# **Fidelity Australian High Conviction Fund**

ARSN 159 055 722

# Interim report For the half-year ended 31 December 2024

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This interim financial report does not include all the notes of the type normally included in an annual financial report. Accordingly, this report is to be read in conjunction with the annual financial report for the year ended 30 June 2024 and any public announcements made in respect of Fidelity Australian High Conviction Fund during the interim reporting period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

These financial statements cover Fidelity Australian High Conviction Fund as an individual entity.

The Responsible Entity of Fidelity Australian High Conviction Fund is FIL Responsible Entity (Australia) Limited (ABN 33 148 059 009). The Responsible Entity's registered office is Level 17, 60 Martin Place, Sydney NSW 2000.

# **Directors' Report**

The directors of FIL Responsible Entity (Australia) Limited (ABN 33 148 059 009) (the "Responsible Entity"), the Responsible Entity of Fidelity Australian High Conviction Fund (the "Fund"), present their report together with the interim financial report of Fidelity Australian High Conviction Fund, for the half-year ended 31 December 2024 and the auditor's review report therein.

#### **Directors**

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

David Midolla

May Li

Andrea Jacob

Simon Glazier (Appointed 24 September 2024)

Roger Chan (Appointed 12 February 2025)

Lawrence Hanson (Resigned 20 September 2024)

Brian Chambers (Resigned 31 December 2024)

#### **Review and Results of Operations**

The Fund continued to invest funds in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

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

	Half-year ended		
	31 December 2024	31 December 2023	
Operating Profit/(Loss) (\$'000)	6,433	13,104	
Distributions - Non-ETF Class			
Distributions paid and payable (\$'000)	1,953	2,998	
Distributions (cents per unit)	24.2728	31.2947	
Distributions - ETF Class			
Distributions paid and payable (\$'000)	12	_	
Distributions (cents per unit)	12.5536		

#### Significant Changes in State of Affairs

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

#### **Rounding of Amounts to the Nearest Thousand Dollars**

Amounts in the Directors' Report and the Financial Statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars in accordance with ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191, unless otherwise indicated.

# **Directors' Report (continued)**

# **Auditor's Independence Declaration**

A copy of the Auditor's Independence Declaration as required under Section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 3.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors of the Responsible Entity.

Director:	David Midolla	Director:	Andrea Jacob
	David Midolla	<del>-</del>	Andrea Jacob

Sydney

5 March 2025



Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu ABN 74 490 121 060 Quarter Quay Tower 50 Bridge Street Sydney, NSW, 2000 Australia

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5 March 2025

The Board of Directors FIL Responsible Entity (Australia) Limited Level 17, 60 Martin Place Sydney, NSW, 2000

Dear Directors,

#### Auditor's Independence Declaration to Fidelity Australian High Conviction Fund

In accordance with section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001, I am pleased to provide the following declaration of independence to the Directors of FIL Responsible Entity (Australia) Limited as Responsible Entity of Fidelity Australian High Conviction Fund (the "Fund").

As lead audit partner for the audit review of the half year financial report of the Fund for the half year ended 31 December 2024, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- The auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit review; and
- Any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit review.

Yours faithfully

Deloite Touche Tolaretsu
DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU

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Declan O'Callaghan

Partner

**Chartered Accountants** 

# Condensed Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

	Half-yea	ended
Note	31 December 2024 s \$'000	31 December 2023 \$'000
Investment income		
Interest income	50	27
Dividend income	2,567	3,635
Distribution income	37	64
Net gains on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	4,549	10,288
Other operating income	2	
Total net investment income	7,205	14,014
Expenses		
Responsible Entity's fees	726	866
Custody fees	10	13
Transaction costs	36	31
Total operating expenses	772	910
Operating profit	6,433	13,104
Finance costs attributable to unitholders		
Distributions to unitholders* 4	(1,965)	_
(Increase) in net assets attributable to unitholders* 3	(4,468)	
Profit for the half-year	-	13,104
Other comprehensive income		
Total comprehensive income for the half-year		13,104

<sup>\*</sup>Until 3 June 2024, distributions to unitholders are presented as equity transactions, and profit/(loss) for the period is shown as part of comprehensive income and is disclosed in the statement of changes in equity. Effective 3 June 2024, owing to a new class of active exchange traded fund ("ETF") units, distributions to unitholders are shown as finance costs as the net assets attributable to unitholders are assessed as a financial liability.

