Low Correlation Strategy Trust Financial Report For the year ended 30 June 2018

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#### **Directors' report**

The Directors of MLC Investments Limited, the Trustee of Low Correlation Strategy Trust (the 'Scheme'), present their report together with the financial report of the Scheme for the year ended 30 June 2018 and the independent audit report thereon.

#### **Directors of the Trustee**

The names of the persons who were Directors of MLC Investments Limited at any time during the financial year were as follows:

# Name Appointment / Resignation Date J G Duffield Appointed 24 August 2011 P Gupta Appointed 1 September 2012 C M Keating Appointed 5 December 2016

G J Mulcahy Appointed 7 July 2014
K A Watt Appointed 5 December 2016

The registered office of MLC Investments Limited is located at Ground Floor, MLC Building, 105-153 Miller Street, North Sydney NSW 2060.

## **Principal activities**

The Scheme is an unlisted unregistered managed investment scheme domiciled in Australia and is open to wholesale investors only.

The Scheme invests and transacts in a range of hedge funds, alternative strategies, securities, indices and cash, and may utilise derivatives, to achieve its investment strategy in accordance with the provisions of its Constitution.

The Scheme did not have any employees during the year (2017: Nil).

There have been no significant changes to the activities of the Scheme during the year.

The Scheme is a for profit entity for the purpose of preparing financial statements.

### Review and results of operations

The result of the operations of the Scheme is disclosed in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income. The result is affected by the performance of the markets to which the Scheme has exposure.

For details in relation to the Scheme's investment exposure and strategy, information can be obtained from the Information Memorandum ('IM') located on JANA's website at jana.com.au.

#### **Distributions**

The distributions for the year ended 30 June 2018 were as follows:

	\$'000	c/unit
Class A	23,493	2.76
Class B	12,633	2.38

## Units on issue

Units on issue as at year end and movements during the year are shown in Statement of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders.

The total assets of the Scheme are set out in the Statement of Financial Position. The basis for valuation of the Scheme's assets is disclosed in Note 1 to the financial statements.

#### State of affairs

On the 5 May 2016, the Attri ution n ed In est ent rust ('AMIT') regime, applying to Managed Investment Trusts was enacted under the *Tax Laws Amendment (New Tax System for Managed Investment Trusts) Act 2016.* With its introduction, the Trustee has amended the Scheme's Constitutions to allow the Scheme to operate as an AMIT. By 29 June 2018, the Trustee has sent notice to unitholders on the Scheme's intention to elect into the AMIT regime for the financial year ended 30 June 2018 (and for subsequent financials years). As of 30 June 2018, the Scheme meets the other conditions to adopt the AMIT tax regime. however, multi-class schemes have units that are equally subordinate but they do not have identical feature, and in accordance with the requirements of AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation* relating to puttable instruments, the units in the Scheme remain as a financial liability on 30 June 2018.

In the opinion of the Trustee, there were no other significant changes in the state of affairs of the Scheme that occurred during the year.

## Likely developments

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

Further information about likely developments in the operations of the Scheme and the expected results of those operations in future financial years has not been included in this report because disclosure of the information would be likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the Scheme.

#### Auditor's independence

The Directors received a declaration of independence from the auditor of the Scheme, a copy of which is attached to the Directors' report on page 3.

#### Events subsequent to the balance date

There has not arisen in the interval between the year end and the date of this report any other item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Trustee, to significantly affect the operations of the Scheme, the result of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Scheme, in future financial years.

#### Interests of the Trustee

Units held by MLC Investments Limited and its related parties in the Scheme during the financial year ended 30 June 2018 are detailed in Note 8(g) to the financial statements.

Fees paid to the Trustee during the financial year ended 30 June 2018 are detailed in Note 8(e) to the financial statements.

#### **Environmental regulation**

The operations of the Scheme are not subject to any particular or significant environmental regulations under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law.

## Indemnities and insurance premiums for Officers or Auditors

Indemnities

The Scheme has not indemnified or made a relevant agreement for indemnifying against a liability any person who is or has been an officer of the Trustee or an auditor of the Scheme during the year.

