



# RATHBONE GREENBANK GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE BOND FUND

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**“WE BELIEVE IN DOING THE RIGHT THING –  
MAKING INVESTMENT CHOICES THAT WE  
BELIEVE CAN HELP SUSTAIN THE WELLBEING  
OF OUR PLANET AND ITS PEOPLE.  
WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THIS MINDSET WILL  
HELP OUR CLIENTS MEET THEIR  
LONG-TERM FINANCIAL GOALS.”**

**Bryn Jones and Stuart Chilvers**  
Fund Managers





# WHY INVEST WITH US?

**RATHBONES ASSET MANAGEMENT IS A UK-BASED, LEADING ACTIVE ASSET MANAGER.**

In September 2023, Investec Wealth & Investment UK became part of the Rathbones Group, securing the Group's position as the UK's largest discretionary wealth manager.

Our firm has created a responsible business framework that's its blueprint for delivering long-term returns for our clients in a sustainable way. This framework recognises that the environment, society and financial stability are connected. We believe that embedding environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria in our investment decision-making helps us better manage risks and identify promising investment opportunities.

Our dedicated ethical, sustainable and impact (ESI) investment unit Greenbank has been at the forefront of developments in ESI investing for well over 20 years. Its research team provides our sustainable funds with independent analysis of the sustainability credentials of the companies and entities they invest in, giving an important extra level of investment diligence.

# WHY CHOOSE OUR GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE BOND FUND?

**THE GLOBAL FIXED INCOME (BOND) MARKET IS HUGE – WELL OVER THREE TIMES THE SIZE OF THE GLOBAL EQUITY MARKET.**

Our fund can go anywhere across this deep and broad market to identify the best investments for building a well-diversified portfolio of responsibly screened global corporate and government bonds. More and more governments, businesses and other entities are now issuing bonds that earmark funds to promote sustainable practices (like producing renewable energy). This gives us many opportunities to put money behind projects and businesses supporting a more sustainable future.

Governments, businesses and other organisations around the world face growing scrutiny over their environmental footprints and social impact. Those perceived as falling short of sustainable standards risk becoming less attractive to customers and investors. We believe that means those with strong profiles on material sustainability issues have the potential to outperform those with poor profiles: building a sustainable future and good long-term investment returns can go hand in hand.

Our investment team, backed by the impressive resources of Greenbank, arguably has one of the strongest track records in investing responsibly in bonds. Fund manager Bryn Jones has managed the Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund - one of the most popular funds of its kind in the UK - for almost 20 years. That fund has successfully navigated many different market environments, winning numerous awards and accolades along the way.

**20+YR**  
**Track record of Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund**





# MEET OUR TEAM

## WE BELIEVE TRUE COLLABORATION DRIVES BETTER INVESTMENT OUTCOMES.

Everyone working on our Rathbone Greenbank Global Sustainable Bond Fund recognises that success depends on how effectively they share their knowledge and insights, learn from one another and reflect the input and expertise of people with diverse views and backgrounds.

Fund manager Bryn Jones is head of fixed income at Rathbones. He joined the firm in 2004 and has managed our Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund for most of the 20+ years since it first launched. He also manages the Rathbone Strategic Bond Fund. Bryn has won numerous awards and accolades during his career. He is a long-standing champion of responsible investing and is vocal in advancing its regulation and governance - for example, he took part in and influenced the lengthy consultation process that preceded the UK's first-ever issuance of green sovereign bonds ('green gilts') in 2021.

Fund manager Stuart Chilvers joined us in September 2017. Together with Bryn, he manages the Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund and the Rathbone Strategic Bond Fund, and he is the lead manager of the Rathbone High Quality Bond Fund. Stuart won the CISI Financial Markets & CISI Chartered Wealth Manager Qualification awards at the annual CISI awards in 2016 and 2017 respectively and was named in the 2018 Citywire Top 30 under 30 investment management awards.

Bryn and Stuart are supported by a five-strong team of credit analysts. Two of these analysts - Elisa Bellantonio and Emmanouil Makrygiannakis - focus entirely on Rathbones Asset Management, including our Rathbone Greenbank Global Sustainable Bond Fund.

