have been recognised in profit or loss net of the amount of GST recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. Payables are inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable is included in receivables in the statement of financial position. Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis.

### (l) Rounding of amounts

The Scheme is an entity of a kind referred to in *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191*. Amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars in accordance with the legislative instrument, unless otherwise indicated.

## 3 Interest income

	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	134	140
Debt securities	<u>8,225</u>	<u>6,328</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>8,359</u>	<u>6,468</u>

## 4 Distributions to unitholders

The distributions for the year were as follows:

	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2024 CPU	30 June 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 CPU
Distributions paid - September	1,047	0.64	712	0.40
Distributions paid - December	1,700	1.08	804	0.47
Distributions paid - March	2,346	1.51	1,345	0.81
Distributions payable - June	<u>1,904</u>	<u>1.22</u>	<u>2,317</u>	<u>1.44</u>
<b>Total distributions</b>	<u>6,997</u>		<u>5,178</u>	

## 5 Net assets attributable to unitholders

Movements in the number of units and net assets attributable to unitholders during the year were as follows:

	30 June 2024 Units'000	30 June 2023 Units'000	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Opening balance	160,529	183,188	164,061	187,566
Applications	76,610	82,028	78,884	84,411
Redemptions	(81,160)	(104,687)	(83,606)	(107,764)
Distributions to unitholders	-	-	(6,997)	(5,178)
Profit/(loss)	-	-	7,001	5,026
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>155,979</b>	<b>160,529</b>	<b>159,343</b>	<b>164,061</b>

As stipulated within the Scheme's Constitution, each unit represents a right to an individual unit in the Scheme and does not extend to a right to the underlying assets of the Scheme. There are no separate classes of units and each unit has the same rights attached to it as all other units of the Scheme.

### *Capital risk management*

The Scheme considers its net assets attributable to unitholders as capital. The amount of net assets attributable to unitholders can change significantly on a daily basis as the Scheme is subject to daily applications and daily redemptions at the discretion of unitholders.

Applications and redemptions are reviewed relative to the liquidity of the Scheme's underlying assets on a daily basis by the Responsible Entity. Under the terms of the Scheme's Constitution, the Responsible Entity has the discretion to reject an application and to defer or adjust a redemption if the exercise of such discretion is in the best interests of unitholders.

## 6 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Derivatives		
Swaps	-	342
Debt securities	156,647	164,596
Unlisted unit trusts	6	73
<b>Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</b>	<b>156,653</b>	<b>165,011</b>

## 7 Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss

	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Derivatives		
Swaps	397	-
<b>Total financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>-</b>



## 8 Receivables

	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Distributions receivable	15	1
Interest receivable	735	737
Applications receivable	<u>1,324</u>	<u>1,470</u>
<b>Total receivables</b>	<u>2,074</u>	<u>2,208</u>

## 9 Payables

	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Redemptions payable	223	1,089
Swap expense payable	<u>115</u>	<u>142</u>
<b>Total payables</b>	<u>338</u>	<u>1,231</u>

## 10 Reconciliation of profit/(loss) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
<b>(a) Reconciliation of profit/(loss) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities</b>		
Profit/(loss)	7,001	5,026
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss*	112,453	103,230
Payments for purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss*	(103,752)	(82,770)
(Increase)/decrease in distributions receivable	(14)	(1)
(Increase)/decrease in interest receivable	2	(415)
Increase/(decrease) in payables	(27)	14
Net (gains)/losses on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	<u>54</u>	<u>361</u>
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities*</b>	<u>15,717</u>	<u>25,445</u>
<b>(b) Components of cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Cash at the end of the year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the statement of financial position as follows:		
Cash at bank	<u>3,255</u>	<u>390</u>
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<u>3,255</u>	<u>390</u>

\*The comparatives have been presented to align with the changes adopted for current year. Refer to note 2.

