

# Platinum Asset Management Limited Analyst Briefing 27 August 2020

## Andrew Clifford, Co-Founder Andrew Stannard, Finance Director

**Analyst Briefing** 



## Financial Highlights

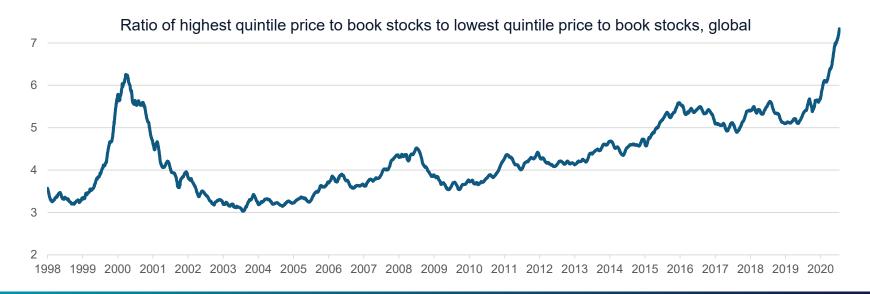
June 2020

- Jun-20 average FuM down 6% on Jun-19.
- Management fee revenue down 6%, in line with average FuM.
- Performance fees of \$9.1m, sourced primarily from Asia ex-Japan portfolios.
- Other income up \$9.6m, due to mark to market gains on seed investments.
- Expenses up 2%. Decreases in staff and operating costs (down ≈ 4%) offset by occupancy related expenses and share-based payments amortisation.
- Profit after tax attributable to owners down 1%.
- Earnings per share down 1%.
- ◆ Final dividend of 11cps, taking full year to 24cps fully franked (~6.4% annualised yield\*).



#### **Investment Markets and Performance**

- Signs of highly speculative market present:
  - Extraordinary valuations even with highly optimistic assumption (on significant market cap)
  - Highly speculative behaviour by retail investors (option activity, reddit ....)
  - Innovative financing vehicles Special Purpose Acquisition Companies (SPACs)
  - Deep comfort in beauty of FAANG + Microsoft
  - We have been here before
- Continued widening of performance and valuation differentials between "growth" and rest of market.
- Context in which we ask clients and shareholders to assess our performance.





#### Where does it end?

- Driver: money creation as a result of both fiscal and monetary policy in a time of collapsing output.
- Can governments keep up the pace of new money creation?
- Real activity/output continues to recover especially with vaccine delivery.
- Possible challenge will be rising inflation (see commodity prices).
- Interest rates or US Dollar Fed can't control both.





# Can value investing work in an environment of zero rates and rapid technological change?

#### Bedrocks of our approach:

- Cognitive biases lead investors to over extrapolate good news and bad news
  - Have fundamentals of human psychology changed? We think not.
- Price you pay for an asset determines its return.
  - Benjamin Graham's "voting machine" can prevail for some time...
  - ...but ultimately his weighing machine will determine true long term returns.





#### **Investment Performance**

to 30 June 2020

Performance of Platinum	Trust Funds (30 June 2020)	1 year p.a.	5 year p.a.	10 year p.a.	Since inception p.a.	FuM (A\$b)
International Fund	- Absolute Return	-4.1%	4.6%	7.7%	11.6%	8.4
(PMs: AC, CS)	- Relative Return	-8.2%	-4.2%	-3.7%	+4.7%	
Asia Fund	- Absolute Return	14.6%	7.6%	9.6%	14.2%	4.4
(PM: JL)	- Relative Return	+11%	+0.9%	+1.5%	+4.4%	
Japan Fund	- Absolute Return	-4.4%	5.5%	11.9%	13.3%	0.6
(PM: SG)	- Relative Return	-9.5%	-0.3%	+3.6%	+10.4%	
European Fund	- Absolute Return	-11.2%	4.7%	9.7%	10.5%	0.6
(PM: ND)	- Relative Return	-5.8%	+1.0%	+2.1%	+7.7%	
Brands Fund	- Absolute Return	1.1%	7.3%	10.0%	11.7%	0.5
(PM: JH)	- Relative Return	-3.0%	-1.5%	-1.5%	+8.3%	
Health Care Fund	- Absolute Return	31.0%	13.6%	17.1%	10.9%	0.3
(PM: BO)	- Relative Return	+14.2%	+4.5%	+1.3%	+1.3%	
Unhedged Fund (long only)	- Absolute Return	-5.9%	5.6%	9.0%	9.8%	0.2
(PM: CS)	- Relative Return	-10.0%	-3.2%	-2.4%	2.6%	
Technology Fund	- Absolute Return	21.7%	11.1%	11.4%	9.8%	0.1
(PMs: AB, CR)	- Relative Return	-12.7%	-11.7%	-8.7%	+6.8%	
Portfolio Managers:					ubtotal (A\$b) of Total FuM	15.1 71%