### OUR MANAGERS



**BRYN JONES**  
Head of Fixed Income



**STUART CHILVERS**  
Fund Manager

### OUR ANALYSTS



**ELISA BELLANTONIO**  
Credit Analyst



**EMMANOUIL MAKRYGIANNAKIS**  
Credit Analyst



**ADOO NARANG**  
Credit Analyst



**SARRA HAMIZI**  
Senior Fixed Income  
Research Analyst



**SALLY HOANG**  
Fixed Income Research Analyst





# THE ETHICAL, SUSTAINABLE AND IMPACT RESEARCH TEAM

GREENBANK’S RESEARCH PROVIDES AN EXTRA LEVEL OF INVESTMENT DILIGENCE.

Greenbank’s ESI research team, headed by Kate Elliot, uses its skill and decades of experience in ESI investments to assess not only the harmful effects to people and the planet posed by potential fund holdings, but also how the operations and initiatives of the businesses, companies and other entities the fund invests in can improve the world. The team’s analysis is complemented by active engagement with companies, regulators and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Greenbank’s ESI research team has a final veto from a sustainability perspective on any holdings included in the Rathbone Greenbank Global Sustainable Bond Fund to ensure they are truly sustainable.

### OUR AWARDS



**KATE ELLIOT**  
Head of Ethical, Sustainable and Impact Research



**SOPHIE LAWRENCE**  
Stewardship and Engagement Lead



**PERRY RUDD**  
Ethical Sustainable and Impact Research Adviser



**EMMA WILLIAMS**  
Senior Ethical Sustainable and Impact Researcher



**KAI JOHNS**  
Senior Ethical Sustainable and Impact Researcher



**KATHERINE FARR**  
Assistant Ethical Sustainable and Impact Researcher



**CHARLIE YOUNG**  
Assistant Ethical Sustainable and Impact Researcher



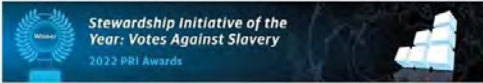


# THE STEWARDSHIP AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE RESEARCH TEAM

OUR STEWARDSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR INVESTMENT APPROACH.

As lenders of capital through corporate and government bonds, we believe we can play an important role in promoting responsible investment by encouraging bond issuers to improve their ESG risk management or to develop more sustainable business practices and economic growth models. Rathbones' four-strong stewardship and corporate governance research team, headed by Matt Crossman, drives this engagement with companies. They back this engagement up with a carefully considered voting policy at company annual general meetings.

## OUR AWARDS



**MATT CROSSMAN**  
Stewardship Director



**ARCHIE PEARSON**  
ESG and Voting Analyst



**KAZUKI SHAW**  
Junior ESG Analyst



**TILIA ASTELL**  
Junior ESG and  
Stewardship Analyst







**“EXCLUDING BONDS THAT AREN’T ALIGNED WITH SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IS ONLY PART OF OUR INVESTMENT PROCESS. OUR STARTING POINT IS TO PUT MONEY BEHIND PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES THAT CAN BRING REAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL BENEFITS.”**

**Bryn Jones and Stuart Chilvers**  
Fund Managers

## HOW OUR FUND INVESTS

**WE BELIEVE IN THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPANIES, GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER ENTITIES OPERATING IN A WAY THAT ENABLES THEIR LONG-TERM SUCCESS WITHOUT CAUSING HARM TO CURRENT OR FUTURE GENERATIONS OR BY EXHAUSTING OUR PLANET’S NATURAL RESOURCES.**

Equally, we want to identify the best investment opportunities we can find among the growing number of bonds that are issued to fund sustainable businesses or to address specific environmental and social challenges, such as climate change or inequality.

In short, we seek out investments that support progress towards a more sustainable world.

To pursue that goal, we take a highly active approach to investing in a very broad investment universe that spans global investment-grade corporate bonds, as well as government bonds and also lower-rated high yield corporate bonds and emerging market debt.

Our investment approach combines ‘top-down’ perspectives (identifying value at the country, industry and sector level) with rigorous ‘bottom-up’ analysis (scrutinising the relative attractions of individual issuers and bonds).

Corporate bonds are the core of our fund: we deploy our tried-and-tested ‘four Cs plus’ approach to credit selection. This looks at whether the management teams of companies issuing a bond have integrity and competence (‘character’) and