## 11 Remuneration of auditors

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
Amount received or due and receivable by KPMG:		
Audit of financial statements	29,852	31,849
Other regulatory assurance services	<u>4,605</u>	<u>4,459</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u><b>34,457</b></u>	<u><b>36,308</b></u>

Audit fees were paid or payable by the Responsible Entity.

## 12 Related party transactions

### Responsible Entity

The Responsible Entity of Perpetual Exact Market Cash Fund is Perpetual Investment Management Limited (ABN 18 000 866 535), a wholly owned subsidiary of Perpetual Limited (ACN 000 431 827).

The Scheme does not employ personnel in its own right. However, it is required to have an incorporated Responsible Entity to manage the activities of the Scheme and this is considered the key management personnel.

### Key management personnel

#### (a) Directors

The directors of Perpetual Investment Management Limited during the year or since the end of the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

A Apted (appointed 9 April 2020)  
S Mosse (appointed 30 November 2023)  
A Serhan (appointed 1 July 2024)  
A Lo Proto (appointed 8 March 2022, resigned 30 November 2023)  
A Rozenauers (appointed 9 November 2022, resigned 1 July 2024)

#### (b) Other key management personnel

There were no other persons with responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Scheme, directly or indirectly, during the year or since the end of the year.

### Transactions with key management personnel

Key management personnel services are provided by Perpetual Investment Management Limited and included in the Responsible Entity's fees. There is no separate charge for these services. There was no compensation paid directly by the Scheme to any of the key management personnel during the year.

The Scheme has not made, guaranteed or secured, directly or indirectly, any loans to the key management personnel or their related entities at any time during the reporting period.

## 12 Related party transactions (continued)

### Responsible Entity's fees and other transactions

Under the terms of the Scheme's Constitution, the Responsible Entity is entitled to receive management fees. The Responsible Entity's fees are currently nil% per annum when Exact Benchmarking applies. The Responsible Entity's fees of 0.226% will be charged to the Scheme if Exact Benchmarking ceases to apply. The management fees are calculated by reference to the net asset value of the Scheme. Where the Scheme invests into other schemes, the Responsible Entity's fees are calculated after rebating management fees charged in the underlying schemes.

The Scheme aims to achieve the Exact Benchmarking to the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index (the benchmark) by entering into a total return swap agreement with Perpetual Australia Pty Limited (PAPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Perpetual Limited (the parent company of the Responsible Entity). Under the swap agreement, the Scheme pays PAPL the excess of the total return of the Scheme's investments over the benchmark (swap expenses) and PAPL pays the Scheme the shortfall (swap revenues). PAPL can terminate the swap agreement with 60 days' notice to the Responsible Entity. Exact benchmarking will cease to apply if there is no replacement swap agreement by the end of the notice period.

The fair value of the total return swap recognised within financial asset at fair value through profit or loss as at 30 June 2024 was -\$397,227 (2023:\$341,812). The valuation of the swap is discussed in note 14(d).

The transactions during the year and amounts payable at the reporting date between the Scheme and the Responsible Entity were as follows:

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
Swap expenses paid and payable to Perpetual Australia Pty Limited	1,345,552	1,082,648
Swap expenses payable to Perpetual Australia Pty Limited	115,201	142,312

## 13 Structured entities

A structured entity is an entity that has been designed so that voting or similar rights are not the dominant factors in deciding control and the relevant activities are directed by means of contractual arrangements.

The Scheme considers all investments in unlisted unit trusts to be structured entities. The Scheme invests in unlisted unit trusts for the purpose of capital appreciation and earning investment income.

The unlisted unit trusts are invested in accordance with the investment strategy by their respective investment managers. The return of the unlisted unit trusts is exposed to the variability of the performance of their investments. The unlisted unit trusts finance their operations by issuing redeemable units which are puttable at the holder's option and entitle the holder to a proportional stake in the respective trusts' net assets and distributions.

The Scheme's exposure to structured entities at fair value is disclosed in the following table:

	Fair value	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Perpetual Institutional Cash Management Trust	6	73

The fair value of these entities is included in financial assets at fair value through profit or loss in the statement of financial position.