Portfolio Managers:

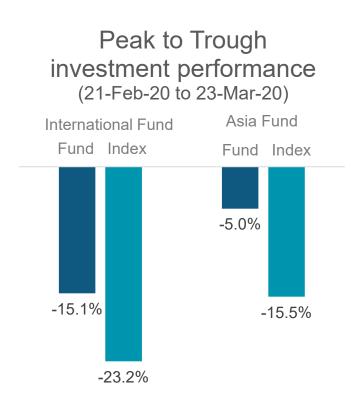
AC = Andrew Clifford, CS=Clay Smolinski, JL= Joe Lai, JH=Jamie Halse, SG=Scott Gilchrist, ND= Nik Dvornak, BO = Bianca Ogden,

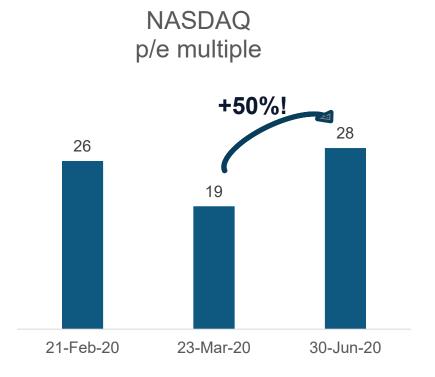
AB = Alessandro Barbi, CR = Cameron Robertson



## Investment Performance during the half year to 30 Jun-20

- Our clients downside exposure was protected during the March sell-off.
- Broad market indices rallied hard in last quarter, led by big tech and healthcare.

