

Paragon Australian Long Short Fund

ARSN 161 565 920

Annual Report

For the year ended 30 June 2023

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These financial statements cover Paragon Australian Long Short Fund as an individual entity.

The Responsible Entity of Paragon Australian Long Short Fund is Paragon Funds Management Ltd (ABN 42 159 623 873) (AFSL 426800).

The Responsible Entity's registered office is:

Suite 823
1 Queens Road
Melbourne, VIC 3004

Paragon Australian Long Short Fund
Directors' Report
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Directors' Report

The Directors of Paragon Funds Management Ltd, the Responsible Entity of Paragon Australian Long Short Fund, present their report together with the financial statements of Paragon Australian Long Short Fund (the 'Fund') for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Principal activities

The Fund's mandate is to invest primarily in Australian listed equities focusing on core competencies in the resource and industrial sectors in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution. The Fund may also invest in foreign listed stocks and equities in unlisted Australian and foreign companies. The objective of the Fund is to produce absolute returns and capital growth for unitholders over a 5 year investment horizon.

The Fund did not have any employees during the year.

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

The various service providers of the Fund are detailed below:

Service	Provider
Responsible Entity and Investment Manager	Paragon Funds Management Ltd
Prime Broker	UBS AG, Australia Branch
Custodian	UBS Nominees Pty Ltd
Statutory Auditor	Moore Australia
Administrator and Registrar	Link Fund Solutions Pty Limited

Directors

The following persons held office as Directors of Paragon Funds Management Ltd during the year or since the end of the year and up to the date of this report:

Mr John Deniz
Ms Hillier Deniz
Mr Samuel Lanyon

Review and results of operations

During the year, the Fund continued to invest in accordance with target asset allocations as set out in the governing documents of the Fund and in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

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

	Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Operating profit/(loss) for the year	2,204,564	(14,847,851)
Distributions payable	646,790	3,049,899
Distributions (cents per unit)	2.4254	13.3959

Review and results of operations (continued)

The operating profit for the financial year was lower than desired, with the Fund achieving a net return of 5% for the year. Market conditions continued to be extremely volatile throughout the year, making recovery from the Fund's current drawdown a challenge. Nevertheless, the directors remain confident in the longer-term outlook for the Fund, due to the once in a life time global structural changes of decarbonisation and electrification, and recent improved macro-economic factors strengthening the view that the bear market is over and that the Resources super-cycle in battery EV minerals, base metals and energy is now underway, all positively aligned to the Fund's investment strategy.

Significant changes in the state of affairs

In the opinion of the Directors, there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Fund that occurred during the financial year.

Matters subsequent to the end of the financial year

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2023 that has significantly affected, or may have a significant effect on:

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

Likely developments and expected results of operations

The Fund will continue to be managed in accordance with the investment objectives and guidelines as set out in the Product Disclosure Statement ('PDS') and the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

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

Indemnification and insurance of officers

The Responsible Entity has paid an insurance premium to insure its Directors under a combined Professional Indemnity and Directors and Officers Insurance policy. Details of the indemnity insurance are as follows:

- The Directors, the Fund and the Responsible Entity are indemnified to an aggregate amount of \$5million, against any liability arising from a claim brought against them by a third party, for losses arising from a wrongful act (as defined in the policy), in relation to the provision of professional services provided by the Responsible Entity.
- The policy further indemnifies each of the following Directors against liabilities for costs and expenses incurred by them in defending legal proceedings arising from their conduct while acting in the capacity of director of the company, other than conduct involving a wilful breach of duty in relation to the Fund.

Indemnification and insurance of officers

Mr John Deniz
Ms Hillier Deniz
Mr Samuel Lanyon

The policy is a combined policy and as such, premiums for each Director cannot be quantified. Further disclosure of information relating to this policy is not permitted under the contract of insurance.

Indemnification of auditor

The auditor of the Fund is in no way indemnified out of the assets of the Fund.

Fees paid to and interests held in the Fund by the Responsible Entity and its associates

Fees paid to the Responsible Entity and its associates out of Fund property during the year are disclosed in Note 15 to the financial statements.

No fees were paid out of Fund property to the Directors of the Responsible Entity during the year.

The number of interests in the Fund held by the Responsible Entity or its associates as at the end of the financial year are disclosed in Note 15 to the financial statements.

Interests in the Fund

The movement in units on issue in the Fund during the year is disclosed in Note 8 to the financial statements.

The value of the Fund'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.

Environmental regulation

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

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 5.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors of Paragon Funds Management Ltd.



Mr John Deniz
Director

Melbourne, VIC
19 September 2023

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**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
UNDER S 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001
TO THE DIRECTORS OF PARAGON FUNDS MANAGEMENT LIMITED, THE RESPONSIBLE
ENTITY**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the period ended 30 June 2023, 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.

Moore Australia

**MOORE AUSTRALIA AUDIT (VIC)
ABN 16 847 721 257**



RYAN LEEMON
Partner
Audit and Assurance

Melbourne, Victoria

19 September 2023

Paragon Australian Long Short Fund
Statement of Profit or Loss
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

		Year ended	
		30 June	30 June
	Note	2023	2022
		\$	\$
Investment income			
Interest income from financial assets at amortised cost		216,977	16,967
Dividend income		460,968	494,104
Net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	5	3,539,804	(10,786,197)
Net foreign exchange loss		(603,153)	(314,795)
Total investment income/(loss)		3,614,596	(10,589,921)
Expenses			
Management fees	15	634,900	850,313
Performance fees	15	-	2,412,354
Interest expense on financial liabilities at amortised cost		320,664	139,211
Custody fees		3,457	4,047
Transaction costs		329,518	292,481
Stock loan fees		11,806	231,293
Short dividend expense		3,269	185,581
Expense reimbursement fees	15	105,839	142,326
Other operating expenses		579	324
Total operating expenses		1,410,032	4,257,930
Operating profit/(loss)		2,204,564	(14,847,851)
Finance costs attributable to unitholders			
Distributions to unitholders	9	(646,790)	(3,049,899)
(Increase)/decrease in net assets attributable to unitholders	8	(1,557,774)	17,897,750
Profit/(loss) for the year		-	-
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	-