The Scheme's maximum exposure to loss from its interests in the structured entities is equal to the total fair value of its investments in these entities as there are no off balance sheet exposures relating to them. The Scheme's exposure to any risk from the structured entities will cease when these investments are disposed of.

### 13 Structured entities (continued)

The Scheme does not have current commitments or intentions and contractual obligations to provide financial or other support to the structured entities. There are no loans or advances currently made to these entities.

### 14 Financial risk management

The Scheme's operating activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (including currency risk, interest rate risk and price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk.

A risk management framework has been established by the Responsible Entity of the Scheme to monitor the Scheme's compliance with its governing documents and to minimise risks in its investment activities. This framework incorporates a regular assessment process to ensure procedures and controls adequately manage the investment activities. The Scheme is permitted to use derivative products. However, the use of derivatives must be consistent with the investment strategy and restrictions specified in the Scheme's governing documents.

All investment securities present a risk of loss of capital. The maximum loss of capital on investment securities is generally limited to the fair values of those positions. The maximum loss of capital on derivatives is limited to the notional contract values of those positions.

The Scheme's asset managers aim to manage these risks through the use of consistent and carefully considered investment strategy and guidelines specifically tailored for the Scheme's investment objective. Risk management techniques are used in the selection of investments. These include periodic stress testing for debt securities. Asset managers will only purchase securities (including derivatives) which meet the prescribed investment criteria. Risk may also be reduced by diversifying investments across several asset managers, markets, regions or different asset classes and counterparties.

The Scheme uses different methods to measure different types of risks to which it is exposed. These methods include Value at Risk ("VaR") analysis in the case of market risk and credit ratings analysis for credit risk.

#### (a) Market risk

##### (i) Currency risk

Currency risk arises as the fair value or future cash flows of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency will fluctuate due to changes in exchange rates. The currency risk relating to non-monetary assets and liabilities is a component of price risk and not currency risk. However, management monitors the exposures on all foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities.

The Scheme did not have any significant exposure to currency risk at the reporting date.

Currency risk is managed as part of price risk and measured using VaR analysis.

##### (ii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Scheme is exposed to cash flow interest rate risk on financial instruments with floating interest rates. Financial instruments with fixed interest rates expose the Scheme to fair value interest rate risk.

## 14 Financial risk management (continued)

### (a) Market risk (continued)

#### (ii) Interest rate risk (continued)

The following tables summarise the Scheme's exposure to interest rate risk:

30 June 2024	Floating interest rate \$'000	Fixed interest rate \$'000	Non-interest bearing \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>Financial assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	3,255	-	-	3,255
Cash management trusts	6	-	-	6
Debt securities	155,158	1,489	-	156,647
<b>Financial liabilities</b>				
Derivatives	397	-	-	397
30 June 2023	Floating interest rate \$'000	Fixed interest rate \$'000	Non-interest bearing \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>Financial assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	390	-	-	390
Cash management trusts	73	-	-	73
Debt securities	163,123	1,473	-	164,596
Derivatives	342	-	-	342

Interest rate risk is managed as part of price risk and measured using VaR analysis.

#### (iii) Price risk

Price risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices, whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instrument or factors affecting all instruments in the market.

The asset manager uses a number of quantitative techniques to assess the impact of market risk including credit events, changes in interest rates, credit spreads and recovery values on the Scheme's investment portfolio.

The asset manager calculates VaR as an indicator of the sensitivity of the Scheme's investment portfolio valuation to changes in market prices and rates. VaR is a statistical framework that supports the quantification of market risk within a portfolio at a specified confidence interval over a defined holding period. VaR seeks to quantify the expected dollar losses that may result from the interactive behaviour of all material market prices, spreads, volatilities, and rates based on the historically observed relationships between these markets. The VaR measure is limited by its assumptions.

The VaR measure for the Scheme is estimated using a confidence level of 95%, of the potential portfolio losses, if the current market risk positions were to be held unchanged for 21 days.

