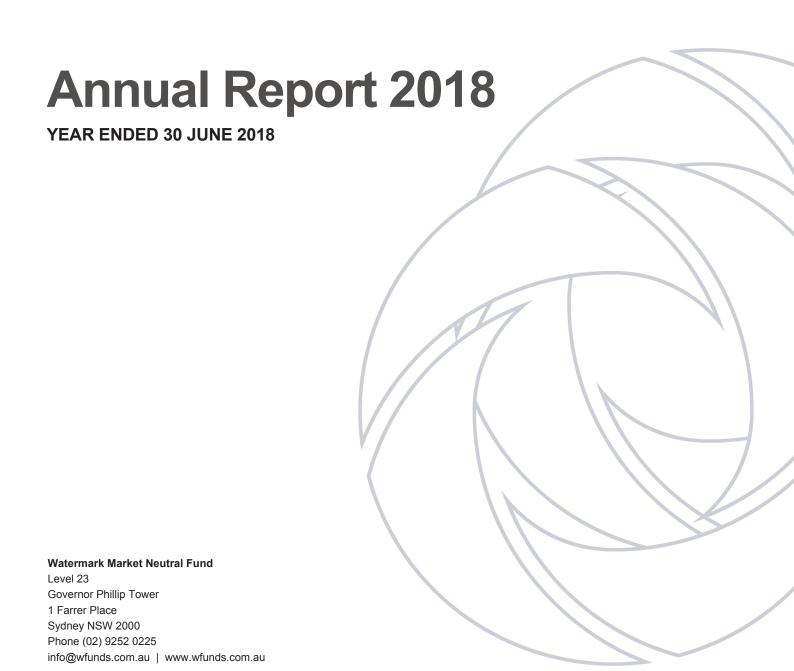


# Watermark Market Neutral Fund

ABN 45 163 980 498



#### **COMPANY PARTICULARS**

#### **Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited**

A.B.N. 45 163 980 498

**DIRECTORS:** Matthew Kidman (Chairman)

Justin Braitling (Non-Independent Director) John Abernethy (Independent Director) Stephen Van Eyk (Independent Director) Robert Ferguson (Independent Director)

COMPANY SECRETARY

Mark Licciardo

PRINCIPAL REGISTERED OFFICE IN AUSTRALIA:

Level 23

Governor Phillip Tower

1 Farrer Place Sydney NSW 2000 Phone: (02) 9252 0225 Email: info@wfunds.com.au

For enquiries regarding net asset backing (as advised each month to the Australian Securities Exchange) refer to

www.asx.com.au or call (02) 8280 1700.

**SHARE REGISTER** 

Boardroom Pty Limited

Level 12

225 George Street Sydney NSW 2000 Phone: (02) 9290 9600 Fax: (02) 9279 0664

For enquiries relating to shareholdings, dividends

(including participation in the Dividend Reinvestment Plan) and related matters, please contact the share registrar.

**AUDITORS** 

Pitcher Partners Level 22 MLC Centre 19 Martin Place Sydney NSW 2000 Phone: (02) 9221 2099

SECURITIES EXCHANGE LISTING

Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) The home exchange is Sydney ASX code: WMK ordinary shares

# Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited ABN 45 163 980 498 Annual Report - 30 June 2018

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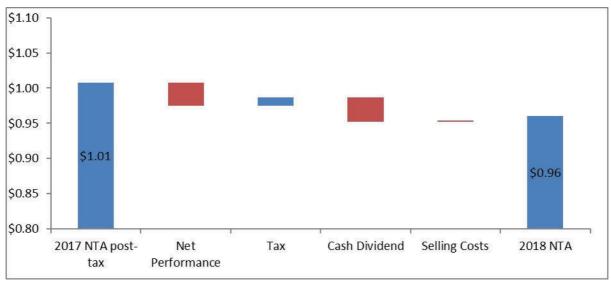
#### **Chairman's Letter**

Dear fellow Shareholders.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank you for your continued support in what was a challenging year for the Company.

Watermark Market Neutral Fund (WMK, the 'Company') reported an after-tax loss of \$3 million for the 12 months to June 2018. As at the end of the period, WMK's after-tax Net Tangible Asset Backing (NTA) was \$0.96, down from \$1.01 in the previous year (refer Figure 1). Shareholders received fully franked dividends in the period amounting to 3.5 cents per share.

Figure 1: NTA Bridge



#### **Investment Strategy Review**

The gross value of the Company's portfolio fell by 2.2% in the period. While the Manager has failed to meet its objectives in terms of the Fund performance, the Board notes that this has been a difficult period for many long/short investors. We are in the final phase of a decade-long bull market, where ultra-easy monetary conditions have inflated the prices of all risk assets. Valuations are stretched on most measures and investors continue to pursue growth at almost any price, emboldened by the panacea of cheap money and support from Central Banks. None of these are particularly helpful for market neutral strategy, which retains no net exposure to the share market.

Notwithstanding performance issues in the recent 18 months, WMK's portfolio has delivered a commendable annualised return of 7.8% p.a. before fees, since the Company was launched in 2013. It has done so with an annualised volatility of returns (as measured by standard deviation) of 5.8%, half that of the Australian share market. Furthermore, the performance of WMK's portfolio has an historic correlation with the Australian share market of -0.26, a unique feature of WMK's strategy and a highly desirable risk/return proposition, particularly given where we are in this cycle.

Performance issues for the Fund in FY18 were felt most acutely in the international portfolio. The Manager made a strong start in its endeavours investing offshore, and the Board continues to support this enhancement of the investment process. The task that the Manager set for itself was, however an ambitious one, stretching resources and ultimately leading to diminished capability both domestically and abroad.

Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited Chairman's Letter 30 June 2018 (continued)

The Manager has responded to these challenges with some important changes to its investment team and WMK's portfolio. Firstly, the international balance sheet for WMK has been cut in half, bringing international exposure back to 20% as a share of the total portfolio. Secondly, the investment team has been reorganised with duties separated between international and domestic investments. This has allowed Justin Braitling to refocus exclusively on the Australian market, while handing over management of the international portfolio to a specialist international investor in Harvey Migotti. The Board is encouraged by the improvement in returns so far in 2018 and remains steadfast in its belief that the Company's investment strategy will prove its worth as this cycle completes.

#### **Dividends**

WMK has historically paid a high dividend, a product of strong returns in previous years. In fact, the historic yield paid on WMK shares has been well above the yield on the broader Australian share market.

As we have seen in the past 18 months, returns from a market neutral strategy can be variable, and dividends will ultimately depend entirely on the Manager's ability to generate taxed profits from its investment activities. Having said that, if the Manager can meet its return targets, the Board believes the Company can sustain a fully franked dividend that is commensurate with the market yield on the All Ordinaries Accumulation Index.

Following stronger performance in recent months, the Board is pleased to announce that it has declared a fully franked, final dividend of 1.5 cents per share in respect of FY18.

#### **Capital Management**

The Board remains committed to actively managing the Company's capital. As at market close on the August 23, 2018, 3,562,141 WMK shares have been purchased on-market through the buy-back, at a discount to NTA, which is immediately accretive to shareholder value. The Board will continue to avail itself of the opportunity to buy back shares for so long as the Company's shares are trading at a material discount to the NTA.

I look forward to having an opportunity to meet with shareholders in person at the Annual General Meeting and shareholder updates, to be held later this year.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Kidman

Chairman

Dated at Sydney, August 28, 2018

#### **Chief Investment Officer's Report**

#### **Performance Review**

Quality as they say, is in the eye of the beholder, which is why there is no universal truth for what constitutes a 'quality' company. Similarly, there is a myriad of approaches to valuing shares. Differences in opinion regarding quality and value are what makes a market. Through a market cycle, one would typically expect investment styles to move in and out of favour, with efficient market pricing risks and opportunities rationally over the longer term.

In recent years however, a more pervasive trend has emerged. Investors faced with low or negative interest rates, have aggressively chased growth at almost any price. In the 12 months to June 30, 2018, high PE shares have outperformed low PE shares by approximately 19%. Growth and momentum have dominated our share market

As a value-based investor, these trends have presented a challenge for us in the past 18 months, and we have struggled to generate returns. The divergence between value and momentum has now reached extremes not seen since the dot-com boom, presenting an opportunity as conditions will eventually normalise (Fig 1).

Figure 1: ASX200 Price momentum factor divided by ASX200 value factor



WMK presents investors with an strategy that will perform completely independently of the share market. In fact, portfolio returns since inception have had a negative correlation with the ASX. While this feature has been overshadowed by the strong returns on offer from a rising share market, it will be increasingly important as the cycle completes. The return we achieve is principally derived from the spread between the performance of the long and short portfolios; which was negative in FY18. This was largely due to the poor performance of the Fund's international portfolio.

12 Month Performance at 30 June 2018	WMK	Domestic Portfolio	Intl. Portfolio**	
Long Return*	12.5%	12.7%	7.8%	
Short Return*	15.0%	12.7%	15.9%	
L/S Spread* -2.5%		0%	-8.1%	
All Ords Accum Index		13.7%		
MSCI AC World Index			15.0%	

<sup>\*</sup>Returns do not take account of fees or costs.

As discussed at our shareholder updates in May this year, we have made some important changes in our business to address the shortcomings in fund performance over the last 18 months. Chief amongst these was the decision to reduce WMK's exposure to international shares, which detracted from returns last year. Going forward, international shares will account for 20-30% of the Fund's gross exposure. WMK's core focus will be on Australian shares while retaining some exposure to our best international ideas.

These developments were also reflected in changes to the investment team, with the appointment of Harvey Migotti to the position of Head of International Equities. I have handed over responsibilities for the international portfolio to an experienced investor with a strong track record in long/short investing. In turn, this has allowed me to refocus on managing the Australian portfolio, where performance has been improving steadily since implementing these changes.

#### Portfolio Review

#### **Basic Industries**

Through the first half of the year, commodity prices benefitted from a booming Chinese economy, supply-side reforms, increasing industrial production and a falling US dollar. These trends reversed in 2018, as credit conditions tightened in China, and escalating concerns over a trade war with the US saw the US dollar rally on capital outflows from emerging economies. We retain our preference for a hedged exposure in basic industries, absent a clear signal as to the direction forward for commodity markets.

Mining and energy shares made a positive contribution to Fund returns in FY18. A timely investment in *BHP Billiton* was a standout performer, along with core holdings in *Independence Group, Iluka Resources* and *Evolution Mining*. We also identified opportunities in a number of emerging miners such as *Aurelia Metals*, which added to returns in the sector. In the energy sector, investments in *Woodside Petroleum* and *Exxon Mobil* were notable performers.

#### Healthcare

The healthcare portfolio detracted from returns in the period. Australian healthcare companies feature prominently in the 'stronger for longer' group mentioned above, and valuations for sector heavyweights are pushing all-time extremes with little sign of relief. Greater value can be found in markets offshore, allowing us to position the fund in leading companies in the medical device and life science sectors, while retaining shorts in biotech and pharmaceuticals, that are challenged by reforms to drug pricing.

On the domestic front, a long-term investment in *CSL* was the top contributor, although extended valuations and emerging headwinds for the company have given us pause for thought in recent months. Another long-term position in *Ramsay Healthcare* was disappointing, with the company struggling to maintain investors' confidence in the face of margin pressures and political intervention in the private hospital sector. Amongst international names, investments in *Nevro Corp* and *Galapagos* delivered solid results.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Does not take account of relative weight of international exposures in the fund.

Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited Chief Investment Officer's Report 30 June 2018 (continued)

#### Consumer

There were a range of notable themes in the consumer/retail sector in FY18. While trends in Europe and China were broadly positive, results in the US were more mixed. Despite an acceleration in store closures, the US market is still oversupplied for retail outlets, particularly as shoppers migrate online. Ironically this has created a situation where shorting US retailers has very much become a consensus trade, with any modest positive surprise creating a short squeeze. This has been replicated in the local market, where local retailers such as JB Hi-Fi and Harvey Norman have been struggling against the dual headwinds of increased online competition (Amazon announced its entry into the Australian market in FY18) and a softening residential property market. Our sector strategy has remained the same, buying quality brand owners such as Heineken and Mondelez while looking for shorts in the retail sector with idiosyncratic issues rather than those thought to be facing consensual problems.

The Fund derived profits in this part of the portfolio, where core investments in local names such as *Tabcorp Holdings* and *Aristocrat Leisure* performed well. *Bapcor* was another successful investment in the period, along with broad a range of small contributions from the Fund's portfolio of global brand owners.

#### Technology/Media/Telecommunications

The technology sector has been the key driver of share market returns in the US, dominated by a small group of companies which enjoyed almost uninterrupted growth in the period. WMK participated in this thematic through core holdings in *Microsoft Corp* and *Alphabet Inc.* The US media landscape was dominated by high profile M&A deals, such as *AT&T* and *Time Warner* as well as *Disney* and *Comcast's* bidding war for *News Corp*. Advertising companies have been the big loser from the growing dominance of online and streaming platforms which have disintermediated traditional business models. The Fund benefitted from selected shorts in European advertising companies in the period.

