Octopus AIM VCT plc



Unaudited half-yearly report for the six months ended 31 August 2024

Company number: 03477519

For UK investors only

octopus investments

Octopus AIM VCT plc (the 'Company') is a venture capital trust (VCT) which aims to provide shareholders with attractive tax-free dividends and long-term capital growth by investing in a diverse portfolio of predominantly AIM-traded companies. The Company is managed by Octopus Investments Limited ('Octopus' or the 'Investment Manager').

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Financial summary

	Six months to 31 August 2024	Six months to 31 August 2023	Year to 29 February 2024
Net assets (£'000)	**117,750**	120,131	129,109
Profit/(Loss) after tax (£'000)	**2,521**	(15,972)	(17,734)
Net asset value (NAV) per share (p)	**57.2**	67.2	63.3
Total return (%)[1]	**2.1**	(11.2)	(13.0)
Dividends per share paid in the period (p)	**7.4**	2.5	5.0
Special dividend declared (p)	**–**	–	4.9
Dividend declared (p)[2]	**2.5**	2.5	2.5

[1]Total return is an alternative performance measure calculated as movement in NAV per share in the period plus dividends paid in the period, divided by the NAV per share at the beginning of the period.

[2]The interim dividend of 2.5p will be paid on 10 January 2025 to those shareholders on the register on 20 December 2024.

Key dates

Interim dividend payment date	10 January 2025
Annual results to 28 February 2025	June 2025
Interim results to 31 August 2025	November 2025

Chair's statement

The six months to 31 August 2024 marked the beginning of a positive shift in market sentiment, albeit a gradual one. Some of the key drivers of this shift included better than expected UK GDP figures, a tempering of investor outflows and ongoing corporate activity as private equity funds continued to seek opportunities on public markets taking advantage of lower valuations. Furthermore, lower inflation figures paved the way for an interest rate cut in August, with further cuts anticipated by the end of the year. In summary, the more stable macroeconomic outlook provided a much needed and expected boost to UK capital markets in late Spring and early Summer. The more recent volatility due to uncertainty related to potential measures in the Labour Government's first Budget, and more specifically possible adjustments to Business Property Relief, have dampened any momentum in positive UK market sentiment, particularly for the AIM market. As a result, by the end of the period under review, the market had given back some of the gains made earlier in the year.

The Net Asset Value (NAV) of the VCT grew by 2.1% during the six-month period, after adding back the final dividend of 2.5p and special dividend of 4.9p. This growth lagged the AIM index which grew by 5.8%. It is encouraging to see the Company return to growth following a lengthy period of negative performance. Furthermore, we anticipate that more recent positive macroeconomic indicators, coupled with the prospect of further interest rate reductions, should benefit the operational performance of companies within your portfolio. Encouragingly, market commentators generally believe that the early signs of recovery evident in the late Spring and early Summer will re-emerge once the fog of uncertainty surrounding the new Government's first Budget clears.

Encouragingly, the number of IPOs and follow on fundraisings on AIM continued at a steady pace over the period. As a result, the Company made four qualifying investments at a total cost of £2.1 million, an increase on the £0.5 million invested in the corresponding period last year. Three of the qualifying investments made in the period were follow-on investments into existing holdings (Abingdon Health, Cambridge Cognition and PCI Pal). One new investment was made into GETECH Group plc, a world-leading locator of subsurface resources including critical metals vital for the world's energy transition.

Transactions with the Investment Manager

Details of amounts paid to the Investment Manager are disclosed in Note 8 to the half-yearly report.

Share buybacks

In the six months to 31 August 2024, the Company bought back 2,761,321 Ordinary shares for a total consideration of £1,663,000. It is evident from the conversations that the Investment Manager has that this facility remains an important consideration for investors. The Board remains committed to maintaining its policy of buying back shares at a discount of approximately 5.0% to the selling shareholder after costs.

Share issues

In this period 4,779,938 new shares were issued, 4,742,400 of these being issued through the Dividend Reinvestment Scheme (DRIS).

New share offer

Since the period end the Company has launched a new combined offer for subscription alongside Octopus AIM VCT 2 plc to raise up to £20 million with an over allotment of up to a further £10 million.

Dividends

On 15 August 2024, the Company paid a dividend of 2.5p and 4.9p per share, being the final and special dividend for the year ended 29 February 2024. For the period to 31 August 2024, the Board has declared an interim dividend of 2.5p. This will be paid on 10 January 2025 to shareholders on the register on 20 December 2024. It remains the Board's intention to maintain a minimum annual dividend payment of 5.0p per share or a 5% yield based on the prior year-end share price, whichever is the greater. This will usually be paid in two instalments during each year.

Board composition

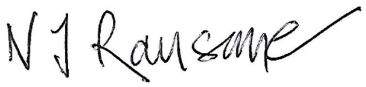
As anticipated in my statement in the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 29 February 2024, Stephen Hazell-Smith, who had been a director of the Company since 1998, stepped down from the Board with effect from the Annual General Meeting held on 18 July 2024. I thank Stephen for his extensive contribution to the success of the Company since its inception. Louise Nash has joined the Board as a director with effect from 1 July 2024. Louise brings to the Board her deep experience as a former fund manager specialising in UK small and mid-cap companies.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties faced by the Company are set out in Note 7 to the half-yearly report on page 19.

Outlook

The UK's improving macroeconomic conditions and rising investor confidence following the recent Autumn Budget should create a more stable market environment in the short to medium term. The focus is now on the timing of further interest rate cuts and their anticipated boost to market certainty and sentiment over the next six months. If this materialises, we expect a re-rating of UK smaller company valuations and an increased appetite for risk, positively impacting the performance of UK smaller growth company shares, including those in your portfolio. Additionally, your VCT is invested in a widely diversified portfolio of companies, and the recent fundraising announcement means our Investment Manager is well-positioned to invest in new opportunities as they arise.



Neal Ransome
Chair

6 November 2024

Investment Manager's review

Overview

Following a prolonged period of market and economic uncertainty, investor sentiment in the six months to 31 August 2024 began on a more optimistic note. Improved UK macroeconomic data strengthened market commentators' belief that the threat of a recession had diminished, high inflation was less of a concern, and interest rates had reached their peak. With the UK economy returning to growth this year, driven primarily by improvements in the service and manufacturing sectors, rising consumer confidence, and a robust employment market, the backdrop for market recovery appeared stronger than it had been for a while. In August 2024, the Bank of England cut interest rates for the first time in four years and further boosted market confidence. More recently, since the end of the half year positive market sentiment has tempered. This was fuelled by uncertainty surrounding the future of Business Property Relief and its potential negative impact on AIM and UK capital markets, in the run-up to the new Labour Government's first Budget.

On a positive note, the growing stability of the UK macroeconomic environment has led to improved operational performance for many companies in your portfolio. Additionally, confidence in imminent further interest rate cuts has grown following the recent announcement that inflation is well below the Bank of England's target, now standing at 1.7%. However, the quantum of interest rate cuts this year remains unclear.

We continue to believe that UK equities remain significantly undervalued compared to global peers, despite the intermittent signs of market recovery this year. This is evident in the opportunistic corporate activity, particularly on AIM. Furthermore, the steady rise in IPOs and further fundraisings across UK capital markets this year had begun to renew interest and investment in UK equity markets that had not been seen for a while.

