



# Octopus AIM VCT 2 plc

Data as at 31 May 2022

## About the Product

Octopus AIM VCT 2 plc is a Venture Capital Trust (VCT) which aims to provide shareholders with attractive tax-free dividends and long-term capital appreciation by investing in a diverse portfolio of predominantly AIM-quoted companies.

Risk is spread by investing in a number of different businesses across a range of activities.

## Key Facts

Net Assets	£103.8m
Market Cap	£99.5m
Shares Issued	147.3m
Launch Date	2005
Benchmark	FTSE AIM All-Share TR
Number of Holdings	89
Year End	30 November

## Current Price

NAV per share*	70.3p
Share price (mid)	67.5p

\*NAV reported weekly.

Share buybacks: the VCT can buy back up to 10% of the share capital annually at a 5% discount to NAV, subject to Board approval.

## About the Team

The Octopus Quoted Companies team has a combined experience of more than 100 years. The team, which includes Richard Power, Kate Tidbury, Chris McVey, Edward Griffiths, Stephen Henderson, Mark Symington, Dominic Weller, Jessica Sweeney, Freda Isingoma and Charles Lucas, manage over £2.6 billion in quoted companies, and are also responsible for the Octopus AIM Inheritance Tax Service, FP Octopus UK Micro Cap Growth Fund, FP Octopus UK Multi Cap Income Fund and FP Octopus UK Future Generations Fund.



## Performance Overview

### Five year performance (%)



	YTD	3 years	5 years	Calendar Year		
				2021	2020	2019
Octopus AIM VCT 2 NAV TR	-21.26	12.85	5.77	8.88	22.79	11.42
Octopus AIM VCT 2 Share Price TR	-16.80	14.86	10.64	10.66	21.00	10.45
FTSE AIM All-Share TR	-19.43	4.83	4.12	6.12	21.75	13.26
FTSE All-Share TR	1.50	18.44	22.17	18.32	-9.82	19.17

### Discrete yearly performance (%)

Year to 31 May	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Octopus AIM VCT 2 NAV TR	-22.98	50.51	-2.29	-9.01	3.70
Octopus AIM VCT 2 Share Price TR	-22.06	51.75	-2.89	-8.68	5.48
FTSE AIM All-Share TR	-21.50	44.64	-7.68	-10.14	10.54
FTSE All-Share TR	8.27	23.13	-11.16	-3.17	6.53

Source: Lipper and Octopus Investments. VCT performance is shown as a simple return comparison between the NAV at the beginning of the period and the NAV, plus any dividends paid out, at the end of the period. VCT share price performance shown includes reinvested dividends. NAV is stated after deduction of fees.

### Key Risks

- Your capital is at risk and you may not get back the full amount invested.
- Tax treatment depends on individual circumstances and may be subject to change.
- Investments quoted on AIM are likely to fall and rise in value more than shares listed on the main market of the London Stock Exchange. They may also be harder to sell.
- The availability of tax reliefs also depends on the investee companies maintaining their qualifying status.
- Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns.



### Investment Enquiries

To speak to any of our fund managers, please call:

0800 316 2394

info@octopusinvestments.com

## 5-Year Dividend History

Pay Date	Type	Dividend
29 Sep 2017	Interim	2.10p
18 May 2018	Final	2.10p
18 Oct 2018	Interim	2.10p
24 May 2019	Final	2.10p
07 Nov 2019	Special	3.90p
07 Nov 2019	Interim	2.10p
22 May 2020	Final	2.10p
05 Nov 2020	Interim	2.10p
21 May 2021	Final	2.10p
12 Nov 2021	Special	1.70p
12 Nov 2021	Interim	2.10p
27 May 2022	Final	2.10p

The Board has a policy of providing shareholders with a yield of 5% based on share price, subject to a minimum payment of 3.6p per share per year.

## Directors

Keith Mullins (Chairman)  
Elizabeth Kennedy  
Andy Raynor  
Brad Ormsby

## Fees & Codes

Management Fee	2.00%
Total Ongoing Charges*	1.80%

ISIN Code	GB00B0JQZZ80
Sedol Code	BOJQZZ8
Ticker (LSE)	OSEC

\*Calculated as at 30 November 2021

## Glossary

**Index**  
A representative portfolio of securities created to represent a particular market or a portion of it.

**Net Asset Value (NAV)**  
The price-per-share of a fund or other investment. The per-share amount of the fund is based on the total value of all the securities in its portfolio, any liabilities the fund has and the number of fund shares outstanding.