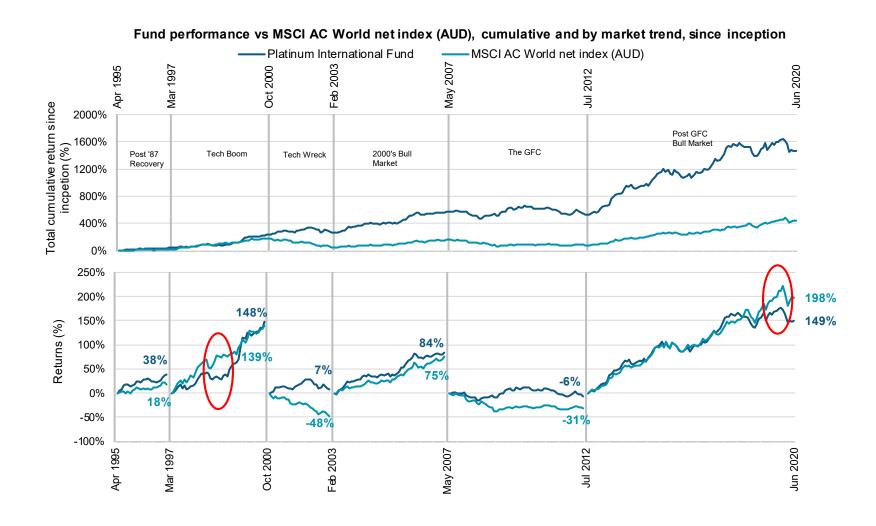






#### Platinum International Fund...we've been here before

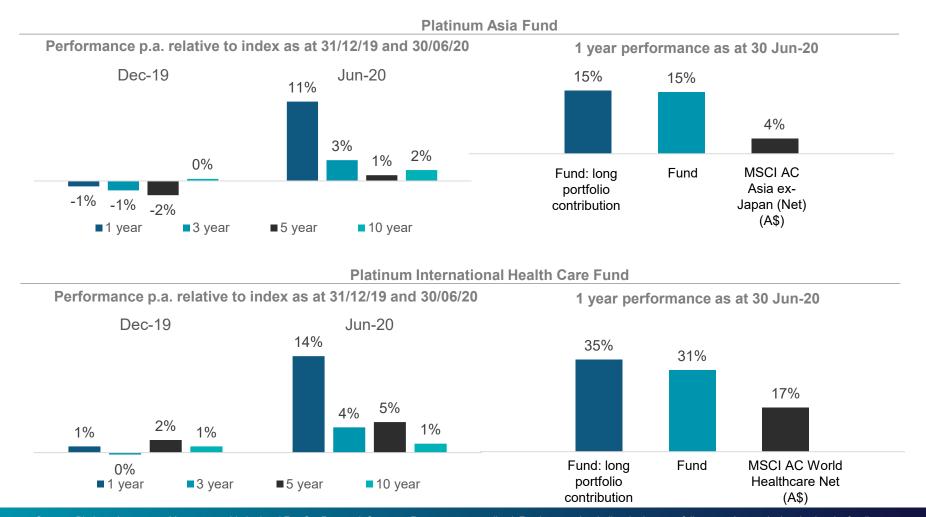
Investment performance: bull & bear market view since inception to 30 June 2020





# Recent Asia and Health Care fund performance offers strong encouragement

- Performance turn-arounds can be swift and significant.
- We do not hesitate to buy fast growing companies, when the price is right.





#### Platinum's investment approach: Seeking out the unfashionable

#### Caution is required

We are balancing two risks: a late-90's style "blow off top" and a bear market

Market leadership is narrow – there are lots of attractive assets "left behind"

There is a significant probability of inflation and/or weaker USD



## There are still many opportunities to be found

**Booming Chinese consumption** 

Resurgent semiconductor sector

Biotechnology winners

Strong travel related companies



A commitment to sustainable business practices and responsible investment management

Sustainability at Platinum



Advocating for change and engaging with policymakers



## Sustainability in practice

#### Being a responsible money manager and taking ESG into account

- Staying true to our central endeavour to preserve and grow our clients' capital over the long term.
- ESG incorporated into our investment process. Applying exclusionary screens (eg: tobacco and weapons).
- Actively engaging with portfolio companies on ESG matters and active use of proxy voting (eg: Lixil).

#### Putting clients' interests first – valuing independence and transparency

- Never part of any vertically integrated financial services group.
- Transparent fee disclosure. No entry or exit fees.
- Have never paid trail commissions to platforms or advisors.

#### Advocating for change and engaging with policymakers

- Outspoken advocate for better ethical standards in the financial services industry.
- Submissions to government on structural separation of advice and product manufacturing, the banning of grandfathered commissions and practical steps towards better disclosure.
- Submissions on regulatory framework for active ETFs and new design and distribution obligations.

#### **Engaging with our employees**

Commitment to workplace diversity and inclusion.

#### **Contributing to the community**

Graduate/work experience programs, sponsor of industry education and prior scholarship program, fund raising.

#### Being environmentally responsible

- Carbon neutral since 2007.
- Committed to running our business in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner.



## **Business Development Update**

#### Australia and NZ

- Modified and expanded engagement offering re COVID-19.
- Commitment to adviser events (industry events such as Portfolio Construction Forum, Financial Planning Association).
- Development and distribution of content for clients (various channels such as Livewire, Morningstar, ASA).
- Advertising campaigns across print, digital, signage and social media.
- Active product enhancement pipeline.

#### Offshore

- Seeded two Cayman funds for US market.
- Continuing to add access to new offshore jurisdictions for UCITS funds.
- Continued client engagement in a virtual world.



