

# **MERCHANT BIOTECH FUND**

**ARSN 654 495 468**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Annual Financial Report**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

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**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Corporate Directory**

**Responsible Entity**

CIP Licensing Limited

**Directors of the Responsible Entity**

David McKay French	- Director
Keith Jones	- Director (Appointed 10 January 2023)
Kate Golder	- Director (Appointed 10 January 2023)
Don O'Brien	- Director (Appointed 10 January 2023)
Owen Evans	- Director (Resigned 10 January 2023)
Lance Livermore	- Director (Resigned 10 January 2023)
Christopher Heyworth	- Director (Resigned 10 January 2023)

**Secretary**

Kate Golder

**Registered Office**

CIP Licensing Limited  
Suite 1B 103 Bolsover St,  
Rockhampton QLD 4700

**Auditor of the Fund**

Moore Australia (WA)  
Level 15 Exchange Tower  
2 The Esplanade  
PERTH WA 6000

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Directors' Report**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

The Directors of CIP Licensing Limited (ABN 63 603 558 658), the Responsible Entity of Merchant Biotech Fund (“the Fund or MBF”), submit their report for the Fund for the year ended 30 June 2023, and the auditor’s report thereon.

**DIRECTORS**

The names of the directors of the Responsible Entity in office during the period and until the date of this report are:

*David McKay French B.Econs, Dip.Corp Management*  
*Executive Director (appointed 6 January 2015)*

David French is the Managing Director. David was responsible for building Capricorn Investment Partners Limited (CIPL) from scratch. CIP Licensing Limited is a special purpose AFS licencing vehicle which was created as part of a restructure of CIPL. The business now looks after about \$700 million in investments including those held in two managed investment schemes. David has more than 20 years’ experience in finance and economics, most of which have been in investment markets.

*Keith Jones – MEconSt, BA (Econ), DipFP, Executive Director (appointed 10 January 2023)*

Keith Jones is the founder and CEO at Alteris Financial Group, one of Australia’s leading boutique wealth management companies. With extensive experience in private wealth management, Keith’s leadership has seen Alteris rise to prominence as a recognised industry leader in lifecycle planning, working with clients in accounting, financial planning, asset management and aged care financial advice.

As head of the firm’s Investment Committee, Keith is responsible for overseeing Alteris’ high-quality, uniform approach to strategic asset allocation. He is also a Responsible Manager on Alteris’ Financial Services License and is a Certified Financial Planner.

*Kate Golder – Non-Executive Director (appointed 10 January 2023)*

Kate Golder is a Certified Financial Planner and has been in the financial planning and wealth management industry since 2000. Kate is an Executive Director and Head of Compliance at Alteris Financial Group and is a Responsible Manager on Alteris’ Financial Services License.

Holding a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Queensland, Kate has also completed a Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning. In 2020, 2021 and 2022, Kate was named as one of Australia’s Top Financial Advisers in the list compiled annually by The Australian newspaper and US financial investment publication Barron’s.

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**Directors' Report**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

*Don O'Brien – Non-Executive Director (appointed 10 January 2023)*

With more than 40 years professional services experience, Don joined Alteris as Head of Accounting in September 2022.

He is an experienced corporate tax adviser who has built teams and practices over many years. Don has been a partner at KPMG, RSM and Grant Thornton, and in each of these roles, held senior leadership positions.

Don has wide experience in advising on inbound and outbound investments to a range of multi-national clients in industries such as property and construction, manufacturing, retail and communication. For more than 5 years, he was on the International Tax Committee of a world-wide accounting firm.

Don holds a Bachelor of Business Studies from UTS and a Master of Taxation Law from Sydney University.

*Owen Evans BA (Hons), MSc(Econ)*  
*Non Executive Director (resigned 10 January 2023)*

Owen Evans is a non-executive Director. Mr Evans is an experienced investment professional with almost 30 years' experience in research, valuation and funds management. He has been rated number one analyst for building materials, construction and emerging companies while at UBS Australia and judged Money Management Fund Manager of the Year in 2005 and 2006 as Chief Investment officer at MIR Australia. Between 1997 and 2010, Mr Evans was sole analyst on the IPO's of Bristle, AWB, Transfield Services, Worley Parsons and NRW. He is currently principal of Yaz Investment Pty Ltd, and provides consulting services for mid-sized Australian Companies such as Adelaide Brighton, Brickworks Ltd, Calibre Global and Dulux. He also provides investment consulting advice for global fund managers. Mr Evans is currently non-Executive President of the Manly Warringah Basketball Association.

*Lance Livermore*  
*Non Executive Director (resigned 10 January 2023)*

Lance Livermore has more than 30 years experience in both stockbroking and financial planning. He attained his original qualifications in Albury prior to establishing himself in a financial controller role with Potter Warburg in Melbourne. Lance was a founding partner of Bailey Livermore Financial Services, a predecessor of Pentad and CIPL (Holding) Limited.

*Christopher Heyworth*  
*Executive Director (resigned 10 January 2023)*

Christopher Heyworth is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and until his recent retirement was a Certified Financial Planner. He holds more than 30 years experience providing personal financial planning and investment advice. Chris has a particular interest in helping with family wealth management, including estate planning.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
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**Directors' Report (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**OPERATIONAL REVIEW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

The Merchant Biotech Fund (MBF) aims to deliver a gross return of approximately 7 percent per annum over the long term by investing in a portfolio of life science companies where innovation plays a crucial role in improving global health and economic outcomes. This includes biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, medical devices & equipment, medical data, information technology (e-health), and robotics companies listed – or soon to be listed – on the ASX.

The MBF was established on 21 October 2021. Current assets under management are approximately \$9 million.

