

Phoenix Portfolios

# **Cromwell Phoenix Opportunities Fund**

ARSN 602 776 536

# **Half–Year Financial Report**

31 DECEMBER 2024

Responsible entity: Cromwell Funds Management Limited ABN 63 114 782 777 AFSL 333 214 Level 10, 100 Creek Street Brisbane QLD 4000

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#### DIRECTORY

Responsible entity: Cromwell Funds Management Limited ABN 63 114 782 777 AFSL 333 214 Level 10, 100 Creek Street Brisbane QLD 4000 Tel: +61 7 3225 7777 Email: invest@cromwell.com.au Web: www.cromwell.com.au

Custodian: MUFG Pension & Market Services Level 12, 680 George Street Sydney NSW 2000 Tel: +61 2 8280 5000 Email: info@mpms.mufg.com Web: www.mpms.mufg.com

Auditor: Pitcher Partners Level 38, Central Plaza One 345 Queen Street Brisbane QLD 4000 Tel: +61 7 3222 8444 Web: www.pitcher.com.au

# Directors' Report

The Directors of Cromwell Funds Management Limited (CFM) the responsible entity of Cromwell Phoenix Opportunities Fund (the Fund), present their report at the end of the half-year ended 31 December 2024.

## The responsible entity and its directors

Cromwell Funds Management Limited has been the responsible entity of the Fund since its registration. Cromwell Funds Management Limited is part of Cromwell Property Group, a real estate investment manager with \$4.5 billion of assets under management. The responsible entity undertakes management and administrative duties for the Fund and monitors the Custodian, MUFG Pension & Market Services, which holds the Fund's assets on behalf of the unitholders.

The responsible entity's directors are as follows (collectively referred to as "the Directors"):

Ms TL Cox	Non-executive Chair	Appointed 14 January 2021, Chair since 14 January 2021
Ms LJC Crombie	Non-executive Director	Appointed 30 June 2022
Ms RJ Lloyd	Non-executive Director	Appointed 18 July 2022
Mr GG Ross	Non-executive Director	Appointed 18 July 2022

### Review of operations and results

#### Financial performance

The Fund recorded a statutory profit of \$4,730,000 for the half-year ended 31 December 2024 (2023: \$4,022,000) and declared distributions of \$442,000 (2023: \$590,000).

The following table shows the Fund's	performance against its benchmark index since the Fund's in	ception:

	Half-year	1 year	3 years (annualised)	5 years (annualised)	Since inception (annualised)
Fund performance excluding franking (after fees and costs)	10.3%	11.5%	4.9%	13.2%	15.8%
Fund performance including franking (after fees and costs)	10.9%	13.0%	6.9%	15.3%	17.6%
S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index	5.5%	8.4%	-1.6%	4.0%	5.5%
Excess return (after fees and costs excluding franking credits)	4.8%	3.1%	6.5%	9.2%	10.3%

The Cromwell Phoenix Opportunities Fund delivered a 10.3% return for the six months ending 31 December 2024. The Fund's performance was positively influenced by its investments in Catapult Group (CAT), Korvest, and SDI Limited. CAT was the largest contributor, with its share price rising 96.3% over the half year, following an extremely strong half-year result announced in November that included a 20% year-on-year increase in Annualised Contract Value (on a constant currency basis) and an extremely strong incremental revenue profit margin. Holdings in Mount Gibson Iron, Matrix Composites and Engineering, and Hillgrove Resources detracted from portfolio performance.

#### Likely results and expected results of operations

The activities of the Fund are regulated by the Fund's constitution. Owing to the limitations on the scope of activities contained in the constitution, future activities of the Fund will be predominately confined to investments in ASX listed small capitalisation securities to provide a mixture of income and capital growth to investors.

The results of the Fund's operations will be affected by a number of factors, including the performance of investment markets in which the Fund invests and other global economic impacts (such as global geopolitical instability and tightened monetary policy). Investment performance is not guaranteed and future returns may differ from past returns. As investment conditions change over time, past returns should not be used to predict future returns.