#### Insurance premiums

During the year the ultimate parent company of the Trustee, National Australia Bank Limited, has paid, or agreed to pay, premiums in respect of its officers for liability and legal expenses, insurance contracts, and premiums in respect of such insurance contracts, for the financial year ended 30 June 2018. Such insurance contracts insure against certain liability (subject to specified exclusions) for persons who are or have been the officers of the Trustee.

Details of the nature of the liabilities covered or the amount of the premium paid has not been included as such disclosure is prohibited under the terms of the contracts.

## Rounding

Amounts in the financial report and the Directors' report have been rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars, unless otherwise indicated.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors of MLC Investments Limited:

Director.\_

Signature:

Dated at Sydney this 6th day of December 2018

CLAIRE KEATING

	Notes	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
Investment income			
Dividend and distribution income	2	18,261	13,827
Interest income		3,373	3,342
Changes in the fair value of financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	11	33,202	64,627
Total investment income		54,836	81,796
Expenses			
Management fees	8(e)	7,676	8,261
Investment management fees		9,476	8,325
Other expenses		34	6
Total operating expenses		17,186	16,592
Net operating profit		37,650	65,204
Financing costs			
Distributions	4	36,126	
Net profit		1,524	65,204
Other comprehensive income			<u>-</u>
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders		1,524	65,204

	Notes	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	10(b)	307,629	180,957
Receivables	6	27,007	13,065
Financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss	5	1,349,615	1,589,385
Financial assets held for trading	9(c)	13,983	34,984
Total assets		1,698,234	1,818,391
Liabilities			
Payables	7	36,735	1,365
Financial liabilities held for trading	9(c)	71,619	19,439
Distribution payable	4	36,126	
Total liabilities excluding net assets attributable to unitholders		144,480	20,804
Net assets attributable to unitholders - Liability		1,553,754	1,797,587

	Class A	1	Class B	
		Number of Units		Number of Units
	\$'000	No. '000	\$'000	No. '000
Net assets attributable to unitholders				
Balance at 30 June 2016	1,083,599	974,188	740,776	711,875
Applications	46,470	41,531	192,549	183,615
Redemptions	(46,054)	(40,562)	(284,957)	(270,564)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders	40,455	<u> </u>	24,749	
Balance at 30 June 2017	1,124,470	975,157	673,117	624,926
Applications	40,797	34,578	16,914	15,451
Redemptions	(183,593)	(157,539)	(119,475)	(109,687)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders	584	<u> </u>	940	
Balance at 30 June 2018	982,258	852,196	571,496	530,690

	Notes	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Distribution/dividend income received		10,726	1,921
Interest received		3,373	3,342
Management fees paid		(7,676)	(8,261)
Investment management fees paid		(9,199)	(8,103)
Payment of other expenses	_	(34)	(6)
Net cash used in operating activities	10(a)	(2,810)	(11,107)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from sale of investments		447,924	537,815
Purchases of investments	_	(108,976)	(480,661)
Net cash provided by investing activities	-	338,948	57,154
Cash flows from financing activities			
Applications received		57,711	239,019
Redemptions paid	_	(267,975)	(331,011)
Net cash used in financing activities	-	(210,264)	(91,992)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		125,874	(45,945)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		180,957	227,157
Effect of exchange rate changes on the balances of foreign currencies	_	798	(255)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	10(b)	307,629	180,957

## **NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented, unless otherwise stated.

The financial report of the Scheme for the financial year ended 30 June 2018 was authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Directors of the Trustee on 6 e e er 2018.

On 5 May 2016, the Attri ution n ed In est ent rust ('AMIT') regime, applying to Managed Investment Trusts was enacted under the Tax Laws Amendment (New Tax System for Managed Investment Trusts) Act 2016. With its introduction, the Trustee has amended the Scheme's Constitution to allow the Scheme to operate as an AMIT. By 29 June 2018, the Trustee has sent notice to unitholders on the Scheme's intention to elect into the AMIT regime for the financial year ended 30 June 2018 (and for subsequent financials years). As of 30 June 2018, the Scheme meets the other conditions to adopt the AMIT tax regime, however, multi-class schemes have units that are equally subordinate but they do not have identical features, and in accordance with the requirements of AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation* relating to puttable instruments, the units in the Scheme remain as a financial liability on 30 June 2018.

