



## **Agenda**

Macro review of 2022
Fund intro and comparison with ARC
ESG process and enhancements
Performance, positioning and engagements
Summary

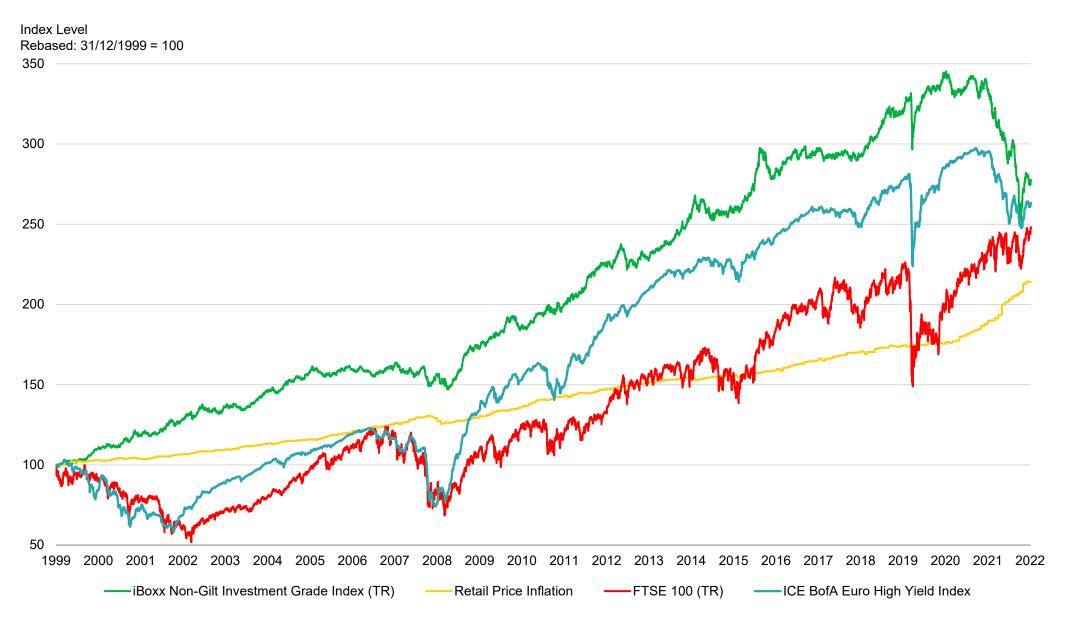


## **Macro review of 2022**





## Asset returns this century, UK/Europe

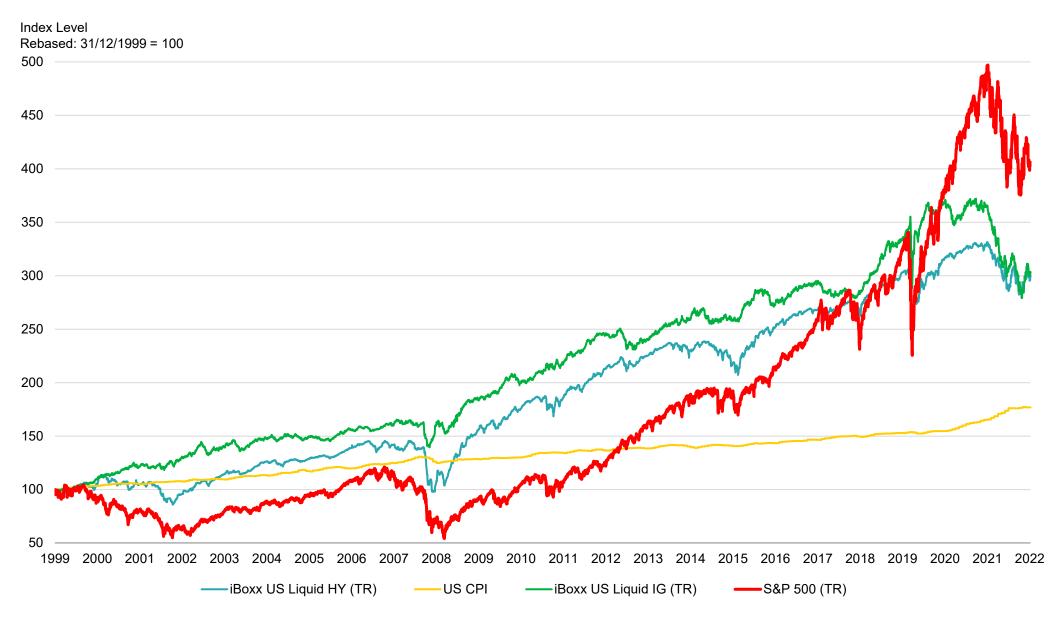


Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance. The value of an investment and the income from it can fall as well as rise as a result of market and currency fluctuations and you may not get back the amount originally invested. It is not possible to invest directly into an index and they will not be actively managed.

Source: TwentyFour, Bloomberg, iBoxx, ICE indices; 4 January 2023



## Asset returns this century, US



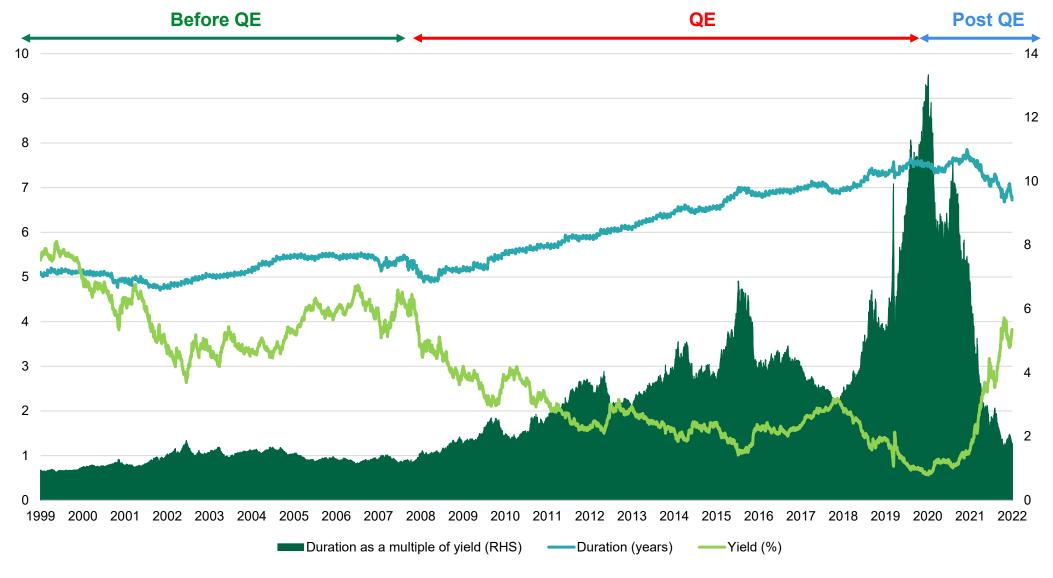
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Source: TwentyFour, Bloomberg, iBoxx, ICE indices; 4 January 2023



## The end of Q.E. looms large

#### Ratio of Duration (risk) vs. Yield (reward)



Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance. The value of an investment and the income from it can fall as well as rise as a result of market and currency fluctuations and you may not get back the amount originally invested. Underlying data BAML Global Broad Market Index. It is not possible to invest directly into an index and they will not be actively managed. Source: TwentyFour, ICE indices; 31 December 2022



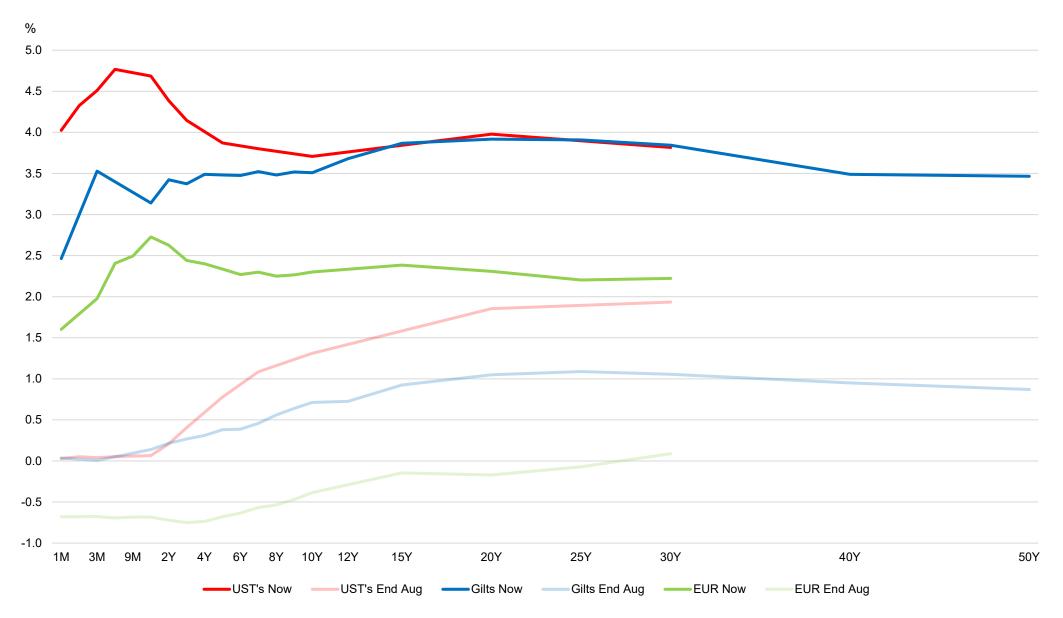
## Inflation was not transitory

	s us	Germany	<b>₩</b> UK	
CPI	7.10%	8.60%	10.70%	
Core CPI	6.00%	5.00%	6.30%	
PPI	7.40%	28.2%	14.8%	
Unemployment	3.70%	5.40%	3.70%	
Hikes so far	1 x 25bp, 2 x 50bp, 4 x 75bp	2 x 50bp, 2 x 75bp	5 x 25bp, 3 x 50bp, 1 x 75bp	
Hikes expected by end 2023	+50bp	+143bp	+105bp	
Official Rate	4.50%	2.50%	3.50%	
Terminal rate market expectation	5.00% (Jun 23)	3.38% (Sep 23)	4.53% (Aug 23)	
Mandate	Output + Inflation	Inflation	Inflation	
Risk of policy error?	Lowest	Highest	Medium	
Deposit Rate (3m LIBOR/SONIA)	4.78%	2.17%	3.89%	

Central banks have to walk a dangerous tightrope – hike rates to retain inflation credibility and generate a recession? Or prioritise growth – but at what cost?



