

# **Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund**

ARSN 130 358 440

**Interim report  
for the half-year ended 31 December 2023**

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## Interim report for the half-year ended 31 December 2023

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This interim report does not include all the notes of the type normally included in an annual financial report. Accordingly, this interim report is to be read in conjunction with the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023 and any public announcements made in respect of Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund during the interim reporting period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

This interim financial report covers Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund as an individual entity.

The Responsible Entity of Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund is GSFM Responsible Entity Services Limited (ABN 48 129 256 104).

The Responsible Entity's registered office is Level 19, Governor Macquarie Tower, 1 Farrer Place, Sydney NSW 2000.

## Directors' report

The directors of GSFM Responsible Entity Services Limited (the "Responsible Entity"), the Responsible Entity of Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund (the "Fund"), present their report together with the financial statements of the Fund for the half-year ended 31 December 2023.

### Principal activities

The Fund invests in the Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Unhedged) Fund ("the Unhedged Fund"), forward currency contracts and cash in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

The Fund did not have any employees during the half-year.

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

### Directors

The following persons held office as directors of GSFM Responsible Entity Services Limited during the half-year or since the end of the half-year and up to the date of this report:

Robert Niven Johanson

Andrew Duncan McKinnon

Damien Henry McIntyre

Edward Douglas Kelterborn

Keri Bush (resigned 8 December 2023)

### Review and results of operations

The Fund invests in unlisted unit trusts, derivatives and cash and cash equivalents. The investment policy of the Fund continues to be in accordance with the provisions of the Fund Constitution.

### Results

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

	Half-year ended	
	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Profit before finance costs attributable to unitholders (\$'000)	<u>17,541</u>	<u>13,167</u>
<i>Distributions</i>		
Distributions paid and payable (\$'000)	<u>543</u>	<u>623</u>

### Significant changes in state of affairs

In the opinion of the directors, there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Fund that occurred during the period.

### Matters subsequent to the end of the period

No matter or circumstance has arisen since the end of the current reporting period that have significantly affected, or may significantly affect:

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

## Directors' report (continued)

### Likely developments and expected results of operations

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

The results of the Fund's operations will be affected by a number of factors, including the performance of investment markets in which the Fund invests. Investment performance is not guaranteed and future returns may differ from past returns. As investment conditions change over time, past returns should not be used to predict future returns.

### Environmental regulation

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

### Rounding of amounts to the nearest thousand dollars

Amounts in the directors' report have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars in accordance with *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191*, 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 set out on page 3.

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



Andrew Duncan McKinnon  
Director

Sydney  
6 March 2024



## Auditor's Independence Declaration

As lead auditor for the review of Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund for the half-year ended 31 December 2023, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the review; and
- (b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Klynton Hankin'.

Klynton Hankin  
Partner  
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Sydney  
6 March 2024

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Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund  
Statement of comprehensive income  
For the half-year ended 31 December 2023

**Statement of comprehensive income**

	Half-year ended	
	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Note	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Investment income</b>		
Interest income	1	–
Distribution income	1,385	2,110
Net gains on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	16,207	10,809
Fee rebates from related schemes	–	262
<b>Total net investment income</b>	<b>17,593</b>	<b>13,181</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Responsible Entity's fees	39	8
Custody fees	13	4
Other operating expenses	–	2
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Profit for the half-year</b>	<b>17,541</b>	<b>13,167</b>
Other comprehensive income for the half-year	–	–
<b>Total comprehensive income for the half-year</b>	<b>17,541</b>	<b>13,167</b>

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

Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund  
Balance sheet  
As at 31 December 2023

**Balance sheet**

		As at	
		31 December 2023	30 June 2023
	Note	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents		618	1,016
Receivables		381	459
Accrued income		794	10,539
Due from brokers - receivable for securities sold		40	164
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	5	<u>231,371</u>	<u>254,986</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>233,204</u>	<u>267,164</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Distribution payable	4	260	1,517
Payables		508	1,071
Due to brokers - payable for securities purchased		946	10,724
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	6	<u>105</u>	<u>4,848</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>1,819</u>	<u>18,160</u>
<b>Net assets attributable to unitholders - Equity</b>		<u>231,385</u>	<u>249,004</u>

*The above Balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*

Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund  
Statement of changes in equity  
For the half-year ended 31 December 2023

