

Lazard Defensive Australian Equity Fund

ARSN 163 078 813

Financial Report

For the year ended 30 June 2024

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Directors' report

The directors of Lazard Asset Management Pacific Co. (the "Responsible Entity"), as responsible entity for the Lazard Defensive Australian Equity Fund (the "Scheme") submit herewith their report together with the annual financial statements of the Scheme for the financial year ended 30 June 2024. In order to comply with the provisions of the Corporations Act 2001, the directors' report is as follows:

Directors

The names of the directors of the Responsible Entity during or since the end of the year and up to the date of issuance of this financial report are:

Evan Russo
Nicholas Bratt
Robert Osborn
John Reinsberg (resigned effective 31 July 2024)
Nathan Paul
Paul Cuddy

Principal activities

The Scheme is a registered managed investment scheme domiciled in Australia.

The principal activity of the Scheme is to invest funds in accordance with its investment objectives and guidelines as set out in the current Product Disclosure Statement and in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

The Scheme invests primarily in companies listed predominantly on the Australian Securities Exchange. The number of stocks will generally range from 0 to 50, which means Lazard makes active investment decisions as to which stocks the Scheme holds. The Scheme may reallocate capital from equities towards cash investments as cash yields rise and/or dividend yields fall or when in our opinion equities appear to be over-priced, so reducing the number of equities that qualify for inclusion in the Scheme. Where Lazard believes the quality of income opportunities from stocks is limited, the Scheme may invest up to 100% of its assets in cash investments.

On 30 May 2024, the Responsible Entity of the Scheme funded a new class of units called the S Class. From this date, the existing class of units in the Scheme was named the W Class. As at 30 June 2024, the Responsible Entity of the Scheme was the sole unitholder in the S Class.

There have been no significant changes in the activities of the Scheme during the year.

The Scheme did not have any employees during the year.

Service Providers

Responsible Entity - Lazard Asset Management Pacific Co.

Custodian, Registry Provider, and Administrator - State Street Australia Limited

Auditor - Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu

Review of operations

Results

The results of operations of the Scheme are disclosed in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income. The operating profit attributable to unitholders for the financial year ended 30 June 2024 was \$975,591 (30 June 2023: \$2,393,943).

Directors' report (continued)

Distributions

The directors of the Responsible Entity report distributions paid or payable for the year ended 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023 as follows:

	Year ended		30 June 2023	30 June 2023
	30 June 2024	30 June 2024		
	\$	cents per unit	\$	cents per unit
<i>W Class Units</i>				
Interim distribution paid in October 2023 & 2022	378,349	1.91	235,743	2.43
Interim distribution paid in January 2024 & 2023	226,758	0.85	109,282	0.98
Interim distribution paid in April 2024 & 2023	897,565	2.98	324,464	2.68
Final distribution paid in July 2024 & 2023	423,489	1.00	186,411	1.30

During the year ended 30 June 2024, there were no distributions paid and payable for S Class.

Performance

Investment objective

The Scheme seeks to achieve reduced exposure to S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index drawdowns, a total return that exceeds the Reserve Bank of Australia Cash Rate; and an income return at a premium to the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index dividend yield.

	2024 %	2023 %	2022 %	2021 %	2020 %
Return to 30 June					
Total Return	4.73	16.42	14.62	21.77	(5.42)
Reserve Bank of Australia Cash Rate	4.43	3.01	0.17	0.15	0.66

Commentary

Over the financial year to 30 June 2024, the Scheme returned 4.7%¹, outperforming the Reserve Bank of Australia Cash Rate by 0.3%. The Scheme provides investors with access to companies listed on the Australian Securities Exchange that Lazard believes offer sustainably high dividends and capital appreciation potential. Examples of investments that meet these criteria and were subsequently added to the portfolio during the period include BHP Group, Domino's Pizza and Endeavour Group.

Looking ahead, we are increasingly cautious about the global economy. The 'excess savings' that sustained consumer spending through 2023 are nearly depleted in the US and potentially in Australia as well. Equity pricing suggests that markets are anticipating a 'soft landing'. While this is a plausible scenario, we believe it is too uncertain to predict confidently. Regardless of economic conditions, as bottom-up investors, we continue to seek opportunities that offer attractive returns for our investors irrespective of economic cycles.

¹Performance is calculated gross of fees and taxes. Past performance may not be indicative of future results. The performance assumes reinvestment of all distributions if applicable.

Directors' report (continued)

Changes in state of affairs

During the financial year, Lazard Asset Management Pacific Co. was part of an internal restructure, resulting in changes to its share capital. As a result of this restructure, on 1 November 2023, Lazard Asset Management LLC (LAM LLC), the Company's previous shareholder, contributed all the shares in the Company to Lazard Australia Holdings Pty Ltd (LAH) in exchange for a new issue of shares in LAH. Furthermore, on 1 November 2023, LAH contributed all the shares in the Company to LAMP Administration Pty Ltd (LAMP A) in exchange for a new issue of shares in LAMP A.

During the financial year there were no other significant changes in the state of affairs of the Scheme other than that referred to in the financial statements or notes thereto.

Subsequent events

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

Future developments

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

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.

