## Singapore Company Update



5 December 2022

# Frasers Centrepoint Trust (FCT SP)

## **Resilient But Not Immune**

Property | REITS

## Neutral (Maintained)

Target Price (Return):	SGD2.09 (4.0%)
Price (Market Cap):	SGD2.01 (USD2,538m)
ESG score:	3.20 (out of 4)
Avg Daily Turnover (SGD/USD)	7.51m/5.33m

### Analyst

Vijay Natarajan

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- Keep NEUTRAL with a lower TP of SGD2.09 from SGD2.45, 4% upside. Frasers Centerpoint Trust's suburban mall portfolio is expected to stay resilient in the face of a slowing economic growth but it is not immune to inflationary pressures and rising interest rates. FCT has also seemed to have dropped out of race to acquire Mercatus malls, which we believe is not a bad news in the current challenging market conditions. Overall, we expect upside from occupancy increase and rental uptick to be offset by higher financing costs and lower margins.
- Not a leading contender for Mercatus' portfolio anymore. Reuters reported that Hong Kong listed Link REIT (823 HK, NR) has emerged as the frontrunner (article link) in the race to buy the trimmed retail portfolio assets from Mercatus Co-operative Ltd. estimated at SGD2.5bn. FCT was tipped to be among potential candidates but the latest news does not come as a surprise as challenging equity funding environment and higher debt costs have largely dimmed any accretion potential for such a portfolio. In our view, FCT could focus instead on increasing its stake in Waterway Point (50% owned) or acquiring North Point City South Wing at the right opportunity as these assets offer greater familiarity, synergy, and value extraction potential for FCT. With gearing at 33%, FCT has > SGD0.5bn in debt headroom before it crosses the 40% level.
- Occupancy and rents to remain firm, but expect pressure on margins. Portfolio occupancy rose 0.4ppt QoQ to 97.5% (ie near full occupancy), with its three large dominant malls (Causeway Point, North Point City North Wing, and Waterway Point) registering. Rent reversion saw a turnaround with +1.5% in FY22 (FY21: -0.6%) on incoming vs outgoing basis as underlying tenant sales across its malls rose 10% above pre-COVID-19 levels. Occupancy cost fell to 16.2% vs 19.2% the peak in FY20. NPI margin is expected to see a c.2% compression as most of the utility rate hedges across its malls will be rolled over to high spot market rates by May 2023.
- FCT currently hedged 71% of its borrowings and every 50bps increase in interest rates is expected to have a c.2% impact on its DPU. In addition FCT has a high c.48% of debt due for refinancing in the next two years which we expect should result in c.100bps increase in overall interest cost.
- We have revised down FY23-24F DPU by 3% due to higher financing costs, lower margins, and tweaking up the rents. Our COE assumption is lifted up by 70bps to factor in rising rates resulting in a lower TP.
- We raise FCT's ESG score by a notch to 3.2 (out of 4.0) by raising environmental score on the back of its efforts and carbon emission reduction targets. As this score is two notches above the country median we applied a 4% premium to our intrinsic value to derive TP.

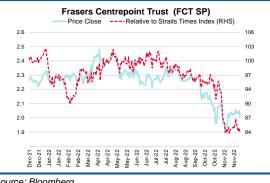
Forecasts and Valuation	Sep-21	Sep-22	Sep-23F	Sep-24F	Sep-25F
Total turnover (SGDm)	341	357	368	370	371
Net property income (SGDm)	247	259	261	263	264
Reported net profit (SGDm)	185	202	207	229	228
Total distributable income (SGDm)	207	204	214	215	215
DPS (SGD)	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12
DPS growth (%)	33.3	2.4	0.9	(0.1)	(0.2)
P/B (x)	0.87	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.85
Dividend Yield (%)	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.2
Return on average equity (%)	5.7	5.1	5.2	5.7	5.7
Return on average assets (%)	3.8	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.7

Source: Company data, RHB

### Share Performance (%)

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	YTD	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	(13.0)	(2.0)	(11.5)	(11.9)	(11.5)
Relative	(17.3)	(5.8)	(13.2)	(12.9)	(16.9)
52-wk Price low/	high (SGD	)		1.92	2 – 2.48



### Source: Bloomberg

### Overall ESG Score: 3.20 (out of 4)

#### E: EXCELLENT

FCT in line with group sets to achieve net zero carbon emission by 2050 and to achieve 80% green certification for its own and managed assets. Achieved 5-star GRESB rating and improved its rank higher by one notch to 2nd out of 8 in Asia listed peers. 94% of portfolio by gross floor area certified BCA Green Mark Gold or higher, including 83% certified Green Mark Gold PLUS or Platinum S: GOOD