**Total Return (TR)**  
The gain or loss derived from an investment over a specified period of time. This figure includes interest, capital gains, dividends, and income distributions realised over that time period.

## Important Information

Personal opinions may change and should not be seen as advice or a recommendation. We do not offer investment or tax advice. We recommend investors seek professional advice before deciding to invest. Regarding VCTs, this advertisement is not a prospectus and you should only subscribe for shares on the basis of information contained in the prospectus and the Key Information Document. For other investments, investors should read the product brochure before deciding to invest. These documents are available at octopusinvestments.com. Issued by Octopus Investments Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered office: 33 Holborn, London, EC1N 2HT. Registered in England and Wales No. 03942880. We record telephone calls. CAM012109. Issued: June 2022.

## Monthly Commentary

During May, the Net Asset Value (NAV) of the Octopus AIM VCT 2 fell by 5.71%. This compares to a 4.42% decrease in the FTSE AIM All Share and a 0.69% increase in the FTSE All Share, both on a total return basis.

Equity market sentiment remained under pressure during the month. Lingering concerns over the inflationary environment, further interest rate rises, the terrible conflict in Ukraine, and continued lockdown conditions in China combined to keep investor appetite for risk low. However, as we have commented on in previous updates this year, the vast majority of company-specific news-flow remains positive, with management teams continuing to provide optimistic but cautious outlooks for the remainder of the year. Market volatility and depressed share prices are likely to persist in the coming months, but we remain confident that valuations will begin to return towards more normal levels once sentiment improves and companies meet or exceed the muted market expectations for earnings.

Positive updates included **Judges Scientific**, who have acquired geological services provider Geotek for up to £80 million in cash and shares. It looks an excellent addition to the Group and is expected to be earnings enhancing in the current year. Specialist instrumentation business, **SDI Group**, provided a very good trading update for the year to 30 April 2022. Strong customer demand meant that revenues, profits, and cash flow exceeded market expectations for the year. Management is cautiously optimistic that FY23 will be a record year for the group. Cell therapy technology provider, **Maxcyte**, delivered a very good quarter one trading update. It outlined 25% year-on-year revenue growth and increased guidance. However, its shares have been weighed down by negative investor sentiment towards the biotech sector. Automotive retailer, **Vertu Motors**, delivered an extraordinary set of results for the year to 28 February 2022, in which adjusted profit before tax increased more than threefold to £80.7 million. Net cash was ahead of market expectations at £16.2 million. The exceptionally buoyant market in second hand cars has been lucrative for the Group, though this situation is unlikely to persist over the course of this year as consumer demand comes under pressure. Accounts Payable software and service provider, **Giantus Holdings**, provided a solid set of maiden figures since its AIM IPO in May last year. The business delivered revenue growth of 27% in the year to 31 December 2021, and current trading is in line with market expectations.

Major detractors from performance over the month included solid state battery developer, **Ilika**. It provided a trading update for the year to 30 April 2022, which was in line with market expectations. However, the company is behind production schedule in its miniaturised battery, Stereax, which means that commercialisation in that product line is likely to be delayed. However, scale-up in its larger format battery, Goliath, remains on track. Shares in digital marketing services provider, **Next Fifteen Communications**, fell despite providing a very good update for its first quarter. Revenues were up 37% on an organic basis. Other detractors included **Breedon Group** and **Ergomed**, whose share prices retreated over the month despite providing no updates.

## Portfolio Analysis

### Top Ten Equity Holdings (%)

FP Octopus UK Micro Cap Growth	5.3
Ergomed plc	5.2
FP Octopus UK Multi Cap Income	4.4
Learning Technologies Group plc	3.9
Hasgrove plc	3.5
Popsa	3.5
Breedon Group plc	3.2
GB Group plc	2.9
Judges Scientific plc	2.6
Animalcare Group plc	2.5

**Total** **37.0**

### Top Ten Sectors (%)

Software & Computer Services	14.6
Pharmaceuticals & Biotechnology	11.2
Unit Trusts	10.1
Unquoted Investment	7.3
Support Services	6.5
Energy	4.9
Health	4.6
Electronic & Electrical	4.1
General Retailers	3.8
Technology Hardware	3.5

**Total** **70.6**