

PHOENIX UNIT TRUST MANAGERS

MANAGER'S ANNUAL REPORT

For the year: 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024

PUTM BOTHWELL FLOATING RATE ABS FUND



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*These collectively comprise the Authorised Fund Manager's Report.

Investment review

Dear Investor

Welcome to the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund report for the 12 months to 30 September 2024.

Performance Review

Over the review period, the Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund returned 7.42% (Source: abrdn, Gross of AMC, GBP, based on the movement in the Cancellation Price for 12 months to 30/09/2024). This was compared to the return of 6.02% for its benchmark index.

(Source: DataStream, Barclays Pan Euro ABS FRN x IT/IE/PT/ES/US x UK EQRel - GBP Hedged Gross Return for 12 months to 30/09/2024).

In the table below, you can see how the Fund performed against its benchmark index over the last five discrete one-year periods.

Standardised Past Performance

	Sept 23-24 % Growth	Sept 22-23 % Growth	Sept 21-22 % Growth	Sept 20-21 % Growth	Sept 19-20 % Growth
PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund	7.42	7.58	-1.65	3.89	0.11
Benchmark Index	6.02	5.40	-0.08	1.08	1.02

Source: Fund performance is abrdn, Gross of AMC, GBP, based upon the movement in the Cancellation Price to 30 September for each year. Benchmark Index performance is FactSet, Barclays Pan Euro ABS FRN x IT/IE/PT/ES/US x UK EQRel - GBP Hedged Gross Return to 30 September for each year.

Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

Please note that all past performance figures are calculated without taking the initial charge into account.

The value of units and the income from them can go down as well as up and is not guaranteed. You may not get back the full amount invested.

Investment review

Portfolio and Market Review

In the 12-month period, as inflation was brought under control in many global economies, most major central banks began cutting interest rates from recent high highs. The European Central Bank (ECB) cut interest rates by 0.25% in June, its first rate cut since 2019. The decision was supported by all but one of the ECB's governors, and President Christine Lagarde said the central bank had grown more confident about the inflation outlook. The ECB maintained rates at its Governing Council meeting in mid-July, then lowered its deposit facility rate by 0.25% to 3.50% in September, and bank officials indicated more cuts may be on the way. Annual inflation in the eurozone slowed to 2.2% in August and 1.8% in September, which shows that prices are now rising at a rate below the ECB's 2% target. However, economic data from the region has been weak. In the US, the Federal Reserve bank (Fed) maintained interest rates through most of the period, finally cutting the target range for the fed funds rate by 0.50% to 4.75%-5.00% in September. While central bank watchers anticipate more aggressive action, Fed chairman Jerome Powell recently indicated that the bank would continue to lower rates by 0.25% in the year's final two meetings.

The floating rate nature of the asset-backed securities (ABS) market was insulated from government bond volatility and experienced continued investment appetite. Spreads in mezzanine and weaker structures were volatile on risk-off events including conflict in Russia/Ukraine and Israel/West Bank, together with political surprises including the UK and French elections. French election uncertainty did start to feed through to ABS markets in late June, which had been shielded from the political instability over previous months. Much of the concern was focused across French paper and collateral, with widening of 5 basis points quoted by dealers. However, following the first round of elections, these were back to pre-election levels. The asset-backed securities ABS market experienced a relatively quiet start to the summer, as new issuance fell back from the rate seen in the first half of 2024. Volatility was high, however; weakening economic data (particularly in the US) fed into rising expectations of a recession versus the previously priced soft landing. The timing of this change of perspective coincided with more hawkish actions and comments from the Bank of Japan that resulted in a rapid unwind of the Japanese yen carry trade that funded risk trades across markets. Credit widened significantly across several days. Prices of structured credit also fell across all asset types. However, markets eventually steadied and stabilised, and buyers returned. Trading from late August into September resulted in levels retracing at an aggregate level.

The Fund outperformed the index over the period.

Early in 2024, the Fund underwent an agreed rebalance, to align with personnel changes within the ABS team. In future, the Fund will adopt a lower credit risk approach, concentrated in sectors matching the target benchmark.

Progress has been towards an asset profile of AAA/AA senior tranche floating rate ABS for this Fund, diversifying into an asset class mix of auto, consumer, Prime residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) and UK buy-to-let (BTL) assets. By the end of the period, the largest portfolio exposures were RMBS (54.9%) and auto (16.5%) transactions. In both cases we remain underweight versus the benchmark by around 8%. The exposure to off-benchmark covered bonds was increased back to 3% of net asset value (NAV) following a maturity, while multiple car manufacturers, and consequently underperformed. Spreads of collateralised loan obligations exposure again moved higher to 9.8% through investment in an AAA tranche

from an existing manager. Card transactions remain relatively unchanged at 8.8% of NAV.

We continue to hold a small exposure from a single deal of collateralised mortgage-backed securities, amounting to 0.65% of NAV. This transaction is being administered by a special servicer (Mount Street) as the majority tenant Atos has entered a Sauvegarde process in the French courts (similar to administration in the UK or Chapter 11 in the US). At this stage, actions taken by the servicer include extending the underlying loan on the property, and the borrower has deposited €10 million in a reserve account. We continue to monitor all information released. Secondary pricing for this asset remains challenging, and this tranche has not traded during 2024. The Fund finished the quarter with a higher cash balance of 9.8%. This protected the Fund from some of the volatility of recent months as did the shortened Fund weighted average life of 1.06 years. The current cash balance will be targeted toward new issues in the fourth quarter, as well as providing ample liquidity if any Fund reallocations are necessary.

Market Outlook and Fund Strategy

We are now seeing much-awaited central bank interest rate cuts, and lower front end yielding feed through developed markets. However, expectations for future policy rate cuts remain aggressive. The move to lower market rates will support underlying borrowers and consumers in the coming months, where we have seen some deterioration in metrics from lower income segments. Overall demand remained strong for the ABS sector. Secondary traded well, with competition for bid lists. New issue coverage multiples have fallen from their peak, but we have seen upsized issuance amounts from several prime RMBS deals. Despite the robust nature of the market, we are conscious of the potential risk-off events on the horizon such as the conflicts in Russia/Ukraine and Israel/West Bank, the upcoming US election, UK budget announcement and the Chinese government's moves to stabilise the economy and return to growth. ABS deal performance remains resilient given the credit protection embedded in the structures, but we continue to be vigilant across all deals. Credit enhancement across new standalone RMBS and BTL deals has increased for the 2024 vintage, providing for borrowers taking variable rate loans during the aggressive rate hiking cycle experienced in the last couple of years. We are monitoring performance closely but believe new issues offer good value on this basis. We intend to continue to diversify the portfolio when value and opportunity present themselves in new issue and secondary markets in our favoured sectors and names. The issue calendar is expected to remain strong through the first couple of months of the fourth quarter. The Fund holds 90% AAA securities, close to benchmark exposure, and we expect reduced volatility and drawdown over time versus its historical performance.

