

Aberforth Partners LLP

Presentation to AFUND Investors November 2024

This presentation is intended for investment professionals.
It does not represent investment advice.



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ABERFORTH PARTNERS



- Valuations offer a compelling opportunity in small UK quoted companies
- 34 years of experience managing small cap money
 - Consistency: one asset class, value investment, collegiate process, engagement
 - Capacity discipline: focus on our existing clients; c.£200m of AuM capacity today
 - Alignment: partners continue to add to their holdings in the funds
- A busy 2024 for Aberforth
 - Engagement with investee companies running at elevated levels
 - Successful wind-up of ASLIT and IPO of AGVIT

Aberforth Geared Value & Income Trust (AGVIT)



IPO on 1 July 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ £147m total assets split across Ordinary and ZDP shares▪ Support from investors rolling out of ASLIT and £15m new money raised▪ Partners of Aberforth increased their investment by £4m in the IPO
37.5% ZDP gearing at IPO	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ To take advantage of the investment opportunity in smaller companies▪ Additional upside for the Ordinary Shares from 9% discount to NAV
7 year fixed life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Planned wind-up no later than 30 June 2031▪ A clear solution to discount risk
Attractive income	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Anticipated first year dividend of 4.0-5.0p (per the Prospectus)▪ Income experience has so far been good – 2.64p earned at 31 October▪ First year yield at current ordinary share price of 4.6-5.7%

Total returns to 31 October 2024

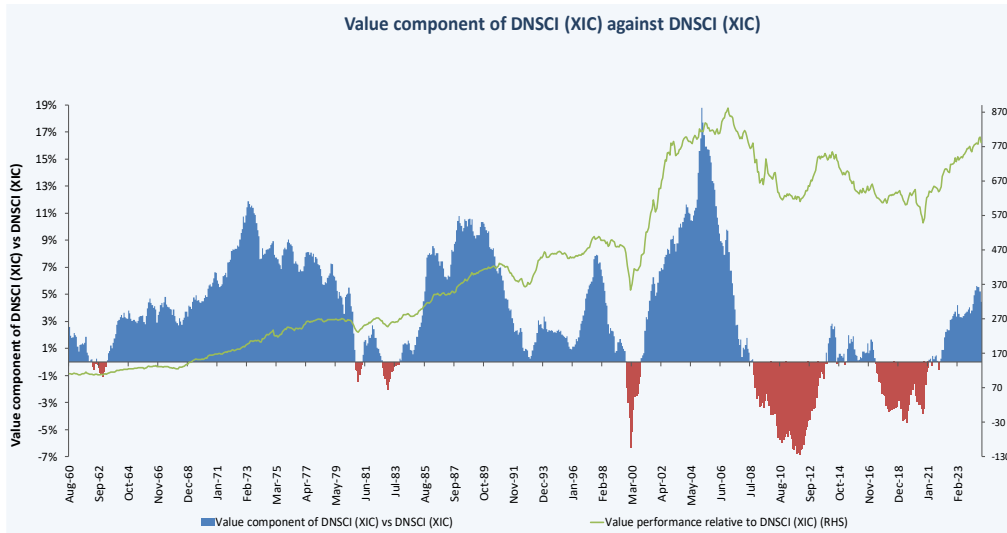


Total Return %	YTD	1 Year	CAGR			AFUND inception
			3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	
FTSE All-Share	8.1	16.3	6.2	5.7	6.2	7.7
FTSE 250 (XIC)	7.5	26.2	-0.7	2.9	5.4	9.9
FTSE SmallCap (XIC)	13.8	28.8	1.5	9.1	7.6	7.4
DNSCI (XIC)	7.8	25.4	-0.6	5.2	6.1	9.1
AFUND	10.3	24.4	1.9	5.7	6.2	11.2

Inception date for AFUND was 20/03/1991

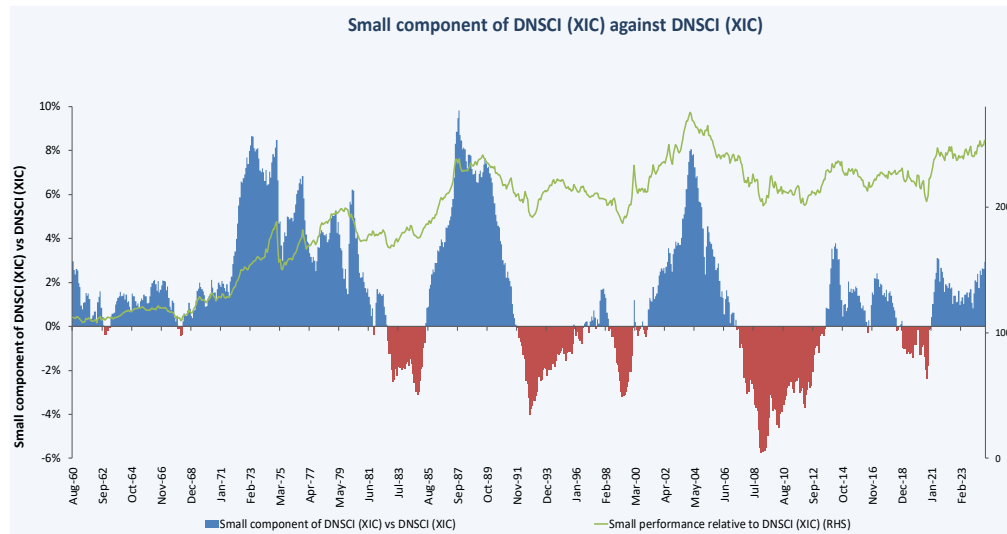
- Positive equity returns – interest rate cycle and expectation of profit recovery
- Divergence between returns from domestic and overseas companies
- Markets digesting the implications of the Budget and US election
- Aberforth’s funds helped by M&A

Value style and size



Value style

- The value style remains helpful to performance
 - Influenced by inflation and bond yields
 - A slight tailwind year-to-date
- Value premium within the DNSCI (XIC) since
 - The index's inception in 1955 +3.3% p.a.
 - ASCoT's inception in 1990* +2.0% p.a.