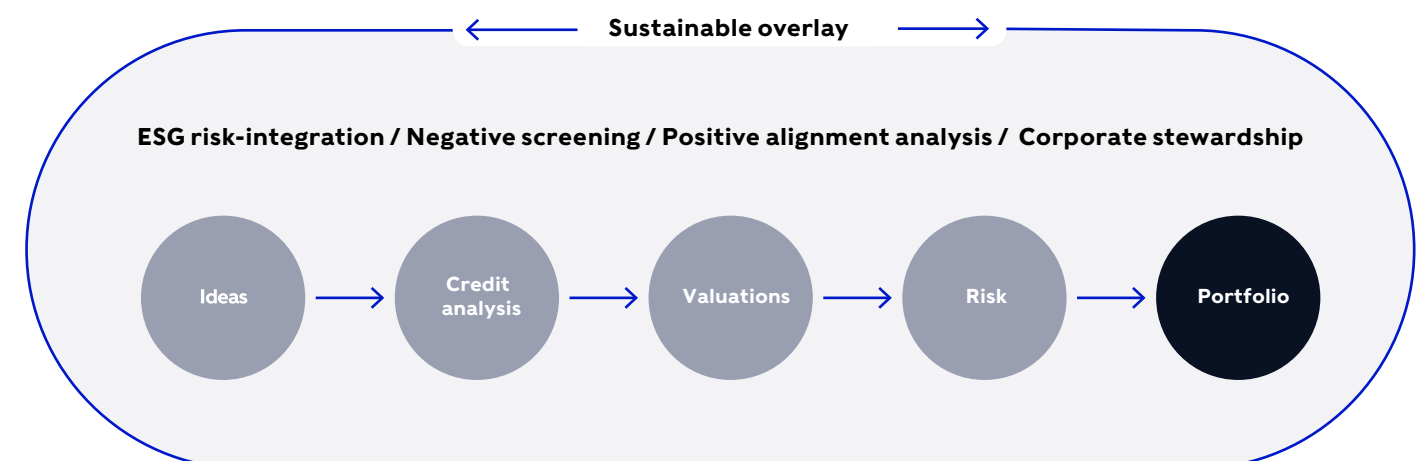
whether they are avoiding over-borrowing (‘capacity’). We examine the assets offered specifically as security against the borrowing, as well as other assets that may be managed by the company (‘collateral’). We also assess the agreements that define the terms of a company’s debt (‘covenants’).

We don’t invest in bonds simply because they’re an important part of a specific bond market index – our highly active approach means we may choose to take significant positions in bonds that many other funds may not hold.

Our credit work involves screening out investments in businesses directly linked to alcohol, armaments, tobacco, gambling, nuclear energy, pornography, and those that are detrimental to animal welfare, human rights and the environment, as well as those with high carbon emissions.

We combine this negative screening with positive screening to ensure our investments are aligned with pre-determined sustainability criteria. (You can learn more about these criteria on page 20.)

### OUR INVESTMENT PROCESS





# THE GREENBANK STORY

**GREENBANK HAS BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF ESI INVESTMENTS FOR WELL OVER 20 YEARS, LAUNCHING ONE OF THE UK’S FIRST EVER BESPOKE ETHICAL PORTFOLIO SERVICES.**

As an early leader in sustainable investment, Greenbank has been pushing for positive change through active engagement since its foundation with companies on issues ranging from modern slavery to climate change.

Greenbank’s ESI research team provides the Rathbone Greenbank Global Sustainable Bond Fund with independent analysis of the sustainability credentials of the governments, companies and entities whose securities it invests in. The team’s proprietary research database comprises ESG and sustainability profiles on governments, companies and other entities, ensuring our fund only invests in approved entities that are aligned with sustainable practices.

Greenbank’s analysis draws on the huge amount of data now available on businesses and other entities’ sustainability credentials. The quality of that data is constantly improving, but the team’s human judgement is vital in understanding and evaluating its credibility. They meet with companies all the time to discuss things like apparent data inconsistencies or areas for improvement in policies, practices and reporting. Greenbank’s analysis also benefits from their very long-standing relationships with many non-governmental organisations (NGOs) pursuing specific sustainability goals.

Greenbank’s ESI research team is the final arbiter on whether an investment passes the fund’s sustainability criteria and is therefore eligible for inclusion in the fund. The team monitors our fund holdings for their ongoing suitability as new governments are elected, or companies change their activities, merge with others, or develop new policies and practices.