Further information on likely developments in the operations of the Scheme and the expected results of those operations have not been included in this report because the Responsible Entity believes it would be likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the Scheme.

Indemnity of officers of the Responsible Entity and auditors

During the financial year, a related party of the Responsible Entity paid a premium in respect of a contract insuring the directors of the Responsible Entity and all executive officers of the Responsible Entity against a liability incurred by such a director or executive officer to the extent permitted by the Corporations Act 2001.

The Responsible Entity has not otherwise, during or since the end of the financial year, indemnified or agreed to indemnify an officer or auditor of the Responsible Entity against a liability incurred as such an officer or auditor.

Scheme information in the Directors' report

Fees paid to the Responsible Entity and its related entities¹ out of Scheme property during the year are disclosed in Note 12 to the financial statements. Note 13 to the financial statements discloses details of the indirect cost ratio.

The number of units in the Scheme held by the Responsible Entity or its related entities¹ as at the end of the year are disclosed in Note 17 to the financial statements.

The number of interests in the Scheme issued during the year, withdrawals from the Scheme during the year and the number of interests in the Scheme at the end of the year are disclosed in Note 7 to the financial statements.

The value of the Scheme's assets as at the end of the year is disclosed in the statement of financial position as "Total Assets" and the basis of valuation is included in Note 2 to the financial statements.

¹ Related entities include directors and secretaries of the Responsible Entity, related body corporates and directors and secretaries of related body corporates.

Environmental regulation

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

Directors' report (continued)

Rounding of amounts to the nearest dollar

The Scheme is an entity of a kind referred to in *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191* issued by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) relating to the "rounding off" of amounts in the Directors' report. Amounts in the Directors' report have been rounded to the nearest dollar in accordance with that ASIC Corporations Instrument, unless otherwise indicated.

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the Auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is included on page 6.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors of the Responsible Entity made pursuant to section 298(2) of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

On behalf of the Directors



Robert Osborn
Director

Sydney
25 September 2024

25 September 2024

The Board of Directors
Lazard Asset Management Pacific Co.
Level 12, Gateway
1 Macquarie Place
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Directors,

Auditor's Independence Declaration to Lazard Defensive Australian Equity Fund

In accordance with section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001, I am pleased to provide the following declaration of independence to the Directors of Lazard Asset Management Pacific Co., as Responsible Entity for the Lazard Defensive Australian Equity Fund.

As lead audit partner for the audit of the financial report of Lazard Defensive Australian Equity Fund for the financial year ended 30 June 2024, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- The auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- Any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Yours faithfully

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU



Nicholas Rozario
Partner
Chartered Accountants

Independent Auditor's Report to the Unitholders of Lazard Defensive Australian Equity Fund

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Lazard Defensive Australian Equity Fund (the "Fund") which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, and the directors' declaration.

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

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

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & 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 the Responsible Entity of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors of the Responsible Entity 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 of the Responsible Entity are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Directors' report for the year ended 30 June 2024, 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 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 of the Responsible Entity for the Financial Report

The directors of the Responsible Entity are responsible:

- For the preparation of the financial report in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Fund in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and
- For such internal control as the directors of the Responsible Entity determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Fund, and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors of the Responsible Entity are responsible for assessing the ability of the Fund 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 of the Responsible Entity either intend to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

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

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

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

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

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU



Nicholas Rozario

Partner

Chartered Accountants

Sydney, 25 September 2024

Directors' declaration

The financial statements and notes thereto of the Lazard Defensive Australian Equity Fund (the "Scheme") for the year ended 30 June 2024 have been prepared by Lazard Asset Management Pacific Co. (the "Responsible Entity") in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The directors of the Responsible Entity declare that, in the directors' opinion:

- (a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 11 to 34 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* including:
 - (i) complying with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Regulations 2001*;
 - (ii) complying with International Financial Reporting Standards as stated in Note 2 to the financial statements; and
 - (iii) giving a true and fair view of the Scheme's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Scheme will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors of the Responsible Entity made pursuant to section 295(5) of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

On behalf of the Directors



Robert Osborn
Director

Sydney
25 September 2024

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

		Year ended	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	Notes	\$	\$
Investment income			
Interest income		14,949	2,380
Distribution and dividend income		1,919,567	855,399
Net (losses)/gains on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	5	(551,596)	1,693,535
Net foreign exchange gains at fair value through profit or loss		124	-
Other operating income		1	545
Total investment income		<u>1,383,045</u>	<u>2,551,859</u>
Expenses			
Management costs	12	328,180	136,352
Transaction costs		70,977	19,756
Withholding taxes		8,297	1,808
Total expenses		<u>407,454</u>	<u>157,916</u>
Operating profit for the year		<u>975,591</u>	<u>2,393,943</u>
Finance costs attributable to unitholders			
Distributions to unitholders*	8	(1,926,161)	-
Decrease in liabilities attributable to unitholders*	7	950,570	-
Profit for the year*		<u>-</u>	<u>2,393,943</u>
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year*		<u>-</u>	<u>2,393,943</u>

* Effective from 1 July 2023, the Scheme's units have been reclassified from financial equity to liability. Refer to Note 2 and 7 for further details.