Conversely, outdoor advertising continues to draw an increasing share of the advertising budget. Local outdoor advertisers such as *APN Outdoor* and *Ooh Media* have been beneficiaries of this and were good investments in the period. The domestic portfolio also benefitted from a long-term investment in *Fairfax*, which spun out its valuable *Domain* franchise before receiving a bid from *Nine Entertainment* early in the new financial year. Nevertheless, the TMT landscape both domestically and abroad posed numerous challenges and was a net detractor from returns over the year.

#### **Industrials**

With leading indicators for industrial production around the world strengthening in unison early in FY18, the whole sector has been the barometer for the global economic recovery. With inventories low and demand robust, particularly in the US, end markets such as factory automation, commercial aerospace and mining services continue to grow apace. This is largely reflected in share prices however, with exuberance being tempered somewhat by rising tensions over trade the consequent (or coincidental) slowing in the Chinese economy.

Fund performance in the sector was flat for the year, with strong performance from investments in the transportation sector offset by losses on shorts in Capital Goods companies. *Qantas, Airbus, Deutsche Post* and *Canadian Pacific Railway Ltd* were all notable performers.

#### Financials

Our strategy for the financials portfolio has been to target regions such as Scandinavia and the US where fundamentals are healthy, and segments such as general insurance which are less economically sensitive. On the short side, we have taken selected exposures in challenged regional markets such as Spain and Italy as well as segments like wealth management, that look expensive at this point in the cycle.

Our view on the outlook for the Australian banks is circumspect, however opportunities have presented themselves, such as when *Commonwealth Bank of Australia* was oversold following the Austrac scandal. While there is little to be excited about for the banks in terms of earnings growth, value has emerged in the sector as investors have overplayed the risk of losses on residential mortgages, from weaker property prices.

FY18 was marked with notable successes in financials, from investments in the big four Australian banks, along with *Clydesdale Bank* in the UK. A short in Spanish bank *Bankia* was also a success. Results were less successful in the insurance and real estate sectors, which offset gains in banking and diversified financials to leave returns flat for the period.

# **Economic Outlook**

We have passed the sweet spot in this business cycle, where easy monetary conditions and synchronised growth pushed share markets higher. We are transitioning into a more challenging phase, as China and Emerging Markets (EM) decouple and we are left with a US economy at risk of overheating.

Monetary conditions that have been easy for far too long are now tightening, pushing the US dollar higher. This is impacting activity not just in the US, but also in EM that have borrowed in dollars. Globalisation, a key source of growth for decades is now threatened, as trade wars ensue between the world's largest economies.

Credit and trade have for decades grown well in excess of GDP, fuelling global commerce. Indebtedness in many of the world's largest economies has risen to unsustainable levels and can no long bolster growth the way it has in the past. Just consider Australian household debt, amongst the highest in the world relative to the income required to service it.

Excess liquidity has found its way into Emerging Economies, with cross border US dollar debt doubling to \$7 trillion since the crisis. The stronger dollar and rising US interest rates together act as a tourniquet on world liquidity and for those countries that have borrowed in dollars.

Authorities in China have also restricted credit growth as they try to clean up over-levered companies and contain excesses that have built up in the shadow banking system. In Fig 2 you can see credit growth has fallen back to 2013-14 levels. Given the extent of tightening, not dissimilar to what preceded the downturn in 2015, we would expect to see activity in China decelerate further in the short to medium term.

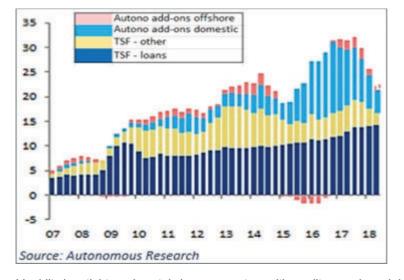


Figure 2: New Credit is Slowing Sharply in China as Credit Tightening Measures Bite

Liquidity has tightened acutely in some sectors with credit spreads and default rates rising. The Renminbi has also tumbled, which was a harbinger of trouble when the Chinese economy slowed in 2014.

While investment spending and export volumes have been weak in recent months, the rest of the Chinese economy has proven remarkably resilient. As this crackdown on shadow credit continues, the Chinese economy will likely decelerate further. This is where the trade dispute with the US becomes interesting - the traded goods sector is far larger in China than the US and with the Americans threatening tariffs on a further \$US 200 billion of imported Chinese goods, while facing a slowing economy, the Chinese are in a difficult position. If share markets are the scoreboard for this trade war, the Americans are clearly in front and under no pressure to back down any time soon.

If you cast your mind back to 2014, the primary concern of investors was a slowing Chinese economy. The global industrial supply chain slowed through 2015 as the industrial economy slipped into recession. The Renminbi came under intense pressure and EM shares collapsed. Having initiated this downturn, China led the global recovery in industrial production that commenced back in early 2016.

The extent of recent losses in EM shares and debt securities is troubling, the cycle looks to have turned. Meanwhile, share markets in most major economies are testing all-time highs, ignoring this important development. This seems incongruous and is a major risk given EM contribute most of the world's growth.

The trade dispute is not the real problem. After a pause, US interest rates and the US dollar are likely to push higher, ensuring any relief rally in EM from an easing in trade tensions may be short lived.

This has important ramifications for the Australian share market also. The Australian share market is considered a defensive part of the Asian basket and has rallied as EM indexes have collapsed. The Australian banks, not forsaking their challenges with the Royal Commission and the poor profit outlook are considered a safe harbour in an Asian storm.

Mining shares and the mining economy are of course highly levered to commodity prices and Chinese demand. You wouldn't know it though, with BHP Billiton's shares reaching a cycle high. Again, investors in mining shares are attributing the weakness in commodities to the trade dispute, when instead they should be focussing on the outlook for EM growth which accounts for all the growth in demand for commodities.

As for the rest of the Australian share market, industrial shares (Ex-Banks and REITs) continue to re-rate higher, becoming more expensive, while profit forecasts are trimmed further (Fig 3). At 20 times forecast earnings (blue line) we are paying a very high price for modest profit growth.

24.00 PE 12MF 15.00 EPS 3Mchg (RHS) -+1Std Median ----1Std EPS Gwt 12MF (Med.) 10.00 20.00 5.00 0.00 12.00 -5 00 8.00 -10.00 4.00 -15.00 20.00

Figure 3: ASX 200 Industrial Companies (Ex Banks and REIT's)

Source: Bloomberg

#### Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited Chief Investment Officer's Report 30 June 2018 (continued)

Investors have abandoned value as the market keeps rewarding growth and momentum. This can only go on for so long before it ends badly. The ultimate risk in holding any asset is in the price you pay, and this market is red hot. Shareholders should feel confident that the WMK is well-positioned for any setback in the share market.

Justin Braitling

Chief Investment Officer

Watermark Funds Management

Mount /

# **Company Profile**

#### **Investment Objective**

The Company's investment objective is to deliver consistent positive returns with reduced market risk, irrespective of movements in the underlying share market. The Company will also seek to return a consistent stream of fully franked dividends to Shareholders.

#### **Investment Strategy**

The Company's Investment Manager employs an equity market neutral strategy in managing the portfolio. A market neutral strategy aims to profit from the outperformance of a long portfolio over a short portfolio of shares. As the portfolios are roughly of equal value, the structure is fully hedged, minimising exposure to the changes in the broader share market. It provides the Company an opportunity to gain exposure to mispriced listed securities; as identified by the Investment Manager, without being fully exposed to the volatility and risks of the share market.

The value of Company's assets (longs) and its liabilities (shorts) move up and down together with movements in the share market, thereby minimising their impact on the portfolio. The Company profits to the extent that the long portfolio outperforms the short portfolio, irrespective of prevailing market direction. In this way, portfolio returns in a market neutral strategy will almost entirely reflect the Manager's success in choosing shares to buy and sell (short).

#### **Investment Philosophy**

The Manager believes successful investing requires the following skills:

- An ability to evaluate the true worth of a business and the management charged with running it;
- An understanding of how and why a company's shares come to be mispriced; and
- An appreciation of the risks that may undermine the investment case.

Employing these skills, the Manager believes the best investment opportunities arise when shares in strong, well managed companies can be purchased on attractive terms. These companies typically exhibit the following characteristics:

- · A history of superior returns through the economic cycle;
- Management with a track record of creating and distributing value to shareholders; and
- · Businesses with a capacity to grow.

Consistent with these same principles, in selecting shares to short sell the Manager looks to sell the shares of companies with weak fundamentals on occasions when they become overvalued.

#### **Investment Universe**

The universe from which investments can be selected comprises companies listed in Australia and on international exchanges. The Company may invest up to 50% of its gross exposure in international shares. While the primary focus is Australian shares, access to international shares provides the Manager with the opportunity to better express its investment ideas while developing deeper insights into Australian companies that compete in global markets.

Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited Company Profile 30 June 2018 (continued)

#### **Investment Process**

The Manager's investment process is a fundamentally driven, security selection process based on sound investment ideas taken from the investment of public companies. A summary of the investment process is set out below.

#### Security Selection

Investment ideas come from monitoring economic and industry trends as well as extensive contact with company management and industry sources.

Once identified, investment opportunities are screened to ensure they are of an investment grade. A full qualitative assessment of the proposed investment is completed to establish whether the business is of a suitable quality and attractively priced.

#### Qualitative Review

Once a suitable investment opportunity has been identified, a full review of financial performance will be completed. This is usually followed by a meeting with management to further develop an understanding of the business and the management philosophy. Where possible, representatives of the Manager will also meet with suppliers, regulators, competitors and customers to gauge the competitive environment.

#### Short Sellina

Short selling is an important part of the investment strategy employed by the Manager. In a market neutral structure, the manager will seek to match long and short exposures to maintain a fully hedged portfolio.

The Manager employs a similar security selection process as above, but is looking for the opposite qualities in companies to borrow and sell. The Manager believes the best "shorting" opportunities are found in poorly managed companies with weak fundamentals where the shares in those companies can be sold for more than they are worth.

When targeting companies to borrow and sell (short), the Manager will target:

- · A history of inferior returns.
- · Management with a poor track record.
- · Businesses operating in highly competitive industries that are struggling to grow.
- Securities which are expensive on a range of valuation measures.

#### Portfolio Construction

Unlike a traditional fund, the Manager constructs two portfolios, a long and a short portfolio with the weighting of each investment in each portfolio loosely correlated with the level of conviction around individual investment ideas.

This process ensures the Manager constructs portfolios around the best individual investment ideas, with the highest conviction, while retaining a bias in favour of good, well managed companies to buy (long), and weaker businesses to sell (short).

The manager will retain 100% of investors' capital in cash and cash equivalents, held with the Prime Broker and on deposit with an Australian bank. Funds are then raised through the short-sale of securities, with the proceeds invested in the long portfolio. As such, the company can maintain a gross market exposure of up to 400% of Shareholders' capital in mispriced securities while ensuring the portfolio is fully hedged against movements in the underlying share market.