**20+YR**

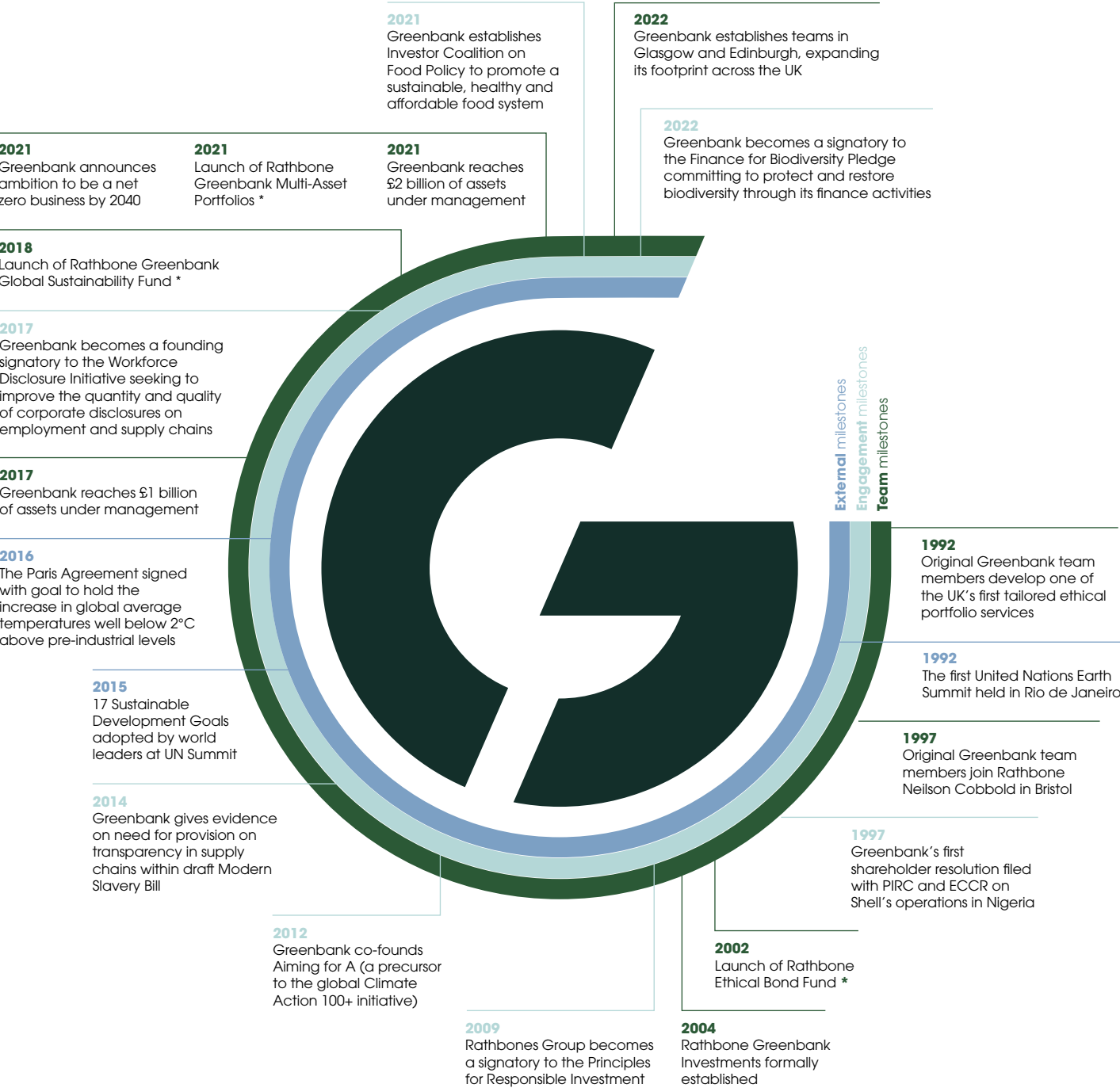
**Greenbank has been at the  
forefront of ESI investments**

**“AT GREENBANK, WE SEEK TO BUILD A TRULY  
DETAILED AND HOLISTIC UNDERSTANDING OF  
SUSTAINABILITY RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES.  
WE GO BEYOND DATA AND RATINGS  
TO UNDERSTAND EACH INVESTMENT’S  
POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON THE WORLD.”**

**Kate Elliot**  
Head of Greenbank’s Ethical,  
Sustainable and Impact Research Team



# A LONG HERITAGE IN ETHICAL, SUSTAINABLE AND IMPACT INVESTMENT



\*Managed by Rathbones Asset Management; screening services provided by Greenbank





# OUR SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA



## IN SEPTEMBER 2015, THE UN LAUNCHED ITS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs).

These comprise 17 goals, with 169 underlying targets that aim to “end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all” by 2030. The SDGs provide a comprehensive framework for international action on the many social and environmental challenges facing the world.

Greenbank has mapped the SDGs to a set of eight sustainable development themes and a number of underlying sub-themes. These ultimately share similar ambitions to the SDGs, but focus on those areas most relevant to investors. We use them to determine the potential for individual bond issuers to successfully convert their aspirations into tangible results.