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of financial position

		As at	
	Notes	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
		\$	\$
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		1,441,419	671,600
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	6	71,127,929	23,974,514
Receivables	15	<u>177,656</u>	<u>34,945</u>
Total assets		<u>72,747,004</u>	<u>24,681,059</u>
Liabilities			
Distributions payable	8	423,489	186,411
Payables	16	<u>58,834</u>	<u>14,030</u>
Total liabilities		<u>482,323</u>	<u>200,441</u>
Net assets attributable to unitholders - equity		<u>-</u>	<u>24,480,618</u>
Liabilities attributable to unitholders*	7	<u>72,264,681</u>	<u>-</u>

* Net assets attributable to unitholders are classified as a financial liability for the year ended 30 June 2024 and as equity for the year ended 30 June 2023.

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

Statement of changes in equity

	Notes	Year ended	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
		\$	\$
Total equity at the beginning of the year		24,480,618	-
Reclassification due to AMIT tax regime implementation non-eligibility requirements*		(24,480,618)	12,745,878
Comprehensive income for the year			
Profit/(loss) for the year		-	2,393,943
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	<u>2,393,943</u>
Transactions with unitholders			
Applications		-	12,302,965
Redemptions		-	(2,297,707)
Units issued upon reinvestment of distributions		-	191,439
Distributions paid and payable		-	<u>(855,900)</u>
Total transactions with unitholders		-	<u>9,340,797</u>
Total equity at the end of the year*		-	<u>2,480,618</u>

* Effective from 1 July 2023, the Scheme's units have been reclassified from financial equity to liability. Refer to Note 2 and 7 for further details.

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

Statement of cash flows

		Year ended	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	Notes	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss*		17,042,883	4,972,116
Purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss*		(64,467,796)	(14,995,736)
Distributions and dividends received		1,426,610	653,585
Interest received		11,164	2,175
Other income received		193	-
Management costs paid		(283,474)	(113,868)
Payment of other expenses		(5,216)	(5,421)
Net cash outflow from operating activities*	11(a)	<u>(46,275,636)</u>	<u>(9,487,149)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from applications by unitholders		51,978,900	12,286,707
Payments for redemptions by unitholders		(3,496,173)	(2,297,707)
Distributions paid		(1,437,272)	(580,858)
Net cash inflow from financing activities		<u>47,045,455</u>	<u>9,408,142</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		769,819	(79,007)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>671,600</u>	<u>750,607</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	11(b)	<u>1,441,419</u>	<u>671,600</u>
Non-cash operating and financing activities	11(c)	<u>(82,425)</u>	<u>19,362</u>

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

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

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1 General Information

These financial statements cover the Lazard Defensive Australian Equity Fund (the “Scheme”) as an individual entity.

The Responsible Entity of the Scheme is Lazard Asset Management Pacific Co. (ABN 13 064 523 619) (the “Responsible Entity”). The Responsible Entity’s registered office is Level 12, Gateway, 1 Macquarie Place, Sydney, NSW 2000.

The principal activity of the Scheme is to invest funds in accordance with its investment objectives and guidelines as set out in the current Product Disclosure Statement and in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

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

2 Material accounting policy information

The material 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) Statement of compliance and basis of preparation

This general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations and complies with other requirements of the law. For the purposes of preparing financial statements the Scheme is a for-profit entity.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the directors on 25 September 2024.

The financial report has been prepared on the basis of historical cost, except for the revaluation of financial instruments. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets. All amounts are presented in Australian Dollars, unless otherwise noted.

In the application of Australian Accounting Standards management is required to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstance, the result of which form the basis of making the judgments. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgments made by management in the application of Australian Accounting Standards that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustments in the next year are disclosed, where applicable, in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

The statement of financial position is presented on a liquidity basis.

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

The Scheme manages financial assets at fair value through profit or loss based on the economic circumstances at any given point in time, as well as to meet any liquidity requirements. As such, it is expected that a portion of the portfolio will be realised within 12 months, however, an estimate of that amount cannot be determined as at reporting date.

Compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”)

The financial statements of the Scheme also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

2 Material accounting policy information (continued)

(b) New accounting standards and interpretations adopted by the Scheme

The Scheme has adopted all the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are relevant to its operations and effective for an accounting period that begins on or after 1 July 2023.

Set out below are the new and revised Standards and amendments thereof effective for the current year that are relevant to the Scheme:

- AASB 2021-2 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure of Accounting Policies and Definition of Accounting Estimates*.

The application of the amendments did not have a material impact on the Scheme's financial statements but has changed the disclosure of accounting policy information in the financial statements.

(c) 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 2024 and have not been early adopted in preparing these financial statements. None of these are expected to have a material effect on the financial statements of the Scheme.

(d) Financial Instruments

(i) Classification

Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss

The Scheme 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 Scheme's portfolio of financial assets is managed and performance is evaluated on a fair value basis in accordance with the Scheme's documented investment strategy. The Responsible Entity evaluates the information about these financial assets on a fair value basis together with other related financial information. The portfolio is neither held to collect contractual cash flows nor held to both collect contractual cash flows and to sell the financial assets. The collection of contractual cash flows is incidental to achieving the business model's objective. Consequently, the portfolio of financial assets must be measured at fair value through profit or loss.

