



# Securities Trust of Scotland plc

All data as at 28 February 2023

www.stsplc.co.uk

The investment objective of the Securities Trust of Scotland plc is to achieve rising income and long-term capital growth through investment in a balanced portfolio constructed from global equities.

PRICE (EX INC)
217.50p 217.24p

PREMIUM/ DISCOUNT -0.84%

YIELD\* 2.8%

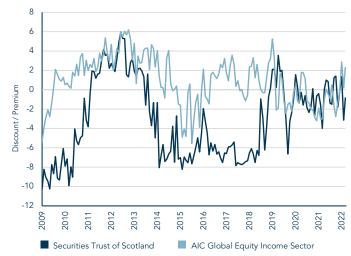
TOTAL NET/ GROSS ASSETS £219m/£235m

\*historic dividend yield

#### PERCENTAGE GROWTH FROM 30/06/2005 TO 28/02/2023



#### SHARE PRICE DISCOUNT/PREMIUM TO NAV



Source: Morningstar

Total Return to 28 February 2023	Since Troy Appt*	28/02/18 5 years	29/02/20 3 years	28/02/22 1 year	31/08/22 6 months
Securities Trust of Scotland Share Price	+15.5%	+51.9%	+25.5%	+3.9%	-6.2%
Securities Trust of Scotland NAV	+13.9%	+43.6%	+26.8%	+0.6%	-4.3%
Lipper Global – Equity Global Income Index	+20.7%	+33.2%	+27.2%	+5.1%	+2.3%

Discrete Annual Total Returns	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 YTD
Securities Trust of Scotland Share Price	+0.8%	-5.4%	+35.8%	+6.8%	-7.9%	+39.3%	+3.1%	+15.4%	-0.4%	-3.3%
Securities Trust of Scotland NAV	+4.1%	+0.2%	+28.5%	+11.9%	-8.2%	+27.4%	+3.7%	+17.6%	-2.1%	-1.2%

<sup>\*</sup>Troy appointed Investment Manager 12 November 2020

Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

Source: Lipper/Morningstar

# February Commentary

Source: Lipper

The Trust produced a Net Asset Value total return of -0.7% during the month and a price total return of +1.6%, compared to a return of -0.5% for the Lipper Global – Equity Global Income Index

Our income account received some good news from Reckitt Benckiser in the recent round of corporate reporting. After a long period where the business seemed to suffer a series of strategic missteps, the company is finding its feet once more. The clearest expression of this renewed confidence is that the company will return to growing dividend, following the announcement of the Board's intention to increase the annual dividend distribution by 5% at the recent results.

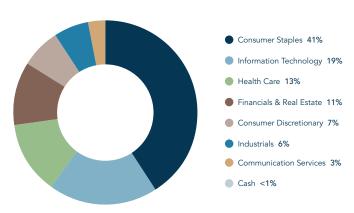
We believe dividends and dividend policies contain a lot of information. The regular payment of a dividend tends to impart a level of capital discipline on a management team by preventing the squandering of cashflow that is surplus to requirements. Further, a dividend should reflect what a Board sees as a sustainable, through the market cycle, income distribution after all other capital needs have been met. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, we believe that the rate at which a dividend grows over the long term indicates what a Board considers the underlying growth rate of a business to be.

For Reckitt to be returning to its growing dividend, at one level is simply a welcome fillip, but at another level is an expression of management's long-term confidence in the business. We share this confidence owing to a clearer strategic direction and reactivated product innovation. The company currently demonstrates decent growth relative to peers, an attractive profit margin structure and a strong balance sheet. Supply chains have improved, and the business operates in typically resilient end categories of hygiene, health, and nutrition. We believe that the shares are good value and the company continues to represent a meaningful investment in the portfolio.



