

Summary Value Assessment Report as at 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**Please note that on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 the ACD of the fund transferred to Investment Fund Services Limited (IFSL). As WFSL was still ACD for the fund as at the reporting date, this report has been prepared by WFSL, however it has been published on the IFSL website.**

Waystone Fund Services (UK) Limited (“WFSL”) in its capacity as the Authorised Corporate Director for the WS Evenlode Income Fund (the “Fund”) continuously reviews the value the fund delivers to investors throughout the year, this annual report enables WFSL to provide you with its assessment that the Fund delivers value on a consistent basis. Where issues have been identified, WFSL is engaged, seeking improvements.

This report summarises the conclusions reached by the WFSL Board of Directors on whether the Fund has delivered value to investors during the period. The framework used by WFSL takes into account seven criteria as outlined below. In order to reach this conclusion, WFSL has analysed Fund information on costs, services and performance and has also made comparisons where appropriate. WFSL has also engaged with Evenlode Investment Management Limited (“Evenlode”), the Investment Manager and Sponsor of the Fund, as part of the process. This report is a summary of the overall conclusions reached, split by the seven criteria.

The overall assessment for each criteria is shown by the colour of the circle: Green is satisfactory (the Fund is delivering value based on that measure), Amber means some issues have been identified and Red means the Fund is not delivering value based on that measure and action is required to rectify.

The report concludes with an overall assessment of value which takes into account all of the seven criteria.

**Is the performance of the Fund, after charges over an appropriate timescale, in line with the Fund’s investment objectives, policy and strategy?**

**Performance**

**Review performed:**

- Review of Fund performance after costs compared to stated objectives to provide income and capital growth over Rolling Periods of five years, with an emphasis on income.

**Conclusion:**

- The Fund has provided income and capital growth and has consistently outperformed both of its comparator benchmarks (FTSE All Share Index and the Investment Association (“IA”) UK All Companies sector) over rolling periods of five years meaning the Fund has met its stated objectives.
- The Fund also has strong risk-adjusted returns compared to the index and sector over the last five years.

**Steps taken as part of, or as a consequence of, assessment:**

- None.

**Are the costs of providing the service reasonable and fair?**

**Costs**

**Review performed:**

- Review of Fund costs including Periodic Charge and other elements which make up the Ongoing Charges Figure (“OCF”).

**Conclusion:**

- Costs charged to Fund are consistent with Prospectus disclosures and are charged at competitive rates.
- External costs are in accordance with agreed rates.
- Periodic reviews of external provider costs are made to ensure services are provided on a competitive basis.
- The OCF has reduced over the past five years.

**Steps taken as part of, or as a consequence of, assessment:**

- None.

**Have economies of scale been passed onto investors as the Fund has grown?**

**Economies of Scale**

**Review performed:**

- Review of total Fund costs (OCF) over time compared to Fund size.

**Conclusion:**

- The Fund is £3.3bn in size and the Fund size has remained largely static over the past five years.
- The OCF has been reduced over this period so any savings from economies of scale that have been achieved have been passed onto investors.
- A tiered Periodic Charge was also introduced in March 2020 to benefit investors within the Fund by reducing the OCF as the Fund grows in size. Further details on this can be found within the Prospectus.

**Steps taken as part of, or as a consequence of, assessment:**

- None.

## Comparable Market Rates

### Are the Fund costs reasonable when compared to other comparable Funds?

#### Review performed:

- Review of Fund OCFs compared to other Funds within the IA UK All Companies sector.

#### Conclusion:

- The Fund OCFs are comparable to the median of all Funds within the sector.
- The Fund OCFs are also comparable to Funds of a similar size within the sector.

#### Steps taken as part of, or as a consequence of, assessment:

- None.

## Comparable Services

### Are the services provided to the Fund good value when compared to other services provided by the Authorised Corporate Director ("ACD")?

#### Review performed:

- Comparison of rates charged by the ACD to the Fund with rates charged to other mandates.

#### Conclusion:

- The amounts charged to the Fund are reasonable in light of the Fund size and services offered when compared to other services provided by the ACD to other mandates.

#### Steps taken as part of, or as a consequence of, assessment:

- None.

## Classes of Units

### Do any shareholders hold shares in classes subject to higher charges than those applying to other classes with substantially similar rights?

#### Review performed:

- Review of shareholders in all share classes.

#### Conclusion:

- Investors within the B, C and D share classes are not subject to substantially similar rights due to different investment minimums.

#### Steps taken as part of, or as a consequence of, assessment:

- None.

## Quality of Service

### Is the range and quality of services provided to investors of good quality?

#### Review performed:

- Review of range and quality of all services provided to shareholders. This review involved identification of services and assessment of quality via review of relevant key performance indicators ("KPIs").

#### Conclusion:

- The range of services provided by the Investment Manager, the ACD and other third parties is comprehensive.
- The quality of services provided by the Investment Manager, the ACD and other third parties is high.
- The level of Fund charges is therefore felt to be commensurate with the range and quality of services provided.

#### Steps taken as part of, or as a consequence of, assessment:

- None.

## Overall Assessment

### Conclusion - Overall Assessment

WFSL's assessment (as the ACD of the Fund) is that WS Evenlode Income has delivered overall value to investors over the period.