The Scheme's portfolio consists of listed equity securities and listed unit trusts. 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 other receivables and payables, including amounts due to/from brokers, these balances are classified at amortised cost as they are deemed to be held in a business model with the objective to collect contractual cash flows through to maturity, and whose terms meet the SPPI criterion by virtue of the fact that payments pertain to only principal and/or simple interest.

Financial Liabilities at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss

All financial liabilities are classified at amortised cost using the effective interest method or at FVTPL.

Financial liabilities are classified as at FVTPL when the financial liability is (i) held for trading or (ii) it is designated as at FVTPL.

A financial liability is classified as held for trading if:

- it has been acquired principally for the purpose of repurchasing it in the near term; or
- on initial recognition it is part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments that the Scheme manages together and has a recent actual pattern of short term profit taking; or

2 Material accounting policy information (continued)

(d) Financial Instruments (continued)

(i) Classification (continued)

- it is a derivative, except for a derivative that is a financial guarantee contract or a designated and effective hedging instrument.

(ii) Recognition / derecognition

The Scheme recognises financial assets and financial liabilities in the statement of financial position on the date it becomes party to the contractual agreement (trade date) of the instrument.

Financial assets are derecognised when the right to receive cash flows from the investments has expired or the Scheme has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Scheme's obligations are discharged, cancelled or expired.

(iii) Measurement

Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are measured initially at fair value excluding any transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of the financial asset or financial liability. Transaction costs on financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are expensed immediately.

Subsequent to initial recognition, all financial assets and financial 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 Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income within 'Net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss' in the period in which they arise.

Further details on how the fair values of financial assets and liabilities are determined are disclosed in Note 4.

Subsequent to initial recognition, financial assets and liabilities measured at amortised cost are recorded at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method and are presented net of provisions for impairment.

(iv) Impairment

All financial assets which are not measured at FVTPL are assessed for impairment at each reporting date using a forward looking approach by identifying expected credit losses (ECL). Expected credit losses are defined as the difference between the contractual cash flows that are due in accordance with the contract and the cash flows that the Scheme expects to receive, discounted at the original effective interest rate.

For receivables, due from brokers, margin accounts and applications receivable, impairment provisions are recognised based on the simplified approach within AASB 9 using the lifetime expected credit losses. The Scheme has established a provision matrix that is based on the Scheme's historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment. There was no provision raised as at 30 June 2024 (2023: nil).

(e) Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities related to derivatives are offset and the net amount reported in the statement of financial position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

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.

2 Material accounting policy information (continued)

(f) Liabilities 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 can be put back to the Scheme at any time for cash based on the redemption price, which is equal to a proportionate share of the Scheme's net asset value attributable to the unitholders. The units are carried at the redemption amount that is payable at the reporting date if the holder exercises the right to put the units back to the Scheme.

Prior to 1 July 2023, the Scheme classified its net assets attributable to unitholders as equity in accordance with below criteria. During the year ended 30 June 2024, the Scheme launched a new unitholder class with features not identical to the other classes. As a result, the Fund no longer meets below criteria and the classification has therefore been changed from equity to liability.

The Scheme's units are classified as equity when they satisfy the criteria under AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation*:

- the puttable financial instrument entitles the holder to a pro-rata share of net assets in the event of the Scheme's liquidation;
- the puttable financial instrument is in the class of instruments that is subordinate to all other classes of instruments and class features are identical;
- the puttable financial instrument does not include any contractual obligations to deliver cash or another financial asset, or to exchange financial instruments with another entity under potentially unfavourable conditions to the Scheme, and is not a contract settled in the Scheme's own equity instruments; and
- the total expected cash flows attributable to the puttable financial instrument over the life are based substantially on the profit or loss.

(g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and deposits held at call with banks.

(h) 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.

Distribution and dividend income from financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income within distribution and dividend income when the Scheme's right to receive payments is established. Any related foreign withholding tax is recorded as an expense.

(i) Expenses

All expenses, including management costs, are recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income on an accruals basis.

(j) Income tax

The Scheme was a "flow-through" entity for Australian income tax purposes and elected into the Attribution Managed Investment Trusts rules from the 2019 income year, such that the determined trust components of the Scheme will be taxable in the hands of the beneficiaries (the unitholders) on an attribution basis.

Accordingly, deferred taxes have not been recognised in the financial statements in relation to differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases, including taxes on capital gains/losses which could arise in the event of a sale of investments for the amount at which they are stated in the financial statements.

2 Material accounting policy information (continued)

(j) Income tax (continued)

Realised capital losses are not attributed to unitholders but instead are retained within the Scheme to be offset against realised capital gains. The benefit of any carried forward capital losses are also not recognised in the financial statements. If in any period realised capital gains exceed realised capital losses, including those carried forward from earlier periods and eligible for offset, the excess is included in taxable income attributed to unitholders as noted above.

(k) Distributions

In accordance with the Scheme's Constitution, the Scheme distributes its distributable (taxable) income, and any other amounts determined by the Responsible Entity, to unitholders by cash or reinvestment. The distributions are recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income as finance costs attributable to unitholders.