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

Paragon Australian Long Short Fund
Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2023

Statement of Financial Position

		As at	
		30 June	30 June
		2023	2022
	Note	\$	\$
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	10	-	37,408,560
Receivables	12	89,255	450,770
Due from brokers - receivable for securities sold		10,437,796	5,146,497
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	6	64,229,279	14,302,568
Total assets		74,756,330	57,308,395
Liabilities			
Borrowings	10	20,581,765	-
Distributions payable	9	646,790	3,049,899
Payables	13	347,102	570,043
Due to brokers - payable for securities purchased		75,006	6,135,410
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	7	7,293,750	9,824,257
Total liabilities (excluding net assets attributable to unitholders)		28,944,413	19,579,609
Net assets attributable to unitholders - liability	8	45,811,917	37,728,786

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

Paragon Australian Long Short Fund
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Statement of Changes in Equity

	Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Total equity at the beginning of the financial year	-	-
Profit/(loss) for the year	-	-
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income	-	-
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners	-	-
Total equity at the end of the financial year	-	-

Under Australian Accounting Standards, net assets attributable to unitholders are classified as a liability rather than equity. As a result, there was no equity at the start or the end of the year.

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

Paragon Australian Long Short Fund
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Statement of Cash Flows

	Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Note	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities		
Proceeds from sale of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	274,718,843	416,527,611
Payments for purchase of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	(329,285,334)	(351,580,394)
Proceeds from re-purchase of financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	30,047,395	113,871,722
Payments for settlement of financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	(35,750,021)	(120,984,747)
Interest income received from financial assets at amortised cost	226,895	5,903
Dividends received	460,968	494,104
Other income received	7,264	-
Management fees paid	(627,375)	(863,305)
Performance fees paid	-	(4,537,967)
Transaction costs paid	(329,518)	(292,481)
Stock loan fees paid	(44,158)	(203,755)
Custody fees paid	(3,457)	(4,047)
Expense reimbursement fees paid	(104,609)	(144,451)
Interest expense paid	(268,577)	(151,211)
Short dividends paid	(14,700)	(121,957)
Net GST amounts (paid)/received	343,755	(29,730)
Other operating expenses paid	-	(8,166)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	11(a) (60,622,629)	51,977,129
Cash flows from financing activities		
Proceeds from applications by unitholders	5,938,383	12,012,367
Payments for redemptions by unitholders	(2,481,579)	(4,003,086)
Distributions paid to unitholders	(221,350)	(1,441,268)
Net cash inflow from financing activities	3,235,454	6,568,013
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(57,387,175)	58,545,142
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	37,408,560	(20,821,787)
Effects of foreign currency exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(603,150)	(314,795)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	10 (20,581,765)	37,408,560
Non-cash financing activities	11(b) 2,828,553	1,850,563

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

Notes to the Financial Statements

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1 General information

These financial statements cover Paragon Australian Long Short Fund (the 'Fund') as an individual entity. The Fund was constituted on 6 December 2012, registered with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission on 20 December 2012 and commenced operations on 1 March 2013. The Fund will terminate on 5 December 2092 unless terminated earlier in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

Paragon Australian Long Short Fund is a registered managed investment scheme under the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The Responsible Entity of the Fund is Paragon Funds Management Ltd (ABN 42 159 623 873) (AFSL 426800) (the 'Responsible Entity'). The Responsible Entity's registered office is Suite 823 1 Queens Road Melbourne, VIC 3004. The Responsible Entity is incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The Fund's mandate is to invest primarily in Australian listed equities focusing on core competencies in the resource and industrial sectors in accordance with PDS and the provisions of the Fund's Constitution. The Fund may also invest in foreign listed stocks and equities in unlisted Australian and foreign companies. The objective of the Fund is to produce absolute returns and capital growth for unitholders over a 5 year investment horizon.

The financial statements of the Fund are for the year ended 30 June 2023. The financial statements are presented in the Australian currency.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Directors of the Responsible Entity on the date the Directors' Declaration was signed. The Directors of the Responsible Entity have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

2 Summary of significant 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 in the following text.

(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 Fund 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 investments in financial assets and liabilities and net assets attributable to unitholders.

The Fund 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 12 months, however, an estimate of that amount cannot be determined as at reporting date.

In the case of net assets attributable to unitholders, the units are redeemable on demand at the unitholder's option. However, holders of these instruments typically retain them for the medium to long term. As such, the amount expected to be settled within 12 months cannot be reliably determined.

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

The financial statements of the Fund also comply with IFRS as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(a) Basis of preparation (continued)

(ii) New and amended standards adopted by the Fund

There are no standards, interpretations or amendments to existing standards that are effective for the first time for the financial year beginning 1 July 2022 that have a material impact on the amounts recognised in the prior periods or will affect the current or future periods.

(iii) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

A number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 July 2023 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 Fund.

(b) Financial instruments

(i) Classification

- Financial assets

The Fund 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 Fund classifies its financial assets based on its business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets.

The Fund's portfolio of financial assets is managed and performance is evaluated on a fair value basis in accordance with the Fund's documented investment strategy. The Fund's policy is for the Responsible Entity to evaluate the information about these financial assets on a fair value basis together with other related financial information.

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

- Financial liabilities

The Fund 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 classified 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 (distributions payable, management fee payable, other payables and due to brokers).

(ii) Recognition and derecognition

The Fund recognises financial assets and financial liabilities on the date it becomes party to the contractual agreement (trade date) and recognises changes in fair value of the financial assets or financial liabilities from this date.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or the Fund has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligation under the liabilities are discharged, cancelled or expired.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(b) Financial instruments (continued)

(iii) Measurement

- *Financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss*

At initial recognition, the Fund measures financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. Transaction costs of financial assets and financial liabilities carried at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Subsequent to initial recognition, all financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value. Gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of the 'financial assets or financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss' category are presented in the Statement of Comprehensive Income within 'net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss' in the period in which they arise. Dividend expense on short sales of securities, which have been classified at fair value through profit or loss, is presented as expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

For further details on how the fair value of financial instruments is determined, please see Note 4 to the financial statements.