## 2Yr UST's went from 0% yield to 4.75% in just over a year!



Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Source: TwentyFour, Bloomberg

Data as at 31 August 2021 & 5 January 2023

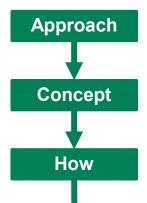


## Fund intro and comparison with ARC



# Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Sustainable Short Term Bond Income overview





We aim to provide a return of Cash +250bp after fees along with volatility of less than 3%

An actively managed genuinely sustainable, long only, unlevered bond fund, easy to understand and designed to keep volatility low

Core design focuses the main part of the fund in those assets we know have historically generated the very best Sharpe ratios, seeking to balance attractive returns with very low volatility

Active management of asset allocation to help further dampen volatility and protect capital

Highly focused on **security selection** to generate alpha and lower risks. All bonds have to pass a **rigorous screening process** to show that they deliver **good return potential with low volatility** 

Combines a traditional **negative screen** with a **positive screen and ESG Integration**, using **TwentyFour's ESG Scoring Model** 

Based on award winning Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Absolute Return Credit Fund

Outcome

We believe this has the potential to deliver good returns with low volatility and low drawdowns



Vontobal Fund - TwentyFour

## SSTBI matches ARC but adds screening + temperature commitments

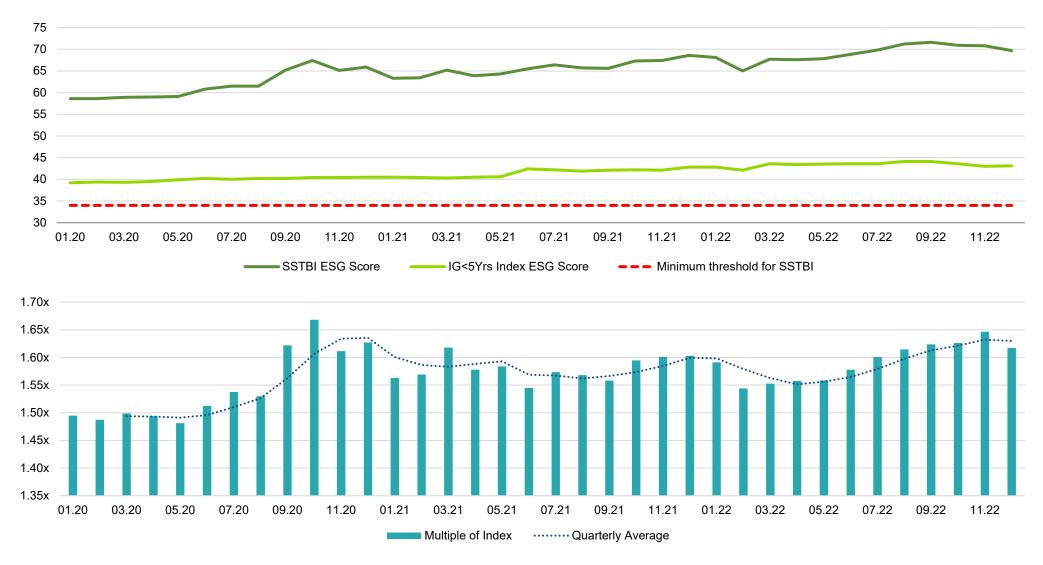
	Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Absolute Return Credit Fund (ARC)	Sustainable Short Term Bond Income (SSTBI)		
Volatility Ceiling	3%	3%		
Return Target (Net)*	Cash +250bp	Cash +250bp		
Duration Range	0 – 3.5yrs	0 - 3.5yrs		
Maximum maturity of any bond	Only limited by volatility	Maximum 5yrs^		
Minimum Short Dated** IG Exposure	>=66.67%	>=66.67%		
Minimum Credit Rating	BB-	BB-		
Maximum ABS Exposure	10%	10%		
Maximum Unrated Exposure	5%	5%		
Maximum CoCo Exposure	5%	5%		
SFDR	Article 8	Article 8 -> 9?		
MSCI Fund ESG Rating	AAA	AAA		
Long Only	✓	✓		
ESG Integration	✓	✓		
<b>✗</b> Negative Screen***	×	✓		
<b>▼</b> Positive Screen****	×	✓		
Temperature / Net Zero Commitments	*	40% -> 60% -> 80%		
Investment Approach	*	ESG score > Reference Index		

Subject to change, without notice, only the current prospectus or comparable document of the fund is legally binding. \*Targeted performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. The return target is an internal target only and is not an explicit objective for either fund. \*\*Defined as less than five years to maturity. \*\*\*No Tobacco, Alcohol, Gambling, Adult Entertainment, Weapons, Carbon Intensive Industries nor Animal Testing for cosmetic purposes. \*\*\*\*Minimum score of 34 on TwentyFour's proprietary ESG system. \*Maximum restriction of 5 years from Luxembourg regulator due to fund having 'Short Term' in the name. Source: TwentyFour; January 2023

# SSTBI has much higher ESG scores than a comparable reference index, 65% higher in fact



#### **ESG** scores (higher is better)

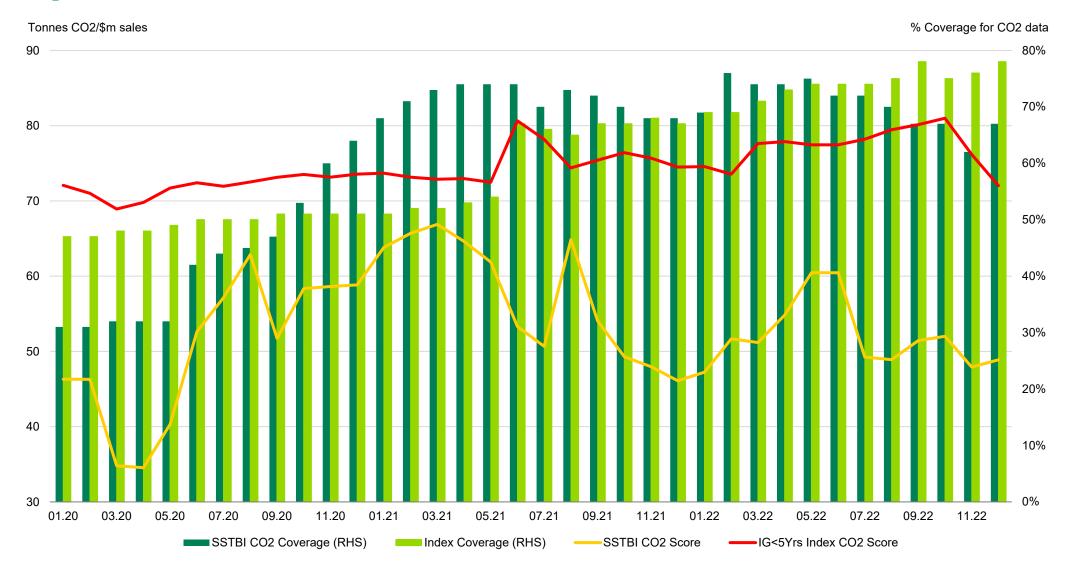


Past performance may not be a reliable indicator of current or future performance and ESG performance may not be a reliable indicator of investment performance. ICE Global IG Non-Sovereign Index has been used as the reference index. This was chosen as TwentyFour consider it an appropriate proxy for the IG universe but where the index's constituents have been capped at 5 years to maturity so as to match SSTBI's maturity restrictions. TwentyFour score USTs, Gilts and Bunds with an ESG score of 100, as the portfolio's holdings in these assets change over time the impact of this scoring on the overall portfolio's score will also change. Similarly, ABS will typically score higher than credit in ESG however as this is not considered a core asset for SSTBI the impact on the overall ESG is not thought to be significant. The reference index does not contain any USTs, Gilts, Bunds or ABS and so its ESG score will not reflect a similar impact. Source: TwentyFour, ICE Indices; 30 December 2022