Given the significant economic volatility caused by the COVID outbreak in the 2020 financial year and the subsequent ongoing global recovery efforts, the commencement of the war in the Ukraine which is being felt across the globe, the global energy supply crisis and the now inflationary impacts from these events, management continue to act with caution.

The Fund's mandate continues to be to look for domestic (both short and long term) Biotech Opportunities that are both listed on the ASX and unlisted. The Fund aims to have a portfolio of between 50 and 100 investments at all times and actively allocate capital to areas of the portfolio where the manager feels the greatest return on investment is possible. All investments during the year were undertaken in accordance with the Fund's constitution.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
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**Directors' Report (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**OPERATIONAL REVIEW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023 (continued)**

Throughout the year MBF has sought to build a strong core of Biotech investments with the aim to deliver a gross return of approximately 7 percent per annum over the long term.

Merchant Funds Management Pty Ltd was appointed the investment manager of the Fund and is responsible for the day to day management of the Fund.

The Fund did not have any employees during the year.

**SCHEME INFORMATION**

Merchant Biotech Fund is an Australian registered scheme, and was constituted on 27 October 2021. CIP Licensing Limited was appointed as the Responsible Entity of the Fund on this date. Merchant Funds Management Pty Ltd, the investment manager of the Fund, is responsible for the day to day management of the Fund.

The registered office of the Responsible Entity is located at Suite 1B 103 Bolsover St, Rockhampton QLD 4700. The Custodian is the Trust Company (Australia) Limited. The registered office of the Custodian is located at 35 Clarence Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

**REVIEW OF RESULTS AND OPERATIONS**

**Results**

The net operating profit of Merchant Biotech Fund is presented in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income. The profit from operating activities for the year ended 30 June 2023 \$1,933,112 was (2022: loss of \$3,592,175).

**Distributions**

There was no distribution to unitholders for the year ended 30 June 2023.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
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**Directors' Report (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**UNIT PRICE HISTORY**

The ex-distribution exit prices and the highest and lowest exit prices for Merchant Biotech Fund are shown below. All exit prices are exclusive of exit fees.

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
As at 30 June	0.7950	0.6129
Year to 30 June:		
High	0.9748	1.0000
Low	0.7691	0.6129

**UNITS ON ISSUE**

10,902,002 units of Merchant Biotech Fund were on issue at 30 June 2023 (2022: 10,502,003). During the year 865,215 (2022: 10,502,003) units were issued by the Fund and 465,216 units (2022: N/A) were redeemed. No options over unissued units were in place at any time during the current year.

**SCHEME ASSETS**

At 30 June 2023 Merchant Biotech Fund held assets to a total value of \$8,740,485 (2022: \$6,482,007). The basis for valuation of the assets is disclosed in Note 3 to the financial statements. The Responsible Entity does not hold any units in the Fund as at 30 June 2023.

**FEES PAID TO THE RESPONSIBLE ENTITY AND ASSOCIATES**

The following fees were paid to the Responsible Entity and its associates out of Fund property during the financial year:

Management fee for the 2023 financial year paid to the Responsible Entity & Merchant Funds Management Pty Ltd	\$126,753	(2022: \$49,491)
Compliance Fees including Custodial Fees	\$24,124	(2022: \$13,848)
Expenses incurred by the Responsible Entity and reimbursed by the Fund in accordance with the Fund's constitution	\$Nil	(2022: nil)



**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
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**Directors' Report (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**FEES PAID TO THE RESPONSIBLE ENTITY AND ASSOCIATES (continued)**

The interests in the Fund held by the Responsible Entity and its associates out of Fund property at the end of the year are disclosed in Note 12 to the financial statements.

**SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE STATE OF AFFAIRS**

There were no significant changes to the state of affairs of Merchant Biotech Fund during the year.

**LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS AND EXPECTED RESULTS**

The investment strategy of the Fund will be maintained in accordance with the Fund's Constitution and investment objectives.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION AND PERFORMANCE**

The Fund's operations are not subject to any environmental regulations under Commonwealth, State or Territory legislation.

**INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE OF OFFICERS OR AUDITORS**

The Constitution of the Responsible Entity requires it to indemnify all current and former officers of the Responsible Entity (but not including auditors) out of the property of the Responsible Entity against:

- (a) any liability for costs and expenses which may be incurred by that person in defending civil or criminal proceedings in which judgement is given in that person's favour, or in which the person is acquitted, or in connection with an application in relation to such proceedings in which the court grants relief to the person under the Corporations Act 2001; and
- (b) a liability incurred by the person, as an officer of the Responsible Entity or of a related body corporate, to another person (other than a Responsible Entity or a related body corporate) unless the liability arises out of conduct involving a lack of good faith.

During the financial year, the Responsible Entities and the Investment Manager paid an insurance premium in respect of a contract insuring each of the officers of the Responsible Entity. The amount of the premium is, under the insurance contract, confidential. The liabilities insured include costs and expenses that may be incurred in defending civil or criminal proceedings that may be brought against the officers in their capacity as officers of the Responsible Entity or related body corporates. This insurance premium does not cover auditors.

The Fund has not indemnified or insured officers and auditors.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
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**Directors' Report (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE**

There have been no events subsequent to balance date which require disclosure in this report.

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION**

The lead auditor's independence declaration is set out on page 8 and forms part of the directors' report for the year ended 30 June 2023.