Performance

In the period under review, the NAV total return grew by 2.1% in the six months to 31 August 2024. This compares to a 5.8% rise in the AIM Index, a 19.4% increase of the FTSE Small Cap Index (ex-Investment Trusts) and a 12.6% rise in the FTSE All-Share Index, all on a total return basis. The FTSE All-Share and FTSE Small Cap Index (ex-Investment Trusts) outperformed, reflecting a higher weighting in larger companies (particularly tech companies) which are more liquid and began to see a re-rating this year due to the improved economic and market environment. Despite the improved performance of the larger indices during the period under review, there remains a relative lack of appetite for small growth stocks, which your portfolio is invested in. The UK market continues to experience outflows, with speculation over the Budget adding significant uncertainty to AIM. Potential investors were hesitant, awaiting the implications of the new Labour Government's planned tax changes. Now that this uncertainty has been resolved, we believe the attractive valuations of companies within our universe will gradually draw investors back, leading to a re-rating of smaller company shares over time.

There were several positive contributors to the Company's performance this half. Beeks Financial Cloud Group plc which has now secured contracts with three major global exchanges for its Exchange Cloud product and has a strong pipeline of opportunities with other significant exchanges. The company has also secured a Proximity Cloud contract win and was awarded preferred cloud computing and connectivity vendor status for one of the world's largest banking groups. Mattioli Woods plc was subject to a bid approach by Pollen Street Capital at a 34% premium to the last traded share price prior to the announcement. The bid was approved by shareholders and completed post the period end. This company contributed strongly over many years to the portfolio with this final price representing over six times the original book cost. We are always disappointed to see companies leave public markets, but this continued corporate activity is a clear demonstration of the wide discount that exists in UK equities, which corporates and private equity are taking advantage of. Breedon Group plc continued to perform strongly across its markets, with construction confidence indicators in the UK and Ireland on the rise. Excitingly, during the period, the company acquired US based BMC for $300 million establishing a footprint in the US, offering new markets particularly in the Mid-West. GENinCode plc announced a NICE recommendation for its ROCA ovarian cancer test, as the preferred test for surveillance of ovarian cancer in high-risk individuals not undertaking surgery. GB Group plc performed well over the period, finishing the year strongly with operating profit and cash exceeding market expectations.

Among the detractors from performance over the period was Equipmake Holdings plc which reported disappointing results. The company achieved its revenue forecast but incurred significantly higher costs than expected to deliver on its contracted pipeline of orders. This weighed heavily on its share price, particularly as it had reduced market expectations earlier in the year. Verici Dx plc's share price declined over the period despite ongoing operational progress, including achieving a significant commercial milestone through its partnership with Thermo Fisher. In its half-year trading update, Learning Technologies Group plc highlighted that reduced corporate spend and hiring activity continued to plague large US customers, further exacerbated by unfavourable foreign exchange rates. Despite these headwinds, profitability remains stable and its focus on improved margins should bear fruit once the current macro headwinds subside.

Portfolio activity

In the first half of the year the Company made four qualifying investments totalling £2.1 million, up from £0.5 million in the same period the year before. Three of these were follow-on investments in existing holdings: £1.1 million in Abingdon Health plc, a diagnostic tests business, to support the development of the company's lab capacity, £0.2 million in PCI-Pal plc, a payments solutions and services business, to bolster its US

expansion, and £0.5 million in Cambridge Cognition Holdings plc, a provider of digital solutions to assess brain health, to support the growth of its commercial strategy. We made a new investment of £0.3 million in existing AIM company GETECH Group plc, a world-leading locator of subsurface resources, including critical metals for the world's energy transition. The new money raised by GETECH Group plc will be used to fund business development and R&D.

We also invested £4.0 million into non-qualifying, main list stocks to increase our UK equity market exposure. We invested £0.6 million into GSK plc a multinational pharmaceutical and biotechnology company; £0.6 million into Wise plc a global payments solutions business; £0.5 million into JTC plc a global professional services business, £0.5 million into Bytes Technology Group plc an IT solutions and services business, £0.6 million into Ricardo plc a global strategic, environmental and engineering consultancy group, £0.6 million into Cranswick plc a leading UK food producers and £0.6 million into Bloomsbury Publishing plc a leading independent publisher.

We made a number of disposals in the period which resulted in a net overall loss of £2.7 million over book cost. These included the disposals of our entire holdings in Renalytix plc, LoopUp Group plc, Cordel Group plc, Cirata plc, Spectral AI and Eluceda as well as a partial disposal of Beeks Financial Cloud Group plc where we took profits.

During the interim period, £0.4 million was invested in the FP Octopus Future Generations Fund. The investments in FP Octopus Microcap and FP Octopus Multi Cap have positively impacted performance in the period. We anticipate these funds will continue to generate positive returns once stock markets stabilise and equity valuations recover.

Unquoted investments

The Company is able to make investments in unquoted companies intending to float. At 31 August 2024 8.7% (31 August 2023: 7.1% and 29 February 2024: 7.6%) of the Company's net assets were invested in unquoted companies. This uplift reflects an increase in the valuation of Hasgrove Limited, which continues to trade strongly.

Outlook

The improving macroeconomic conditions in the UK, provide a stronger foundation for continued market recovery. The recent Autumn Budget announcement reaffirmed the new government's commitment to a growth agenda. According to the Office of Budget Responsibility, the UK economy is projected to grow by just over 1% this year, rising to 2% by 2025, before stabilising at 1.5% thereafter. With the uncertainty surrounding the Budget now behind us, there is greater clarity regarding the direction of the new government's tax agenda in the short and medium term, which will enhance investor confidence. Additionally, the Chancellor has expressed strong support of VCT legislation, highlighting the importance of VCTs as a vital funding source for small growth companies and raising awareness of their impact within UK capital markets. This, coupled with the anticipated continuation of monetary easing measures this year, is expected to lead to a more vibrant IPO and further fundraising environment, which had already sparked optimism in UK markets earlier this year.

The portfolio's strength is that it is well diversified both in terms of sector exposure and of individual company concentration. At the period end it contained 85 holdings (31 August 2023: 87 holdings and 29 February 2024: 88 holdings) across a range of businesses with exposure to some exciting new technologies in the environmental and healthcare sectors. The Company currently has funds available for new investments as well as supporting those which are still on their journey to profitability. These are challenging times, but the balance of the portfolio towards profitable companies remains, and the Investment Manager is confident that there will continue to be sufficient opportunities to invest our funds in good companies seeking more growth capital at attractive valuations, which we expect will result in improved future returns.