## Business Development – Offshore UCITS Funds

- Asia Fund offering attractive returns versus both long and long/short indices
- International Fund similar to long/short competitors over the last 3 years





## Response to COVID-19

- Business as usual:
  - Majority of team continue to work from home. No significant outages or incidents.
  - No inter-state or international travel from March-20. Significant step-up in virtual meetings.
- Primary focus on health and wellbeing of staff:
  - Fully committed to a "COVID-safe" work environment. Free face masks/sanitiser, regular office cleaning, reimbursement of taxi/parking to avoid public transport.
  - Regular team and firm wide virtual meetings / "town halls".
- Substantial and sustained client interactions via virtual events, and increased content and distribution.
- Close attention being paid to controllable costs:
  - No COVID-19 related job losses.
  - Government benefit schemes (eg: Job-Keeper) not required or utilised.

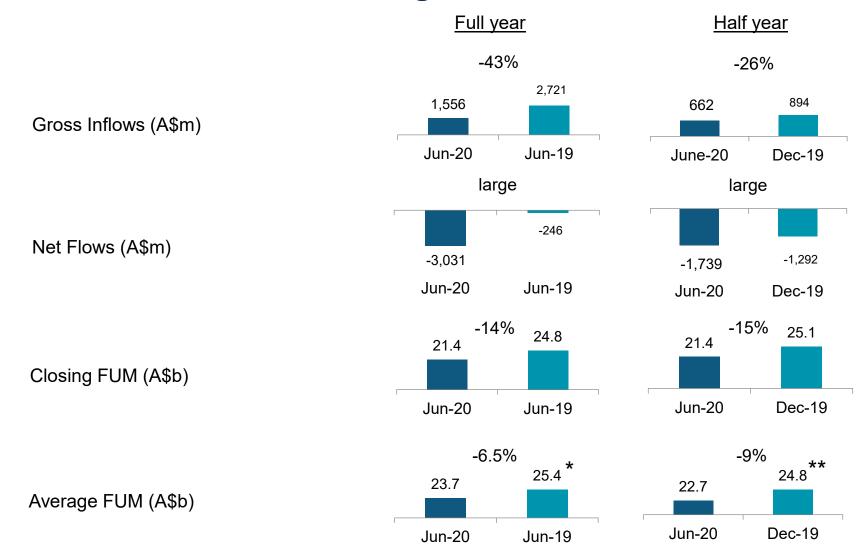


## Looking ahead

- Recent investment underperformance of Platinum International Fund largely reflects the cost of downside protection.
- Strong relative and absolute performance of Asia ex-Japan and Health Care portfolios is encouraging.
- ◆ The business remains resilient and well placed for future growth...
  - Strong position in Australian retail market. Highly differentiated products.
  - Desire for higher international equity exposure continues to increase in Australia.
  - Offshore initiatives provide a platform for growth over the medium term.
  - Profitable and scalable business with strong dividend capacity and an unlevered balance sheet.
  - Continuing to seek opportunities to expand client access via product innovation and new markets.
- ...underpinned by a clear client proposition.
  - Consistent, benchmark agnostic, investment process and high research quality continues to generate a large idea base.
  - An unwavering focus on delivering strong, long term, client outcomes.



#### Flows & Funds Under Management





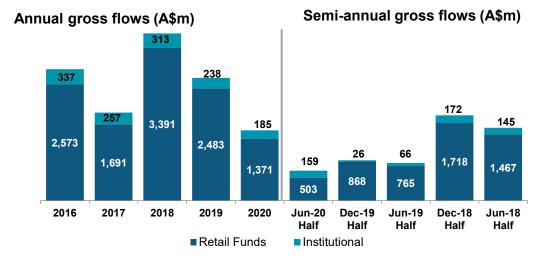
#### Flows

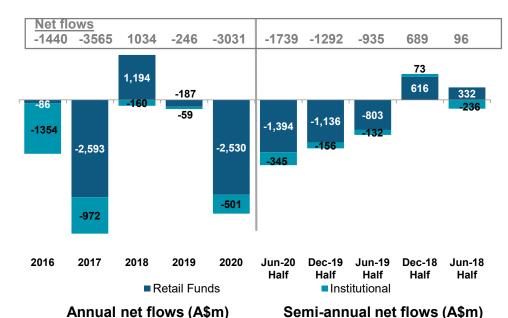
#### **Gross InFlows**

- Inflows for the 12 months to 30 Jun-20 were \$1.6b, well down on the prior comparative period.
- Inflows slowed in the second half as advisors reacted to the market sell off.