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



Keith Jones  
Director

Sydney

Date: \_\_6 October 2023\_\_\_\_\_

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION  
UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001  
TO THE DIRECTORS OF CIP LICENSING LIMITED  
AS THE RESPONSIBLE ENTITY OF MERCHANT BIOTECH FUND**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2023, there have been:

- a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in *the Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit, and
- b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



NEIL PACE  
PARTNER



MOORE AUSTRALIA AUDIT (WA)  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Signed at Perth on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Income</b>			
Dividends Received	6	12,000	7,200
Interest income	6	9,304	102
Net gain/(loss) on financial instruments through profit and loss	7	2,115,833	(3,483,351)
<b>Net investment income</b>		2,137,137	(3,476,049)
<b>Expenses</b>			
Responsible Entity and Fund Manager fees	4(a)	(128,808)	(49,491)
Auditors' remuneration	4(b)	(27,677)	(17,000)
Consultants' fees		-	(10,451)
Custodian and administration fees		(22,835)	(14,115)
Other expenses		(24,705)	(25,069)
<b>Operating expenses before finance costs</b>		(204,025)	(116,126)
<b>Profit from operating activities</b>		1,933,112	(3,592,175)
<b>Finance costs</b>			
Distribution to unitholders		-	-
<b>Total profit</b>		-	-
Other comprehensive income		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		1,933,112	(3,592,175)

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**As at 30 June 2023**

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	10(a)	73,013	133,037
Prepayments, loans and receivables:			
Prepayments, dividends and other receivables	5	27,152	2,619
Financial assets at fair value through profit & loss:			
Equity investments and units in listed and unlisted schemes	5	8,640,320	5,846,351
Debentures and convertible notes	5	-	500,000
<b>Total assets</b>		8,740,485	6,482,007
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost:			
Accrued expenses	5, 8	29,500	37,000
Accounts payable	5	37,474	4,623
Responsible entity and fund manager fees payable	5	7,117	3,282
<b>Total liabilities (excluding net assets attributable to Unitholders)</b>		74,091	44,905
<b>Net assets attributable to unitholders – Liability</b>	9(b)	8,666,394	6,437,102
<b>Represented by:</b>			
Net assets attributable to unitholders at redemption price	9(b)	8,666,394	6,437,102

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Statement of Changes in Equity**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

The Fund's net assets attributable to unitholders are classified as a liability under AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation*. As such the Fund has no equity, and no items of changes in equity have been presented for the current or comparative year.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		\$	\$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Proceeds from sale of investments		3,334,121	70,529
Purchase of investments		(3,429,829)	(7,840,954)
Interest received		7,002	102
Dividends received		12,000	7,200
Payments to suppliers		(74,743)	(24,349)
Payments to responsible entity and fund manager		(126,753)	(49,492)
<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>	10(b)	<u>(278,202)</u>	<u>(7,836,964)</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Proceeds from application monies		750,000	7,970,001
Redemptions		(531,822)	-
<b>Net cash flows (used in) financing activities</b>		<u>218,178</u>	<u>7,970,001</u>
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(60,024)	133,037
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 July 2022		133,037	-
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June 2023</b>	10(a)	<u><u>73,013</u></u>	<u><u>133,037</u></u>

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 1 Reporting Entity**

Merchant Biotech Fund (the Fund) is an Australian Registered Scheme, and was constituted on 27 October 2021 under the Corporations Act 2001. The Fund is a for profit entity. CIP Licensing Limited was appointed as the Responsible Entity of the Fund on the date of inception. CIP Licensing Limited is incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The registered office of the Responsible Entity is located at Suite 1B, 103 Bolsover St, Rockhampton QLD 4700.

Merchant Funds Management Pty Ltd is the investment manager of the Fund and is responsible for the day to day management of the Fund.

The financial report of the Fund is for the year ended 30 June 2023.

**Note 2 Basis of Preparation**

**(a) Statement of compliance**

The financial report is a general purpose financial report which has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (AASBs) adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the Corporations Act 2001. The financial report of the Fund complies with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) and interpretations adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

The financial report was approved by the Board of Directors of the Responsible Entity on 6 October 2023.

**(b) Basis of Measurement**

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis except for financial assets at fair value through profit and loss, which are measured at fair value.

The statement of financial position is presented on a liquidity basis. Assets and liabilities are presented in decreasing order of liquidity and do not distinguish between current and non-current. All balances are expected to be recovered or settled within twelve months, except for financial assets held at fair value through profit or loss and net assets available for unitholders.

**(c) Functional and presentation currency**

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the Fund's functional currency.

**(d) Use of estimates and judgements**

The preparation of the financial statement in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income



**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 2 Basis of Preparation (continued)**

and expenses. Actual results may differ from estimates. Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected.

Note 11 contains information about the estimation of fair values of financial instruments.

**(e) Changes in accounting policies and accounting standards**

The Fund has adopted all changes from the Australian Accounting Standards during the year. The changes did not impact significantly on the results or the financial position of the Fund.

**Note 3 Significant Accounting Policies**

The accounting policies set out below have been applied to all periods presented in these financial statements. The Fund has not early adopted any accounting standard.

**(a) Financial asset and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss**

**(i) Classification**

*Assets*

The Fund classifies its investments based on its business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The Fund's portfolio of financial assets is managed and its performance is evaluated on a fair value basis in accordance with the Fund's documented investment strategy.

The Fund uses fair value information to assess performance of the portfolio and to make decisions to rebalance the portfolio or to realise fair value gains or minimise losses through sales or other trading strategies. The Fund's policy is for the Responsible Entity to evaluate the information about these financial assets on a fair value basis together with other related financial information.

Equity securities and derivatives are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

For debt securities, the contractual cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest, however they are neither held for collecting contractual cash flows nor held both for collecting contractual cash flows and for sale. The collection of contractual cash flows is only incidental to achieving the Fund's business model's objective. Consequently, the debt securities are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 3 Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

*Liabilities*

The Fund 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 held for trading and are consequently classified as financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss. Derivative contracts that have a negative fair value are presented as liabilities at fair value through profit or loss.