#### (a) Statement of compliance

The financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards as issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') and International Financial Reporting Standards ('IFRS'), as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ('IASB').

## (b) Basis of preparation

The Scheme's financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standard Board. The financial report has been prepared on the basis of historical costs, except for financial assets and financial liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss and held for trading, that have been 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 are designated current assets and liabilities as they are expected to be recovered or settled within twelve months. Financial assets and liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss and net assets attributable to unitholders are expected to be settled upon contractual requirements.

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to achieve consistency in disclosure with current financial year amounts and other disclosures.

The financial statements are presented in Australian Dollars, and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars except where otherwise indicated.

## (c) Basis of consolidation

The Scheme is an investment entity under the definition in AASB 10 *Consolidated Financial Statements* and, as such, does not consolidate any entities subject to its control. Instead, interests in controlled entities are classified at fair value through profit or loss, and measured at fair value. The Scheme does not hold a controlling interest in any of its underlying investments and therefore is not required to provide additional disclosures.

## (d) Unit prices

The unit price for the units of the Scheme is calculated as at the last day of the month for applications and the last day of a relevant quarter for redemptions or any other day deemed appropriate by the Trustee.

#### (e) Terms and conditions on units

Each unit issued confers upon the unitholders of the Scheme an equal interest in the Scheme, and is of equal value within the same class. A unit does not confer any interest in any particular asset or investment of the Scheme. Unitholders have various rights under the Constitution, including the right to:

- (i) have their units redeemed;
- (ii) accumulate income, which is reflected in the unit price;
- (iii) attend and vote at meetings of unitholders; and
- (iv) participate in the termination and winding up of the Scheme.

The rights, obligations and restrictions attached to any unit of the Scheme are identical in all respects.

## (f) Financial assets and liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss

The Scheme has classified all of its investments as designated at fair value through profit or loss except for derivatives which are held for trading for risk management purposes. Securities designated at fair value through profit or loss are initially recognised at fair value.

Investments are valued at their fair value as at reporting date. Gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of the financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss are included in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income in the period in which they arise.

#### (g) Financial assets and liabilities held for trading

Derivative financial instruments are categorised for accounting purposes as held for trading, as the Scheme does not designate any derivatives as hedges in a hedging relationship. Derivatives are recognised at fair value on the date on which a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured at their fair value with movements taken to the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income. Fair values are obtained from quoted market prices in active markets and valuation techniques, including discounted cash flow models and option pricing models. All derivatives are carried as assets when fair value is positive and as liabilities when fair value is negative.

Financial assets and liabilities held for trading are offset and the net amount reported in the Statement of Financial Position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### Foreign Exchange Forward Contracts

The value of a foreign exchange forward contract fluctuates with changes in currency exchange rates. The forward is marked to market daily.

#### (h) Fair value measurement

All assets and liabilities measured at fair value in the financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety as detailed below:

- Level 1 Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2 Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable.
- Level 3 Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

#### (i) Significant accounting judgements, estimates, or assumptions

The Scheme may make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements.

## Estimates and assumptions

Estimates are continually evaluated and based on historical experience, available information and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

## Fair value of financial assets and liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss

Fair value is the price that would be received from disposing of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the transaction date.

The Scheme measures investments in financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss. Management applies judgement in selecting valuation techniques where there is no market price available for an instrument. Further details on the determination of fair values of financial instruments are set out in Note 9(g).

# Fair value of financial assets and liabilities held for trading

The Scheme has assessed the impact of credit/debit value adjustment to its derivative positions to comply with the requirements of AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement, and concluded that there are no requirements for further adjustments to the valuation of derivatives.

