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1 August 2019

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Address 4

Address 5

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This document is important and requires your immediate attention.

If you are in any doubt as to its content or action to be taken by you, please call our Investor Services Team on 0333 300 0356\*, or consult your financial adviser.

**Dear Sirs** 

The BlackRock Authorised Contractual Schemes listed in the Appendix (the "Schemes") Proposal to change the language within the investment objective and policy of each of the Schemes in light of FCA rule changes set out in FCA Policy Statement PS19/4 (the "Policy Statement")

BlackRock continually reviews its fund ranges to ensure that the investment characteristics and positioning of our funds remain both relevant to and consistent with the current investment environment and expectations of our clients.

In common with other UK asset managers, we have recently completed a review of our UK range of funds as required by the Policy Statement. We are writing to notify you that, subject to FCA approval, we will be making clarificatory changes to the description of the investment objective and policy of each Scheme to be effective on (or around) 7 August 2019 (the "Effective Date").

The changes are being made to provide you with a better description of the manner in which the Schemes are managed and how they perform against their objectives. No change to the investment strategy of the Schemes is being made as part of these changes.

#### FCA Policy Statement PS19/4

The Policy Statement (published in February 2019) is part of the FCA's Asset Management Market Study package of further remedies and sets out the FCA's expectations regarding the manner in which the investment objectives and policies of funds should be disclosed to investors.

The FCA's objective in requiring the changes is stated in the Policy Statement as follows: "If the remedies set out in this Policy Statement are successful, it will make it easier for investors to choose the best fund for them and help them achieve their investment objectives".

The changes being mandated by the FCA fall into the two broad categories, set out below. The Policy Statement can be read in full on the FCA website: <a href="https://www.fca.org.uk/publication/policy/ps19-04.pdf">https://www.fca.org.uk/publication/policy/ps19-04.pdf</a>

### (1) Changes to the statement of investment objectives and policies of the Schemes

The statement of investment objectives and policies of all of the Schemes will be amended on the Effective Date to give a fuller description of how the Schemes are managed.

No change to the investment strategy of the Schemes is being made as part of these changes.

## (2) Explanation as to how the Schemes use benchmarks

A benchmark is a standard or point of reference (usually a financial index (e.g. FTSE 100)) against which an attribute of a fund may be managed, measured or compared.

The Policy Statement requires asset managers to explain why particular benchmarks have been chosen to enable unitholders to understand how a fund is managed and to assess fund performance.

From the Effective Date it will be explained in prospectuses how benchmarks are used by the Schemes (where applicable) against the three categories described by the FCA as set out below.

- (a) Target benchmark where a target for a scheme's performance has been set, or a payment out of scheme property is permitted, by reference to a comparison of one or more aspects of the scheme property or price with fluctuations in the value or price of an index or indices or any other similar factor;
- (b) Constraining benchmark without being a target benchmark, arrangements are in place in relation to the scheme according to which the composition of the portfolio of the scheme is, or is implied to be, constrained by reference to the value, the price or the components of an index or indices or any other similar factor; and
- (c) Comparator benchmark without being a target benchmark or a constraining benchmark, the scheme's performance is compared against the value or price of an index or indices or any other similar factor (a "comparator benchmark").

For those Schemes that do not have benchmarks assigned as described above, the prospectus will contain an explanation of how you can measure the performance of the Scheme against its objectives.

A comparison of the changes to the descriptions of investment objectives of each individual Scheme can be viewed from the Effective Date on the BlackRock website under file path: "Education – Library" then "client/unitholder letters" at: <a href="https://www.blackrock.com/uk">www.blackrock.com/uk</a>

The relevant updated prospectuses, KIIDs and KIDs will also be available on the website under file path: "Education – Library" at: <a href="https://www.blackrock.com/uk">www.blackrock.com/uk</a> from the Effective Date. The updated KIID/KID (as appropriate) will show the performance of the relevant Scheme against the relevant benchmark(s).

### Moving unitholders to cheaper unit classes

The Policy Statement also introduced a change to the FCA Rules to make it easier for managers to move investors from expensive to cheaper but otherwise identical unit classes, provided this is deemed to be in their best interests. In keeping with this change the prospectuses for the Schemes have been revised to include this right and to advise unitholders that they will be provided with at least sixty days' prior written notice in the event of such a proposal.

### Action to be taken by you

Unitholders are not required to take any action in relation to the changes described in this letter.

#### Costs

The costs related to the changes described in this letter will be paid by BlackRock.



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#### **Further information**

If, after reading this letter, you would like any further information then please speak to your BlackRock Relationship Manager, financial adviser, email us at <a href="mailto:BlackRockFSC@ntrs.com">BlackRockFSC@ntrs.com</a> or call our Investor Services Team on 0333 300 0356\*. Telephone lines are open from 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

Yours sincerely

Muss

Robert Hayes Director

For and on behalf of BlackRock Fund Managers Limited

\*For your protection, telephone calls are usually recorded.