In estimating VaR, the asset manager makes certain assumptions in relation to expected returns, correlations volatilities, future prices, yields and other micro and macroeconomic variables. These assumptions are often based on historically observed relationships or subjective assessments. The actual outcome may differ materially from the estimate.

## 14 Financial risk management (continued)

### (a) Market risk (continued)

#### (iii) Price risk (continued)

	30 June 2024		30 June 2023	
	VaR \$'000	% of Net Assets	VaR \$'000	% of Net Assets
Perpetual Exact Market Return Fund	48	0.03	49	0.03

### (b) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a counterparty will be unable to pay amounts when they fall due. The main concentration of counterparty credit risk, to which the Scheme is exposed to, arises predominantly from the Scheme's investments in debt securities. The Scheme is also exposed to counterparty credit risk on derivative financial instruments and cash and cash equivalents. The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the carrying amount of the financial assets. None of these assets are impaired or past due but not impaired.

#### (i) Debt securities

Investment management processes include the consideration of counterparty risk. The asset managers may refer to the credit ratings issued by rating agencies to assess the creditworthiness of counterparties. The asset managers consider (among other things) branding, stability and security marketability of counterparties and consistently monitor exposure through electronic systems.

The asset managers monitor the credit ratings of debt securities on a regular basis.

The tables below set out the analysis of debt securities by credit ratings as issued by Standard & Poor's or other rating agencies:

30 June 2024	AAA to AA- \$'000	A+ to A- \$'000	BBB+ to BBB- \$'000	BB+ to B- \$'000	NON- RATED \$'000	Total \$'000
Debt securities	124,605	27,015	5,027	-	-	156,647
	<u>124,605</u>	<u>27,015</u>	<u>5,027</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>156,647</u>
30 June 2023	AAA to AA- \$'000	A+ to A- \$'000	BBB+ to BBB- \$'000	BB+ to B- \$'000	NON- RATED \$'000	Total \$'000
Debt securities	125,251	30,676	8,669	-	-	164,596
	<u>125,251</u>	<u>30,676</u>	<u>8,669</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>164,596</u>

#### (ii) Derivative financial instruments

The risk of counterparty default for the total return swap is minimised with the available limited bank guarantee provided by the National Australia Bank Limited (NAB) for the amount up to \$3 million as at 30 June 2024 (2023: \$3 million). The guarantee can be called on by the Responsible Entity in the event of a shortfall by PAPL under the swap agreement.

#### (iii) Cash and cash equivalents

The exposure to credit risk for cash and cash equivalents is low as all counterparties have a high grade credit rating.

## 14 Financial risk management (continued)

### (c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Scheme will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

The Scheme is exposed to daily cash redemptions of redeemable units.

The Scheme's investments in unlisted unit trusts expose it to the risk that the responsible entity or the manager of those trusts may be unwilling or unable to fulfill the redemption requests within the timeframe requested by the Scheme. However, these investments are considered readily realisable unless the unlisted unit trusts are declared illiquid or suspended.

The Scheme may, from time to time, invest in derivative contracts traded over the counter, which are not traded in an organised market and may be illiquid. As a result, the Scheme may not be able to quickly liquidate these instruments at an amount close to their fair value to meet its liquidity requirements or to respond to specific events.

In order to manage the Scheme's overall liquidity, asset managers will only purchase securities (including derivatives) which meet the Scheme's investment criteria, including the assessment of saleability in different market conditions. The Scheme's investment strategy generally defines a minimum liquidity level for the Scheme which is monitored regularly.