#### **Investments at Market Value**

investments at market value					
Consumer Durables & Apparel			Capital Goods		
Breville Group Limited	408,698.64	0.55%	Airbus SE	744,795.70	1.00%
LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE	851,335.40	1.14%	Ausdrill Limited	418,646.08	0.56%
,	1,260,034.04	1.69%	Epiroc AB Class A	424,023.14	0.57%
Consumer Services	1,200,00-110-1	110070	Honeywell International Inc.	414,885.84	0.55%
Aristocrat Leisure Limited	828,645.30	1.11%	Kennametal Inc.	234,004.74	0.31%
Star Entertainment Group Limited	1,176,495.20	1.57%	OSRAM Licht AG	302,036.50	0.40%
•	1,391,850.04	1.86%	Reece Limited	1,412,992.35	1.89%
Tabcorp Holdings Limited					0.55%
Marka	3,396,990.54	4.54%	Reliance Worldwide Corp. Ltd.	409,423.60	
Media	0.044.004.50	0.000/	Safran S.A.	585,508.59	0.78%
Fairfax Media Limited	2,011,294.50	2.69%	Siemens AG	1,149,338.34	1.54%
oOh media Ltd	925,060.95	1.24%	Weir Group PLC	547,112.61	0.73%
Vivendi SA	783,458.68	1.05%		6,642,767.49	8.89%
	3,719,814.13	4.98%	Commercial & Professional Services		
Retailing			Brambles Limited	1,676,250.96	2.24%
Bapcor Ltd	939,342.05	1.26%	Downer EDI Limited	1,132,544.76	1.51%
Premier Investments Limited	919,386.08	1.23%		2,808,795.72	3.76%
Webjet Limited	817,343.05	1.09%	Transportation		
	2,676,071.18	3.58%	Atlas Arteria	835,083.39	1.12%
Food Beverage & Tobacco			CSX Corporation	308,692.27	0.41%
Mondelez International, Inc. Class A	724,276.92	0.97%	·	1,143,775.66	1.53%
	724,276.92	0.97%	Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment		
Energy	,		Broadcom Inc.	745,801.51	1.00%
Caltex Australia Limited	964,876.08	1.29%	2.00000	745,801.51	1.00%
Karoon Gas Australia Ltd	303,117.98	0.41%	Software & Services	,	1.0070
Origin Energy Limited	635,912.03	0.85%	Alphabet Inc. Class A	805,418.06	1.08%
Santos Limited	846,600.48	1.13%	Link Administration Holdings Ltd.	865,658.34	1.16%
Senex Energy Limited	856,962.62	1.15%	Microsoft Corporation	795,046.05	1.06%
0,		1.10%	MYOB Group Ltd.		
Z Energy Ltd.	823,886.00		M TOB Group Ltd.	2,447,708.62	3.27%
Banka	4,431,355.19	5.93%	Made dele	4,913,831.07	6.57%
Banks	100 010 01	0.000/	Materials	4 007 400 00	4 740/
AIB Group PLC	462,640.64	0.62%	Aurelia Metals Limited	1,297,408.92	1.74%
Bank of Queensland Limited	287,989.78	0.39%	BHP Billiton Limited	1,900,926.78	2.54%
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	2,343,499.20	3.13%	Boral Limited	1,184,875.03	1.58%
CYBG PLC Shs Chess Depository Interests Repr 1 Shs	2,949,072.82	3.94%	Bluescope Steel Limited	209,709.00	0.28%
FinecoBank SpA	657,866.90	0.88%	Duluxgroup Limited	539,225.55	0.72%
National Australia Bank Limited	2,742,562.37	3.67%	Iluka Resources Limited	331,923.02	0.44%
Swedbank AB Class A	712,501.34	0.95%	Jupiter Mines Limited	450,547.79	0.60%
Westpac Banking Corporation	818,495.50	1.09%	Lynas Corporation Limited	1,059,273.54	1.42%
Wells Fargo & Company	926,688.78	1.24%	Orora Ltd.	1,291,933.02	1.73%
	11,901,317.33	15.92%	Regis Resources Limited	1,508,695.04	2.02%
Diversified Financials			South32 Ltd.	755,890.68	1.01%
AMP Limited	1,713,623.80	2.29%	Teck Resources Limited Class B	468,864.03	0.63%
ING Groep NV	733,071.03	0.98%	Vale S.A. Sponsored ADR	801,976.59	1.07%
Janus Henderson Group PLC Registered Shs Chess Depor	842,960.16	1.13%	Tale on a openior of the	11,801,248.98	15.79%
Macquarie Group Limited	899,924.70	1.20%	Real Estate	11,001,240.00	1011070
Perpetual Limited	328,931.20	0.44%	Aveo Group	1,093,757.58	1.46%
r erpetual Ellillitea	4,518,510.89	6.04%	GPT Group	2,109,367.26	2.82%
Incurance	4,510,510.05	0.04 /0	Mirvac Group	946,460.69	1.27%
Insurance	472 202 20	0.620/	Stockland	,	
Hastings Group Holdings Plc	473,383.28	0.63%	Stockland	1,321,680.49	1.77%
Medibank Private Ltd.	591,116.04	0.79%	T	5,471,266.02	7.32%
QBE Insurance Group Limited	587,584.98	0.79%	Telecommunication Services	4 705 005 05	0.000/
Suncorp Group Limited	196,775.33	0.26%	SpeedCast International Ltd	1,705,665.65	2.28%
	1,848,859.63	2.47%		1,705,665.65	2.28%
Health Care Equipment & Services			Utilities		
Ramsay Health Care Limited	631,350.08	0.84%	Spark Infrastructure Group Ltd.	828,130.20	1.11%
Sonic Healthcare Limited	1,569,257.69	2.10%		828,130.20	1.11%
	2,200,607.77	2.94%			
Pharmaceuticals Biotech & Life Sciences	•		Total Long Portfolio	74,758,690.72	100.00%
Merck & Co., Inc.	316,459.91	0.42%	Total Short Portfolio	(72,680,243.84)	
Novartis AG	1,014,109.16	1.36%			
CSL Limited	689,001.74	0.92%			
	2,019,570.81	2.70%			
	_,,	• /•			

# **Corporate Governance Statement**

As an ASX-listed company, Watermark Market Neutral Fund Ltd ("WMK") and its directors are committed to responsible and transparent financial and business practices to protect and advance shareholders' interests. The Company's strong corporate governance practices are based on the ASX Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations.

The Board has adopted these ASX principles and recommendations which are complemented by the Company's core principles of honesty and integrity. The corporate governance policies and practices adopted by the Board are outlined in WMK's Corporate Governance section (http://wfunds.com.au/fund/watermark-market-neutral-fund-ltd/).

# **Directors' Report**

The Directors present their report together with the financial statements of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 30 June 2018.

#### **Directors**

The following persons held office as directors of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited during the financial year:

Matthew Kidman (Chairman)
Justin Braitling (Non-Independent Director)
John Abernethy (Independent Director)
Stephen Van Eyk (Independent Director)
Robert Ferguson (Independent Director)

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

#### **Principal activities**

During the financial year, the principal activities of the Company included making investments in listed companies and unlisted companies.

There was no significant change in the nature of the activity of the Company during the year.

#### **Dividends - Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited**

Dividends paid to members were as follows:

	Dividend Rate	Total Amount	Date of Payment	% Franked
2018 Ordinary shares - final 2017	\$0.025	\$2,183,950	31/10/2017	100
Ordinary shares - interim 2018	\$0.010	\$859,487	24/04/2018	100
2017 Ordinary shares - interim 2017	\$0.030	\$2,613,598	27/04/2017	100
Ordinary shares - final 2016	\$0.030	\$2,613,601	20/10/2016	75

In addition to the above dividends, since the end of the financial year the Directors have recommended the payment of a final ordinary dividend of 1.5 cents per fully paid share, fully franked to be paid on 14 September 2018 out of profits reserve at 30 June 2018.

#### Review of operations

Information on the operations and financial position of the Company and its business strategies and prospects is set out in the review of operations and activities on pages 3 to 8 of this Financial Statements.

The loss from ordinary activities after income tax amounted to \$2.052,202 (2017; profit of \$1,554,483).

The net tangible asset backing for each ordinary share as at 30 June 2018 amounted to \$0.96 per share (2017: \$1.01 per share). The equivalent asset backing before tax was \$0.95 per share (2017: \$0.99 per share).

The gross portfolio value decreased 2.2% over the financial year while the Reserve Bank of Australia's cash-rate increased by 1.5%, representing an underperformance of 3.7%. After deducting costs in funding the balance sheet, along with management fees and other expenses, the fund reported a negative 3.5% return for the year.

#### **Financial Position**

The net asset value of the Company for the current financial year ended was \$81,305,385 (2017: \$88,707,997).

#### Significant changes in the state of affairs

On 24 July 2017, the Company announced the resignation of Sophia Gartzonis as Company Secretary effective 24 July 2017. Following the resignation, Mark Licciardo of Mertons Corporate Services Pty Ltd was appointed as Company Secretary, effective 24 July 2017.

On 15 September 2017, the Company announced the appointment of Belinda Cleminson, also of Mertons Corporate Services Pty Ltd, as Joint Company Secretary effective 15 September 2017. This appointment is in addition to Mark Licciardo who remains as Joint Company Secretary.

At the expiry of the buyback on 13 February 2018, the Company had bought back a total of 500,793 shares at an average price of \$0.86.

On 15 February 2018, an additional 12 month on-market share buy-back program was announced by the Company effective 15 February 2018. 2,548,156 shares have been bought back since its commencement.

There were no other significant changes in the state of affairs of the Company during the year ended 30 June 2018.

#### Matters subsequent to the end of the financial period

Other than the dividend declared after year end, no other matter or circumstance has occurred subsequent to year end that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in subsequent financial years.

#### Likely developments and expected results of operations

The Company will continue to pursue its investment objectives for the long term benefit of the members. This will require continual review of the investment strategies that are currently in place and may require changes to these strategies to maximise returns.

#### **Environmental regulation**

The Company is not affected by any significant environmental regulation in respect of its operations.

To the extent that any environmental regulations may have an incidental impact on the Company's operations, the Directors of the Company are not aware of any breach by the Company of those regulations.

#### Information on directors

Matthew Kidman Chair - Chairman Age 49.

#### Experience and expertise

Matthew Kidman has over 20 years' experience in the finance industry. He spent four years as finance journalist at the Sydney Morning Herald, during which time he was appointed finance editor of the newspaper. In 1998 Matthew joined the funds management group Wilson Asset Management as a portfolio manager, his roles since then included positions as stock analyst, dealer, portfolio manager and senior executive of the management group. He was appointed to the board of WAM Capital Limited in 1999.

Matthew Kidman holds a Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of Laws degree and a Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance, all from Macquarie University.

#### Other current directorships

Matthew Kidman is the director of Incubator Capital Limited and Sandon Capital Investments Limited. He is also founder of funds management group Centennial Asset Management Pty Limited and a Director of Watermark Global Leaders Fund Limited.

#### Former directorships in last 3 years

Matthew Kidman resigned as director of financial planning group Centrepoint Alliance Limited in November 2015, resigned from WAM Capital Limited in April 2018, and resigned from WAM Research Limited and WAM Active Limited in June 2018.

#### Special responsibilities

Chairman of the Board.

#### Interests in shares and options

Details of Matthew Kidman's interests in shares of the Company are included later in this report.

#### Interests in contracts

Matthew Kidman has no interests in contracts of the Company.

#### Information on directors (continued)

Justin Braitling Non-Independent Director Age 51.

#### Experience and expertise

Justin Braitling has over 25 years' experience in investing in Australian and international companies. He was an Investment Analyst and Portfolio Manager at Bankers Trust for 12 years from January 1991 to June 2002. He was a key member of the investment team at Bankers Trust that was consistently ranked in the top quartile of managers by InTech.

#### Other current directorships

Justin Braitling is the sole Director of the investment management company, Watermark Funds Management Pty Limited.

Justin Braitling has been a Director of Australian Leaders Fund Limited since October 2003 of which he become Chairman in February 2007 and a Director of Watermark Global Leaders Fund Limited.

#### Former directorships in last 3 years

Justin Braitling has not held any other directorships of listed companies within the last three years.

#### Special responsibilities

Investment Manager of the Company.

#### Interests in shares and options

Details of Justin Braitling's interests in shares of the Company are included later in this report.

#### Interests in contracts

Details of Justin Braitling's interests in contracts of the Company are included later in this report.

#### Information on directors (continued)

John Abernethy Independent Director Age 59.

#### Experience and expertise

John Abernethy has over 35 years' experience in funds management and corporate advisory. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Laws (BCom/LLB) from the University of New South Wales. He spent ten years at NRMA Investments as Head of Equities. In 1994 he joined Poynton Corporate Limited as an Executive Director before forming Clime Investment Management Limited in 1996.

#### Other current directorships

John Abernethy is the Chairman of Clime Capital Limited. He is a Director of Clime Investment Management Limited, Jasco Holdings Limited, WAM Research Limited (appointed May 2002), Australian Leaders Fund Limited, Clime Private Limited and Watermark Global Leaders Fund Limited (appointed February 2018).

#### Former directorships in last 3 years

John Abernethy has resigned from WAM Active Limited in February 2018.

#### Special responsibilities

Chairman of the Audit Committee

#### Interests in shares and options

John Abernethy has no interests in shares and options of the Company.

#### Interests in contracts

John Abernethy has no interests in contracts of the Company.

#### Information on directors (continued)

Robert Ferguson Independent Director Age 72.

#### Experience and expertise

Robert Ferguson's career spans over 30 years' in research, finance, investment management and property. Robert commenced employment in 1971 with Bankers Trust Australia Ltd and was its CEO between 1985 and 1999 and Chairman from 1999 to 2001. Robert has extensive experience in both executive and non-executive roles.

Robert Ferguson holds a B.Ec (Hons) from the University of Sydney.

#### Other current directorships

Robert Ferguson is the Chairman of SmartWard Holdings Pty Ltd.

#### Former directorships in last 3 years

Robert Ferguson has resigned as Chairman of GPT Management Holdings Limited in May 2018, Non-Executive Chairman of Primary Health Care Limited in July 2018 and Non-Executive Director of Tyro Payments Limited.

#### Special responsibilities

Member of the Audit Committee

#### Interests in shares and options

Details of Robert Ferguson's interests in shares of the Company are included later in this report.

#### Interests in contracts

Robert Ferguson has no interests in contracts of the Company.

#### Information on directors (continued)

Stephen Van Eyk Independent Director Age 66.

# Experience and expertise

Stephen Van Eyk has over 25 years' experience in the financial services industry, with over 15 years as Managing Director of research house van Eyk Research. Stephen was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2013 Fund Manager awards.

Stephen Van Eyk holds a Commerce Degree from the UNSW and is a fellow of the Financial Services Institute.