Distributions to unitholders comprise the taxable income of the Scheme to which the unitholders are presently entitled. The distributions are generally payable at the end of September, December, March and June quarters.

(l) Increase/decrease in liabilities attributable to unitholders

Movements in liabilities attributable to unitholders are recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income as finance costs attributable to unitholders.

Non-distributable income is included in liabilities attributable to unitholders and may consist of unrealised changes in the fair value of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss, derivative financial instruments, accrued income not yet assessable, expenses provided or accrued for which are not yet deductible, net capital losses and tax free or tax deferred income. Net capital gains on the realisation of any financial instruments (including any adjustments for tax deferred income previously taken directly to liabilities attributable to unitholders) and accrued income not yet assessable will be included in the determination of distributable income in the same year in which it becomes assessable for tax.

(m) Foreign currency translation

(i) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the Scheme'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 Scheme competes for funds and is regulated. The Australian dollar is also the Scheme'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 translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

Non-monetary items that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date when fair value was determined. Translation differences on assets and liabilities carried at fair value are reported in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income on a net basis within net gain/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss.

(n) Due from/to brokers

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

2 Material accounting policy information (continued)

(n) Due from/to brokers (continued)

These amounts are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. At each reporting date, the Scheme shall measure the loss allowance on amounts due from brokers at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Scheme shall measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses. Significant financial difficulties of the broker, probability that the broker will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default in payments are all considered indicators that a loss allowance may be required. If the credit risk increases to the point that it is considered to be credit impaired, interest income will be calculated based on the gross carrying amount adjusted for the loss allowance. 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.

(o) Receivables

Receivables may include amounts for dividends, trust distributions and interest. Dividends and trust distributions are accrued when the right to receive payment is established. Interest is accrued at the end of each reporting period from the time of last payment. Amounts are generally received within 30 days of being recorded as receivables.

These amounts are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. At each reporting date, the Scheme shall measure the loss allowance on receivables at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Scheme shall measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses. Significant financial difficulties of the counterparty, probability that the counterparty will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default in payments are all considered indicators that a loss allowance may be required. If the credit risk increases to the point that it is considered to be credit impaired, interest income will be calculated based on the gross carrying amount adjusted for the loss allowance. 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.

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

(p) Payables

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

Trades are recorded on trade date, and normally settled within three business days. Purchases of securities and investments that are unsettled at reporting date are included in payables.

The distribution amount payable to unitholders as at the end of each reporting date is recognised separately on the statement of financial position where this amount remains unpaid as at the end of the reporting period.

(q) Applications and redemptions

Applications received for units in the Scheme are recorded net of any entry fees payable prior to the issue of units in the Scheme. Redemptions from the Scheme are recorded gross of any exit fees payable after the cancellation of units redeemed.

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

2 Material accounting policy information (continued)

(r) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except:

- (i) where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority, it is recognised as part of the cost of the acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expenses; or
- (ii) for receivables and payables which are recognised inclusive of GST.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. The GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

(s) Rounding of amounts

The Scheme is an entity of a kind referred to in *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191* issued by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) relating to the "rounding off" of amounts in the financial statements. Amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar in accordance with that ASIC Corporations Instrument, unless otherwise indicated.

(t) Comparative revisions

Comparative information has been revised where appropriate to enhance comparability. Where necessary, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation in the current year. In particular, cash flows related to the purchase and sale of financial instruments have been reclassified from investing activities to operating activities to more appropriately reflect the nature of the Scheme's operations and to better align with current industry practice.

3 Financial risk management

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

The Scheme's overall risk management programme focuses on ensuring compliance with the Scheme's Product Disclosure Statement and seeks to maximise the returns derived for the level of risk to which the Scheme is exposed.

Financial risk management is carried out by the investment management department under policies approved by the Board of Directors of the Responsible Entity (the Board). The Scheme uses different methods to measure different types of risk to which it is exposed. These methods include sensitivity analysis in the case of interest rate and price risks and ratings analysis for credit risk.

(a) Market risk

(i) Price risk

The Scheme is exposed to equity securities price risk. This arises from investments held by the Scheme for which prices in the future are uncertain. They are classified on the statement of financial position at fair value through profit or loss. All securities investments present a risk of loss of capital. The maximum risk resulting from financial instruments is determined by the fair value of the financial instruments.

The investment manager mitigates this price risk through diversification and a careful selection of securities and other financial instruments within specified limits set by the Board. The majority of the Scheme's equity investments are publicly traded on the Australian Securities Exchange. Where Lazard believes the quality of income opportunities from stocks is limited, the investment manager may invest up to 100% of its assets in cash investments.

3 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(i) Price risk (continued)

The table on page 24 summarises the impact of an increase/decrease of the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index on the Scheme's net assets attributable to unitholders at 30 June 2024. The analysis is based on the assumptions that the index increased/decreased by 10% (2023: 10%) with all other variables held constant and that the fair value of the Scheme's portfolio of equity securities moved according to the historical correlation with the index.

