

SIR ROBERT BLACK TRUST FUND

Report of the Trustee on the Administration of the Fund for the year ended 31 March 2024


The Sir Robert Black Trust Fund (the Fund) was established in 1961 under the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Ordinance (Cap. 1101) to commemorate the governorship of Sir Robert Black, G.C.M.G., O.B.E. The objective of the Fund is to provide grants to persons for the furtherance of studies, activities or training so as to develop qualities of personal leadership in the service of all members of the community.

2. The Fund is managed by the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Committee constituted under Section 5 of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Ordinance. The membership list of the Committee for the year under report is at Appendix I. The Trust Funds and Temples Joint Secretariat is responsible for the secretariat and accounting work of the Fund. The Director of Audit is the auditor of the Fund's accounts.

3. During the reporting period, the total income of the Fund (before loss on investment) was HK\$3.03 million. The loss on investment was HK\$6.17 million. The total expenditure was HK\$3.24 million. The Fund recorded a deficit of HK\$6.38 million for 2023-24. As at 31 March 2024, the capital of the Fund was HK\$31.42 million and the accumulated surplus was HK\$28.75 million. The audited Financial Statements of the Fund for the year ended 31 March 2024 is at Appendix II.

4. The Fund awards scholarships for postgraduate studies, grants for youth leadership training, grants for students of Diploma Yi Jin and for talented students to pursue training in non-academic fields. In 2023-24, a total of HK\$2.30 million was disbursed for scholarships and grants as follows:-

	<u>No. of Awards</u>	<u>HK\$</u>
(a) Scholarships for Postgraduate Studies	14	490,000
(b) Grants for Youth Leadership Training	7	347,985
(c) Grants for Students of Diploma Yi Jin	57	319,200
(d) Grants for Talented Students in Non-academic Fields	320	1,147,651
		<hr/> <hr/> 2,304,836



(Miss Alice MAK)

The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Incorporated
Trustee

Sir Robert Black Trust Fund

25 June 2024

SIR ROBERT BLACK TRUST FUND

**Membership of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Committee
(1.4.2023–31.3.2024)**

Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs	Chairman, Ex-officio
Permanent Secretary for Education	Vice-Chairman, Ex-officio
Director of Social Welfare	Ex-officio
Ms NIE Jing	Member
Mr LUI Chi-wang, Robert Andrew	Member
Prof Dr QIN Rong	Member



Sir Robert Black Trust Fund

Financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

Report of the Director of Audit



Audit Commission

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Independent Auditor's Report To the Legislative Council

Opinion

I certify that I have audited the financial statements of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund set out on pages 4 to 17, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 March 2024, and the income and expenditure account, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information.

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund as at 31 March 2024, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA") and have been properly prepared in accordance with section 10(1) of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Ordinance (Cap. 1101).

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with section 10(2) of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Ordinance and the Audit Commission auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund in accordance with those standards, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with those standards. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other information

The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Incorporated is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises all the information included in the Report of

the Trustee on the Administration of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund, other than the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Incorporated for the financial statements

The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Incorporated is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with HKFRSs issued by the HKICPA and section 10(1) of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Ordinance, and for such internal control as The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Incorporated determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Incorporated is responsible for assessing the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Audit Commission auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.


As part of an audit in accordance with the Audit Commission auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements,

whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;

- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Incorporated;
- conclude on the appropriateness of The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Incorporated's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund to cease to continue as a going concern; and
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Incorporated regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Terry MOK
Assistant Director of Audit
for Director of Audit

25 June 2024

Audit Commission
6th Floor, High Block
Queensway Government Offices
66 Queensway
Hong Kong