#### Other current directorships

Stephen Van Eyk has not held any other directorships of listed companies outside the Company.

#### Former directorships in last 3 years

Stephen Van Eyk has not held any other directorships of listed companies within the last three years.

#### Special responsibilities

Member of the Audit Committee

#### Interests in shares and options

Details of Stephen Van Eyk's interests in shares of the Company are included later in this report.

#### Interests in contracts

Stephen Van Eyk has no interests in contracts of the Company.

#### **Company secretary**

On 24 July 2017, the Company announced the resignation of Sophia Gartzonis as Company Secretary effective 24 July 2017. Following the resignation, Mark Licciardo of Mertons Corporate Services Pty Ltd was appointed as Company Secretary, effective 24 July 2017.

On 15 September 2017, the Company announced the appointment of Belinda Cleminson, also of Mertons Corporate Services Pty Ltd, as Joint Company Secretary effective 15 September 2017. This appointment is in addition to Mark Licciardo who remains as Joint Company Secretary.

#### **Meetings of directors**

The numbers of meetings of the Company's board of Directors and of each board committee held during the year ended 30 June 2018, and the numbers of meetings attended by each Director were:

	Direc	ctors'	Meetings of committees	
	Mee	tings	Αu	ıdit
	Α	В	Α	В
Matthew Kidman	5	5	-*	3
Justin Braitling	5	5	-*	3
John Abernethy	5	5	3	3
Stephen Van Eyk	4	5	3	3
Robert Ferguson	3	5	2	3

A = Number of meetings attended

#### Remuneration report (audited)

This report details the nature and amount of remuneration for key management personnel of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Fees and payments to Directors reflect the demands that are made on and the responsibilities of the Directors and are reviewed annually by the Board. The Company determines the remuneration levels and ensures they are competitively set to attract and retain appropriately qualified and experienced Directors.

Directors' base fees are set at a maximum of \$180,000 per annum. Directors do not receive bonuses nor are they issued options on securities. Directors' fees cover all main board activities and membership of committees. Under the ASX Listing Rules, the maximum fees paid to Directors may not be increased without approval from the Company at a general meeting. Directors will seek approval from time to time as appropriate.

#### Details of remuneration

The following tables show details of the remuneration received by key management personnel of the Company for the current and previous financial year.

Chart tarm

Doot omployment

2018	employee benefits	benefits	
Name	Salary and fees	Superannuation	Total
Name	\$	Superannuation \$	\$
Matthew Kidman	27,397	2,603	30,000
John Abernethy	27,397	2,603	30,000
Stephen Van Eyk	27,397	2,603	30,000
Robert Ferguson	27,397	2,603	30,000
Justin Braitling	9,132	868	10,000
Total key management personnel compensation	118,720	11,280	130,000

B = Number of meetings held during the time the Director held office or was a member of the committee during the year

<sup>\*</sup> Not a member of the relevant committee

#### Remuneration report (audited) (continued)

#### Details of remuneration (continued)

2017	Short-term employee benefits	Post-employment benefits	
	Salary		
Name	and fees	Superannuation	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Matthew Kidman	27,397	2,603	30,000
John Abernethy	27,397	2,603	30,000
Stephen Van Eyk	27,397	2,603	30,000
Robert Ferguson	27,397	2,603	30,000
Justin Braitling	9,132	868	10,000
Total key management personnel compensation	118,720	11,280	130,000

#### **Director Related Entity Remuneration**

All transactions with related entities were made on normal commercial terms and conditions.

Watermark Fund Management Pty Limited is a Director associated entity and has been appointed to manage the investment portfolio of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited. Watermark Funds Management Pty Limited operates a funds management business. In its capacity as manager, Watermark Funds Management Pty Limited was paid a management fee of 1% p.a. (plus GST) on the net value of the portfolio amounting to \$838,928 (2017: \$921,386). As at 30 June 2018, the balance payable to the manager was \$71,006 (2017: \$79,239).

In addition, Watermark Funds Management Pty Limited is to be paid, annually in arrears, a performance fee being 20% of:

- where the level of the Reserve Bank of Australia's cash-rate has increased over that year, the amount of the increase in the Value of the Portfolio exceeds this increase; or
- where the Reserve Bank of Australia's cash-rate has decreased over that year, the amount of the increase in the Value of the Portfolio.

No performance fee is payable in respect of any performance period where the portfolio has decreased in value over that period. On the 19 May 2015, the Company announced, if the portfolio underperforms the benchmark over a financial year that underperformance is to be recouped before any entitled performance fee can be accrued.

For the year ended 30 June 2018, in its capacity as manager, Watermark Funds Management Pty Limited was not paid a performance fee (2017: \$163,954). As at 30 June 2018, there was no balance payable to the manager (2017: \$175,951).

These amounts are in addition to the above Directors remuneration.

No Director has received or become entitled to receive a benefit (other than those detailed above) by reason of a contract made by the Company or a related Company with the Director or with a firm of which he is a member or with a Company in which he has substantial financial interest.

#### Remuneration of Executives

There are no executives that are paid by the Company. Watermark Funds Management Pty Limited the investment manager of the Company remunerated Justin Braitling as employees and/or as a Director of the Company during the financial year. The Manager is appointed to provide day-to-day management of the Company and is remunerated as outlined above.

#### Remuneration report (audited) (continued)

Details of remuneration (continued)

#### **Equity Instrument Disclosures Relating to Directors**

As at the date of this report, the Company's Directors and their related parties held the following interests in the Company:

Ordinary Shares Held

#### 2018

Discotor	Danish	September	Options	Diamanda	31 August
Director	Position	2017	Exercised	Disposals	2018
Matthew Kidman	Chairman	64,563	-	-	64,563
Justin Braitling	Non-Independent Director	713,001	500,000	-	1,213,001
Robert Ferguson	Independent Director	1,000,000	-	-	1,000,000
Stephen Van Eyk	Independent Director	164,505	60,240	-	224,745
John Abernethy	Independent Director	30,000	-	-	30,000
-	•	1,972,069	560,240	-	2,532,309
2017			-		

Director	Position	17 August 2016	Acquisitions/ Options Exercised	Disposals	31 August 2017
Matthew Kidman	Chairman	64,563	-	-	64,563
Justin Braitling	Non-Independent Director	713,001	-	-	713,001
Robert Ferguson	Independent Director	1,000,000	-	-	1,000,000
Stephen Van Eyk	Independent Director	115,426	49,079	-	164,505
John Abernethy	Independent Director	-	30,000	-	30,000
		1,892,990	79,079	-	1,972,069

There are no outstanding shares held by people other than Directors or key management personnel.

Options Held

None of the Directors held options during the year ended 30 June 2018 and 30 June 2017.

#### End of remuneration report

#### Insurance and indemnification of officers and auditors

#### (a) Insurance of officers

During the financial year, the Company paid a premium in respect of a contract insuring the Directors of the Company, the Company Secretary and any related body corporate against liability incurred as such by a Director or Secretary to the extent permitted by the *Corporations Act 2001*. The contract of insurance prohibits disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium.

# (b) Indemnity of auditors

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an auditor of the Company.

# Proceedings on behalf of the company

No person has applied to the Court under section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001* for leave to bring proceedings on behalf of the Company, or to intervene in any proceedings to which the Company is a party, for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Company for all or part of those proceedings.

#### Proceedings on behalf of the company (continued)

No proceedings have been brought or intervened in on behalf of the Company with leave of the Court under section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

#### Non-audit services

The Board of Directors, in accordance with advice from the Audit & Risk Committee, is satisfied that the provision of non-audit services during the year is compatible with the general standard of independence for auditors imposed by the *Corporations Act 2001*. The Directors are satisfied that the services disclosed in Note 20 did not compromise the external auditor's independence for the following reasons:

- all non-audit services have been reviewed by the audit committee to ensure they do not impact the
  impartiality and objectivity of the auditor
- none of the services undermine the general principles relating to auditor independence as set out in APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants.

#### Auditor's independence declaration

Mld

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 24.

#### Rounding of amounts

The Company is an entity of a kind referred to in ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191 issued by the ASIC relating to the 'rounding off' of amounts in the financial statements. Amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollars in accordance with that ASIC Corporations Instrument, unless otherwise indicated.

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

Matthew Kidman Chairman

Sydney 28 August 2018



# Auditor's Independence Declaration To the Directors of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited ABN 45 163 980 498

In relation to the independent audit for the year ended 30 June 2018, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct.

This declaration is in respect of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited during the year.

S M WHIDDETT

Partner

PITCHER PARTNERS

Shhiddet

Sydney

28 August 2018

# **Statement of Comprehensive Income**

		Year ended	
		2018	2017
	Notes	\$	\$
		·	
Investment because forms and because attribles			
Investment income from ordinary activities		(400 405)	E 000 EE0
Net (losses)/gains on investments		(102,435)	5,686,558
Dividends		2,018,688	2,438,370
Interest		2,349,041	2,432,079
Trust distributions		317,116	160,850
Other income		603	
		4,583,013	10,717,857
Expenses			
Management fees	22(b)	(838,928)	(921,386)
Performance fees	22(b)	(030,320)	(163,954)
Brokerage expense	22(D)	(OFF CF9)	(1,288,213)
		(955,658)	
Short dividend expense		(3,193,050)	(3,836,983)
Interest expense		(1,621,384)	(1,748,121)
Stock loan fees		(463,033)	(736,023)
Accounting fees		(100,385)	(115,681)
Share registry fees	404 >	(59,654)	(68,471)
Directors' fees	19(a)	(130,000)	(130,000)
ASX fees		(54,397)	(54,159)
Audit fees	20	(61,830)	(41,199)
Imputation credits		(54,684)	(99,329)
Other expenses		(129,810)	(106,489)
		(7,662,813)	(9,310,008)
		, ,	
(Loss)/profit before income tax		(3,079,800)	1,407,849
(2000), profit before modific tax		(0,070,000)	1, 107,010
Income tax benefit	7	1,027,598	146,634
(Loss)/profit for the year		(2,052,202)	1,554,483
Other comprehensive (loss)/income for the year, net of tax		_	_
other comprehensive (1033)/income for the year, her or tax			
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the year		(2,052,202)	1,554,483
		Cents	Cents
		001113	33.1.0
Earnings per share for (loss)/profit attributable to the ordinary	y equity		
holders of the Company:			
Basic (loss)/earnings per share	25	(2.37)	1.78
Diluted (loss)/earnings per share	25	(2.37)	1.78
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		(====)	

# **Statement of Financial Position**

		At		
	Notes	2018 \$	2017 \$	
	140103	Ψ	Ψ	
ASSETS				
Current assets Cash and cash equivalents	8	73,480,754	80,021,172	
Trade and other receivables	9	5,343,214	11,169,327	
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	10	74,758,692	115,206,353	
Prepayment	-	450 500 000	24,393	
Total current assets	-	153,582,660	206,421,245	
Non-current assets				
Deferred tax assets	12	2,514,868	1,425,362	
Total non-current assets	_	2,514,868	1,425,362	
<b>T</b> (1)(		450 007 500	007.040.007	
Total assets	-	156,097,528	207,846,607	
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities				
Trade and other payables	13	4,520,455	5,915,874	
Derivative financial instruments Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	11 14	38,800 70,221,048	- 113,180,962	
Current tax liabilities	17	70,221,040	567	
Total current liabilities	_	74,780,303	119,097,403	
Non-current liabilities Deferred tax liabilities	15	11,840	41,207	
Total non-current liabilities	10 _	11,840	41,207	
	_	,	<u> </u>	
Total liabilities	_	74,792,143	119,138,610	
		04 005 005	00 707 007	
Net assets	-	81,305,385	88,707,997	
EQUITY				
Issued capital	16	84,475,177	86,782,148	
Profits reserve	17(a)	61,392	2,954,036	
Accumulated losses	17(b) _	(3,231,184)	(1,028,187)	
Total equity	_	81,305,385	88,707,997	

# **Statement of Changes in Equity**

	Notes	Issued capital \$	Profits reserve	Accumulated losses	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2016	_	86,552,644	6,364,468	(765,900)	92,151,212
Profit for the year		-	-	1,554,483	1,554,483
Other comprehensive income  Total comprehensive income for the year	- -	<u>-</u>	-	1,554,483	1,554,483
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Dividends provided for or paid On market buy back Costs of issued capital Transfer to profits reserve	18 16 16 17	239,767 (107) (10,156)	(5,227,202) - - 1,816,770	- - - (1,816,770)	(4,987,435) (107) (10,156)
	_	229,504	(3,410,432)	(1,816,770)	(4,997,698)
Balance at 30 June 2017	_	86,782,148	2,954,036	(1,028,187)	88,707,997
Balance at 1 July 2017	_	86,782,148	2,954,036	(1,028,187)	88,707,997
Loss for the year		-	-	(2,052,202)	(2,052,202)
Other comprehensive income  Total comprehensive (loss) for the year	-	-	-	(2,052,202)	(2,052,202)
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Dividends provided for or paid On market buy back Costs of issued capital Transfer to profits reserve	18 16 16 17	200,691 (2,505,840) (1,822)	(3,043,439) - - 150,795	- - (150,795)	(2,842,748) (2,505,840) (1,822)
•	_	(2,306,971)	(2,892,644)	(150,795)	(5,350,410)
Balance at 30 June 2018	_	84,475,177	61,392	(3,231,184)	81,305,385