Size

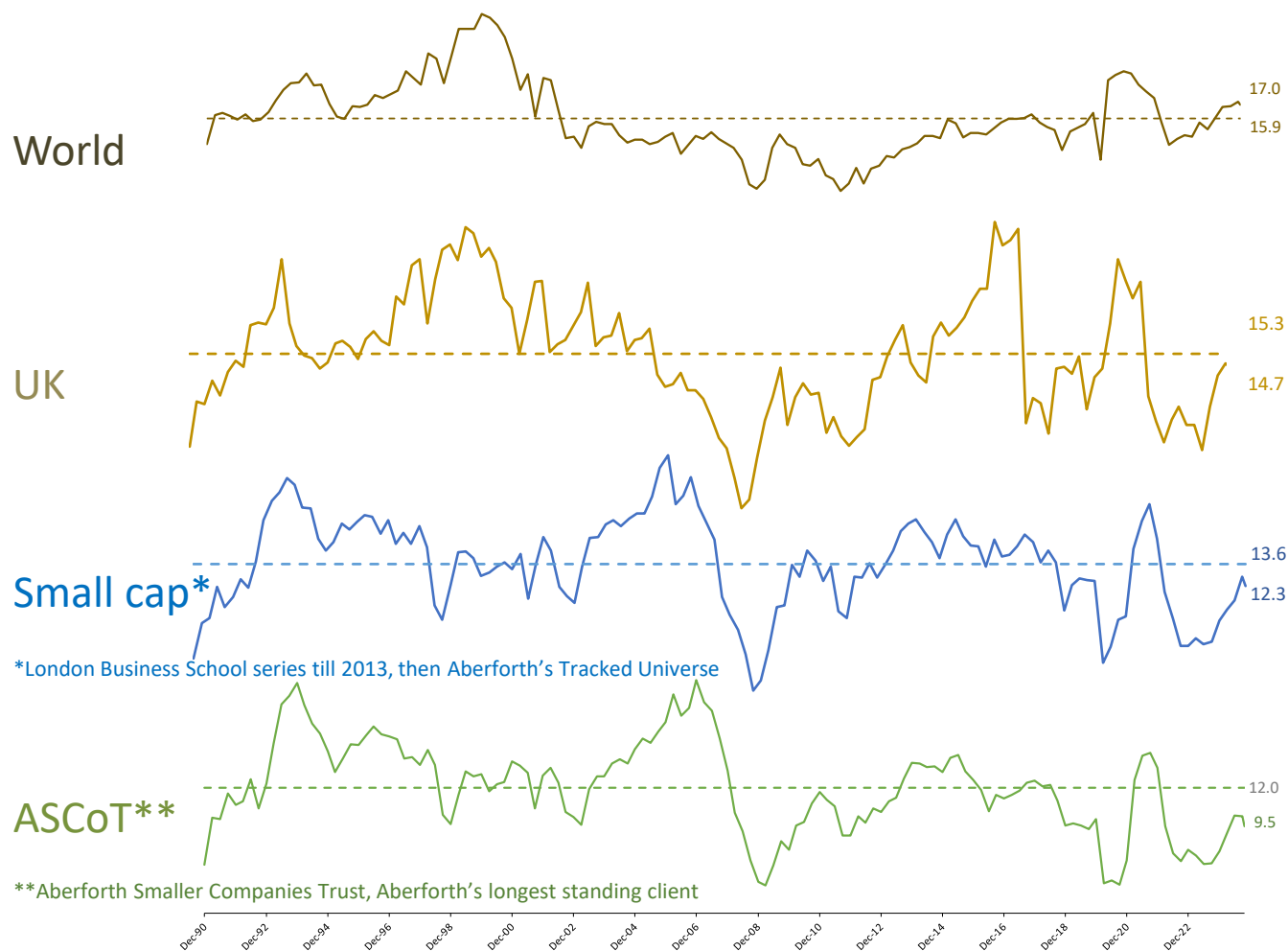
- Size has also been helpful to performance
 - ASCoT is over-weight in “smaller smalls”
 - A strong tailwind year-to-date
- Size premium within the DNSCI (XIC) since
 - The index's inception in 1955 +1.4% p.a.
 - ASCoT's inception in 1990* +0.5% p.a.

* ASCoT's inception was in December 1990. Its portfolio is the same as AFUND's.

Valuations – the triple discount



Historical PEs



PE relatives – the triple discount:

1. The UK vs. RoW

33Y average 0.96
Today 0.86

2. Small caps vs. UK

33Y average 0.89
Today 0.84

3. Aberforth vs. Small caps

33Y average 0.89
Today 0.78

Note: Past performance is not a guide to future performance, nor a reliable indicator of future results or performance.

Discount: a term used to reference illustrated PE ratios that are all at levels below their long-term average.

The UK – the tide is turning



- Total return from DNSCI (XIC) +25% over 12 months to 31 October 2024
 - All re-rating – the market is looking through the impact of the recession on profits
- Why?
 - There are marginal buyers: bigger companies, private equity, share buy-backs
 - UK economic performance is less of an outlier
 - Government – mixed
 - Budget: greater burden on businesses; scepticism reflected in gilts and sterling
 - But recognition that regulation has contributed to a lack of investment in the UK
- What would help a further move higher for small caps?
 - Profit inflection, as lower interest rates feed through to economic activity

Winners and losers – year to date



15 Best winners			
Rank	Company	Total return (%)	Attribution (bp)
1	Wincanton	94	237
2	CMC Markets	199	187
3	Galliford Try Holdings	75	104
4	Bakkavor Group	95	97
5	Just Group	59	82
6	Indivior	-42	65
7	Avon Technologies	47	62
8	Centamin	63	62
9	Watches of Switzerland Group	-43	58
10	Victrex	-41	48
11	Wilmington	24	46
12	THG	-45	44
13	Eurocell	45	44
14	Kainos Group	-32	42
15	International Personal Finance	22	36

15 Worst losers			
Rank	Company	Total return (%)	Attribution (bp)
1	Close Brothers Group	-71	-87
2	Playtech	62	-60
3	SIG	-31	-55
4	Morgan Sindall Group	77	-55
5	TT Electronics	-47	-52
6	Headlam Group	-37	-52
7	Vesuvius	-22	-49
8	Ascential	0	-48
9	Videndum	-19	-46
10	Hochschild Mining	114	-45
11	Senior	-24	-45
12	Morgan Advanced Materials	-11	-44
13	Ecora Resources	-36	-43
14	Plus500	51	-42
15	Card Factory	-17	-41

Not held in portfolio

- Winners: M&A and more domestically oriented holdings
- Losers: a skew to overseas oriented companies

Value roll in action – year to date



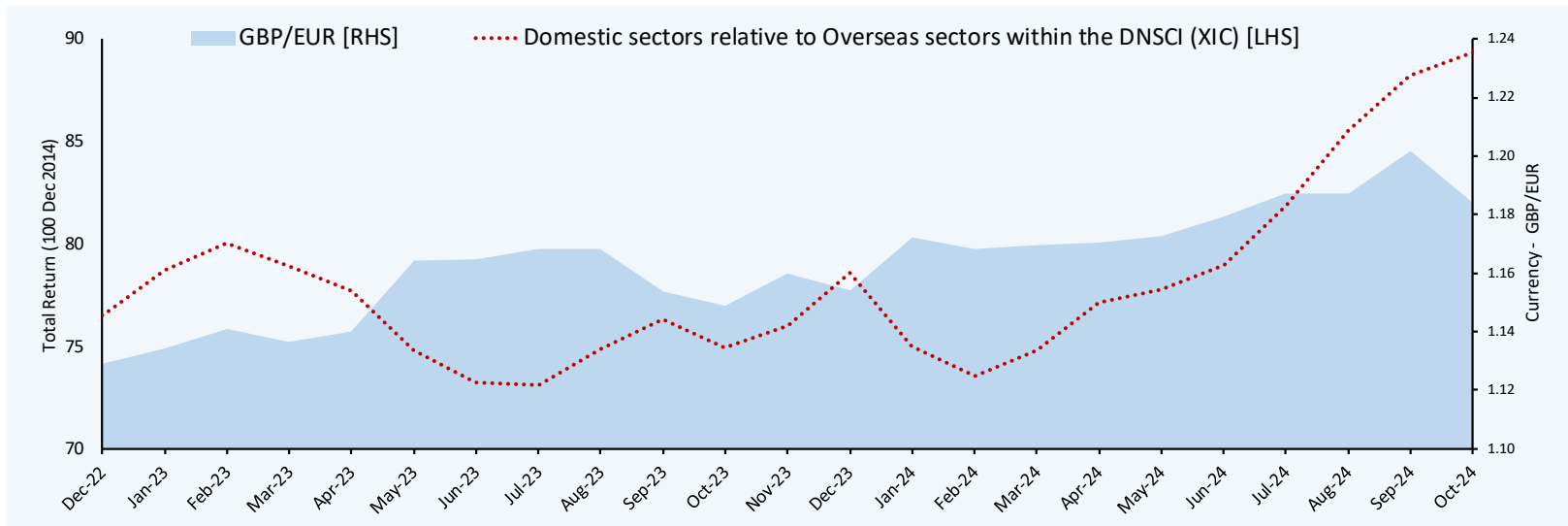
Top 10 Purchases		
Rank	Company	£m
1	Dowlais Group	2.8
2	MONY Group	2.1
3	Hilton Food Group	1.9
4	Halfords Group	1.5
5	XP Power	1.4
6	Mobico Group	1.1
7	Jupiter Fund Management	1.0
8	Rathbones Group	0.8
9	S4 Capital	0.8
10	Vesuvius	0.7