## SSTBI's CO<sub>2</sub> impact

#### CO<sub>2</sub> impact (lower is better)



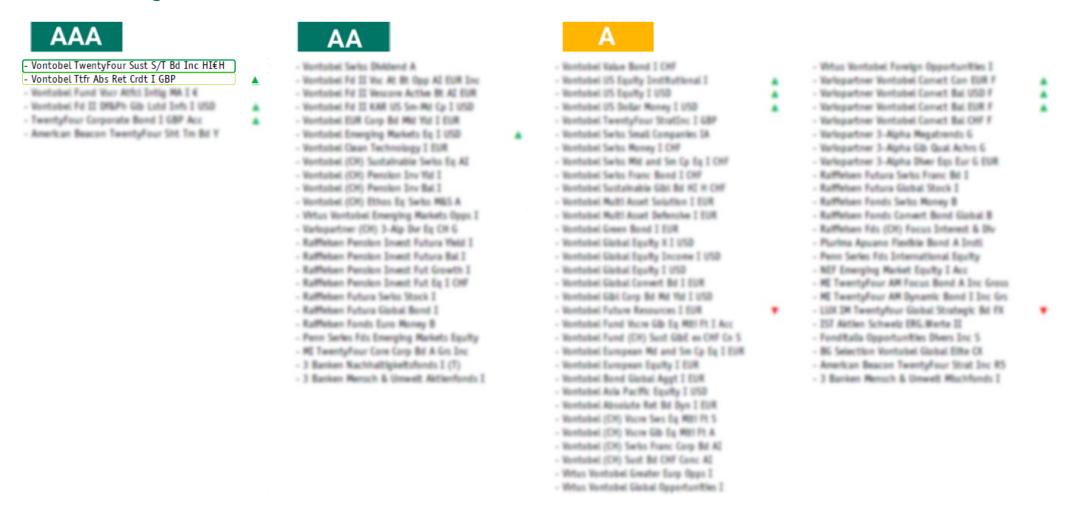
Past performance may not be a reliable indicator of current or future performance and ESG performance may not be a reliable indictor of investment performance. ICE Global IG Non-Sovereign Index has been used as the reference index. CO<sub>2</sub> impact for USTs, Gilts and Bunds are not currently considered as part of the scoring for SSTBI. For credit and ABS, where CO<sub>2</sub> data is not available TwentyFour will engage with the company however where no response has yet been received the CO2 impact is not scored and therefore not reflected in the above.

Source: TwentyFour, ICE Indices. 30 December 2022



## External ESG recognition – we score the highest possible

#### **MSCI ESG rating**



MSCI ESG Fund Ratings are designed to measure the ESG characteristics of a fund's underlying holdings, making it possible to rank or screen mutual funds and ETFs on a AAA to CCC ratings scale.

Please see Important Information for further details and related disclosures

Source: MSCI



## ESG process and enhancements since launch



## We don't have a separate ESG team. All our PM's are ESG analysts











































































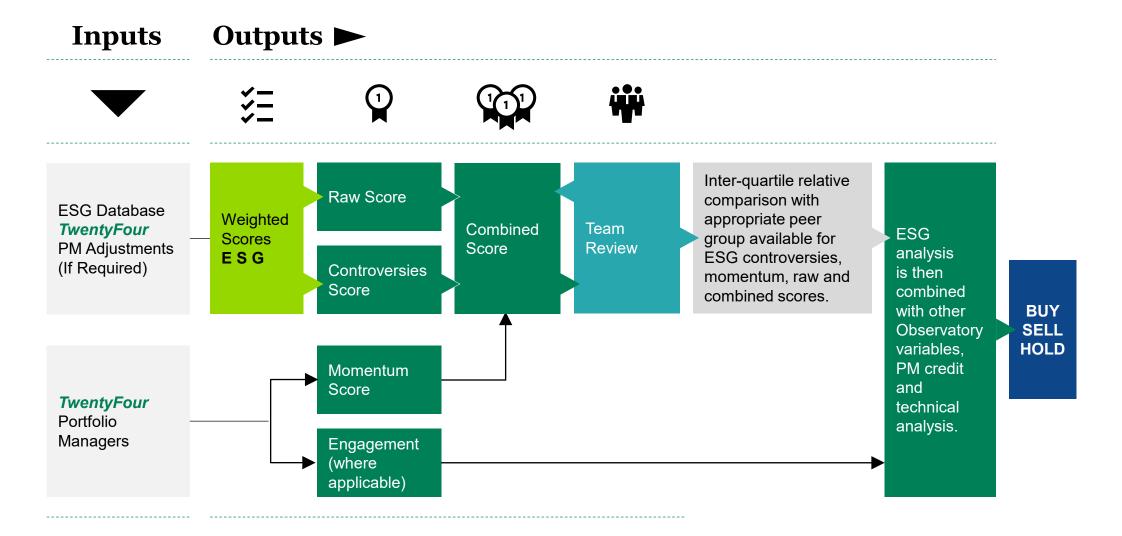
**Asset Backed Securities** 

**Multi-Sector Bond** 

**Outcome Driven** 



## How we score companies for maximum effectiveness



# ESG momentum – it's about a journey that can benefit everyone



 We believe that investing in companies who are committed to change can benefit everyone:



Society benefits from de-carbonisation and other 'S' factors



The company benefits from a lower cost of capital



Bond holders benefit

- The momentum score will often be higher than the current ESG score, recognising that the company has to deliver on promises before their current ESG score is likely to improve
- In many ways this is almost the opposite of green bonds, where companies are already able to borrow at cheap levels
- We believe that companies that score high in momentum have the potential to be the best performing sustainable credit investments, as steady improvement and fall in the cost of capital should translate into capital gains for holders

### **Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE)**

- In 2017 SSE made a commitment to exit coal
- We had high confidence that they were serious about this at board level
- As a result, we gave them a high score on momentum
- They exited coal completely in 2020, one year ahead of schedule
- They are now leading the push into renewables in the UK, which is helping to keep their momentum score high

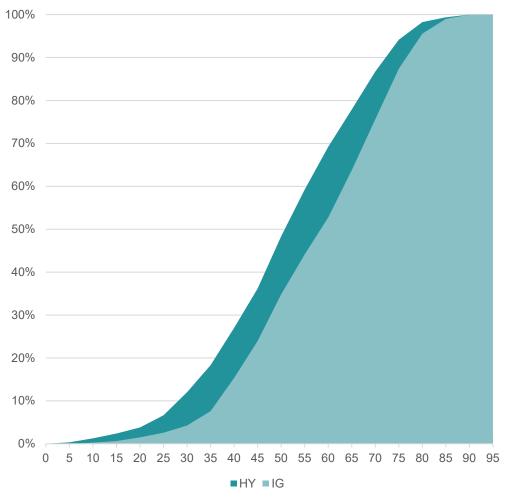




## **ESG** score distribution across IG and HY

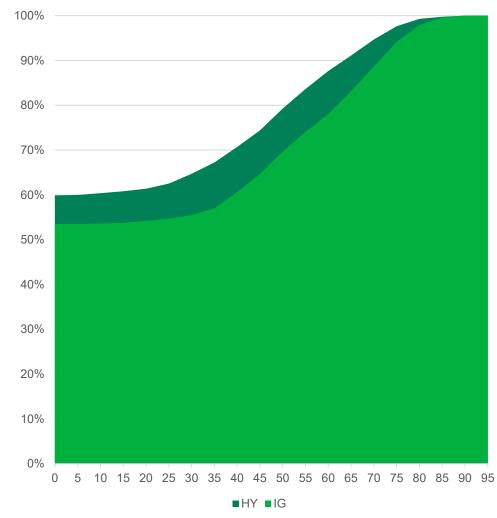
#### **Scored companies**

Cumulative distribution



#### Scored and unscored companies

Cumulative distribution



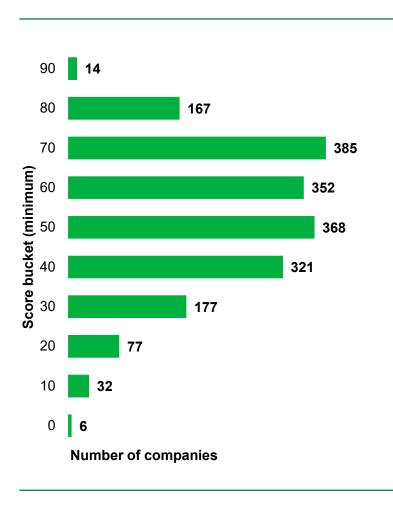
For illustrative purposes only. Based on the Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Sustainable Short Term Bond Income fund's portfolio as at the date below using TwentyFour's ESG scoring methodology. Scores include those that TwentyFour have manually overridden or have formulated themselves based on the same or very similar selection criteria and questioning as the raw data provider, Asset 4. Source: TwentyFour (Observatory), Asset4

December 2022

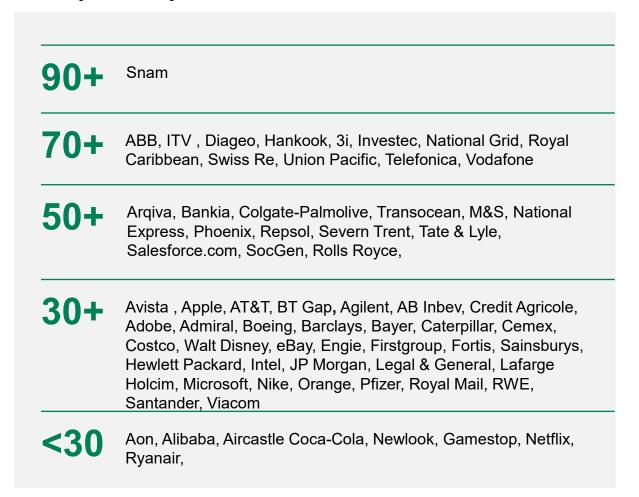


## Third-party ESG data might not match your expectations

#### **ESG** score distribution



## **Example companies within score bands**



For illustrative purposes only. The companies identified above do not represent all securities held and should not be seen as investment advice or a personal recommendation to hold the same or similar. No assumption should be made as to the profitability or performance of any company identified or security associated with them. Scores include those that TwentyFour have manually overridden or have formulated themselves based on the same or very similar selection criteria and questioning as the raw data provider, Asset 4.