All its properties are SG Clean certified and it was First retail mall in Singapore to roll out UV-disinfectant autonomous mobile robots to enhance safety. FCT collected 5.8tonnes (FY20: 4.6tonnes) of food donation for Food Bank Singapore. Safety first approach with all our properties certified with ISO 45001. All of the REIT manager's employees have undergone sustainabilityrelated trainings. G: EXCELLENT

High level of transparency in earnings and operating performance disclosure. Diverse board with good mix of independent directors. Undertakes external independent audit every year to evaluate the performance of the board.



## **Financial Exhibits**

## Property | REITS

Sep-25F

0.13

0.13

0.12

2.36

5.7 1,712.21

Sep-25F 15.09

15.09

0.9

6.6

6.2

0.65

0.65

371

230

230

Sep-25F

Asia	Financial summary	Sep-21	Sep-22	Sep-23F	Sep-24F
Singapore	Recurring EPS (SGD)	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.13
Property	EPS (SGD)	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.13
Frasers Centrepoint Trust	DPS (SGD)	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12
FCT SP	BVPS (SGD)	2.30	2.33	2.34	2.35
Neutral	Return on average equity (%)	5.7	5.1	5.2	5.7
	Weighted avg adjusted shares (m)	1,700.86	1,701.52	1,704.73	1,708.52
Valuation basis					
DDM	Valuation metrics	Sep-21	Sep-22	Sep-23F	Sep-24F
	Recurring P/E (x)	18.45	16.90	16.54	15.01
Key drivers	P/E (x)	18.45	16.90	16.54	15.01
I. A pure-play on resilient Singapore sub-urban	P/B (x)	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
retail sector,	FCF Yield (%)	5.9	6.9	7.4	6.8
II. Malls well-located with dominant positioning and	Dividend Yield (%)	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.2
good catchment population, and III. Experienced management and strong sponsor	EV/EBITDA (x)	0.40	0.57	0.56	0.59
	EV/EBIT (x)	0.40	0.57	0.56	0.59
Key risks					
I. Inflationary pressures increase in GST on retail	Income statement (SGDm)	Sep-21	Sep-22	Sep-23F	Sep-24F
tenants and shoppers;	Total turnover	341	357	368	370
II. Prolonged economic recession in Singapore	EBITDA	210	222	227	230
lowering retail spend; and	Operating profit	210	222	227	230
<li>III. Growing threat from Omni-channel strategy by retailers, food delivery platforms.</li>	Net interest	(45)	(47)	(58)	(61)
retailers, tood delivery platforms.	Income from associates & JVs	4	24	32	33
Company Profile	Pre-tax profit	185	202	207	229
Frasers Centrepoint Trust ("FCT") is a leading	Recurring net profit	185	202	207	229
developer-sponsored REIT with total assets of					
approximately SGD 6.1bn. FCT is also one of the	Cash flow (SGDm)	Sep-21	Sep-22	Sep-23F	Sep-24F
largest suburban retail mall owners in Singapore. Its	Change in working capital	(16)	7	25	0

developer-spo approximately largest suburban retail mall owners in Singapore. Its Singapore retail portfolio comprises nine retail malls located in the suburban regions and also has one office building.

oporating prom	2.0				200
Net interest	(45)	(47)	(58)	(61)	(63)
Income from associates & JVs	4	24	32	33	33
Pre-tax profit	185	202	207	229	228
Recurring net profit	185	202	207	229	228
Cash flow (SGDm)	Sep-21	Sep-22	Sep-23F	Sep-24F	Sep-25F
Change in working capital	(16)	7	25	0	(5)
Cash flow from operations	208	241	259	237	231
Capex	(6)	(6)	(4)	(4)	(4)
Cash flow from investing activities	(471)	16	(101)	29	30
Dividends paid	(150)	(208)	(212)	(213)	(213)
Cash flow from financing activities	286	(254)	(140)	(265)	(261)
Cash at beginning of period	137	42	38	55	57
Net change in cash	23	3	17	1	0
Ending balance cash	160	45	55	57	57

Key metrics	Sep-21	Sep-22	Sep-23F	Sep-24F	Sep-25F
Revenue growth (%)	107.5	4.6	3.1	0.6	0.2
Recurrent EPS growth (%)	8386.6	9.2	2.2	10.2	(0.5)
Operating EBITDA margin (%)	61.7	62.3	61.7	62.0	62.0
Net profit margin (%)	54.3	56.7	56.3	61.8	61.5
Dividend payout ratio (%)	110.5	103.7	102.5	92.9	93.2
Capex/sales (%)	1.7	1.7	1.1	1.1	1.1
Interest cover (x)	4.58	4.75	3.90	3.70	3.63