(ii) Foreign exchange risk

There is no significant direct foreign currency risk in this Scheme as the Scheme invests primarily in companies listed on the Australian Securities Exchange.

(iii) Interest rate risk

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

The impact of changes in interest rates will not have a material effect on the financial position or cash flows of the Scheme due to the cash balance being on average a small percentage of the Scheme's assets. Accordingly no sensitivity analysis has been prepared for interest rate risk.

The table below summarises the Scheme's exposure to interest rate risks.

	Floating interest rate \$	Fixed interest rate \$	Non interest bearing \$	Total \$
30 June 2024				
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	1,441,419	-	-	1,441,419
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	71,127,929	71,127,929
Receivables	-	-	177,656	177,656
Total assets	<u>1,441,419</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,305,585</u>	<u>72,747,004</u>
Liabilities				
Distributions payable	-	-	423,489	423,489
Payables	-	-	58,834	58,834
Total liabilities (excluding liabilities attributable to unitholders)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>482,323</u>	<u>482,323</u>
Liabilities attributable to unitholders	<u>1,441,419</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,823,262</u>	<u>72,264,681</u>

3 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(iii) Interest rate risk (continued)

30 June 2023	Floating interest rate \$	Fixed interest rate \$	Non interest bearing \$	Total \$
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	671,600	-	-	671,600
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	23,974,514	23,974,514
Receivables	-	-	34,945	34,945
Total assets	<u>671,600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,009,459</u>	<u>24,681,059</u>
Liabilities				
Distributions payable	-	-	186,411	186,411
Payables	-	-	14,030	14,030
Total liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>200,441</u>	<u>200,441</u>
Net assets attributable to unitholders	<u>671,600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,809,018</u>	<u>24,480,618</u>

An analysis of financial liabilities by maturity is provided in paragraph 3(d).

(b) Summarised sensitivity analysis

The following table summarises the sensitivity of the Scheme's operating profit and net assets attributable to unitholders to price risk. 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 correlation of the Scheme'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 Scheme invests. As a result, historic variations in risk variables are not a definitive indicator of future variations in the risk variables. A 10% change in price risk is used as the sensitivity rate for these variables.

	Price risk	
	-10%	+10%
	\$	\$
30 June 2024	(2,082,438)	2,082,438
30 June 2023	(2,070,048)	2,070,048

The above sensitivity analysis was calculated based off the gross investment amounts and do not include any derivatives used for hedging purposes.

In determining the impact of an increase/decrease in net assets attributable to unitholders arising from market risk, the Responsible Entity has considered prior period and expected future movements of the portfolio based on market information.

3 Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk primarily arises from cash and cash equivalents, deposits with banks and other financial institutions. None of these assets are impaired nor past due.

The Scheme does not have any significant credit risk exposure to any single counterparty or counterparties having similar characteristics.

In the opinion of the Responsible Entity, the carrying amount of these financial assets represents the maximum credit risk exposure at the end of the reporting period.

(d) Liquidity risk

The Scheme is exposed to daily cash redemptions of redeemable units. Other than cash, the Scheme holds investments that are traded in an active market and can be readily disposed. The Scheme's listed securities are considered readily realisable, as the Scheme invests primarily in companies listed on the Australian Securities Exchange.

The Scheme's policy is to hold 100% of the net assets attributable to unitholders in liquid investments.

(i) Maturities of non-derivative financial liabilities

The table below analyses the Scheme's non-derivative financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period to the earliest possible contractual maturity date at the end of reporting date. The amounts in the table are contractual undiscounted cash flows.

At 30 June 2024	At call \$	Less than 1 month \$	1-6 months \$	6-12 months \$	Total \$
Payables	-	58,834	-	-	58,834
Distributions payable	-	423,489	-	-	423,489
Liabilities attributable to unitholders	<u>72,264,681</u>	-	-	-	<u>72,264,681</u>
Total liabilities	<u>72,264,681</u>	<u>482,323</u>	-	-	<u>72,747,004</u>

At 30 June 2023	At call \$	Less than 1 month \$	1-6 months \$	6-12 months \$	Total \$
Payables	-	14,030	-	-	14,030
Distributions payable	-	186,411	-	-	186,411
Total liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>200,441</u>	-	-	<u>200,441</u>

4 Fair value measurement

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

- Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL) (see Note 6)

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

AASB 13 requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level of the following fair value hierarchy:

- Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1);

4 Fair value measurement (continued)

- 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).

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

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets (such as publicly traded derivatives and equity securities) are based on quoted market prices at the close of trading at the end of the reporting period without any deduction for estimated future selling costs. For the majority of investments, information provided by independent pricing services is relied upon for valuation of investments.

The Scheme utilises last traded prices for its financial assets and liabilities.

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.

Recognised fair value measurements

The following table presents the Scheme's assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

As at 30 June 2024	Level 1 \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$	Total \$
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Listed equity securities	54,862,804	-	-	54,862,804
Listed unit trusts	<u>16,265,125</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,265,125</u>
Total	<u>71,127,929</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,127,929</u>

As at 30 June 2023	Level 1 \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$	Total \$
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Listed equity securities	17,143,092	-	-	17,143,092
Listed unit trusts	<u>6,831,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,831,422</u>
Total	<u>23,974,514</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,974,514</u>

(i) Transfers between levels

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

There have been no transfer between levels for the year ended 30 June 2024 and year ended 30 June 2023.