Portfolio of investments (unaudited)

Investments held at 30 September 2024

Holding	Investment	Market value £000	Percentage of total net assets %
	United Kingdom (30/09/23 - 52.95%)		67.39
	Mortgage Bonds		
£3,200,000	Bavarian Sky UK 5 FRN 20/04/2031	2,258	1.33
£6,250,000	Bavarian Sky UK 6 FRN 21/06/2032	6,250	3.68
£2,916,000	Castell 2021-1 FRN 25/11/2053	804	0.47
£4,000,000	CMF 2024-1 FRN 28/02/2062	3,939	2.32
£7,000,000	Delamare Cards MTN Issuer FRN 19/10/2031	7,027	4.13
£1,000,000	Delamare Cards MTN Issuer FRN 19/10/2031	1,004	0.59
£4,000,000	Economic Master Issuer FRN 25/06/2072	3,693	2.17
£3,710,000	Economic Master Issuer FRN 25/06/2073	3,646	2.14
£1,650,000	Economic Master Issuer FRN 25/04/2075	1,630	0.96
£15,584,000	Finsbury Square FRN 16/12/2067	4,020	2.36
£5,000,000	Friary FRN 21/10/2071	4,423	2.60
£1,100,000	Friary No.7 FRN 21/10/2070	804	0.47
£6,000,000	Holmes Master Issuer FRN 15/10/2072	6,014	3.54
£5,063,000	Holmes Master Issuer FRN 15/10/2072	5,068	2.98
£5,000,000	Holmes Master Issuer FRN 15/10/2072	5,006	2.94
£6,750,000	Lanark Master Issuer FRN 22/12/2069	6,078	3.58
£3,000,000	Lanark Master Issuer FRN 22/12/2069	3,001	1.77
£1,000,000	Lanark Master Issuer FRN 22/12/2069	1,000	0.59
£6,833,000	Lanebrook Mortgage Transaction 2021-1 FRN 20/07/2058	4,708	2.77
£2,900,000	Newday Funding Master Issuer FRN 15/11/2029	2,901	1.71
£1,350,000	Newday Funding Master Issuer FRN 15/11/2029	1,351	0.79
£2,400,000	Newday Funding Master Issuer FRN 15/07/2032	2,401	1.41
£5,214,000	Permanent Master Issuer FRN 15/07/2073	5,220	3.07
£4,000,000	Permanent Master Issuer FRN 15/07/2073	4,005	2.36
£3,900,000	Permanent Master Issuer FRN 15/07/2073	3,902	2.30
£2,500,000	PMF 2024-1 FRN 16/07/2060	2,490	1.46
£11,000,000	Polaris 2022-1 FRN 23/10/2059	6,601	3.88
£4,020,000	Precise Mortgage Funding FRN 16/10/2056	17	0.01
£1,000,000	Precise Mortgage Funding FRN 16/10/2056	1,002	0.59
£5,000,000	Silverstone Master Issuer FRN 21/01/2070	4,769	2.81
£1,875,000	Silverstone Master Issuer FRN 21/01/2070	1,876	1.10
£2,100,000	Stratton Mortgage Funding 2024-2 FRN 28/06/2050	1,883	1.11
£4,500,000	Tower Bridge Funding FRN 20/12/2063	1,731	1.02
£5,600,000	Twin Bridges 2023-2 FRN 15/05/2056	4,044	2.38

Portfolio of investments (unaudited)

Investments held at 30 September 2024

Holding	Investment	Market value £000	Percentage of total net assets %
	Germany (30/09/23 - 0.87%)		2.36
	Mortgage Bonds		
€4,000,000	Cars Alliance Auto Loans Germany FRN 18/01/2036	3,328	1.96
€1,900,000	Red And Black Auto Germany 8 UG FRN 15/09/2030	689	0.40
	Ireland (30/09/23 - 20.40%)		7.72
	Mortgage Bonds		
€5,000,000	Arini European CLO I DAC FRN 15/07/2036	4,184	2.46
€2,750,000	Arini European CLO I DAC FRN 15/07/2036	2,325	1.37
€1,707,000	Invesco Euro CLO IV DAC FRN 15/04/2033	1,408	0.83
€5,000,000	Providus CLO V DAC FRN 15/02/2035	4,146	2.44
€1,800,000	River Green Finance 2020 DAC FRN 22/01/2032	1,061	0.62
	Italy (30/09/23 - 4.51%)		
	Luxembourg (30/09/23 - 0.00%)		8.70
	Mortgage Bonds		
€1,000,000	Bavarian Sky Germany FRN 20/11/2031	832	0.49
£7,700,000	Compartment Driver UK 8 FRN 25/09/2031	7,704	4.53
£7,400,000	Compartment Private Driver UK 7 FRN 25/04/2031	6,259	3.68
	Netherlands (30/09/23 - 3.87%)		2.45
	Mortgage Bonds		
€5,000,000	Babson Euro CLO 2014 FRN 15/07/2031	4,166	2.45
	Singapore (30/09/23 - 0.00%)		1.56
	Corporate Bonds		
£2,646,000	DBS Bank London FRN 14/05/2027	2,652	1.56
	Money Markets (30/09/23 - 8.46%)		9.15
£15,549*	Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) – Seabury Sterling Class Z-1+	15,551	9.15
	Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts		
	(30/09/23 - (0.31%))		0.18
GBP 22,719,158	GBP Forward Currency Contract 15/10/2024	317	0.18
(EUR 26,906,418)	EUR Forward Currency Contract 15/10/2024		

Portfolio of investments (unaudited)

Investments held at 30 September 2024

Holding	Investment	Market value £000	Percentage of total net assets %
	Portfolio of investments	169,188	99.51
	Net other assets	825	0.49
	Net assets	<u>170,013</u>	<u>100.00</u>

Unless otherwise stated, all investments with the exception of Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts are approved securities being either officially listed in a member state or traded on or under the rules of an eligible securities market.

The counterparty for the Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts is Barclays.

+SICAVs (open ended investment schemes registered outside the UK).

*The currency symbol has been shown as the shares are issued in blocks of £1,000.

Top ten purchases and sales

For the year ended 30 September 2024

Purchases	Cost £000	Sales	Proceeds £000
Delamare Cards MTN Issuer FRN 19/10/2031	8,007	Towd Point Mortgage FD 2019 FRN 20/10/2051	8,500
Compartment Driver UK 8 FRN 25/09/2031	7,702	Newday Funding Master Issuer FRN 15/07/20	8,000
Compartment Private Driver UK 7 FRN 25/04/2031	7,416	Magenta 2020 FRN 20/12/2024	7,952
Lanark Master Issuer FRN 22/12/2069	6,760	Jupiter Mortgage No.1 FRN 20/07/2060	6,075
Bavarian Sky UK 6 FRN 21/06/2032	6,255	Deutsche Pfandbriefbank AG FRN 26/04/2024	5,000
Twin Bridges 2023-2 FRN 15/05/2056	5,600	Taurus 2021-1 UK DAC FRN 17/05/2031	4,430
Permanent Master Issuer FRN 15/07/2073	5,214	Stark Financing 2023-1 DAC FRN 17/08/2033	4,339
Holmes Master Issuer FRN 15/10/2072	5,063	Precise Mortgage Funding 2019-1B FRN 12/12/2055	3,589
Holmes Master Issuer FRN 15/10/2072	5,017	Penta CLO 7 DAC FRN 25/01/2033	3,356
Deutsche Pfandbriefbank FRN 26/04/2024	5,002	Providus CLO V DAC FRN 15/02/2035	3,295
Subtotal	62,036	Subtotal	54,536
Other purchases	68,196	Other sales	38,619
Total purchases for the year	130,232	Total sales for the year	93,155