**Statement of changes in equity**

	Note	Half-year ended	
		31 December 2023 \$'000	31 December 2022 \$'000
<b>Total equity at the beginning of the half-year</b>		<b>249,004</b>	232,419
<b>Comprehensive income for the half-year</b>			
Profit for the half-year		17,541	13,167
Other comprehensive income for the half-year		<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the half-year</b>		<b><u>17,541</u></b>	<b><u>13,167</u></b>
<b>Transactions with unitholders for the half-year</b>			
Applications	3	25,276	32,390
Redemptions	3	(59,899)	(27,856)
Units issued upon reinvestment of distributions	3	5	4
Units issued upon reinvestment of rebate	3	1	1
Distributions paid and payable	3	<u>(543)</u>	<u>(623)</u>
<b>Total transactions with unitholders for the half-year</b>		<b><u>(35,160)</u></b>	<b><u>3,916</u></b>
<b>Total equity at the end of the half-year</b>		<b><u><u>231,385</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>249,502</u></u></b>

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



Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund  
Statement of cash flows  
For the half-year ended 31 December 2023

**Statement of cash flows**

	Half-year ended	
	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Note	\$'000	\$'000
<b><i>Cash flows from operating activities</i></b>		
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	65,110	39,355
Purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	(28,556)	(41,581)
Interest received	1	–
Other income received	–	1
Responsible Entity's fees paid	(29)	(35)
Payment of other expenses	(12)	(5)
<b><i>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities</i></b>	<b><u>36,514</u></b>	<b><u>(2,265)</u></b>
<b><i>Cash flows from financing activities</i></b>		
Proceeds from applications by unitholders	25,321	32,229
Payments for redemptions by unitholders	(60,438)	(27,582)
Distributions paid from operating activities	(1,795)	(2,295)
<b><i>Net cash (outflow)/inflow from financing activities</i></b>	<b><u>(36,912)</u></b>	<b><u>2,352</u></b>
<b><i>Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents</i></b>	<b>(398)</b>	<b>87</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the half-year	<u>1,016</u>	<u>403</u>
<b><i>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the half-year</i></b>	<b><u>618</u></b>	<b><u>490</u></b>
Non-cash operating activities	<u>1,385</u>	<u>2,110</u>
Non-cash financing and investing activities	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>

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

## **1 Basis of preparation of interim report**

This interim general purpose financial report for the half-year ended 31 December 2023 has been prepared in accordance with accounting standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Act 2001*.

This interim financial report includes condensed financial statements for the Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund ("the Fund") as an individual entity.

This interim financial report does not include all the notes of the type normally included in an annual financial report. Accordingly, this report is to be read in conjunction with the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023 and any public announcements made in respect of the Fund during the interim reporting period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year and corresponding interim reporting period.

The Responsible Entity of the Fund is GSFM Responsible Entity Services Limited (ABN 48 129 256 104) ("the Responsible Entity"). The registered office of the Responsible Entity is Level 19, Governor Macquarie Tower, 1 Farrer Place, Sydney, NSW 2000.

### **(a) New and amended standards adopted by the Fund**

There are no standards, interpretations or amendments to existing standards that are effective for the first time for the financial half-year beginning 1 July 2023 that have a material impact on the amounts recognised in the prior periods or will affect the current or future periods.

### **(b) Rounding of amounts**

The Fund is an entity of the kind referred to in ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191, relating to the "rounding off" amounts in the financial statements. Amounts in the financial statements have been rounded off to the nearest thousand dollar unless otherwise indicated.

## **2 Fair value measurement**

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

- Financial assets / liabilities at fair value through profit or loss (FVPL) (see Note 5 and 6).

### *Business model – investment portfolio*

The Directors have determined that the Fund's investment portfolio is managed on a fair value basis and is neither held to collect contractual cash flows nor held both to collect contractual cash flows and to sell financial assets.

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

#### *(i) Fair value in an active market (level 1)*

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets is based on their quoted market prices at the end of the reporting period without any deduction for estimated future selling costs.

For the majority of its investments, the Fund relies on information provided by independent pricing services for the valuation of its investments.

The quoted market price used for financial assets held by the Fund is the current bid price; the appropriate quoted market price for financial liabilities is the current asking price. When the Fund holds derivatives with offsetting market risks, it uses mid market prices as a basis for establishing fair values for the offsetting risk positions and applies this bid or asking price to the net open position, as appropriate.