## (i) Significant accounting judgements, estimates, or assumptions (continued)

### Judgements

The Scheme meets the definition of an investment entity within AASB 10 Consolidated Financial Statements and therefore is required to measure its interest in controlled entities at fair value through profit or loss. The criteria which define an investment entity are as follows:

- (a) An entity that obtains funds from one or more investors for the purpose of providing those investors with investment services;
- (b) An entity that commits to its investors that its business purpose is to invest funds solely for returns from capital appreciation, investment income or both; and
- (c) An entity that measures and evaluates the performance of substantially all of its investments on a fair value basis.

## (j) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position comprise of cash at bank.

#### (k) Receivables

Receivables may include amounts for interest, distributions, outstanding settlements and other income and are measured initially at fair value plus transaction costs. Amounts are generally received within 12 months of being recorded as receivable.

## (I) Payables

Payables include outstanding settlements and accrued expenses owing by the Scheme which are unpaid as at balance date. They are measured initially at fair value plus transaction costs.

#### (m) Foreign currency transactions

Transactions during the year denominated in foreign currency have been translated at the exchange rate prevailing at the transaction date. Overseas investments and monetary items held, together with any accrued income, are translated at the exchange rate prevailing at year end.

Foreign currency transaction gains and losses on financial instruments classified as at fair value through profit or loss are included in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income as part of the 'Changes in the fair value of financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss'.

#### (n) Income and expenses

Revenue is brought to account on an accrual basis except where otherwise stated.

Distribution income from unlisted managed investment schemes is recognised on the date the trust units are quoted ex distribution. Income from unlisted partnerships and unlisted equities are recognised when distributions or dividends are declared.

Changes in the fair value of investments are recognised as income and are determined as the difference between the fair value at year end or consideration received (if sold during the year) and the fair value as at the prior year end or cost (if the investment was acquired during the year).

Expenses are brought to account on an accrual basis.

The Trustee is entitled to receive management fees for the provision of management services to the Scheme. The Trustee is entitled to be reimbursed, under the Scheme's Constitution, for certain expenses incurred in administering the Scheme. The fees paid/payable to the Trustee are shown in Note 8(e).

Investment management fees from underlying investment managers represent fees paid for managing the investments of the Scheme and are recognised on an accruals basis.

Other expenses include government duties and bank interest expense.

#### (o) Taxation

The Scheme has elected to have the new taxation regime (AMIT) for the taxation of managed investment schemes apply for the 2018 tax year and later years of income. The Scheme is not subject to income tax as the taxable income (including assessable realised net capital gains) is fully attributed to the unitholders each year. Unitholders are taxed on the income attributed to them.

The unit price is based upon fair values of underlying assets and thus may include a share of unrealised capital gains. Should such a gain be realised, that portion of the gain that is subject to capital gains tax will be distributed.

Net realised capital losses are not distributed to unitholders, but are retained to be offset against any future realised capital gains. Where realised assessable capital gains exceed realised capital losses, the excess is distributed and attributed to unitholders as assessable income for taxation purposes.

## (p) Distributions to unitholders

The income of the Scheme is accumulated and reinvested or paid to unitholders on an annual basis effective the last day of June. It may also be calculated on other dates as determined by the Trustee. All income distributions are reinvested.

Distributable income does not include unrealised gains and losses arising on movements in the fair value of investments; as such, unrealised gains and losses are transferred to net assets attributable to unitholders and are not assessable or distributable until realised.

Distributions are expressed as cents per unit for the distribution period.

## (q) Goods and services tax

Investment management fees and other expenses are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax ('GST') recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office ('ATO') as a reduced input tax credit ('RITC').

Creditors and accruals are stated with the amounts of GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO is included in payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

#### (r) Derecognition of financial instruments

The derecognition of financial instruments takes place when the Scheme no longer controls the contractual rights of a financial instrument, which is normally the case when the instrument is sold, or all the cash flows attributable to the instrument are passed through to an independent third party.