Statistical information

Comparative table

Change in net assets per unit	Class 'B' Accumulation		
	30/09/24	30/09/23	30/09/22
	pence	pence	pence
Opening net asset value per unit	123.86	114.74	116.52
Return before operating charges*	8.93	9.15	(1.75)
Operating charges	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.03)
Return after operating charges*	8.90	9.12	(1.78)
Distributions on accumulation units	(7.72)	(5.85)	(2.17)
Retained distributions on accumulation units	7.72	5.85	2.17
Closing net asset value per unit	132.76	123.86	114.74
*after direct transaction costs of:	0.00	0.00	0.00

Performance

Return after charges	7.19%	7.95%	(1.53%)
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Other information

Closing net asset value (£000)	170,013	140,630	145,253
Closing number of units	128,064,926	113,535,555	126,596,627
Operating charges	0.03%	0.03%	0.02%
Direct transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Prices⁺

Highest unit price (pence)	132.94	124.36	117.52
Lowest unit price (pence)	123.79	113.19	113.87

+ High and low price disclosures are based on quoted unit prices. Therefore, the opening and closing NAV prices may fall outside the high/low price threshold.

Statistical information

Investment objective

The Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund (the 'Fund') aims to provide a total return (a combination of capital and income) by outperforming the benchmark (before fees) by 0.25% to 0.75% over any given 3 year period.

The benchmark is the Bloomberg Barclays Pan Euro Asset Backed Securities (GBP hedged) Index (the "Index").

Investment policy

The Fund aims to achieve its objective by investing at least 80% in floating rate asset backed securities denominated in any currency that are rated as investment grade including but not limited to: floating rate residential mortgage backed securities, collateralised debt obligations, collateralised loan obligations, small to medium enterprise collateralised debt obligations, commercial mortgage backed securities and other asset backed securities. Non-investment grade exposure will be limited to 10% of the net asset value of the scheme property. Non-Sterling denominated assets will typically be hedged back to Sterling to minimise exposure to currency rate movements.

The Fund's holdings will typically consist of floating rate asset backed securities, but the Fund may also invest in other transferable securities, units in collective investment schemes, money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.

Derivatives may be used for efficient portfolio management and hedging only.

Investment strategy

The Fund is actively managed. The Investment Adviser uses a stock selection model to select individual holdings, where they believe there is misalignment in the assessment of growth prospects and creditworthiness of the holdings and that of the market, while giving consideration to future economic and business conditions. The Fund is managed within constraints, so that divergence from the Index is controlled. The Fund's portfolio may, therefore, be similar to the components of the Index.

Revenue distribution and pricing

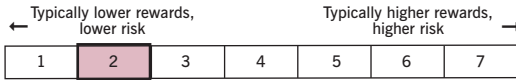
Units of the Fund are available as Class 'B' Accumulation (where revenue is reinvested to enhance the unit price). There will be two potential distributions in each accounting year: an interim distribution as at 31 March and a final distribution as at 30 September.

At each distribution the net revenue after deduction of expenses, from the investments of the Fund, is apportioned amongst the unitholders. Unitholders receive a tax voucher giving details of the distribution and the Manager's Report no later than two months after these dates.

Statistical information

Risk and reward profile

The Risk and Reward Indicator table demonstrates where the Fund ranks in terms of its potential risk and reward. The higher the rank the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money. It is based on past data, may change over time and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the Fund. The shaded area in the table below shows the Fund's ranking on the Risk and Reward Indicator.



This Fund is ranked at 2 (30/09/23: 2) because funds of this type have experienced low rises and falls in value in the past. The above figure applies to the following unit class:

* Class 'B' Accumulation

Please note that even the lowest risk class can lose you money and that extreme market circumstances can mean you suffer severe losses in all cases. Please note the Fund's risk category may change in the future. The indicator does not take into account the following risk of investing in this Fund:

- * Bonds are affected by changes in interest rates, inflation and any decline in creditworthiness of the bond issuer. Bonds that produce a higher level of income usually also carry greater risk as such bond issuers may have difficulty in paying their debts.
- * Although the Investment Manager will use currency trades to reduce exchange rate risk on investments not priced in Sterling, this may not completely eliminate the Fund's exchange rate risk.
- * Derivatives may be used for efficient portfolio management and hedging only.

For more information on the Risk and Reward profiles of our Funds, please refer to the most up to date relevant fund and Unit Class Key Investor Information Documents (KIIDs). These are available online at www.phoenixunittrust.co.uk.

Annual financial statements

For the year ended 30 September 2024

Statement of total return

		30/09/24		30/09/23	
	Notes	£000	£000	£000	£000
Income					
Net capital gains	4		1,674		3,690
Revenue	5	9,501		6,881	
Expenses	6	(43)		(39)	
Interest payable and similar charges		(4)		(8)	
Net revenue before taxation		<u>9,454</u>		<u>6,834</u>	
Taxation	7	–		–	
Net revenue after taxation			<u>9,454</u>		<u>6,834</u>
Total return before distributions			11,128		10,524
Distributions	8		(9,463)		(6,842)
Change in unitholders' funds from investment activities			<u>1,665</u>		<u>3,682</u>

Statement of change in unitholders' funds

		30/09/24		30/09/23	
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Opening net assets			140,630		145,253
Amounts receivable on issue of units		31,280		26,705	
Amounts payable on cancellation of units		<u>(13,542)</u>		<u>(41,875)</u>	
			17,738		(15,170)
Change in unitholders' funds from investment activities			1,665		3,682
Retained distributions on accumulation units			9,980		6,865
Closing net assets			<u>170,013</u>		<u>140,630</u>

Annual financial statements

As at 30 September 2024

Balance sheet

	Notes	£000	30/09/24 £000	£000	30/09/23 £000
Assets:					
Fixed assets:					
Investments			169,188		128,052
Current assets:					
Debtors	9	1,002		944	
Cash and bank balances	10	114		12,079	
Total current assets			1,116		13,023
Total assets			170,304		141,075
Liabilities:					
Investment liabilities			–		(427)
Creditors:					
Bank overdraft	11	(270)		–	
Other creditors	12	(21)		(18)	
Total creditors			(291)		(18)
Total liabilities			(291)		(445)
Net assets			170,013		140,630
Unitholders' funds			170,013		140,630

Notes to the financial statements

Note 1 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of investments and in compliance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102) and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for Financial Statements of UK Authorised Funds issued by The Investment Association (IA) in May 2014, and as amended in June 2017.

