









# **Central Themes Impacting the Macro Landscape**

Resilience in the midst of divergence





# Interest rates

Prospects of further interest rate cuts in 2024



# **Easing** inflation

Inflationary impact of wage growth has been buffered by profits







# Middle East conflict

Continuous global trade disruptions



# **Uneven** consumption

Robust in some economies, tepid in others

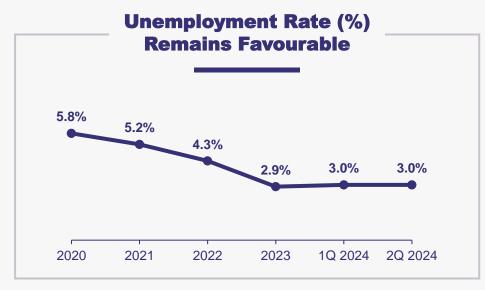


# **Market Prospects**

## Our markets showcase solid economic fundamentals



### **HONG KONG**





The Hong Kong economy sustained moderate growth at +3.3% YoY during 2Q 2024



The Central Government measures and HKSAR's efforts to boost inbound tourism and consumption



Labour market is expected to remain tight with moderate economic growth, alongside continuing hikes in minimum wage

### **MAINLAND CHINA**





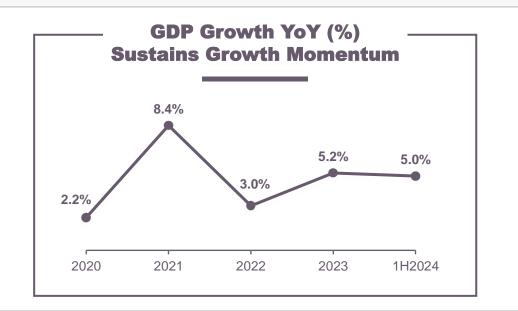
The Mainland China economy continued its growth trajectory with 2Q24 GDP at +5.0% YoY, supported by the expansion of new industries



Inflation hovered at low levels (+0.5% YoY in Jul 2024), helping to keep both business and consumer costs in check



Relaxation of home ownership policies in addition to expected fiscal stimulus boosted market sentiment

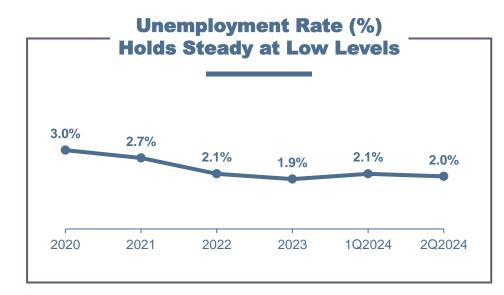


# **Market Prospects**

# Our markets exhibit notable economic strength



### **SINGAPORE**





As a major developed market in the APAC, Singapore's economy experienced modest sequential growth in 2Q 2024 at +2.9% YoY.



Core inflation eased to 3.4% for most goods and services due to reduced business cost pressures.



The labour market is expected to stay close to full employment due to its ability to attract investment and talent.

### **AUSTRALIA**



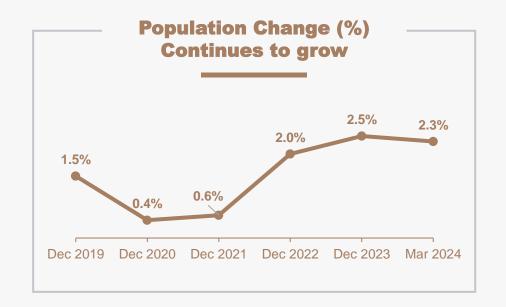
August retail sales growth +3.1% YoY, exceeding expectations due to tax cuts and warmer weather.



RBA maintained interest rates at 4.35%, reflecting its commitment to focus on bringing underlying inflation back within the target range.

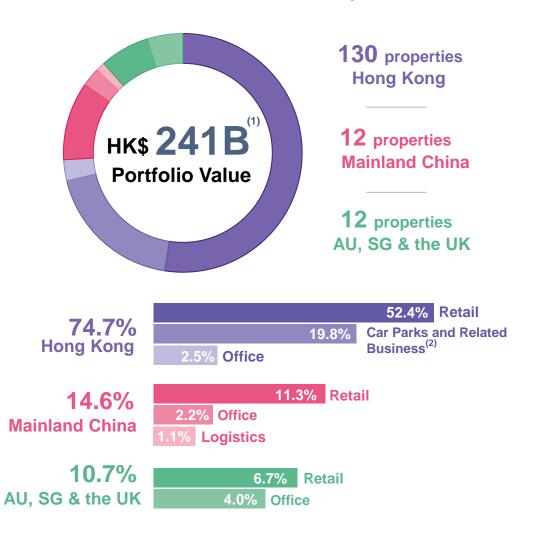


Population growth, young demographics and infrastructure expansion are tailwinds to the labour market and consumption.