A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service, or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.

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

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. These include the use of recent arm's length market transactions, reference to the current fair value of a substantially similar other instrument, discounted cash flow techniques, option pricing models or any other valuation technique that provides a reliable estimate of prices obtained in actual market transactions.

Where discounted cash flow techniques are used, estimated future cash flows are based on management's best estimates and the discount rate used is a market rate at the end of the reporting period applicable for an instrument with similar terms and conditions.

## 2 Fair value measurement (continued)

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

For other pricing models, inputs are based on market data at the end of the reporting period. Fair values for unquoted equity investments are estimated, if possible, using applicable price/earnings ratios for similar listed companies adjusted to reflect the specific circumstances of the issuer.

The fair value of derivatives that are not exchange traded is estimated at the amount that the Fund would receive or pay to terminate the contract at the end of the reporting period taking into account current market conditions (volatility and appropriate yield curve) and the current creditworthiness of the counterparties. The fair value of a forward contract is determined as a net present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at appropriate market rates as at the valuation date.

Some of the inputs to these models may not be market observable and are therefore estimated based on assumptions.

The output of a model is always an estimate or approximation of a value that cannot be determined with certainty, and valuation techniques employed may not fully reflect all factors relevant to the positions the Fund holds. Valuations are therefore adjusted, where appropriate, to allow for additional factors including liquidity risk and counterparty risk.

The carrying value less impairment provision of other receivables and payables are assumed to approximate their fair values. The fair value of financial liabilities for disclosure purposes is estimated by discounting the future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rate that is available to the Fund for similar financial instruments.

### (a) Fair value hierarchy

#### Recognised fair value measurements

The table below presents the Fund's financial assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value as according to the fair value hierarchy at 31 December 2023 and 30 June 2023.

31 December 2023	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</b>				
Derivatives				
Forward currency contracts	–	9,670	–	9,670
Unlisted unit trusts	–	221,701	–	221,701
<b>Total</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>231,371</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>231,371</b>
<b>Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss</b>				
Derivatives				
Forward currency contracts	–	105	–	105
<b>Total</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>105</b>
30 June 2023	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</b>				
Derivatives				
Forward currency contracts	–	214	–	214
Unlisted unit trusts	–	254,772	–	254,772
<b>Total</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>254,986</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>254,986</b>
<b>Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss</b>				
Derivatives				
Forward currency contracts	–	4,848	–	4,848
<b>Total</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>4,848</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>4,848</b>

Investments whose values are based on quoted market prices in active markets and therefore classified within level 1, include active listed equity securities and exchange traded derivatives.

Financial instruments that trade in markets that are not considered to be active but are valued based on quoted market prices, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources supported by observable inputs are classified within level 2. As level 2 investments include positions that are not traded in active markets and/or are subject to transfer restrictions, valuations may be adjusted to reflect liquidity and/or non transferability, which are generally based on available market information.

## 2 Fair value measurement (continued)

### (a) Fair value hierarchy (continued)

*Recognised fair value measurements (continued)*

The Fund did not hold any level 3 instruments during the half-year ended 31 December 2023 (30 June 2023: Nil).

*Transfers between levels*

There were no transfers between the levels of the fair value hierarchy during the half-year ended 31 December 2023 and year ended 30 June 2023.

*Fair value of financial instruments not carried at fair value*

The carrying amounts of receivables and payables are assumed to approximate fair value. Net assets attributable to unitholders carrying value differs from its fair value (deemed to be redemption price for individual units) due to differences in valuation input. The difference is not material in the current or prior period.

## 3 Net assets attributable to unitholders

Under AASB 132 *Financial instruments: Presentation*, puttable financial instruments meet the definition of a financial liability to be classified as equity where certain strict criteria are met. The Fund shall classify a financial instrument as an equity instrument from the date when the instrument has all the features and meets the conditions.