#### (s) Capital management

The Trustee manages its net assets attributable to unitholders as capital. As of 30 June 2018, the Scheme meets the conditions to adopt the AMIT tax regime, however, multi-class schemes have units that are equally subordinate but they do not have identical features, therefore units in the Scheme remain as a financial liability on 30 June 2018 in accordance with the requirements of AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation* relating to puttable instruments.

The amount of net assets attributable to unitholders can change significantly on a daily basis as the Scheme is subject to daily applications and redemptions at the discretion of unitholders.

The Trustee monitors the level of applications and redemptions relative to the liquid assets in the Scheme.

In order to maintain or adjust the capital structure, the Trustee may return capital to unitholders. The Scheme does not have any externally imposed capital requirements.

## (t) Net assets attributable to unitholders

Units are redeemable at the unitholders' option and do not require mandatory cash distributions as a result of entering the AMIT regime. As the Scheme is multi-class the units are equally subordinate however, they do not have identical features and the units therefore continue to be classified as a liability in accordance with the requirements of AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation* relating to puttable instruments.

The units can be put back to the Scheme at any time for cash based on the redemption price. The fair value of redeemable units is measured at the amount that is payable (based on the redemption unit price) at the end of the financial year, if unitholders exercised their right to put the units back to the Scheme.

## (u) Application of accounting standards

## Australian Accounting Standards issued but not yet effective

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet effective have not been adopted by the Scheme for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2018. The impact of these standards and interpretations has been assessed, to the extent applicable to the Scheme and are discussed below.

#### AASB 9 Financial Instruments

This standard makes changes to the way financial assets are classified for the purpose of determining their measurement basis. AASB 9 applies to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018 and will therefore apply to the Scheme from 1 July 2018. The Scheme does not intend to early adopt AASB 9 as permitted by the standard. The application of the standard is not expected to change the measurement basis of any of the Scheme's current financial instruments.

#### AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers

This standard requires an entity to measure revenue from contracts with customers at the amount of consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for transferring promised goods or services. AASB 15 applies to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018 and will therefore apply to the Scheme from 1 July 2018. The Scheme does not intend to early adopt AASB 15 as permitted by the standard. The application of the standard is still being assessed, but it is expected that it will have no significant changes to the Scheme's current financial instruments.

#### **NOTE 2 - DIVIDEND AND DISTRIBUTION INCOME**

	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
Dividend/Scheme distribution income:		
	40.004	40.007
Unlisted investment funds	18,261	13,827
	18,261	13,827
NOTE 3 - AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Total amount paid or due and payable to Ernst & Young:		
Audit of financial reports	7,000	7,866
Other assurance engagements	2,374	2,000
	9,374	9,866

Auditor's remuneration for the Scheme has been paid by the Trustee. Other assurance engagements consist of compliance plan audit and specified procedures performed on the direct investments of the Scheme.

#### **NOTE 4 - DISTRIBUTIONS**

Distributions payable during the year by the Scheme were as follows:

	Class A		Class B	
	\$'000	c/unit	\$'000	c/unit
2018				
June - payable	23,493	2.76	12,633	2.38
	23,493	2.76	12,633	2.38
2017				
June - payable	<u>-</u>	<u> </u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
		-		_
NOTE 5 - FINANCIAL ASSETS DESIGNATED AT FAIR VALU	JE THROUGH PROFIT	OR LOSS		
			2018	2017
			\$'000	\$'000
Unlisted investment funds			1,349,615	1,589,385
Total financial assets designated at fair value through pro-	fit or loss	_	1,349,615	1,589,385

NOTE 6 - RECEIVABLES		
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Outstanding settlements	8,443	-
Distribution receivables	18,564	13,065
	27,007	13,065
NOTE 7 - PAYABLES		
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Unsettled unit redemptions	35,093	_
Investment management fees payable - external	1,642	1,365
	36,735	1,365

#### **NOTE 8 - RELATED PARTIES**

#### (a) Trustee

The Trustee of the Scheme is MLC Investments Limited ABN 30 002 641 661, whose immediate holding company is National Wealth Management Services Limited ABN 97 071 514 264 and the ultimate parent company is National Australia Bank Limited ABN 12 004 044 937

The Trustee is incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

#### (b) Key Management Personnel

Directors

The names of the persons who were Directors of MLC Investments Limited at any time during the financial year were as follows:

## Name Appointment / Resignation Date

J G Duffield Appointed 24 August 2011
P Gupta Appointed 1 September 2012
C M Keating Appointed 5 December 2016
G J Mulcahy Appointed 7 July 2014
K A Watt Appointed 5 December 2016

In addition to the Directors noted above, the Trustee provides Key Management Personnel services to the Scheme.