4 Fair value measurement (continued)

Recognised fair value measurements (continued)

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

The Scheme did not hold any financial instruments with fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs during the year ended 30 June 2024 or year ended 30 June 2023.

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

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
Financial assets		
Net realised gains on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	152,913	1,241,330
Net unrealised (losses)/gains on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	<u>(704,392)</u>	<u>452,205</u>
Net (losses)/gains on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	<u>(551,479)</u>	<u>1,693,535</u>
Financial liabilities		
Net realised losses on financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	<u>(117)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net losses on financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	<u>(117)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total net (losses)/gains on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	<u>(551,596)</u>	<u>1,693,535</u>

6 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

	As at	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		
Listed equity securities	54,862,804	17,143,092
Listed unit trusts	<u>16,265,125</u>	<u>6,831,422</u>
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	<u>71,127,929</u>	<u>23,974,514</u>

6 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (continued)

Investments that individually represent more than 5% of the total value of the investments of the Scheme as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023 are disclosed below:

Material investments

Security description	Principal activity	Fair value \$	Interest Ownership %	% of Total Value %
30 June 2024				
BetaShares Australian High Interest Cash ETF	Banking and Financial services	10,878,128	<1	15.29

Security description	Principal activity	Fair value \$	Interest Ownership %	% of Total Value %
30 June 2023				
BetaShares Australian High Interest Cash ETF	Banking and Financial services	6,123,891	<1	25.54

7 Liabilities attributable to unitholders

As at 30 June 2024, the Scheme has two classes of units. The Scheme does not satisfy the criteria under AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation* that would allow it to classify net assets attributable to unitholders as equity. As at 30 June 2024, net assets attributable to unitholders were classified as liability.

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

	Year ended			
	30 June 2024 No.	30 June 2023 No.	30 June 2024 \$	30 June 2023 \$
W Class Units				
Opening balance	14,330,516	8,247,733	24,480,618	12,745,878
Applications	29,800,129	7,323,204	51,994,739	12,302,965
Redemptions	(2,000,996)	(1,357,882)	(3,512,917)	(2,297,707)
Units issued upon reinvestment of distributions	143,163	117,461	251,811	191,439
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unitholders	-	-	(950,565)	-
Distributions paid and payable	-	-	-	(855,900)
Profit for the year	-	-	-	2,393,943
Closing balance	42,272,812	14,330,516	72,263,686	22,942,575

7 Liabilities attributable to unitholders (continued)

	Year ended		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023		
	No.	No.	\$	\$
S Class Units				
Opening balance	-	-	-	-
Applications	200	-	1,000	-
Redemptions	-	-	-	-
Units issued upon reinvestment of distributions	-	-	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unitholders	-	-	(5)	-
Distributions paid and payable	-	-	-	-
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-
Closing balance	200	-	995	-
Total net assets attributable to unitholders	42,273,012	14,330,516	72,264,681	24,480,618

The total decrease in liabilities attributable to unitholders as at 30 June 2024 is \$950,570 (2023: \$Nil increase).

Capital risk management

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

8 Distribution to unitholders

Provision for distribution payable

	Year ended		30 June 2023	30 June 2023
	30 June 2024	30 June 2024		
	\$	cents per unit	\$	cents per unit
W Class Units				
Opening balance	186,411	1.30	102,808	1.25
Additional provisions for distributions recognised	1,926,161	6.74	855,900	7.39
Distribution paid during the period	(1,689,083)	(7.04)	(772,297)	(7.34)
Closing balance	423,489	1.00	186,411	1.30

8 Distribution to unitholders (continued)

Distributions

	Year ended		30 June 2023	30 June 2023
	30 June 2024	30 June 2024		
	\$	cents per unit	\$	cents per unit
W Class Units				
Interest income	224,795	0.77	75,433	0.60
Australian dividend income	1,236,579	4.58	756,302	6.71
Other income	183,007	0.53	47,673	0.39
Foreign income	339,716	1.22	98,142	0.83
Foreign tax credits	(8,303)	(0.03)	(1,806)	(0.01)
Franking credits	(388,532)	(1.44)	(246,121)	(2.18)
AMIT cost base decrease	338,899	1.11	126,277	1.05
Total distributions	1,926,161	6.74	855,900	7.39

During the year ended 30 June 2024, there were no distributions paid and payable for S Class.

The final distribution in respect of units for the year ended 30 June 2024 has been recognised in this financial report, as under the Scheme's Constitution, unitholders are entitled to receive a distribution equal to the full amount of assessable income, notwithstanding the fact that the amount of the final distribution was quantified subsequent to 30 June 2024.

9 Realised capital gains/losses

There were no capital losses available to offset future assessable capital gains during the year (2023: \$Nil).

10 Unrealised taxable capital gains/losses

Net unrealised taxable capital gains were \$299,212 as at 30 June 2024 (2023: \$924,435).