(iv) Impairment

At each reporting date, the Fund shall estimate a loss allowance on each of the financial assets at amortised cost (cash and cash equivalents, due from brokers and 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 Fund shall measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses. Significant financial difficulties of the counter party, probability that the counter party will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default in payments are all considered indicators that the asset is credit impaired. 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. A significant increase in credit risk is defined by management as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due. Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

(v) Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the Statement of Financial Position when the Fund 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.

As at the end of the reporting period, there are no financial assets or liabilities offset or with the right to offset in the Statement of Financial Position.

(c) Net assets attributable to unitholders

Units are redeemable at the 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 are classified as financial liabilities.

The units can be put back to the Fund at any time for cash based on the redemption price.

The value of redeemable units is measured at the redemption amount that is payable (based on the redemption unit price) at the end of the reporting period if the unitholders exercised their right to redeem units in the Fund.

(d) 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 and 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, as well borrowings which comprise of cash advances. Refer to Note 10 for further details.

Payments and receipts relating to the purchase and sale of investment securities are classified as cash flows from operating activities, as trading of these securities represents the Fund's main income generating activity.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(e) Investment 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.

Changes in fair value of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss are recorded in accordance with the policies described in Note 2(b) to the financial statements.

Dividend income is recognised on the ex-dividend date with any related foreign withholding tax recorded as an expense. The Fund currently incurs withholding tax imposed by certain countries on investment income. Such income is recorded gross of withholding tax in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Dividends declared on securities sold short are recorded as a dividend expense on the ex-dividend date.

Trust distributions are recognised on an entitlement basis.

(f) Expenses

All expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on an accruals basis.

(g) Income tax

Under current legislation, the Fund is not subject to income tax provided it attributes the entirety of its taxable income to its unitholders.

(h) Distributions

The Fund distributes its distributable income, in accordance with the Fund's Constitution, to unitholders by cash or reinvestment. The distribution is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(i) Increase/decrease in net assets attributable to unitholders

Income not distributed is included in net assets attributable to unitholders. Where the Fund's units are classified as financial liabilities, movements in net assets attributable to unitholders are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as finance costs.

(j) Foreign currency translation

(i) Functional and presentation currency

Balances included in the Fund's financial statements are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which it operates (the 'functional currency'). This is the Australian dollar, which reflects the currency of the economy in which the Fund competes for funds and is regulated. The Australian dollar is also the Fund's 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 translations at year end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Statement of 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 fair value was determined.

The Fund does not isolate that portion of unrealised gains or losses on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss and which is due to changes in foreign exchange rates. Such fluctuations are included with the net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(k) 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 is recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

(l) Receivables

Receivables may include amounts for interest, dividends and trust distributions. Dividends and trust distributions are accrued when the right to receive payment is established. Where applicable, interest is accrued on a daily basis (previously accrued at the end of each reporting period from the time of last payment) in accordance with the policy set out in Note 2(e) above. Amounts are generally received within 30 days of being recorded as receivables.

Receivables also include such items as Reduced Input Tax Credits (RITC).

(m) Payables

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

A separate distributions payable is recognised in the Statement of Financial Position.

Distributions declared effective 30 June in relation to unitholders who have previously elected to reinvest distributions are recognised as reinvested effective 1 July of the following financial year. Distributions will be automatically reinvested unless elected to be paid out in accordance with the Fund's PDS.

(n) Applications and redemptions

Unit application and redemption prices are determined by reference to the net assets of the Fund divided by the number of units on issue, adjusted for buy/sell spreads.

(o) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The GST incurred on the costs of various services provided to the Fund by third parties such as custodial services, investment management fees and performance fees have been passed onto the Fund. The Fund qualifies for RITC at a rate of at least 55%; hence investment management fees, performance fees, custodial fees and other expenses have been recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income net of the amount of GST recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Amounts payable are inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO is included in receivables in the Statement of Financial Position. Cash flows relating to GST are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis.

(p) Use of estimates

The Fund makes estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities within the current and next financial year. Estimates are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

For the majority of the Fund's financial instruments, quoted market prices are readily available.

The Fund estimates that the resultant expected credit loss (ECL) derived from using impairment model has not materially impacted the Fund. Refer to Note 3 for more information on credit risk.

For more information on how fair value is calculated please refer to Note 4 to the financial statements.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(q) Significant judgments made in the application of accounting policies

Related party relationship and control - managed investment schemes

While the Responsible Entity controls the financial and operating activities of the Fund in accordance with the Fund's Constitution and PDS, the Responsible Entity's fiduciary obligations to the unitholders of the Fund prevent it from benefiting directly from the activities of the Fund. Instead, the Responsible Entity governs the financial and operating activities of the Fund for the sole purpose of fulfilling its fiduciary obligation of acting in the best interest of the unitholders in its capacity as the Responsible Entity. Accordingly, the Directors do not consider that the Responsible Entity controls the Fund as defined in AASB 10: *Consolidated Financial Statements*.

However, for the purpose of AASB 124: *Related Party Disclosures*, the Directors consider that the Responsible Entity is a related party of the Fund as it is the management entity that provides key management personnel services to the Fund. Accordingly, both the Responsible Entity and its Directors are considered to be key management personnel of the Fund. Refer to Note 15 for additional detail on related party transactions.

3 Financial risk management

The Fund's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including market risk (which incorporates price risk and interest rate risk), credit risk and liquidity risk.

The Fund's overall risk management programme focuses on ensuring compliance with the Fund's PDS and the investment guidelines of the Fund. It also seeks to maximise the returns derived for the level of risk to which the Fund is exposed and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Fund's financial performance.

The Fund invests in a diversified portfolio of long and short stocks comprising equities that are listed on the Australian Securities Exchange ('ASX'). The Fund may use exchange traded derivatives to gain exposure to the underlying physical investments and for hedging purposes. Derivatives are not used speculatively. The Fund may also invest a portion of the Fund's assets in foreign equities listed overseas as well as equities of unlisted Australian and foreign companies, to limits as prescribed in the PDS.