Key Management Personnel are paid by a related party of the Trustee. Payments made from the Scheme to the Trustee do not include any amounts directly attributable to Key Management Personnel remuneration.

#### (c) Other related party transactions with the Scheme

From time to time, the Directors of MLC Investments Limited or their Director related entities may invest in or withdraw from the Scheme. These investments or withdrawals are on the same terms and conditions as those entered into by other Scheme investors.

## (d) Amounts payable to the Trustee

There are no amounts payable to MLC Investments Limited by the Scheme at balance sheet date (2017: Nil).

# (e) Management fees

The management fees payable to the Trustee have been calculated in accordance with the Scheme's Constitution. Total fees paid and payable are as follows:

20	<b>18</b> 2017
	\$
Management fees 7,675,88	<b>97</b> 8,261,071

#### NOTE 8 - RELATED PARTIES (continued)

## (f) Related party investments

The Scheme did not hold any shares in National Australia Bank Limited or units in other managed investment schemes operated by the Trustee or its related parties at year end.

Cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position for the Scheme are held with the National Australia Bank Limited.

NAB Asset Servicing is the custodian for the directly held investments of the Scheme.

#### (g) Unitholder investing activities

Details of holdings in the Scheme by MLC Investments Limited and its related parties or other schemes managed by MLC Investments Limited and its related parties are set out below. Fair value of investment amounts are based on latest available valuation as at year end.

MLC Investments Limited and its related parties	Number of units held No.	Interest held in the Scheme %	Fair value of investments	Distributions paid/payable \$
2018				
MLC Super Fund	779,764,648	56.45	877,159,927	20,420,979
Masterkey Unit Trusts	95,419,896	7.08	110,055,018	2,630,527
WM Pool Trusts	246,640,410	18.31	284,469,131	6,799,361
National Investment Trust Balanced Fund	1,703,230	0.13	1,964,464	46,954
MLC Investment Trusts	8,964,879	0.67	10,339,876	247,143
JANA Investment Trusts	45,492,954	3.15	48,935,773	1,082,917
MLC Investments Limited	948,009	0.07	1,020,911	22,567
2017				
MLC Super Fund	853,767,893	53.29	957,955,678	-
Masterkey Unit Trusts	94,025,891	6.03	108,422,783	-
WM Pool Trusts	370,633,132	23.78	427,383,088	-
National Investment Trust Balanced Fund	1,703,230	0.11	1,964,022	-
MLC Investment Trusts	4,204,616	0.27	4,848,411	-
JANA Investment Trusts	49,732,437	2.98	53,567,551	-
MLC Investments Limited	948,009	0.06	1,021,123	-

#### **NOTE 9 - FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT**

## (a) Financial Risk Management Objectives, Policies and Processes

The Scheme's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: credit risk, market risk (including currency risk, interest rate risk, equity and other price risk), liquidity and cash flow risk. The Scheme's overall risk management programme is aligned to the investment strategy of the Scheme as detailed in its Constitution and IM. It focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Scheme's financial performance. The Trustee monitors the risk management framework, which is performed internally and reported on a quarterly basis. The Scheme may use derivative financial instruments to moderate certain risk exposures.

## (b) Credit Risk

The Scheme takes on exposure to credit risk, which is the risk that a counterparty will be unable to pay amounts in full when due.

All transactions in listed securities are settled/paid for upon delivery using approved brokers. The risk of default is considered minimal, as delivery of securities sold is only made once the broker has received payment. Payment is made on a purchase once the securities have been received by the broker. The trade will fail if either party fails to meet its obligations.