# **Statement of Cash Flows**

		Year ended	
		2018	2017
	Notes	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Purchase of financial assets		(277,600,901)	(323,918,366)
Proceeds from sale of financial assets		325,958,376	329,162,369
Payments for settlements of financial liabilities held at fair value		020,000,010	0_0,:0_,000
through profit or loss		(312,582,918)	(300,108,002)
Proceeds from re-purchase of financial liabilities held at fair value		(0.12,002,0.10)	(000,:00,00=)
through profit or loss		266,724,265	292,251,357
Interest received		2,316,445	2,540,340
Interest paid		(1,606,731)	(1,737,244)
Dividends and trust distributions received		2,257,512	2,862,664
Dividends paid on short stocks		(3,020,430)	(3,619,918)
Other income received		603	(0,0.0,0.0)
Income taxes paid		(91,061)	399,962
Investment management fees paid		(845,102)	(925,723)
Performance fees paid		(163,954)	(2,750,119)
Brokerage expense		(957,190)	(1,267,506)
Stock loan fees		(458,023)	(767,782)
Payments for other expenses		(677,051)	(649,115)
Net cash (outflow) from operating activities	24(a)	(746,160)	(8,527,083)
not oddir (oddirow) from oporating dodividoo	<u>-</u> .(\(\alpha\)_	(1.10,100)	(0,021,000)
Cash flows from financing activities		(0.000.400)	(407)
Payments for shares bought back		(2,832,100)	(107)
Shares issued		200,691	239,767
Share issue transaction costs		(2,603)	(14,509)
Dividends paid	_	(3,043,439)	(5,227,202)
Net cash (outflow) from financing activities	_	(5,677,451)	(5,002,051)
Net (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(6,423,611)	(13,529,134)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		80,021,172	93,247,732
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		(116,807)	302,574
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	8 -	73,480,754	80,021,172
		-,,	, ,
Non-cook investing and financing activities			
Non-cash investing and financing activities	0.4/l- \	200 004	220.767
Dividends reinvested	24(b) _	200,691	239,767

#### 1 General information

Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited (the "Company") is a listed public company incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The address of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited's registered office is Level 23 Governor Phillip Tower, 1 Farrer Place, Sydney, NSW 2000. The financial statements of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited are for the year ended 30 June 2018. The Company is primarily involved in making investments, and deriving revenue and investment income from listed securities and unit trusts in Australia.

# 2 Significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated. The financial statements are for the entity Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited.

#### (a) Basis of preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the *Corporations Act 2001*. Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited is a for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 28 August 2018.

#### (i) Compliance with IFRS

The financial statements of the Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

#### (ii) New and amended standards adopted by the Company

There are no standards, interpretations or amendments to existing standards that are effective for the first time for the financial year beginning 1 July 2017 that have a material impact on the Company.

# (iii) Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the accruals basis and are based on historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss.

#### (iv) Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Company's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in Note 5.

#### (v) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for 30 June 2018 reporting periods and have not been early adopted by the Company. The Company's assessment of the impact of these new standards and interpretations is set out below.

#### (a) Basis of preparation (continued)

#### Title of standard AASB 9 Financial Instruments

# Nature of change AASB 9 addresses the classification, measurement and derecognition of financial assets and financial liabilities and introduces new rules for hedge accounting. In December 2014, the AASB made further changes to the classification and measurement rules and also introduced a new

impairment model. These

latest amendments now

complete the new

standard.

financial instruments

#### **Impact**

Following the changes approved by the AASB in December 2014, the Company no longer expects any impact from the new classification, measurement and derecognition rules on the Company's financial assets and financial liabilities.

There will also be no impact on the Company's accounting for financial liabilities, as the new requirements only affect the accounting for financial liabilities that are designated at fair value through profit or loss and the Company does not have any such liabilities.

The derecognition rules have not changed from the previous requirements, and the Company does not apply hedge accounting. The new standard also introduces expanded disclosure requirements and changes in presentation.

The new impairment model is an expected credit loss (ECL) model which may result in the earlier recognition of credit losses.

The Company has not yet assessed how the impairment provisions would be affected by the new rules.

# Mandatory application date/ Date of adoption by the Company

Must be applied for financial years commencing on or after 1 January 2018.

Based on the transitional provisions in the completed IFRS 9, early adoption in phases was only permitted for annual reporting periods beginning before 1 February 2015. After that date, the new rules must be adopted in their entirety.

#### (a) Basis of preparation (continued)

#### Title of standard AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers

# Nature of change In

The AASB has issued a new standard for the recognition of revenue. This will replace AASB 118 which covers contracts for goods and services and AASB 111 which covers construction contracts.

The new standard is based on the principle that revenue is recognised when control of a good or service transfers to a customer so the notion of control replaces the existing notion of risks and rewards.

The standard permits a modified retrospective approach for the adoption. Under this approach entities will recognise transitional adjustments in retained earnings on the date of initial application (eg 1 July 2017), ie without restating the comparative period. They will only need to apply the new rules to contracts that are not completed as of the date of initial application.

#### **Impact**

The Company's main sources of income are interest, dividends and distributions and gains on financial instruments held at fair value. All of these are outside the scope of the new revenue standard. As a consequence, the Directors do not expect the adoption of AASB 15 to have a significant impact on the Company's accounting policies or the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Mandatory application date/ Date of adoption by the Company Mandatory for financial years commencing on or after 1 January 2018.

There are no other standards that are not yet effective and that would be expected to have a material impact on the entity in the current or future reporting periods and on foreseeable future transactions.

#### (b) Foreign currency translation

#### (i) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements of the Company are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates ('the functional currency'). The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited's functional and presentation currency.

#### (ii) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Non-monetary items that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date when the fair value was determined. Translation differences on assets and liabilities carried at fair value are reported as part of the fair value gain or loss in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### (c) Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Amounts disclosed as revenue are net of rebates and amounts collected on behalf of third parties.

Revenue is recognised where it is probable that the economic benefit will flow to the entity and can be reliably measured.

#### (i) Investment income

Profits and losses realised from the sale of investments and unrealised gains and losses on securities held at fair value are included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year they are incurred in accordance with the policies described in Note 2(h).

#### (ii) Dividends and trust distributions

Dividends and trust distributions are recognised as revenue when the right to receive payment is established.

# (iii) Interest income

Interest income is recognised as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the financial asset.

#### (iv) Other income

The Company recognises other income when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity. The Company bases its estimates on historical results, taking into consideration the type of customer, the type of transaction and the specifics of each arrangement.

# (d) Income tax

The income tax expense/(income) for the year comprises current income tax expense/(income) and deferred tax expense/(income).

Current income tax expense charged to profit or loss is the tax payable on taxable income. Current tax liabilities/(assets) are measured at the amounts expected to be paid to/(recovered from) the relevant taxation authority.

Deferred income tax expense reflects movements in deferred tax asset and deferred tax liability balances during the year as well as unused tax losses.

Current and deferred income tax expense/(income) is charged or credited outside profit or loss when the tax relates to items that are recognised outside profit or loss.

#### (d) Income tax (continued)

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period when the asset is realised or the liability is settled and their measurement also reflects the manner in which management expects to recover or settle the carrying amount of the related asset or liability.

Deferred tax assets relating to temporary differences and unused tax losses are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the benefits of the deferred tax asset can be utilised.

Current tax assets and liabilities are offset where a legally enforceable right of set-off exists and it is intended that net settlement or simultaneous realisation and settlement of the respective asset and liability will occur. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset where: (a) a legally enforceable right of set-off exists; and (b) the deferred tax assets and liabilities relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on either the same taxable entity or different taxable entities where it is intended that net settlement or simultaneous realisation and settlement of the respective asset and liability will occur in future periods in which significant amounts of deferred tax assets or liabilities are expected to be recovered or settled.

#### (e) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of presentation in the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position.

#### (f) Due from/to brokers

Amounts due from/to brokers represent receivables for securities sold and payables for securities purchased that have been contracted for but not yet delivered by the end of the year. Trades are recorded on trade date, and for equities normally settled within three business days. A provision for impairment of amounts due from brokers is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when there is objective evidence that the Company will not be able to collect all amounts due from the relevant broker. Indicators that the amount due from brokers is impaired include significant financial difficulties of the broker, probability that the broker will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation and default in payments.

#### (g) Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Trade and other receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days. They are presented as current assets unless collection is not expected for more than 12 months after the reporting date.

Collectability of trade and other receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off by reducing the carrying amount directly.

# 2 Significant accounting policies (continued)

### (h) Financial assets and liabilities

The Company's investments are classified as at fair value through profit or loss. They comprise:

#### Classification

(i) Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss - held for trading

Financial assets are classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term. Assets in this category are classified as current assets if they are expected to be settled within 12 months; otherwise they are classified as non-current.

The Company makes short sales in which a borrowed security is sold in anticipation of a decline in the market value of that security, or it may use short sales for various arbitrage transactions. Short sales are classified as current financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss.

Dividends expense on short sales of securities, which have been classified at fair value through profit or loss, is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### (ii) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than 12 months after the reporting period which are classified as non-current assets. Loans and receivables are included in trade and other receivables (note 9) in the Statement of Financial Position.

#### Recognition and derecognition

Purchases and sales of financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are recognised on trade-date - the date on which the Company commits to purchase or sell the asset or liability. Investments are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred and the Company has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

#### Measurement

Financial Instruments are initially measured at fair value adjusted for transaction costs, except where the instrument is classified, as fair value through profit or loss, in which case transaction costs are immediately recognised as expenses in profit or loss.

Transaction costs of financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Loans and receivables are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Subsequent to initial recognition, all instruments held at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value with changes in their fair value recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

When an investment is disposed, the cumulative gain or loss, net of tax thereon, is recognised as realised gains and losses from the sale of financial instruments in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### Determination of Fair Value

AASB 13 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date in the principal, or in its absence, the most advantageous market to which the Company has access at that date. The fair value of a liability reflects its non-performance risk.

The Company's accounting policy on fair value measurements is discussed in Note 4.

Under AASB 13, if an investment has a bid price and an ask price, the price within the bid-ask spread that is more representative of fair value in the circumstances shall be used to measure fair value. Accordingly, the Company uses the last sale price as a basis of measuring fair value.

# 2 Significant accounting policies (continued)

### (h) Financial assets and liabilities (continued)

#### Derivatives

As at 30 June 2018, the Company also held derivative instruments in the form of <a href="mailto:swaps">swaps</a>. Derivatives are classified as at fair value through profit or loss - held-for-trading unless they are designated as hedges. Assets in this category are classified as current assets if they are expected to be settled within 12 months; otherwise they are classified as non-current.

Derivatives in a net receivable position (positive fair value) are reported as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss - held-for-trading. All derivatives in a net payable position (negative fair value) are reported as financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss - held-for-trading.

#### (i) Trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Company prior to the end of financial year which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition. Trade and other payables are presented as current liabilities unless payment is not due within 12 months from the reporting date. They are recognised initially at their fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

### (j) Finance costs

Finance costs are recognised as expenses in the year in which they are incurred using the effective interest rate method.

## (k) Issued capital

Ordinary shares are classified as equity.

Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares or options are shown in equity as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds.

### (I) Profits reserve

A profits reserve has been created representing an amount allocated from current and retained earnings that is preserved for future dividend payments.

### (m) Dividends

Provision is made for the amount of any dividend declared, being appropriately authorised and no longer at the discretion of the entity, on or before the end of the reporting period but not distributed at the end of the reporting period.

In accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, the Company may pay a dividend where the Company's assets exceed its liabilities, the payment of the dividend is fair and reasonable to the Company's shareholders as a whole and the payment of the dividend does not materially prejudice the Company's ability to pay its creditors.

It is the Directors' policy to pay fully franked dividends provided the Company has sufficient profit reserves and franking credits and to distribute the majority of franking credits received each year. Franking credits are generated by receiving fully franked dividends from shares held in the Company's investment portfolio, and from the payment of corporate tax on its other investment income, unfranked income and net realised gains.

From time to time the Board will offer a dividend reinvestment plan, although the DRP was suspended in respect of the interim dividend for the current reporting years.

# 2 Significant accounting policies (continued)

### (n) Earnings per share

#### (i) Basic earnings per share

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing:

- the profit attributable to owners of the Company, excluding any costs of servicing equity other than ordinary shares
- by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the financial year and adjusted for bonus elements in ordinary shares issued during the year.

#### (ii) Diluted earnings per share

Diluted earnings per share adjusts the figures used in the determination of basic earnings per share to take into account:

- the after income tax effect of interest and other financing costs associated with dilutive potential ordinary shares, and
- the weighted average number of additional ordinary shares that would have been outstanding assuming the conversion of all dilutive potential ordinary shares.