Source: Company data, RHB



## 5 December 2022

## Singapore Company Update

Property | REITS

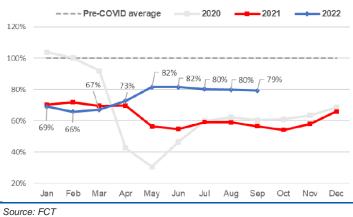
### Figure 1: DDM valuation

FY23F	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F	FY27F	Terminal Value
12.45	12.44	12.41	12.41	12.53	220.03
2.01					
0.08					
2.09					
2.01					
4.0%					
6.2%					
10.2%					
2.75%					
0.9					
7.8%					
2.0%					
	12.45 2.01 0.08 <b>2.09</b> 2.01 4.0% 6.2% 10.2% 2.75% 0.9 7.8%	12.45       12.44         2.01       0.08 <b>2.09</b> 2.01         4.0%       6.2%         10.2%       2.75%         0.9       7.8%	12.45       12.44       12.41         2.01       0.08         2.09       2.01         4.0%       6.2%         10.2%       2.75%         0.9       7.8%	12.45       12.44       12.41       12.41         2.01       0.08       2.09       2.01         4.0%       6.2%       10.2%       2.75%         0.9       7.8%       2.8%	12.45       12.44       12.41       12.41       12.53         2.01       0.08       2.09       2.01         4.0%       6.2%       10.2%         2.75%       0.9       7.8%

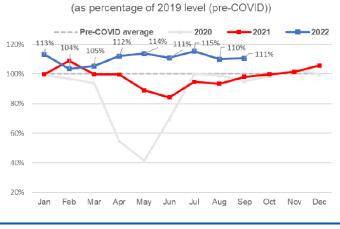
Source: RHB

### Figure 2: Portfolio shopper traffic trend





### Figure 3: Portfolio tenant sales



FCT Retail Portfolio Tenants' Sales Trend

Source: FCT

### Figure 4: Rental reversion by malls

	No. of	NI	NLA		YTD average vs	
Property	Renewals / New Leases	Area (sq ft)	As percentage of Mall	outgoing rental reversion	average rental reversion	
Causeway Point	58	171,312	41%	1.6%	4.4%	
Northpoint City North Wing <sup>2</sup>	41	43,103	21%	1.3%	4.4%	
Changi City Point	28	27,794	14%	-3.7%	2.6%	
Waterway Point	85	132,294	36%	1.9%	4.9%	
Tampines 1	20	33,491	12%	1.5%	3.7%	
Tiong Bahru Plaza	59	59,360	28%	2.4%	4.4%	
Century Square	27	34,913	17%	-1.1%	2.2%	
Hougang Mall	27	16,112	11%	1.2%	2.6%	
White Sands	49	47,310	37%	2.6%	4.2%	
FCT Retail Portfolio	394	565,689	26%	1.5%	4.2%	
Central Plaza	5	21,098	15%	2.4%	2.4%	

Retail portfolio rental reversions in FY2021 were -0.6% (income vs outgoing) and +2.1% (average vs average) Includes Yishun 10 Retail Podium. ed on committed leases for expiries as at 30 September 2022, and the calculations exclude vacant floor area.

Source: Company Data



## Property | REITS

5 December 2022

## **Recommendation Chart**



Date	Recommendation	Target Price	Price
2021-10-27	Neutral	2.45	2.36
2021-07-26	Neutral	2.40	2.36
2020-12-17	Neutral	2.40	2.50
2020-09-13	Neutral	2.40	2.67
2020-07-26	Neutral	2.16	2.39
2020-04-27	Neutral	2.07	2.00
2019-10-24	Neutral	2.55	2.75
2019-08-30	Neutral	2.55	2.75
2019-05-17	Neutral	2.25	2.40
2019-04-25	Neutral	2.19	2.37
2018-10-25	Neutral	2.19	2.22
2018-10-16	Neutral	2.24	2.23
2017-10-25	Neutral	2.24	2.21

Source: RHB, Bloomberg

#### 4.0 3.1 3.0 2.0 1.0 0.0 Febili AUGIZZ OCTL APT-22 un 22 Decili Dec.Jo feb.21 AQT:21 00000 1092 10.21 Source: RHB

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