Top 10 Sales		
Rank	Company	£m
1	Wincanton	7.2
2	Centamin	3.7
3	Redrow	2.3
4	XPS Pensions Group	2.2
5	Avon Technologies	1.1
6	Keller Group	1.0
7	International Personal Finance	1.0
8	Spirent Communications	0.9
9	FirstGroup	0.9
10	CMC Markets	0.9

 New Holding or Total Sale

- 12 month turnover: 26%
- Sales influenced by M&A: bids for Wincanton, Redrow, Spirent, Centamin
- Purchases: a broad opportunity set
- 2024 EV/EBITA: 9.3x for sales vs. 8.1x for purchases

Geography – performance divergence in the DNSCI (XIC)



- Domestic earners have re-rated while overseas earners have de-rated recently
 - Optimism about the UK interest rate cycle, weaker overseas markets, sterling
- Good opportunities in both camps
 - *Domestics* – the market is looking through lacklustre UK trading to profit recovery
 - The early 1990s recession showed the opportunity from the turn in profits
 - *Overseas* – likely later in the profit cycle but low valuations for good businesses
 - 2025 EV/EBITA – Bodycote 8.3x, Vesuvius 5.7x, Morgan Advanced 7.5x, TI Fluids 5.3x

Eurocell – a domestic earner re-rating



Aberforth clients' stake: 24% = £45m

AFUND weight: 1.7%

Market cap.: £186m

Business

- PVC products for windows, doors and roofing
- Customers are fabricators; ancillary products sold through 210 branches

Opportunity

- Cyclical pressures mask underlying operational improvement
- Large investment projects complete, boosting free cash flow
- Input cost and sustainability advantage: unmatched recycling capabilities

Engagement

- Appointment of Derek Mapp as chair in May 2022
- Priorities: driving profitability, testing capital allocation, strengthening the board
- New CEO appointed to focus on operational improvement

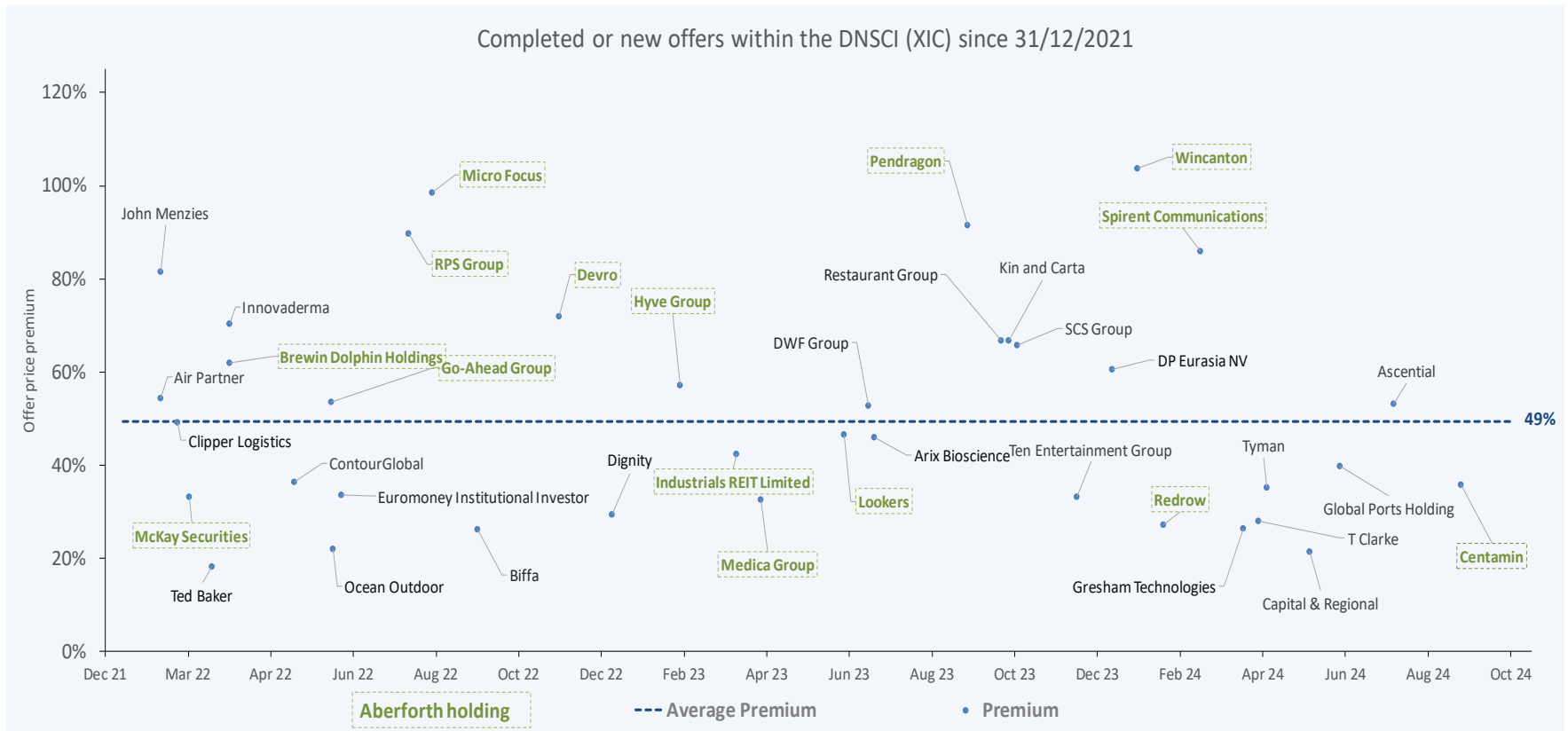
Recent events

- Trading: demand still in the doldrums but margins rising on lower input costs
- Share buy-backs funded by strong cash generation
- New strategic targets: £500m sales at a 10% operating margin

Valuation @185p

- The market is starting to anticipate recovery – price +39% in 2024
- Historical EV/EBITA up from 4.4x in late 2023 to 9.4x
- Forward EV/EBITA: 7.0x for 2025 and 4.0x on achievement of strategic targets