### (o) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Where applicable, the Company qualifies for Reduced Input Tax Credits (RITC) at a rate of at least 75%; hence fees for these services have been recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income net of the amount of GST recoverable from the taxation authority.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST receivable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the taxation authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

#### (p) Rounding of amounts

The Company is an entity of a kind referred to in ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191 issued by the ASIC relating to the 'rounding off' of amounts in the financial statements. Amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollars in accordance with that ASIC Corporations Instrument, unless otherwise indicated.

#### (q) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to be consistent with current reporting period.

### 3 Financial risk management

The Company's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, trading portfolios, trade and other receivables and trade and other payables.

The Company's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (including interest rate risk, foreign exchange risk and price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The Board of the Company has implemented a risk management framework to mitigate these risks.

### (a) Market risk

The standard defines this as the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices.

### (i) Price risk

#### Exposure

The Company is exposed to currency risk arising from its investments denominated other than in Australian dollars. The Fund retains a natural hedge of its foreign exchange risk as it holds both assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies. Any residual foreign exchange risk is actively managed by the Investment Manager through its treasury management framework.

The Company seeks to manage and constrain market risk by diversification of the investment portfolio across multiple stocks and industry sectors. The portfolio is maintained by the Investment Manager within a range of parameters governing the levels of acceptable exposure to stocks and industry sectors. The relative weightings of the individual securities and relevant market sectors are reviewed normally weekly and risk can be managed by reducing exposure where necessary.

The table below analyses the Company's concentration of price risk by region.

2018 Australia North America Europe Rest of World Total	Long Exposure	%	Short Exposure	%	Net Exposure
	58,775,394	78.62%	(52,771,615)	75.15%	6,003,779
	6,542,116	8.75%	(9,278,395)	13.21%	(2,736,279)
	9,441,182	12.63%	(8,171,038)	11.64%	1,270,144
	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	-
	74,758,692	<b>100.00%</b>	(70,221,048)	<b>100.00%</b>	4,537,644
2017	Long Exposure	%	Short Exposure	%	Net Exposure
Australia	56,540,437	49.08%	(62,156,599)	54.91%	(5,616,162)
North America	31,105,190	27.00%	(23,287,273)	20.58%	7,817,917
Europe	24,963,225	21.67%	(27,737,090)	24.51%	(2,773,865)
Rest of World	2,597,501	2.25%	-	0.00%	2,597,501
Total	115,206,353	100.00%	(113,180,962)	100.00%	2,025,391

The North American region includes the United States and Canada. Europe includes countries in mainland Europe and the United Kingdom.

As at 30 June 2018 one security represented over 5% of the long or short investment portfolio. As at 30 June 2017 two securities represented over 5% of the long or short investment portfolio.

#### Sensitivity

The following table illustrates the effect on the Company's equity from possible changes in other market risk that were reasonably possible based on the risk the Company was exposed to at reporting date, assuming a flat tax rate of 30 per cent:

	Impact on post-tax (loss)/profit		
	2018	2017	
	\$	\$	
Decrease 5%	(157,459)	(70,889)	
Increase 5%	157,459	70,889	
Decrease 10%	(314,919)	(141,777)	
Increase 10%	314,919	141,777	

Post-tax (loss)/profit would decrease/increase as a result of (losses)/gains on equity securities classified as at fair value through profit or loss.

### (a) Market risk (continued)

At balance date, the net portfolio position was \$4,498,844 long (2017: \$2,025,391 long) therefore there is a small price risk impact on post-tax loss (2017: post-tax profit).

### (ii) Foreign exchange risk

#### Exposure

The Company operates internationally and holds both monetary and non-monetary assets denominated in currencies other than the Australian dollar. The foreign exchange risk relating to non-monetary assets and liabilities is a component of price risk. Foreign exchange risk arises as the value of monetary securities denominated in other currencies will fluctuate due to changes in exchange rates. The risk is measured using sensitivity analysis. The Investment Manager monitors the Company's currency positions on a daily basis.

The net value of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in other currencies that is exposed to foreign exchange risk was positive \$1,177,474 as at 30 June 2018 (2017: negative \$5,986,558).

#### Sensitivity

The following table analysis is based on the assumption that the Australian dollar weakened and strengthened by 10% (2017: 10%) against the foreign currencies to which the Company is exposed to at reporting date:

	Impact on post-tax	(loss)/profit
	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Decrease 10% Increase 10%	(82,423) 82,423	419,059 (419,059)

### (iii) Cash flow and fair value interest rate risk

The Company's interest bearing financial assets expose it to risks associated with the effects of fluctuations in the prevailing levels of market interest rates on its financial position and cash flows. The risk is measured using sensitivity analysis.

The table below summarises the Company's exposure to interest rate risks. It includes the Company's assets and liabilities at fair values, categorised by the earlier of contractual repricing or maturity dates.

### At 30 June 2018

	Floating interest rate \$	Non- interest bearing \$	Total \$
Financial assets Cash and cash equivalents Trade and other receivables Financial assets held at fair value through profit or loss	73,480,754 - 	- 5,343,214 74,758,692	73,480,754 5,343,214 74,758,692
	73,480,754	80,101,906	153,582,660
Financial liabilities Trade and other payables Financial liabilities held at fair value through profit or loss		(4,520,455) (70,259,848) (74,780,303)	(4,520,455) (70,259,848)
		(74,760,303)	(74,780,303)
Net exposure to interest rate risk	73,480,754	5,321,603	78,802,357

### (a) Market risk (continued)

At 30 June 2017

At 30 Julie 2017	Floating interest rate \$	Non- interest bearing \$	Total \$
Financial assets Cash and cash equivalents Trade and other receivables Financial assets held at fair value through profit or loss	80,021,172 - - 80,021,172	11,169,327 115,206,353 126,375,680	80,021,172 11,169,327 115,206,353 206,396,852
Financial liabilities Trade and other payables Financial liabilities held at fair value through profit or loss Current tax liabilities	- - - -	(5,915,874) (113,180,962) (567) (119,097,403)	( ' ' '
Net exposure to interest rate risk	80,021,172	7,278,277	87,299,449

#### Sensitivity

The following table analysis is based on the assumption that the interest rates had increased by 75 or decreased by 75 basis points from the year end rates with all other variables held constant, mainly as a result of higher/lower interest income from cash and cash equivalents, at reporting date:

	Impact on post-tax	(loss)/profit
	2018 \$	<b>2018</b> 2017 \$
Decrease 75 basis points Increase 75 basis points	(385,774) 385,774	(420,111) 420,111

### (b) Credit risk

The standard defines this as the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

Under the arrangements which the Company has entered into to facilitate stock borrowing for covered short selling, borrowed stock is collateralised by the long stock portfolio. If the stock borrowing counterparty became insolvent, it is possible that the Company may not recover all of the collateral that the Fund gave to the counterparty. The collateral on securities sold short is set at 100% (2017: 100%) of the borrowed stock.

The maximum exposure to credit risk, excluding the value of any collateral or other security, at balance date to recognised financial assets, is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position and Notes to the Financial Statements.

Credit risk is managed as noted in Note 8 with respect to cash and cash equivalents, Note 9 for trade and other receivables and Note 10 for financial assets at fair value through profit or loss. None of these assets are over-due or considered to be impaired.

# (c) Liquidity risk

The standard defines this as the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities.

## (c) Liquidity risk (continued)

The Investment Manager monitors its cash-flow requirements daily in relation to the investing account taking into account upcoming dividends, tax payments and investing activity.

The Company's inward cash flows depend upon the level of dividend and distribution revenue received. Should these decrease by a material amount, the Company would amend its outward cash flows accordingly. As the Company's major cash outflows are the purchase of securities and dividends paid to shareholders, the level of both of these is managed by the Board and Investment Manager.

The assets of the Company are largely in the form of readily tradeable securities which can be sold on-market if necessary.

### Maturities of financial liabilities

The tables below analyse the Company's financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on their contractual maturities at year end date.

The amounts disclosed in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows. Balances due within 12 months equal their carrying balances as the impact of discounting is not significant.

Contractual maturities of financial liabilities  At 30 June 2018	Less than 1 month \$	Total contractual undiscounted cash flows \$
Non-derivatives		
Trade and other payables Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss Total non-derivatives	4,520,455 70,259,848 74,780,303	70,259,848
Derivatives		
Net settled (futures) Total derivatives	(38,800 (38,800	, , ,

# (c) Liquidity risk (continued)

Contractual maturities of financial liabilities  At 30 June 2017	Less than 1 month \$	Total contractual undiscounted cash flows \$
Non-derivatives		
Trade and other payables Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss Current tax liabilities Total non-derivatives	5,915,874 113,180,670 567 119,097,111	, ,
Derivatives		
Net settled (swaps) Total derivatives	(292)	

# 4 Fair value measurements

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

- Financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL)
- · Derivative financial instruments

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

### (a) Fair value hierarchy

AASB 13 requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level of the following fair value measurement hierarchy:

- (a) quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1)
- (b) inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices) (level 2), and
- (c) inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs) (level 3).

# (i) Recognised fair value measurements

The following table presents the Company's assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value at year end.

# 4 Fair value measurements (continued)

# (a) Fair value hierarchy (continued)

At 30 June 2018	Level 1 \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$	Total \$
Financial assets				
Equity securities	58,775,395	-	-	58,775,395
Equity securities international	15,983,297	-	-	15,983,297
Total financial assets	74,758,692	-	-	74,758,692
Financial liabilities				
Equity securities sold short	(52,771,616)	-	-	(52,771,616)
Trading derivatives	(38,800)	-	-	(38,800)
Equity securities international	(17,449,432)	-	-	(17,449,432)
Unlisted equity securities		-	-	
Total financial liabilities	(70,259,848)	-	-	(70,259,848)
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
At 30 June 2017	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial assets				
Equity securities	56,540,437	-	-	56,540,437
Equity securities international	58,665,916	-	-	58,665,916
Total financial assets	115,206,353	-	-	115,206,353
Financial liabilities				
Equity securities sold short	62,115,448	-	-	62,115,448
Trading derivatives	292	-	-	292
Equity securities international	51,024,071	-	-	51,024,071
Unlisted equity securities	-	41,151	-	41,151
Total financial liabilities	113,139,811	41,151	-	113,180,962

Included within Level 1 of the hierarchy are listed investments. The fair value of these financial assets and liabilities have been based on the last sale prices at the end of the reporting year, excluding transaction costs.

There were no level 2 assets at the end of the reporting year.

There were no transfers between levels for recurring fair value measurements during the year. There was an asset that was sold during year in level 2.

The Company's policy is to recognise transfers into and transfers out of fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period.

# (ii) Disclosed fair values

For all financial instruments other than those measured at fair value their carrying value approximates fair value.

The carrying amounts of trade and other receivables and payables are reasonable approximations of their fair values due to their short-term nature.

# 5 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

# (a) Significant estimates and judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the entity and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

### (b) Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The Company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

# 6 Segment information

The Company has only one reportable segment. The Company operates in one industry being the securities industry, deriving revenue from dividend and trust distribution income, interest income and from the sale of its trading portfolio.

## 7 Income tax benefit

# (a) Income tax benefit through profit or loss

	Year ended		
	2018	2017	
	\$	\$	
Deferred tax on temporary differences	(945,195)	1,415,783	
Tax on permanent differences	2,061,833	(1,276,996)	
Adjustments for current tax of prior periods	(89,040)	7,847	
	1,027,598	146,634	
Income tax (benefit) is attributable to: (Loss)/profit from continuing operations	(1,027,598)	(146,634)	

# (b) Numerical reconciliation of income tax (benefit) to prima facie tax (receivable)

	Year ended	
	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Profit from continuing operations before income tax	(3,079,800)	1,407,849
Tax at the Australian tax rate of 30.0%	(923,940)	422,355
Tax effect of amounts which are not deductible (taxable)		
in calculating taxable income:		
Franking credits on dividends received	(366,272)	(513,618)
Foreign tax credits on dividends received	7,157	(231,615)
Imputation credit gross up	109,882	154,085
Temporary differences	41,962	(56,360)
Over-provision in prior year	89,040	(7,847)
Franked dividends not subject to tax	16,720	16,881
Foreign tax gross up on dividend income	(2,147)	69,485
Income tax (benefit)	(1,027,598)	(146,634)
The applicable weighted average effective tax rates are as follows:	(33.37)%	(10.40)%

# 7 Income tax benefit (continued)

# (c) Amounts recognised directly in equity

	Notes	Year end 2018 \$	ded 2017 \$
Aggregate deferred tax arising in the reporting period and not recognised in net profit or loss or other comprehensive income but directly debited or credited to equity:			
Net deferred tax - debited directly to equity	12	9,890	126,883
8 Current assets - Cash and cash equivalents		At	
		2018	2017
		\$	\$
Current assets			
Cash at bank		64,480,754	71,021,172
Term Deposits		9,000,000	9,000,000
		73,480,754	80,021,172

## (a) Risk exposure

The Company's exposure to interest rate risk is discussed in Note 3. The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period is the carrying amount of each class of cash and cash equivalents mentioned above.