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. The Manager has made an assessment of the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, and is satisfied it has the resources to continue in business for the foreseeable future and is not aware of any material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt on this assessment. This assessment is made for a period of 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue and considers liquidity, fluctuations in global capital markets, known redemption levels, expense projections and key service provider's operational resilience.

(b) Valuation of investments

The quoted investments of the Fund have been valued at bid dealing prices as at close of business on 30 September 2024, the last valuation point in the accounting year, in accordance with the Trust Deed.

Investments in collective investment schemes have been valued at bid price for dual priced funds or the single price for single priced funds. Where these investments are managed by the Manager or an associate of the Manager, the holdings have been valued at the cancellation price for dual priced funds or the single price for single priced funds. This price is the last available published price at the year end.

Derivatives are valued as at close of business on 30 September 2024, the last valuation point of the accounting year.

Over-the-counter derivatives are priced at fair value using valuation models or data sourced from market data providers.

(c) Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies during the year are translated into Sterling (the functional currency of the Fund), at the rates of exchange ruling on the transaction date. Amounts held in foreign currencies have been translated at the rate of exchange ruling at close of business on 30 September 2024, the last valuation point in the accounting year.

(d) Revenue

Interest receivable on bank deposits is accounted for on a receipts basis and money market funds is accounted for on an accruals basis. Interest receivable from debt securities is accounted for on an effective interest rate basis. Accrued interest purchased or sold is excluded from the cost of the security and is accounted for as revenue.

Interest received from or paid to the Fund from over-the-counter derivatives designed to protect capital is treated as capital.

(e) Expenses

Expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenses of the Fund are charged against revenue, except for the safe custody charge and costs associated with the purchase and sale of investments, which are charged to capital.

Notes to the financial statements

Note 1 Accounting policies (continued)

(f) Taxation

The Fund satisfied the rules of SI 2006/964, Reg 19 throughout the period. All distributions made are therefore made as interest distributions. The Fund has no corporate tax liability as interest distributions are tax deductible.

(g) Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is provided at current rates of corporation tax on all timing differences which have originated but not reversed by the Balance sheet date. Deferred tax is not recognised on permanent differences.

Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that the Manager considers it is more likely than not that there will be taxable profits from which underlying timing differences can be deducted.

Note 2 Distribution policies

(a) Basis of distribution

Revenue produced by the Fund's investments accumulates during each accounting period. If, at the end of each accounting period, revenue exceeds expenses, the net revenue of the Fund is available to be accumulated to unitholders.

The Fund is more than 60% invested in qualifying investments (as defined by SI 2006/964, Reg 20) and will pay an interest distribution.

(b) Unclaimed distributions

Distributions remaining unclaimed after six years are paid into the Fund as part of the capital property.

(c) Interest from debt securities

Future cash flows on all assets are considered when calculating revenue on an effective interest rate basis and where, in the Manager's view there is doubt as to the final maturity value, an estimate of the final redemption proceeds will be made in determining those cash flows. The impact of this will be to reduce the revenue from debt securities, and therefore the revenue distributed, whilst preserving capital within the Fund.

(d) Expenses

In determining the net revenue available for distribution, charges in relation to the safe custody of investments are ultimately borne by capital.

Note 3 Risk management policies

The risks arising from the Fund's financial instruments are market price risk, interest rate risk, foreign currency risk, liquidity risk, credit risk and counterparty risk. The Manager's policies for managing these risks are summarised below and have been applied throughout the year.

(a) Market price risk

Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments held. It represents the potential loss the Fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements. The Fund's investment portfolio is exposed to market fluctuations which are monitored by the Manager in pursuit of the investment objectives and policies. Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Trust Deed, the Prospectus and in the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook ("the Sourcebook") mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

Notes to the financial statements

Note 3 Risk management policies (continued)

(b) Interest rate risk

This fund does not have any fixed rate securities.

Expectations of future rates may result in an increase or decrease in the value of investments held. In general, if interest rates rise the revenue potential of the Fund also rises but the value of fixed interest rate securities will decline. A decline in interest rates will in general have the opposite effect.

Any transactions in fixed interest securities must be used in accordance with the investment objective of the Fund and must be deemed by the Investment Manager to be economically appropriate. Regular production of portfolio risk reports highlight concentrations of risk, including interest rate risk, for this Fund.

Interest receivable on bank deposits or payable on bank overdraft positions will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates.

(c) Foreign currency risk

A proportion of the Fund's investment portfolio is invested in overseas securities and the Balance sheet can be (significantly) affected by movements in foreign exchange rates. The Fund may be subject to short term exposure to exchange rate movements between placing the purchase or sale of securities and agreeing a related currency transaction albeit usually the two transactions are agreed at the same time.

Any such currency transactions must be used in accordance with the investment objective of the Fund and must be deemed by the Investment Manager to be economically appropriate. Regular production of portfolio risk reports highlight concentrations of risk, including currency risk, for the Fund.

(d) Liquidity risk

The Fund's assets are comprised of mainly readily realisable securities. If insufficient cash is available to finance unitholder redemptions then securities held by the Fund may need to be sold. The risk of low market liquidity, through reduced trading volumes, may affect the ability of the Fund to trade financial instruments at values previously indicated by financial brokers. From time to time, liquidity may also be affected by stock specific or economic events. To manage these risks the Manager performs market research in order to achieve the best price for any transactions entered into on behalf of the Fund. All stocks are valued daily but those stocks identified as being less liquid are reviewed on a regular basis for pricing accuracy.

(e) Credit risk

At the Balance sheet date 90.18% (30/09/23: 82.60%) of the Fund's assets were held in corporate bonds. Corporate bonds involve the risk that the bond issuer will be unable to meet its liability to pay interest or redeem the bond. The Fund Manager selects bonds taking into account the credit rating, bearing in mind the Fund's objective.

(f) Counterparty risk

Certain transactions in securities that the Fund enters into expose it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the investment (purchase) or cash (sale) after the Fund has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Fund only buys and sells investments through brokers which have been approved by the Manager as an acceptable counterparty. This list is reviewed annually.

Notes to the financial statements

Note 3 Risk management policies (continued)

(g) Derivatives

Derivatives may be used for efficient portfolio management and hedging only. In doing so the Manager may make use of a variety of derivative instruments. Where derivatives are used for hedging this will not compromise the risk profile of the Fund. Use of derivatives will not knowingly contravene any relevant investment objective or limits.

The Manager has used forward foreign currency contracts to hedge the portfolio where assets are denominated in foreign currency. The purpose of undertaking these contracts is to protect the portfolio as far as possible from a movement in the value of exchange rates.