SIR ROBERT BLACK TRUST FUND

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 HK\$	2023 HK\$
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	3	34,691,217	45,716,057
Debt securities measured at amortised cost	4	7,279,643	-
		41,970,860	45,716,057
CURRENT ASSETS			
Accounts receivable		219,042	95,289
Time deposits with original maturities over three months		10,263,323	8,500,000
Cash and cash equivalents	5	10,602,047	14,261,412
		21,084,412	22,856,701
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provision for staff gratuity	6	(36,245)	(24,531)
Provision for untaken leave		(34,721)	(10,394)
Accounts payable	7	(2,769,104)	(1,958,357)
		(2,840,070)	(1,993,282)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		18,244,342	20,863,419
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provision for staff gratuity	6	(44,479)	(26,157)
NET ASSETS		60,170,723	66,553,319
ACCUMULATED FUND			
Capital		31,418,877	31,418,877
Accumulated surplus		28,751,846	35,134,442
		60,170,723	66,553,319

The accompanying notes 1 to 12 form part of these financial statements.



(Miss Alice MAK)

The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Incorporated
Trustee

Sir Robert Black Trust Fund

25 June 2024

SIR ROBERT BLACK TRUST FUND
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 HK\$	2023 HK\$
INCOME			
Dividend income		1,903,023	1,993,086
Interest income	8	1,013,593	459,754
Refund of grants		-	7,450
Other income		110,169	656,005
Net realised and revaluation losses on financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account		(6,122,205)	(5,659,646)
Net exchange losses		(42,950)	-
		(3,138,370)	(2,543,351)
EXPENDITURE			
Scholarship awards		(490,000)	(530,000)
Training grants		(1,495,636)	(1,165,936)
Grants for students of Diploma Yi Jin		(319,200)	(324,800)
Staff costs		(883,151)	(843,347)
Other operating expenses		(56,239)	(36,286)
		(3,244,226)	(2,900,369)
DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR		(6,382,596)	(5,443,720)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE LOSS FOR THE YEAR		(6,382,596)	(5,443,720)

The accompanying notes 1 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

SIR ROBERT BLACK TRUST FUND

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Capital HK\$	Accumulated surplus HK\$	Total HK\$
Balance at 1 April 2022	31,418,877	40,578,162	71,997,039
Total comprehensive loss for 2022-23	-	(5,443,720)	(5,443,720)
Balance at 31 March 2023	<u>31,418,877</u>	<u>35,134,442</u>	<u>66,553,319</u>
Total comprehensive loss for 2023-24	-	(6,382,596)	(6,382,596)
Balance at 31 March 2024	<u><u>31,418,877</u></u>	<u><u>28,751,846</u></u>	<u><u>60,170,723</u></u>

The accompanying notes 1 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

SIR ROBERT BLACK TRUST FUND
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 HK\$	2023 HK\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Deficit for the year		(6,382,596)	(5,443,720)
Adjustments for:			
Dividend income		(1,903,023)	(1,993,086)
Interest income		(1,013,593)	(459,754)
Net realised and revaluation losses on financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account		6,122,205	5,659,646
Net exchange losses		23,895	-
(Increase)/Decrease in accounts receivable		(9,449)	2,255
Increase/(Decrease) in provision for staff gratuity		30,036	(13,920)
Increase/(Decrease) in provision for untaken leave		24,327	(4,277)
Increase/(Decrease) in accounts payable		810,747	(302,754)
NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES		<u>(2,297,451)</u>	<u>(2,555,610)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Acquisition of debt securities measured at amortised cost		(7,193,739)	-
Proceeds from disposal of financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account		4,902,635	87,218
Increase in time deposits with original maturities over three months		(1,764,458)	(8,500,000)
Dividends received		1,903,023	1,932,600
Interest received		799,882	378,519
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		<u>(1,352,657)</u>	<u>(6,101,663)</u>
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		(3,650,108)	(8,657,273)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR		14,261,412	22,918,685
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		(9,257)	-
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR	5	<u><u>10,602,047</u></u>	<u><u>14,261,412</u></u>

The accompanying notes 1 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

SIR ROBERT BLACK TRUST FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. GENERAL

The Sir Robert Black Trust Fund (the Fund) provides grants to persons for the furtherance of studies, activities or training so as to develop qualities of personal leadership in the service of all members of the community under section 4 of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Ordinance (Cap. 1101).