Cash investments are made with the following financial institutions:

	Standard & Poor's Rating
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd	AA-
UBS AG Investment Bank	A+
National Australia Bank	AA-
Morgan Stanley	BBB+

# 9 Current assets - Trade and other receivables

	At		
	2018	2017	
	\$	\$	
Net other receivables	431,967	-	
Dividends and distributions receivable	274,858	201,480	
Interest receivable	184,136	149,337	
GST receivable	52,033	63,684	
Unsettled trades	4,400,220	10,754,826	
	5,343,214	11,169,327	

Receivables are non-interest bearing and unsecured.

## 9 Current assets - Trade and other receivables (continued)

#### Fair value and credit risk

Due to the short-term nature of these receivables, the carrying amounts are reasonable approximations of their fair values.

# 10 Current assets - Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are all held for trading and include the following:

	At	
	2018	2017
	\$	\$
International listed equity securities	15,983,297	58,665,916
Australian listed equity securities	58,775,395	56,540,437
Other unlisted equity securities	<u></u>	
Total securities	74,758,692	115,206,353

The market values of all investments as at 30 June 2018 are disclosed on page 11 of the Financial Statements. Listed securities are readily saleable with no fixed terms.

Changes in fair values of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are recorded in investment income in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### (a) Investment transactions

The total number of contract notes that were issued for the purchase of securities during the financial year was 4,023 (2017: 4,135). Each investment transaction may involve multiple contract notes.

The total brokerage paid on these contract notes was \$2,004,544 (2017: \$2,600,735).

#### (b) Risk exposure and fair value measurements

Information about the Company's exposure to price risk and about the methods and assumptions used in determining fair value is provided in Note 3.

### 11 Derivative financial instruments

In the normal course of business, the Company enters into transactions in derivative financial instruments with certain risks. A derivative is a financial instrument or other contract whose value depends on, or is derived from, underlying assets, liabilities or indices. Derivative transactions include a wide assortment of instruments, such as forwards, futures, options and swaps.

Derivatives are considered to be part of the investment process. The use of derivatives is an essential part of the Company's portfolio management. Derivatives are not managed in isolation. Consequently, the use of derivatives is multi-faceted and includes:

- (i) hedging to protect an asset of the Company against a fluctuation in market values or to reduce volatility;
- (ii) as a substitute for physical securities; and
- (iii) adjustment of asset exposures within the parameters set out in the investment strategy.

Derivative financial instruments require no initial net investment or an initial net investment that is smaller than would be required for other types of contracts that would be expected to have a similar response to changes in market factors.

Fair values \$

# 11 Derivative financial instruments (continued)

The Company holds the following derivative instruments:

#### **Futures:**

2018

Futures are contractual obligations to buy or sell financial instruments on a future date at a specified price established in an organised market. The futures contracts are collateralised by cash or marketable securities. Changes in futures contracts' values are usually settled net daily with the exchange.

### **Equity swaps:**

An equity swap is an agreement between counterparties to exchange a set of payments, determined by a stock or index return, with another set of payments (usually an interest-bearing (fixed or floating rate) instrument, but they can also be the return on another stock or index). Equity swaps are used to substitute for a direct transaction in stock. The two cash flows are usually referred to as "legs". As with other swaps, the difference in the payment streams is netted.

2010		r un vuidoo y	
	Notional values \$	Assets \$	Liabilities \$
Equity swaps Australian share price index futures Total	2,459,200 2,459,200	-	38,800 38,800
2017		Fair value \$	
	Notional values \$	Assets \$	Liabilities \$
Equity swaps Total	303,765 303,765	-	292 292
12 Non-current assets - Deferred tax assets			
			At
		2018 \$	2017 \$
The balance comprises temporary differences attribu	table to:		
Tax losses	tubic to.	2,494,38	<b>5</b> 1,288,711
Capitalised share issue costs		9,89	126,883
Accrued expenses		10,59	
		2,514,86	8 1,425,362
Accrued expenses		10,59 2,514,86	

# 12 Non-current assets - Deferred tax assets (continued)

Movements	Total \$
At 1 July 2016	253,992
Charged to - profit or loss - directly to equity At 30 June 2017	1,044,487 126,883 1,425,362
At 1 July 2017	1,425,362
Credited to - profit or loss - directly to equity At 30 June 2018	1,079,616 9,890 2,514,868

# 13 Current liabilities - Trade and other payables

	At		
	2018	2017	
	\$	\$	
Management fees payable	71,006	79,239	
Performance fees payable	-	175,951	
Unsettled trades	3,806,643	5,126,786	
Interest payable	138,699	121,840	
Other payables	504,107	412,058	
	4,520,455	5,915,874	

Trade and other payables are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Due to the short-term nature of these payables, the carrying amounts are reasonable approximations of their fair values.

# 14 Current liabilities - Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are all held for trading and include the following:

	At	
	2018	2017
	\$	\$
International listed equity securities sold short	17,449,432	51,024,071
Australian listed equity securities sold short	52,771,616	62,156,599
Trading derivatives	38,800	292
	70,259,848	113,180,962

A short sale occurs when the Investment Manager borrows a security and sells the security on market to a third party, generating cash proceeds. The Investment Manager will reacquire the same security and return it to the lender to close the transaction. In doing so, the Company is exposed to price risk of those securities sold short.

# Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2018 (continued)

# 15 Non-current liabilities - Deferred tax liabilities

13 Non-current nabilities - Delen	eu lax	liabilities				
					At 2018 \$	2017 \$
The balance comprises temporary differ Other temporary differences	rences at	tributable to:		_	11,840	41,207
Movements						Total \$
At 1 July 2016						155,813
Credited to - profit or loss At 30 June 2017					-	(114,606) 41,207
At 1 July 2017						41,207
Credited to - profit or loss At 30 June 2018					_ _	(29,367) 11,840
16 Issued capital						
(a) Share capital						
	Notes	30 June 2018 Shares	30 Jur 2017 Share	7	2018 \$	2017 \$
Ordinary shares	16(b) _	84,533,558	87,357	7,985	84,475,177	86,782,148
(b) Movements in ordinary share capital	I					
Details			Notes	Numl	per of shares	\$
Opening balance 1 July 2016					87,120,041	86,552,644
On market buy back DRP shares issued for dividend payment Cost of issued capital Closing balance 30 June 2017			16(e) 16(d)		(100) 238,044 - 87,357,985	(107) 239,767 (10,156) 86,782,148
Opening balance 1 July 2017					87,357,985	86,782,148
On market buy back DRP shares issued for dividend payment Cost of issued capital			16(e) 16(d)		(3,048,849) 224,422	(2,505,840) 200,691 (1,822)
Closing balance 30 June 2018				-	84,533,558	84,475,177

Αt

# 16 Issued capital (continued)

### (c) Ordinary shares

Ordinary shares entitle the holder to participate in dividends and the proceeds on winding up of the Company in proportion to the number of and amounts paid on the shares held.

On a show of hands every holder of ordinary shares present at a meeting in person or by proxy, is entitled to one vote, and upon a poll each share is entitled to one vote.

#### (d) Dividend reinvestment plan

The Company has established a dividend reinvestment plan "DRP" under which holders of ordinary shares may elect to have all or part of their dividend entitlements satisfied by the issue of new ordinary shares rather than by being paid in cash. Shares are issued under the plan at a discount to the market price. The discount is determined from time to time and is capped at 3%.

The DRP is currently inactive due to the Company trading below market.

### (e) Share buy-back

In the prior year the Company renewed the share buy-back program for 12 months from 14 February 2017 and has bought back 500,793 shares at an average price of \$0.86.

The Company renewed the share buy-back program for 12 months from 15 February 2018 and has bought back 2,548,156 shares at an average price of \$0.82.

#### (f) Capital risk management

The Board of Directors will actively manage the capital of the Company. The overriding intention is to deliver value to shareholders.

To achieve this the Board monitor the monthly NTA results, investment performance, the Company's Indirect Cost Ratio and share price movements.

The Company is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements.

# 17 Profits reserve and accumulated losses

### (a) Profits reserve

		At
	2018 \$	2017 \$
Profits reserve	61,392	2,954,036

This reserve details an amount preserved for future dividend payments as outlined in accounting policy Note 2(I).

	7.6		
		2018	2017
	Notes	\$	\$
Movements:			
Opening balance		2,954,036	6,364,468
Transfer from current and retained earnings		150,795	1,816,770
Dividends paid	18	(3,043,439)	(5,227,202)
Closing balance	_	61,392	2,954,036

# 17 Profits reserve and accumulated losses (continued)

## (a) Profits reserve (continued)

## (b) Accumulated losses

Movements in (accumulated losses) were as follows:

	At	
	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Opening balance	(1,028,187)	(765,900)
Net profit for the year	(2,052,202)	1,554,483
Transfer to profits reserve	(150,795)	(1,816,770)
Closing balance	(3,231,184)	(1,028,187)

### 18 Dividends

#### (a) Dividend rate

Dividends paid and the applicable franking rates are noted in the table below.

0040	Dividend Rate	Total Amount	Date of Payment	% Franked
2018 Ordinary shares - final 2017	\$0.025	\$2,183,950	31/10/2017	100
Ordinary shares - interim 2018	\$0.010	\$859,487	24/04/2018	100
Total		\$3,043,437		
2017 Ordinary shares - interim 2017	\$0.030	\$2,613,598	27/04/2017	100
Ordinary shares - final 2016	\$0.030	\$2,613,601	20/10/2016	75
Total		\$5,227,199		

## (b) Dividends not recognised at the end of the reporting period

Year ended	
2018	2017
\$	\$

In addition to the above dividends, since year end the Directors have recommended the payment of a final dividend of 1.5 cents per fully paid ordinary share (2017: 2.5 cents), fully franked (2017: 100% franked) based on tax paid at 30%. The aggregate amount of the proposed dividend with an ex date of 30 August 2018 and a record date of 31 August 2018, expected to be paid on 14 September 2018 out of the profits reserve at 30 June 2018, but not recognised as a liability at year end, is

1,268,003	2,183,950

# 18 Dividends (continued)

## (c) Dividend franking account

The franked portions of the final dividends recommended after 30 June 2018 will be franked out of existing franking credits or out of franking credits arising from the payment of income tax in the year ended 30 June 2019.

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Opening balance of franking account	1,601,485	3,448,029
Franking credits on dividends received Tax paid during the year	422,557 1,226,437	527,009 1,161,071
Tax refunded during the year Franking credits on ordinary dividends paid	(1,135,375) (1,304,331)	(1,561,033) (1,960,200)
Franking credits lost under 45 day rule  Closing balance of franking account	(56,285) 754,488	(13,391) 1,601,485
Adjustments for tax payable/refundable in respect of the current year's profits (2016: profit) and the receipt of dividends	31,231	54,550
Adjusted franking account balance	785,719	1,656,035
Impact on the franking account of dividends proposed or declared before the financial report authorised for issue but not recognised as a distribution to		
equity holders during the year  Franking credits available/(shortfall) for subsequent reporting years based on	(543,430)	(935,978)
a tax rate of 30.0%	242,289	720,057

The Company's ability to continue to pay franked dividends is dependent upon the receipt of franked dividends from investments and the payment of tax.

# 19 Key management personnel disclosures

### (a) Key management personnel compensation

	Year ended	
	2018	
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	118,721	118,721
Post-employment benefits	11,279	11,279
	130,000	130,000

Detailed remuneration disclosures are provided in the remuneration report on pages 20 to 22.

There are no executives that are paid by the Company, The Manager remunerated Justin Braitling as an employee and/or Directors of the Manager during the financial year to 30 June 2018.

### (b) Equity instrument disclosures relating to key management personnel

#### (i) Option holdings

None of the key management personnel held options during the year ended 30 June 2018.

# 19 Key management personnel disclosures (continued)

## (b) Equity instrument disclosures relating to key management personnel (continued)

# (ii) Share holdings

The numbers of shares in the Company held during the financial year by each Director of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited and other key management personnel of the Company, including their personally related parties, are set out below. There were no shares granted during the reporting period as compensation.