Source: TwentyFour, Observatory. December 2022

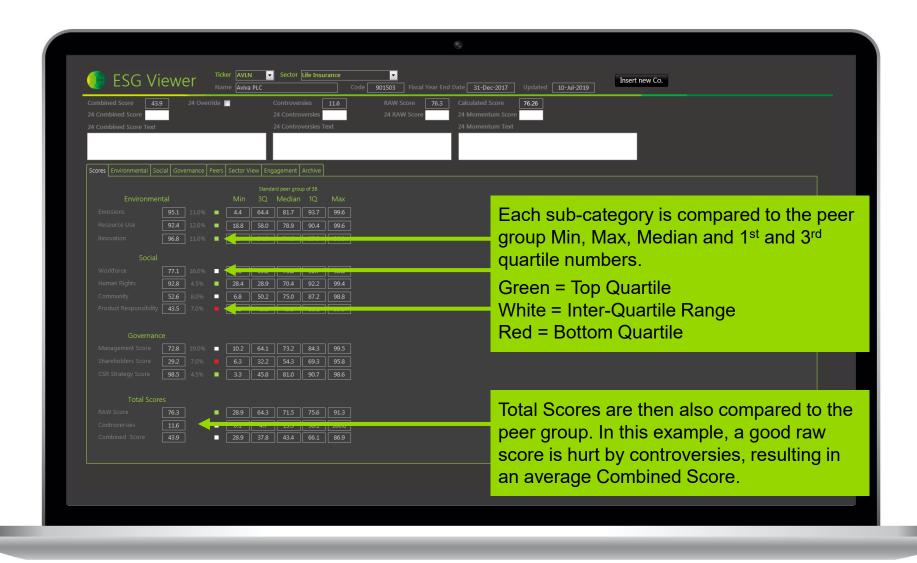


## Asset4 data directly integrates into Observatory



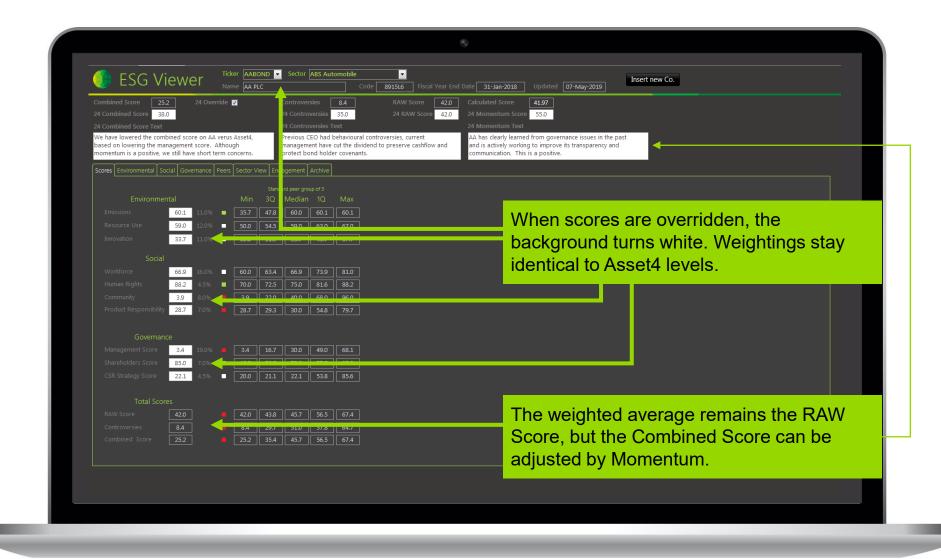


## Peer group comparisons are key



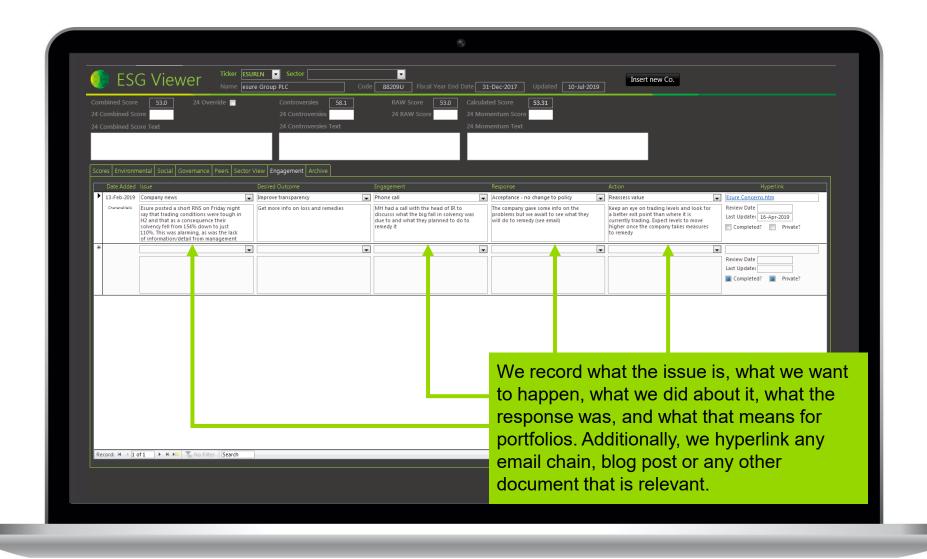


## We do not rely on Asset4 – PMs can override





## Our engagement is key – can lead to a score override





## **Changes since launch**

- SSTBI Article 8 -> Article 9
  - > Regulatory submission filed in August 2022
  - > Feedback in late November was that we fulfil the criteria for Article 9 under existing legislation...but...ESMA are changing the rules
  - > Article 9 case will now centre on 'temperate alignment' for the corporate bonds in the portfolio
  - > Observatory enhanced with temperature/net zero alignment data and functionality

### Sustainable SIF

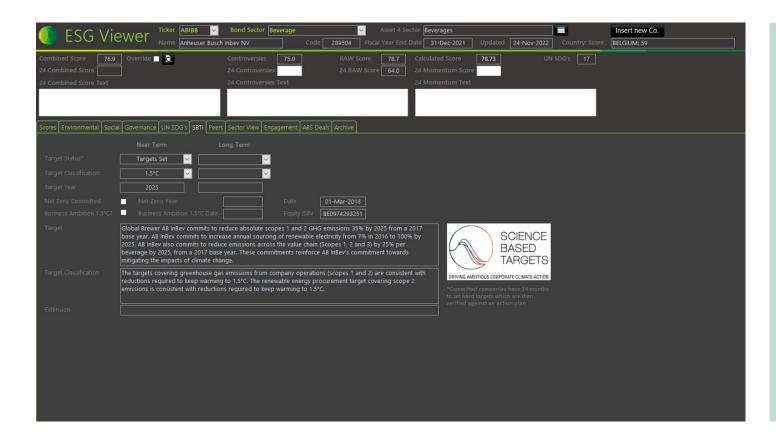
- > Feedback from potential investors was that a Country ESG Model was required
- > After several months' work we chose an additional data feed from Refinitiv/LSEG (same source as Asset4)
- > We then created our own country model based on a sub-set of this data

## Work in progress for implementation in early 2023

- > We are looking at adding additional datasets to Observatory such as:
  - > PAI's
  - > Taxonomy Revenues
  - > Forward looking temperature data



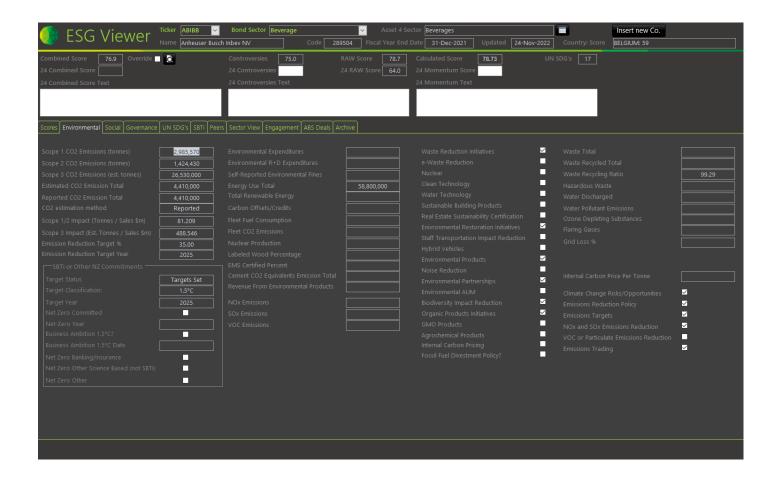
## Temperature alignment – SBTi is our preferred alignment