M&A continues to expose low valuations

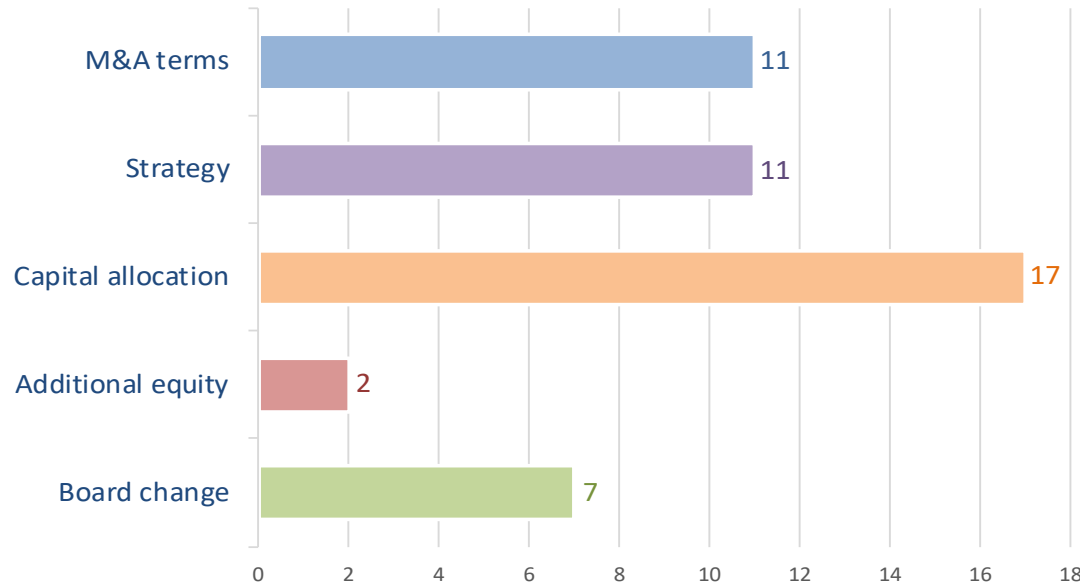


- Trade and private equity interest in the asset class remains elevated
 - AFUND’s 2024 7.7x EV/EBITA compares to 13.9x on the 41 takeovers
- Takeover may be the right solution BUT AT THE RIGHT PRICE
 - Aberforth has helped to reject several under-valued takeover approaches in 2024

Aberforth's engagement – an active period



Instances of influential engagement in 2024



Aberforth's engagement

- To improve investment returns
- Purposeful and discreet
- Through the chair
- Influence from significant stakes
- Practised for 33 years

- Depressed valuations mean that engagement remains particularly important
 - 4 of the 11 instances of M&A engagement were not public
- Our letter about engagement to the chairs of all investee companies has been useful
 - Earlier consultation than may otherwise have been the case

Conclusion



- Good performance from the asset class and more to go for
 - Led by domestic companies as the market starts to discount profit recovery
 - Increasing value opportunity among the overseas earners

- M&A continues apace, exposing the attractiveness of valuations

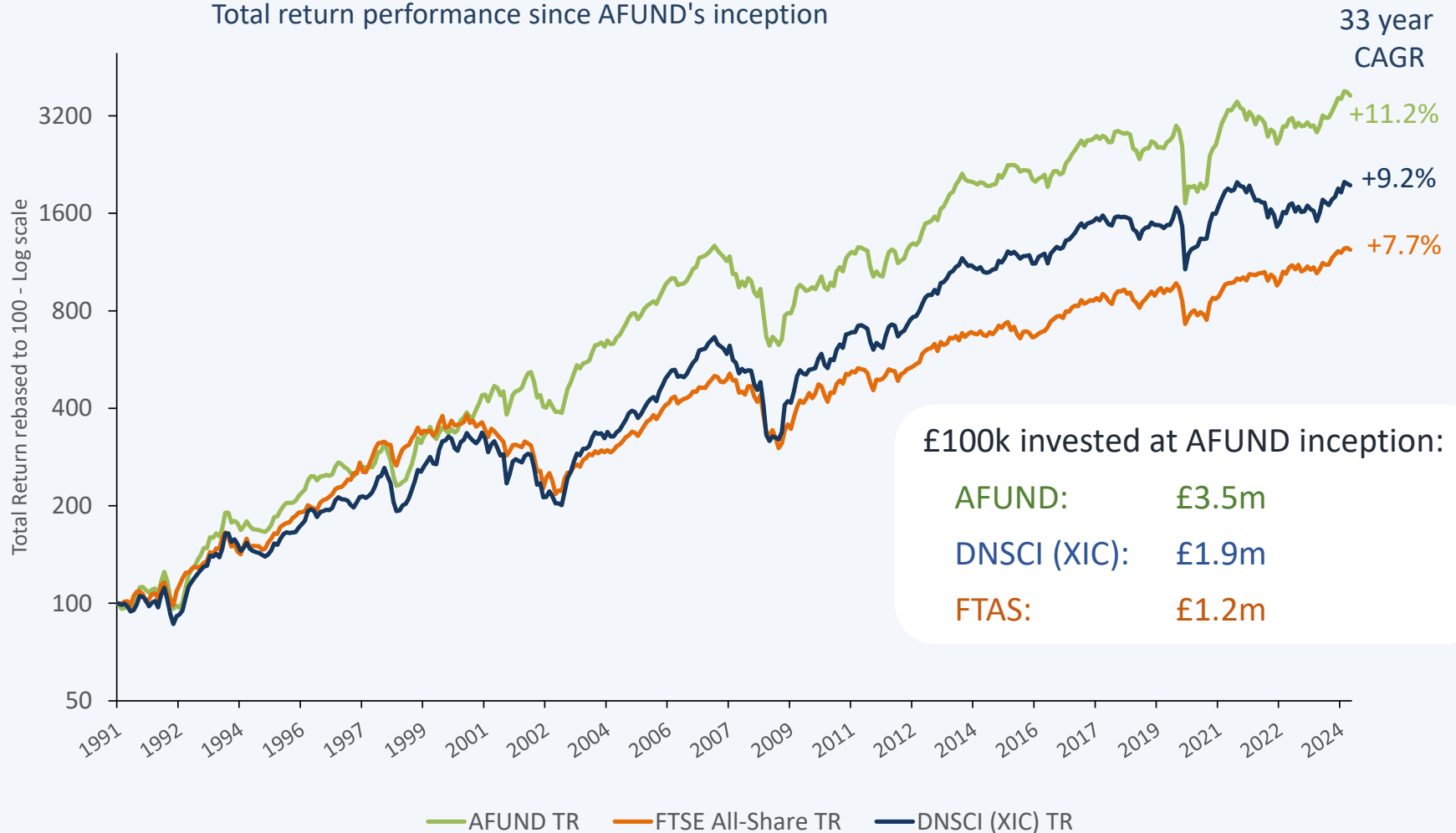
- Encouragingly, more consultation from the boards of investee companies

- AFUND
 - Well positioned for the valuation opportunity
 - Differentiated value investment style