The address of the Fund's principal place of business is 34th Floor, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the Fund have been prepared in accordance with section 10(1) of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Ordinance and all applicable Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (HKFRSs), which is a collective term that includes all applicable individual HKFRSs, Hong Kong Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (HKICPA). Material accounting policies adopted by the Fund are set out below.

(b) Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and under the historical cost convention except that financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account are stated at fair value as explained in the accounting policies set out in note 2(d) below.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with HKFRSs requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenditure. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgements about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are no critical accounting judgements involved in the application of the Fund's accounting policies. There are neither key assumptions concerning the future nor other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in the next year.

(c) Impact of new and revised HKFRSs

The HKICPA has issued certain new or revised HKFRSs which are first effective or available for early adoption for the current accounting period of the Fund. There have been no changes to the accounting policies applied in these financial statements for the years presented as a result of these developments.

The Fund has not early adopted any amendments, new standards and interpretations which are not yet effective for the current accounting period. The Fund is in the process of making an assessment of what the impact of these amendments, new standards and interpretations is expected to be in the period of initial adoption. So far, it has concluded that the adoption of them is unlikely to have a significant impact on the financial statements.

(d) Financial assets and financial liabilities

(i) Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised on the date the Fund becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. They are initially stated at fair value plus or minus transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of financial assets or issue of financial liabilities, except for those financial instruments measured at fair value through income and expenditure account for which transaction costs are recognised directly in the income and expenditure account. An explanation of how the Fund determines the fair value of financial instruments is set out in note 10. Purchases and sales of financial instruments are recognised on trade date, the date on which the Fund commits to purchase or sell the instruments.

(ii) Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account

These comprise equity securities. They are subsequently measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognised in the income and expenditure account in the period in which they arise.

The Fund's financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account are classified as non-current assets unless the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Committee (the Committee) intends to dispose of the investments within 12 months of the reporting date.

Financial assets measured at amortised cost

These comprise debt securities, accounts receivable, time deposits and cash and cash equivalents. They are held for the collection of contractual cash flows which represent solely payments of principal and interest. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The measurement of loss allowances for these financial assets is based on the expected credit loss model as described in note 2(d)(iv).

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or a financial liability and of allocating and recognising the interest income or interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts or payments through the expected life of the financial asset or financial liability to the gross carrying amount of the financial asset or to the amortised cost of the financial liability. When calculating the effective interest rate, the Fund estimates cash flows by considering all contractual terms of the financial instrument but does not consider the expected credit losses. The calculation includes all fees received or paid between parties to the contract that are an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and all other premiums or discounts.

The Fund's investments in debt securities are classified as non-current assets, except for those with maturities less than 12 months from the reporting date which are classified as current assets.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost

These comprise accounts payable. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

(iii) Derecognition

A financial asset is derecognised when the contractual rights to receive the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or where the financial asset together with substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred.

A financial liability is derecognised when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, is cancelled or expires.

(iv) Impairment of financial assets

For financial assets measured at amortised cost, the Fund measures the expected credit losses to determine the loss allowance required to be recognised. Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account are not subject to the expected credit loss assessment.

Expected credit losses are a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses. They are based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due in accordance with the contract and the cash flows that the Fund expects to receive, discounted at the effective interest rate. They are measured on either of the following bases:

- 12-month expected credit losses (for financial instruments for which there has not been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition): these are losses that are expected to result from possible default events within the 12 months after the reporting date; or
- lifetime expected credit losses (for financial instruments for which there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition): these are losses that are expected to result from all possible default events over the expected life of the financial instruments.

In assessing whether the credit risk of a financial instrument has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Fund compares the risk of default occurring on the financial instrument assessed at the reporting date with that assessed at the date of initial recognition. In making this assessment, the Fund considers that a default event occurs when (i) the borrower is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Fund in full; or (ii) the financial asset is 90 days past due. The Fund considers both quantitative and qualitative information that is reasonable and supportable, including historical experience and forward-looking information that is available without undue cost or effort.