### **Portfolio Overview**

# Consistent business performance amid opportunities and challenges











### **Global**

**Interest rate cut cycle** by the Fed a booster to overall sentiment

### **Hong Kong**

**Retail sales** are facing headwinds amidst structural adjustments; however, we will intensify our efforts to boost **non-rental income** 

### **Mainland China**

**Government support** for the real estate sector to potentially improve consumer sentiment

### **International**

Healthy economic data bolstered consumer and leasing demand

- (1) As at 31 March 2024, the total valuation of investment properties, including 49.9% value of the prime office portfolio in Sydney and Melbourne.
- (2) Including two car park/car service centres and godown buildings in Hong Kong.





Robust occupancies driven by leasing demand and improving consumer sentiment







### **HONG KONG**

97.5%

Retail

99.2%

Office







### **MAINLAND CHINA**

93.6%

Retail

90.5%

Office

92.5%

Logistics

### **INTERNATIONAL**

98.4%

Singapore retail

99.5%(1)

Australia retail

89.4%(2)

International office

- (1) Represented 50% interest in three retail properties in Sydney.
- (2) Included 100 Market street, 49.9% interest in a prime office portfolio in Sydney and Melbourne, as well as The Cabot in London.
- (3) All figures for the period ended or as at 30 June 2024 unless stated otherwise.

# **Hong Kong Retail Sales**

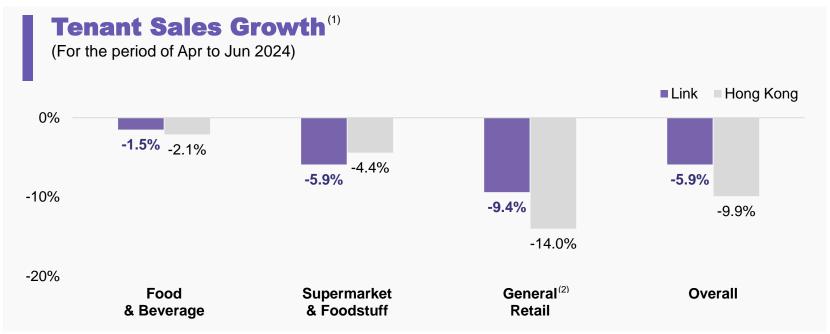
# Tenant resilience with stronger than market performance despite sales decline











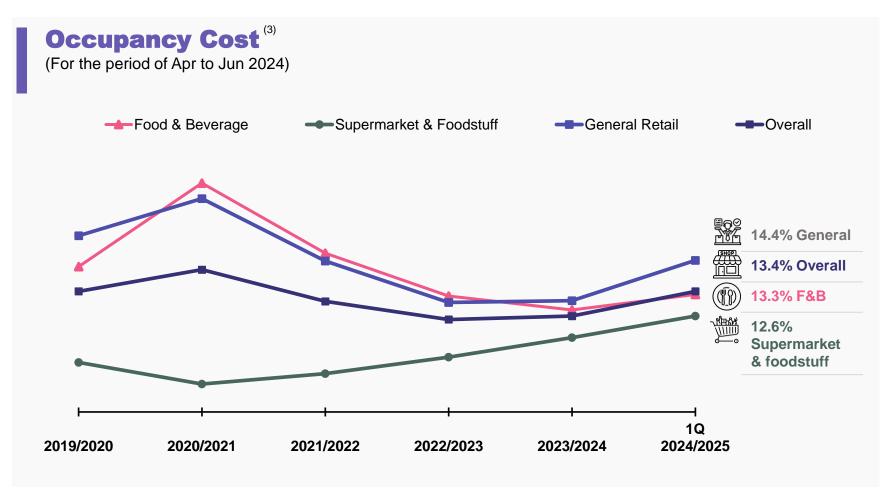


- Our tenant sales growth faced challenges from changing consumption patterns and a strong Hong Kong dollar in the 1Q 2024/2025, albeit to a lesser extent compared to the broader market.
- Nevertheless, the recent weakening of Hong Kong dollar is expected to moderate the outbound leakage seen last season.