Aberforth's long term performance record



Total return performance since AFUND's inception





Appendix

Top 20 holdings



Rank	Company	Activity	Total portfolio (%)
1	Wilmington	Business information & training	3.4
2	Just Group	Annuity provider	2.8
3	Galliford Try Holdings	Building & infrastructure contractor	2.7
4	CMC Markets	Financial derivatives trading platform	2.7
5	Morgan Advanced Materials	Manufacture of carbon & ceramic materials	2.4
6	Bakkavor Group	Food manufacturer	2.4
7	ZIGUP	Van rental	2.3
8	TI Fluid Systems	Automotive parts manufacturer	2.3
9	Vesuvius	Metal flow engineering	2.2
10	NCC Group	IT security	2.2
11	Quilter	Wealth management	2.2
12	Rank Group	Multi-channel gaming operator	2.0
13	Conduit Holdings	Bermuda based (re)insurer	2.0
14	Rathbones Group	Private client fund manager	1.9
15	C&C Group	Brewer and drinks distributor	1.9
16	Videndum	Photographic & broadcast accessories	1.8
17	Robert Walters	Recruitment	1.8
18	Zegona Communications	Telecommunications	1.8
19	Mitchells & Butlers	Operator of restaurants, pubs & bars	1.8
20	Reach	UK newspaper publisher	1.8
Top 20			44.2
21 - 30			16.2
31 - 80			39.7
Actively managed portfolio with an active share of 74%			100.0

Sector exposure



Sector	DNSCI (XIC) weight	AFUND weight	Relative weight	Significant holdings (>1.5% portfolio weight)
Technology	6.2%	4.1%	-2.1%	NCC Group
Telecommunications	4.0%	1.8%	-2.2%	Zegona Communications
Health Care	3.0%	0.0%	-3.0%	
Financials	21.1%	18.4%	-2.7%	International Personal Finance, Just Group, CMC Markets, Rathbones Group, Jupiter Fund Management, Conduit Holdings, Quilter
Real Estate	8.5%	4.4%	-4.0%	Workspace Group
Consumer Discretionary	18.5%	25.6%	7.1%	Mitchells & Butlers, Reach, TI Fluid Systems, Wilmington, Rank Group, Marstons
Consumer Staples	5.1%	6.1%	1.0%	C&C Group, Bakkavor Group
Industrials	22.7%	34.4%	11.8%	Eurocell, FirstGroup, Morgan Advanced Materials, Robert Walters, Senior, Vesuvius, Videndum, Galliford Try Holdings, ZIGUP, Avon Technologies, XP Power
Basic Materials	7.2%	3.5%	-3.7%	
Energy	3.5%	1.7%	-1.8%	
Utilities	0.4%	0.0%	-0.4%	

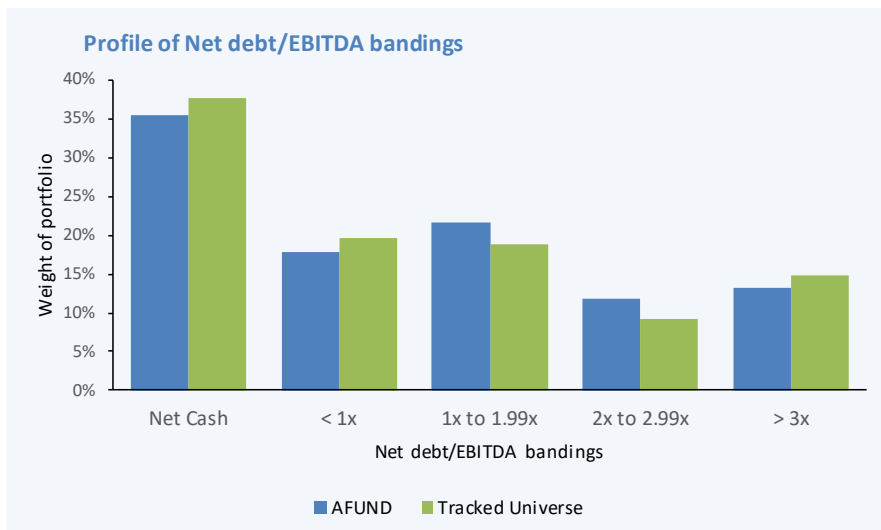
EV/EBITA – our favoured metric



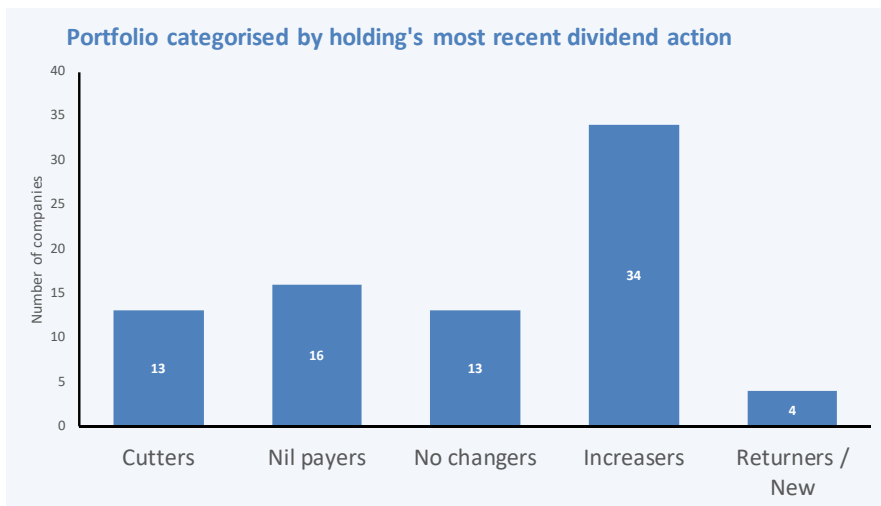
EV/EBITA	Number of stocks	2023	2024	2025
AFUND	80	7.7x	7.7x	6.8x
Tracked Universe	219	10.2x	9.5x	8.7x
<i>Growth stocks</i>	31	18.2x	15.0x	13.7x
<i>Other stocks</i>	188	9.3x	8.8x	8.0x
<i>Stocks < £600m mkt. cap.*</i>	131	8.8x	8.5x	7.4x
<i>Stocks > £600m mkt. cap.*</i>	88	10.8x	9.9x	9.2x

* Roughly FTSE 250 (or "larger smalls") vs. FTSE SmallCap (or "smaller smalls")

Balance sheets and dividend experience



- Strong balance sheets among small companies
- Higher leverage for pub and property companies
- 16 holdings have bought back shares in 2024
- Free cash flow boost from pension de-risking



- Resilient dividend experience
- Supported by the strong balance sheets
- Cutters influenced by recession
- Historical yield and cover: 4.0% and 2.6x

The early 1990s precedent – history rhymes?



- A downturn caused by inflation and tighter monetary policy

The slingshot in action:	1990	1991	1992	1993	Cumulative 1991-1993	2022	2023
<i>Economic context</i>							
UK GDP YoY	+0.6%	-1.4%	+0.2%	+2.3%	+1.1%	+0.6%	-0.2%
UK CPI YoY	+7.0%	+8.5%	+4.2%	+2.5%	+15.9%	+10.5%	+4.0%
UK base rates	13.9%	10.4%	6.9%	5.4%		3.5%	5.3%
<i>DNSCI (XIC) experience</i>							
Implied earnings growth *	+1.8%	-13.7%	-13.1%	+6.2%	-20.3%	+33.9%	-8.2%
Year end historical PE *	8.2x	11.3x	13.9x	18.6x		8.1x	12.8x
Total return	-23.5%	+18.3%	+6.4%	+41.6%	+78.2%	-17.9%	+10.1%