- Our preference is for companies to adopt "Science Based Targets" from the Scient Based Targets Initiative (SBTi)
- Many IG companies are rapidly adopting this
- Targets range from 'Committed' at the lowest level, to a 2° target, with the most stringent being 1.5°
- Nearly half of SSTBI is already temperature aligned



## **Temperature alignment – other variants**



- SBTi is not the only way
- Other initiatives exist in the financial sector, or in other sectors
- We store all of this in Observatory for our portfolio reporting

# Temperature Alignment – SSTBI already compliant with Article 9 promises





Portfolio Name: Sustainable Short Term Bond Income Live

Relative to index: IGSHORT

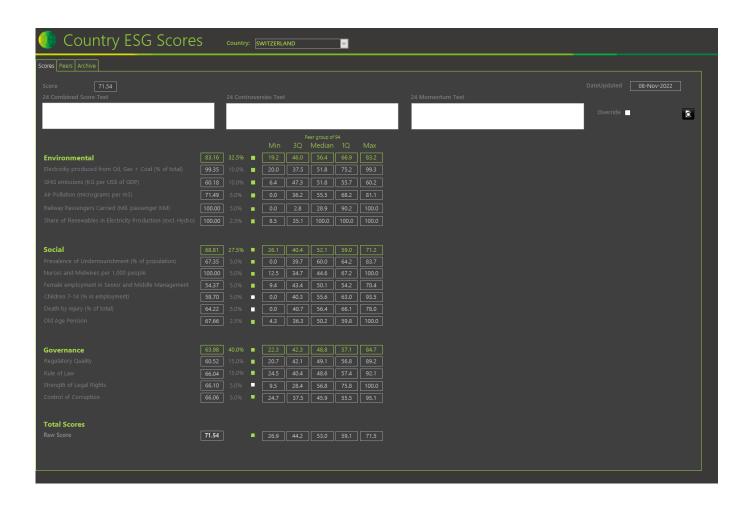
DRIVING AMBITTOUS CORPORATE CLIMATE ACTION Data as at 30-Nov-2022, printed at 09-Dec-2022 10:07, page 1 of 5

Article 9 Commitments	Portfolio Weight Co2		Index Weight Co2		Ratio Co2
Aligned - Non SBTi	8.63%		4.73%		
Aligned - Credit Banking-Insurance	1.79%	4.4	1.03%	4.4	0.0%
Aligned - Other Science Based (not SBTi)	6.84%	36.0	3.69%	8.1	344.9%
Aligned - SBTi	32.93%		27.84%		
Aligned - Committed	15.99%	5.9	13.36%	37.0	-84.1%
Aligned - Targets Set	16.93%	187.1	14.47%	135.6	38.0%
Not aligned	51.43%		75.00%		
Not aligned - Credit	35.60%	49.7	75.00%	76.0	-34.6%
Not aligned - Government Bond	15.82%				

- SSTBI already >40% aligned, therefore compliant with our Article 9 submission
- Limits rise to 60%, then 80% over the next few years
- Why limit at 80%? Because we can own up to 20% in government bonds (currently at ~15%)
- Will we become Article 9 in Q1?
   We hope so, but if ESMA apply even more strict criteria, we may stay as Article 8
- \$125bn of Article 9 funds have recently chosen to revert to Article 8 given the more stringent 100% of investments criteria



## **Country Model added to Observatory**

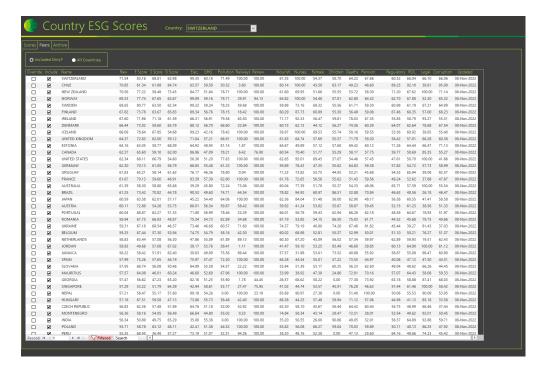


- Feedback from potential investors was that the company model was not enough, given such a wide investment universe; the process had to include a country model also
- I spent several months with the MSB team going through options and prototyping database changes
- We ultimately subscribed to an additional country dataset from Refinitiv/LSEG (same people who do Asset4)
- We then took that data and narrowed it down to the 15 categories we believe are the best to focus on

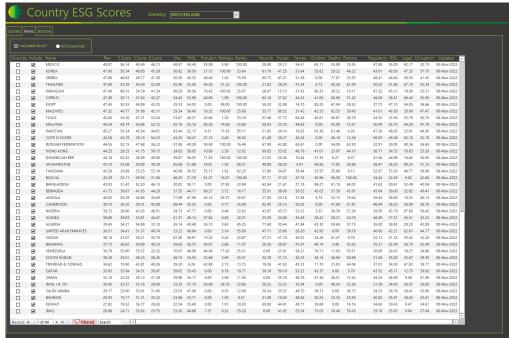


## SSIF Country Model – Switzerland scores the highest, Iraq the worst

#### **Highest Scores**



#### **Lowest Scores**





## Work in progress for 2023

- We are looking at adding additional datasets to Observatory, that should further elevate our client reporting
- PAI's work on this well advanced, we have 95% of the data already, looking at getting the remaining 5% onboard in Q1 2023 before going live with this report
- Taxonomy/Green Revenues work just started, additional data costs for us but seem reasonable.
   Possible solution in Q1 2023
- Forward looking temperature data we currently use MSCI but we are very unhappy with the
  results/quality of data. Even our clients are telling us to ditch MSCI as they have their own concerns on the
  poor quality of the results
  - > We have a potential alternative solution and have been promised we will get beta access to this dataset which is promised in Q2 2023 (but this is outside our control)



## Performance, positioning and engagements





## ESG - the good versus the bad





### **Environmental + Governance**

#### Heimstaden

#### Environmental

- · Detailed sustainability disclosures
- Openly acknowledged consequence of the current energy crisis will result in an increase in emissions
- Heimstaden was one of the first European REITs to commit to the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)

#### Governance:

- Clear investor communication
- Made clear their commitment to calling bonds at their first call date
- Early tender of their hybrid bonds demonstrated their commitment to bondholders

#### Action

- We took advantage of attractive tender terms and exited our position
- · Consider reinvesting if valuations look attractive





#### **Environmental + Governance**

#### **Aroundtown**

#### Environmental

- Weak environmental disclosures
- Refusal to commit to a firmwide net zero target

#### Governance

- Inconsistent communication with investors
- · Failed to call their hybrid bonds at their first call date
- Announced they may suspend hybrid coupons to preserve liquidity despite having c. EUR 3bn of cash on their balance sheet. Hybrid bonds fell c. 10pts and seniors 4pts on this announcement
- Subsequently announced a 300m senior tender which contradicts their prior liquidity concerns
  - Bonds were trading c. 4pts lower than before their liquidity announcement – almost market manipulation in our opinion
- Accepted less than 100m of the 300m tender, further highlighting to us their lack of commitment to bondholders

#### Action

- We sold the vast majority of our position ahead of these announcements
- · Remain divested



## Where ESG factors affected management decisions





## **Virgin Money**

- Targeted engagement with Virgin Money which generated a very thorough response
- Scope 3 emissions signed up to PCAF, set boundaries and collect data to undertake the detailed calculations of financed emissions. Reengagement produced some but not all scope 3 data points and are exploring external data providers to help with this
- Currently have a significant internal data project ongoing to capture EPC data - and created a scoring system on broad ESG credentials in conjunction with Future Fit which covers all 17 SDGs - will help prevent any greenwashing in sustainability linked loan applications
- Action: Gave us the confidence to maintain overweight position



#### Social

### **Auxmoney**

- Examining a new issue from AUXMO we considered the high interest rates charged by the business
- High rates gave us concern around the sustainability of the business model.
   Targeting customers with a 50% default rate does not indicate a pro-social approach
- With 5% CDR and 10%+ WAC this does not fit as a sustainable business
- Action: passed on this deal



#### Governance

#### **Allianz**

- We engaged with Allianz following the misselling of structured alpha funds to clients through fund mismarketing and mismarking of performance
- Allianz's response that this was an isolated incident, supported by a US Department of Justice ruling that called it "limited". Allianz has subsequently paid compensation externally, while internally it has actually reduced the number of committees in its risk department to make accountability and responsibility more clear. It has also increased external auditing of the risk and compliance functions to ensure this does not happen again
- Action: In our view management has taken appropriate steps to prevent a recurrence, and we will continue to hold

These views represent the opinions of TwentyFour as at January 2023, they may change and may have already been acted upon. They may also not be shared by other entities within the Vontobel Group. The companies identified above have been used for illustrative purposes only and should not be deemed a recommendation to purchase, hold or sell the same or similar. No assumption should be made as to the profitability or performance of any company identified or security associated with them. They are intended to demonstrate the approach taken when focusing on ESG criteria within an investment decision.