The following tables summarise the contractual maturities of financial liabilities, including interest payments where applicable:

30 June 2024	Carrying amount \$'000	Contractual cash flows		
		less than 6 months \$'000	6-12 months \$'000	more than 12 months \$'000
<b>Non-derivative financial liabilities</b>				
Distributions payable	1,904	1,904	-	-
Payables	338	338	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,242</b>	<b>2,242</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Derivative financial liabilities</b>				
Swaps	397	-	-	-
Outflow	-	-	-	397
<b>Total</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>397</b>

30 June 2023	Carrying amount \$'000	Contractual cash flows		
		less than 6 months \$'000	6-12 months \$'000	more than 12 months \$'000
<b>Non-derivative financial liabilities</b>				
Distributions payable	2,317	2,317	-	-
Payables	1,231	1,231	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,548</b>	<b>3,548</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

## 14 Financial risk management (continued)

### (d) Fair value measurement

The Scheme classifies fair value measurement of its financial assets and liabilities by level of the following fair value hierarchy:

- Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1);
- Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (that is, as prices) or indirectly (that is, derived from prices) (level 2); and
- Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (that is, 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 is based on quoted market prices at the end of the reporting period without any deduction for estimated future selling costs.

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.

#### (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 by using valuation techniques. These include the use of recent arm's length transactions, reference to current fair value of a substantially similar other instrument, discounted cash flow techniques, option pricing models or any other valuation techniques that provide a reliable estimate of prices obtained in actual market transactions.

Valuation 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 the assumptions for these factors could affect the reported fair value of financial instruments. 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 held.

Debt securities are generally valued using broker quotes. 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. Management monitors credit spreads closely and conducts regular review to ensure any estimates and assumptions used in the valuation model remain appropriate.

The fair value of derivatives that are not exchange traded is estimated at the amount that would be received or paid 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.

Investments in unlisted unit trusts are recorded at the unit price as reported by the investment managers of such trusts. The Scheme may make adjustments to the value based on the considerations such as: liquidity of the unlisted unit trust or its underlying investments, the value date of the net asset value provided, or any restrictions on redemptions and the basis of accounting.

The Scheme's level 3 assets include the total return swap with PAPL, which is valued based on a valuation model using unobservable inputs such as amortised cost value of Scheme's investments.



## 14 Financial risk management (continued)

### (d) Fair value measurement (continued)

#### Recognised fair value measurements

The following tables present the Scheme's financial assets and liabilities by fair value hierarchy levels:

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>30 June 2024</b>				
<b>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</b>				
Debt securities	-	156,647	-	156,647
Unlisted unit trusts	-	6	-	6
<b>Total</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>156,653</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>156,653</u>
<b>Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss</b>				
Derivatives				
Swaps	-	-	397	397
<b>Total</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>397</u>	<u>397</u>
<b>30 June 2023</b>	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</b>				
Derivatives				
Swaps	-	-	342	342
Debt securities	-	164,596	-	164,596
Unlisted unit trusts	-	73	-	73
<b>Total</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>164,669</u>	<u>342</u>	<u>165,011</u>

#### Transfers between levels

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

There were no transfers between levels as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

#### Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

The following table presents the movement in level 3 instruments for the years ended 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023:

	30 June 2024 Total return swaps \$'000	30 June 2023 Total return swaps \$'000
Opening balance	342	1,394
Gains/(losses) recognised in profit or loss	<u>(739)</u>	<u>(1,052)</u>
<b>Closing balance</b>	<u>(397)</u>	<u>342</u>
Total unrealised gains/(losses) recognised in profit or loss for financial instruments held at the reporting date	<u>(739)</u>	<u>(1,052)</u>

## 15 Derivative financial instruments

A derivative is a financial instrument or other contract which is settled at a future date and whose value changes in response to the change in a specified interest rate, financial instrument price, commodity price, foreign currency exchange rates, index of prices or rates, credit rating or credit index or other variables.

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.

Derivative transactions include many different instruments, such as foreign currency forward contracts, futures and options. Derivatives are considered to be part of the investment process and the use of derivatives is an essential part of the Scheme's portfolio management. Derivatives are not managed in isolation. Consequently, the use of derivatives is multifaceted and includes:

- hedging to protect an asset or liability of the Scheme against a fluctuation in market values or to reduce volatility;
- a substitution for trading of physical securities; and
- adjusting asset exposures within the parameters set in the investment strategy, and adjusting the duration of fixed interest portfolios or the weighted average maturity of cash portfolios.

While derivatives are used for trading purposes, they are not used to gear (leverage) a portfolio. Gearing a portfolio would occur if the level of exposure to the markets exceeds the underlying value of the Scheme.

The Scheme held the following derivative financial instruments during the year:

### Swaps

Swaps are derivative instruments in which two counterparties agree to exchange one stream of cash flow against another stream.

Total return swaps are valued at fair value in which payments made by the Scheme or the counterparty are based on the total return of a particular reference asset or assets (such as an equity or fixed-income security, a combination of such securities, or an index). The value of the total return swaps will increase or decrease depending on the changes in value of the underlying benchmark.

### Risk exposures and fair value measurements

Information about the Scheme's exposure to financial risks and the methods and assumptions used in determining fair values is provided in note 14. The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period is the carrying amount of the derivative financial instruments.

## 16 Events occurring after the reporting period

No significant events have occurred since the reporting date which would have an impact on the financial position of the Scheme as at 30 June 2024 or on the results and cash flows of the Scheme for the year ended on that date.

## 17 Contingent assets, liabilities and commitments

There were no outstanding contingent assets, liabilities or commitments as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

## Directors' declaration

In the opinion of the directors of Perpetual Investment Management Limited, the Responsible Entity of Perpetual Exact Market Return Fund:

- (a) the financial statements and notes, set out on page 6 to 25, are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
  - (i) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*; and
  - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the Scheme's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date;
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Scheme will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
- (c) note 2(a) confirms that the financial statements comply with International Financial Reporting Standards and Interpretations as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

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



Director

Sydney  
18 September 2024



# Independent Auditor's Report

To the unitholders of Perpetual Exact Market Return Fund

## Opinion

We have audited the **Financial Report** of Perpetual Exact Market Return Fund (the Scheme).

In our opinion, the accompanying Financial Report of the Scheme gives a true and fair view, including of the Scheme's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year then ended, in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, in compliance with *Australian Accounting Standards* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

The **Financial Report** comprises:

- Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024;
- Statement of comprehensive income, Statement of changes in equity, and Statement of cash flows for the year ended;
- Notes, including material accounting policies; and
- Directors' Declaration.

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with *Australian Auditing Standards*. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

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 Scheme in accordance with 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 fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

## Other Information

Other Information is financial and non-financial information in Perpetual Exact Market Return Fund's annual report which is provided in addition to the Financial Report and the Auditor's Report. The Directors of Perpetual Investment Management Limited (the Responsible entity) are responsible for the Other Information.

Our opinion on the Financial Report does not cover the Other Information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the Financial Report, our responsibility is to read the Other Information. In doing so, we 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.



We are required to report if we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this Other Information, and based on the work we have performed on the Other Information that we obtained prior to the date of this Auditor's Report we have nothing to report.

### Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The Directors of Perpetual Investment Management Limited (the Responsible entity) are responsible for:

- preparing the Financial Report in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Scheme, and in compliance with *Australian Accounting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*;
- implementing necessary internal control to enable the preparation of a Financial Report in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Scheme, and that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error;
- assessing the Scheme's ability to continue as a going concern and whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate. This includes disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Scheme or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report

Our objective is:

- 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 *Australian Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. They 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 the Financial Report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: [http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf). This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

KPMG

Andrew Reeves

Partner

Sydney

18 September 2024

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### **Australian Capital Territory**

Nishi Building  
Level 9  
2 Phillip Law Street  
Canberra ACT 2601

### **New South Wales**

Angel Place  
Level 18  
123 Pitt Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

### **Queensland**

Central Plaza 1  
Level 15  
345 Queen Street  
Brisbane QLD 4000

### **South Australia**

Level 11  
101 Grenfell Street  
Adelaide SA 5000

### **Victoria**

Rialto South Tower  
Level 29  
525 Collins Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000

### **Western Australia**

Exchange Tower  
Level 29  
2 The Esplanade  
Perth WA 6000

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