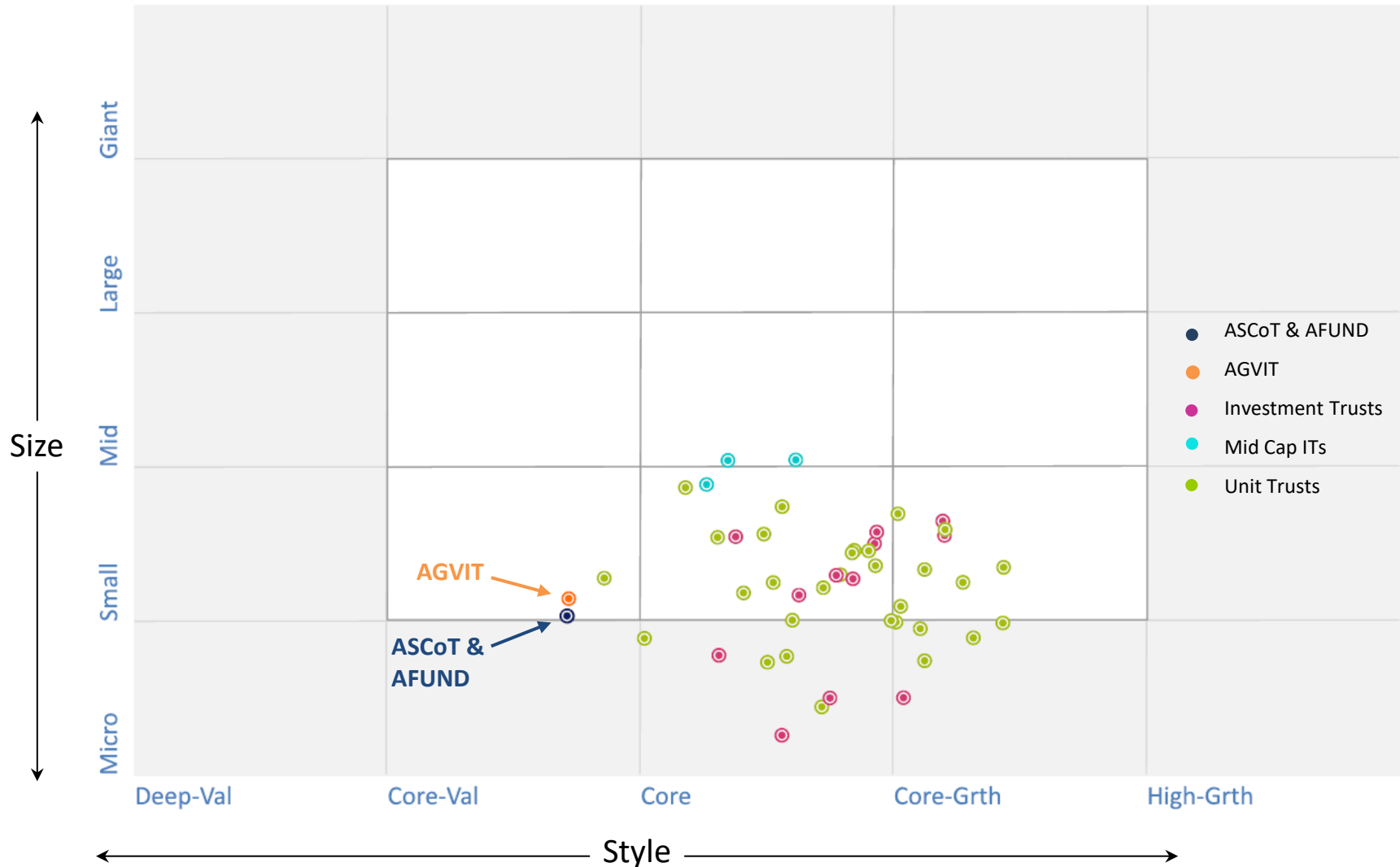
* Earnings and PE data: LBS for 1990-1993 and Tracked Universe for 2022-2023

- The market anticipates – strong total returns despite weak fundamentals
- Returns powered by expectation of earnings recovery and re-rating

Aberforth's differentiation



Holdings-Based Style: Aberforth & IT Peers & UT Peers > £100m



2024 growth stocks



All non-holdings at 31 October 2024

4imprint Group	IP Group
AJ Bell	JTC
Alphawave IP Group	Kainos Group
AO World	Kin and Carta
Arix Bioscience	Molten Ventures
Auction Technology Group	Oxford Biomedica
Baltic Classifieds Group	Oxford Instruments
Bytes Technology Group	PensionBee Group
Ceres Power Holdings	Porvair
Chemring Group	PureTech Health
discoverIE Group	SolGold
Dominos Pizza Group	THG
DP Eurasia	Trainline
Genus	Treatt
Goodwin	Trustpilot Group
Gresham Technologies	Volution Group
Helios Towers	Zotefoams
Integrafin Holdings	

See slide "Valuation - EV/EBITA" for context

- The annual list of growth stocks as defined by Aberforth
 - Designated at the January index rebalance and retained for the full year

ESG framework and methodology



Factors	Environmental	Social	Governance
Sub factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change Pressure on natural resources Pollution and waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employee culture Health and safety External stakeholders Product liability and consumer protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board composition and succession Effectiveness Remuneration and alignment Capital allocation Ethics
Metrics & Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GHG Scope 1, 2 and 3 Carbon offset Freshwater consumed Net Zero target year Sustainability linked loans Member of SBTi TCFD compliant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % Female in workforce % Female senior manager 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % overall board female % executive board female % independent non-Exec Ethnic diversity of board Policy & targets in place for Female representation Policy & targets in place for Board Ethnicity Remuneration linked to ESG

Risk score					Evaluation score				
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 1 to 5 Risk score – where 1 is Good At sub-factor level Sector classification and materiality based E.g. “Pollution and waste” for Chemical sector = 4 Determined by Stewardship Committee Factor score is the amalgamation of sub-factors 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 1 to 5 Evaluation score – where 1 is Good At sub-factor level Materiality in relation to the individual company Determined by the responsible investment manager Risk score is the starting point Considers mitigating practices, opportunities, targets Factor score is the amalgamation of sub-factors 				

Investment managers



SAMUEL G FORD MEng

Sam joined Aberforth in August 2019 and became a Partner in May 2021. As a fund manager on M&G Investments' equity income team for the previous 5 years, he managed UK equity portfolios for a range of clients. Prior to that he was an investment manager with Alliance Trust for 8 years. Sam has passed all three levels of the CFA programme.

JEREMY G A HALL MA (Hons)

Jeremy joined Aberforth in October 2018 and became a Partner in January 2020. Fund management roles with Abbey National Asset Managers and SVM Asset Management were followed by ten years with Cartesian Capital Partners LLP, where he was a partner and managed UK equity portfolios for a range of clients. Jeremy has passed all three levels of the CFA programme.

EUAN R MACDONALD BA (Hons)

Euan joined Aberforth in May 2001 and became a Partner in May 2004. Previously he was with Baillie Gifford for 10 years where he managed portfolios invested in small companies both in Continental Europe and the UK.

C ROWAN MARRON MSc

Rowan joined Aberforth in November 2023. She has fifteen years' previous experience as an equity analyst, most recently at Rathbones Investment Management. Her experience covers a wide variety of sectors, geographies and cap sizes, and includes eighteen months with a quantitative start-up. Rowan has passed all three levels of the CFA programme.