The Scheme restricts its exposure to credit losses on trading derivative instruments by entering into master netting arrangements with counterparties (approved brokers). The credit risk associated with contracts is reduced by a master netting arrangement to the extent that if an event of default occurs, there is the opportunity to settle outstanding amounts on a net basis.

Excluding cash, there was no significant concentrations of credit risk to counterparties in the Scheme as at 30 June 2018 (2017: Nil).

## NOTE 9 - FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

## (c) Financial Assets and Liabilities Held for Trading

Financial assets and financial liabilities are presented on a gross basis in the Statement of Financial Position as there is not an enforceable legal right to offset the recognised amounts. In the normal course of business, the Scheme also enters into various master netting agreements or other similar arrangements that do not meet the criteria for offsetting in the Statement of Financial Position but still allow for the related amounts to be set off in certain circumstances, such as default on contracts.

#### Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

		2018			2017	
	Amounts	Amounts not offset		Amounts	not offset	
	Other financial instruments	Cash collateral	Net amount	Other financial instruments	Cash collateral	Net amount
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assets						
Foreign exchange forward contracts	13,983	-	13,983	34,984	-	34,984
Closing balance	13,983	-	13,983	34,984	-	34,984
Financial liabilities						
Foreign exchange forward contracts	(71,619)	•	(71,619)	(19,439)	-	(19,439)
Closing balance	(71,619)	-	(71,619)	(19,439)	-	(19,439)

## (d) Market Risk

#### (i) Currency Risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of the financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates.

The Scheme is exposed to foreign currency risk as a result of investments in financial instruments denominated in foreign currencies. The Scheme may enter into foreign currency contracts designed to either hedge some or all of this exposure, or alternatively increase exposure to preferred foreign currencies.

The reasonably possible change in currency rates as disclosed in this note are based on an analysis of the past 10 year volatility in various relevant exchange rates.

The following table summarises the Scheme's direct exposure to foreign currency risk on their monetary assets and liabilities net of any applied foreign currency hedges at 30 June 2018. The analysis calculates the effect on the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income of the reasonably possible change in currency rate against the Australian dollar with all other variables held constant.

	2018				2017			
Currency	Change in currency rate		Effect on net profit attributable to unitholders \$'000		Change in currency rate		Effect on net profit attributable to unitholders \$'000	
	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-
USD	10 %	-8 %	(505)	404	12 %	-8 %	(236)	157
Total			(505)	404			(236)	157

#### (ii) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rates will affect future cash flows or the fair value of financial instruments.

There was no significant direct interest rate risk in the Scheme as at 30 June 2018 (2017: Nil).

## NOTE 9 - FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

## (d) Market Risk (continued)

#### (iii) Equity and Other Price Risk

Equity and other price risk is the risk that the fair value of equities and unit prices decrease as a result of changes in market prices, whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual stock or factors affecting all instruments in the market.

To mitigate the impact of equity and other price risk the investment process ensures there is diversification of equity exposures within the Scheme. The IM monitors equity and other price risk for both the unlisted investment funds and the Scheme.

Changes in price as disclosed in this note are based on an analysis of the historical monthly price movements of the unlisted equity investments held by the Scheme at financial reporting date. These represent what is considered to be a reasonably possible change rather than extreme fluctuations that may occur from time to time. As such, actual future market movement may differ.

The effect on the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income due to reasonably possible changes in market prices, with all other variables held constant is indicated in the following table:

		2018				2017			
Category	Change	Change in price		Effect on net profit attributable to unitholders \$'000		Change in price		Effect on net profit attributable to unitholders \$'000	
	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	
Unlisted investment funds	3 %	-3 %	40,488	(40,488)	4 %	-4 %	63,575	(63,575)	
Total			40,488	(40,488)			63,575	(63,575)	

#### (e) Liquidity and Cash Flow Risk

Net assets attributable to unitholders are repayable subject to conditions as stated in the IM. Under the IM, the Trustee may, from time to time, reject applications (in whole or in part), impose conditions or restrictions on redemptions, or invest in cash in accordance with the Scheme's investment strategies and with the conditions surrounding its investments. In addition, the Scheme's policy is to maintain sufficient cash and cash equivalents to meet normal operating requirements.