# Directors' Report

### Value of scheme assets

The total carrying value of the Fund's assets as at the end of the reporting period was \$50,355,000 (30 June 2024: \$46,726,000). The Fund held investments valued at \$47,506,000 (30 June 2024: \$45,421,000) and net assets attributable to unitholders of \$49,528,000 (30 June 2024: \$46,550,000) at balance date. This represents net tangible assets of \$2.48 (30 June 2024: \$2.27) per unit, before any allowance for selling costs.

### Subsequent events

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 31 December 2024 that has significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- the Fund's operations in future financial years; or
- the results of those operations in future financial years; or
- the Fund's state of affairs in future financial years.

### **Rounding of amounts**

In accordance with ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191 amounts in these financial statements have been rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars, or in certain cases to the nearest dollar.

## Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) accompanies this report on page 5.

This report is made pursuant to section 306(3) of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).

Ms TL Cox

Chair 14 March 2025 Sydney



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The Directors Cromwell Funds Management Limited As Responsible Entity for Cromwell Phoenix Opportunities Fund Level 10, 100 Creek Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

#### Auditor's Independence Declaration

In relation to the independent auditor's review for the half year ended 31 December 2024, to the best of my knowledge and belief there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001; and
- no contraventions of APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards).

tcher Partners

PITGHER PARTNERS

CHERYL MASON Partner

Brisbane, Queensland 14 March 2025



Adelaide | Brisbane | Melbourne | Newcastle | Perth | Sydney

V									
Nigel Fischer	Jason Evans	Brett Headrick	Simon Chun	James Field	Felicity Crimston	Murray Graham	Edward Fletcher	Tracey Norris	
Mark Nicholson	Kylle Lamprecht	Warwick Face	Jeremy Jones	Daniel Colwell	Cheryl Mason	Andrew Robin	Robert Hughes	-	
Peter Camenzuli	Norman Thurecht	Cole Wilkinson	Tom Splatt	Robyn Cooper	Kleran Wallis	Karen Levine	Ventura Caso		

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# Statement of Profit or Loss For the half-year ended 31 December 2024

	Γ	Half-year	ar ended	
	Note	31 December 2024 \$'000	31 December 2023 \$'000	
Investment and other income				
Distributions and dividend income	4c	968	1,492	
Interest and other income		21	11	
Net fair value gain from investments in equity securities	4b	4,890	3,071	
Total investment and other income		5,879	4,574	
Expenses				
Fund performance fees	7	1,091	493	
Other expenses		58	59	
Total expenses		1,149	552	
Profit for the half-year		4,730	4,022	
Other comprehensive income for the half-year		-	-	
Total comprehensive income for the half-year		4,730	4,022	

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

# Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2024

		As a	at
		31 December	30 June
		2024	2024
	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		2,456	710
Receivables	3	393	595
Investments at fair value through profit or loss	4	47,506	45,421
Total assets		50,355	46,726
Liabilities			
Payables		407	125
Distribution payable		420	51
Total liabilities		827	176
Net assets		49,528	46,550
Equity			
Contributed equity	5	35,796	37,106
Retained earnings		13,732	9,444
Total equity		49,528	46,550

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# Statement of Changes in Equity For the half-year ended 31 December 2024

Profit for the half-year

Units issued:

Units redeemed

Distributions paid / payable

Other comprehensive income for the half-year

Reinvestment of distributions

Total transactions with unitholders

Balance at 31 December 2023

Transactions with unitholders in their capacity as unitholders:

	Contributed	Retained	
	equity	earnings	Total
Notes	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	37,106	9,444	46,550
	-	4,730	4,730
	-	-	-
5	44	-	44
5	(1,354)	-	(1,354)
2	-	(442)	(442)
	(1,310)	(442)	(1,752)
	35,796	13,732	49,528
Г			
	Contributed	Retained	
	equity	earnings	Total
Notes	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	37,897	6,328	44,225
	5 5 2	equity \$'000   37,106   -   -   -   -   5   44   5   (1,354)   2   -   35,796   Notes   Contributed equity \$'000	Notes equity \$'000 earnings \$'000   37,106 9,444   - 4,730   - -   5 44   5 (1,354)   2 -   (1,310) (442)   35,796 13,732   Notes Contributed equity \$'000 Retained earnings \$'000

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The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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(590)

9,760

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729

(752)

(23) 37,874

4,022

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729

(752)

(590)

(613)

47,634

# Statement of Cash Flows For the half-year ended 31 December 2024

	Half-year	ended
	31 December 2024 \$'000	31 December 2023 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Distributions and dividends received	1,000	765
Interest and other income received	21	11
Performance fees paid	(1,171)	-
Expenses paid	(32)	(54)
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	(182)	722
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payments for investments at fair value through profit or loss	(13,558)	(13,876)
Proceeds from sale of investments at fair value through profit or loss	16,986	13,865
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	3,428	(11)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Payment for units redeemed	(1,471)	(722)
Payment of distributions	(29)	(369)
Net cash used in financing activities	(1,500)	(1,091)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	1,746	(380)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	710	1,015
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	2,456	635

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

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the half-year ended 31 December 2024

## 1. Basis of preparation

The half-year financial report of Cromwell Phoenix Opportunities Fund (the Fund) for the half-year reporting period ended 31 December 2024 is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth). The financial report is designed to provide an update on the Fund's financial performance and financial position since the last annual financial report was issued. This financial report therefore does not include all the notes normally included in an annual financial report and needs to be read in conjunction with the annual financial report for the year ended 30 June 2024. The Fund is a for-profit entity for the purposes of preparing financial statements.

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the half-year financial report are consistent with those adopted and disclosed in the Fund's annual financial report for the year ended 30 June 2024. These accounting policies are consistent with applicable Australian accounting standards and with international financial reporting standards.

The balance sheet 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 at fair value through profit or loss and net assets attributable to unitholders.

The Fund manages financial assets at fair value through profit or loss based on the economic circumstances at any given point in time, as well as to meet any liquidity requirements. As such, it is expected that a portion of the portfolio will be realised within 12 months, however, an estimate of that amount cannot be determined as at balance date.

In the case of net assets attributable to unitholders, the units are redeemable on demand at the unitholder's option. However, holders of these instruments typically retain them for the medium to long term. As such, the amount expected to be settled within twelve months cannot be reliably determined.

The financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis.

#### Rounding of amounts

In accordance with ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191 amounts in these financial statements have been rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars, or in certain cases to the nearest dollar.

#### Continuous disclosure

Continuous disclosure and updates on the Fund's performance and events significant to the Fund are provided on Cromwell's webpage at https://www.cromwell.com.au/investment-options/fully-subscribed-funds/cromwell-phoenix-opportunities-fund.

#### Segment information

The Fund operates in one operating segment, being investment in ASX listed small capitalisation securities and unlisted equity securities. The Fund earns dividends and derives capital appreciation from investments in ASX listed and unlisted equity securities.

## a) Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis and are based on historical or professional experience and other factors such as expectations about future events. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in any future periods affected.

At 31 December 2024 and 30 June 2024 the only assets carried at fair value are investments at fair value through profit or loss. Refer note 4 and note 6 for further information.

## b) New and amended accounting standards and interpretations adopted by the Fund

The Fund has adopted all applicable new Australian accounting standards and interpretations. Any new standards or amendments adopted in the current period do not have a material impact on the financial statements.

Any new relevant accounting standards and interpretations that have been issued or amended but are not yet effective and have not been adopted by the Fund are unlikely to have any material impact on the Fund.

## 2. Distributions

#### a) Overview

Distributions to unitholders are paid quarterly. When calculating the amount of a quarterly distribution, all income, after fees, except for capital gains are distributed. Net capital gains are distributed at least once a year.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the half-year ended 31 December 2024

## b) Distributions paid / payable

The distribution history of the Fund may be viewed on Cromwell's webpage www.cromwell.com.au/pof. Total distributions paid / payable during the half-year were as follows:

31 December	24 December	
	31 December	
2024	2023	
\$'000	\$'000	
442	590	
	\$'000	<b>\$'000</b>

## 3. Receivables

## a) Overview

Receivables of the Fund generally consist of distributions and dividends receivable from its investment, unsettled sales and other receivables such as withholding tax receivable and Goods and Services Tax (GST).

	31 December	30 June
	2024	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Distributions and dividends receivable	61	93
Unsettled sales <sup>(1)</sup>	156	406
Other receivables	176	96
Total receivables	393	595

(1) Unsettled sales represent sale of equity securities prior to period-end, which settled subsequent to period-end.

## 4. Investments at fair value through profit or loss

## a) Overview

The Fund primarily invests in a concentrated portfolio of ASX listed small capitalisation securities ("microcaps") that are selected using a value orientated 'best ideas' investment philosophy. As at 31 December 2024 the investments of the Fund were primarily comprised of securities listed on the ASX.

## b) Investment details

As at period end the Fund held the following investments:

	As	at
	31 December	30 June
	2024 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Listed equity securities	46,466	44,242
Unlisted equity securities	1,040	1,179
Total investments	47,506	45,421

For accounting purposes, the Fund's investments in listed and unlisted securities are classified as investments at fair value through profit or loss with fair value gains or losses recognised in profit or loss. For further details about the fair value measurement of these financial assets refer to note 6. During the period the Fund recognised fair value gains of \$4,890,000 (2023: \$3,071,000).

## c) Distributions and dividend income

Dividend and distribution income from investments at fair value through profit or loss is recognised in the statement of profit or loss within distributions and dividend income when the Fund's right to receive payments is established. During the period the Fund recognised distributions and dividend income of \$968,000 (2023: \$1,492,000) from its investments at fair value through profit or loss.

Tor the hair-year ended 51 December 2024

# 5. Contributed equity

## a) Overview

The Fund commenced in December 2011 as a wholly owned fund of the Cromwell Property Group. It commenced accepting unit applications from external investors in December 2014. From 26 January 2018 the Fund no longer accepts applications. However, existing investors can redeem units and may reinvest distributions.

Units are issued and redeemed by the Fund at a unit price determined in accordance with the responsible entity's Unit Pricing Policy. Per the Australian Securities and Investments Commission ("ASIC") and the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority's ("APRA") Unit Pricing: Guide to Good Practice, investors will receive compensation for any material unit pricing errors. In accordance with these guidelines the Fund does not pay exited members compensation for material unit pricing errors where the amount of any compensation payable is less than \$20.

## (b) Movements in contributed equity

	#'000	\$'000
Balance at 1 July 2023	20,888	37,897
Distribution reinvestments	345	729
Units redeemed	(350)	(752)
Balance at 31 December 2023	20,883	37,874
Distribution reinvestments	214	550
Units redeemed	(557)	(1,318)
Balance at 30 June 2024	20,540	37,106
Distribution reinvestments	19	44
Units redeemed	(564)	(1,354)
Balance at 31 December 2024	19,995	35,796

## 6. Fair value disclosures – financial instruments

## a) Fair value measurement of financial instruments

The Fund uses a number of methods to determine the fair value of its financial assets and financial liabilities. The methods comprise the following:

Level 1:	quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
Level 2:	inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices).
Level 3:	inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

The Fund measures and recognises the following financial instruments at fair value on a recurring basis as either Level 1 (quoted market prices) or Level 2 (inputs other than quoted prices). There are no level 3 investments.

- Listed equity investments at Level 1, where quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets; and
- Unlisted equity securities at Level 2, where inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset, either directly (that is, as prices) or indirectly (that is, derived from prices).

Valuation techniques used to derive Level 1 fair values

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

The measurement of the fair value of the Fund's investments in listed equity securities is a Level 1 measurement. The Fund's Listed equity investments are ASX listed securities with the fair value being determined by reference to the quoted ASX closing price.