The investment objective of the Fund is to produce absolute returns and capital growth for unitholders over a 5 year investment horizon before taking into account Fund fees and expenses.

The Fund uses different methods to measure different types of risk to which it is exposed. These methods include sensitivity analysis in the case of market risk and ratings analysis for credit risk.

(a) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as interest rates and other market prices will affect the Fund's income or the carrying value of financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters, while optimising the return on risk.

The Responsible Entity intends to limit this risk by ensuring strict adherence to the Fund's investment guidelines.

(i) Price risk

The Fund is exposed to price risk on equity securities listed or quoted on recognised securities exchange. Price risk arises from investments held by the Fund for which prices in the future are uncertain. Other market price risk is the risk that the value of an instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices, whether caused by factors specific to an individual investment, its issuer or all factors affecting all instruments traded in the market. Where non-monetary financial instruments are denominated in currencies other than the Australian dollar, the price in the future will also fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates which are considered a component of price risk.

As the majority of the Fund's investments are carried at fair value with fair value changes recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, all changes in market conditions will directly affect net investment income.

All investments present a risk of loss of capital. Except for equities sold short, the maximum risk resulting from financial instruments is determined by the fair value of the financial instruments. Possible losses from equities sold short can be unlimited.

3 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(i) Price risk (continued)

The Fund mitigates this price risk through diversification, in terms of company, industry, sector, and selection of securities in accordance with the Fund's investment guidelines.

The Fund has built in procedures to ensure adherence to the Fund's investment guidelines at all times.

At 30 June, the overall net market exposures were as follows:

	As at	
	30 June	30 June
	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Australian equity securities and trusts	55,324,573	11,997,068
International equity securities	8,904,706	2,305,500
Australian equity securities and trusts sold short	(7,293,750)	(9,824,257)
Total	56,935,529	4,478,311

The Fund manages its exposure to price risk by analysing the investment portfolio by industrial sector. The table below is a summary of the significant sector concentrations within the equity portfolio, net of securities sold short.

	As at	As at
	30 June	30 June
	2023	2022
	Fund's equity	Fund's equity
	portfolio	portfolio
	(%)	(%)
Sector		
Information technology	4.1	51.5
Financial services	10.0	(20.8)
Energy	17.2	84.5
Consumer discretionary	-	(.4)
Materials	60.0	(14.8)
Telecommunications services	(3.8)	-
Industrials	12.5	-
Total	100.0	100.0

The table in Note 3(b) summarises the sensitivities of the Fund's assets and liabilities to price risk. The analysis is based on the assumption that the markets in which the Fund invests move by +/- 15% (2022: +/- 15%).

3 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(ii) Foreign exchange risk

The Fund invests in equities listed outside Australia and holds both monetary and non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the Australian dollar. Foreign exchange risk arises as the value of monetary securities denominated in other currencies will fluctuate due to changes in exchange rates. The foreign exchange risk relating to non-monetary assets and liabilities is a component of price risk and not foreign exchange risk.

The Fund's foreign exchange risk is managed by capping investment holdings at 30% of the net asset value of the portfolio at any time. Currency risk is not likely to be material, as typically the level of investments in foreign currencies is well below this limit. Furthermore, the offsetting liability for a investment is also held in the same foreign currency, resulting in a 'natural hedge'. Currency exposure may be actively hedged if deemed appropriate by Paragon.

The table below summarises the Fund's financial assets and liabilities, monetary and non-monetary, which are denominated in a currency other than the Australian dollar.

As at 30 June 2023

	US Dollar A\$	Euro A\$	Canadian Dollar A\$
Cash and cash equivalents	13,360	-	-
Financial assets held at fair value through profit or loss	-	2,305,500	6,599,205
Payables	-	-	1,576,922
Net exposure	13,360	2,305,500	8,176,127

As at 30 June 2022

	US Dollar A\$	Euro A\$
Cash and cash equivalents	3,352	-
Financial assets held at fair value through profit or loss	-	2,305,500
Payables	(3,407)	-
Net exposure	(55)	2,305,500

The table in Note 3(b) summarises the sensitivities of the Fund's monetary assets and liabilities to foreign exchange risk. The analysis is based on the assumption that the Australian dollar weakened and strengthened by 15% (2022: 15%) against the material foreign currencies to which the Fund is exposed.

(iii) Cash flow and fair value 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 Fund is exposed to cash flow interest rate risk on financial instruments with variable interest rates. Financial instruments with fixed rates expose the Fund to fair value interest rate risk.

3 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(iii) Cash flow and fair value interest rate risk (continued)

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

As at 30 June 2023

	Floating interest rate \$	Fixed interest rate \$	Non- interest bearing \$	Total \$
Assets				
Receivables	-	-	89,255	89,255
Due from brokers - receivable for securities sold	-	-	10,437,796	10,437,796
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	64,229,279	64,229,279
Total assets	-	-	74,756,330	74,756,330
Liabilities				
Borrowings	(20,581,765)	-	-	(20,581,765)
Distributions payable	-	-	(646,790)	(646,790)
Payables	-	-	(347,102)	(347,102)
Due to brokers - payable for securities purchased	-	-	(75,006)	(75,006)
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	(7,293,750)	(7,293,750)
Total liabilities (excluding net assets attributable to unitholders)	(20,581,765)	-	(8,362,648)	(28,944,413)
Net exposure	(20,581,765)	-	66,393,682	45,811,917

As at 30 June 2022

	Floating interest rate \$	Fixed interest rate \$	Non- interest bearing \$	Total \$
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	37,408,560	-	-	37,408,560
Receivables	-	-	450,770	450,770
Due from brokers - receivable for securities sold	-	-	5,146,497	5,146,497
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	14,302,568	14,302,568
Total assets	37,408,560	-	19,899,835	57,308,395

3 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(iii) Cash flow and fair value interest rate risk (continued)

As at 30 June 2022

	Floating interest rate \$	Fixed interest rate \$	Non- interest bearing \$	Total \$
Liabilities				
Distributions payable	-	-	(3,049,899)	(3,049,899)
Payables	-	-	(570,043)	(570,043)
Due to brokers - payable for securities purchased	-	-	(6,135,410)	(6,135,410)
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	(9,824,257)	(9,824,257)
Total liabilities (excluding net assets attributable to unitholders)	-	-	(19,579,609)	(19,579,609)
Net exposure	37,408,560	-	320,226	37,728,786

The table in Note 3(b) summarises the impact of an increase/decrease in interest rates on the Fund's operating profit/(loss) and net assets attributable to unitholders through changes in fair value or changes in future cash flows. The analysis is based on the assumption that interest rates changed by +/- 75 basis points (2022: +/- 75 basis points) from the year end rates with all other variables held constant.