#### **Net Flows**

- 44% of net outflows of \$1.7b in the second half occurred during the Feb-Mar sell-off. Average run-rate Apr-Jun reverted to ≈\$200m per month.
- Full year fund net outflows were concentrated in the flagship products with PIF & PAF combined -\$1.8b.
- Institutional fund outflows of -\$345m in the second half was spread across accounts, no mandates were lost in the period.







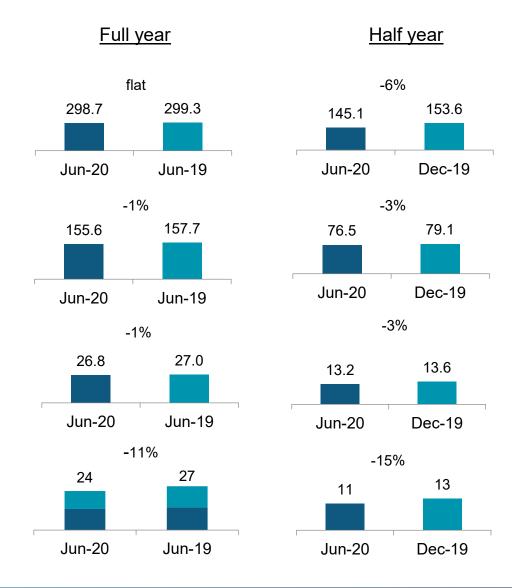
## **Operating Results**

Revenue & Other Income (A\$m)

Profit After Tax\* (A\$m)

Diluted Earnings Per Share\* (cps)

Dividends (cps, fully franked)





## Revenue Analysis

#### As at 30 June 2020

	JUN-20 (\$M)	JUN-19 (\$M)	VAR. (\$M)	JUN-20 H (\$M)	DEC-19 H(\$M)	VAR. COMMENT (\$M)
Average FuM (\$B)*	23.7	25.4	-1.7	22.7	24.8	-2.1
Average Fee**(bps)	116	116	-	116	115	1 Stable fee bps
Management fees	275.9	295.2	-19.3	131	144.9	-13.9 Reflects decrease in average FuM
Performance fees	9.1	0.0	9.1	9.1	0.0	9.1 Primarily from Asia Ex-Japan portfolios
Sub-Total: Fee Revenue	285.0	295.2	-10.2	140.1	144.9	-4.8
Interest income	1.7	3.5	-1.8	0.6	1.1	-0.5 Lower interest rates
Gain on PAI holding	3.1	0.0	3.1	1.6	1.5	93.1m comprises \$1.9m equity accounted gain and \$1.2m dividend received.
Gain/(loss) on UCITS holding	2.6	0.7	1.9	(1.9)	4.5	6.4 Equity accounted gain
Gain/(loss) on PAXX, Cayman funds and Platinum trusts holdings	4.8	(1.6)	6.4	3.2	1.6	\$4.8 comprises \$1.4m gains from Cayman funds, equity account gains for PAXX \$2.8m, distribution income received from PAXX and PT trusts \$0.6m
FX gains	1.5	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5
Sub-Total: Other Income	13.7	4.1	9.6	5.0	8.7	-3.7
Total Revenue	298.7	299.3	-0.6	145.1	153.6	-8.5