## **APPENDIX**

## Schemes (and ISINs)

## **BlackRock Authorised Contractual Scheme (1)**

ACS 30:70 Global Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1	GB00BYX7SL22
ACS 50:50 Global Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1	GB00BYX7S672
ACS 60:40 Global Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1	GB00BYX7SD48
ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1	GB00BYQLTD03
ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1A	GB00BD71YB51
ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1B	GB00BD71YC68
ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1C	GB00BD71YD75
ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1D	GB00BD71YF99
ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1E	GB00BD711193
ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1F	GB00BD71YH14
ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1G	GB00BD711114
ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1H	GB00BD71YK43
ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1I	GB00BD71YL59
ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund  ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund	Class X11	GB00BD71YL59
	Class X1J	GB00BD71YM66 GB00BD71YN73
ACS Continental European Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1K	GB00BD71YN73
ACS Jones Fruits Tracker Fund	Class X1E	
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund		GB00BD71ZK18
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1	GB00BYQLSF51
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1A	GB00BD71Z562
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1B	GB00BD71Z679
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1C	GB00BD71Z786
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1D	GB00BD71Z893
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1E	GB00BD71Z901
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1F	GB00BD71ZB27
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1G	GB00BD71ZC34
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1H	GB00BD71ZD41
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1I	GB00BD71ZF64
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1J	GB00BD71ZG71
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1K	GB00BD71ZH88
ACS Japan Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1L	GB00BD71ZJ03
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1F	GB00BD71YX71
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1G	GB00BD71YY88
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1H	GB00BD71YZ95
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1I	GB00BD71Z018
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1J	GB00BD71Z125
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1K	GB00BD71Z232
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1L	GB00BD71Z349
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1	GB00BYX7SS90
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1A	GB00BD71YR12
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1B	GB00BD71YS29
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1C	GB00BD71YT36
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1D	GB00BD71YV57
ACS UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1E	GB00BD71YW64

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ACC HC Equity Tracker Euro	Class V4D	CD00DD74V ICO
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1B Class X1C	GB00BD71XJ62
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	010000100	GB00BD71XK77
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1D	GB00BD71XL84
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1E	GB00BD71XM91
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1F	GB00BD71XN09
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1G	GB00BD71XP23
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1H	GB00BD71XQ30
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1I	GB00BD71XR47
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1J	GB00BD71XS53
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1K	GB00BD71XT60
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1L	GB00BD71XV82
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class T1	GB00BNB70C23
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1P	GB00BD71XW99
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1	GB00BDC3W343
ACS US Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1A	GB00BD71XH49
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1	GB00BGRLQJ84
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1A	GB00BJ0C9G78
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1B	GB00BJ0C9H85
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1C	GB00BJ0C9N46
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1D	GB00BJ0C9P69
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1E	GB00BJ0C9Q76
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1F	GB00BJ0C9R83
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1G	GB00BJ0C9S90
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1H	GB00BJ0C9T08
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1I	GB00BJ0C9V20
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1J	GB00BJ0C9W37
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1K	GB00BJ0C9X44
ACS World ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1L	GB00BJ0C9Y50
ACS World Low Carbon Equity Tracker Fund	Class X2	GB00BF09ND57
ACS World Multifactor ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1	GB00BGRLQN21
ACS World Multifactor ESG Equity Tracker Fund	Class X2	GB00BGRLQP45
ACS World Multifactor Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1	GB00BF1KF532
ACS World Multifactor Equity Tracker Fund	Class X2	GB00BF1KF755
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1	GB00BYV1TY67
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X2	GB00BYV1TZ74
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1A	GB00BD71XX07
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1B	GB00BD71XY14
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1C	GB00BD71XZ21
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1D	GB00BD71Y045
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1E	GB00BD71Y151
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1F	GB00BD71Y268
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1G	GB00BD71Y375
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1H	GB00BD71Y482
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1I	GB00BD71Y599
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1J	GB00BD71Y607
BlackPock Fund Managers		

ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1K	GB00BD71Y714
ACS World ex UK Equity Tracker Fund	Class X1L	GB00BD71Y821

# **BlackRock Authorised Contractual Scheme (2)**

ACS LifePath 2019-21	Class X1	GB00BZ1CSB63
ACS LifePath 2022-24	Class X1	GB00BZ1CSC70
ACS LifePath 2025-27	Class X1	GB00BZ1CSD87
ACS LifePath 2028-30	Class X1	GB00BG1TXD16
ACS LifePath 2031-33	Class X1	GB00BG1TXF30
ACS LifePath 2034-36	Class X1	GB00BG1TXG47
ACS LifePath 2037-39	Class X1	GB00BG1TXH53
ACS LifePath 2040-42	Class X1	GB00BG1TXJ77
ACS LifePath 2043-45	Class X1	GB00BG1TXK82
ACS LifePath 2046-48	Class X1	GB00BG1TXL99
ACS LifePath 2049-51	Class X1	GB00BG1TXM07
ACS LifePath 2052-54	Class X1	GB00BG1TXN14
BlackRock Pension Growth Fund	Class X1	GB00BFX16M89