(b) Summarised sensitivity analysis

The following table summarises the sensitivity of the Fund's operating profit/(loss) and net assets attributable to unitholders to market risks. The reasonably possible movements in the risk variables have been determined based on management's best estimate having regard to a number of factors, including historical levels of changes in interest rates and the historical correlation of the Fund's investments with the relevant benchmark and market volatility. However, actual movements in the risk variables may be greater or less than anticipated due to a number of factors, including unusually large market shocks resulting from changes in the performance of the economies, markets and securities in which the Fund invests. As a result, historic variations in risk variables are not a definitive indicator of future variances in the risk variables.

	Impact on operating profit/(loss)/Net assets attributable to unitholders							
	Price risk		Interest rate risk		Foreign exchange risk			
	-15%	+15%	-75bps	+75bps	-15%	+15%	-15%	+15%
	\$	\$	\$	\$	US Dollar \$	US Dollar \$	CAN Dollar \$	CAN Dollar \$
30 June 2023	(8,540,329)	8,540,329	(154,363)	154,363	(2,045)	2,045	(236,538)	236,538
30 June 2022	(671,747)	671,747	(280,564)	280,564	8	(8)	-	-

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties failed to perform as contracted. Market prices generally incorporate credit assessments into valuations and risk of loss is implicitly provided for in the carrying value of on-balance sheet financial assets and liabilities as they are carried at fair value. The total credit risk for on-balance sheet items, other than derivatives, is therefore limited to the amount carried on the Statement of Financial Position.

3 Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Credit risk (continued)

The Fund's maximum credit risk exposure at balance date in relation to each class of recognised financial asset, other than equity and derivative financial instruments, is the carrying amount of those assets as indicated in the Statement of Financial Position. This does not represent the maximum risk exposure that could arise in the future as a result of changes in values, but best represents the current maximum exposure at the reporting date.

The Fund does not have a significant concentration of credit risk that arises from an exposure to a single counterparty or group of counterparties having similar characteristics. The main concentration of credit risk, to which the Fund is exposed, arises from cash and cash equivalents and amounts due from brokers balances. None of these assets are impaired nor past their due date. The maximum exposure to credit risk is the carrying amount of these balances as at the reporting date.

The Fund uses UBS AG, Australia Branch as its prime broker. UBS AG has a rating of A+ by S&P as at 30 June 2023 (30 June 2022: A+).

(i) Derivative financial instruments

For derivative financial instruments, the Responsible Entity/Investment Manager has established limits such that transactions only take place with participants of ASX.

(ii) Settlement of securities transactions

All transactions in listed securities are settled/paid for upon delivery using approved brokers. The risk of default is considered low, as delivery of securities sold is only made once the broker has received payment. Payment is made once the securities purchased have been received by the broker. The trade will fail if either party fails to meet its obligations.

(iii) Cash and cash equivalents

In accordance with the Fund's policy, the Investment Manager monitors the Fund's credit position on a daily basis, and the Board of Directors reviews it on a quarterly basis.

(iv) Other

The Fund is not materially exposed to credit risk on other financial assets.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of each reporting period is the carrying amount of the financial assets. None of these assets are impaired nor past due but not impaired.

(d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund may not be able to generate sufficient cash resources to settle its obligations in full as they fall due or can only do so on terms that are materially disadvantageous.

The Fund is exposed to monthly cash redemptions of redeemable units. It therefore primarily holds investments that are traded in an active market and can be readily disposed.

The Fund will always comprise of asset classes whereby at least 70% of the Fund's total assets can reasonably be expected to be realised within ten days at all times.

In order to manage the Fund's overall liquidity, the Responsible Entity has the discretion to reject an application for units and to defer or adjust redemption of units if the exercise of such discretion is in the best interests of unitholders. The Fund did not reject or withhold any redemptions during 2023 and 2022.

(i) Maturities of non-derivative financial liabilities

The table below analyses the Fund's non-derivative financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at balance sheet date to the contractual maturity date. The amounts in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

3 Financial risk management (continued)

(d) Liquidity risk (continued)

(i) Maturities of non-derivative financial liabilities (continued)

	Less than 1 month \$	1-6 months \$	6-12 months \$	1-2 years \$
As at 30 June 2023				
Borrowings	20,581,765	-	-	-
Distributions payable	646,790	-	-	-
Payables	347,102	-	-	-
Due to brokers - payable for securities purchased	75,006	-	-	-
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	-	7,293,750	-	-
Net assets attributable to unitholders	45,811,917	-	-	-
Contractual cash flows	67,462,580	7,293,750	-	-

	Less than 1 month	1-6 months	6-12 months	1-2 years
As at 30 June 2022				
Distributions payable	3,049,899	-	-	-
Payables	570,043	-	-	-
Due to brokers - payable for securities purchased	6,135,410	-	-	-
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	-	9,824,257	-	-
Net assets attributable to unitholders	37,728,786	-	-	-
Contractual cash flows	47,484,138	9,824,257	-	-

4 Fair value measurement

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

- Financial assets / liabilities at fair value through profit or loss (see Notes 6 and 7)

The Fund 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:

- 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 or indirectly (level 2); and
- 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) is based on their quoted market prices at the close of trading at the end of the reporting period without any deduction for estimated future selling costs.

The Fund values its investments in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 2 to the financial statements. For the majority of its investments, the Fund relies on information provided by independent pricing services for the valuation of its investments.