Note 4 Net capital gains

The net capital (losses)/gains during the year comprise:

	30/09/24	30/09/23
	£000	£000
Gains on non-derivative securities	156	2,523
Gains on derivative contracts	1,544	1,186
Currency losses	(26)	(19)
Net capital gains	<u>1,674</u>	<u>3,690</u>

Note 5 Revenue

	30/09/24	30/09/23
	£000	£000
Interest on debt securities	8,692	6,489
Bank interest	35	25
Liquidity interest	<u>774</u>	<u>367</u>
Total revenue	<u>9,501</u>	<u>6,881</u>

Notes to the financial statements

Note 6 Expenses	30/09/24 £000	30/09/23 £000
(a) Payable to the Manager or associates of the Manager and agents of either of them:		
Manager's periodic charge	8	7
(b) Payable to the Trustee or associates of the Trustee and agents of either of them:		
Trustee's fees	8	7
(c) Other expenses:		
Audit fee	13	9
Safe custody charges	9	8
Printing & stationery	1	1
FTSE licence fees	2	2
Professional fees	2	5
	<u>27</u>	<u>25</u>
Total expenses	<u>43</u>	<u>39</u>

Note 7 Taxation	30/09/24 £000	30/09/23 £000
(a) Analysis of tax charge for the year		
Total taxation (Note 7(b))	–	–
(b) Factors affecting the tax charge for the year		
The tax assessed differs from that calculated when the standard rate of corporation tax for Authorised Unit Trusts is applied to total revenue return. The differences are explained below:		
Net revenue before taxation	9,454	6,834
Corporation tax at 20% (30/09/23: 20%)	1,891	1,367
Effects of:		
Deductible interest distributions	(1,891)	(1,367)
Total tax charge for the year (Note 7(a))	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>

Authorised Unit Trusts are exempt from tax on capital gains in the UK.

- (c) Provision for deferred taxation
No deferred tax asset has been recognised in the year or the prior year.

Notes to the financial statements

Note 8 Distributions

The distributions take account of amounts added on the issue of units and amounts deducted on the cancellation of units, and comprise:

	30/09/24	30/09/23
	£000	£000
Interim	8,544	2,885
Final	1,436	3,980
	<u>9,980</u>	<u>6,865</u>
Amounts deducted on cancellation of units	263	572
Amounts added on issue of units	(780)	(595)
	<u>9,463</u>	<u>6,842</u>
Net distribution for the year	9,463	6,842
Net revenue after taxation	9,454	6,834
Expenses taken to capital	9	8
	<u>9,463</u>	<u>6,842</u>

Details of the distribution per unit are set out in the tables on page 26.

Note 9 Debtors

	30/09/24	30/09/23
	£000	£000
Accrued income	1,002	944
Total debtors	<u>1,002</u>	<u>944</u>

Note 10 Cash and bank balances

	30/09/24	30/09/23
	£000	£000
Cash and bank balances	114	1,598
Amount held at brokers	–	328
Time deposits	–	10,153
Total cash and bank balances	<u>114</u>	<u>12,079</u>

Note 11 Bank overdraft

	30/09/24	30/09/23
	£000	£000
Amount due to brokers	270	–
Total cash and bank balances	<u>270</u>	<u>–</u>

Note 12 Other creditors

	30/09/24	30/09/23
	£000	£000
Manager's periodic charge payable	2	1
Trustee's fees payable	3	2
Safe custody charges payable	2	6
Audit fee payable	12	9
FCA fee payable	2	–
Total other creditors	<u>21</u>	<u>18</u>

Notes to the financial statements

Note 13 Reconciliation of units

	Class 'B' Accumulation
Opening units issued at 01/10/23	113,535,555
Unit movements in year:	
Units issued	25,406,761
Units cancelled	(10,877,390)
Closing units at 30/09/24	<u>128,064,926</u>

Note 14 Contingencies and commitments

At 30 September 2024 the Fund had no outstanding calls on partly paid shares, no potential underwriting commitments or any other contingent liabilities (30/09/23: £nil).

Note 15 Related party transactions

The Manager, Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited (PUTM) is a related party due to PUTM acting as key management personnel to the Fund and is regarded as a controlling party by virtue of having the ability to act in respect of operation of the Fund.

The Manager is part of the Phoenix Group. Phoenix Life Limited which is also part of the Phoenix Group, is a material unitholder in the Fund and therefore a related party, holding 100% of the units in Class 'B' Accumulation at the year end (30/09/23: 100%).

The manager's periodic charge paid to the Manager, Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited, or its associates, is shown in Note 6(a) and details of the units issued and cancelled by the Manager are shown in the Statement of change in unitholders' funds and Note 8.

Any balances due to/from the Manager or its associates at the current and prior year end in respect of these transactions are shown in Notes 9 and 12.

Note 16 Financial instruments

In accordance with the investment objective, the Fund holds certain financial instruments. These comprise:

- securities held in accordance with the investment objective and policies;
- derivative transactions which the Fund may also enter into, the purpose of which is to manage the currency and market risks arising from the Fund's investment activities; and
- cash and short term debtors and creditors arising directly from operations.

Counterparty exposure

At the Balance Sheet date the Fund had the following counterparty exposure on open Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts:

	30/09/24	30/09/23
	£'000	£000
Barclays	317	–
JP Morgan	–	(427)
Total	<u>317</u>	<u>(427)</u>

At the Balance sheet date the Fund had the following Collateral (held)/pledged on open Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts.

	30/09/24	30/09/23
	£'000	£000
Barclays	(270)	–
JP Morgan	–	328
Total	<u>(270)</u>	<u>328</u>

The nature of collateral (held) / pledged was cash in the current year and the prior year.

Notes to the financial statements

Note 16 Financial instruments (continued)

Currency exposure

An analysis of the monetary assets and liabilities at the year end is shown below:

Currency	Net currency assets 30/09/24			Net currency assets 30/09/23		
	Monetary exposure £000	Non-monetary exposure £000	Total exposure £000	Monetary exposure £000	Non-monetary exposure £000	Total exposure £000
Sterling	617	169,451	170,068	11,022	127,431	138,453
Euro	208	(263)	(55)	1,983	194	2,177
	825	169,188	170,013	13,005	127,625	140,630

Income received in other currencies is converted to Sterling on or near the date of receipt. The Fund does not hedge or otherwise seek to avoid, movement risk on accrued income.

Interest profile

The interest rate risk profile of financial assets and liabilities at 30 September 2024 was:

Currency	Fixed rate financial assets £000	Floating rate financial assets £000	Financial assets not carrying interest £000	Total £000
Sterling	–	146,843	23,516	170,359
Euro	–	22,143	(22,198)	(55)
	–	168,986	1,318	170,304

Currency	Floating rate financial liabilities £000	Financial liabilities not carrying interest £000	Total £000
Sterling	(270)	(21)	(291)
	(270)	(21)	(291)

The interest rate risk profile of financial assets and liabilities at 30 September 2023 was:

Currency	Floating rate financial assets £000	Financial assets not carrying interest £000	Total £000
Sterling	103,149	35,371	138,520
Euro	36,982	476	37,458
	140,131	35,847	175,978

Currency	Floating rate financial liabilities £000	Financial liabilities not carrying interest £000	Total £000
Sterling	–	(67)	(67)
Euro	–	(35,281)	(35,281)
	–	(35,348)	(35,348)

Interest rates earned/paid on deposits are earned/paid at a rate linked to SONIA (Sterling Overnight Index Average) or international equivalent. Interest was also earned on the investments in the Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund.