For a financial asset with lifetime expected credit losses recognised in the previous reporting period, if its credit quality improves and reverses the previously assessed significant increase in credit risk, then the loss allowance reverts from lifetime expected credit losses to 12-month expected credit losses.

A financial asset is written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovering the contractual cash flows.

(e) Foreign currency translation

Hong Kong dollar is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Fund operates. Foreign currency transactions during the year are translated into Hong Kong dollars using the spot exchange rates at the transaction dates. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Hong Kong dollars at the closing exchange rates at the reporting date. Exchange gains and losses are dealt with in the income and expenditure account.

(f) Revenue recognition

Interest income is recognised as it accrues using the effective interest method. Dividend income is recognised when the Fund's right to receive payment is established. Dividend income from listed equity securities is recognised in the income and expenditure account when the share price is quoted ex-dividend.

(g) Awards and grants

Scholarship awards, training grants and other grants are recognised as expenditure when they are approved by the Committee.

(h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at banks, deposits with banks and short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, having been within three months of maturity when placed or acquired.

(i) **Employee benefits**

Contract gratuities, salaries and annual leave entitlements are accrued and recognised as expenditure in the year in which associated services are rendered by the staff. Staff on-costs, including pension, Government's contribution to the Civil Service Provident Fund Scheme and housing and medical benefits provided to the seconded staff by the Government, are charged as expenditure in the year in which the services are rendered.

3. FINANCIAL ASSETS MEASURED AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	2024 HK\$	2023 HK\$
Equity securities listed in Hong Kong, at fair value	34,691,217	45,716,057

4. DEBT SECURITIES MEASURED AT AMORTISED COST

	2024 HK\$	2023 HK\$
Debt securities – at amortised cost		
Unlisted	7,279,643	-
Classified as:		
Non-current assets	7,279,643	-

5. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2024 HK\$	2023 HK\$
Time deposits with original maturities within three months	5,826,852	10,205,853
Cash at banks	4,775,195	4,055,559
	<u>10,602,047</u>	<u>14,261,412</u>

6. PROVISION FOR STAFF GRATUITY

	2024 HK\$	2023 HK\$
Balance at beginning of year	50,688	64,608
Provision for the year	58,557	60,050
Payment for the year	(18,590)	(68,066)
Provision written back	(9,931)	(5,904)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance at end of year	80,724	50,688
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Classified as:		
Current liabilities	36,245	24,531
Non-current liabilities	44,479	26,157
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	80,724	50,688
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

7. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

	2024 HK\$	2023 HK\$
Grants payable	2,769,104	1,958,357
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

8. INTEREST INCOME

	2024 HK\$	2023 HK\$
Interest income on bank deposits	870,381	459,754
Interest income on debt securities	143,212	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,013,593	459,754
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

9. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Fund's major financial instruments include financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account, debt securities measured at amortised cost, accounts receivable, time deposits, cash and cash equivalents and accounts payable. The major risks associated with these financial instruments are set out below.

(a) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss. The maximum exposure to credit risk of the financial assets of the Fund at the reporting date is equal to their carrying amounts.

To minimise the credit risk arising from time deposits and cash and cash equivalents, all time deposits and bank balances are placed with reputable licensed banks in Hong Kong. To minimise the credit risk arising from debt securities, the Fund only invests in those classified under the investment grade by Moody's or Standard & Poor's. Hence, the Fund's exposure to credit risk is considered to be limited.

The credit quality of time deposits and cash and cash equivalents, analysed by the ratings designated by Moody's, at the reporting date is shown below.

	2024	2023
	HK\$	HK\$
Time deposits and cash and cash equivalents, by credit rating		
Aa1 to Aa3	8,770,355	9,065,224
A1 to A3	4,117,945	4,832,850
Baa1 to Baa3	7,977,070	8,863,338
	<u>20,865,370</u>	<u>22,761,412</u>

The credit quality of debt securities, analysed by the lower of ratings designated by Moody's or Standard & Poor's, at the reporting date is shown below.