## **ESG** - changes to the portfolio





#### **Environmental + Governance**

#### **Brookfield Real Estate Partners**

- A leading provider of Student accommodation in the UK
- Environmental and Governance
  - The team conducts wide ranging periodic review of environmental policies and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions with all current issuers. Typically, companies responded with the correct documents; and/or companies that did not have certain polices or data in place will demonstrate good intentions and actionable steps they had already made in order to satisfy investors' need for greater environmental coverage
  - In this instance it was not the case, and we were severely disappointed by the engagement with Student Finance; their response signalled that they had no intention to communicate the slightest indication of their future objectives with regards to these matters

#### Action

 The team felt this, combined with our general outlook on the student accommodation sector given the COVID-19 pandemic and a mark down on separate governance issues, warranted exiting all positions in relevant Outcome Driven portfolios





#### **Social + Governance**

#### **Credit Suisse**

#### Social and Governance

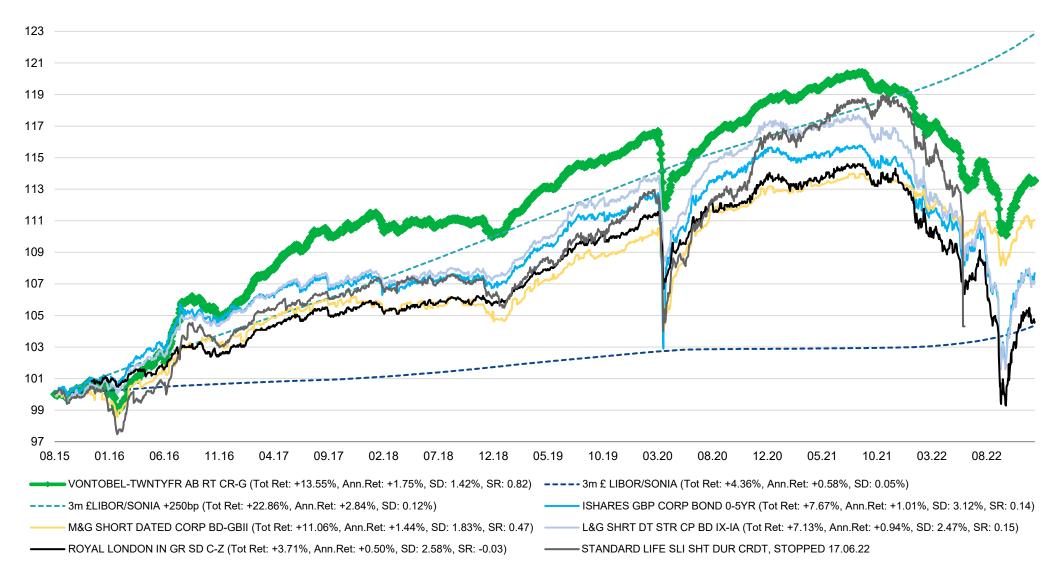
- In 2022 Credit Suisse reported another legal issue, this time at a Bermudan Court against their local insurance subsidiary; this followed Archegos, Greensill reports and dubious clients in recent times
- This was believed to be an earnings issue rather than a capital worry at Credit Suisse, however, the accumulation and continuation of multiple reports of poor historical business practices were concerning. Therefore, the team discussed continuing to hold the position across our funds

#### Action

Whilst Credit Suisse's score was still above the 34 threshold, we
made the prudent decision to rotate out of our Credit Suisse
AT1 exposure in our sustainable funds due to the ongoing
headlines risk around the company and the number of
controversies published in the media linked to business ethics in
general

# Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Absolute Return Credit Fund performance since inception vs. short-dated peers (GBP)



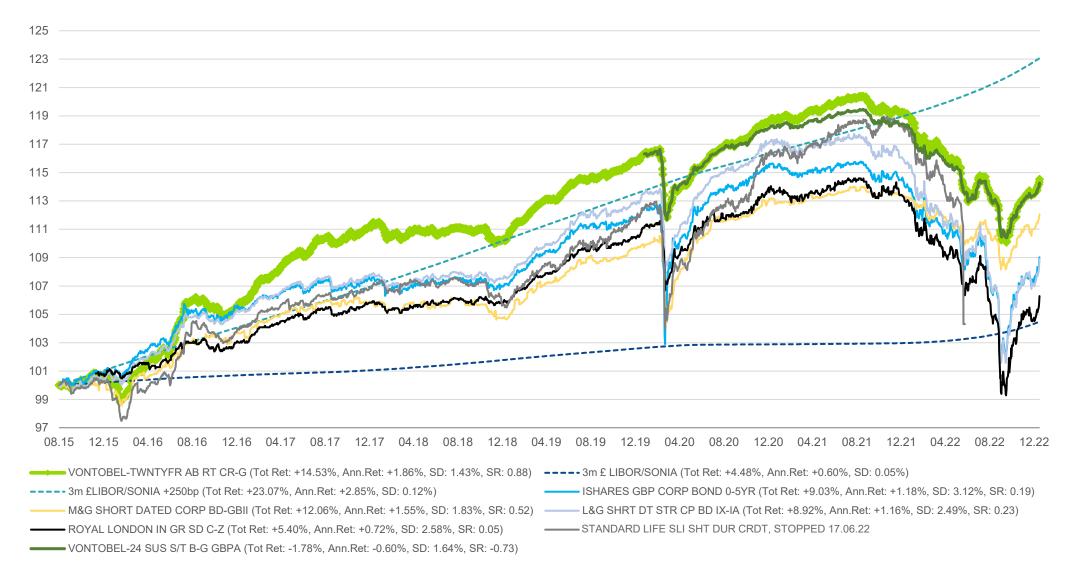


Peer group chosen internally based on funds with broadly similar investment objectives regarding performance (3m GBP LIBOR/SONIA +250bp after fees) and/or volatility (less than 3%). The information for comparison purposes only and each fund shown will have its own investment objectives, risks, expenses, liquidity, and tax features.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance. Performance for the G GBP share class on a mid-to-mid basis inclusive of net reinvested income and net of all fund expenses since inception of G GBP share class on 28 August 2015. Performance data does not take into account any commissions and costs charged when shares of the fund are issued and redeemed, if applicable. The return of the fund may go down as well as up due to changes in exchange rates. It is not possible to invest directly into an index and they will not be actively managed. 3m GBP LIBOR used up to 31 December 2021, SONIA used thereafter following 3m GBP LIBOR's cessation. Source: TwentyFour, Bloomberg, ICE Indices; 30 December 2022



# SSTBI has performed very similarly to ARC from launch

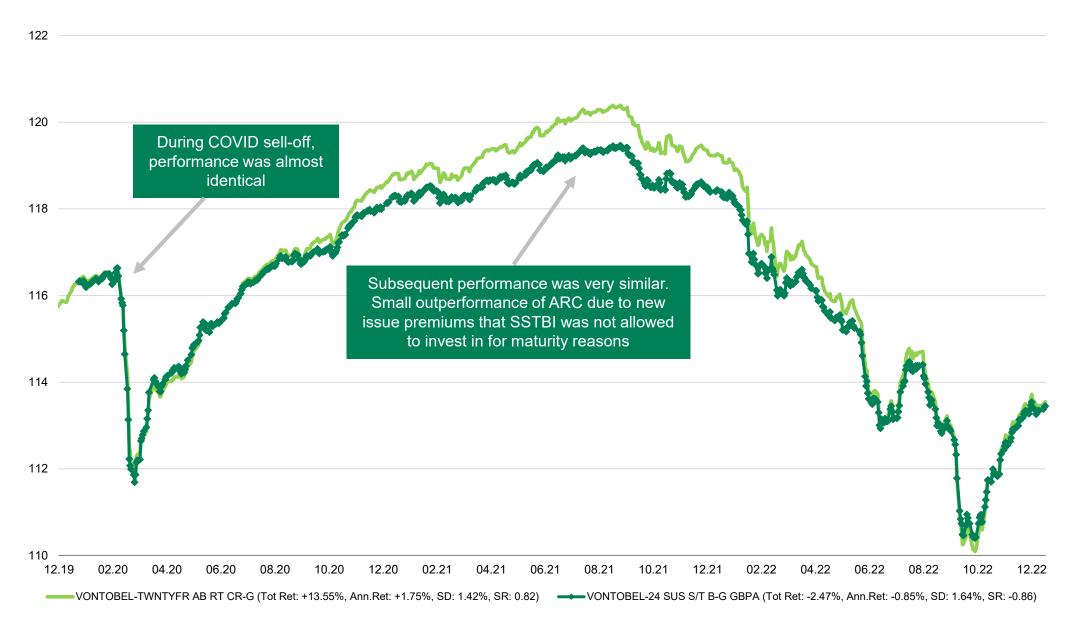


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# SSTBI has performed very similarly to ARC from launch



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Source: TwentyFour. 30 December 2022

# Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Absolute Return Credit Fund performance (GBP)



					Annualised				
	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	Since inception**	
G GBP share class	0.38%	2.98%	0.53%	-4.80%	-0.65%	0.42%	N/A	1.75%	
Cash +250bps*	0.40%	1.14%	2.08%	3.56%	2.99%	3.06%	N/A	3.00%	