The Octopus Quoted Companies team
Octopus Investments
6 November 2024

Investment portfolio

Portfolio company	Sector	Book cost as at 31 August 2024 £'000	Cumulative change in fair value £'000	Fair value as at 31 August 2024 £'000	Movement in period £'000	% equity held by Octopus AIM VCT plc	% equity held by all funds managed by Octopus	Fair value as a % of Octopus AIM VCT's NAV
Breedon Group plc	Construction and Materials	859	5,137	5,996	723	0.42%	0.69%	5.09%
Judges Scientific plc	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	256	3,860	4,116	(123)	0.62%	1.03%	3.50%
Learning Technologies Group plc	Software and Computer Services	1,051	2,154	3,205	(631)	0.59%	8.47%	2.72%
Mattioli Woods plc	Investment Banking and Brokerage Services	529	2,631	3,160	942	0.74%	1.18%	2.68%
Brooks Macdonald Group plc	Investment Banking and Brokerage Services	746	2,334	3,080	498	0.94%	14.80%	2.62%
Craneware plc	Health Care Providers	183	2,784	2,967	69	0.39%	4.94%	2.52%
GB Group plc	Software and Computer Services	505	2,339	2,844	506	0.33%	6.83%	2.42%
Idox plc	Software and Computer Services	353	2,462	2,815	(141)	1.02%	11.57%	2.39%
Netcall plc	Software and Computer Services	308	2,357	2,665	(118)	1.80%	3.36%	2.26%
Intelligent Ultrasound Group plc	Medical Equipment and Services	2,156	49	2,205	376	6.58%	10.96%	1.87%
Beeks Financial Cloud Group plc	Software and Computer Services	435	1,765	2,200	771	1.30%	2.17%	1.87%
PCI-Pal plc	Software and Computer Services	1,294	638	1,932	307	4.68%	8.70%	1.64%
Vertu Motors plc	Retailers	1,265	637	1,902	147	0.80%	1.81%	1.62%
Next Fifteen Communications Group plc	Media	453	1,394	1,847	(113)	0.22%	11.41%	1.57%
Diaceutics plc	Health Care Providers	930	660	1,590	428	1.44%	2.76%	1.35%
MaxCyte Inc.	Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology	1,035	496	1,531	(222)	0.47%	1.23%	1.30%
Animalcare Group plc	Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology	306	1,169	1,475	297	0.91%	2.36%	1.25%
SDI Group plc	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	179	1,227	1,406	(179)	2.13%	3.56%	1.19%
GENinCode plc	Medical Equipment and Services	2,001	(782)	1,219	506	10.60%	17.66%	1.04%
Equipmake Holdings plc	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	2,121	(920)	1,201	(1,682)	4.71%	7.93%	1.02%
Pulsar Group plc	Software and Computer Services	678	499	1,177	302	1.25%	2.13%	1.00%
EKF Diagnostics Holdings plc	Medical Equipment and Services	767	404	1,171	(4)	0.96%	2.31%	0.99%
Sosandar plc	Retailers	1,853	(706)	1,147	(302)	4.86%	11.37%	0.97%
Abingdon Health plc	Medical Equipment and Services	1,615	(497)	1,118	(17)	6.08%	10.13%	0.95%
Gamma Communications plc	Telecommunications Service Providers	274	823	1,097	213	0.07%	6.90%	0.93%

Portfolio company	Sector	Book cost as at 31 August 2024 £'000	Cumulative change in fair value £'000	Fair value as at 31 August 2024 £'000	Movement in period £'000	% equity held by Octopus AIM VCT plc	% equity held by all funds managed by Octopus	Fair value as a % of Octopus AIM VCT's NAV
Nexteq plc	Technology Hardware and Equipment	507	573	1,080	(408)	1.71%	2.86%	0.92%
Eden Research plc	Chemicals	1,620	(623)	997	(374)	4.67%	7.79%	0.85%
Cambridge Cognition Holdings plc	Health Care Providers	1,075	(175)	900	(13)	4.88%	9.03%	0.76%
Itaconix plc	Industrial Support Services	1,588	(704)	884	(174)	4.62%	10.73%	0.75%
Verici Dx plc	Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology	1,551	(715)	836	(643)	5.30%	8.92%	0.71%
Haydale Graphene Industries plc	Industrial Materials	1,857	(1,100)	757	(353)	14.02%	23.37%	0.64%
Gear4music Holdings plc	Leisure Goods	529	213	742	209	1.81%	3.02%	0.63%
Cranswick plc	Travel and Leisure	606	44	650	44	0.02%	0.06%	0.55%
Oberon Investments Group plc	Investment Banking and Brokerage Services	864	(220)	644	184	2.68%	8.34%	0.55%
Bloomsbury Publishing plc	Media	629	14	643	14	0.11%	0.92%	0.55%
GSK plc	Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology	603	23	626	24	0.00%	0.00%	0.53%
Ricardo plc	Construction and Materials	602	4	606	4	0.20%	2.30%	0.51%
Wise plc	Industrial Support Services	606	(4)	602	(3)	0.01%	0.02%	0.51%
JTC plc	Investment Banking and Brokerage Services	529	68	597	67	0.03%	0.49%	0.51%
TPXimpact Holdings plc	Software and Computer Services	979	(410)	569	93	1.44%	2.39%	0.48%
Feedback plc	Medical Equipment and Services	1,500	(956)	544	(212)	7.55%	12.59%	0.46%
Restore plc	Industrial Support Services	256	283	539	97	0.14%	12.89%	0.46%
DP Poland plc	Travel and Leisure	1,016	(519)	497	47	0.51%	0.86%	0.42%
Ilika plc	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	1,058	(573)	485	(274)	1.26%	2.10%	0.41%
Gooch & Housego plc	Technology Hardware and Equipment	422	51	473	(4)	0.40%	11.47%	0.40%
Mears Group plc	Industrial Support Services	139	327	466	34	0.13%	0.26%	0.40%
Advanced Medical Solutions Group plc	Medical Equipment and Services	284	155	439	72	0.08%	13.17%	0.37%
RWS Holdings plc	Industrial Support Services	143	292	435	(68)	0.07%	5.59%	0.37%
Bytes Technology Group plc	Software and Computer Services	489	(69)	420	(69)	0.04%	0.09%	0.36%
Tan Delta Systems plc	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	453	(35)	418	122	2.38%	3.97%	0.35%
MyCelx Technologies Corporation	Oil, Gas and Coal	1,470	(1,055)	415	90	3.35%	23.55%	0.35%