- (1) Percentage figures represent year-on-year change in tenants' average monthly sales per square foot.
- (2) Including clothing, department store, electrical and household products, personal care/medicine, optical, books and stationery, newspaper, valuable goods, services, leisure and entertainment, and other retail.
- (3) A ratio of base rent (excluding management fee) to tenant retail gross sales per square foot.
- (4) All figures for the period ended 30 June 2024 unless stated otherwise.

# **Hong Kong Retail Sales**

# Occupancy costs remain within a sustainable range









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# **Hong Kong Car Parks and Related Business**

Smart parking system opens opportunities for productivity

# Number of Parking Tickets Moderate decline



Revenue
per space
Low single-digit growth

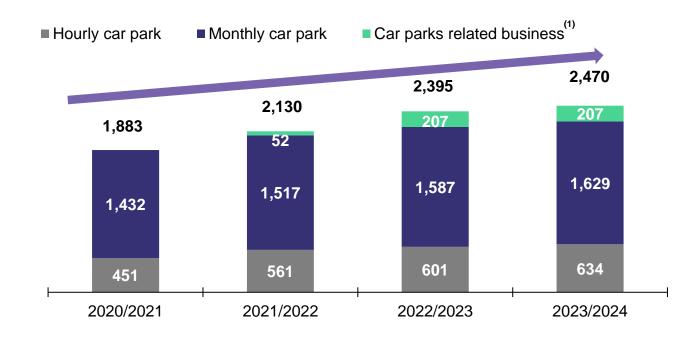


Total Income<sup>(3)</sup>
Marginally higher



- ➤ Car parks upgraded to **smart parking** system across **121 car parks** to ensure a seamless parking experience:
  - ✓ License Plate Recognition System (LPRS)
  - √ Vehicle traffic efficiency
  - ✓ Digitalisation of services and payments





### Sustained car park income progress

#### lotes:

- (1) Refers to contributions from two car park/car service centres and godown buildings in Hung Hom and Chai Wan.
- 2) All figures for the year ended or as at 31 March 2024, unless otherwise stated.
- (3) Car Park Total Income includes parking fees from Monthly Car Park, Hourly Car Park (including Free Parking) and Others (Expense Recovery and other misc. income).

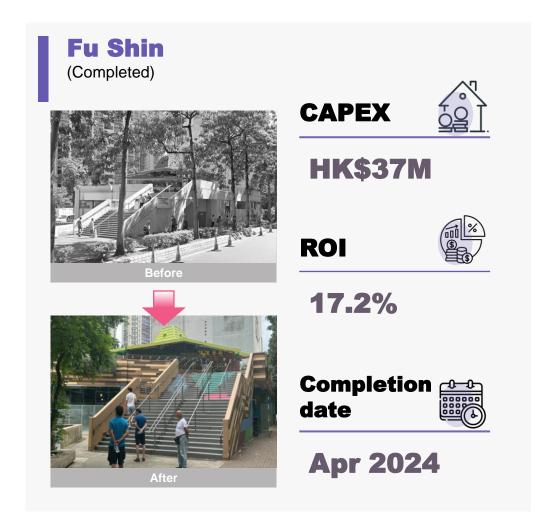


A highly efficient operation model that optimises the utilisation of parking resources



## **Asset Enhancements**

# Maximising asset value potential





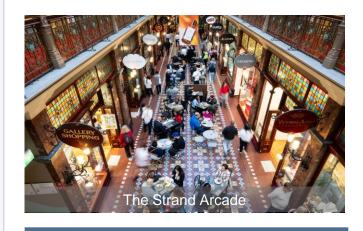
### International

# Sustained retailer demand; trend maintained in office flight-to-quality



### **SG RETAIL**

- Portfolio occupancy remained high at 98.4% with strong leasing demand
- Tenant sales maintain the growth trend in-line with overall Singapore since 2023
- F&B and Beauty & Wellness categories continue to be the main drivers



### **AU RETAIL**

- Portfolio occupancy sustained their near-full level of 99.5%
- Sales have exceeded pre-COVID levels
- Leasing strategy focused on enhancing tenant mix and refreshing product offering



### INT'L OFFICE

- Flight-to-quality thematic continues
- Ongoing leasing success sees 388
   George St Sydney 100% leased
- We are strengthening assets'
   placemaking strategy, amenities
   and ESG credentials to offer a point of difference, including 347 Kent St Sydney AEI