2018 Name	Balance at the start of the year	Net movement	Balance at 30 June 2018
	<b>,</b>		
Directors of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited Ordinary shares			
Matthew Kidman	64,563	-	64,563
Robert Ferguson	1,000,000	_	1,000,000
John Abernethy	30,000	-	30,000
Stephen Van Eyk	164,505	60,240	224,745
Justin Braitling	713,001	500,000	1,213,001
	1,972,069	560,240	2,532,309
	Balance at		D.1
	Dalatice at		Balance at
2017	the start of		30 June
2017 Name		Net movement	
<del></del>	the start of	Net movement	30 June
<del></del>	the start of	Net movement	30 June
Name  Directors of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited	the start of	Net movement	30 June
Name  Directors of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited Ordinary shares	the start of the year	Net movement	30 June 2017
Name  Directors of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited Ordinary shares Matthew Kidman Justin Braitling John Abernethy	64,563 713,001	- - 30,000	30 June 2017 64,563 713,001 30,000
Name  Directors of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited Ordinary shares Matthew Kidman Justin Braitling John Abernethy Stephen Van Eyk	64,563 713,001 - 115,426	-	30 June 2017 64,563 713,001 30,000 164,505
Name  Directors of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited Ordinary shares Matthew Kidman Justin Braitling John Abernethy	64,563 713,001	- - 30,000	30 June 2017 64,563 713,001 30,000

## 20 Remuneration of auditors

During the year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by the auditor of the Company, its related practices and non-related audit firms:

### **Pitcher Partners**

# (i) Audit and other assurance services

	Year ended	
	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Audit and other assurance services		
Audit and review of financial statements	47,255	30,474
Total remuneration for audit and other assurance services	47,255	30,474
Taxation services		
Tax compliance services	14,575	10,725
Total remuneration	61,830	41,199

# 20 Remuneration of auditors (continued)

### Financial report (continued)

The Company's Audit Committee oversees the relationship with the Company's External Auditors. The Audit Committee reviews the scope of the audit and the proposed fee. It also reviews the cost and scope of other services provided by the audit firm, to ensure that they do not compromise independence.

# 21 Contingencies

The Company had no contingent liabilities at 30 June 2018 (2017: nil).

### 22 Related party transactions

# (a) Key management personnel

Disclosures relating to key management personnel are set out in Note 19.

#### (b) Transactions with other related parties

All transactions with related entities were made on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

Watermark Funds Management Pty Limited is a Director associated entity and has been appointed to manage the investment portfolio of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited. In its capacity as manager, Watermark Funds Management Pty Limited was paid a management fee of 1% p.a. (plus GST) on the net value of the portfolio amounting to \$838,928 (2017: \$921,386).

As at 30 June 2018, the balance payable to the Investment Manager was \$71,006 (2017: \$79,239).

In addition, Watermark Funds Management Pty Limited is to be paid, annually in arrears, a performance fee being 20% of:

- where the level of the Reserve Bank of Australia's cash-rate has increased over that year, the amount by which the Value of the Portfolio exceeds this increase; or
- where the Reserve Bank of Australia's cash-rate has decreased over that year, the amount of the increase in the Value of the Portfolio.

No performance fee is payable in respect of any performance period where the portfolio has decreased in value over that period. On the 19 May 2015, the Company announced, if the portfolio underperforms the benchmark over a financial year that underperformance is to be recouped before any entitled performance fee can be accrued.

For the year ended 30 June 2018 in its capacity as manager, Watermark Funds Management Pty Limited was not paid a performance fee (2017: \$163,954).

No Director has received or become entitled to receive a benefit (other than those detailed above) by reason of a contract made by the Company or a related Company with the Director or with a firm of which he is a member or with a Company in which he has substantial financial interest.

# 23 Events occurring after the reporting period

Other than the dividend declared after year end, no other matter or circumstance has occurred subsequent to year end that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in subsequent financial years.

# 24 Reconciliation of profit after income tax to net cash (outflow) from operating activities

# (a) Reconciliation of profit after income tax to net cash (outflow) from operating activities

	Year ended	
	2018	2017
	\$	\$
(Loss)/profit for the year	(2,052,202)	1,554,483
Fair value (gains) on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss  Effects of foreign currency exchange rate changes on cash and cash	(2,473,453)	(4,064,718)
equivalents	116,807	(302,574)
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables	6,152,373	(6,989,675)
Decrease/(increase) in other current assets	24,393	(24,393)
(Increase) in deferred tax assets	(1,088,725)	(1,167,017)
(Decrease)/increase in trade and other payables	(1,395,419)	1,046,466
(Increase)/decrease in provision for income taxes payable	(567)	567
(Decrease) in deferred tax liabilities	(29,367)	(114,606)
Decrease in current tax asset	-	1,534,384
Net cash (outflow) from operating activities	(746,160)	(8,527,083)

# (b) Non-cash financing activities

	Year en	Year ended	
	2018 \$	2017 \$	
Dividends reinvested	200,691	239,767	

# 25 Earnings per share

# (a) Basic (loss)/earnings per share

	Year ended	
	2018	2017
	Cents	Cents
Basic (loss)/earnings per share attributable to the ordinary equity holders of		
the Company	(2.37)	1.78

# (b

(b) Diluted (loss)/earnings per share		
	Year en	ded
	2018	2017
	Cents	Cents
Diluted (loss)/earnings per share attributable to the ordinary equity holders of		
the Company	(2.37)	1.78

Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2018 (continued)

# 25 Earnings per share (continued)

Diluted (loss)/earnings per share is the same as basic (loss)/earnings per share. As at 30 June 2018 and 30 June 2017, the Company had no securities outstanding which have the potential to convert to ordinary shares and dilute the basic (loss)/earnings per share.

# (c) Weighted average number of shares used as denominator

	2018 Number	2017 Number
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used as the denominator in calculating basic earnings per share	86,708,613	87,161,757
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used as the denominator in calculating diluted earnings per share	86,708,613	87,161,757

In the opinion of the directors of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited:

- (a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 25 to 55 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act* 2001, including:
  - (i) complying with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements, and
  - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its performance for the year ended on that date, and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.
- (c) Note 2(a) confirms that the financial statements also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board, and
- (d) The Directors have given the declarations required by section 295A of the Coporations Action 2001 from the Manager, Watermark Funds Management Pty Limited declaring that:
  - the financial records of the Company for the financial year have been properly maintained in accordance with section 286 of the *Corporations Act 2001*;
  - (ii) the financial statements and notes for the financial year comply with the Accounting Standards; and
  - (iii) the financial statements and notes for the financial year give a true and fair view.

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

Matthew Kidman Chairman

Mld

Sydney 28 August 2018



Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited ABN 45 163 980 498

## **REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL REPORT**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and the directors' declaration.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations* 2001.

## Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibility* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* ("the Code") that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the Directors of the Company, would be on the same terms if given to the Directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.



### **Key Audit Matters**

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial report of the current period. We have communicated the key audit matters to the Audit Committee, but they are not a comprehensive reflection of all matters that were identified by our audit and that were discussed with the Committee. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial report as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

### Key audit matter

#### How our audit addressed the matter

Existence, Valuation and Completion of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities
Refer to Note 4: Fair Value Measurements, Note 10: Financial assets at fair value through
profit or loss, Note 11: Derivative Financial Instruments and Note 14: Financial liabilities at
fair value through profit or loss

We focused our audit effort on the valuation, existence and completeness of the Company's financial assets and financial liabilities as they are its largest asset and liabilities, and represent the most significant drivers of the Company's Net Tangible Assets and profits.

Investments mostly consist of listed Australian securities as well as listed global securities, which are valued by multiplying the quantity held by their respective market price. Our procedures included, amongst others:

- Obtaining an understanding of the investment management process and controls;
- Reviewing and evaluating the independent audit report on internal controls (ASAE 3402 Assurance Reports on Controls at a Service Organisation) for the Administrator;
- Reviewing and evaluating the independent audit report on internal controls (ISAE 3402 Assurance Reports on Controls at a Service Organisation) for the Custodian;
- Making enquiries as to whether there have been any changes to these controls or their effectiveness from the periods to which the audit reports relate and where necessary performing additional procedures;
- Obtaining a confirmation of the investment holdings directly from the Custodians;
- Assessing the Company's valuation of individual investment holdings to independent sources where readily observable data was available;
- Evaluating the accounting treatment of revaluations and disposals of financial assets for current/deferred tax and realised/unrealised gains or losses; and
- Assessing the adequacy of disclosures in the financial statements.



### Key audit matter

### How our audit addressed the matter

## **Accuracy of Management and Performance Fees**

# Refer to Note 13: Trade and other payables, Note 22: Related party transactions and the Remuneration Report

We focused our audit effort on the accuracy of management and performance fees as they are significant expenses of the Company and their calculation requires adjustments for major events in accordance with the Investment Management Agreement between the Company and the Investment Manager.

In addition to their quantum, as these transactions are made with related parties, there are additional inherent risks associated with these transactions, including the potential for these transactions to be made on terms and conditions more favourable than if they had been with an independent third-party.

Our procedures included, amongst others:

- Making enquiries with the Investment
   Manager and those charged with
   governance with respect to any significant
   events during the period and associated
   adjustments made as a result, in addition to
   reviewing ASX announcements;
- Testing key inputs used in the calculation of management and performance fees and performing a recalculation in accordance with our understanding of the Investment Management Agreement; and
- Assessing the adequacy of disclosures made in the financial statements.

### Other information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information in the Company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2018, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially consistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.



### Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Directors of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal controls as the Directors determine are necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We Also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due
  to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and
  obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.
  The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for
  one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions,
  misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.



Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the
entity or business activities within the Company to express an opinion on the financial
report. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Company
audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal controls that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the Directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with the Directors, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial report of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

# **Report on the Remuneration Report**

Opinion on the Remuneration Report

We have audited the Remuneration Report included in pages 20 to 22 of the Directors' Report for the year ended 30 June 2018. In our opinion, the Remuneration Report of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited for the year ended 30 June 2018, complies with section 300A of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

### Responsibilities

The Directors of Watermark Market Neutral Fund Limited are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the Remuneration Report in accordance with section 300A of the *Corporations Act 2001*. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Remuneration Report, based on our audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

S M WHIDDETT Partner

Shidelle

28 August 2018.

PITCHER PARTNERS

Pitcher Partners

Sydney

Class of equity security

The Shareholder information set out below was applicable as at 31 July 2018.

Additional information required by the Australian Securities Exchange Limited Listing Rules and not disclosed elsewhere in this report, is listed below.

# A. Distribution of equity securities

Analysis of numbers of equity security holders by size of holding:

	Ordinary shares		
	No. of		
Holding	Shareholders	Shares	Percentage
1 - 1000	89	41,771	0.05
1,001 - 5,000	182	567,925	0.68
5,001 - 10,000	277	2,340,803	2.80
10,001 - 100,000	1,413	51,600,409	61.69
100,001 - 9,999,999,999	135	29,088,770	34.78
	2,096	83,639,678	100.00

There were 59 holders of less than a marketable parcel of ordinary shares.

## B. Equity security holders

Twenty largest quoted equity security holders

Name	Ordinary shares Percentage of	
	Number held	issued shares
HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Limited Mr Robert Ferguson & Ms Jennifer Ferguson & Ms Rachel Ferguson	1,861,223	2.23
<torryburn a="" c="" fund="" super=""></torryburn>	1,000,000	1.20
Graham Evans Investments Pty Ltd < Graham Evans Super Fund A/C>	730,000	0.87
BNP Paribas Noms Pty Ltd < DRP>	704,605	0.84
Zanacorp Financial Group Pty Ltd	639,750	0.76
Mr Stephen Richard Brown <the a="" adaptor="" c=""></the>	625,000	0.75
BNP Paribas Nominees Pty Ltd HUB24 Custodial Serv Ltd DRP	605,030	0.72
Sadler Management Pty Ltd < Peter Sadler Super Fund A/C>	500,000	0.60
First Covenant Pty Ltd <braitling a="" c="" family=""></braitling>	500,000	0.60
C M Copeland Pty Ltd	438,845	0.52
Eliza Braitling Foundation Pty Limited	438,000	0.52
Mr Joseph Zanca & Mrs Szerenke Zanca < Zanacorp Super Fund A/C>	420,000	0.50
Wattles Nest Pty Ltd <wattles a="" c="" fund="" nest="" super=""></wattles>	400,000	0.48
Horton Pty Ltd	394,563	0.47
Netwealth Investments Limited <super a="" c="" services=""></super>	348,681	0.42
S & G Frisken Pty Limited <frisken a="" c="" family=""></frisken>	348,039	0.42
Mr James William Tonkin & Mrs Sharon Kathleen Tonkin < Tonkin Family S/F		
A/C>	346,300	0.41
Mr Neil James Richardson & Mrs Joanne Lesley Richardson < NJ Richardson		
Superfund A/C>	338,316	0.40
Mamara Pty Limited	300,000	0.36
Norwood Investments (Aust) Pty Ltd	296,500	0.35
	11,234,852	13.42

### C. Substantial holders

There are no substantial shareholders.

# D. Voting rights

The voting rights attaching to each class of equity securities are set out below:

Each share is entitled to one vote when a poll is called, otherwise each member present at a meeting or by proxy has one vote on a show of hands.

### E. Stock Exchange Listing

Quotation has been granted for all of the ordinary shares and options of the Company on all Member Exchanges of the ASX Limited.

# F. Unquoted Securities

There are no unquoted shares.

# G. Securities Subject to Voluntary Escrow

There are no securities subject to voluntary escrow.