PRODUCT: iShares ESG Screened Sterling Corporate Bond Index Fund (UK) (the "Fund")

MANAGER: BlackRock Fund Managers Limited (the "Manager")

DATE: 29 November 2024

FCA PRODUCT REFERENCE NUMBER: 958346

This Fund does not have a UK sustainable investment label. Sustainable investment labels help investors find products that have a specific sustainability goal. The Fund does not use a sustainability label because whilst the Fund tracks an index which applies ESG criteria (as described below), the Fund does not have a specific sustainability goal. This is because the Fund follows a passive strategy and the index which the Fund tracks may not meet the criteria of any sustainability label.

The Fund name currently disclosed in this document is effective from 17 December 2024. Prior to this date, the Fund name was "iShares ESG Sterling Corporate Bond Index Fund (UK)".

## **Sustainability Approach**

The Fund tracks the performance of the iBoxx MSCI ESG GBP Non-Gilts Index (the "Benchmark Index"). The Benchmark Index aims to reflect the performance of a sub-set of fixed-income securities within the iBoxx MSCI ESG GBP Non-Gilts Index (the "Parent Index") which remain after the index provider has excluded securities using pre-defined ESG screens, as described below. These ESG criteria may not apply to investments held by the Fund for efficient portfolio management and liquidity purposes which are not included in the Benchmark Index (including derivatives, money market instruments, deposits and units in collective investment schemes). However, exposure to such assets will not exceed 20% of the Fund's total assets.

The Benchmark Index excludes issuers based on their involvement in certain activities deemed by the index provider to have negative environmental or social outcomes. Issuers are excluded from the Benchmark Index based on their involvement in the following business lines/activities (or related activities): (i) controversial weapons (ii) tobacco; (iii) nuclear weapons; (iv) civilian firearms; (v) thermal coal; (vi) oil sands; (vii) fossil fuel reserves; (viii) oil and gas equipment and services; and (ix) oil and gas extraction and production.

The index provider defines what constitutes "involvement" in each restricted activity. This may be based on percentage of revenue, a defined total revenue threshold, or any connection to a restricted activity regardless of the amount of revenue received.

The Benchmark Index also excludes issuers which are classified as violating the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Principles.

The Benchmark Index also excludes companies from the Parent Index which score below a certain threshold based on MSCI ESG Ratings and which are identified by the index provider as being involved in controversies that have a negative ESG impact on their operations and/or products and services based on a certain MSCI ESG Controversy Score. An MSCI controversy score measures an issuer's involvement (or alleged involvement) in very serious controversies relating to their operations and/or products which are deemed to have a negative ESG impact.

Where data is unavailable in respect of an issuer's ESG risk rating, that issuer will also be excluded from the Benchmark Index. Where data is unavailable in respect of an issuer's controversy rating or its involvement in the restricted activities described above, that issuer is still eligible for inclusion in the Benchmark Index.

Further details regarding the Benchmark Index and the Parent Index (including their constituents and the ESG methodology for the Benchmark Index (including any specific revenue thresholds)) are available on the index provider's website at: www.markit.com/indices.

## **Sustainability Metrics**

The ESG criteria described above were met through the Fund closely tracking the Benchmark Index. The following table provides information about the performance of these ESG criteria during the reference period which is from 1 March 2024 to 31 August 2024. The figures presented are based on the data as at the end of each quarter during this reference period, which are averaged to produce the single figure shown in the table below.

Sustainability Metric	Description	Fund	Parent Index
Exclusion of issuers involved in certain restricted activities (as described above)	% market value exposure to issuers involved in certain activities deemed to have negative environmental or social outcomes	0.00%	5.75%

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Exclusion of issuers classified as violating UNGC Principles	% market value exposure to companies classified as violating UNGC Principles	0.00%	3.53%
Exclusion of issuers having a 'high' MSCI ESG risk rating	% market value exposure to issuers with a 'high' MSCI ESG risk rating	0.00%	10.32%
Exclusion of issuers which have a 'severe' ESG controversy score	% market value exposure to issuers involved in severe ESG controversies or corporate issuers missing a ESG controversy score	0.00%	3.92%

## **Additional Information**

**Pre-contractual disclosure:** Please see the Fund's prospectus, which is available by searching the name of the Fund on the following website: <a href="https://www.blackrock.com/uk/education/library">www.blackrock.com/uk/education/library</a>.

Product-level sustainability report: Not currently available.

Sustainability entity report: Not currently available.

**Other non-sustainability related information:** Please see the Fund's key investor information document, which is available by searching the name of the Fund on the following website: <a href="https://www.blackrock.com/uk/solutions/library/gls-library-uk?materialType=kiid">https://www.blackrock.com/uk/solutions/library/gls-library-uk?materialType=kiid</a>.

GBR01/116338400\_2 2