

Brussels, 6.4.2022 C(2022) 1931 final

ANNEX 4

#### **ANNEX**

to the

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) .../...

supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to regulatory technical standards specifying the details of the content and presentation of the information in relation to the principle of 'do no significant harm', specifying the content, methodologies and presentation of information in relation to sustainability indicators and adverse sustainability impacts, and the content and presentation of the information in relation to the promotion of environmental or social characteristics and sustainable investment objectives in precontractual documents, on websites and in periodic reports

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#### ANNEX IV

Template periodic disclosure for the financial products referred to in Article 8, paragraphs 1, 2 and 2a, of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 and Article 6, first paragraph, of Regulation (EU) 2020/852

**Product name:** Brown Advisory Funds plc – Brown Advisory Global Sustainable Total Return Bond Fund (GBP) **Legal entity identifier:** 635400MBK8KJBCLIFV28

### **Environmental and/or social characteristics**

#### Did this financial product have a sustainable investment objective? Yes No It made **sustainable** It promoted Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics and investments with an while it did not have as its objective a environmental objective: % sustainable investment, it had a proportion of in economic activities that 91.11% of sustainable investments qualify as environmentally with an environmental objective in economic sustainable under the EU activities that qualify as environmentally Taxonomy sustainable under the EU Taxonomy in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as sustainable under the EU environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy Taxonomy with a social objective It made sustainable investments It promoted E/S characteristics, but **did not** make any sustainable investments with a social objective: %

Sustainable investment means an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental or social objective, provided that the investment does not significantly harm any environmental or social objective and that the investee companies follow good governance practices.

The EU Taxonomy is a classification system laid down in Regulation (EU) 2020/852, establishing a list of environmentally sustainable economic activities. That Regulation

That Regulation does not lay down a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.

To what extent were the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by this financial product met?

The Fund promoted environmental and social characteristics by investing primarily in hands, the

The Fund promoted environmental and social characteristics by investing primarily in bonds, the companies of which all followed Good Governance principals, and generated impact in one of three ways: "Labelled Bond", "Targeted Use of Proceeds" and "Impactful Issuer". Through the issuer's identified sustainable opportunities, the issuers held in the Fund had a positive impact on a variety of environmental and social outcomes including, though not necessarily limited to, the promotion of the following:

Sustainability indicators measure how the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are attained.

- Clean Energy
- Economic Mobility & Community Development
- Efficient Production & Conservation
- Health & Wellness
- Sustainable Technology Innovation

#### How did the sustainability indicators perform?

To the extent data was available and reliable, relevant ESG characteristics were reviewed and analysed for all holdings of the Fund for which sufficient data was available to conduct analysis (i.e. all holdings except for cash). The investment approach for the Fund is based on thorough analysis of multiple ESG characteristics, and no specific quantitative performance thresholds are set. Overall, the ESG analysis performed indicated that the Fund primarily consisted of issuers that, in the view of the Fund, had adequate ESG risk management practices and assessed to either be a "Labelled Bond", "Targeted Use of Proceeds" and "Impactful Issuer".

...and compared to previous periods?

NA

What were the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially made and how did the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives?

The sustainable investments that the Fund made were those that demonstrate at least one of the following:

- 1. a primary product/service or range of products/services that solve for environmental or social challenges, and/or
- 2. operations, capital discipline, policies or programs that drive improved efficiency and/or conserve resources resulting in positive environmental or social outcomes, and/or
- 3. a franchise whose value is clearly enhanced by its positive environmental or social characteristics

# How did the sustainable investments that the financial product partially made not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?

All sustainable investments have been determined to, in the view of the Investment Manager and Sub-Investment Manager, avoid severe negative impacts on society or the environment. Additionally, continued compliance monitoring confirmed that all corporate bonds in the Fund abided by the Fund's exclusionary screen.

## How were the indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors taken into account?

The Fund considers principal adverse impacts of its investment decisions on sustainability factors as part of its investment due diligence process and procedures as set out in the Manager's Principal Adverse Impact Due Diligence Policy found https://www.brownadvisory.com/sites/default/files/Principal\_Adverse\_Impact\_Due\_Diligence\_Policy\_Brown\_Advisory\_Ireland\_Limited.pdf.