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

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
(a) Reconciliation of profit/(loss) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities		
Net profit for the year	-	2,393,943
Decrease in liabilities attributable to unitholders	(950,570)	-
Distributions to unitholders	1,926,161	-
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss*	17,042,883	4,972,116
Purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss*	(64,467,796)	(14,995,736)
Net losses/(gains) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	551,596	(1,693,535)
Transaction costs on purchases	70,977	19,756
Dividend income reinvested	(351,075)	(188,335)
Management fee rebates reinvested	16,839	16,258
Net change in receivables	(142,711)	(13,650)
Net change in payables	28,060	2,034
Net cash outflow from operating activities	(46,275,636)	(9,487,149)
(b) Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash as at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the statement of financial position as follows:		
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>1,441,419</u>	<u>671,600</u>
(c) Non-cash operating and financing activities		
Dividend income reinvested	(351,075)	(188,335)
Income distributions reinvested by unitholders for additional units in the Scheme	251,811	191,439
Management fee rebates reinvested by unitholders for additional units in the Scheme	<u>16,839</u>	<u>16,258</u>
Total Non-cash financing activities	(82,425)	19,362

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

12 Management costs

The management costs disclosed in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income are outlined below.

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
W Class Units	328,179	136,352
S Class Units	1	-
Total	<u>328,180</u>	<u>136,352</u>

13 Indirect Cost Ratio (ICR)

The indirect cost ratio for the Scheme is the ratio of the Scheme's indirect costs (management fees, custody fees, hedging fees and audit fees) to the Scheme's average net asset value.

The ICR of the Scheme is shown in the following table.

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	%	%
W Class Units	0.75	0.75
S Class Units	0.60	-

14 Auditor's remuneration

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

	Year ended	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
Auditing the financial report	28,167	28,167
Compliance plan audit	7,439	5,569
Other non-audit services - tax	<u>24,765</u>	<u>24,800</u>
	<u>60,371</u>	<u>58,536</u>

The auditor of the Lazard Defensive Australian Equity Fund is Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu.

15 Receivables

	As at	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
Distributions and dividends receivable	165,274	31,689
Interest receivable	4,003	218
Goods and services tax receivable	<u>8,379</u>	<u>3,038</u>
Total receivables	<u>177,656</u>	<u>34,945</u>

16 Payables

	As at	
	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$	\$
Management costs payable	41,728	13,861
Redemption payable	16,744	-
Other payables	362	169
Total payables	58,834	14,030

17 Related party disclosure

(a) Responsible Entity, Investment Manager and Custodian

The Responsible Entity of the Scheme is Lazard Asset Management Pacific Co. (ABN 13 064 523 619), a company incorporated in and operating in Australia. Its principal registered office and principal place of business is as follows:

Level 12, Gateway
1 Macquarie Place
Sydney NSW 2000

During the financial year, Lazard Asset Management Pacific Co. was part of an internal restructure, resulting in changes to its share capital. As a result of this restructure, on 1 November 2023, Lazard Asset Management LLC (LAM LLC), the Company's previous shareholder, contributed all the shares in the Company to Lazard Australia Holdings Pty Ltd (LAH) in exchange for a new issue of shares in LAH. Furthermore, on 1 November 2023, LAH contributed all the shares in the Company to LAMP Administration Pty Ltd (LAMP A) in exchange for a new issue of shares in LAMP A. Transactions with entities related to Lazard Asset Management Pacific Co. are disclosed below.

Lazard Asset Management Pacific Co. acts as the Investment Manager of the Scheme. State Street Australia Limited is the Custodian.

Key management personnel

The names of the key management personnel of the Scheme during the year were:

Evan Russo (Director)
Nicholas Bratt (Director)
Robert Osborn (Director)
John Reinsberg (Director) (resigned effective 31 July 2024)
Nathan Paul (Director)
Paul Cuddy (Director)

The positions noted above for the Scheme's key management personnel are the positions held within the Responsible Entity and not the Scheme itself.

No amounts of remuneration were paid directly by the Scheme to the key management personnel of the Responsible Entity during the year (2023: Nil).

(b) Holdings of units by related parties

As at 30 June 2024, the Responsible Entity or its related entities in the Scheme held either directly, indirectly or beneficially 1,168,449 units (30 June 2023: 998,608 units).

17 Related party disclosure (continued)

(b) Holdings of units by related parties (continued)

As at 30 June 2024, the key management personnel or any of their related entities held 648,825 units or had options granted in the Scheme, either directly, indirectly or beneficially (30 June 2023: 507,892 units).

(c) Key management personnel's loans

No loans were made by the Scheme to the key management personnel and/or their related parties as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

(d) Transactions with related parties

Transactions with related parties have taken place at arm's length and in the ordinary course of business.

Management costs of \$328,180 (2023: \$136,352), were paid or payable to the Responsible Entity directly by the Scheme.

No amounts were paid or payable by the Scheme directly to the directors of the Responsible Entity during the year (2023: \$Nil).

(e) Investments in related parties

No investments in related parties were held during the financial year (2023: \$Nil).

18 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 Scheme as disclosed in the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024 or on the results and cash flows of the Scheme for the year ended on that date.

19 Contingent assets and liabilities and commitments

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