# Frostro

### **Finsbury Growth & Income Trust PLC** Factsheet as at 30 November 2024

### **Investment Objective and Benchmark Index**

Finsbury Growth & Income Trust PLC invests principally in the securities of UK listed companies with the objective of achieving capital and income growth and providing a total return in excess of that of its benchmark, the FTSE All-Share Index (net dividends reinvested).

### **Five Year Performance (%)**

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed; An investor may receive back less than the original amount invested.



Net Asset Value per share (total return) +20.9% Benchmark: FTSE All-Share Index (net dividends reinvested) +32.2%

Source: Morningstar

### Ten Largest Holdings as at 30 November 2024 (% of total investments)

Name	Sector	Total
London Stock Exchange	Financials	13.2
Sage Group	Technology	12.9
RELX	Consumer Discretionary	12.3
Experian	Industrials	12.2
Unilever	Consumer Staples	11.6
Diageo	Consumer Staples	10.1
Rightmove	Consumer Discretionary	5.8
Hargreaves Lansdown	Financials	5.7
Schroders	Financials	4.2
Burberry Group	Consumer Discretionary	4.0
Total		92.0

### INDSELL TRAIN



Portfolio Manager Nick Train

Fast Facts	As at 30 November 2024						
Launch Date	1926						
AIC Sector	UK Equity Income						
Date of Appointmer December 2000	Date of Appointment of Lindsell Train:						
Annual Management Fee + (payable by the company)							
Ongoing Charges							
Year / interim end	/30 September 31 March						
Capital Structure	158,053,822 Ordinary shares of 25p 66,937,481 (in treasury)						
Number of Holdin	<b>gs</b> 22						
Net Assets (£m)	£1,528.2m						
Market Capitalisat							
Dividend Per Shar	r <b>e</b> ** 19.6p						
Current Net Yield	2.2%						
Gearing	1.7%						
Leverage***	Gross 101.7% Commitment 101.9%						
Share Price (p)	883.00						
NAV (p) (cum inco	ome) 966.86						
(Discount) / Prem	ium to NAV (8.7%)						
Portfolio Turnove	<b>r p.a.</b> 7.1%						
Active Share^	84.0%						

### Codes

Sedol	0781606				
ISIN	GB0007816068				
Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)					
	213800NN4ZKX2LG1GQ40				
Global Intermediary Identification Number (GIIN) QH4BH0.99999.SL.826					
Bloomberg	FGT LN				
EPIC	FGT				

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Sector Breakdown as at 30 November 2024 (%)					
Consumer Staples	25.8				
Financials	24.7				
Consumer Discretionary	23.7				
Industrials	12.9				
Technology	12.9				
Total	100.0				

Discrete Performance – Calendar Years (%)						
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
NAV	23.1	-2.0	13.0	-6.5	5.8	
Share Price	21.8	-0.7	6.9	-6.0	3.9	
Index	19.2	-9.8	18.3	0.3	7.9	

### **Standardised Discrete Performance (%)**

	1m	3m	YTD	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr	Since Manager Appointment**
NAV	5.8	5.4	8.4	12.5	12.2	20.9	118.4	693.6
Share Price	5.6	5.5	5.4	10.7	7.0	10.1	99.6	746.3
Index	2.5	-0.5	10.7	15.7	25.5	32.2	01.1	249.4

Source: Morningstar.

\* Index source: FTSE International Limited ("FTSE") © FTSE 2024

\*\*Cumulative since Manager appointment in December 2000

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# Return vs Volatility (Annualised since Appointment of Lindsell Train: December 2000) – Chart (%)



Dividend Growth – 5 Years History							
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024		
Dividend Rate	16.6p	17.1p	18.1p	19.0p	19.6p		
YoY% Growth	-	3.0	5.8	5.0	3.2		

\*Calculated at the financial year end, includes management fees and all other operating expenses.

\*\*1st Interim paid 17 May 24 :(Year ended Sep 24) 8.8p 2nd Interim paid 8 Nov 24 :(Year ended Sep 24) 10.8p

\*\*\*The Board has set the leverage limit for both the Gross and the Commitment basis at 125% of the Company's Net Asset Value.

<sup>†</sup>Lindsell Train – 0.45% pa of the Company's adjusted market capitalisation up to a value of £1 billion, such fee reducing to 0.405% pa of the Company's adjusted market capitalisation in excess of £1 billion up to a value of £2 billion, such fee reducing to 0.36% pa of the Company's adjusted market capitalisation in excess of £2 billion.

Frostrow – 0.15% pa of the Company's adjusted market capitalisation up to a value of £1 billion, such fee reducing to 0.135% pa of the Company's adjusted market capitalisation in excess of £1 billion up to a value of £2 billion, such fee reducing to 0.12% pa of the Company's adjusted market capitalisation in excess of £2 billion.

^Active Share is expressed as a percentage and shows the extent to which a fund's holdings and their weightings differ from those of the fund's benchmark index. A fund that closely tracks its index might have a low Active Share of less than 20% and be considered passive, while a fund with an Active Share of 60% or higher is generally considered to be actively managed.

#### **Investment Policy**

The Company has a concentrated portfolio of up to 30 stocks with a low turnover, and aims to provide shareholders with a total return in excess of that of the FTSE All-Share Index. The Portfolio Manager uses a bottom-up stock picking approach and looks to invest in a universe of excellent listed companies that appear mostly undervalued. Up to 20% of the portfolio, at the time of acquisition, can be invested in quoted companies outside the UK. The Company's policy is to invest no more than 15% of its gross assets in other listed investment companies (including listed investment trusts).