**(ii) Recognition and derecognition**

The Fund recognises financial assets and financial liabilities on the date it becomes party to the contractual agreement (trade date) and recognises changes in the fair value of the financial assets or financial liabilities from this date.

Investments are derecognised when the right to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred and the Fund has transferred substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership.

**(iii) Measurement**

At initial recognition, the Fund measures financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. Transaction costs of financial assets and financial liabilities carried at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in the statement of comprehensive income.

Subsequent to initial recognition, all financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value. Gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of the financial assets or financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss category are presented in the statement of comprehensive income within 'net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss' in the period in which they arise. This also includes dividend expense on short sales of securities, which have been classified at fair value through profit or loss.

For further details on how the fair values of financial instruments are determined please see Note 11 to the financial statements.

**(b) Convertible loans**

Convertible loans are hybrid contracts measured at fair value through profit or loss as permitted under AASB 9.

The convertibility feature of the loan which meets the definition of an embedded derivative under AASB 9 is separated from the host contract and is measured at fair value through profit and loss.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 3 Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

**(c) Investment Income**

Investment income is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Fund and the income can be reliably measured. The Fund's revenue recognition of interest, dividend and distribution income, investment gains/(losses) and foreign exchange gains/(losses) are excluded from the scope of AASB 15. The Fund's specific types of income are recognised as follows:

*Dividend and distribution income*

Dividends and distributions from listed entities are recognised as income on the date the share or unit is quoted ex-dividend or ex-distribution.

In some cases the Fund may receive or choose to receive dividends or distributions in the form of additional shares or units rather than cash. In such cases the Fund recognises the dividend or distribution income for the amount of the cash dividend alternative with the corresponding debit treated as an additional investment.

*Interest income*

Income from interest bearing securities is recognised as the interest accrues using the effective interest rate method.

*Changes in the fair value of assets*

Other changes in fair value for such instruments are recorded in accordance with the policies described in Note 3(a) to the financial statements.

**(d) Expenses**

All expenses, including management fees and custodian fees, are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income on an accruals basis.

Included in other operating expenses are legal, advisory and other fees which are broken down in the statement of comprehensive income.

**(b) Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents, comprise cash at bank and short term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less, are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value and are held for the purpose of meeting short term cash commitments rather than for investment or other purposes.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 3 Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

**(c) Taxation**

Under the current legislation, the Fund is not subject to income tax provided the unitholders are entitled to the income of the Fund and the Fund fully distributes its taxable income (including assessable realised capital gains).

**(d) Distributions**

In accordance with the Fund's Constitution, the distributable income of the Fund is the amount determined by the Responsible Entity to be appropriate after reviewing the income of the Fund, the investment Biotech available and the market and any other matters that the Responsible Entity believes are relevant. The amounts the Responsible Entity determines in each financial year shall not be less than the net income (as defined in Section 95(1) of the Tax Act) of the Fund for the financial year (excluding any notional tax credits included in assessable income, being franking credits or foreign income tax credits).

Distributable income is calculated and distributed at the end of the financial year and at any other time that the Responsible Entity elects. Realised capital losses are not distributed to unitholders but are retained in the Fund to be offset against any future realised capital gains. If realised capital gains exceed realised capital losses the excess is distributed to unitholders.

For the year ended 30 June 2022, the Responsible Entity determined that the net distributable income was equivalent to the taxable income of the Fund defined in Section 95(1) of the Tax Act (excluding any notional tax credits included in assessable income, as noted above). There was no net distributable trust income (as determined by reference to the trustee's determination) for the year ended 30 June 2023.

**(e) Change in net assets attributable to unitholders**

The amount of the Fund's income for a financial year not distributed to unitholders as determined by the Responsible Entity in accordance with the Fund's Constitution is transferred to net assets attributable to unitholders. The amount transferred to net assets attributable to unitholders as determined by the Responsible Entity may include amounts of unrealised gains and losses in the fair value of investments, accrued income not yet assessable and expenses provided for or accrued but not yet deductible, net capital losses and tax free or tax deferred income.

These items are included in the determination of distributable income in the period for which they are assessable for taxation purposes.

**(f) Unit prices**

Unit prices are determined in accordance with the Fund's Constitution and are calculated as the net portfolio value of the Fund less performance fees accrued and distributions paid divided by the number of units on issue.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 3 Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

**(g) Terms and conditions on units**

Each unit issued confers upon the unitholder an equal interest in the Fund, and is of equal value. A unit does not confer any interest in any particular asset or investment of the Fund. Unitholders have various rights under the Constitution and the Corporations Act 2001, including the right to:

- have their units redeemed;
- receive income distributions;
- attend and vote at meetings of unitholders; and
- participate in the termination and winding up of the Fund.

The rights, obligations and restrictions attached to each unitholder are identical in all respects.

**(h) Goods and services tax**

Expenses incurred by the Fund are recognised net of the amount of GST that can be recovered from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Amounts recognised as payables at balance date include the amount of GST payable.

Reduced input tax credits (RITC) recoverable by the Fund from the ATO are recognised as receivables in the statement of financial position. Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis.

**(i) Significant accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions**

Except for the determination of fair values in the valuation of financial assets at fair value through profit and loss and recoverability of receivables, there are no other significant accounting judgements, estimates or assumptions made by management.