Investment portfolio continued

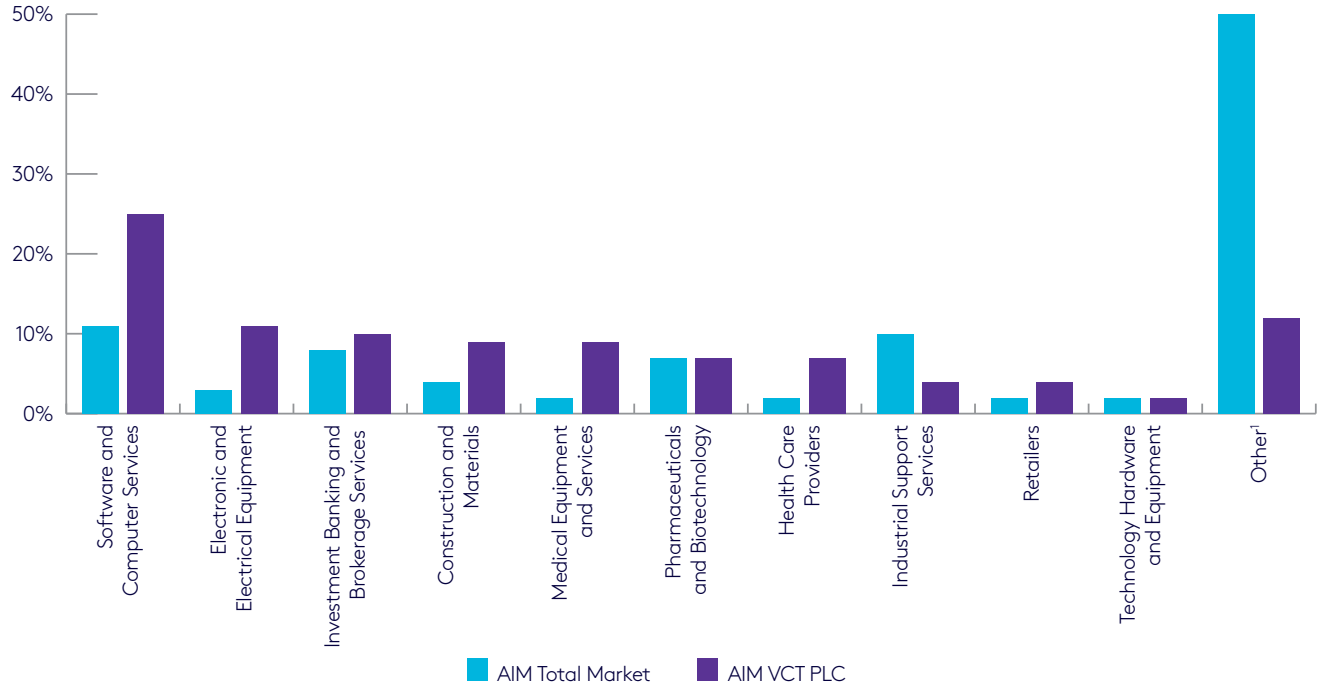
Portfolio company	Sector	Book cost as at 31 August 2024 £'000	Cumulative change in fair value £'000	Fair value as at 31 August 2024 £'000	Movement in period £'000	% equity held by Octopus AIM VCT plc	% equity held by all funds managed by Octopus	Fair value as a % of Octopus AIM VCT's NAV
GETECH Group plc	Oil, Gas and Coal	300	90	390	90	9.84%	16.40%	0.33%
Velocity Composites plc	Aerospace and Defense	799	(413)	386	94	1.76%	2.93%	0.33%
Creo Medical Group plc	Medical Equipment and Services	1,471	(1,136)	335	(12)	0.33%	1.56%	0.28%
Ixico plc	Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology	1,046	(729)	317	–	7.72%	12.87%	0.27%
Rosslyn Data Technologies plc	Software and Computer Services	969	(666)	303	(70)	13.20%	22.01%	0.26%
Crimson Tide plc	Software and Computer Services	567	(312)	255	(19)	2.87%	4.79%	0.22%
Northcoders Group plc	Software and Computer Services	380	(127)	253	70	1.58%	2.63%	0.21%
KRM22 plc	Closed End Investments	681	(463)	218	34	1.91%	3.18%	0.19%
Libertine Holdings plc	Industrial Engineering	3,000	(2,805)	195	(405)	10.77%	17.96%	0.17%
Gelion plc	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	1,140	(959)	181	39	0.58%	0.96%	0.15%
LungLife AI Inc.	Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology	2,079	(1,931)	148	(325)	3.85%	6.42%	0.13%
Staffline Group plc	Industrial Support Services	334	(208)	126	24	0.26%	0.26%	0.11%
ENGAGE XR Holdings plc	Software and Computer Services	1,879	(1,756)	123	(216)	2.94%	11.56%	0.10%
Strip Tinning Holdings plc	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	506	(397)	109	14	1.50%	2.50%	0.09%
XP Factory plc	Travel and Leisure	988	(893)	95	(15)	0.42%	0.70%	0.08%
TheraCryf plc	Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology	1,050	(965)	85	(33)	3.07%	5.12%	0.07%
Enteq technologies plc	Oil, Gas and Coal	1,032	(965)	67	(31)	1.44%	2.40%	0.06%
1Spatial plc	Software and Computer Services	300	(238)	62	6	0.08%	3.61%	0.05%
DXS International plc	Medical Equipment and Services	300	(255)	45	–	5.86%	9.76%	0.04%
Fusion Antibodies plc	Health Care Providers	746	(719)	27	(6)	0.93%	1.56%	0.02%
Tasty plc	Travel and Leisure	516	(500)	16	5	0.62%	1.19%	0.01%
Genedrive Plc	Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology	217	(211)	6	(7)	0.05%	0.08%	0.01%
Microsaic Systems plc	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	1,384	(1,384)	–	–	0.02%	0.04%	0.00%
Sorted Group Holdings Plc	Software and Computer Services	763	(763)	–	–	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%
Cloudified Holdings Limited	Software and Computer Services	900	(900)	–	(20)	5.70%	9.50%	0.00%
ReNeuron Group plc	Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology	1,485	(1,485)	–	–	3.03%	5.06%	0.00%

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The British Honey Company plc	General Retailers	1,321	(1,321)	–	–	7.12%	11.86%	0.00%
Trackwise Designs Plc	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	1,934	(1,934)	–	–	0.42%	0.70%	0.00%
Total quoted investments		**71,614**	**3,458**	**75,072**	**276**			**63.76%**
Unquoted investments								
Hasgrove Limited		88	6,651	6,739	490	2.84%	17.07%	5.72%
Popsa Holdings Limited		1,590	1,573	3,163	(53)	6.23%	10.39%	2.69%
Alusid Limited		300	–	300	–	3.14%	5.23%	0.25%
Airnow plc		1,257	(1,257)	–	–	0.41%	0.73%	0.00%
Rated People Ltd		354	(354)	–	–	0.11%	0.32%	0.00%
The Food Marketplace Ltd		300	(300)	–	–	6.60%	10.99%	0.00%
Total unquoted investments		**3,889**	**6,313**	**10,202**	**437**			**8.66%**
Loan note investments								
Strip Tinning Holdings plc	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	900	–	900	–	N/A	N/A	0.76%
Rosslyn Data Technologies	Software and Computer Services	180	–	180	–	N/A	N/A	0.15%
Total loan notes		**1,080**	**–**	**1,080**	**–**			**0.92%**
Current asset investments								
FP Octopus UK Micro Cap Growth Fund		7,518	1,670	9,188	1,015	N/A	N/A	7.80%
FP Octopus UK Multi Cap Income Fund		4,051	999	5,050	664	N/A	N/A	4.29%
FP Octopus UK Future Generations Fund		1,878	39	1,917	172	N/A	N/A	1.63%
Total current asset investments		**13,447**	**2,708**	**16,155**	**1,851**			**13.72%**
Total fixed and current asset investments				**102,509**				**87.06%**
Money market funds				13,267				11.27%
Cash at bank				2,389				2.03%
Debtors less creditors				(415)				(0.36%)
Total net assets				**117,750**				**100.00%**