	2024	2023
	HK\$	HK\$
Debt securities, by credit rating		
A1 to A3 / A+ to A-	7,279,643	-

While the financial assets measured at amortised cost are subject to the impairment requirements, the Fund has estimated that their expected credit losses are minimal and considers that no loss allowance is required.

(b) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market variables such as equity prices, interest rates and currency exchange rates may affect the fair value or cash flows of a financial instrument.

(i) Equity price risk

Equity price risk is the risk of loss arising from changes in equity prices. The Fund's investments in equity securities are subject to the equity price risk inherent in all equity securities i.e. the value of holdings may fall as well as rise.

To manage the risk due to fluctuation in equity prices, the Committee regularly reviews the investment portfolio and the investment guidelines for monitoring the investment activities of the Fund. It was estimated that, at 31 March 2024, if the market prices of the respective equity securities had been 10% (2023: 10%) higher/lower, with all other variables held constant, the deficit of the Fund for the year would decrease/increase and the accumulated surplus would increase/decrease by HK\$3,500,000 (2023: HK\$4,600,000).

(ii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. This can be further classified into fair value interest rate risk and cash flow interest rate risk.

Fair value interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Since the Fund's time deposits and debt securities bear interest at fixed rates, their fair values will fall when market interest rates increase. However, as they are all stated at amortised cost, changes in market interest rates will not affect their carrying amounts and the Fund's surplus/deficit and accumulated surplus.

Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Fund's exposure to cash flow interest rate risk is small because interest income from financial instruments bearing interest at a floating rate is not significant.

(iii) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in currency exchange rates. The Fund's financial instruments denominated in currencies other than Hong Kong dollar are exposed to currency risk.

The Fund maintained financial instruments denominated in the United States dollar totalling USD2,673,137 (2023: USD13) at the reporting date. As Hong Kong dollar is pegged to the United States dollar within a narrow range, it is considered that the Fund had no significant exposure to foreign exchange risk relating to this currency.

(c) **Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities.

In the management of liquidity risk, the Fund maintains a level of cash and cash equivalents that is considered adequate to finance its operations and mitigate the effects of fluctuations in cash flows. Hence, the Fund does not have significant exposures to liquidity risk.

As at 31 March 2024, the remaining contractual maturities of all financial liabilities, based on contractual undiscounted cash flows and the earliest date on which the Fund can be required to pay, were one year or less (2023: one year or less).

10. **FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT**

(a) **Fair value hierarchy of financial instruments**

The following table presents the carrying value of financial instruments measured at fair value at the reporting date on a recurring basis, categorised into the three-level fair value hierarchy as defined in HKFRS 13 “Fair Value Measurement”.

	2024		2023	
	Level 1 HK\$	Total HK\$	Level 1 HK\$	Total HK\$
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account				
Equity securities – Listed in Hong Kong	<u>34,691,217</u>	<u>34,691,217</u>	<u>45,716,057</u>	<u>45,716,057</u>

No financial instruments were classified under Level 2 or Level 3. There were no transfers between levels during the reporting years.

The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are:

Level 1: fair values are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2: fair values are determined with inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices); and

Level 3: fair values are determined with inputs that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

(b) Valuation techniques and key inputs

The fair value of financial instruments classified under Level 1 is based on the quoted market prices of these financial instruments at the reporting date, without any deduction for estimated future selling costs.

All other financial assets and financial liabilities are stated in the balance sheet at amounts equal to or not materially different from their fair values.

11. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

The capital structure of the Fund consists of capital and accumulated surplus. The Fund's objectives when managing capital are:

- to comply with the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Ordinance; and
- to maintain a strong capital base for carrying out the purpose of the Fund as stated in note 1 above.

The Fund manages capital to ensure that its level is sufficient to fund future grants and expenditure, taking into account its projected cash flow requirements, future financial obligations and commitments.

12. COST OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUND

The cost of administering the Fund, other than the salaries and fees paid under section 8(2) of the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Ordinance, shall be a charge on the general revenue of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in accordance with section 11 of the Ordinance.