In accordance with the Scheme's policies, the Scheme's cash flows are managed by the Investment Manager, NAB Asset Management Services Limited.

The Scheme's liabilities are expected to be settled within less than one month, except for underlying investment management performance fees which are settled annually.

## (f) Derivatives

The Scheme's derivative financial instruments are susceptible to market price risk arising from uncertainties about future prices of the instruments.

As at 30 June 2018, the overall direct market exposures were as follows:

	30 June 2	018	30 June 2	2017	
	Contract/Notional amount	Fair value	Contract/Notional amount	Fair value	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Derivative instruments held for trading					
- Forward foreign exchange contracts	58,105	(57,636)	17,039	15,545	
Total	58,105	(57,636)	17,039	15,545	

## NOTE 9 - FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

## (g) Fair value of Financial Instruments

The Scheme's financial assets and financial liabilities are measured at fair value at the end of each reporting period. The following table details how the fair values of these financial assets and financial liabilities are determined in particular, other than Level 1, the use of observable and unobservable inputs are applied.

Financial assets/(financial liabilities)	Fair Value Hierarchy	Valuation Techniques
Unlisted investment funds (e.g. unlisted managed investment schemes, partnerships and other securities)	I .	Valued at redemption price as established by the trustee/fund manager of the underlying trust/entity.
Foreign exchange forward contracts	2	Valued based on observable market data i.e. broker quoted prices

		2018		2017			
Financial Instruments	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Unlisted investment funds	-	1,349,615	-	-	1,589,385	-	
Foreign exchange forward contracts	-	(57,636)	-	-	15,545	-	
Total	-	1,291,979	-	ı	1,604,930	-	

There have been no movements into or out of Level 2 and Level 3 for the year ended 30 June 2018 and 30 June 2017.

## NOTE 10 - NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
(a) Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash flows from operating activities		
Net operating profit	37,650	65,204
Changes in the fair value of financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	(33,202)	(64,627)
Income reinvested	(2,036)	-
Changes in the assets and liabilities during the financial year:		
Increase in distribution receivable	(5,499)	(11,906)
Increase in investment management fee payable	277	222
Net cash (used in) operating activities	(2,810)	(11,107)

#### (b) Cash and Cash equivalents

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash at bank. Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

Cash at bank	307,629	180,957
	307 629	180 957

## NOTE 11 - CHANGES IN THE FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Net changes in the fair value of financial assets and liabilities through profit or loss:		
Held for trading	(28,299)	46,992
Designated at fair value through profit or loss	61,501	17,635
	33,202	64,627

## NOTE 12 - EVENTS OCCURING AFTER THE BALANCE DATE

There has not arisen in the interval between the year end and the date of this report any other item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Trustee, to significantly affect the operations of the Scheme, the result of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Scheme, in future financial years.

## **NOTE 13 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

The Scheme has no known commitments or contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2018 and 30 June 2017.

## Directors' declaration

In the opinion of the Directors of MLC Investments Limited, the Trustee of the Scheme:

The financial statements and notes set out on pages 3 to 17 are prepared in accordance with the requirements under the Scheme's Constitution, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the Scheme as at 30 June 2018 and its performance for the year ended on that date;
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards;
- (c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Scheme will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
- (d) the financial statements and notes also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as disclosed in Note 1(a).

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

Director:

Signature:

Dated at Sydney this 6th day of December 2018



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# Independent Auditor's Report to the Unitholders of Low Correlation Strategy Trust

# Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Low Correlation Strategy Trust, (the 'Scheme'), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statement, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Scheme as at 30 June 2018, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

# **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 Scheme in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

## Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information is the directors' report accompanying the financial report.

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

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

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



# Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Scheme are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards 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 Scheme's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Scheme or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Auditor's Responsibilities 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 influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

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

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



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

Ernst & Young

Darren Handley-Greaves

Partner Sydney

6 December 2018