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

	As at			
	31 December 2023 No.'000	30 June 2023 No.'000	31 December 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Opening balance	305,480	311,514	249,004	232,708
Applications	31,273	66,916	25,276	52,883
Redemptions	(74,141)	(72,973)	(59,899)	(57,796)
Units issued upon reinvestment of distributions	6	21	5	17
Units issued upon reinvestment of fee rebates	1	2	1	1
Distributions paid and payable	-	-	(543)	(2,465)
Profit for the period	-	-	17,541	23,656
Closing balance	<u>262,619</u>	<u>305,480</u>	<u>231,385</u>	<u>249,004</u>

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

### Capital risk management

The Fund considers its net assets attributable to unitholders as capital. The amount of net assets attributable to unitholders can change significantly on a daily basis as the Fund is subject to daily applications and redemptions at the discretion of unitholders. Net assets attributable to unitholders are representative of the expected cash outflows on redemption.

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

The Fund's investment strategy remains unchanged and it continues to hold direct investments which provide exposure to liquid assets including interest earnings and cash equivalent securities. As such, the Fund will meet any capital requirements from the liquidation of liquid assets, which include cash and cash equivalents.

#### 4 Distributions to unitholders

The distributions for the half-year were as follows:

	\$'000	Half-year ended		31 December 2022
		31 December 2023	31 December 2022	
		CPU	\$'000	CPU
Distributions paid				
- 30 September	280	0.10	306	0.10
- 31 December	3	0.10	2	0.10
Distributions payable				
- 31 December	260	0.10	315	0.10
	<u>543</u>		<u>623</u>	

#### 5 Financial assets held at fair value through profit or loss

	As at	
	31 December 2023	30 June 2023
	Fair value \$'000	Fair value \$'000
<b>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</b>		
Derivatives	9,670	214
Unlisted unit trusts	221,701	254,772
<b>Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</b>	<u>231,371</u>	<u>254,986</u>
<b>Comprising:</b>		
<b>Derivatives</b>		
Forward currency contracts	9,670	214
Total derivatives	9,670	214
<b>Unlisted unit trusts</b>		
Australian unlisted equity trusts	221,701	254,772
Total unlisted unit trusts	221,701	254,772
<b>Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</b>	<u>231,371</u>	<u>254,986</u>

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

	As at	
	31 December 2023	30 June 2023
	Fair value \$'000	Fair value \$'000
<b>Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss</b>		
Derivatives	105	4,848
<b>Total financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss</b>	<u>105</u>	<u>4,848</u>
<b>Comprising:</b>		
<b>Derivatives</b>		
Forward currency contracts	105	4,848
Total derivatives	105	4,848
<b>Total financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss</b>	<u>105</u>	<u>4,848</u>

## **7 Events occurring after the reporting period**

No significant events have occurred since the end of the reporting period which would impact on the financial position of the Fund disclosed in the balance sheet as at 31 December 2023 or on the results and cash flows of the Fund for the half-year ended on that date.

## **8 Contingent assets, liabilities and commitments**

There are no outstanding contingent assets, liabilities or commitments as at 31 December 2023 (30 June 2023: Nil).

## Directors' declaration

In the opinion of the directors of the Responsible Entity:

- (a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 4 to 12 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
  - (i) complying with Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
  - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date.
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

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



Andrew Duncan McKinnon  
Director

Sydney

6 March 2024



## ***Independent auditor's review report to the unitholders of Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund***

### **Report on the half-year financial report**

#### ***Conclusion***

We have reviewed the half-year financial report of Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund (the Registered Scheme) which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 December 2023, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the half-year ended on that date, selected explanatory notes and the directors of the Responsible Entity declaration.

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the accompanying half-year financial report of Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield (Hedged) Fund does not comply with the *Corporations Act 2001* including:

1. giving a true and fair view of the Registered Scheme's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date
2. complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

#### ***Basis for conclusion***

We conducted our review in accordance with ASRE 2410 *Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity* (ASRE 2410). Our responsibilities are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the review of the half-year financial report* section of our report.

We are independent of the Registered Scheme 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 the audit of the annual financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

#### ***Responsibilities of the directors of the Responsible Entity for the half-year financial report***

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

#### ***Auditor's responsibilities for the review of the half-year financial report***

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the half-year financial report based on our review. ASRE 2410 requires us to conclude whether we have become aware of any matter that makes us believe that

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the half-year financial report is not in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* including giving a true and fair view of the Registered Scheme's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date, and complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

A review of a half-year financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

  
PricewaterhouseCoopers

  
Klynton Hankin  
Partner

Sydney  
6 March 2024