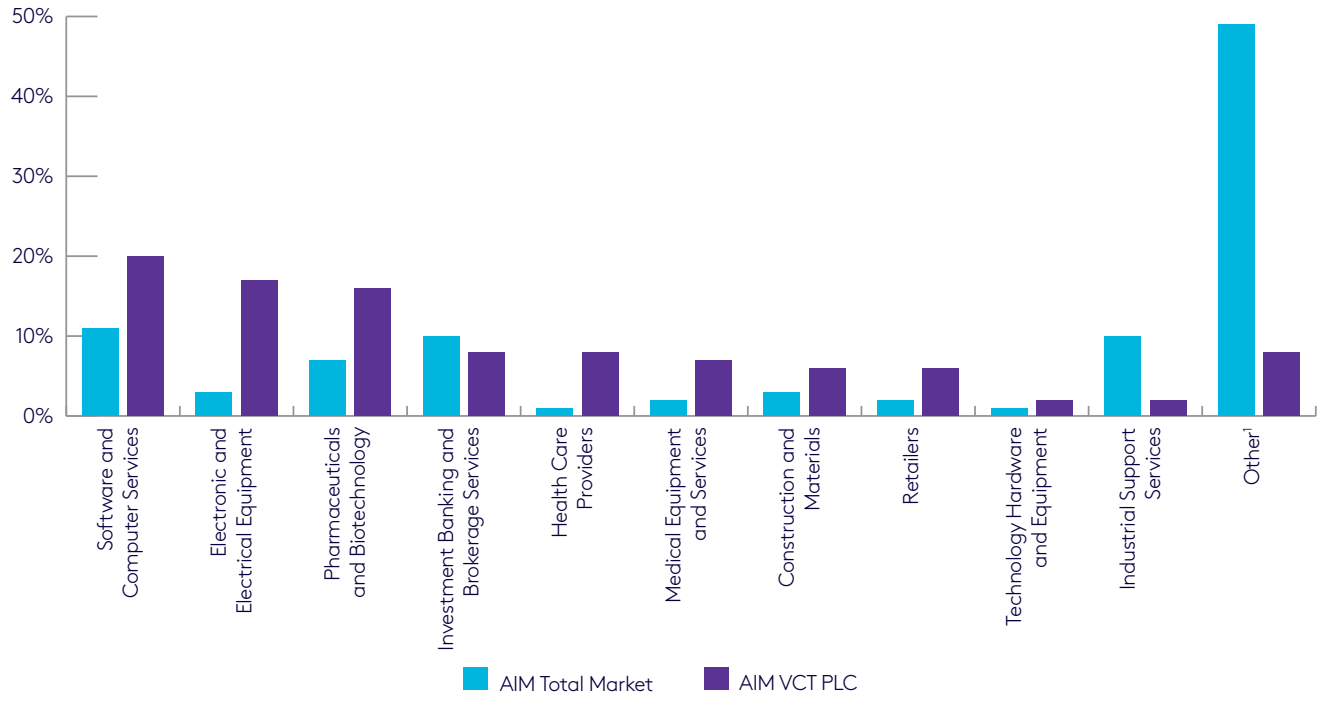
Investment portfolio continued

Sector analysis

The graph below shows the top ten sectors the equity portfolio was invested in by value as at 31 August 2024. It also shows the sectors of the AIM Market as a whole as at 31 August 2024.



The graph below shows the top ten sectors the equity portfolio was invested in by value as at 31 August 2023. It also shows the sectors of the AIM Market as a whole as at 31 August 2023:



[1]Other includes Technology, Industrial Engineering, Alternative Energy, Media, Telecommunications, Leisure Goods, Travel and Leisure, Oil, Coal and Gas, Closed End Investments, Aerospace and Defence, Industrial Materials and Automobiles and Parts.

Directors' responsibilities statement

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge:

- the half–yearly financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 104 'Interim Financial Reporting' issued by the Financial Reporting Council;
- the half–yearly financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position, and profit or loss of the Company;
- the half–yearly report includes a fair review of the information required by the Financial Conduct Authority's Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules, being:
    - we have disclosed an indication of the important events that have occurred during the first six months of the financial year and their impact on the condensed set of financial statements;
    - we have disclosed a description of the principal risks and uncertainties for the remaining six months of the year; and
    - we have disclosed a description of related party transactions that have taken place in the first six months of the current financial year that may have materially affected the financial position or performance of the Company during that period and any changes in the related party transactions described in the last annual report that could do so.

By Order of the Board

N J Ransome

Neal Ransome
Chair
6 November 2024

Income statement

	Unaudited Six months to 31 August 2024			Unaudited Six months to 31 August 2023			Audited Year to 29 February 2024		
	Revenue £'000	**Capital £'000**	**Total £'000**	Revenue £'000	Capital £'000	Total £'000	Revenue £'000	Capital £'000	Total £'000
(Loss)/gain on disposal of fixed asset investments	**–**	**(41)**	**(41)**	–	139	139	–	813	813
Loss on disposal of current asset investments	**–**	**–**	**–**	–	(52)	(52)	–	(246)	(246)
Gain/(loss) on valuation of fixed asset investments	**–**	**713**	**713**	–	(13,719)	(13,719)	–	(16,322)	(16,322)
Gain/(loss) on valuation of current asset investments	**–**	**1,851**	**1,851**	–	(1,794)	(1,794)	–	(1,137)	(1,137)
Investment income	**1,370**	**–**	**1,370**	920	–	920	2,060	–	2,060
Investment management fees	**(270)**	**(810)**	**(1,080)**	(304)	(912)	(1,216)	(555)	(1,666)	(2,221)
Other expenses	**(292)**	**–**	**(292)**	(250)	–	(250)	(681)	–	(681)
Profit/(loss) before tax	**808**	**1,713**	**2,521**	366	(16,338)	(15,972)	824	(18,558)	(17,734)
Tax	**–**	**–**	**–**	–	–	–	–	–	–
Profit/(loss) after tax	**808**	**1,713**	**2,521**	366	(16,338)	(15,972)	824	(18,558)	(17,734)
Earnings per share – basic and diluted	**0.4p**	**0.8p**	**1.2p**	0.2p	(9.1p)	(8.9p)	0.4p	(10.0p)	(9.6p)

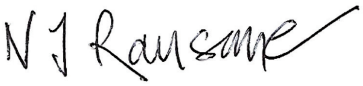
- The 'Total' column of this statement represents the statutory Income Statement of the Company; the supplementary revenue return and capital return columns have been prepared in accordance with the AIC Statement of Recommended Practice.
- All revenue and capital items in the above statement derive from continuing operations.
- The Company has no recognised gains or losses other than those disclosed in the Income Statement.
- The Company has no other comprehensive income for the period.
- The accompanying notes are an integral part of the half-year report.

Balance sheet

	Unaudited As at 31 August 2024		Unaudited As at 31 August 2023		Audited As at 29 February 2024	
	£'000	**£'000**	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed asset investments		**86,354**		87,322		80,350
Current assets:						
Investments	**16,155**		14,873		13,897	
Money market funds	**13,267**		16,485		33,641	
Debtors	**266**		282		666	
Cash at bank	**2,389**		1,921		1,276	
Applications cash[1]	**5**		4		4	
	32,082		33,565		49,484	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**(686)**		(756)		(725)	
Net current assets		**31,396**		32,809		48,759
Total assets less current liabilities		**117,750**		120,131		129,109
Called-up equity share capital		**2,058**		1,789		2,038
Share premium		**20,707**		19,807		18,041
Capital redemption reserve		**369**		301		341
Special distributable reserve		**107,619**		112,000		124,213
Capital reserve realised		**(28,174)**		(24,586)		(24,622)
Capital reserve unrealised		**15,735**		12,650		10,470
Revenue reserve		**(564)**		(1,830)		(1,372)
Total equity shareholders' funds		**117,750**		120,131		129,109
NAV per share – basic and diluted		**57.2p**		67.2p		63.3p

[1]Cash held but not yet allotted

The statements were approved by the Directors and authorised for issue on 6 November 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:



Neal Ransome
Chair
Company No: 03477519

Statement of changes in equity

	Share capital £'000	Share premium £'000	Capital redemption reserve £'000	Special distributable reserves[1] £'000	Capital reserve realised[1] £'000	Capital reserve unrealised £'000	Revenue reserve[1] £'000	Total £'000
As at 1 March 2024	**2,038**	**18,041**	**341**	**124,213**	**(24,622)**	**10,470**	**(1,372)**	**129,109**
Total comprehensive profit for the period	–	–	–	–	(851)	2,564	808	2,521
Contributions by and distributions to owners:								
Repurchase and cancellation of own shares	(28)	–	28	(1,663)	–	–	–	(1,663)
Issue of shares	48	2,666	–	–	–	–	–	2,714
Share issue costs	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Dividends paid	–	–	–	(14,931)	–	–	–	(14,931)
Total contributions by and distributions to owners	20	2,666	28	(16,594)	–	–	–	(13,880)
Other movements:								
Cancellation of share premium	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Prior years' holding losses now realised	–	–	–	–	(2,701)	2,701	–	–
Total other movements	–	–	–	–	(2,701)	2,701	–	–
As at 31 August 2024	**2,058**	**20,707**	**369**	**107,619**	**(28,174)**	**15,735**	**(564)**	**117,750**

[1]The sum of these reserves is an amount of £78,881,000 (31 August 2023: £85,584,000 and 29 February 2024: £98,219,000) which is considered distributable to shareholders.

