

LIONTRUST UK SMALLER COMPANIES FUND (“the Fund”)

Taskforce for Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) Product Report
Covering 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Purpose of this report

Under the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), Liontrust is required to publish information annually on product level (fund) TCFD disclosures so that investors may have a better understanding of the climate-related risks and opportunities associated with this fund and its underlying holdings. This report is published in line with the requirements of the FCA and TCFD. To understand the governance, strategy and risk management that Liontrust has in place to manage the risks and opportunities related to climate change, please refer to the Liontrust Entity TCFD report found at: www.liontrust.co.uk/TCFD/entity-report Where there are any material deviations in this report from the TCFD recommendations, they shall be clearly explained in the entity report.

The following report has been prepared using data from MSCI. In order to ensure that the data provided is representative of the Fund, Liontrust has only reported on data points where there is a minimum data coverage of 60%. Liontrust will review this minimum threshold and will look to increase its disclosures as MSCI data coverage levels improve.

Key Information

Fund Name	Fund Management Team	ISIN	Fund Size*	Fund Base Currency	Benchmark
Liontrust UK Smaller Companies Fund	Economic Advantage ("the Team")	GB00B57TMD12	1,105,359,334	GBP	FTSE Small Cap ex ITs

*as at 31 December 2023

Objective & Policy

- The Fund aims to deliver capital growth over the long term (5 years or more).
- The Fund is considered to be actively managed in reference to the benchmark(s) detailed above. The benchmark(s) are not used to define the portfolio composition of the Fund and the Fund may be wholly invested in securities which are not constituents of the benchmark.
- The Fund will invest at least 90% of its assets in companies which are incorporated, domiciled or conduct significant business in the United Kingdom (UK).
- At least 75% of the companies held by the Fund will have a market capitalisation of less than £1bn.
- The Fund will typically invest 90% (minimum 80%) of its assets in equities or equity related derivatives but may also invest in collective investment schemes (up to 10% of Fund assets), corporate debt securities, other transferable securities, money market instruments, warrants, cash and deposits.
- The Fund is permitted to use derivatives for the purposes of efficient portfolio management and for investment purposes. Please refer to the Derivatives sections in the prospectus for further details.

Investment Process

A fundamental principle of competitive markets is that profits regress to the mean. The fund managers believe the secret to successful investing is to identify those few companies that have a durable Economic Advantage which allows them to defy this principle and sustain a higher than average level of profitability for longer than expected. Economic Advantage is the collection of distinctive characteristics of a company that competitors struggle to reproduce even if those competitors have understood the benefits arising from those characteristics. In the fund managers' experience, the hardest to replicate characteristics fall into the following three categories of intangible assets: Intellectual property, strong distribution channels and significant recurring business. Other less powerful but nonetheless important intangible strengths include: franchises and licenses; good customer databases and relationships; effective procedures and formats; strong brands and company culture. These intangible assets produce barriers to competition, protect margins and are capable, in the opinion of the fund managers, of reaping a financial advantage in the form of cash flow returns in excess of the cost of capital. The market rewards excess profitability, particularly when it is higher than consensus expectations. To be included in portfolios, companies must possess at least one of the main advantages: intellectual property, strong distribution or recurring business (at least 70% of annual turnover). Every smaller company held in the Economic Advantage funds has at least 3% of its equity held by senior management and main board directors. Companies are also assessed for employee ownership below the senior management and board and changes in equity ownership are monitored.

Fund Information

Climate-related commitments

The Fund has not made any climate-related commitments.

Governance of climate-related risks and opportunities

- Liontrust has a strong governance structure in place around its Responsible Capitalism ("RC") platform and approach to ESG integration. For details on this, please see the dedicated TCFD section on Liontrust's website (www.liontrust.co.uk/TCFD)
- The Team is one of Liontrust's seven investment teams. Each of Liontrust's investment teams follows its own, well-documented investment process; each is overseen by the Group's Portfolio Risk Committee (PRC) and is required to demonstrate how it is adhering to its processes. The PRC is responsible for monitoring portfolio risk for each of Liontrust's funds.
- Liontrust's RC team leads the Group's strategy, policies, and activities for the Group's overall RC approach as well as supports, as needed, the Group's investment teams in their ESG integration and engagement with holdings, particularly on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) related topics. The RC team assists this fund with any governance related engagements with holdings as required by the Team. The RC team may also engage with holdings on behalf of the Team where MSCI ESG ratings are at or below BBB.