Notes to the financial statements

Note 16 Financial instruments (continued)

Credit Ratings	30/09/24		30/09/23	
	£000	%	£000	%
Investment grade	54,666	35.65	35,124	30.24
Non-investment grade	1,061	0.69	–	–
Unrated	97,593	63.66	81,028	69.76
Total investment in bonds	<u>153,320</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>116,152</u>	<u>100.00</u>

Sensitivity analysis

Interest rate risk sensitivity

Changes in interest rates or changes in expectation of future interest rates may result in an increase or decrease in the market value of the investments held. A one percent increase in interest rates (based on current parameters used by the Manager's Investment Risk department) would have the effect of decreasing the return and net assets by £85,007 (30/09/23: £59,764). A one percent decrease would have an equal and opposite effect.

Foreign currency risk sensitivity

A five percent increase in the value of the Fund's foreign currency exposure would have the effect of increasing the return and net assets by £(2,753) (30/09/23: £108,859). A five percent decrease would have an equal and opposite effect.

Market price risk sensitivity

A five percent increase in the value of the Fund's portfolio would have the effect of increasing the return and net assets by £8,459,376 (30/09/23: £6,381,272). A five percent decrease would have an equal and opposite effect.

Note 17 Fair value of investments

The fair value of the Fund's investments has been determined using the hierarchy below.

This complies with the 'Amendments to FRS 102 – Fair value hierarchy disclosures' issued by the Financial Reporting Council in September 2024.

Level 1	The unadjusted quoted price in an active market for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.		
Level 2	Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable (i.e. developed using market data) for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.		
Level 3	Inputs are unobservable (i.e. for which market data is unavailable) for the asset or liability.		

For the year ended 30/09/24

Level	1	2	3	Total
Investment assets	£000	£000	£000	£000
Bonds	–	153,320	–	153,320
Derivatives	–	317	–	317
Money markets	15,551	–	–	15,551
	<u>15,551</u>	<u>153,637</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>169,188</u>

Notes to the financial statements

Note 17 Fair value of investments (continued)

For the year ended 30/09/23				
Level	1	2	3	Total
Investment assets	£000	£000		£000
Bonds	–	116,152	–	116,152
Money markets	11,900	–	–	11,900
	11,900	116,152	–	128,052
Investment liabilities	£000	£000		£000
Derivatives	–	(427)	–	(427)
	–	(427)	–	427)

Note 18 Portfolio transaction costs

For the year ended 30/09/24

	Value £000	Commission £000		Taxes £000	Other expenses £000		Total costs £000
Analysis of total purchases costs	£000	£000	%	£000	%	£000	%
Bond transactions	130,232	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	130,232	–	–	–	–	–	–

	Value £000	Commission £000		Taxes £000	Other expenses £000		Total costs £000
Analysis of total sales costs	£000	£000	%	£000	%	£000	%
Bond transactions	56,782	–	–	–	–	–	–
Corporate actions	15,345	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	72,127	–	–	–	–	–	–

The Fund has paid £1,732 as commission on purchases and sales of derivatives transactions for the year ended 30/09/24. Commission, taxes and other expenses as % of average net assets:

Commission	0.00%
Taxes	0.00%
Other expenses	0.00%

For the year ended 30/09/23

	Value £000	Commission £000		Taxes £000	Other expenses £000		Total costs £000
Analysis of total purchases costs	£000	£000	%	£000	%	£000	%
Bond transactions	18,072	–	–	–	–	–	–
Money markets	46,566	–	–	–	–	–	–
Corporate actions	3	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	64,641	–	–	–	–	–	–

	Value £000	Commission £000		Taxes £000	Other expenses £000		Total costs £000
Analysis of total sales costs	£000	£000	%	£000	%	£000	%
Bond transactions	16,422	–	–	–	–	–	–
Money markets	39,637	–	–	–	–	–	–
Corporate actions	29,018	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	85,077	–	–	–	–	–	–

Notes to the financial statements

Note 18 Portfolio transaction costs (continued)

The Fund has paid £nil as commission on purchases and sales of derivatives transactions for the year ended 30/09/23.

Commission, taxes and other expenses as % of average net assets:

Commission	0.00%
Taxes	0.00%
Other expenses	0.00%

The purchases and sales of securities incurred no direct transaction costs during the year or prior year.

Portfolio transaction costs are incurred by the Fund when buying and selling underlying investments. These costs vary depending on the class of investment, country of exchange and method of execution.

These costs can be classified as either direct or indirect transaction costs:

Direct transaction costs: Broker commissions, fees and taxes.

Indirect transaction costs: "Dealing spread" – the difference between buying and selling prices of the underlying investments.

At the Balance sheet date the portfolio dealing spread was 0.14% (30/09/23: 0.42%) being the difference between the respective bid and offer prices for the Fund's investments.

Distribution tables

For the year ended 30 September 2024

Interest distributions

Interim distribution in pence per unit

Group 1: units purchased prior to 1 October 2023

Group 2: units purchased 1 October 2023 to 31 March 2024

	Gross income	Equalisation	2024 pence per unit paid 31 May	2023 pence per unit paid 31 May
Class 'B' Accumulation				
Group 1	6.5945	—	6.5945	2.3455
Group 2	3.4714	3.1231	6.5945	2.3455

Final distribution in pence per unit

Group 1: units purchased prior to 1 April 2024

Group 2: units purchased 1 April 2024 to 30 September 2024

	Gross income	Equalisation	2024 pence per unit payable 29 Nov	2023 pence per unit paid 30 Nov
Class 'B' Accumulation				
Group 1	1.1212	—	1.1212	3.5052
Group 2	—	1.1212	1.1212	3.5052

Equalisation

This applies only to units purchased during the distribution period (Group 2 units). It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of all Group 2 units and is refunded to the holders of these units as a return of capital. Being capital it is not liable to income tax but must be deducted from the cost of the units for capital gains tax purposes.

Responsibilities of the manager and the trustee

- a) The Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook published by the FCA, ("the COLL Rules") require the Manager to prepare financial statements for each annual and interim accounting period which give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund and of the net revenue and the net capital gains on the property of the Fund for the year.

In preparing the accounts the Manager is responsible for:

- selecting suitable accounting policies and then applying them consistently;
- making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- following UK accounting standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland;
- complying with the disclosure requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice for UK Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Management Association in May 2014;
- keeping proper accounting records which enable it to demonstrate that the financial statements as prepared comply with the above requirements;
- assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern;
- using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so;
- such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities.

The Manager is responsible for the management of the Fund in accordance with its Trust Deed, the Prospectus and the COLL Rules.

The Manager is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on its website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

- b) The Depositary in its capacity as Trustee of the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund must ensure that the Trust is managed in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook, the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended, (together "the Regulations"), the Trust Deed and Prospectus (together "the Scheme documents") as detailed below.

The Depositary must in the context of its role act honestly, fairly, professionally, independently and in the interests of the Trust and its investors.

The Depositary is responsible for the safekeeping of all custodial assets and maintaining a record of all other assets of the Trust in accordance with the Regulations..

The Depositary must ensure that:

- the Trust's cash flows are properly monitored and that cash of the Trust is booked in cash accounts in accordance with the Regulations;
- the sale, issue, repurchase, redemption and cancellation of units are carried out in accordance with the Regulations;
- the value of units of the Trust are calculated in accordance with the Regulations;
- any consideration relating to transactions in the Trust's assets is remitted to the Trust within the usual time limits;
- the Trust's income is applied in accordance with the Regulations; and
- the instructions of the Authorised Fund Manager ("the AFM"), which is the UCITS Management Company, are carried out (unless they conflict with the Regulations).

The Depositary also has a duty to take reasonable care to ensure that the Trust is managed in accordance with the Regulations and the Scheme documents of the Trust in relation to the investment and borrowing powers applicable to the Trust.

Trustee's report and directors' statement

Statement of the Depositary's Responsibilities in Respect of the Scheme and Report of the Depositary to the Unitholders of the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund of the PUTM Bothwell Range of Unit Trusts ("the Trust") for the Period Ended 30 September 2024

Having carried out such procedures as we considered necessary to discharge our responsibilities as Depositary of the Trust, it is our opinion, based on the information available to us and the explanations provided, that, in all material respects the Trust, acting through the AFM:

- i) has carried out the issue, sale, redemption and cancellation, and calculation of the price of the Trust's units and the application of the Trust's income in accordance with the Regulations and the Scheme documents of the Trust; and
- ii) has observed the investment and borrowing powers and restrictions applicable to the Trust in accordance with the Regulations and the Scheme documents of the Trust.

London
23 January 2025

HSBC Bank plc

Directors' statement

In accordance with the requirements of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook as issued and amended by the Financial Conduct Authority, we hereby certify the report on behalf of the Directors of Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited.

Birmingham
23 January 2025

Michael Eakins, Director
Frances Clare Maclachlan, Director

Independent auditor's report to the unitholders of the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund (the 'Fund') for the year ended 30 September 2024 which comprise the Statement of total return, the Statement of Change in Unitholders' Funds, the Balance sheet, the Related notes and Distribution table for the Fund and the accounting policies set out on pages 13 to 14.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view, in accordance with UK accounting standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, of the financial position of the Fund as at 30 September 2024 and of the net revenue and the net capital gains on the property of the Fund for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Trust Deed, the Statement of Recommended Practice relating to Authorised Funds, and the COLL Rules.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities are described below. We have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities under, and are independent of the Fund in accordance with, UK ethical requirements including the FRC Ethical Standard.

We have received all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit and we believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is a sufficient and appropriate basis for our opinion.

Going Concern

The Manager has prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis as they do not intend to liquidate the Fund or to cease their operations, and as they have concluded that the Fund's financial position means that this is realistic. They have also concluded that there are no material uncertainties that could have cast significant doubt over their ability to continue as a going concern for at least a year from the date of approval of the financial statements ("the going concern period").

In our evaluation of the Manager's conclusions, we considered the inherent risks to the Fund's business model and analysed how those risks might affect the Fund's financial resources or ability to continue operations over the going concern period.

Our conclusions based on this work:

- we consider that the Manager's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate;
- we have not identified, and concur with the Manager's assessment that there is not, a material uncertainty related to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern for the going concern period.

However, as we cannot predict all future events or conditions and as subsequent events may result in outcomes that are inconsistent with judgements that were reasonable at the time they were made, the above conclusions are not a guarantee that the Fund will continue in operation.

Fraud and breaches of laws and regulations - ability to detect

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to fraud

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud ("fraud risks") we assessed events or conditions that could indicate an incentive or pressure to commit fraud or provide an opportunity to commit fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- Enquiring of Directors as to the Fund's high-level policies and procedures to prevent and detect fraud, as well as whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- Assessing the segregation of duties in place between the Manager, the Trustee, the Administrator and the Investment Adviser; and
- Reading board minutes.

As required by auditing standards, we perform procedures to address the risk of management override of controls, in

Independent auditor's report to the unitholders of the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund

particular the risk that management may be in a position to make inappropriate accounting entries. On this audit we do not believe there is a fraud risk related to revenue recognition because the revenue is principally non-judgemental and based on publicly available information, with limited opportunity for manipulation. We did not identify any additional fraud risks.

We evaluated the design and implementation of the controls over journal entries and other adjustments and made inquiries of the Administrator about inappropriate or unusual activity relating to the processing of journal entries and other adjustments. We identified and selected a sample of journal entries made at the end of the reporting period and tested those substantively including all material post-closing entries. Based on the results of our risk assessment procedures and understanding of the process, including the segregation of duties between the Directors and the Administrator, no further high-risk journal entries or other adjustments were identified.

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to fraud

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience and through discussion with the Manager and the Administrator (as required by auditing standards) and discussed with the Directors the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations.

The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the Fund is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting legislation (including related authorised fund legislation maintained by the Financial Conduct Authority) and taxation legislation and we assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly, the Fund is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: money laundering, data protection and bribery and corruption legislation recognising the Fund's activities. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Directors and the Administrator and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Therefore if a breach of operational regulations is not disclosed to us or evident from relevant correspondence, an audit will not detect that breach.

Context of the ability of the audit to detect fraud or breaches of law or regulation

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it.

In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of fraud, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. Our audit procedures are designed to detect material misstatement. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance or fraud and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

Other information

The Manager is responsible for the other information presented in the Annual Report together with the financial statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except as explicitly stated below, any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether, based on our financial statements audit work, the information therein is materially misstated or inconsistent with the financial statements or our audit knowledge. Based solely on that work:

- we have not identified material misstatements in the other information; and

Independent auditor's report to the unitholders of the PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund

- in our opinion the information given in the Manager's Report for the financial year is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where under the COLL Rules we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- proper accounting records for the Fund have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.

Manager's responsibilities

As explained more fully in its statement set out on page 25, the Manager is responsible for: the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view; such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; 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 they either intend to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities

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

A fuller description of our responsibilities is provided on the FRC's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the Fund's unitholders, as a body, in accordance with Rule 4.5.12 of the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook ('the COLL Rules') issued by the Financial Conduct Authority under section 247 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Fund's unitholders those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Fund and the Fund's unitholders as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Grant Archer

for and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

319 St Vincent Street

Glasgow

G2 5AS

23 January 2025

Corporate information (unaudited)

The information in this report is designed to enable unitholders to make an informed judgement on the activities of the Fund during the period it covers and the results of those activities at the end of the period.

Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited is part of the Phoenix Group.

Unit prices appear daily on our website www.phoenixunittrust.co.uk.

Administration & Dealing: 0345 584 2803 (between the hours of 9am & 5pm).

Remuneration

The Manager has adopted a remuneration policy, up-to-date details of which can be found on www.phoenixunittrust.co.uk. This statement describes how remuneration and benefits are calculated and identifies the committee which oversees and controls this policy. A paper copy of these details can be requested free of charge from the Manager.