	Share capital £'000	Share premium £'000	Capital redemption reserve £'000	Special distributable reserves[1] £'000	Capital reserve realised[1] £'000	Capital reserve unrealised £'000	Revenue reserve[1] £'000	Total £'000
As at 1 March 2023	**1,798**	**18,924**	**279**	**118,015**	**(23,143)**	**27,545**	**(2,196)**	**141,222**
Total comprehensive income for the period	–	–	–	–	(825)	(15,513)	366	(15,972)
Contributions by and distributions to owners:								
Repurchase and cancellation of own shares	(22)	–	22	(1,564)	–	–	–	(1,564)
Issue of shares	13	883	–	–	–	–	–	896
Share issue costs	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Dividends paid	–	–	–	(4,451)	–	–	–	(4,451)
Total contributions by and distributions to owners	(9)	883	22	(6,015)	–	–	–	(5,119)
Other movements:								
Cancellation of share premium	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Prior years' holding losses now realised	–	–	–	–	(618)	618	–	–
Total other movements	–	–	–	–	(618)	618	–	–
As at 31 August 2023	**1,789**	**19,807**	**301**	**112,000**	**(24,586)**	**12,650**	**(1,830)**	**120,131**

[1]The sum of these reserves is an amount of £85,584,000 which is considered distributable to shareholders.

Statement of changes in equity continued

	Share capital £'000	Share premium £'000	Capital redemption reserve £'000	Special distributable reserves[1] £'000	Capital reserve realised[1] £'000	Capital reserve unrealised £'000	Revenue reserve[1] £'000	Total £'000
As at 1 March 2023	**1,798**	**18,924**	**279**	**118,015**	**(23,143)**	**27,545**	**(2,196)**	**141,222**
Comprehensive income for the year:								
Management fee allocated as capital expenditure	–	–	–	–	(1,666)	–	–	(1,666)
Current year gains on disposal	–	–	–	–	571	–	–	571
Current period gains on fair value of investments	–	–	–	–	–	(17,459)	–	(17,459)
Capital investment income	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Profit after tax	–	–	–	–	–	–	824	824
Total comprehensive loss for the year	–	–	–	–	(1,095)	(17,459)	824	(17,730)
Contributions by and distributions to owners:								
Repurchase and cancellation of own shares	(62)	–	62	(4,083)	–	–	–	(4,083)
Issue of shares	302	20,082	–	–	–	–	–	20,384
Share issue costs	–	(1,158)	–	–	–	–	–	(1,158)
Dividends paid	–	–	–	(9,526)	–	–	–	(9,526)
Total contributions by and distributions to owners	240	18,924	62	(13,609)	–	–	–	5,617
Other movements:								
Cancellation of share premium	–	(19,807)	–	19,807	–	–	–	–
Prior years' holding gains now realised	–	–	–	–	2,871	(2,871)	–	–
Transfer in reserves	–	–	–	–	(3,255)	3,255	–	–
Total other movements	–	(19,807)	–	19,807	(384)	384	–	–
Balance as at 29 February 2024	**2,038**	**18,041**	**341**	**124,213**	**(24,622)**	**10,470**	**(1,372)**	**129,109**

[1]The sum of these reserves is an amount of £98,219,000 which is considered distributable to shareholders.

Cash flow statement

	Unaudited six months to 31 August 2024 £'000	Unaudited six months to 31 August 2023 £'000	Audited year to 29 February 2024 £'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Profit/(loss) before tax	**2,521**	(15,972)	(17,734)
Adjustments for:			
Decrease in debtors	**400**	72	131
(Decrease) in creditors	**(39)**	(105)	(134)
Loss/(gain) on disposal of fixed assets	**41**	(139)	(813)
Loss on disposal of current assets	**–**	52	246
(Gain)/loss on valuation of fixed asset investments	**(713)**	13,719	16,322
(Gain)/loss on valuation of current asset investments	**(1,851)**	1,794	1,137
Net cash generated by/(used) in operating activities	**359**	(579)	(845)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of fixed asset investments	**(6,129)**	(453)	(7,149)
Purchase of current asset investments	**(408)**	(1,259)	(1,080)
Proceeds from sale of fixed asset investments	**797**	2,218	13,517
Proceeds from sale of current asset investments	**–**	728	1,988
Net cash (used in)/generated by investing activities	**(5,740)**	1,234	7,276
Cash flows from financing activities			
Movement in applications account	**1**	1	(1)
Purchase of own shares	**(1,663)**	(1,564)	(4,083)
Proceeds from share issues	**24**	28	18,558
Share issues costs	**–**	–	(1,157)
Dividends paid (net of DRIS)	**(12,241)**	(3,583)	(7,700)
Net cash (used in)/generated by financing activities	**(13,879)**	(5,118)	5,617
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	**(19,260)**	(4,463)	12,048
Opening cash and cash equivalents	**34,921**	22,873	22,873
Closing cash and cash equivalents	**15,661**	18,410	34,921
Cash and cash equivalents comprise			
Cash at bank	**2,389**	1,921	1,276
Applications cash	**5**	4	4
Money market funds	**13,267**	16,485	33,641
Total cash and cash equivalents	**15,661**	18,410	34,921

Notes to the financial statements

1. Basis of preparation

The unaudited financial statements which covers the six months to 31 August 2024 has been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Council's (FRC) Financial Reporting Standard 104 'Interim Financial Reporting' (September 2024) and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for Investment Companies re–issued by the Association of Investment Companies in July 2022.

The principal accounting policies have remained unchanged from those set out in the Company's 2024 Annual Report and Accounts.

2. Publication of non–statutory accounts

The unaudited financial statements for the six months ended 31 August 2024 does not constitute statutory accounts within the meaning of Section 415 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not been delivered to the Registrar of Companies. The comparative figures for the year ended 29 February 2024 have been extracted from the audited financial statements for that year, which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies. The independent auditor's report on those financial statements, in accordance with chapter 3, part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, was unqualified. This half-yearly report has not been reviewed by the Company's auditor.

3. Earnings per share

The earnings per share is calculated on the basis of 202,899,157 Ordinary shares (31 August 2023: 178,768,443 and 29 February 2024: 185,664,255), being the weighted average number of shares in issue during the period.

There are no potentially dilutive capital instruments in issue and, therefore, no diluted return per share figures are relevant. The basic and diluted earnings per share are therefore identical.

4. Net asset value per share

The net asset value per share is based on net assets as at 31 August 2024 divided by 205,846,926 shares in issue at that date (31 August 2023: 178,882,114 and 29 February 2024: 203,828,309).

	31 August 2024	31 August 2023	29 February 2024
Net assets (£'000)	**117,750**	120,131	129,109
Shares in issue	**205,846,926**	178,882,114	203,828,309
Net asset value per share	**57.2p**	67.2p	63.3p

5. Dividends

The interim dividend declared of 2.5p per Ordinary share will be paid on 10 January 2025 to those shareholders on the register on 20 December 2024.

6. Buybacks and share issues

During the six months ended 31 August 2024 the Company repurchased the following shares.

Date	**No. of shares**	**Price (p)**	**Cost (£)**
21 March 2024	691,776	62.1	429,600
25 April 2024	406,159	61.2	248,600
23 May 2024	346,056	63.2	218,700
20 June 2024	428,126	61.7	264,100
18 July 2024	230,467	62.3	143,600
15 August 2024	658,737	54.4	358,400
Total	**2,761,321**		**1,663,000**

The weighted average price of all buybacks during the period was 60.2p per share.

During the six months ended 31 August 2024 the Company issued the following shares.

Date	No. of shares	Price (p)	Gross proceeds (£)
16 May 2024[1]	37,538	65.1	24,000
15 August 2024 (DRIS)	4,742,400	56.7	2,690,000
Total	**4,779,938**		**2,714,000**

[1]Shares issued as a result of reduced adviser charges.

The weighted average allotment price of all shares issued during the period was 56.8p per share.

7. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Company's principal risks are investment performance, VCT qualifying status risk, operational risk, information security, economic and price risk, regulatory and reputational/legislative risk, liquidity/cash flow risk and valuation risk. These risks, and the way in which they are managed, are described in more detail in the Company's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 29 February 2024. The Board has also considered emerging risks, including geo-political protectionism and climate change. The Board seeks to mitigate risks by setting policy and reviewing performance. Otherwise, the Company's principal risks and uncertainties have not changed materially since the date of that report.

8. Related party transactions

The Company has employed Octopus Investments Limited throughout the period as Investment Manager. Octopus has also been appointed as Custodian of the Company's investments under a Custodian Agreement. The Company has been charged £1,080,000 by Octopus as a management fee in the period to 31 August 2024 (31 August 2023: £1,216,000 and 29 February 2024: £2,221,000). The management fee is payable quarterly and is based on 2% of net assets at six-month intervals.

The Company has invested a further £0.4 million in Octopus managed funds (31 August 2023: £1.3 million and 29 February 2024: £1.9 million), being the Multi Cap Income Fund, Micro Cap Growth Fund and Future Generations Fund. The Company had no disposals of its holding in the Multi Cap Income Fund (31 August 2023: £0.7 million and 29 February 2024: £2.6 million) and has made no loss over book cost (31 August 2023: £0.02 million and 29 February 2024: £0.2 million). To make sure the Company is not double charged management fees on these products, the Company receives a reduction in the management fee as a percentage of the value of these investments. This amounted to £43,000 in the period to 31 August 2024 (31 August 2023: £43,000 and 29 February 2024: £80,000). For further details please refer to the Company's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 29 February 2024.

In the period, Octopus Investments Nominees Limited (OINL) purchased shares in the Company from shareholders to correct administrative issues, on the understanding that shares will be sold back to the Company in subsequent share buybacks at the prevailing market price. As at 31 August 2024, OINL held nil shares (31 August 2023: nil shares and 29 February 2024: nil shares) in the Company as beneficial owner, with a nil book cost (31 August 2023: £nil and 29 February 2024: £nil). Throughout the period to 31 August 2024 OINL purchased nil shares (31 August 2023: 2,657 shares and 29 February 2024: 2,791 shares) at a cost of £nil (31 August 2023: £2,372 and 29 February 2024: £2,000) and sold nil shares (31 August 2023: 10,255 shares and 29 February 2024: 10,389 shares) for proceeds of £nil (31 August 2023: £7,238 and 29 February 2024: £7,000). This is classed as a related party transaction as Octopus, the Investment Manager and OINL are part of the same group of companies. Any such future transactions, where OINL takes over the legal and beneficial ownership of Company shares, will be announced to the market and disclosed in annual and financial statements.

9. Fixed asset investments

Accounting policy

The Company's principal financial assets are its investments and the policies in relation to those assets are set out below.

Purchases and sales of investments are recognised in the financial statements at the date of the transaction (trade date).

These investments will be managed and their performance evaluated on a fair value basis in accordance with a documented investment strategy and information about them has to be provided internally on that basis to the Board. Accordingly, as permitted by FRS 102, the investments are measured as being fair value through profit or loss on the basis that they qualify as a group of assets managed, and whose performance is evaluated, on a fair value basis in accordance with a documented investment strategy. The Company's investments are measured at subsequent reporting dates at fair value.

Notes to the financial statements continued

In the case of investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange, fair value is established by reference to the closing bid price on the relevant date or the last traded price, depending upon convention of the exchange on which the investment is quoted. This is consistent with the International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation (IPEV) guidelines.

Gains and losses arising from changes in fair value of investments are recognised as part of the capital return within the Income Statement and allocated to the capital reserve unrealised. All investments are initially recognised at transaction price and subsequently measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognised in the Income Statement.

In the preparation of the valuations of assets the Directors are required to make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and incorporate their knowledge of the performance of the investee companies.

Fair value hierarchy

Paragraph 34.22 of FRS 102 suggests following a hierarchy of fair value measurements for financial instruments measured at fair value in the Balance Sheet, which gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). This methodology is adopted by the Company and requires disclosure of financial instruments to be dependent on the lowest significant applicable input, as laid out below:

Level 1: The unadjusted, fully accessible and current quoted price in an active market for identical assets or liabilities that an entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs for similar assets or liabilities other than the quoted prices included in Level 1 that are directly or indirectly observable, which exist for the duration of the period of investment.

Level 3: This is where inputs are unobservable, where no active market is available and recent transactions for identical instruments do not provide a good estimate of fair value for the asset or liability.

There have been no reclassifications between levels in the year. The change in fair value for the current and previous year is recognised through the profit and loss account.

Disclosure

	Level 1: Quoted equity investments £'000	Level 3: Unquoted investments £'000	Total £'000
Cost as at 1 March 2024	68,725	5,268	73,993
Opening unrealised gain at 1 March 2024	780	5,577	6,357
Valuation at 1 March 2024	**69,505**	**10,845**	**80,350**
Purchases at cost	6,129	–	6,129
Disposal proceeds	(789)	(8)	(797)
Gain on realisation of investments	(49)	8	(41)
Change in fair value in year	276	437	713
Closing valuation at 31 August 2024	**75,072**	**11,282**	**86,354**
Cost at 31 August 2024	71,614	4,969	76,583
Closing unrealised gain at 31 August 2024	3,458	6,313	9,771
Valuation at 31 August 2024	**75,072**	**11,282**	**86,354**

Level 1 valuations are valued in accordance with the bid–price on the relevant date. Further details of the fixed asset investments held by the Company are shown within the Investment Manager's review.

Level 3 investments are reported at fair value in accordance with FRS 102 Sections 11 and 12, which is determined in accordance with the latest IPEV guidelines. In estimating fair value, there is an element of judgement, notably in deriving reasonable assumptions, and it is possible that, if different assumptions were to be used, different valuations could have been attributed to some of the Company's investments.

Level 3 investments include £1,080,000 (31 August 2023: £600,000 and 29 February 2024: £1,080,000) of convertible loan notes held at cost, which is deemed to be current fair value. In addition to this the Company holds eight unquoted investments which are classified as level 3 in terms of fair value hierarchy. These are valued based on a range of valuation methodologies, determined on an investment specific basis. The price of recent investment is used where a transaction has occurred sufficiently close to the reporting date to make this the most reliable indicator of fair value. Where recent investment is not deemed to indicate the most reliable indicator of fair value i.e. the most recent investment is too distant from the reporting date for this to be deemed a reasonable indicator, other market–based approaches including earnings multiples, annualised recurring revenues, discounted cash flows or net assets are used to determine a fair value for the investments.