This document provides you with climate-related information for the Fund. It is not marketing material. The information is required by law. The greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and carbon metrics represent an aggregation of issuer level data across the Fund that should not be considered as performance indicators within the Fund and may not be taken into account in the management of the portfolio.

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Strategy for managing climate-related risks and opportunities

The Team's strategy as outlined above is to seek out intangible assets. It does not have a climate specific strategy (outside of the ESG risk score) and as such differs from Liontrust at an entity level.

Management of climate-related risks and opportunities

The Team uses an ESG risk score which is based on MSCI ESG ratings at the holding level. The Team retains discretion to override a risk score where it is inconsistent with its knowledge of the company. Where the MSCI ESG rating takes into account climate-related risks and opportunities, this will be reflected in the Team's ESG risk score. For companies that do not fall within the MSCI universe the Team will determine whether the company should have a risk score for ESG. The Team also engages with its largest emitting companies on a regular basis. This includes discussion of their net zero commitments and the progress in the renewables part of the businesses.

Climate Metrics

Metric	Data coverage (%)	2023	2024	2025
Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions (tCO ₂ e)	62.7%	10,306.6		
Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions (tCO ₂ e)	61.1%	119,543.0		
Total carbon emissions (1+2+3) (tCO₂e)		129,849.6		
Total carbon footprint (tCO ₂ e/\$m invested)	62.7%	7.4		
Weighted average carbon intensity (“WACI”) (tCO ₂ e/\$m sales)*	62.7%	19.7		

* WACI figure provided does not include sovereigns

Data for the climate-related information in this table is from MSCI.

For further information on these metrics, including how they are defined and associated limitations, please refer to the Glossary at the end of this report.

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Climate Metrics (continued)

Exposure to carbon intensive sectors

The Fund is not determined to have high exposure to carbon intensive sectors.

Liontrust defines having ‘high exposures to carbon intensive sectors’ as those funds which have greater than 60% of investments, by portfolio weight, in the following sectors*: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying; Manufacturing; Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply; Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities; Construction; Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles; Transportation and Storage; and Real Estate Activities.

Climate Scenarios

Metric	Data coverage (%)	Orderly transition (%)	Disorderly transition (%)	Hothouse World (%)
Policy Climate VaR (Scope 1,2,3)	61.1%	-1.6%	-2.7%	-0.1%
Technology Opportunities Climate VaR	62.6%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Physical Climate VaR**	<60%	-	-	-
Aggregated Climate VaR		-	-	-

**Selected Scenario: Aggressive

Where MSCI data coverage is less than 60%, metrics have not been reported in line with Liontrust’s minimum data coverage threshold.

Data for the climate-related information in this table is from MSCI. For further information on these metrics, including how they are defined and associated limitations, please refer to the Glossary at the end of this report.

Commentary

In both the orderly and disorderly transition scenarios, Policy Climate VaR is the most significant driver of impact. This is due to the anticipated costs borne by holdings to adhere to policy requirements to achieve a 1.5°C world eroding more capital. This trend is more pronounced in the disorderly transition as it is assumed that policy response is delayed and would therefore need to be more aggressive to achieve a 1.5°C world.

Implied Temperature Rise (“ITR”)



The ITR for the Fund is 1.7°C. It can therefore be categorised as 2°C aligned with regard to the Paris Agreement.
Data coverage for the Fund is 61.1%

Data for this climate-related information is from MSCI. For further information on these metrics, including how they are defined and associated limitations, please refer to the Glossary at the end of this report.

*NACE codes are one of the commonly used classification systems to categorise the economic activities of firms and have been used to determine whether a holding within the portfolio falls within one of the ‘carbon intensive’ sectors noted above.

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MSCI Climate VaR and ITR metrics provided in this report may not fully reflect future economic reality and are subject to measurement uncertainties resulting from limitations inherent in nature and should not be construed to represent any belief regarding materiality or financial impact. Climate VaR and ITR are being provided in this report for the purposes of complying with applicable ESG reporting requirements.