The above Condensed Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# **Condensed Statement of Financial Position**

		As at		
	Notes	31 December 2024 \$'000	30 June 2024 \$'000	
	notes	<b>\$</b> 555	Ψοσο	
Assets Cash and cash equivalents Receivables		2,080 80	365 725	
Other receivables		89	204	
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	5	158,263	182,287	
Total assets		160,512	183,581	
Liabilities Distribution payable Payables		1,430 615	18,735 903	
Total liabilities (excluding net assets attributable to unitholders)		2,045	19,638	
Net assets attributable to unitholders - liability	3	158,467	163,943	

The above Condensed Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# **Condensed Statement of Changes in Equity**

		Half-year ended		
	Notes	31 December 2024 \$'000	31 December 2023 \$'000	
Total equity at the beginning of the half-year		-	223,755	
Comprehensive Income for the half-year				
Profit for the half-year	3	-	13,104	
Other comprehensive income				
Total comprehensive income for the half-year		-	13,104	
Transactions with unitholders in their capacity as owners				
Applications	3	-	9,974	
Redemptions	3	-	(51,243)	
Units issued upon reinvestment of distributions	3	-	336	
Distributions paid and payable	3		(2,998)	
Total transactions with unitholders in their capacity as owners		-	(43,931)	
Total equity at the end of the half-year*	3		192,928	

<sup>\*</sup>On 3 June 2024, owing to a new class of active ETF units, the Fund's units were reclassified from equity to a financial liability.

The above Condensed Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# **Condensed Statement of Cash Flows**

		Half-year ended		
		31 December 2024	31 December 2023	
	Notes	\$'000	\$'000	
Cash flows from operating activities				
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		54,905	59,529	
Purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		(26,332)	(13,899)	
Transaction costs of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		(36)	(31)	
Dividends received		3,261	4,240	
Distributions received		53	81	
Interest received		50	27	
Other income received		5	18	
Responsible Entity's fees paid		(725)	(901)	
Payment of other expenses		(4)	(12)	
Net cash inflow from operating activities		31,177	49,052	
Cash flows from financing activities				
Proceeds from applications by unitholders		12,261	10,010	
Payments for redemptions by unitholders		(22,938)	(52,326)	
Distributions paid from operating activities		(18,785)	(6,897)	
Net cash outflow from financing activities		(29,462)	(49,213)	
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		1,715	(161)	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the half-year		365	1,125	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the half-year		2,080	964	
Non-cash financing activities	3	485	336	

The above Condensed Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# 1 Summary of Material Accounting Policies

These financial statements are general purpose financial statements prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting and the Corporations Act 2001*.

The interim financial report does not include all the notes of the type normally included in an annual financial report. Accordingly, this report is to be read in conjunction with the annual financial report for the year ended 30 June 2024 and any public announcements made in respect of Fidelity Australian High Conviction Fund during the interim reporting period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The Responsible Entity of the Fund is FIL Responsible Entity (Australia) Limited (ABN 33 148 059 009) (the "Responsible Entity"). The Responsible Entity's registered office is Level 17, 60 Martin Place, Sydney NSW 2000.

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

There are no new standards, interpretations or amendments to existing standards that are effective for the first time for the financial half-year beginning 1 July 2024 that would be expected to have a material impact on the Fund.

#### 2 Fair Value Measurement

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

- Financial assets / liabilities at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL) (see Note 5)
- Derivative financial instruments (see Note 5)

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

#### Fair Value Hierarchy

AASB 13 requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level of the following fair value 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 or indirectly (level 2); and
- (c) inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs) (level 3)
- (i) Fair Value in an Active Market (Level 1)

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

The Fund values its investments in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1. For the majority of its investments, the Fund relies on information provided by independent pricing services for the valuation of its investments.