### **Mainland China**

# Resilient performance against a challenging landscape but stabilising in GBA



### RETAIL

- Occupancy stood at 93.6%
- Softened demand in F&B due to consumption downgrade
- Downsized, subdivided and replaced underperforming tenants to boost mall productivity
- AE on Link Plaza Tianhe ph. 2
   and Link Plaza Tongzhou to start



### OFFICE

- Occupancy rate held above
   90% despite the influx of new supply
- Fit-out works in progress to facilitate a seamless move-in experience for prospective tenants and enhance market appeal



### LOGISTICS

- Overall occupancy rate maintained at a healthy level of 92.5%
- Leasing momentum remained soft in the YRD but showed stability in the GBA
- Changshu warehouses surpassed the market average in occupancy despite fierce competition

- (1) YRD stands for Yangtze River Delta; GBA stands for Greater Bay Area.
- (2) All figures for the period ended or as at 30 June 2024 unless stated otherwise.



## **Link CentralWalk Basement Transformation**

Improving visibility and enhancing its allure









**July 2024** 





















# Link CentralWalk Basement Area Grand Re-Opening





# **Strong Financial Position**

Primed to capitalise on potential opportunities

NET GEARING RATIO 19.5%

AVERAGE BORROWING COST 3.78%

FIXED-RATE DEBT RATIO 69.8%

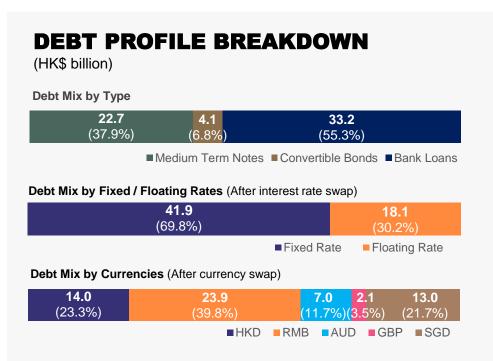
CREDIT RATINGS

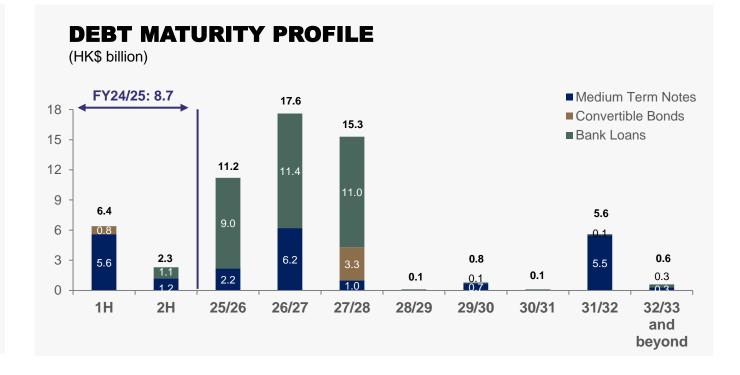
A Stable A2 Stable

S&P

Moody's

A Stable Fitch EBITDA INTEREST COVERAGE
4.3x





#### Note:

(1) All figures for the year ended or as at 31 March 2024, unless stated otherwise.





# **Creating Value for Unitholders under Link 3.0**

Through the two distinct businesses that Link REIT owns



### Link Asset Management Limited ("Link")



- Comprehensive capabilities in fund, portfolio, capital, asset and property management
- Leverage our fully-fledged platform with solid track record to expand our management scope
- Evolving from a REIT manager to one that manages both public and private capital



### **Link REIT Portfolio**



### **Investments**

Interests in Real Estate

- Actively managed by Link to generate returns from the investments in properties, focusing on Asia Pacific
- Delivering resilient operating and financial results from operational excellence by Link, under its integrated operating platform
- Diversifying portfolio exposure to withstand market cycles and concentration risk

# **Link 3.0 Investment Strategy**

# Focus on markets with long-term strategic prospects

## **GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS**





**Key developed markets** in **APAC**, such as Australia, Japan, Singapore



**Australia** – Attractive valuations due to **significant cap rate expansion** already taken place



Singapore – Safety and stability make it a beneficiary of US-China tensions



Japan – Interest rates remain relatively low, underpinning positive carry in investments



### **RATIONALE**



**3 key attributes** benefiting Link in these markets:

- Low investment risk Market stability with some growth
- Moderate to high liquidity
- Low to moderate returns correlations to Hong Kong



Potential sectors include **retail**, **office** and **logistics** across the three markets



Pan-APAC portfolio offers **higher risk-adjusted returns** 

Long term goal = Build a balanced, robust Asia Pacific portfolio generating attractive risk-adjusted returns for our unitholders



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