The quoted market price used for financial assets and financial liabilities held by the Fund is the last sale price.

4 Fair value measurement (continued)

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

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.

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

The fair value of financial assets and financial 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.

(iii) Recognised fair value measurements

The following table presents the Fund's assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value as at 30 June.

As at 30 June 2023	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial assets				
Australian equity securities and trusts	52,410,570	1,914,003	1,000,000	55,324,573
International equity securities	6,031,553	567,652	2,305,500	8,904,706
Total financial assets	58,442,123	2,481,655	3,305,500	64,229,279

Financial liabilities

Australian equity securities and trusts sold short	7,293,750	-	-	7,293,750
Total financial liabilities	7,293,750	-	-	7,293,750

As at 30 June 2022

Financial assets

Australian equity securities and trusts	10,997,068	-	1,000,000	11,997,068
International equity securities	-	-	2,305,500	2,305,500
Total financial assets	10,997,068	-	3,305,500	14,302,568

Financial liabilities

Australian equity securities and trusts sold short	9,824,257	-	-	9,824,257
Total financial liabilities	9,824,257	-	-	9,824,257

The Level 2 investments typically relate to private placements in pre-IPO stocks in which the Fund has subscribed to in advance of the stocks official listing. Fair value is determined using the valuation technique of the subscription price or the most recent arms' length placement price by the number of securities subscribed for by the Fund under the relevant offer.

4 Fair value measurement (continued)

(iii) Recognised fair value measurements (continued)

The level 3 investments as at 30 June 2023 comprise of:

1. Latitude 66 Cobalt Limited – The current carry value of \$1,000,000 is based on the last arms' length capital raise by the company in June 2019. The company's gold and cobalt resources and cash combined (and nil debt) are almost double its implied market value of \$37m, and an almost 50% discount to the formal takeover offer from Sun Mirror in 2022. An IPO listing is looking imminent to management based on recent discussions with the company.
2. ISX Financial EU Plc (ISXFEU) – The current carry value of \$2,305,500 is management's valuation of the unlisted European subsidiary of Southern Cross Payments Limited (ASX:SP1) (formerly iSignthis Limited) (ASX: ISX), upon the demerger of the European business in December 2020. The Fund received 435,000 shares in the subsidiary in a 1 to 10 in-specie distribution. Revenue continues to grow rapidly across its three strategic payments channels. Their customer base is also growing and broadening, and their geographic reach will expand as licencing is awarded in various jurisdictions abroad. The company's growth is self-funded. It is cash flow positive and gross margins and profitability metrics are also improving, and management's latest assessment arrives at estimated market-cap of A\$600-\$850m (A\$5.45-\$7.72/share) against a derived carry value of \$5.30/share. The company is ready for an international listing and is expected near term now that financial markets have recovered and IPO's have resumed globally. The court cases with ASX and ASIC are planned for hearings in September 2023 and a ruling expected near term. Paragon does not attribute any value to the shares held in the Australian company, which does retain adequate cash for these ongoing legal proceedings. On this valuation basis, and considerations noted above, it is the opinion of the directors that the current carry value of SP1/ISXFEU combined remains appropriate.

(iv) Transfers between levels

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

Latitude 66 Cobalt Limited holding was transferred from Level 2 to Level 3 in 2022 and remains in Level 3 at 30 June 2023.

There were no other transfers between levels in the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period.

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

The following table presents the movement in level 3 instruments for the year ended 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2022 by class of financial instrument.

As at 30 June 2023	Unlisted equity securities \$
Opening balance - 1 July	3,305,500
Transfers into Level 3	-
Purchases	2,547,916
Sales	-
Gains/(losses) recognised in the Statement of profit or loss	(66,260)
Closing balance	5,787,156
Total unrealised gains/(losses) for the year included in the Statement of profit or loss	675,735
As at 30 June 2022	Unlisted equity securities \$
Opening balance - 1 July	3,836,760
Transfers into Level 3	400,000
Sales	(1,722,351)
Gains/(losses) recognised in the Statement of profit or loss	791,091
Closing balance	3,305,500
Total unrealised gains/(losses) for the year included in the Statement of profit or loss	741,995

4 Fair value measurement (continued)

(vi) *Financial instruments not carried at fair value*

The carrying values of receivables and payables are assumed to approximate their fair values.

Net assets attributable to unit-holders' carrying value does not differ from its fair value (deemed to be redemption price for individual units) due to no differences in valuation inputs.

5 Net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss

Net gains/(losses) recognised in relation to financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss:

	Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Financial assets		
Net realised gain/(loss) on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	(9,661,401)	7,983,250
Net unrealised gain/(loss) on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	14,245,642	(16,455,361)
Total net gains/(losses) on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	4,584,241	(8,472,111)
Financial liabilities		
Net realised gain/(loss) on financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	(170,832)	(2,979,883)
Net unrealised gain/(loss) on financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	(873,605)	665,797
Total net gains/(losses) on financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	(1,044,437)	(2,314,086)
Total net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	3,539,804	(10,786,197)

6 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

	As at	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Australian equity securities and trusts	55,324,573	11,997,068
International equity securities	8,904,706	2,305,500
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	64,229,279	14,302,568

7 Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss

	As at	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Australian equity securities and trusts sold short	7,293,750	9,824,257
Total financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	7,293,750	9,824,257

8 Net assets attributable to unitholders

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

	Year ended		Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2023	30 June 2022	30 June 2022
	Units	\$	Units	\$
Opening balance	22,767,409	37,728,786	18,935,436	45,479,692
Applications	3,747,445	6,178,383	4,809,788	12,299,367
Redemptions	(1,554,338)	(2,481,579)	(1,748,305)	(4,003,086)
Reinvestment of distributions	1,706,929	2,828,553	770,490	1,850,563
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unitholders	-	1,557,774	-	(17,897,750)
Closing balance	26,667,445	45,811,917	22,767,409	37,728,786

	Year ended		Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2023	30 June 2022	30 June 2022
	Units	\$	Units	\$
Class A (non-series based units)	26,667,445	45,811,917	22,767,409	37,728,786
Closing balance	26,667,445	45,811,917	22,767,409	37,728,786

As stipulated in the Fund's Constitution, each unit represents a right to an individual unit in the Fund and does not extend to a right to the underlying assets in the Fund.