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

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

(ii) Fair Value in an Inactive or Unquoted Market (Level 2 and Level 3)

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

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

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

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

## 2 Fair Value Measurement (continued)

(ii) Fair Value in an Inactive or Unquoted Market (Level 2 and Level 3) (continued)

Investments in other unlisted unit trusts are recorded at the redemption value per unit as reported by the investment managers of such funds.

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

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

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

#### **Recognised Fair Value Measurements**

The tables below set out the Fund's financial assets and financial liabilities (by class) measured at fair value according to the fair value hierarchy at 31 December 2024 and 30 June 2024.

31 December 2024	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss Equity securities Listed unit trusts Other Securities	147,621 10,593	_ 	_ _ 49	147,621 10,593 49
Total	158,214		49	158,263
30 June 2024	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Equity securities	170,138	_	_	170,138
Listed unit trusts	12,104	_	_	12,104
Other Securities			45	45
Total	182,242		45	182,287

Included in the closing balance of Level 3 financial assets in other securities were amounts of \$48,967 (30 June 2024: \$45,396) relating to a convertible note in Iflix Ltd. Also included in level 3 equity securities is investments in Salt Lake Potash Limited valued at \$0 (30 June 2024: \$0) and ISX Financial EU Ltd. valued at \$0 (30 June 2024: \$0).

Iflix Ltd had signed an all-cash offer from an external third party, which the fund has since received tranches of payments for, and represented a significant decline of the fair value of the security. Salt Lake Potash Limited was placed into voluntary administration on 20 October 2021, resulting in the value being determined to be nil as at 31 December 2024. For ISignThis Ltd, in October 2021, the company underwent a demerger of its wholly-owned subsidiary, ISX Financial EU plc ARBN 629 892 324 (ISXFEU), to form an unlisted company in Cypriot in which Shareholders of ISignThis Ltd. (ISX) received one share in ISXFEU for every ten shares held in ISX. As a result of demerger, the fund has received 133,208 shares of the unlisted company, which was valued in the closing balance of equity securities Level 3 financial assets at \$0.

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

#### **Transfers Between Levels**

There were no transfers between the levels of the fair value hierarchy during the half-year ended 31 December 2024 and year ended 30 June 2024.

# 2 Fair Value Measurement (continued)

# Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)

The table below presents the movement in level 3 instruments for the half-year ended 31 December 2024 and year ended 30 June 2024 by class of financial instrument.

	Other Securities \$'000
31 December 2024	
Opening balance	45
Purchases	_
Sales	-
Gains and (losses) recognised in the Condensed Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	4
Closing balance	49
Total unrealised gains or (losses) for the half-year included in the Condensed Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income at the end of the half-year	4
and outer comprehensive income at the one or the nam your	
30 June 2024	
Opening balance	64
Purchases	_
Sales	(22)
Gains and (losses) recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	3
Closing balance	45
Total unrealised gains or (losses) for the year included in the Statement of Profit or Loss	
and Other Comprehensive Income at the end of the year	3

#### 3 Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders

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

	As at			
	31 December 2024 No.'000	31 December 2023 No.'000	31 December 2024 \$'000	31 December 2023 \$'000
Non-ETF Class				,
Opening balance	8,495	11,603	163,714	223,755
Applications	579	512	11,515	9,974
Redemptions	(1,133)	(2,642)	(22,643)	(51,243)
Units issued upon reinvestment of distributions	25	17	484	336
Distributions paid and payable	-	_	-	(2,998)
Profit for the half-year	-	_	-	13,104
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unitholders			4,457	
Closing balance*	7,966	9,490	157,527	192,928
ETF Class				
Opening balance	25	_	229	_
Applications	75	_	699	_
Units issued upon reinvestment of distributions	-	_	1	_
Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unitholders			11	
Closing balance*	100		940	

<sup>\*</sup> Net assets attributable to unitholders are classified as financial liability at 31 December 2024 and as equity at 31 December 2023.