During the reference period, the Fund did not have access to a reliable data source that would allow for the systematic assessment of the all of the Principal Adverse Indicators (PAI) outlined in Annex 1 of SFDR. Beginning in 2023, certain of these PAI metrics will be considered in the investment approach and used to contribute to the overall assessment of how sustainability factors may be negatively impacted.

# Were sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights? Details:

During the reference period, the Fund did not systematically assess alignment with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Beginning in 2023, an assessment of alignment with these principles will be systematically integrated into the ESG analysis.

The EU Taxonomy sets out a "do not significant harm" principle by which Taxonomy-aligned investments should not significantly harm EU Taxonomy objectives and is accompanied by specific Union criteria.

The "do no significant harm" principle applies only to those investments underlying the financial product that take into account the Union criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. The investments underlying the remaining portion of this financial product do not take into account the Union criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

Any other sustainable investments must also not significantly harm any environmental or social objectives.

Principal adverse impacts are the most significant negative impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors relating to environmental, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, anticorruption and antibribery matters.



#### How did this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?

The Fund considers principal adverse impacts of its investment decisions on sustainability factors as part of its investment due diligence process and procedures as set out in the Manager's Principal Adverse **Impact** Due Diligence Policy found https://www.brownadvisory.com/sites/default/files/Principal\_Adverse\_Impact\_Due\_Diligence\_Polic y Brown Advisory Ireland Limited.pdf.



During the reference period the Fund did not have access to a reliable data source that would allow for the systematic assessment of the all of the Principal Adverse Indicators (PAI) outlined in Annex 1 of SFDR. Beginning in 2023, certain of these PAI metrics will be considered in the investment approach and used to contribute to the overall assessment of how sustainability factors may be negatively impacted.

#### What were the top investments of this financial product?

The list includes the investments
constituting the
greatest proportion
of investments of
the financial product
during the reference
period which is: The
financial year end of
the company,
October 31st 2022

Largest investments	Sector	%	Country
		Assets	
UNITED STATES TREASURY BILL ZCP	Governments	6.27	United States
	Governments	5.29	
BONOS Y OBLIG DEL ESTADO /EUR/ REGD			Spain
JAPAN (2 YEAR ISSUE) /JPY/ REGD SER 433	Governments	5.2	Japan
JAPAN (2 YEAR ISSUE) /JPY/ REGD SER 434	Governments	5.19	Japan
JAPAN (10 YEAR ISSUE) /JPY/ REGD SER 333	Governments	5.17	Japan
JAPAN (2 YEAR ISSUE) /JPY/ REGD SER 432	Governments	4.52	Japan
INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION &	Governments	4.43	Supranational
DEVELOPMENT			
EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK /EUR/ REGD EMTN	Governments	4.18	Supranational
INTER-AMERICAN DEVEL BK REGD	Governments	4.06	Supranational
EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK REGD	Governments	3.92	Supranational
KFW REGD REG S MTN SER GMTN	Financials	3.71	Germany
MEX BONOS DESARR FIX RT /MXN/ REGD SER M	Governments	3.54	Mexico
JAPAN (10 YEAR ISSUE) /JPY/ REGD SER 331	Governments	3.48	Japan
NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT /NZD/ REGD SER 0429	Governments	3.42	New Zealand
NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT /NZD/ REGD SER 0532	Governments	2.93	New Zealand

Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.

#### **Bloomberg Industry Sector**

#### What was the proportion of sustainability-related investments?

91.11% of the Fund's investments were in Sustainable Investments.



# Enabling activities directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective.

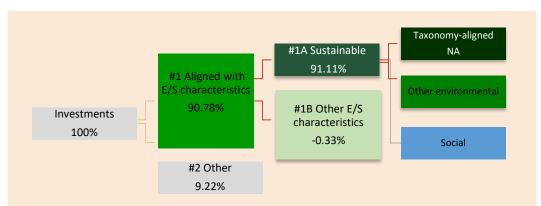
Transitional activities are activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best performance.

are
sustainable
investments with
an environmental
objective that do
not take into
account the
criteria for
environmentally
sustainable
economic activities
under Regulation
(EU) 2020/852.

Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

- turnover reflects the "greenness" of investee companies today.
- capital
  expenditure
  (CapEx) shows the green investments made by investee companies, relevant for a transition to a green economy.
- operational expenditure (OpEx) reflects the green operational activities of investee companies.

#### What was the asset allocation?



**#1** Aligned with E/S characteristics includes the investments of the financial product used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

**#20ther** includes the remaining investments of the financial product which are neither aligned with the environmental or social characteristics, nor are qualified as sustainable investments.

The category #1 Aligned with E/S characteristics covers:

- The sub-category #1A Sustainable covers environmentally and socially sustainable investments.
- The sub-category **#1B Other E/S characteristics** covers investments aligned with the environmental or social characteristics that do not qualify as sustainable investments.

6.44% of the investments were Sustainable Investments with a primary non-financial outcome associated with an "environmental" theme. 4.00% of the investments were Sustainable Investments with a primary non-financial outcome associated with a "social" theme. 80.67% of the investments were Sustainable Investments with non-financial outcomes associated with a both environmental and social themes.

#### In which economic sectors were the investments made?

Sector	% Assets		
Communication Services	1.92		
Consumer Discretionary	0.49		
Consumer Staples	2.12		
Financials	4.88		
Government	76.72		
Industrials	0.23		
Mortgage Securites	3.00		
Information Technology	1.14		
Utilities	0.30		

Bloomberg Industry Sector.



To what extent were the sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

NΑ

What was the share of investments made in transitional and enabling activities?

NA

How did the percentage of investments that were aligned with the EU Taxonomy compare with previous reference periods?

NA



## What was the share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

6.44% of the Fund's investments were Sustainable Investments with a primary non-financial outcome associated with an "environmental" theme, as determined by the Investment Manager and Sub-Investment Manager. Additionally, 80.67% of the investments were Sustainable Investments with non-financial outcomes associated with a both environmental and social themes, as determined by the Investment Manager and Sub-Investment Manager.



#### What was the share of socially sustainable investments?

4.00% of the Fund's investments were Sustainable Investments with a primary non-financial outcome associated with a "social" theme, as determined by the Investment Manager and Sub-Investment Manager. Additionally, 80.67% of the investments were Sustainable Investments with non-financial outcomes associated with a both environmental and social themes, as determined by the Investment Manager and Sub-Investment Manager.



# What investments were included under "other", what was their purpose and were there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

Cash securities that were not actively allocated. In these cases, the currency was determined by the investor investing in the Fund and therefore no analysis was undertaken to determine what currency the position was in.



# What actions have been taken to meet the environmental and/or social characteristics during the reference period?

Throughout the reference period, the Fund integrated ESG research into its investment due diligence and decision-making process. The Investment Manager and Sub-Investment Manager conducted ESG analysis at the sector, company or security level for every in-scope ESG investment made in the Fund, including an ESG Risk Assessment, Sustainable Opportunity Assessment, Use of Proceeds Assessment and Good Governance Assessment.

During the period, periodic screening was completed to confirm that the corporate issuers in the Fund abided by the Fund's stated exclusions that are designed to avoid certain harmful and/or controversial business activities.

The Fund also engaged with certain issuers in the Fund, conducting direct engagements with Fund holdings in addition to engagements with other stakeholders. Furthermore, the Fund participated in a

number of collaborative engagement initiatives throughout the period and remains committed to collaborating with the industry to promote positive and material environmental and social outcomes.



#### How did this financial product perform compared to the reference benchmark?

The Fund does not use a reference benchmark to determine whether the financial product is aligned with the environmental and/or social characteristics that it promotes.

How does the reference benchmark differ from a broad market index?

NA

How did this financial product perform with regard to the sustainability indicators to determine the alignment of the reference benchmark with the environmental or social characteristics promoted?

NA

- How did this financial product perform compared with the reference benchmark?
  NA
- How did this financial product perform compared with the broad market index?
  NA

Reference benchmarks are indexes to measure whether the financial product attains the environmental or social characteristics that they promote.