Capital risk management

The Fund considers its net assets attributable to unitholders as capital, notwithstanding that net assets attributable to unitholders are classified as a liability. The amount of net assets attributable to unitholders can change significantly on a monthly basis as the Fund is subject to monthly applications and redemptions at the discretion of unitholders.

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

9 Distributions to unitholders

The distributions declared during the year were as follows:

	Year ended		Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2023	30 June 2022	30 June 2022
	\$	CPU*	\$	CPU*
Distributions payable	646,790	2.4254	3,049,899	13.3959
Total distributions	646,790	2.4254	3,049,899	13.3959

* Distribution is expressed as cents per unit amount in Australian Dollar.

10 Cash and cash equivalents

	As at	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	-	37,408,560
Borrowings	(20,581,765)	-
	(20,581,765)	37,408,560

Borrowings comprise of a cash advance (overdrawn balance) provided by the prime broker under a formal prime brokerage agreement, up to a maximum credit limit as determined by the prime broker. Interest expense is calculated on the daily overdrawn balance. The interest rate charged is as set out in the prime brokerage agreement and can be changed by the prime broker from time to time. The Fund's assets are granted as security under a general security deed to the prime broker for all liabilities owing, and the maximum credit limit provided is subject to a margin calculation of the Fund's assets held less liabilities owing, and any shortfall in margin can be immediately called upon.

The weighted average interest rate of the Fund's cash and cash equivalents as at 30 June 2023 is -2.48% (2022: 3.21%).

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

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

	Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Profit/(loss) for the year	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unitholders	1,557,774	(17,897,750)
Distributions to unitholders	646,790	3,049,899
Proceeds from sale of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	274,718,843	416,527,611
Payments for purchase of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	(329,285,334)	(351,580,394)
Proceeds from re-purchase of financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	30,047,395	113,871,722
Payments for settlement of financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	(35,750,021)	(120,984,747)
Net (gains)/losses on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	3,539,804	10,786,197
Short dividends reinvested	-	52,193
Effects of foreign currency exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	603,153	314,795
Net change in receivables and other assets	361,515	(225,150)
Net change in payables and other liabilities	17,060	1,937,247
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	(60,622,629)	51,977,129

11 Reconciliation of profit/(loss) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities (continued)

(b) Non-cash financing activities

	Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
The following distribution payments to unitholders were satisfied by the issue of units under the distribution reinvestment plan	2,828,553	1,850,563
Total non-cash financing activities	2,828,553	1,850,563

As described in Note 2(i), income not distributed is included in net assets attributable to unitholders. The change in this amount each year (as reported in (a) above) represents a non-cash financing cost as it is not settled in cash until such time as it becomes distributable.

12 Receivables

	As at	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Interest receivable	1,362	11,280
GST receivable	87,893	431,648
Other receivables	-	7,842
Total receivables	89,255	450,770

13 Payables

		As at	
	Note	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
		\$	\$
Management fee payable	15	61,545	54,020
Monies not allocated to units		220,000	460,000
Other payables		65,557	56,023
Total payables		347,102	570,043

14 Remuneration of auditor

During the year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by the auditor of the Fund:

	Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Moore Australia		
<i>Audit and other assurance services</i>		
Audit and review of financial statements	34,500	28,250
Audit of compliance plan	6,500	6,250
Total remuneration for audit and other assurance services	41,000	34,500
<i>Taxation services</i>		
Tax compliance services	9,500	9,000
Total remuneration for taxation services	9,500	9,000
Total remuneration of Moore Australia	50,500	43,500

The auditor's remuneration is borne by the Responsible Entity.

Fees are stated net of GST.

15 Related party transactions

The Responsible Entity of Paragon Australian Long Short Fund is Paragon Funds Management Ltd (ABN 42 159 623 873) (AFSL 426800). Accordingly, transactions with entities related to Paragon Funds Management Ltd are disclosed below.

The Responsible Entity has contracted services to UBS AG, Australia Branch to act as Prime Broker and Link Fund Solutions Pty Limited to act as Administrator for the Fund. The contracts are on normal commercial terms and conditions.

(a) Directors

Key management personnel include persons who were Directors of Paragon Funds Management Ltd at any time during or since the end of the financial year and up to the date of this report.

Mr John Deniz
Ms Hillier Deniz
Mr Samuel Lanyon

(b) Other key management personnel

There were no other persons, aside from the Directors, with responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Fund, directly or indirectly during the financial year.

(c) Transactions with key management personnel

There were no transactions with key management personnel during the reporting period.

(d) Key management personnel compensation

Key management personnel are paid by Paragon Funds Management Ltd. Payments made from the Fund to Paragon Funds Management Ltd do not include any amounts directly attributable to the compensation of key management personnel.

15 Related party transactions (continued)

(e) Key management personnel loans

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

(f) Other transactions within the Fund

Apart from those details disclosed in this note, no key management personnel have entered into a material contract with the Fund during the financial year and there were no material contracts involving key management personnel's interests existing at year end.

(g) Responsible Entity and Investment Manager's fees and other transactions

Under the terms of the PDS, the Investment Manager is entitled to receive management fees of up to 1.5% per annum (inclusive of GST net of RITC), calculated by reference to the monthly net assets value of the Fund and payable monthly by the Fund.

In addition, the Investment Manager is entitled to a performance fee calculated at the end of each month, monthly in arrears and paid at the end of each half year period ending 30 June and 31 December. The performance fee is calculated as 20% (inclusive of GST net of RITC) of the Fund's out-performance subject to a 5% hurdle rate and a high-watermark. At 30 June 2023, there was no performance fee (30 June 2022: \$2,412,354) was recorded in the Fund.