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Glossary – Climate-Related Metrics

Term used	Definition	Interpretation	Limitations
Scope 1 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions*	Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions from owned or controlled sources. Emissions are measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO ₂ e)	The higher the emissions of the fund, the greater the extent of the fund’s underlying holdings’ contribution to GHG emissions.	Data used may include estimates.
Scope 2 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions*	Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy. Emissions are measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO ₂ e)	The higher the emissions of the fund, the greater the extent of the fund’s underlying holdings’ contribution to GHG emissions.	Data used may include estimates.
Scope 3 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions*	Scope 3 emissions are all indirect emissions (not included in scope 2) that occur in the value chain of the reporting company, including both upstream and downstream emissions. Emissions are measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO ₂ e)	The higher the emissions of the fund, the greater the extent of the fund’s underlying holdings’ indirect contribution to GHG emissions.	Data used may be modelled.
Total carbon emissions	Total carbon emissions are the sum of Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 emissions.	The higher the emissions of the fund, the greater the extent of the fund’s underlying holdings’ contribution to GHG emissions.	Data used may include estimates or may be modelled.
Total carbon footprint	Total carbon footprint is total Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions for a portfolio normalized by the market value of the portfolio. Total carbon footprint is measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per million USD invested (tCO ₂ e/\$m invested)	The higher the carbon footprint, the greater the extent of the fund’s underlying holdings’ contribution to GHG emissions. Total carbon footprint allows for comparison across funds.	Data used may include estimates or may be modelled. Total carbon footprint does not include Scope 3 GHG emissions.
Weighted average carbon intensity (WACI)	WACI is a measurement of a fund’s exposure to the carbon intensity of its holdings. WACI is calculated by multiplying the carbon intensity of each holding by the weight of each holding in a portfolio. It is measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per million USD of sales (tCO ₂ e/\$m sales) WACI figures provided do not include sovereigns	The larger the WACI, the higher the fund’s exposure to the carbon intensity of its holdings. WACI allows for comparison across funds.	Data used may include estimates or may be modelled. WACI does not include Scope 3 GHG emissions.
Climate Value at Risk (CVaR)	<p>CVaR is a forward-looking quantitative model that forecasts the present value of future costs and benefits under different potential climate scenarios. Aggregated CVaR is made up of:</p> <p>Policy Climate VaR - The value of underlying holdings at risk of being lost due to climate change policies being enacted by countries. These policies will lead to higher carbon prices, which will then impact the business operations of different sectors.</p> <p>Technology Opportunities VaR - The profit opportunity available to underlying holdings who can take advantage of the costs that companies will face from 'policy risk'. MSCI measures companies' profit opportunity by assessing the quality of their low-carbon technology patent library.</p> <p>Physical Climate VaR - The costs of damage or loss of productivity to underlying holdings from increased incidence and severity of weather events because of climate change: e.g. wildfires, extreme heat, and flooding.</p>	The more negative the CVaR, the higher the potential negative impact on the value of the fund’s underlying holdings.	CVaR values reflect costs out to a horizon of 2100, which is not in line with fund investment horizons. Data used is modelled.
Implied Temperature Rise (ITR)	ITR estimates the global temperature increase contribution from a fund’s current GHG trajectory. It can show the estimated temperature alignment of funds with global climate targets.	<p>The ambitions of the Paris Agreement are to keep a global temperature rise this century well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature even further to 1.5°C. In this context, the ITR of the fund can be interpreted according to the following Paris-alignment categories:</p> <p>1.5°C aligned- ITR of <= 1.5°C 2°C aligned- ITR of >1.5°C- 2°C Misaligned- ITR of >2.0-3.2°C Strongly Misaligned- ITR of >3.2°C</p>	Underlying GHG emissions data used may include estimates.

*The allocation base is Enterprise Value Including Cash (EVIC).

All of the metrics listed above are sourced from MSCI.

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Scenario used	Definition
Orderly Transition	Climate scenario which assumes climate policies are introduced early and become gradually more stringent, reaching global net zero CO2 emissions around 2050 and likely limiting global warming to below 2 degrees Celsius on pre-industrial averages. The figure provided relates to the 1.5°C Regional Model of Investment and Development (REMIND) Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) Orderly scenario as provided by MSCI.
Disorderly Transition	Climate scenario which assumes climate policies are delayed or divergent, requiring sharper emissions reductions achieved at a higher cost and with increased physical risks in order to limit temperature rise to below 2 degrees Celsius on preindustrial averages. The figure provided relates to the 1.5°C REMIND NGFS Disorderly scenario as provided by MSCI.
Hothouse World	Climate scenario which assumes only currently implemented policies are preserved, current commitments are not met, and emissions continue to rise, with high physical risks and severe social and economic disruption and failure to limit temperature rise. The figure provided relates to the 3°C REMIND NGFS Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) scenario as provided by MSCI.
Aggressive Scenario for Physical Climate VaR	A scenario which explores the severe downside risk of costs from weather extremes, using a probabilistic modelling framework from MSCI. This scenario was selected to provide a worst-case scenario view from a physical CVaR perspective.

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Past performance does not predict future returns. You may get back less than you originally invested.

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Important information

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