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
G GBP share class	-4.80%	0.52%	2.47%	5.02%	-0.83%	5.25%	4.99%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cash +250bps*	3.56%	2.58%	2.81%	3.25%	3.06%	2.75%	2.93%	N/A	N/A	N/A

# Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Sustainable Short-Term Bond Income performance (GBP)



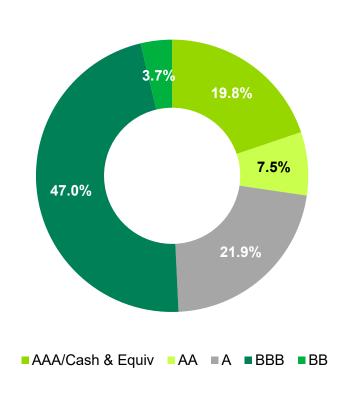
					Annualised				
	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	Since inception**	
G GBP share class	0.40%	2.71%	0.45%	-4.21%	N/A	N/A	N/A	-0.85%	
Cash +250bps*	0.40%	1.14%	2.08%	3.56%	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.98%	

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
G GBP share class	-4.21%	0.24%	N/A							
Cash +250bps*	3.56%	2.58%	N/A							

# Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Sustainable Short Term Bond Income portfolio positioning

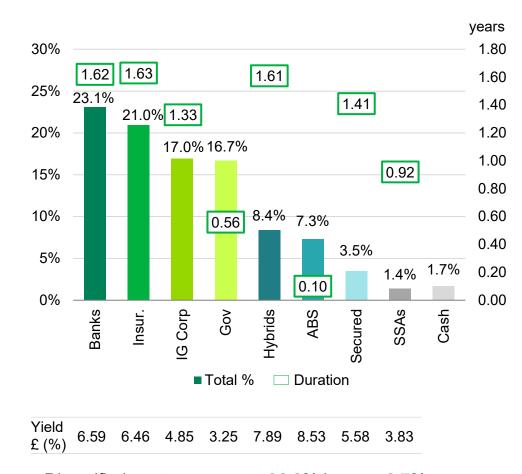


#### Rating breakdown



47.0% in BBBs, 3.7% in BBs

#### Sector breakdown



Diversified sector exposure, 96.3% in core, 3.7% non-core

#### GBP yield 5.71%, IR duration 1.24yrs, credit duration 1.30yrs, average rating A

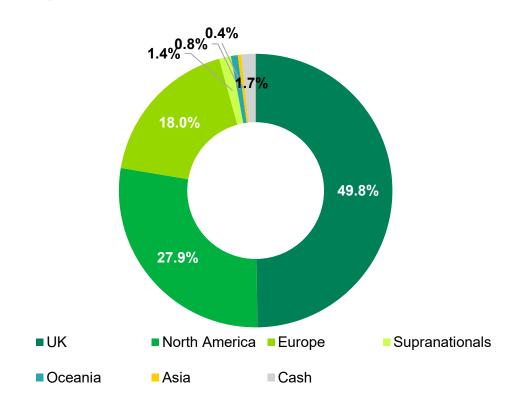
Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance. Yields shown are Yield to Worst which is a measure of the lowest possible yield that can be achieved on a bond with an early retirement provision that fully operates within its contract without defaulting. Yield shown is in GBP at hedged portfolio level and gross of expenses. Performance data is on a mid-to-mid basis inclusive of net reinvested income and net of all fund expenses. Performance data does not take into account any commissions and costs charged when shares of the fund are issued and redeemed, if applicable. The return of the fund may go down as well as up due to changes in exchange rates. See Important Information slides for further information on TwentyFour's credit rating and average credit rating methodology.

Source: TwentyFour; 30 December 2022

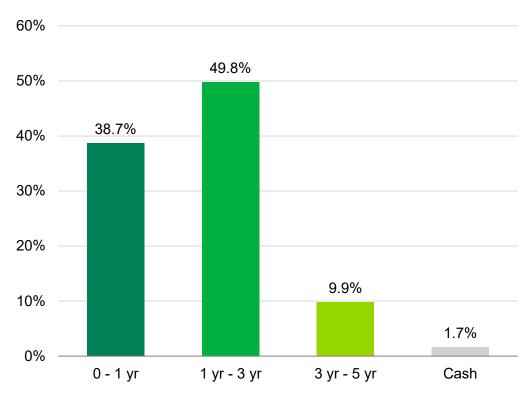
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#### Geographic breakdown



#### **Maturity breakdown**



We believe the UK offers the most attractive yield opportunities

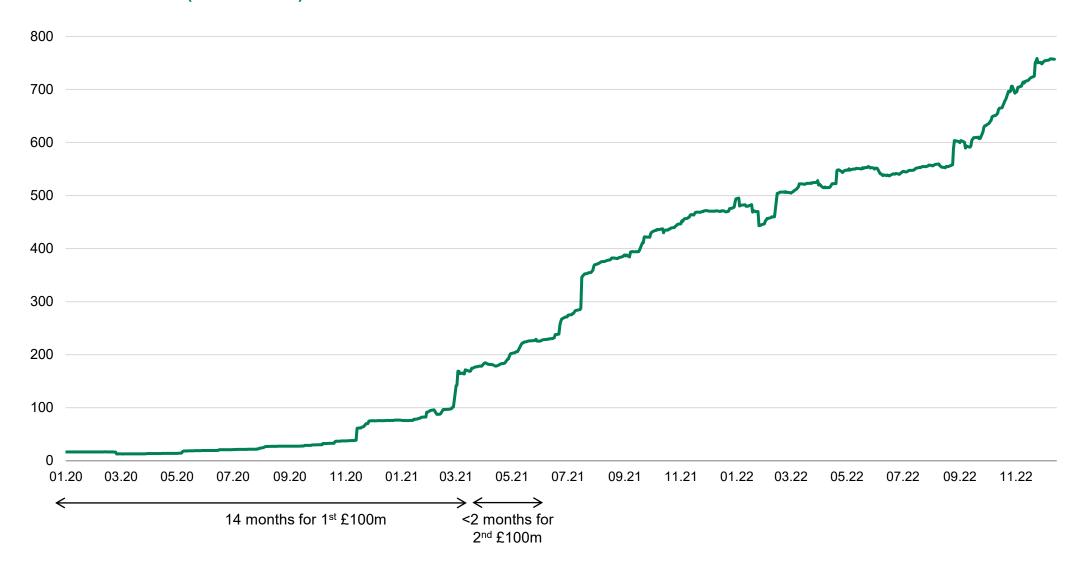
Focused on the short end of yield curve

30 December 2022



# Rapid growth in SSTBI AUM in 2021

#### Fund total assets (GBP million)



Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance. Performance figures are based on the G GBP share class on a mid-to-mid basis inclusive of net reinvested income and net of all fund expenses. Performance data does not take into account any commissions and costs charged when shares of the fund are issued and redeemed, if applicable. The return of the fund may go down as well as up due to changes in exchange rates. Inception date of Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Sustainable Short Term Bond Income G GBP share class: 22 January 2020.

Source: TwentyFour. 30 December 2022

# Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Sustainable Short Term Bond Income



#### **Key risks**

- Limited participation in the potential of single securities.
- Success of single security analysis and active management cannot be guaranteed.
- It cannot be guaranteed that the investor will recover the capital invested.
- Derivatives entail risks relating to liquidity, leverage and credit fluctuations, illiquidity and volatility.
- Interest rates may vary, bonds suffer price declines on rising interest rates.
- High-yield bonds (non-investment-grade bonds/junk bonds) may be subject to greater market fluctuations, risk of default or loss of income and principal than higher-rated bonds.
- The Sub-Fund's investments may be subject to sustainability risks. The sustainability risks that the Sub-Fund may be subject to are likely to have an immaterial impact on the value of the Sub-Fund's investments in the medium to long term due to the mitigating nature of the Sub-Fund's ESG approach.
- The Sub-Fund's performance may be positively or negatively affected by its sustainability strategy.
- The ability to meet social or environmental objectives might be affected by incomplete or inaccurate data from third-party providers.
- Information on how environmental and social objectives are achieved and how sustainability risks are managed in this Sub-Fund may be obtained from Vontobel.com/SFDR.



# Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Absolute Return Credit Fund

#### **Key risks**

- Limited participation in the potential of single securities.
- Success of single security analysis and active management cannot be guaranteed.
- It cannot be guaranteed that the investor will recover the capital invested.
- Derivatives entail risks relating to liquidity, leverage and credit fluctuations, illiquidity and volatility.
- Interest rates may vary, bonds suffer price declines on rising interest rates.
- High-yield bonds (non-investment-grade bonds/junk bonds) may be subject to greater market fluctuations, risk of default or loss of income and principal than higher-rated bonds.
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# **Summary**





# **Summary for last 3 years**

#### Macro

- The fund has lived through both Covid and 2022, with 2022 being the worst year for bonds in living memory: yields and spreads both widened very significantly leading to capital losses
- · We were underweight duration and overweight government bonds, both of which helped relative performance significantly
- We were overweight beta which cost relative performance

#### **ESG**

- Our Observatory ESG system has been called "best in class" by a variety of consultants and investors alike, and we continue to develop it, adding SBTi, UN SDG's and a Country Model during 2022. There is more still to come, such as PAI's, Taxonomy Revenues and forward looking temperature guidance
- Several engagements over the three years have resulted in portfolio changes
- We achieved permission from the CSSF to be considered Article 9 aligned in December 2022, but the rules are changing in Q1 2023
  - > We have adopted stringent temperature commitments as part of that, and will keep those whether we are considered Article 9 aligned under the new rules or not

#### **Opportunity**

- Yields are now very attractive, with spreads also being at historic wides, whilst duration remains at all time lows with high average credit quality: we think this "is the best game in town"
- The fund has achieved critical scale, being almost £800m, having net inflows of £300m in 2022
- The fund is AAA rated by MSCI and has been awarded buy ratings by many institutional consultants and wealth managers

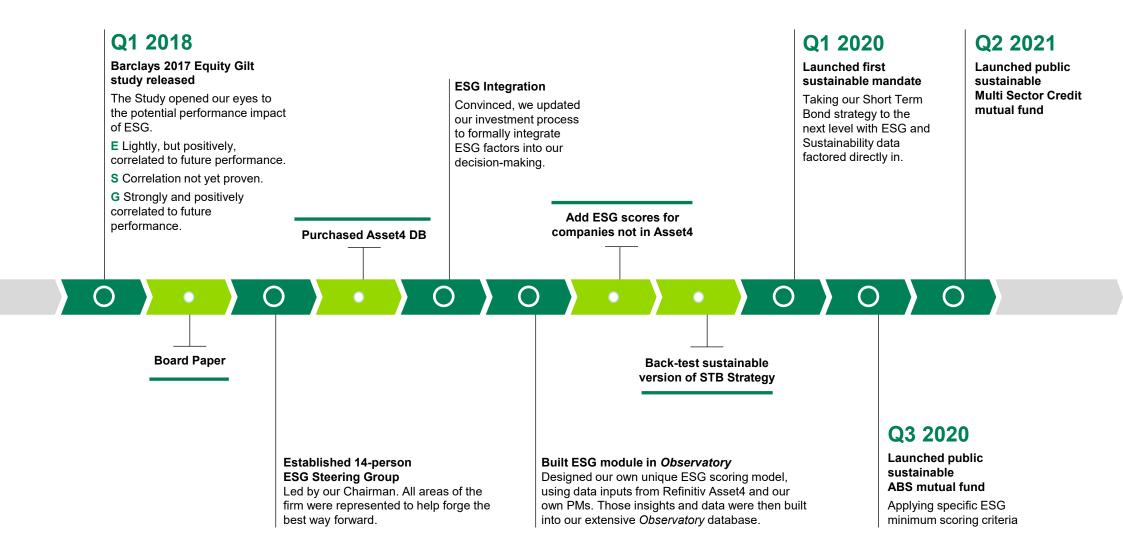


# **Appendix**





# TwentyFour's ESG journey

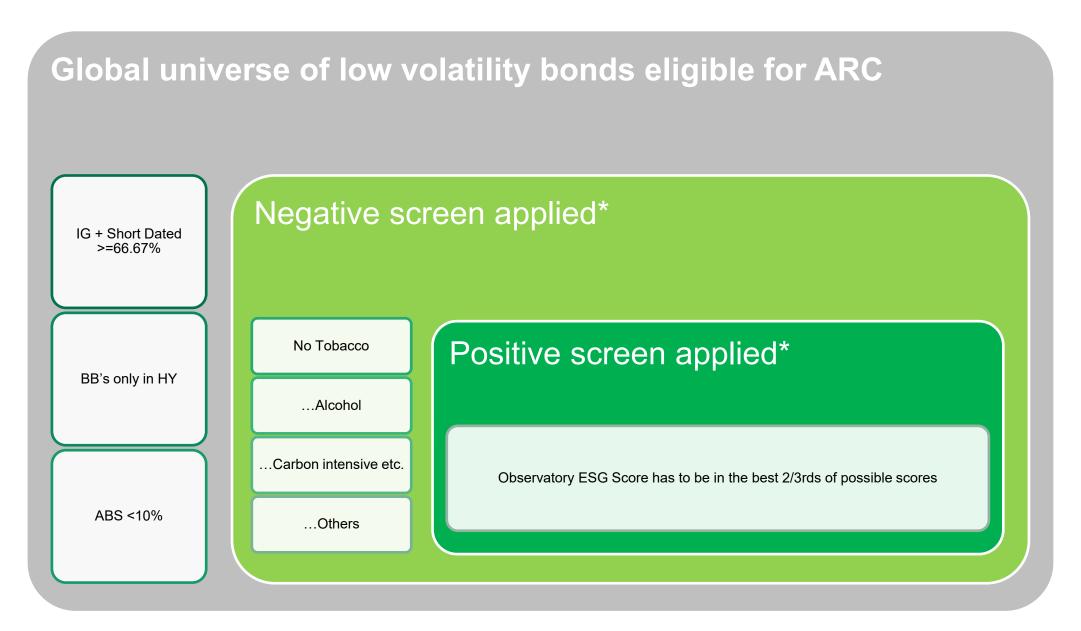


Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance.

Source: TwentyFour November 2021



### **How is Sustainable different?**



<sup>\*</sup>Negative and Positive Screens would only be applied to Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Sustainable Short Term Bond Income Source: TwentyFour



# Engagements that have affected portfolio positioning









#### Socia

#### **Brookfield Real Estate Partners**

- A leading provider of Student accommodation in the UK
- The team had conducted a wide ranging periodic review of environmental policies and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions with all current issuers. For the most part this resulted in successful email exchanges with key investor relations representatives
- Typically companies responded with the correct documents; and/or companies that did not have certain polices or data in place currently were able to demonstrate good intentions and actionable steps they had already made in order to satisfy investors' need for greater environmental coverage
- We were severely disappointed by the engagement with Student Finance; their response signalled that they had no intention to communicate the slightest indication of their future objectives with regards to these matters
- The team felt this, combined with our general outlook on the student accommodation sector given the COVID-19 pandemic and a mark down on separate governance issues, warranted exiting all positions in relevant Outcome Driven portfolios

#### **FrieslandCampina**

- 5<sup>th</sup> largest dairy product manufacturer globally, operating in over 100 countries
- The company came with a new issue and as part of our due-diligence process and credit work we found a story about suspected child labour in the company's supply chain (at farms in a town in Nigeria that supply the company with milk)
- We sought further information from the company; whether they were investigating the claim, what procedures they had in place to prevent this happening and what steps they would take to ensure it didn't happen again if found to be true
- We received a very thorough, detailed and prompt response from the company showing they were taking the allegations very seriously and they had partnered with an NGO to investigate and the NGO found these allegations to be false. Nevertheless, the NGO made suggestions on improvements which Royal Friesland are reviewing. We were pleased with the company's response and felt this was investible
- Ultimately placed an order for the new issue but withdrew support when pricing tightened too much (from 3.375% to 2.85%)



#### Governance

#### Veolia

- We had a call with management ahead of their hybrid bond issuance
- The company is in the process of acquiring Suez and are considering a number of options to force this transaction through. It is likely a hostile takeover will occur (management did hint this would be the likely outcome) and we have some governance concerns on this strategy. We think the bonds are likely to be volatile and very sensitive to the inevitable headline risk. Therefore we decided to pass and we will re-evaluate this name after the takeover is complete
- Chose not to participate and subsequent price performance has confirmed our fears (bonds more volatile than peers)



# **ESG** is at the core of TwentyFour

Having a diverse and positive working environment is a core principle.





# As a firm we are carbon neutral

We use hard data from our landlord, flight data, plus staff surveys on commuting miles to calculate our CO<sub>2</sub> impact as 167 tonnes\*. We offset this amount with an investment with carbonfootprint.com

# Diversity and inclusion initiatives and training

- Proud to be supporting the '10,000 black interns' and Investment 20/20 initiatives.
- Incorporating social mobility factors into our recruitment process.

We cannot judge others without looking at ourselves.

# Actively managed charity program with donation matching.



Making the financial sector more attractive to women is fundamental to our ethos.

We recognise that fixed income typically has had fewer women in senior positions. In order to help encourage more women into the bond market, we now run a mentoring scheme with Queen Mary University of London (our geographically closest university) where we focus on women in particular.



Robust governance structure validated independently (GIPS; ISAE 3402).
We are signatory of UNPRI and UK Stewardship.

Source: TwentyFour \*As at December 2022



# TwentyFour industry recognition



- UP TO €100BN AUM























Fixed Income Manager of the Year





















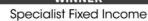
























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ICE BofA US Corporate Index - tracks the performance of US dollar denominated investment grade rated corporate debt publicly issued in the US domestic market. To qualify for inclusion in the index, securities must have an investment grade rating (based on an average of Moody's, S&P, and Fitch) and an investment grade rated country of risk (based on an average of Moody's, S&P, and Fitch foreign currency long term sovereign debt ratings). Each security must have greater than 1 year of remaining maturity, a fixed coupon schedule, and a minimum amount outstanding of \$250 million.

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## **Contact details**

## **TwentyFour Asset Management LLP**

8<sup>th</sup> Floor The Monument Building 11 Monument Street London EC3R 8AF

- T: +44 (0)20 7015 8900
- twentyfouram.com
- sales@twentyfouram.com