Transactions with related parties have taken place in the ordinary course of business. The transactions during the year and amounts payable at year end between the Fund and the Responsible Entity and the Investment Manager were as follows:

	Year ended	
	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$
Management fees for the year	634,900	850,313
Performance fees for the year	-	2,412,354
Aggregate amounts payable to the Investment Manager at the end of the reporting period	61,545	54,020
Fees earned by the Responsible Entity in respect of investments by the Fund	105,839	142,326
Aggregate amounts payable to the Responsible Entity at the end of the reporting period	10,063	8,833
Investment acquired in the Fund by the Responsible Entity	-	250,000

15 Related party transactions (continued)

(h) Related party unitholdings

Parties related to the Fund (including Paragon Funds Management Ltd, its related parties and other schemes managed by Paragon Funds Management Ltd), held units in the Fund as follows:

As at 30 June 2023	No. of units held opening	No. of units held closing	Fair value of investment (\$)	Interest held (%)	No. of units acquired	No. of units disposed	Distributions paid/payable by the Fund (\$)
Unitholders							
Deniz Pty Ltd ATF The Deniz Family Trust	1,187,888	683,916	1,173,116	2.56	96,028	(600,000)	16,588
H Deniz Super Pty Ltd <H Deniz Superannuation Fund>	219,360	241,751	414,675	0.91	22,391	-	5,863
John & Prudence Deniz ATF Deniz Superannuation Fund	396,658	440,080	754,819	1.65	43,422	-	10,674
Hillier Deniz	133,855	83,678	143,533	0.31	10,821	(60,998)	2,030
Sicksamba Pty Ltd ATF Sicksamba Super Fund	222,279	240,248	412,097	0.90	17,969	-	5,827
Heidi Sick ATF Sick Family Trust	52,329	56,559	97,016	0.21	4,230	-	1,372
Sheren Mostafa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paragon Funds Management Ltd	338,687	95,856	164,423	0.36	7,169	-	2,324
SHM Capital Pty Ltd	468,604	1,106,486	1,897,955	4.15	637,882	-	26,836
HD Investing Co Pty Ltd	132,601	178,320	305,873	0.67	45,719	-	4,325
	3,152,261	3,126,895	5,363,507	11.72	885,632	(660,998)	75,839
 As at 30 June 2022	No. of units held opening	No. of units held closing	Fair value of investment (\$)	Interest held (%)	No. of units acquired	No. of units disposed	Distributions paid/payable by the Fund (\$)
Unitholders							
Deniz Pty Ltd ATF The Deniz Family Trust	1,107,710	1,187,888	1,965,598	5.22	80,178	-	159,128
M & H Harlock Pty Ltd ATF M & H Harlock Superannuation Fund	204,554	219,360	362,975	0.96	14,806	-	29,385
John & Prudence Deniz ATF Deniz Superannuation Fund	362,295	396,658	656,350	1.74	34,363	-	53,136
Hillier Deniz	53,616	133,855	221,490	0.59	80,239	-	17,931
Sicksamba Pty Ltd ATF Sicksamba Super Fund	207,276	222,279	367,805	0.98	15,003	-	29,776
Heidi Sick ATF Sick Family Trust	48,797	52,329	86,589	0.23	3,532	-	7,010
Sheren Mostafa	156,388	-	-	0.00	11,320	(167,708)	-
Paragon Funds Management Ltd	-	88,687	146,750	0.39	88,687	-	11,880

15 Related party transactions (continued)

(h) Related party unitholdings (continued)

As at 30 June 2022	No. of units held opening	No. of units held closing	Fair value of investment (\$)	Interest held (%)	No. of units acquired	No. of units disposed	Distributions paid/payable by the Fund (\$)
Unitholders							
SHM Capital Pty Ltd	-	468,604	775,399	2.06	468,604	-	62,774
HD Investing Co Pty Ltd	-	132,601	219,415	0.58	132,601	-	17,763
	<u>2,140,636</u>	<u>2,902,261</u>	<u>4,802,371</u>	<u>12.75</u>	<u>929,333</u>	<u>(167,708)</u>	<u>388,783</u>

(i) Investments

The Fund did not hold any investments in Paragon Funds Management Ltd or its related parties during the year (2022: nil).

16 Events occurring after the reporting period

No significant events have occurred since the end of the year which would impact on the financial position of the Fund disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2023 or on the results and cash flows of the Fund for the year ended on that date.

17 Contingent assets and liabilities and commitments

There are no outstanding contingent assets, liabilities or commitments as at 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2022.

Directors' Declaration

In the opinion of the Directors of the Responsible Entity:

- (a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 6 to 32 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 Fund's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the year ended on that date,
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund 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 as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors of Paragon Funds Management Ltd.



Mr John Deniz
Director

Melbourne, VIC
19 September 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF PARAGON AUSTRALIAN LONG SHORT FUND

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Paragon Australian Long Short Fund (the Fund), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in net assets and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion:

- a) The accompanying financial report of Paragon Australian Long Short Fund is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:
 - i. giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
 - ii. complying with *Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001*; and
- b) the financial report also complies with International Financial Reporting Standards as disclosed in Note 1.

Emphasis of Matter – fair value measurement of financial assets

We draw attention to note 4 in the financial statements which identifies that the Fund has an investment in Southern Cross Payments Limited (ASX: SP1) (Formerly iSignthis Limited) (ASX: ISX)) and its European Subsidiary ISX Financial EU Plc (ISXFEU) with a total carrying value at \$2,305,500 at 30 June 2023. Further the note identifies that the Fund has an investment of a carrying value of \$1,000,000 in unlisted stock Lattitude 66 Cobalt Limited. Both of the before mentioned investments have been classified as tier 3. These matters as set forth in Note 4 details the director's valuation basis and assessment for this investment. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

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 Fund 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 confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, which has been given to the directors of Paragon Funds Management Limited (the Responsible Entity), would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

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

Other Information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Fund's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023, 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.

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 Paragon Funds Management Limited (the Responsible Entity) are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Act 2001 and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Fund 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located on the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Moore Australia

MOORE AUSTRALIA AUDIT (VIC)
ABN 16 847 721 257



RYAN LEEMON
Partner
Audit and Assurance

Melbourne, Victoria

19 September 2023