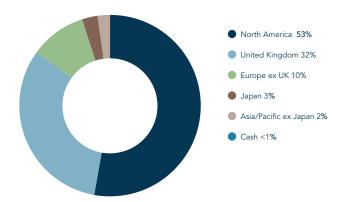


# ASSET ALLOCATION BY SECTOR



Source: Factset. Asset Allocation subject to change

### **ASSET CLASS BY SPLIT**



Source: Factset. Asset Allocation subject to change

# **TOP 10 HOLDINGS**

British American Tobacco	6.2%
Unilever	5.2%
PepsiCo	5.2%
Paychex	5.1%
Philip Morris International	4.7%
Reckitt Benckiser	4.2%
CME Group	4.2%
ADP	4.0%
Diageo	3.9%
Novartis	3.7%
Total Top 10	46.5%
23 other holdings	53.1%
Cash	0.4%
TOTAL	100.0%
Source: Factset. Holdings subject to change.	

# TRUST INFORMATION

Chairman	
Chairman	John Evans
Non-Executive Director	Mark Little
Senior Independent Director	Sarah Harvey
Non-Executive Director	Angus Cockburn
Non-Executive Director	Alexandra Innes
Investment Manager	
Troy Asset Management Limited	d
33 Davies Street	
London W1K 4BP	
Tel: 020 7499 4030	
Fax: 020 7491 2445	
email: info@taml.co.uk	
Manager	James Harries

Capital Structure Shares with voting rights Shares held in treasury	99,833,575 22,465,573
Net Assets	£219m
Gross Assets	£235m
Ongoing Charges Ordinary shares: (31.03.22)	0.93%
Management Fee	0.65%
Allocation of Expense and Interest	Capital 65% Revenue 35%
Mandate Established	2005
Year End	31 March
Premium (Discount)	-0.84%
Gearing	7%
Currency £ Sterling	

(trailing 12 months)	2.77%		
Q4 2022	1.45p		
Q3 2022	1.45p		
Q2 2022	1.75p		
Q1 2022	1.375p		
Dividend Payments	January, April, July, October		
Market Makers:	JPMORGAN, NUMIS,		
	WINTERFLOOD, INVESTEC,		
	PANMURE, PEEL HUNT		
Bloomberg/Epic/			
Reuters Code	STS		
Sedol	B09G3N2		
AIFM	Juniper Partners Limited		
Pricing	Share price is listed daily in the FT		
Auditor	Ernst & Young LLP		





#### Important Information

Please refer to Troy's Glossary of Investment terms here. The Trust can use gearing to purchase assets for the Trust; the use of this facility will have the effect of magnifying any gains or losses made. Asset allocation and holdings information is based on the gross assets. All performance data is calculated net of fees, unless otherwise stated. The Trust is registered for distribution to the public in the UK and to professional investors only in Ireland. All references to benchmarks are for comparative purposes only.

The views expressed in this document are not intended as an offer or solicitation for the purchase or sale of any investment or financial instrument. The information contained within this document does not constitute investment advice or an offer to invest or to provide discretionary investment management services and should not be used as the sole basis of any investment decision. Should you wish to obtain financial advice, please contact a professional advisor.

The historic dividend yield reflects distributions declared over the past twelve months as a percentage of the Trust's price, as at the date shown. It does not include any preliminary charge and investors may be subject to tax on their distributions. The historic dividend yield is not guaranteed and will fluctuate. References to specific securities are included for the purposes of illustration only and should not be construed as a recommendation to buy or sell these securities.

Although Troy Asset Management Limited ("Troy") considers the information included in this document to be reliable, no warranty is given as to its accuracy or completeness. The opinions expressed are expressed at the date of this document and, whilst the opinions stated are honestly held, they are not guarantees and should not be relied upon and may be subject to change without notice. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The investments discussed may fluctuate in value and investors may get back less than they invested. Overseas investments may be affected by movements in currency exchange rates.

The investment policy and process of the Trust may not be suitable for all investors. Third party data is provided without warranty or liability and may belong to a third party. Issued by Troy Asset Management Limited, 33 Davies Street, London W1K 4BP (registered in England & Wales No. 3930846). Registered office: Hill House, 1 Little New Street, London EC4A 3TR. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FRN: 195764) and registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") as an Investment Adviser (CRD: 319174).

Registration with the SEC does not imply a certain level of skill or training. The trust described in this document is neither available nor offered in the USA or to U.S. Persons.

Copyright Troy Asset Management Ltd 2023.