This statement fulfils Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited's ('the Manager') obligations as an authorised UK UCITS Manager in respect of compliance with the UCITS V Remuneration Code and contains relevant remuneration disclosures.

PUTM Unit Trusts are managed by Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited, which is a subsidiary of Phoenix Life Limited, part of The Phoenix Group plc ('the Group').

The Remuneration Committee ('the Committee') of the Group has established a Remuneration Policy which applies to all entities of the Group. The guiding principles of this policy ensure sound and effective risk management so as not to encourage risk-taking outside of the Group's risk appetite, and support management in the operation of their business through identification of minimum control standards and key controls. The Committee approves the list of UK UCITS Code Staff annually and identified UK UCITS Code Staff are annually notified of their status and the associated implications.

Further information on the Group Remuneration Policy can be found in the Group annual reports and accounts which can be found on www.phoenixgroup.com.

The below table provides detail of remuneration provided, split between fixed and variable remuneration, for UK UCITS Code Staff (defined as all staff whose professional activities have material impact on the risk profiles of the fund it manages).

As at 31 December 2023

	Headcount	Total remuneration
Phoenix Unit Trust Managers	2	113,487.36
of which		
Fixed Remuneration	2	71,167.36
Variable Remuneration	1	42,320.00
Carried Interest	n/a	
Highest paid Director's Remuneration		44,005.66

The Directors are employed by fellow entities of the Group. The total compensation paid to the Directors of the Manager is in respect of services to the Manager, irrespective of which entity within the Phoenix Group has paid the compensation.

Please note that due to the employment structure and resourcing practices of the Group, the staff indicated in this table may also provide services to other companies in the Group.

Corporate information (unaudited)

The table states the actual number of employees who are fully or partly involved in the activities of the Manager, no attempt has been made to apportion the time spent specifically in support of each fund as this data is not captured as part of the Manager's normal processes.

The remuneration disclosed is the total remuneration for the year and has been apportioned between the provisions of services to the Manager and not the Fund.

Total remuneration can include any of the following;

- Fixed pay and annual/long term incentive bonuses.
- Where fixed pay is directly attributable to PUTM Unit Trusts (for example, fees for Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited), 100% of those fees.
- For other individuals, pro-rated using the average AUM of PUTM Unit Trusts (as a proportion of the aggregate average AUM of The Phoenix Group plc) as proxy.

Senior Management includes – PUTM Board and PUTM Executive Committees.

Other Code Staff includes all other UK UCITS Code Staff not covered by the above.

Assessment of Value

We are required to perform an annual assessment of the value for money for each unit class of PUTM Bothwell Floating Rate ABS Fund. This has been performed based on the information available as at 30 September 2024.

We have performed this review having regard to a wide range of factors. In doing so, we have made comparison with the other unit classes of the relevant fund, with the unit classes and sub-funds within our fund ranges and also with comparable unit classes and sub-funds in the rest of the market.

Broadly speaking, assessment of value requires consideration of a combination of factors, including the return achieved, the price paid, the risk taken and the quality and range of services provided by the asset manager. This also needs to be considered in the context of the investment objectives and policy for the Fund, the target investor and the recommended holding period.

In considering cost, regard needs to be had to the total cost of investing, including any adviser charges, platform charges, adviser fees and the on-going annual management charge. Regard also needs to be had to the degree of active management; as an investor, you would not be receiving value, if you were being charged fees for active portfolio management, where in fact, the Fund's composition of performance is staying very close to a benchmark. These factors also need to be considered in the context of the size of the portfolio and the ability of larger funds to benefit from economies of scale. As regards performance, it is important that performance is considered over an appropriate timescale given the Fund's objectives, and should be measured net of fees.

Based on our assessment of the value of each unit class, PUTM can confirm that the Fund meets all of the required Assessment of Value criteria. No immediate action is required.

Further details of the Assessment of Value can be found at the following link;
<http://www.phoenixunittrust.co.uk/report-and-accounts.aspx>

Fund Climate Report

We're working towards a more sustainable way of investing. For the latest information about what we're doing and our fund climate report, go to <https://www.thephoenixgroup.com/phoenix-unit-trust-managers/>.

Risks

The price of units and the revenue from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back the amount they invested, particularly in the case of early withdrawal. Tax levels and reliefs are those currently applicable and may change. The value of any tax relief depends on personal circumstances.

Management charges on some funds are charged to capital and therefore a reduction in capital may occur. Depending on the fund, the value of your investment may change with currency movements.

Corporate information (unaudited)

Manager

Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited (PUTM)
1 Wythall Green Way
Wythall
Birmingham
West Midlands B47 6WG
Tel: 0345 584 2803
Registered in England – No.03588031
Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Directors

Mike Eakins

(appointed 29 April 2024)

PUTM Director, Group Chief
Investment Officer;

Frances Clare MacLachlan

(appointed 19 April 2024)

PUTM Director, Chief
Finance Officer SLF UK,
Sun Life of Canada;

Craig Baker

(resigned 28 April 2024)

PUTM Director, Head of
Policyholder Assets;

Brid Meany

(resigned 19 April 2024)

PUTM Director, Chief
Executive Phoenix Life;

Timothy Harris

Non Executive Director of
PUTM;

Nick Poyntz-Wright

Non Executive Director of
PUTM;

Ian Craston

(appointed 19 September
2023)

Non Executive Director of
PUTM.

Registrar and correspondence address

Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited
Floor 1, 1 Grand Canal Square
Grand Canal Harbour
Dublin 2
Ireland
Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Investment Adviser

Abrdn Investment Management Limited
1 George Street
Edinburgh EH2 2LL
Registered in Scotland – No.SC123321
Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Trustee

HSBC Bank plc
1-2 Lochside Way
Edinburgh Park
Edinburgh EH12 9DT
Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority
and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the
Prudential Regulation Authority.

Independent Auditor

KPMG LLP
319 St. Vincent Street,
Glasgow G2 5AS

Authorised status

This Fund is an Authorised Unit Trust scheme under
section 243 of the Financial Services & Markets Act
2000 and is categorised under the Collective Investment
Schemes Sourcebook as a UK UCITS fund.

Contact: **Client Services**

Call: **0345 584 2803**

Correspondence Address: **Floor 1, 1 Grand Canal Square, Grand Canal Harbour, Dublin 2, Ireland**

Visit: **phoenixunittrust.co.uk**

Telephone calls may be monitored and/or recorded for the purposes of security, internal training, accurate account operation, internal customer monitoring and to improve the quality of service.

Please note the Key Investor Information Document (KIID), the Supplementary Information Document (SID) and the full prospectus are available free of charge. These are available by contacting Client Services on 0345 584 2803.

Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited does not accept liability for any claims or losses of any nature arising directly or indirectly from use of the data or material in this report. The information supplied is not intended to constitute investment, tax, legal or other advice.

Phoenix Unit Trust Managers Limited* is a Phoenix Group Company. Registered in England No 3588031.
Registered office: 1 Wythall Green Way, Wythall, Birmingham B47 6WG.

*Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.