## Expense Analysis

#### As at 30 June 2020

	JUN-20 (\$M)	JUN-19 (\$M)	\$ VAR. (\$M)	% VAR.	COMMENT
Staff costs	37.2	38.7	-1.5	-4%	
Other expenses	30.9	32.1	-1.2	-4%	
Sub-Total	68.1	70.8	-2.7	-4%	
Depreciation, amortisation and non re	curring item 1.9	0.7	+1.2		New fit-out plus residual fit-out write-off
Amortisation of Deferred Awards	6.8	4.9	+1.9		Final year where amortization compounds.
New Leasing Standard (AASB 16)	0.6	-	+0.6		New hypothetical finance charge plus change in depreciation methodology
Legal costs re Trademark case	0.5	-	+0.5		Trademark case was successful
Total Expenses	77.9	76.4	1.5	+2%	



## **Strong Balance Sheet**

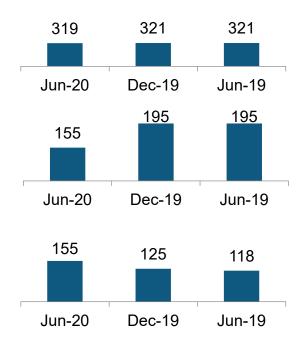
As at 30 June 2020

Net Assets\* (A\$m)

Cash & Term Deposits (A\$m)

Seed Investments\*\* (A\$m)

Dividends (cps)







# Questions



## Appendices



## Appendix 1:

#### **Detailed Operating Results**

(\$M)	Jun-20	Jun-19	% CHANGE	Jun-20H	Dec-19H	% CHANGE
Management fees	275.9	295.2	-6.5%	131.0	144.9	-9.6%
Performance fees	9.1	0.0	Large	9.1	0.0	large
Interest income	1.7	3.5	-51.4%	0.6	1.1	-45.5%
Net gains/(losses) on seed investments, FX and other income	12.0	0.6	Large	4.4	7.6	-42.1%
Total revenue	298.7	299.3	-0.2%	145.1	153.6	-5.5%
Staff costs incl. share-based payments	44.0	43.6	+0.9%	21.5	22.5	-4.4%
Custody and unit registry costs	11.3	12.8	-11.7%	5.1	6.2	17.7%
Business development costs	6.6	7.1	-7.0%	3.3	3.3	0.0%
Research and technology	5.3	5.0	+6.0%	2.6	2.7	3.7%
Other costs	10.7	7.9	+35.4%	4.8	5.9	-18.6%
Total costs	77.9	76.4	+2.0%	37.3	40.6	-8.1%
Pre-tax profit	220.8	222.9	-1.0%	107.8	113.0	-4.6%
Income tax expense	65.2	64.6	+0.9%	31.3	33.9	-7.7%
Net profit after tax	155.6	158.3	-1.7%	76.5	79.1	-3.3%
Net profit after tax attributable to owners	155.6	157.7	-1.3%	76.5	79.1	-4.6%
Diluted EPS (c)	26.8	27.0	-0.7%	13.2	13.6	-2.9%
Average FUM (\$b)	23.7	25.4	-6.7%	22.7	24.8	-8.5%
Total no. of shares – issued (m)	586.7	586.7	-	586.7	586.7	-



## Appendix 2

Funds under Management: Year to 30 June 2020, A\$mn

FUNDS	OPENING BALANCE (1 JUL 2019)	NET FLOWS	DISTRIBUTIONS & OTHER <sup>3</sup>	INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE	CLOSING BALANCE (30 JUN 2020)	% OF TOTAL	
Retail Funds							
Platinum Trust Funds and Platinum Global Fund <sup>1</sup>	15,939	(2,318)	(520)	140	13,241	62%	
Platinum Quoted Managed Funds – PIXX and PAXX	486	(24)	(11)	2	453	2%	
Platinum Listed Investment Company's – PMC and PAI	848	-	(62)	51	837	4%	
MLC Platinum Global Fund	835	(188)	-	9	656	3%	
Institutional Clients							
Platinum World Portfolios plc – UCITS	421	1	-	26	448	2%	
Fixed Fee Mandates	2,466	(290)	-	(32)	2,144	10%	
Cayman Funds	-	30	-	-	30	0%	
'Relative' Performance Fee <sup>2</sup>	3,329	(157)	(1)	53	3,224	15%	
'Absolute' Performance Fee	445	(85)	-	(8)	352	2%	
TOTAL	24,769	(3,031)	(594)	241	21,385	100%	

<sup>1</sup> FuM closing balance excludes QMFs but includes retail performance fee class totalling \$43m. FuM excludes \$1.4b attributable to institutional investors in the Platinum Trust Funds that have elected a performance fee option.