This serves a clear purpose: we want to invest in bonds that not only satisfy strict sustainability criteria, but can also result in positive outcomes for our planet and its people. By doing so, our fund aims to deliver long-term sustainable returns.

## GREENBANK’S EIGHT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THEMES

										
	Habitats and ecosystems	Resource efficiency	Decent work	Inclusive economies		Energy and climate	Health and wellbeing	Innovation and infrastructure	Resilient institutions	
Ambition for action	Preserve and enhance natural systems by encouraging companies to have a net positive impact on biodiversity.	Promote a circular economy that supports sustainable levels of consumption.	Ensure proper emphasis on the quality of jobs being created and maintained alongside their quantity.	Promote an equitable economy in which there is expanded opportunity for shared prosperity.		Support decarbonisation aligned to the goals of the Paris Agreement on climate change.	Ensure companies do not undermine the health of their beneficiaries and encourage improved health outcomes.	Support infrastructure that is fit to achieve broader planetary and societal goals.	Strengthen well-functioning institutions that protect the rule of law and fundamental rights.	Ambition for action
	  	 	 	        		 	  	   	 	

\*to find out more visit: [sdgs.un.org/goals](https://sdgs.un.org/goals)



# EXCLUSIONS AND NEGATIVE SCREENS

WE SCREEN BOTH CORPORATE AND GOVERNMENT BONDS.

**Corporate bonds**

The fund applies screening criteria to avoid investing in:

- Companies involved in specific activities or engaged in behaviour that is of general concern to ethical investors
- Companies that create significant negative impacts that we believe are incompatible with sustainable development

Areas of concern include:

- Alcohol, tobacco, pornography or gambling
- Animal welfare violations
- Armaments
- Extraction of oil, gas and thermal coal
- Nuclear power
- Poor management of employment, environmental or human rights risks

**Government bonds**

We don't regard all government bonds as suitable for inclusion in our fund. For us to invest in their bonds, issuing governments must show they meet high standards in at least three of the following four areas: civil and political freedom; corruption; military expenditure; and commitment to combating climate change.

You can find more details in 'The Rathbone Greenbank Global Sustainable Bond Fund Sustainability Process' [here](#).

# INCLUSIONS AND POSITIVE SCREENS

WE AIM TO INVEST IN THE BONDS OF ISSUERS WITH STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE POLICIES AND PRACTICES.

**Corporate bonds**

To qualify for inclusion in the fund, companies that pass the negative screen must also show that they're aligned with one or more of Greenbank's eight sustainability themes through what they do or how they operate.

**Green, social and sustainability bonds**

More and more governments, businesses and other entities now issue bonds that earmark funds to achieve specific environmental and social objectives. When it comes to screening these bonds, we look at both the sustainability profile of the bond issuer and the checks and balances in place to ensure that the money raised is used as intended.

Again, you can find more details [here](#).





# A SNAPSHOT OF THE FUND

**WE AIM TO DELIVER A BETTER RETURN, AFTER FEES, THAN A BENCHMARK\* WE HAVE CREATED TO REPRESENT THE GLOBAL FIXED INCOME MARKET OVER ANY FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.**

Key features:

- A global ‘best ideas’ bond fund focusing on sustainable themes closely aligned with UN-backed Sustainable Development Goals.
- We believe businesses, governments and other organisations with strong sustainability credentials have the potential to outperform the laggards, especially as they face growing scrutiny over these credentials.
- The fund builds on the strong 20+ years track record of the Rathbone Ethical Bond Fund.

\*Our benchmark consists of 70% ICE BoA Global Corporate Index (GBP Hedged), 15% ICE BofA Global Government Excluding Japan Index (GBP Hedged), 15% ICE BoA All Maturity Global High Yield Index (GBP Hedged).





# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**ANY VIEWS AND OPINIONS ARE THOSE OF THE INVESTMENT MANAGERS, AND COVERAGE OF ANY ASSETS HELD MUST BE TAKEN IN CONTEXT OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FUND AND IN NO WAY REFLECT AN INVESTMENT RECOMMENDATION.**

Rathbones Group Plc is independently owned, is the sole shareholder in each of its subsidiary businesses and is listed on the London Stock Exchange.

Rathbones, Greenbank and Greenbank Investments are trading names of Rathbones Investment Management Limited.

Rathbones Asset Management Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered office: 8 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7AZ, Registered in England No. 02376568.

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