**(j) Finance costs**

Distributions paid and payable on units are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as finance costs and as a liability where not paid. Distributions paid are included in cash flows from financing activities in the statement of cash flows.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Note 4 Expenses</b>		
<b>(a) Responsible Entity and Investment Manager fees</b>		
Management fees	76,558	23,367
Responsible entity fees	52,250	26,124
Total responsible entity and investment manager fees	<u>128,808</u>	<u>49,491</u>
<b>(b) Auditor's remuneration</b>		
Audit services:		
- audit of the financial reports	16,677	11,000
- compliance plan audit	7,000	6,000
	<u>27,677</u>	<u>17,000</u>

**Note 5 Financial assets and liabilities**

The following table details the categories of financial assets and liabilities held by the Fund at reporting date:

**Assets**

*Classified as fair value through profit or loss upon initial recognition*

-Equity investments	8,640,320	5,846,351
-Managed investment schemes	-	-
	<u>8,640,320</u>	<u>5,846,351</u>
-Derivative financial instruments	-	500,000
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	<u>8,640,320</u>	<u>6,346,351</u>
Loans, receivables and other assets	27,152	2,619
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 10a)	73,013	133,037
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<u>8,740,485</u>	<u>6,482,007</u>

From 1 July 2018, AASB 9 introduced a new expected credit loss model to provide for amounts the Fund does not expect to receive from receivables and loans. This has not materially impacted the Fund as all receivable amounts, including the debentures, are considered to be recoverable.

**Liabilities**

Accrued expenses	29,500	37,000
Accounts payable	37,474	4,623
Responsible entity and fund manager fees payable	7,117	3,282
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<u>74,091</u>	<u>44,905</u>

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 6 Interest and dividend income**

The following tables detail the interest and dividend income earned by the Fund during the period:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Interest income for financial assets carried at amortised cost:		
-cash and cash equivalents	9,304	102
-convertible loan	-	-
<b>Total interest income</b>	<b>9,304</b>	<b>102</b>

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Dividend income for financial assets classified as fair value through profit or loss	12,000	7,200
<b>Total dividend income</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>7,200</b>

**Note 7 Net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss**

The following table details the gains and losses from financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Classified as fair value through profit or loss:		
-Equity investments and unlisted managed investment schemes	2,115,833	(3,483,351)
<b>Net gain/(loss) from financial assets and liabilities classified as fair value through profit or loss</b>	<b>2,115,833</b>	<b>(3,483,351)</b>

Gains and losses presented above exclude interest income, dividend income and distribution income. The following table details the gains and losses from financial assets through profit or loss for the year ended:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Realised gain/(loss)	3,534,423	(3,461,702)
Unrealised gain/(loss)	(1,418,590)	(21,649)
<b>Net gain from financial assets and liabilities classified as fair value through profit or loss</b>	<b>2,115,833</b>	<b>(3,483,351)</b>

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June**

**Note 8 Accrued expenses**

Audit fees	18,500	17,000
Professional fees	11,000	20,000
	<u>29,500</u>	<u>37,000</u>

**Note 9 Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders**

**(a) Units on issue**

The Fund's units on issue are represented by fully paid ordinary units.

The Fund considers its capital to be Unitholders' Funds.

The objective of the Fund is to provide unitholders with above average returns over the medium to long term through capital growth. The Fund aims to achieve this through investing in private companies, companies in the pre-listing phase and companies listed on ASX in line with the Responsible Entity's investment criteria, while maintaining sufficient liquidity to fund unitholder redemption facilities when these are operating.

The Fund does not have any externally imposed capital requirements.

Units are issued at the unit application price at the end of the month. The unit application price is calculated in accordance with the Fund's constitution.

It is anticipated that units can be redeemed at the end of each month, however from time to time the Fund may be illiquid – when such times arise the Investment Manager will seek permission to suspend the redemption facility until such time as liquidity emerges. The redemption price at which the units are redeemed is calculated at the end of the month in accordance with the Fund's constitution.

To protect the interests of all unitholders, no more than 15% of total units on issue may be redeemed in any month, although this restriction can be waived by the Responsible Entity. Each unitholder is entitled to attend and vote at any meeting convened by the Responsible Entity. Unitholders are entitled to one vote per unit held. Unitholders are entitled to receive all distributions declared and paid by the Fund. Upon winding up the unitholders are entitled to a return of capital based on the net asset value per share of the Fund.

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Units on issue as at beginning of reporting period	10,502,003	-
Units issued during the reporting period	865,215	10,502,003
Units redeemed or otherwise cancelled during reporting period	(465,216)	-
Units on issue as at the end of the reporting period	<u>10,902,002</u>	<u>10,502,003</u>



**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 9 Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders (continued)**

**(b) Movement in net assets attributable to unitholders**

Net assets attributable to unitholders at beginning of reporting period	6,437,102	-
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders:		
Profit from operating activities	1,933,112	(3,592,175)
Distribution to Unitholders	-	-
Units issued during the reporting period	828,000	10,029,277
Units redeemed or otherwise cancelled during the reporting period	(531,822)	-
Net assets attributable to unitholders at the end of reporting period	<u>8,666,394</u>	<u>6,437,102</u>

**Note 10 Cash and Cash Equivalents**

**(a) Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash balance comprises:

- Current deposits with banks	<u>73,013</u>	<u>133,037</u>
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**(b) Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities**

Profit/(Loss) from operating activities	1,933,112	(3,592,175)
<i>Changes in operating assets and liabilities:</i>		
(Increase) in financial assets	(2,215,968)	(4,287,074)
(Increase)/Decrease in loans and receivables	(24,532)	(2,620)
(Decrease)/Increase in trade and other creditors	29,186	44,905
<b>Net cash flows from/(used in) operating activities</b>	<u>(278,202)</u>	<u>(7,836,964)</u>

**Note 11 Financial instruments and associated risk**

**Investment overview and strategy**

The objectives of Merchant Funds Management Pty Ltd, the investment manager of the Fund are:

- To generate gross return of approximately 7 percent per annum over the long term.
- To manage the Fund in a disciplined and focused manner with the aim of providing capital growth over the long term.
- To provide long-term capital growth by investing in a portfolio of life science companies where innovation plays a crucial role in improving global health and economic outcomes.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 11 Financial instruments and associated risk (continued)**

- The Fund will hold between 50 and 100 separate investments.
- matching identified Fund risk profile to portfolio risk;
- the Fund will have a bias towards capital growth;
- an investment must comply with the Fund's investment strategy to maintain a diversified portfolio;
- an investment must assist in meeting the Fund's investment objective of paying redemptions;
- the investment must have the potential to provide either capital appreciation or income greater than the prevailing cash rate of the time.