ROBERT D SCOTT MONCRIEFF BSc (Hons)

Rob joined Aberforth in February 2022 and became a Partner in March 2024. He previously worked as a global equities analyst with Latitude Investment Management. Rob's early career included UK-focussed equity research responsibilities with Brewin Dolphin, following an internship with International Value Advisers, in New York. Rob has passed all three levels of the CFA programme.

PETER R SHAW BCom (Hons), CA

Peter joined Aberforth in April 2016 and became a Partner in May 2017. He joined from Kames Capital where he spent 15 years in equity fund management. Initially the experience gained was exclusively in the small company market. However, the subsequent integration of the small company team into the broader UK equity team led to a wider range of portfolio and research responsibilities.

3 collective investment vehicles



	Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust (ASCoT)	Aberforth UK Small Companies Fund (AFUND)	Aberforth Geared Value & Income Trust (AGVIT)
Inception	December 1990	March 1991	July 2024
Structure	Closed-end	Open-end	Closed-end
Gearing	Tactical = 5.8%	N/A	Structural (ZDPs) = 39.5%
Size (AUM)	£1,468m	£144m	£145m
Number of investee companies	80	80	70
Benchmark	DNSCI (XIC)	DNSCI (XIC)	N/A
Investment philosophy	Value	Value	Value/Income
Management fees (<i>ongoing charges</i>)	73 bps* (79 bps)	75 bps* (80 bps)	75 bps
Performance fee	No	No	No
RDR: platforms	>20	>15	>20
RDR: clean price	N/A	Yes	N/A
Authority: share buyback	Yes	N/A	No
Authority: dividends from capital	No	N/A	No
Chairman	Richard Davidson Richard.Davidson@aberforth.co.uk	N/A	Angus Gordon Lennox Angus.GordonLennox@aberforth.co.uk

* For a full explanation of the fee structure and ongoing charges, please refer to the Fund's Annual Report or visit www.aberforth.co.uk

Investment trust



Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust plc (ASCoT)

Ordinary shares

84,139,605

- next continuation vote in March 2026 and every 3 years thereafter
- authority to buy back up to 12,626,767 shares in the calendar year granted at AGM
- cumulative shares bought back for cancellation since inception = 14,670,183

Gearing

- as at 31 October 2024 actual was 5.8%
- potential for up to £130m or 8.8%

Dividends

Based on the following historic actuals:

2024

- interim paid August 2024 (13.60p)

2023

50.50p

- final paid March 2024 (28.55p)
- special paid March 2024 (9.00p)
- interim paid August 2023 (12.95p)

2022

47.30p

- final paid March 2023 (26.95p)
- special paid March 2023 (8.30p)
- interim paid August 2022 (12.05p)

2021

35.20p

- final paid March 2022 (24.25p)
- interim paid August 2021 (10.95p)

Note: Further details available in the Fund's Annual Report and from www.aberforth.co.uk



Aberforth UK Small Companies Fund (AFUND)

	Issue Price	Cancellation Price	Units in Issue
Accumulation Units	£340.72	£335.07	276,413
Income Units	£217.20	£213.60	235,820

Limited issue fund with Accumulation and Income units

- value at cancellation price: £143m
- no entry or exit fees charged; dealing spread 1.7% (mid-basis)
- yield on Income units: 3.5%
- current distribution period ended 30 June 2024; paid August 2024
- previous distribution period ended 31 December 2023; paid February 2024
- annual management fee: 0.75%; no performance fee
- 5/8 of management fee allocated to capital

Daily subscriptions and redemptions

- deals can be placed each business day prior to 4.30pm
- dual priced fund; prices calculated using closing prices each business day
- “forward pricing”

Note: Further details available in the Fund’s Annual Report, Prospectus and Key Investor Information Document and from www.aberforth.co.uk

Glossary – Aberforth Funds



- **Aberforth's investment philosophy and putting it into practice is explained further at www.aberforth.co.uk/about-Aberforth/**
- **Aberforth Standard Value** refers to The Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust plc, Aberforth's longest standing client.
- **Accumulation Units:** units not receiving a cash payment representing income; rather, income will be included in the value of the units.
- **Active Share** is calculated by summing the absolute differences between a portfolio's weight in a stock and an index's weight in a stock for all the stocks in the portfolio or index. The total is then divided by two to give a ratio between 0% and 100%.
- **AGM:** An annual general meeting (AGM) is a mandatory annual assembly of a company's executives, directors, and interested shareholders.
- **The Association of Investment Companies (AIC)** represents closed-ended investment companies whose shares are traded on public markets.
- **AuM:** Assets Under Management.
- **CAGR:** Compound Annual Growth Rate is the annualised rate of growth over the specified time period.
- **Cancellation** refers to the cancellation of units by the Trustee.
- **Closed-end funds:** funds that offer a fixed number of shares through an investment company, raising capital by putting out an initial public offering (IPO).
- **Capacity** refers to Aberforth's self-imposed limit on the total funds under management that is managed by the firm
- **Discount** is the amount by which the stockmarket price is lower than the Net Asset Value, or NAV, per Ordinary Share. The discount is normally expressed as a percentage of the NAV per Ordinary Share. The opposite of a discount is a premium.
- **DNSCI (XIC):** The Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies Index (excluding Investment Companies).
- **DPS:** Dividend Per Share.
- **EBITA:** Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, and Amortisation (EBITA), is a measure of company profitability used by investors.
- **ESG:** Environmental, Social and Governance.
- **EV/EBITA:** Enterprise Value (EV) divided by Earnings Before Interest, Tax and Amortisation (EBITA).
- **EV/EBITDA:** Enterprise Value (EV) divided by Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortisation (EBITDA).
- **FANGS:** Refers to the stocks of four prominent American technology companies. Meta (formerly Facebook), Amazon, Netflix and Alphabet/Google. FANG stocks are famous for the impressive growth they have shown in recent years.
- **Free cash flow (FCF)** represents the cash that a company generates after accounting for cash outflows to support operations and maintain its capital assets.
- **Funds:** **ASCoT** – The Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust plc; **ASLIT** – Aberforth Split Level Income Trust plc; **AFUND** – Aberforth UK Small Companies Fund; **AGVIT** – Aberforth Geared Value & Income Trust.
- **Gearing** is the use of debt to increase capital.

Glossary – Aberforth Funds



- **GFC:** Global Financial Crisis, was a severe worldwide economic crisis that occurred in 2007 to 2008.
- **GHG:** Green House Gas emissions.
- **Hurdle rate** is the rate of capital growth per annum to return a stated amount per share at the planned winding-up date.
- **Income Units** entitle the holder to a cash distribution representing the net income attributable to that unit at each income allocation date.
- **IPO:** Initial Public Offering.
- **IRRs:** Internal Rate of Return (IRR) is a metric used in financial analysis to estimate the profitability of potential investments.
- **Issue** refers to the issue of units by the Trustee.
- **Leverage** is a measurement of the use of debt.
- **LTCM:** Long Term Capital Management. In 1998 the federal government of the United States feared that the imminent collapse of LTCM would precipitate a larger financial crisis and orchestrated a bailout to calm the markets.
- **M&A:** Mergers and Acquisitions.
- **Net Asset Value (ZDP Share)** is the value of the entitlement to the ZDP Shareholders.
- **Net Asset Value:** Net Asset Value (NAV) per share is the net value of an investment fund's assets less its liabilities, divided by the number of shares outstanding
- **PE:** The price-earnings ratio (P/E ratio).
- **RDR:** Retail Distribution Review.
- **Redemption Yield (Ordinary Share)** is the annualised rate at which projected future income and capital cash flows (based on assumed future capital/dividend growth rates) is discounted to produce an amount equal to the share price at the date of calculation.
- **Redemption Yield (ZDP Share)** is the annualised rate at which the total discounted value of the planned future payment of capital equates to its share price at the date of calculation.
- **REITs (Real Estate Investment Companies):** a company that owns, and in most cases operates, income-producing real estate
- **Retained Revenue:** the accumulated income that has not been distributed.
- **RoCE:** Return on Capital Employed (RoCE) is a measure of how good a business is at generating profits from capital.
- **RoE:** Return on equity (RoE) is the measure of a company's net income divided by its shareholders' equity
- **RoW:** Rest of the world
- **Rump** is the Tracked Universe, adjusted to exclude the growth stocks.
- **SBTI:** Science Based Targets Initiative.