Valuation techniques used to derive Level 2 fair values

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise the use of observable market data, and rely as little as possible on entity specific estimates. If all significant inputs required to fair value an instrument are observable, the instrument is included in Level 2.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the half-year ended 31 December 2024

The measurement of the fair value of the Fund's investments in unlisted equity securities is a Level 2 measurement. These investments are comprised of holdings in a delisted ASX company. The fair value of these financial assets is based upon the net tangible assets as publicly reported by the underlying unlisted entity, adjusted for inherent risk where appropriate.

#### b) Fair values of other financial instruments not measured at fair value

The carrying amounts of receivables, payables and distributions payable are assumed to approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature.

## 7. Fund performance fees

The responsible entity does not charge a base management fee. Instead it charges a performance fee of 20% of the Fund's cumulative gross return in excess of the high water mark. The performance fee is calculated prior to accruing the performance fee or declaring any distribution for the relevant month. The high water mark is the highest cumulative gross return of the Fund. This ensures that any previous underperformance has been recovered before the responsible entity is entitled to a performance fee. During the period the responsible entity charged a performance fee of \$1,091,000 (2023: \$493,000).

## 8. Unrecognised items

#### a) Overview

Items that have not been recognised on the Fund's balance sheet include contractual commitments for future expenditure and contingent liabilities which are not sufficiently certain to qualify for recognition as a liability on the balance sheet. This note provides details of any such items.

#### b) Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

As disclosed in the Fund's 30 June 2024 annual financial report, the Directors are not aware of any material contingent assets or contingent liabilities and the Directors are not aware of any material changes in contingent assets or contingent liabilities of the Fund since the last annual financial report.

## c) Commitments

At period end the Fund does not have any material expenditure commitments. There was no change since the Fund's last annual financial report.

## 9. Subsequent events

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 31 December 2024 that has significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- the Fund's operations in future financial years; or
- the results of those operations in future financial years; or
- the Fund's state of affairs in future financial years.

# **Directors' Declaration**

In the opinion of the Directors of Cromwell Funds Management Limited as responsible entity for Cromwell Phoenix Opportunities Fund (collectively referred to as the Directors):

- (a) the attached financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth), including:
  - (i) complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 Interim Financial Reporting and the Corporations Regulations 2001 (Cth), and
  - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date;
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This report is made pursuant to section 303(5) of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).

Ms TL Cox

Chair

14 March 2025

Sydney



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## Independent Auditor's Review Report To the Members of Cromwell Phoenix Opportunities Fund

#### **Report on the Half-Year Financial Report**

#### Conclusion

We have reviewed the half-year financial report of Cromwell Phoenix Opportunities Fund ("Fund") which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 December 2024, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the half-year ended on that date, a summary of accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors of the responsible entity's declaration.

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

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Trust's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 Interim Financial Reporting and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

#### **Basis for Conclusion**

We conducted our review in accordance with ASRE 2410 Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity. Our responsibilities are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Review of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the annual financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001* which has been given to the directors of the responsible entity, would be in the same terms if given to the directors of the responsible entity as at the time of this auditor's review report.

#### Responsibility of the Directors of the Responsible Entity for the Financial Report

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

Adelaide   Brisbane   Melbourne   Newcastle   Perth   Sydney								<b>bakertilly</b>	
Nigel Fischer	Jason Evans	Brett Headrick	Simon Chun	James Field	Felicity Crimston	Murray Graham	Edward Fletcher	Tracey Norris	
Mark Nicholson	Kylle Lamprecht	Warwick Face	Jeremy Jones	Daniel Colwell	Cheryl Mason	Andrew Robin	Robert Hughes		
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#### Auditor's Responsibility for the Review of the Financial Report

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

A review of a half-year financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Partners

PITCHER PARTNERS

CHERYL MASON Partner

Brisbane, Queensland 14 March 2025

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