Investments in assets are determined by the Fund Manager. Where the Responsible Entity and the Committee identify an area of risk the Fund will change its focus or strategy or change the weighting of the portfolio to minimise identified risks. The Fund invests in securities in accordance with its investment strategy and the Fund Manager's investment criteria.

The impact of the financial risks to which the Fund is exposed are market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. Each of these are discussed below. Disclosures in regard to these risks are prepared on the basis of the Fund's directly held investments and not on a look through basis.

**Market risk**

Market risk embodies the potential for loss and gains and, in the case of the Fund is limited to price risk and currency risk on its investments and interest rate risk on its cash and cash equivalents.

The Fund's investment strategy is, in simple terms, to purchase quality investments at a reasonable price. The Fund's market risk is managed on a daily basis by the Fund Manager and the Investment Manager. A financial model is maintained and updated daily to reflect current market conditions, analysis of the major investments of the Fund and the pricing of the investments of the Fund. Any risks identified by the Fund Manager are discussed with members of the Committee and the Board to determine appropriate action.

The Investment Manager regularly reviews the investments and holds monthly meetings. The Investment Manager is also in regular contact with the Board.

The Fund Manager maintains regular contact with the companies and managed investment schemes it invests in to better understand those entities and to assist the manager recognise any risk factors that the investment may be subject to.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 11 Financial instruments and associated risk (continued)**

**Interest rate risk**

The majority of the Fund's assets are non-interest bearing. All assets exposed to interest rate fluctuations are short term therefore limiting the exposure of the Fund to interest rate risk. Any excess cash and cash equivalents are invested in regular interest bearing accounts available on call to enable the Fund to act quickly on potential investment Biotech. The Fund does not have any interest bearing financial liabilities.

It is the intention of the Responsible Entity to invest the funds in equity assets not interest bearing assets.

*Interest rate sensitivity*

The Fund has no material exposure to interest rate sensitivity.

**Currency risk**

The Fund has not invested in financial instruments that are not denominated in currencies other than its functional currency. Consequently, the Fund as at the date of this report is not exposed to currency risk.

**Other price risk**

Other price risk is the risk that value of the instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate or currency risk), whether caused by factors specific to an individual investment, its issuer or all factors affecting all instruments traded in the market.

As a majority of the Fund's financial instruments are carried at fair value with fair value changes recognised in the statement of comprehensive income, all changes in market value of investments will directly affect the investment income of the Fund.

Price risk is managed by the Fund Manager by constructing a portfolio of Biotech assets within different market capitalisations.

The Fund is permitted to invest in securities quoted on ASX or unlisted companies, cash or interest in cash management trusts, debentures bonds and unsecured notes, derivative and short selling of securities, warrants and options and other financial products as permitted by the Responsible Entity's AFSL.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 11 Financial instruments and associated risk (continued)**

The Fund will invest in the Healthcare sector only, comprising biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, medical devices & equipment, medical data, information technology (e-health), and robotics companies listed – or soon to be listed – on the ASX.

	<b>30 June 2023 \$</b>	<b>30 June 2022 \$</b>
Listed equity investments	7,131,320	5,823,797
Unlisted equity investments and unlisted managed investment schemes	1,509,000	22,554
Convertible notes	-	500,000
<b>Total investment assets</b>	<b>8,640,320</b>	<b>6,346,351</b>

***Sensitivity analysis***

The objective of the Fund is gross return of approximately 7 percent per annum over the long term. A 5% increase in the market price of the Fund's listed investments at 30 June 2023 would have increased net assets attributable to unitholders and increased profit from operating activities by \$356,566 (2022: \$291,189); an equal change in the opposite direction would have decreased net assets attributable to unitholders and increased loss from operating activities by an equal amount.

A 5% increase in the value of unlisted equity investments and convertible notes at 30 June 2023 would have increased net assets attributable to unitholders and increased profit from operating activities by \$75,450 (2022: \$26,128). An equal change in the opposite direction would have decreased net assets attributable to unitholders and increased loss from operating activities by an equal amount.

**Credit risk**

Credit risk is the risk that counterparty to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation or commitment that it has entered into with the Fund, resulting in financial loss to the Fund.

The carrying amounts of financial assets best represent the maximum credit risk exposure at balance date.

At reporting date the Fund's financial assets exposed to credit risk amounted to the following:

	<b>30 June 2023 \$</b>	<b>30 June 2022 \$</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	73,013	133,037
Prepayments, dividends, distributions and other receivables	27,152	2,619

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 11 Financial instruments and associated risk (continued)**

Convertible notes	-	500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,165</b>	<b>635,656</b>

Credit risk arising on transactions with brokers relates to transactions awaiting settlement. The Fund uses a range of brokers when entering into equity transactions. As a result should one broker fail to settle transactions the Fund's exposure to this broker is diluted. The Fund uses only brokers that are known to the manager, have a good record in the industry and have a history and reputation for quality service and settling on equity transactions.

Distributions and dividends receivables are only recognised once declared. The credit risk the Fund is exposed to in respect to unsettled transactions and receivables is therefore considered low. The convertible notes do not bear any interest.

All assets are held by the Fund's custodian, The Trust Company ("Custodian"). Bankruptcy or insolvency by the custodian may cause the Fund's right to securities held by the custodian to be delayed or limited. The Fund monitors the position of the Custodian in terms of its market participant stature on a quarterly basis and National Australia Bank ("Bank") with whom it places its cash with.

The credit risk associated with the custodian and the Bank is considered low as the Custodian is owned by a major financial institution. The Responsible Entity monitors the position of the Bank and the custodian through ASX releases and media commentary on a regular basis.

The carrying amounts of financial assets best represent maximum credit risk exposure at the balance date.

**Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations arising from its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset, or that such obligations will have to be settled in a manner disadvantageous to the Fund.

The Fund aims to provide a monthly redemption facility; however in times of illiquidity, the Fund will seek permission from the Responsible Entity to suspend redemptions to protect the value of the remaining unit holders.

Liquidity risk is managed on a daily basis by the fund manager in respect to trades awaiting settlement, monthly redemption requests and short term liabilities of the Fund. The portfolio of the Fund is updated to reflect purchases and sales of securities.

The Fund's listed securities are considered to be readily realisable as they are all listed on ASX.

The Fund's redemption policy allows for redemptions at the end of the month only, save for liquidity issues that arise from time to time referred to above.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 11 Financial instruments and associated risk (continued)**

Set out below is the contractual maturity profile of the Fund's financial liabilities:

**30 June 2023**

	<b>Contractual cashflows</b> \$	<b>Less than 1 month</b> \$	<b>On call*</b> \$
Accounts payable	37,474	37,474	-
Unitholder Distributions Payable	-	-	-
Responsible Entity and Fund Manager fees payable	7,117	7,117	-
Net assets attributable to unitholders	8,666,394	-	8,666,394
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>8,710,985</b>	<b>44,591</b>	<b>8,666,394</b>

**30 June 2022**

	<b>Contractual cashflows</b> \$	<b>Less than 1 month</b> \$	<b>On call*</b> \$
Accounts payable	41,623	41,623	-
Unitholder Distributions Payable	-	-	-
Responsible Entity and Fund Manager fees payable	3,282	3,282	-
Net assets attributable to unitholders	6,437,102	-	6,437,102
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>6,482,007</b>	<b>44,905</b>	<b>6,437,102</b>

\*To protect the interests of all unitholders, no more than 15% of total units on issue may be redeemed in any month, although this restriction can be waived by the Responsible Entity.

**Operational risk**

Operational risk is the risk of direct or indirect loss arising from a wide variety of causes associated with the Fund's processes, personnel, technology and infrastructure, and from external factors other than credit, market and liquidity risks such as those arising from legal and regulatory requirements and generally accepted standards of corporate behaviour. Operational risks arise from all of the Fund's operations.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

The objective of the Responsible Entity of the Fund is to manage operational risk so as to balance limiting of financial losses and damage to the Fund's reputation with overall cost effectiveness and to avoid control procedures that restrict initiative and creativity.

The primary responsibility for the development and implementation of controls to address operational risk is assigned to the Responsible Entity. This responsibility is supported by the development of overall Fund standards for the management of operational risk in the following areas:

- requirements for appropriate segregation of duties, including the independent authorisation of transactions.
- requirements for the reconciliation and monitoring of transactions.
- compliance with regulatory and other legal requirements.
- documentation of controls and procedures.
- requirements for the periodic assessment of operational risks faced, and the adequacy of controls and procedures to address the risks identified.

**Note 11 Financial instruments and associated risk**

- requirements for the reporting of operational losses and proposed remedial action development of contingency plans.
- training and professional development.
- ethical and business standards.
- risk mitigation, including insurance where this is effective.

**Estimation of fair values**

The methods and assumptions used in estimating the fair values of financial instruments are disclosed in note 3(a)(iii) of the significant accounting policies.

**Listed investments**

At 30 June 2023, the carrying amounts of equity investments whose fair values were determined directly, in full or in part, by reference to published price quotations amounted to \$7,131,320 (2022: \$5,823,797).

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Unlisted investments**

Details of unlisted investments and the valuation approach as at 30 June 2023 are set out below:

	<b>Industry Sector</b>	<b>Basis of valuation</b>	<b>Date of transaction</b>	<b>Fair value as at 30 June 2023</b> \$	<b>Fair value as at 30 June 2022</b> \$
Eurocann Corporation Limited	Healthcare /Biotech	Planned capital raise for quarter 2023 and valuation multiples attributed to listed companies	June 2023	1,509,000	22,554
<b>Total</b>				<b>1,509,000</b>	<b>22,554</b>

**Fair Value measurements recognised in the statement of financial position**

The directors of CIP Licensing Limited have determined that the most recent transaction price paid represents the best estimate of fair value as at 30 June 2023. The table below analyses financial instruments carried at fair value, by valuation method. The different levels have been defined as follows:

- Level 1 fair value measurements are those instruments valued based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2 fair value measurements are those instruments valued based on inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices).

**Note 12 Related Party Transactions**

- Level 3 fair value measurements are those instruments valued based on techniques using significant unobservable inputs. This category includes all instruments for which the valuation technique includes inputs not based on observable data and the unobservable inputs have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation. This category includes instruments that are valued based on quoted prices for similar instruments for which significant unobservable adjustments or assumptions are required to reflect differences between the instruments.



**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

<b>30 June 2023</b>	<b>Level 1</b> <b>\$</b>	<b>Level 2</b> <b>\$</b>	<b>Level 3</b> <b>\$</b>	<b>Total</b> <b>\$</b>
Financial assets classified as fair value through profit or loss	7,131,320	1,509,000	-	8,640,320

<b>30 June 2022</b>	<b>Level 1</b> <b>\$</b>	<b>Level 2</b> <b>\$</b>	<b>Level 3</b> <b>\$</b>	<b>Total</b> <b>\$</b>
Financial assets classified as fair value through profit or loss	5,823,797	22,554	-	5,846,351

**(a) Responsible Entity**

The Responsible Entity of Merchant Biotech Fund is CIP Licensing Limited (ABN 63 603 558 658). Merchant Funds Management Pty Ltd (ABN 32 154 493 277) is the appointed investment manager of the Fund, and is responsible for the day to day management of the Fund.

**(b) Details of Directors and Other Key Management Personnel**

*(i) Directors*

The directors of CIP Licensing Limited (the Responsible Entity) during the year were:

David McKay French	Director
Owen Evans	Director (Resigned 10 January 2023)
Lance Livermore	Director (Resigned 10 January 2023)
Christopher Heyworth	Director (Resigned 10 January 2023)
Keith Jones	Director (Appointed 10 January 2023)
Kate Golder	Director (Appointed 10 January 2023)
Don O'Brien	Director (Appointed 10 January 2023)

*(ii) Other Key Management Personnel*

Neither Merchant Biotech Fund, nor CIP Licensing Limited employ persons deemed to be key management personnel of the Fund. The directors do not receive any compensation directly from Merchant Biotech Fund, and there are no agreements in place between the directors and the Fund.

**(c) Loans to Directors**

The Fund has not made, guaranteed or secured, directly or indirectly any loans to the directors or their personally related entities at any time during the period.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**(d) Investments**

The directors of CIP Licensing Limited (the Responsible Entity for Merchant Biotech Fund), including their related entities did not hold any interest in Merchant Biotech Funds as at 30 June 2023 (2022: N/A).

The related entities of the directors of Merchant Funds Management Pty Ltd (the Fund Manager for Merchant Biotech Fund), hold the following interests in Merchant Biotech Funds as at 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2022:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>Units</b>	<b>Units</b>
Merchant Funds Management Pty Ltd	1,200,054	1,200,054
PPass Pty Ltd ATF the Green Apple Super Fund	99,300	99,300
Rachel Marques ATF the Hill Valley Trust	70,098	70,098
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,369,452</b>	<b>1,369,452</b>

**(e) Fees**

The Responsible Entity, CIP Licensing Limited, and the Fund Manager, Merchant Funds Management Pty Ltd, received all management fees, responsible entity fees and performance fees that have been deducted from the Fund during the period. Total management fees, responsible entity fees and performance fees paid to the Responsible Entity and Fund Manager during the period were \$128,808 (2022: \$49,491).

Management fees and responsible entity fees remaining payable at 30 June 2023 were \$7,117 (2022: 3,282).

Expenses incurred by the Responsible Entity during the period and reimbursed by the Fund in accordance with the Fund's constitution was \$Nil (2022: N/A).

CIP Licensing Limited provides investment services to Merchant Biotech Fund and outsources custodial and administrative functions.

**(f) Related party investments of the Fund**

Transactions between Merchant Biotech Fund and CIP Licensing result from normal dealings with that company as the Fund's Responsible Entity. CIP Licensing Limited is an Australian Financial Services license holder.

Andrew Chapman, the director of Merchant Funds Management Pty Ltd (the investment manager for Merchant Biotech Fund) is also a non-executive director Eurocann Corporation Limited (Formerly 1-Page Ltd). The Fund has an investment in Eurocann Corporation Limited (Formerly 1-Page Ltd).

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**(g) Related party transactions**

All transactions with related parties are conducted on normal commercial terms and conditions. From time to time the Responsible Entity or their director-related entities may invest in or withdraw from the Trust. These investments or withdrawals are on the same terms and conditions as those entered into by other Trust investors.

**(h) Other transactions within the Fund**

Apart from those details disclosed in this note, no director of the Responsible Entity or the Fund Manager has entered into a material contract with the Fund since the end of the previous year and there were no material contracts involving directors' interests subsisting at year end.

**Note 13 Contingencies**

There are no contingent liabilities or contingent assets at 30 June 2023 (2022: N/A).

**Note 14 Events subsequent to reporting date**

Other than the matter discussed above, there have been no events subsequent to balance date which require disclosure in this report.

**Merchant Biotech Fund**  
**ARSN 654 495 468**  
**Directors' Declaration**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

In the opinion of the Directors of CIP Licensing Limited, the Responsible Entity of the Merchant Biotech Fund, I state that:

- (a) the financial statements and notes that are set out on pages 10 to 33 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:
  - (i) giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
  - (ii) complying with Accounting Standards in Australia (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Corporations Regulations 2001;
- (b) the Directors draw attention to Note 2(a) of the financial report which contains a statement of compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards; and
- (c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in Accordance with a Resolution of the Directors of  
CIP Licensing Limited



Keith Jones  
Director

Sydney

Date: \_\_6 October 2023\_\_\_\_\_

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MERCHANT BIOTECH FUND**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of Merchant Biotech Fund (the Fund), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Merchant Opportunities Fund is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the period then ended; and
- ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 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 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 of the Fund, would be in 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.

### **Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report**

The directors of the Responsible Entity are responsible for the preparation 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 control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the ability of the Fund 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 Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF MERCHANT BIOTECH FUND (CONTINUED)**

**Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report**

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 the 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 include the economic decisions of the users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standard Board website at [https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar3.pdf](https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar3.pdf). This description forms part of our audit report.



NEIL PACE  
PARTNER



MOORE AUSTRALIA AUDIT (WA)  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Signed at Perth this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.