Glossary – Aberforth Funds



- **Scope 4:** Relates to a category of Green House Gas emissions. Termed as avoided emissions, Scope 4, can be defined as reductions that occur outside of a product’s life cycle or value chain, but as a result of the use of that product.
- **Share buy backs/buybacks:** A share buyback, also known as a share repurchase, is when a company buys its own outstanding shares to reduce the number of shares available on the open market.
- **Small Cap(s):** companies with a market capitalisation between £50m and £230m.
- **SONIA:** Sterling Overnight Index Average is a measure of the rate at which interest is paid on sterling short-term wholesale funds in circumstances where credit, liquidity and other risks are minimal.
- **TCFD:** Task Force on Climate-Related Disclosures.
- **Terminal NAV (Ordinary Share)** is the projected NAV per Ordinary Share at the planned winding-up date at a stated rate of capital growth in the company’s investment portfolio after taking into account the final capital entitlement of the ZDP Shares, future estimated costs charged to capital and estimated winding-up costs.
- **Tracked Universe** refers to those constituents of the NSCI (XIC) that Aberforth follows closely and whose financial characteristics are aggregated on internal systems.
- **Total return (TR):** capital appreciation plus reinvested dividends.
- **Turnover** is calculated by summing the lesser of purchases and sales and dividing by the average portfolio value.
- **UK Base Rate:** the rate the Bank of England charges other banks and other lenders when they borrow money.
- **UK CPI (Consumer Price Index):** is a price index that measures the overall change in consumer prices based on a representative basket of goods and services over time.
- **UK GDP (Gross Domestic Product):** measures the monetary value of final goods and services— that is, those that are bought by the final user— produced in a country (in this instance the UK) in a given period.
- **Unit:** an equal portion representing part ownership of a unit trust fund.
- **Value style:** the strategy by which all Aberforth’s portfolios are invested.
- **Value Premium:** the relative out/(under) performance of the value investment style.
- **XIC:** excluding investment companies.
- **YoY (Year over Year):** a financial metric used to compare data from the current year versus the previous year.
- **ZDP:** Zero Dividend Preference shares are a share class that receive no dividends. Instead, holders receive a fixed capital payment on the redemption date.
- **ZIRP:** A zero interest rate policy (ZIRP) is when a central bank sets its target short-term interest rate at or close to 0%.



Important information

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- Throughout this presentation references to: SMALL COMPANIES mean constituents of the Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies Index (Excluding Investment Companies) which are referred to as “DNSCI (XIC)”; LARGE COMPANIES mean constituents of the FTSE All-Share Index which are referred to as “FTAS”; total return means with dividends reinvested (prior to 2.7.97 with gross dividends reinvested thereafter with net dividends reinvested); and Aberforth clients’ portfolio characteristics use one of Aberforth’s “Standard Value” clients as representative unless otherwise stated.
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- Capital may be at risk as the value of investments may go down as well as up and is not guaranteed; therefore investors may not get back the amount originally invested.
- Past performance is not a guide to future performance, nor a reliable indicator of future results or performance.
- Investments in shares of smaller companies are generally considered to carry a higher degree of risk as the market for their shares is often less liquid than that for shares of larger companies, making shares of smaller companies more difficult to buy and sell. Smaller companies can also be expected, in comparison to larger companies, to have less mature businesses, a more restricted depth of management and a higher risk profile.
- The performance of shares of smaller companies may be more volatile than the shares of larger companies over short time periods; therefore investors should regard such investments as long term.
- Unless the performance of an investment meets or exceeds the rate of inflation, the real value of that investment will reduce.
- Changes in economic or political conditions or other factors can substantially and potentially adversely affect the value of investments and, accordingly, the performance and prospects of the investment trusts, unit trusts and other funds managed by Aberforth Partners LLP or Aberforth Unit Trust Managers Limited (the "Funds").
- The market price of securities issued by a Fund may fluctuate significantly and investors may not be able to sell their securities at or above the price at which they acquired them. Securities markets have in the past experienced extreme volatility that has often been unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. Any broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of the securities issued by a Fund.
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- An investment trust is a public limited company, the shares of which are traded on the main market of the London Stock Exchange. Investment trusts are not authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.
- An investment trust is a closed-ended company and its shareholders will have no right to have their shares redeemed or repurchased by the company at any time. Accordingly, the ability of shareholders to realise any value in respect of their shares will be dependent on the existence of a liquid market in the shares and the market price of the shares. The shares may trade at a discount to their net asset value.



- An investment trust may only pay dividends to the extent that it has distributable profits available for that purpose. A reduction in the income from an investment trust's portfolio could adversely affect the yield, if any, on its shares.
- Investment trusts may borrow money in order to make further investments. This is known as “gearing”. The effect of gearing can enhance returns to shareholders in rising markets but will have the opposite effect on returns in falling markets.
- The Ordinary Shares of Aberforth Geared Value & Income Trust plc are geared by the Zero Dividend Preference Shares of the company and rank for repayment of capital after the Zero Dividend Preference Shares and any creditors of the company. A positive net asset value for those Ordinary Shares will be dependent upon the company's assets being sufficient to meet the prior capital entitlements of the holders of the Zero Dividend Preference Shares. The Ordinary Shares should therefore be regarded as carrying above average risk. The Zero Dividend Preference Shares are not a protected or guaranteed investment. In particular, should the company be wound up prior to its planned winding up date, holders of Zero Dividend Preference Shares would only receive their accrued capital entitlement to the date of winding up which would be less than the final anticipated capital entitlement of those shares.
- The dealing spread of Aberforth UK Small Companies Fund, which represents the difference between the buying and selling prices, will have an impact on the realisable value of any investment made in this Fund, particularly in the short term. To mitigate the impact of capital erosion, investors should regard investments in this Fund as long term.
- Tax legislation and the levels of relief from taxation can change at any time. Any change in the tax status of a Fund or in tax legislation could affect the value of the investments held by the Fund or affect its ability to provide returns to its investors. The tax treatment of an investment, and any dividends received, will depend on the individual circumstances of the investor and may be subject to change in the future. If investors are in any doubt as to their tax position, they should consult their professional adviser.
- An investment in a Fund is only suitable for investors who are capable of evaluating the merits and risks of such an investment and who have sufficient resources to be able to bear any losses which may arise from such an investment (which may be equal to the whole amount invested). Such an investment should be regarded as long term in nature and complementary to existing investments in a range of other financial assets and should not form a major part of an investment portfolio.