<sup>2</sup> FuM closing balance includes Platinum Trust Fund institutional performance fee clients of \$1.4b and mandates of \$1.8b attributable to institutional investors.

<sup>3 &</sup>quot;Other" includes dividends and tax payments made by the listed investment companies.

## Appendix 3

Segment Analysis: As at 30 June 2020

FUNDS MANAGEMENT	JUN-20 (\$M)	JUN-19 (\$M)	% VAR
Fee Revenue	285.0	295.2	(3.5%)
Other Revenue	0.5	0.3	Large
Total Revenue	285.5	295.5	(3.4%)
Expenses	(77.5)	(76.0)	2.0%
Profit Before Tax	208.0	219.5	(5.2%)
Income Tax Expense	(61.7)	(64.3)	(4.0)%
Other comprehensive income	-	-	
Profit After Tax attributable to owners	146.3	155.2	(5.7%)
Average FuM	23,749	25,394	(6.5)%

INVESTMENTS AND OTHER	JUN-20 (\$M)	JUN-19 (\$M)	% VAR
Fee Revenue	-	-	-
Other Revenue	13.2	3.8	(large)
Total Revenue	13.2	3.8	(large)
Expenses	(0.4)	(0.4)	0%
Profit Before Tax	12.8	3.4	(large)
Income Tax Expense	(3.5)	(0.3)	(large)
Other comprehensive income	(1.0)	-	(large)
Profit After Tax attributable to owners	8.3	3.1	(large)
Segment Net Assets	304.2	303.1	(0.4%)

- Funds management revenue was down 3.4% year-on-year. Expenses increased 2% due to decreases in costs such as staff and custody fees being offset by increases in areas such as occupancy related costs and share-based payments expense.
- Investments recorded a gain for the year, primarily reflecting the mark to market gains made by seed investments.



## Appendix 4

Expense Analysis: as at 30 June 2020

	JUN-20 (\$M)	JUN-19 (\$M)	\$ VAR. (\$M)	JUN-20 H (\$M)	DEC-19 (\$M)	\$ VAR. (\$M)	COMMENT
Staff costs	24.3	25.7	-1.4	11.3	13.0	-1.7	Decrease is primarily due to lower variable compensation, salary and on-costs.
Variable remuneration <sup>(1)</sup> , incl. share-based payments expense <sup>(2)</sup>	19.7	17.9	1.8	10.2	9.5	0.7	See below.
Custody and unit registry costs	11.3	12.8	-1.5	5.1	6.2	-1.1	Decrease in custody and unit registry fees from March 2020.
Business development costs	6.6	7.1	-0.5	3.3	3.3	0.0	Activities such as travel decreased in 2020
Research and technology	5.3	5.0	0.3	2.6	2.7	-0.1	Primarily increase in subscription costs.
Occupancy costs*	4.5	2.7	1.8	2.0	2.5	0.5	Change due to adopting AASB 16 and increased expenses due to office fit-out.
Other costs	6.2	5.2	1.0	2.8	3.4	-0.6	
Total Expenses	77.9	76.4	1.5	37.3	40.6	-3.3	As above.

(1) Cash Variable Remuneration	JUN-20	JUN-19	JUN-18	JUN-17
% Expense: Investment Team	56%	53%	76%	64%
% Expense: General Plan	39%	42%	19%	31%
% on-costs (payroll tax)	5%	5%	5%	5%
Weighted Average 1 and 3 year investment performance**	-3.4%	-5.9%	+3.7%	-1.4%

#### (2) Accounting for the deferred bonus plan

- 4 year vesting period plus award year = 5 year amortisation period. Expense is adjusted for an estimate of likely future experience
- Award is backed by on-market share purchases held in an Employee Share Trust.



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