As stipulated within the Fund's Constitution, each unit represents a right to an individual share in the Fund and does not extend to a right in the underlying assets of the Fund. There are two classes of unitholders in the Fund being Non-ETF Class and ETF Class.

#### **Capital Risk Management**

The Fund considers its net assets attributable to unitholders as capital, notwithstanding net assets attributable to unitholders are classified as a liability. The amount of net assets attributable to unitholders can change significantly on a daily basis as the Fund is subject to daily applications and redemptions at the discretion of unitholders.

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

## 4 Distributions to Unitholders

The distributions during the half-year were as follows:

	Half-year ended			
	31 December 2024		31 December 2023	
Non-ETF Class	\$'000	CPU	\$'000	CPU
Distributions paid - 30 September Distributions paid/payable	491	5.9167	450	4.4417
- 31 December	1,462 1,953	18.3561	2,548 2,998	26.8530

# 4 Distributions to Unitholders (continued)

	Half-year ended			
	31 Decembe 2024	er	31 December 2023	
ETF Class				
Distributions paid - 30 September Distributions paid/payable	3	3.7648	-	_
- 31 December	<u>9</u> 12	8.7888	<del>_</del>	-

# 5 Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss

	As at	
	31 December 2024 \$'000	30 June 2024 \$'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		
Equity securities	147,621	170,138
Listed unit trusts	10,593	12,104
Other securities	49	45
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	158,263	182,287
Comprising: Equity securities	447.004	470 400
Australian equity securities listed on a prescribed stock exchange	147,621	170,138
Total equity securities  Listed unit trusts	147,621	170,138
Australian listed property trusts	10,593	12,104
Total listed unit trusts  Other securities	10,593	12,104
Convertible notes	49	45
Total other securities	49	45
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	158,263	182,287

# 6 Events Occurring After the Reporting Period

No significant events have occurred since the end of the reporting period up to the date of signing the financial report, which would impact on the financial position of the Fund disclosed in the Condensed Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2024 or on the results and cash flows of the Fund for the half-year ended on that date.

## 7 Contingent Assets, Liabilities and Commitments

There are no outstanding contingent assets, liabilities or commitments as at 31 December 2024 (30 June 2024: Nil).

# **Directors' Declaration**

In the opinion of the directors of the Responsible Entity:

- (a) the financial statements and notes as set out on pages 4 to 12 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
  - (i) complying with Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
  - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date; and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

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

	David Midolla Andrea Jacob		andrea Jacob
Director:		Director:	
	David Midolla		Andrea Jacob

Sydney

5 March 2025



Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu ABN 74 490 121 060 Quarter Quay Tower 50 Bridge Street Sydney, NSW, 2000 Australia

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# Independent Auditor's Review Report to the Unitholders of Fidelity Australian High Conviction Fund

#### Conclusion

We have reviewed the half-year financial report of Fidelity Australian High Conviction Fund (the "Fund") which comprises the condensed statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024, and the condensed statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the condensed statement of cash flows and the condensed statement of changes in equity for the half-year ended on that date, notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration as set out on pages 8 to 13.

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

- Giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date; and
- Complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 Interim Financial Reporting and the *Corporations Regulations* 2001.

#### Basis for Conclusion

We conducted our review in accordance with ASRE 2410 Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity. Our responsibilities are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Review of the Half-year Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of 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 (including Independence Standards) ("the Code") that are relevant to our audit of the annual 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 Responsible Entity, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's review report.

## Directors' Responsibilities for the Half-year Financial Report

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

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Review of the Half-year Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the half-year financial report based on our review. ASRE 2410 requires us to conclude whether we have become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the half-year financial report is not in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* including giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and its performance for the half-year ended on that date, and complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

A review of a half-year financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain

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assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU

Deloitte Touche Tohnistsu

Declan O'Callaghan

Partner

**Chartered Accountants** 

Deda 6 Culp

Sydney, 5 March 2025