All capital gains or losses on investments are classified at FVTPL (fair value through profit or loss). Given the nature of the Company's venture capital investments, the changes in fair value of such investments recognised in these financial statements are not considered to be readily convertible to cash in full at the balance sheet date and accordingly these gains are treated as holding gains or losses.

10. Post balance sheet events

The following events occurred between the balance sheet date and the signing of these financial statements.

- A full disposal with proceeds totalling £3,180,000 completed in Mattioli Woods plc.
- On 23 September 2024, a prospectus offer was launched alongside Octopus AIM VCT 2 plc to raise a combined total of up to £20 million with a £10 million over-allotment facility. The Offer will close on 22 September 2025, or earlier if fully subscribed.
- A final order to cancel share premium amount to £18.1 million was granted on 10 September 2024.

About Octopus AIM VCT plc

Octopus AIM VCT plc (the 'Company' or 'Fund') was launched as Close AIM VCT PLC in the spring of 1998 and raised £10.1 million from private investors through an issue of Ordinary shares.

Between October 2000 and March 2001 a further £20.0 million was raised through an issue of C shares. Furthermore, between 16 March 2004 and final closing on 5 April 2004 the Company raised £3.3 million by way of a D share issue.

The C Shares were merged and converted into Ordinary shares on 31 May 2004 at a conversion ratio determined by a price mechanism related to the respective net assets per share of both the Ordinary shares and C shares at 29 February 2004 (which resulted in C Shareholders receiving 1.0765 Ordinary shares for each C share held).

A further £15.0 million was raised between 6 January 2005 and 8 April 2005 through an issue of New D shares.

On 31 May 2008, the Ordinary shares converted into D shares at a conversion ratio of 0.5448 D shares for each Ordinary share. All of the D shares were then re–designated into New Ordinary shares.

With effect from 1 August 2008, the management of the Company was transferred to Octopus Investments Limited.

On 4 August 2010 the share capital was restructured and each existing Ordinary share of 50p was subdivided into one Ordinary share of 1p and one Deferred share of 49p. The Deferred shares had no economic value and were bought back by the Company for an aggregate amount of 1p and cancelled.

On 12 August 2010, following approval at the Extraordinary General Meeting on 4 August 2010, shareholders of Octopus Phoenix VCT had their shares converted into Octopus AIM VCT shares on a relative net asset value basis using the conversion factor of 0.42972672. On the same day, Octopus Phoenix VCT was placed into members' voluntary liquidation.

The offer for subscription in the prospectus dated 9 July 2010 relating to the issue of new shares in connection with the merger with Octopus Phoenix VCT plc was extended by a supplemental prospectus and closed on 19 April 2011, raising £10 million. A subsequent offer raised £1.9 million, closing on 5 April 2012.

Since 5 April 2012 £198.5 million has been raised through various share offers launched.

Shareholder information and contact details

Dividends

Dividends will be paid by the Registrar on behalf of the Company. Shareholders who wish to have dividends paid directly into their bank account rather than by cheque to their registered address can complete a mandate form for this purpose. Queries relating to dividends, shareholdings and requests for mandate forms should be directed to the Company's Registrar, Computershare Investor Services PLC ('Computershare'), by calling **0370 703 6325** (calls are charged at the standard geographic rate and will vary by provider. Calls from outside the United Kingdom will be charged at the applicable international rate). Computershare Investor Services PLC is open between 9.00am–5.30pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays in England and Wales), or by writing to them at:

The Registrar
Computershare Investor Services PLC
The Pavilions
Bridgwater Road
Bristol
BS99 6ZZ

Share price

The Company's share price can be found on various financial websites, such as **www.londonstockexchange.com**, by typing 'Octopus AIM' in the 'Quotes Search' box.

The latest share price as at the close of business on 5 November 2024 was 50.5p per Ordinary share.

Buying and selling shares

The Company's Ordinary shares can be bought and sold in the same way as any other company quoted on the London Stock Exchange via a stockbroker. There may be tax implications in respect of selling all or part of your holdings, so shareholders should contact their independent financial adviser if they have any queries.

The Company operates a policy of buying its own shares for cancellation as they become available, and envisages that purchases will be made at up to a 5% discount to the prevailing NAV. The Company is, however, unable to buy back shares directly from shareholders. If you are considering selling your shares or trading in the secondary market, please contact Panmure Liberum Limited.

Panmure Liberum Limited is able to provide details of close periods (when the Company is prohibited from buying in shares) and details of the price at which the Company has bought its shares. Panmure Liberum Limited can be contacted as follows:

Chris Lloyd 020 7886 2716 chris.lloyd@panmureliberum.com
Paul Nolan 020 7886 2717 paul.nolan@panmureliberum.com

Notification of change of address

Communications with shareholders are mailed to the registered address held on the share register. In the event of a change of address or other amendment this should be notified to the Company's Registrar, Computershare, under the signature of the registered holder. Their contact details can be found at the end of this report.

Other information for shareholders

Previously published annual reports and half-yearly reports are available for viewing on the Octopus website at **www.octopusinvestments.com** by navigating to Services, Investors, Shareholder information, Octopus AIM VCT plc. All other statutory information will also be found there.

Warning to shareholders

Many companies are aware that their shareholders have received unsolicited phone calls or correspondence concerning investment matters. These are typically from overseas based "brokers" who target UK shareholders offering to sell them what often turn out to be worthless or high risk shares in US or UK investments. They can be very persistent and extremely persuasive. Shareholders are therefore advised to be wary of any unsolicited advice, offer to buy shares at a discount or offer for free company reports.

Please note that it is very unlikely that either Octopus Investments Limited ('Octopus') or the Company's Registrar would make unsolicited telephone calls to shareholders. In any event any such calls would relate only to official documentation already circulated to shareholders and would never be in respect of investment "advice".

If you are in any doubt about the veracity of an unsolicited phone call, please call either Octopus, or the Registrar, at the numbers provided at the back of this report.

Directors and advisers

Board of Directors
Neal Ransome (Chair)
Andrew Boteler
Joanne Parfrey
Louise Nash

Company number
Registered in England No: 03477519

Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)
213800C5JHJUQLAFP619

Secretary and registered office
Octopus Company Secretarial Services Ltd
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Investment and administration manager
Octopus Investments Limited
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EC1N 2HT
Tel: 0800 316 2295
www.octopusinvestments.com

Custodians
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Bankers
HSBC Bank plc
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Independent auditor
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55 Baker Street
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W1U 7EU

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VCT status adviser
Shoosmiths LLP
Apex Plaza
Forbury Road
Reading
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www.computershare.com/uk
www–uk.computershare.com/investor

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Glossary of terms

Alternative performance measure (APM)
A financial measure of historical or future financial performance, financial position, or cash flows, other than a financial measure defined or specified in the applicable financial reporting framework. These APMs will help shareholders to understand and assess the Company's progress. A number of terms within this glossary have been identified as APMs.

Net asset value or NAV
The value of the Company's total assets less liabilities. It is equal to the total shareholders' funds.

Total return (APM)
Total return is calculated as movement in NAV per share in the period plus dividends paid in the period, divided by the NAV per share at the beginning of the period. Total return on the NAV per share enables shareholders to evaluate more clearly the performance of the Company, as it reflects the underlying value of the portfolio at the reporting date.

Net asset value per share or NAV per share
The value of the Company's total assets less liabilities divided by the total number of shares in issue.

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