# Share Buy-back and Issuance Mechanism

The Directors have adopted a share buyback policy to establish and support an improved rating in the Company's shares through the use of share buybacks, with a view to limiting the discount to NAV per share at which the shares trade to no more than 5%. Shares bought back may be held in treasury for reissue at a later date and it is the intention of the Board that any re-sale of treasury shares would only take place at a premium to the NAV per share. In order to stop the share price trading at a significant premium to the NAV per share, the Company has the ability to issue new shares at a 0.7% premium to the NAV per share.

# Frostrow C A P I T A L

### Commentary

In November, the NAV was up 5.8% on a total return basis and the share price was up 5.6%, on a total return basis, while the index was up 2.5%.

Back in early September I wrote the paragraph below regarding Sage:

"The biggest detractor from performance last month was Sage, which fell 7%, caught up in the general sell-off in technology shares in August. It is true, Sage's 3rd Quarter trading update did not lead to analyst upgrades, though came in at 9% revenue growth, as forecast. Nonetheless, the news stories that Bloomberg reported about Sage through August were encouraging, we think. For instance, the story that Curemint, a platform solution provider to 2,000 Dental Support Organizations, is integrating with Sage Intacct, to ensure that its product "can work with the accounting software our customers use." Or LBMC Technology, a division of one of the biggest accountancy practices in the South East of the USA, has hired an executive specifically to help deploy Sage Intacct across LBMC's construction and real estate client base. Or, even more pertinently, Sage's own announcement of the roll-out of its successful US Accounts Payable Automation service globally, the first mid-market solution provider to offer this efficiency enhancing service outside the US. In the same news story, Sage reminded readers that in May 2024, Sage Intacct was TrustRadius' top-rated award-winner in 7 categories: Accounting, Accounts Payable, ERP, Invoicing, Non-Profit Accounting, Revenue Management and Subscription Management. If you have read this far you may think I am overscrutinizing developments at the company. But Sage is a £10bn market capitalization business (in other words a micro-cap by global standards) which appears to own a successful and scalable accounting product in the US, that it might, in addition, be able to deploy globally. That's a big prize and it is worth following developments at Sage closely, we think."

Certainly, I was correct to suggest it has been "worth following developments at Sage closely", because the shares were up 35% in November and hit all-time highs in the process. The apparently piffling granular details we observed in those August news stories coalesced into a set of full-year Sage results, which exceeded expectations and allowed the company to guide to accelerating revenue growth and margin expansion into 2025. The company reported record profits, with headcount lower than in 2021, underlining the increasing efficiency of its growth. Sage is now one of the biggest holdings in your Trust and is valued on 30x prospective earnings. That looks expensive by the standards of the UK stock market. However, as the company is keen to point out, it is not so expensive when compared to growing software companies listed on other stock markets. CEO Steve Hare was quoted shortly after the results as saying: "We are a global business, we have no problem getting access to capital; we have no problem recruiting people we need and, in fact, we also have no problem attracting US investors." In other words, Sage wishes and deserves to be valued compared to a global cohort of companies, and global or US investors are as likely to determine its valuation as UK institutions.

Sage operates in competitive markets, but it also has many opportunities to grow. It believes, in particular, that it has established a lead in developing an AI-powered accounting copilot that will save its customers time and money. If this and / or its other initiatives come to fruition, Sage shares are still meaningfully undervalued and could drive much more value for your Trust.

The top three absolute contributors to the Trust's performance in November were Sage, London Stock Exchange Group and Burberry and the top three absolute detractors were Schroders, Diageo and FeverTree.

\* Index source: FTSE International Limited ("FTSE") © FTSE 2024

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### How to Contact Us

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## Frostrow C A P I T A L

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### **Risk Warnings**

This document is for information purposes only and does not constitute an offer or invitation to purchase shares in the Company and has not been prepared in connection with any such offer or invitation. Before investing in the Company, or any other investment product, you should satisfy yourself as to its suitability and the risks involved, and you may wish to consult a financial adviser.

Any return you receive depends on future market performance and is uncertain. The Company does not seek any protection from future market performance so you could lose some or all of your investment. Shares of the Company are bought and sold on the London Stock Exchange (LSE). The price you pay or receive, like other listed shares, is determined by supply and demand and may be at a discount or premium to the underlying net asset value of the Company. Usually, at any given time, the price you pay for a share will be higher than the price you could sell it. For further information on the principal risks the Company is exposed to please refer to the Company's Annual Report or Investor Disclosure Document available at www.finsburygt.com.

The Company can borrow to purchase investments, this could potentially magnify any losses or gains made by the Company.

#### **Target Market**

The Company is suitable for investors seeking an investment that aims to deliver total returns over the longer term (at least five years), is compatible with the needs for retail clients, professional clients and eligible counterparties, and is eligible for all distribution channels.

The Company may not be suitable for investors who are concerned about short-term volatility and performance, have low or no risk tolerance or are looking for capital protection, who are seeking a guaranteed or regular income, or a predictable return profile. The Company does not offer capital protection.

#### Value Assessment

Frostrow Capital LLP has conducted an annual Value Assessment on the Company in line with Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) rules set out in the Consumer Duty regulation. The Assessment focuses on the nature of the product, including benefits received and its quality, limitations that are part of the product, expected total costs to clients and target market considerations.

Within this, the assessment considers quality of services, performance of the Company (against both benchmark and peers), total fees (including management fees and entry and exit fees as applicable to the Company), and also considers whether vulnerable consumers are able to receive fair value from the product.

Frostrow Capital LLP concluded that the Company is providing value based on the above assessment.

#### **Important Information**

Finsbury Growth & Income Trust PLC (the Company) is a public limited company whose shares are listed on the LSE and is registered with HMRC as an investment trust. The Company has an indeterminate life.

This financial promotion is issued by Frostrow Capital LLP which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA").