# **MORAY PLACE INVESTMENT COMPANY**

LONG FORM
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 September 2022

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## **ABOUT YOUR COMPANY**

Moray Place Investment Company (MPIC) was formed on 2 May 2012 as an open-ended investment company and started trading on 15 May 2012. It is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority in the UK as a non-UCITS retail scheme.

The company is intended to be a long-term investment vehicle for like-minded individuals. It is low-cost, straightforward and free of the conflicts of interest that bedevil the money management industry.

MPIC's objective is to preserve and then grow the purchasing power of its investors' capital. The investment manager believes that it is most meaningful to assess MPIC's progress over a full economic cycle, which is typically five to ten years. Over this time frame useful comparators include UK consumer price inflation, the yield on long-dated gilts, and equity indices.

MPIC expects to achieve its objective primarily through owning shares in established companies listed on stock exchanges around the world. It will not borrow, use derivatives, short-sell securities, or invest in property directly.

The investment approach is uncomplicated, disciplined and patient. The investment manager also believes that it is conservative, if idiosyncratic. MPIC is not designed to appeal to a broad constituency. It is only suitable for investors who can evaluate the merits and risks of such an approach: if you cannot, or it makes you uncomfortable, or it simply does not suit your psychology, you should not invest.

Value of company at 30 September 2022 £129m

Authorised Corporate Director (ACD) Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited

**Investment manager** Hollis Capital Limited

Minimum investment Initial: £200,000

Subsequent: £10,000

**Dealing spread** 1%

Ongoing charges 0.49%

Performance fee Not applicable

**Initial charges** Not applicable

**Redemption charges** 5% for sales within 2 years of purchase

2% for sales between 2 and 5 years of purchase *Paid to MPIC, not to the ACD or investment manager* 

**Ex-dividend date** 30 September

**Dividend date** 30 November

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	At and for the year ended					
	30 Sept 2022	30 Sept 2021	30 Sept 2020	30 Sept 2019	30 Sept 2018	
Value of company	£128.6m	£121.3m	£93.0m	£92.2m	£81.0m	
Shares outstanding						
Accumulation	34.8m	33.6m	31.9m	30.4m	28.5m	
Income	12.5m	10.5m	9.2m	7.6m	7.6m	
NAV per share (mid pr	rice)					
Accumulation	279.9p	281.6p	230.4p	246.5p	228.2p	
Income	250.4p	255.5p	211.8p	228.4p	214.4p	
Dividend per share						
Accumulation	4.07p	3.64p	1.82p	3.48p	3.09p	
Income	3.69p	3.34p	1.69p	3.27p	2.95p	
Effective liquidity	14%	14%	20%	19%	21%	
Ongoing charges <sup>†</sup>	0.49%	0.45%	0.46%	0.47%	0.49%	
Portfolio turnover	3%	8%	6%	8%	7%	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> The Investment Association changed its definition of ongoing charges in 2022. The figure now includes the underlying costs of investment trust holdings. By the previous definition the ongoing charges for 2022 was 0.44%.

_	Cumulative gain to 30 Sept 2022			
	5 years	10 years	Inception	
NAV per accumulation share	33%	169%	180%	
Comparators				
UK Consumer Price Index	19%	28%	29%	
Index of the annual yield on the longest dated gilt	6%	23%	25%	
FTSE All-Share Total Return Index	11%	79%	93%	

#### Notes

The company started trading on 15 May 2012 when shares were issued at 100p each. Effective liquidity includes the investment in gold; all the current constituents are shown on page 9. The ongoing charges ratio is based on the actual charges and the average NAV during the year.

## LETTER TO SHAREHOLDERS

#### Dear fellow shareholders

Moray Place Investment Company exists to protect and then grow the purchasing power of its investors' capital. My first letter to shareholders in 2012 outlined the guiding principles by which I manage the company. Those principles are repeated in full on pages six and seven.

#### MPIC's first decade

In my 2012 letter I stated that a single year is not a meaningful period over which to assess MPIC's progress. Instead, I would evaluate the company's results over a full economic cycle. As each cycle varies in length, and for simplicity, I committed to comment on periods of at least five years but no more than ten. This is the first letter that covers a full ten years.

In my initial letter I also undertook to gauge progress against three benchmarks, shown in the table below. MPIC's asset value per share has advanced over five and ten years by more than domestic consumer prices, the interest earned by savers, and the returns from British shares.

	Cumulative gain to 30 September 2022			
	5 years	10 years		
MPIC – total return	33%	169%		
Inflation – UK Consumer Price Index	19%	28%		
Savings – Yield on longest-dated gilt	6%	23%		
UK Equities – FTSE All-Share Total Return Index	11%	79%		
Wages – ONS UK average weekly earnings	22%	33%		
Residential property – Land Registry UK house prices	31%	73%		
Global equities – Vanguard World Index Fund, total return	51%	198%		

The table also includes three other comparators to highlight the incredible results earned from owning assets. In the past decade, UK consumer prices rose by 28% and average wages by 33%. Yet, the average price of a British home rose by 73% while the return from owning Vanguard's global equity index fund was 198%, including dividends. It has been a wonderful decade for owners of businesses and houses, especially if they borrowed money to buy them. Indeed, it has been a wonderful four decades for asset owners, as the terms for borrowing continued to ease. It was an extraordinary era – but it may be over.

The era may be over partly because business and property values cannot forever rise faster than wages. Wages rise for the same reason as business and property values – free people's ingenuity and desire to improve their family's conditions. Ultimately, the barber and babysitter benefit from others' ingenuity as much as the entrepreneur and landlord. Asset values do fluctuate more than wages, but they are anchored by the same underlying factor – society's wellbeing. I suspect that over the past decade the better gauge of society's wellbeing is not an index of share or property values, but of wages.

The era may be over also because central bankers' global experiment in extreme monetary policies appears over. The economic, social and political effects of ultra-low interest rates are not widely understood. Michael Harnett, a financial analyst, offered one succinct summary. Echoing Churchill, he wrote, "Never in the field of monetary policy has so much been gained by so few at the expense of so many."

## LETTER TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Fundamental progress and speculative froth

MPIC is not an equity fund. Still, quoted businesses are crucial to growing the purchasing power of its capital. Therefore, it is useful to compare the returns from MPIC's equity portfolio with those of the global universe.

In previous shareholders' letters I have used a framework that distinguishes between two components of the total return from owning shares. The *fundamental* return is the growth in the underlying business plus the dividends it generates. It is how an owner might assess an unquoted business, without the distraction of a stockmarket share price. The *speculative* return is the change in the stockmarket price for each £1 of, say, profits, dividends or assets. It is the stockmarket froth that distracts attention from the underlying business.

My investing approach is to identify superior companies, led by good people, and own them for years. I try to capture the fundamental return from the underlying business. I seldom buy low with intent to sell high later. However, I do try to avoid buying high. Thus, I seek what most investors under-appreciate — the mundane and low-profile. I avoid glamorous and fashionable shares, as they are vulnerable to ebbs in stockmarket froth.

In the table below I try to separate the fundamental and speculative elements for MPIC's equity portfolio as well as for the global universe. I have used dividends and net asset values as proxies for fundamental business returns. I have used Vanguard's FTSE All-World Index Fund as a proxy for the global universe. For MPIC, I have measured the returns of the original 38 equities owned ten years ago. I regard that original portfolio as a reasonable surrogate for the actual one as I trade little. MPIC's average holding period is 15 years, meaning that I buy and sell about 7% of the portfolio each year. Today, MPIC still owns three quarters by value of that original portfolio.

	10	10 years to 30 September 2022				
	Fundamental return (A)	Speculative return (B)	<b>Total return</b> (1+A)(1+B)-1			
MPIC equity portfolio	160%	25%	225%			
Vanguard World Index Fund	125%	35%	198%			
Markel	260%	-3%	248%			

Over ten years, the total return from MPIC's equity portfolio was 225%, which compares with Vanguard's global equity index fund of 198%. However, I regard the fundamental return as the most important column in the table. Fundamental return is the dominant component of the total return for both MPIC and the universe. And the longer the period, the more dominant it becomes. It compounds over time, as healthy businesses constantly reinvest a part of their profits. Over ten years, the fundamental return from MPIC's underlying businesses was 160%, or 10% per annum, compared with the average quoted business of 125%, or 8½% annually. That is a meaningful advantage in the returns from the portfolio's underlying businesses.

These figures suggest that MPIC's businesses are superior. In addition, the average ratio of share price-to-profits is lower for MPIC's portfolio than the universe. Superior businesses at prices below the norm seems an appealing combination. However, there is an alternative interpretation. It may be that while the historical results of MPIC's businesses are good, their prospects are worse than those of the average business. The stockmarket is an effective forward-looking mechanism. And it appears unenthused by the prospects for MPIC's businesses.

Markel is a pertinent example. It is a US insurer that makes money from underwriting commercial risks, as well as from investing its policyholders' premiums and its owners' capital. It pays no

## LETTER TO SHAREHOLDERS

dividend, so reinvests all its profits to maximise the compounding of its owners' capital, or asset value. Annual progress in asset value is unpredictable owing to the vagaries of underwriting and investing. Still, every five to seven years Markel's net asset value per share tends to double. Over the past decade it has risen by 150% in US dollars or 260% in pounds sterling. For MPIC, that has been a fundamental compound annual return of 13½%.

Markel has been MPIC's largest investment since inception. To my mind, it is a superior and durable business, led by good people, with prospects to grow profitably for years. The ratio of its share price-to-asset value is low, and has got lower over the decade, especially compared to the universe. I thought Markel's shares attractive ten years ago, and I still do. I have not sold a single share.

### Satisfactory results despite errors

Quoted businesses formed 69% of MPIC ten years ago, and form 86% today. The increased proportion is entirely because of the fabulous returns earned by equities. Over the period, MPIC earned 225% from its equities compared to 40% from its gold, bonds and cash. In hindsight, I erred in having too little invested in equities.

My bias to avoid glamorous and fashionable equities is not always helpful, especially when the stockmarket froth is flowing. A simple, successful policy over the past decade has been to own high-profile, exciting technology shares. MPIC has owned none, missing some remarkable fundamental and speculative returns.

Despite my errors, MPIC's results have been satisfactory. The table on page 28 shows the progress of its asset value compared to inflation. The real net asset value has advanced by 117% since inception, or by 7.7% annually. I do not expect the next decade to be as good. However, over time, I do expect MPIC to grow faster than inflation and I hope for compound annual growth of up to 5% in real net asset value.

#### The golden rule

I created MPIC based on the golden rule. I treat all shareholders as I would wish to be treated myself. Thus, it is a low-cost, long-term, tax-efficient investment vehicle. Most of my own savings are, and will remain, invested in MPIC.

I wish to have co-investors in MPIC whom I know and who invest their personal savings on their own initiative. Nothing makes my professional life more fulfilling than direct relationships with like-minded shareholders, who I enjoy meeting. Moreover, the biggest advantage I have as the manager of MPIC's portfolio is the supportive environment provided by its shareholders. Since May 2012, its shareholders have sold less than 0.4% of their shares. I do not know of any openended investment company with so low a rate of gross redemptions. It is the most distinctive feature of the company.

Nothing is more important to MPIC's investment results than the supportive environment you provide. Thank you for your trust and continued patience.

Peter Hollis

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

All enduring human endeavours and relationships appear to have a commitment to common goals and shared values. To help potential co-investors assess whether they share my goals and values, in my first letter to shareholders in 2012 I outlined the objectives and guiding principles by which I manage MPIC. They are restated below, as they have been in every annual report. They are principles, so are unlikely to change significantly. However, they may evolve as I continue to learn from new insights as well as from my mistakes.

## Investment objective and appropriate gauges of progress

One key to attracting and keeping like-minded co-investors is that we gauge progress by the same yardstick. Moreover, that yardstick needs to be stated at the start of the relationship.

The essence of investment is to defer consumption today so that one may consume more in future. Hence, MPIC's objective is to preserve and then grow the purchasing power of its investors' capital. In deferring consumption today one might wish, for instance, to buy more groceries, property or education in future. All would represent valid standards by which to assess progress. However, for ease, I will compare MPIC's results against three benchmarks.

### 1. The UK Consumer Price Index

Spending power is most commonly evaluated with respect to consumer goods. One basic hurdle for MPIC is thus to grow faster than UK consumer goods inflation.

## 2. The yield on UK long-dated gilts

Consumer goods are only a part of personal expenditure. Perhaps the most comprehensive gauge of the expected erosion of purchasing power is the yield on UK long-dated gilts. This yield can be interpreted as the market's best guess of the nominal return required at least to sustain the purchasing power of pound sterling in the future.

#### 3. The UK FTSE All-Share Index

MPIC is not an equity fund, but it does expect primarily to use quoted equities as the means of achieving its objective. An equity index is thus an informative comparator, as well as a test of whether MPIC is preserving its investors' purchasing power in one specific form of assets: publicly quoted companies.

Note, first, that the comparators are UK-oriented. This seems appropriate as most of MPIC's owners are British with predominantly pound sterling commitments and liabilities. Second, I do not believe that a single year is an informative time frame over which to assess progress. I believe that the most appropriate period is an economic cycle, not the time it takes the earth to orbit the sun. Thus, I will compare MPIC's returns against its three comparators over a full economic cycle. The economic cycle varies in length, but for simplicity I will define it as a minimum of five years and maximum of ten, and comment on both periods.

### My guiding principles

Another way of assessing whether there is a community of interest with my investment values is to compare your investing beliefs, or principles, with mine. These are mine:

• I will treat your investment in MPIC as I would treat my own I have, and will maintain, most of my personal capital in MPIC.

### • Costs matter

While the investment results of MPIC will be volatile and inherently uncertain, I am certain of one thing: costs erode long-term returns. Therefore, MPIC aspires to be one of the lowest cost investment companies available to individual investors.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

## Purposeful inactivity

I will invest so to be untroubled were financial markets to close for five years. Expect turnover of investments within MPIC to average less than 10% each year.

## • Independent thinking

My investment philosophy is to be conservative, but not conventional. I will shun excessively popular, fashionable investments. I believe that an important paradox in investment is that the more popular an idea becomes, the less profitable it is likely to be.

- Long-term optimism about man's instincts to trade, barter and exchange goods and ideas I believe that this is the true source of durable prosperity and wealth. Rising living standards are largely derived from accumulated knowledge and new ideas, which is only constrained by human ingenuity and imagination.
- Long-term pessimism on the value of government promises Politicians promise too much. In exchange for obvious short-term benefits they willingly incur less obvious long-term costs. This undermines the value of government-backed promises, such as paper money and sovereign bonds. One consequence is inflation, which I believe to be at source a political phenomenon. It has been one of the tragedies of modern financial academic work to label government bonds "risk-free".

#### • The role of quoted equity investments

I believe that the long-term ownership of superior businesses run by honest people is the best means of allowing the investor to participate in the general tendency for global living standards to rise, while simultaneously protecting his capital from inflation. Quoted equity securities allow the investor to part-own a variety of such businesses around the world, at remarkably low cost. Consequently, it is likely that investments in quoted equities will dominate the portfolio.

## • Risk and uncertainty cannot be avoided

Business and investing are complex, unpredictable and fraught with uncertainty. I do not believe that government bonds are risk-free. I do not believe that investment risk can be quantified. And I do not believe in smooth progress. MPIC is designed to cope with investment risk and uncertainty, not to eliminate it.

### • Progress will be lumpy

Quoted equities represent claims on corporate cash flows, yet their market prices have proved far more volatile than their underlying business values. Historically, publicly listed businesses have suffered widespread, general falls in market prices in approximately one calendar year in three. Indeed, dramatic declines of over 30% have occurred at some point in most decades. I do not believe that MPIC can avoid such characteristic downturns in business and stockmarket cycles, but it will seek to survive them without undue distress.

• I will discourage investors who cannot commit funds for at least five years MPIC is an open-ended investment company. If funds flow in and out, the company's returns may be compromised, to the detriment of the remaining shareholders. Thus, there is an exit charge for all redemptions within five years, which is paid into MPIC to compensate the remaining shareholders. (The charge is not paid to the ACD or the investment manager.)

Peter Hollis

# PORTFOLIO AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

Security	Country	Holding	Value £'000	%	30 Sept 2021
Markel	US	11,500	11,454	8.9%	
Heineken Holding	Netherlands	100,000	6,218	4.9%	
Swedish Match	Sweden	650,000	5,772	4.5%	
Fairfax Financial	Canada	13,000	5,464	4.2%	
BAT	UK	165,000	5,331	4.1%	
Exor	Netherlands	90,000	5,127	4.0%	
Progressive Corp	US	48,000	5,105	4.0%	
VP	UK	621,141	4,683	3.6%	
Franco-Nevada	Canada	42,000	4,570	3.6%	
Next	UK	90,000	4,332	3.4%	
AMERCO	US	8,500	3,888	3.0%	
Svenska Handelsbanken A	Sweden	500,000	3,708	2.9%	
Ackermans & van Haaren	Belgium	32,000	3,658	2.8%	
Moody's	US	15,000	3,353	2.6%	
GBL	Belgium	41,850	2,649	2.1%	
JD Wetherspoon	UK	640,000	2,604	2.0%	
Bunzl	UK	90,000	2,484	1.9%	
Philip Morris International	US	30,000	2,287	1.8%	
Investor B	Sweden	160,000	2,119	1.6%	
Admiral Group	UK	110,000	2,107	1.6%	
Lloyds Banking Group	UK	5,000,000	2,082	1.6%	
Winmark	US	10,000	1,947	1.5%	
Texas Pacific Land Trust	US	1,200	1,926	1.5%	
Ringkjoebing Landbobank	Denmark	20,000	1,910	1.5%	
RLI	US	18,000	1,696	1.3%	
Hansa Investment Company A	UK	825,000	1,431		
Hansa Investment Company Ord	UK	125,000	228	1.3%	
Jardine Matheson Holdings	Singapore	30,000	1,363	1.1%	
Charles Schwab	US	20,000	1,318	1.0%	
Ryanair	Ireland	140,000	1,287	1.0%	
Rights & Issues Investment Trust	UK	54,128	1,041	0.8%	
Remgro	South Africa	150,000	992	0.8%	
Jet2	UK	140,000	975	0.8%	
Northern Trust	US	12,000	922	0.7%	
Atlas Copco B	Sweden	120,000	905	0.7%	
CF-Alba	Spain	20,000	767	0.6%	
Ryman Healthcare	New Zealand	175,000	754	0.6%	
Itausa	Brazil	420,000	674	0.5%	
State Street	US	12,000	669	0.5%	
	UK	30,000	515	0.3%	
Greggs Ocean Wilsons Holdings		•			
Ocean Wilsons Holdings	UK	30,000	246	0.2%	
Total equities			110,561	85.9%	86.1%

# PORTFOLIO AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

Security	Country	Holding	Value £'000	%	30 Sept 2021
Royal Canadian Mint Gold ETR	Canada	375,000	5,705	4.4%	
Perth Mint Gold ETP	Australia	282,411	4,219	3.3%	
Sprott Physical Gold Trust	US	340,000	3,937	3.1%	
Sprott Physical Gold & Silver Trust	Canada	200,000	2,820	2.2%	
Zurich Cantonal Bank Gold ETF	Switzerland	3,000	1,356	1.1%	
Cash and equivalents	Various		262	0.2%	
Total effective liquidity			18,299	14.3%	14.1%
Adjustment to revalue assets from mid to bid			-224	-0.2%	
Total portfolio		_	128,636	100.0%	<u> </u>

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## **Statement of total return**

£'000	£'000
	19,945
2,182	
(509)	
(7)	
1,666	
(115)	
_	1,551
	21,496
_	(1,574)
	19,922
	(509) (7) 1,666

# Statement of changes in net assets attributable to shareholders

For the year ended 30 September	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Opening net assets attributable to shareholders	121,336	92,956
Amounts receivable on creation of shares	8,694	7,276
Amounts payable on cancellation of shares	-	(41)
Dividend accumulated	1,417	1,223
Change in net assets attributable to shareholders from investment activities (see above)	(2,811)	19,922
Closing net assets attributable to shareholders	128,636	121,336

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# **Balance sheet**

At 30 September		£'000	2022 £'000	£'000	2021 £'000
Assets	Notes				
Investment assets			128,374		120,175
Debtors	7	602		447	
Cash and bank balances	8	258		1,188	
Total other assets			860		1,635
Total assets			129,234		121,810
Liabilities					
Creditors	9	(136)		(123)	
Dividend payable		(462)		(351)	
Total liabilities		_	(598)	_	(474)
Net assets attributable					
to shareholders			128,636	_	121,336

#### For the year ended 30 September 2022

#### 1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies, which have been applied in both the current and prior year, are set out below:

- (a) The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102 and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds (SORP) issued by the Investment Association (IA) in May 2014 and to the amendments to the SORP issued by the IA in June 2017. The functional currency of the Company is sterling and the amounts are rounded up to the nearest £'000.
- (b) There are no material events that have been identified that may cast significant doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for at least the next twelve months from the date these financial statements are authorised for issue. The ACD believes that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.
- (c) Dividends on equities are recognised gross of withholding tax and are credited to revenue when the security is quoted ex-dividend. Interest on deposits is accounted for on an accruals basis. Other revenue is accounted for on a receipts basis.
  - Equalisation received by the way of distributions from OEICs or unit trust investments is not included in revenue but is reflected as a reduction in the book cost of that investment.
- (d) The ordinary element of scrip dividends is recognised as revenue of the Company, and where applicable is included in the distribution. In the case of an enhanced scrip dividend the value of the enhancement is treated as capital.
- (e) Special dividends are treated as repayments of capital or revenue depending on the facts of each particular case.
- (f) All expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis and, other than those relating to the buying and selling of investments, all expenses are charged to the revenue of the Company.
- (g) Where the revenue from investments exceeds the expenses of the Company, annual dividends accrue to all shareholders. Holders of income shares receive their dividends as a cash payment. In all cases, tax vouchers will be issued to shareholders.
- (h) The Company is not more than 60% invested in qualifying investments (as defined by S468L ICTA 1988) and where applicable will pay a dividend distribution.
- (i) The listed investments of the Company have been valued at bid market prices at 4.30pm UK time on 30 September 2022. Suspended securities are valued initially at the suspended price but are subject to constant review.
- (j) All transactions in foreign currencies are converted into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of such transactions. Foreign currency assets and liabilities at the end of the accounting period are translated at the exchange rates at the closing valuation point and any gains or losses taken to capital.
- (k) Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date.
  - Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that the ACD considers that it is more likely than not there will be taxable profits from which underlying timing differences can be deducted.
- (1) In certain circumstances the ACD may charge a dilution levy on the sale or repurchase of shares. The levy, which is paid into the Company, is intended to cover market impact costs not included in the bid market value of the Company, used in calculating the share price. These costs could dilute the interests of the remaining shareholders.

The net capital (losses)/gains comprise:   Currency gains/(losses)   27 (78)     Non-derivative securities (losses)/gains – unrealised   (4,219)   18,273     — realised   1,461   1,750     Total net capital (losses)/gains   (2,731)   19,945      3   Revenue   2022   2021     £'000   £'000     UK dividends   1,219   1,052     Overseas dividends   1,252   1,130     Bank interest   6   —     Total revenue   2,477   2,182      4   Expenses   2022   2021     £'000   £'000     Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:   ACD fee   501   455     Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:   Depositary fee   44   40     Safe custody fees and cash transactions   11   8     Other expenses, including Audit fee:   6   6     Total expenses   562   509      5   Finance costs   2022   2021     £'000   £'000     Negative interest on deposits   2   7     Dividend for the year   1,879   1,551     Reconciliation of dividend:   Net revenue after taxation   1,799   1,551     Equalisation on subscriptions   80   23     Dividend for the year   1,879   1,574     Finance costs   1,879   1,574     Finance cost   1,879   1,574     Finance cost   1,879   1,574     Finance cost   1,879   1,574     Control of the year   1,879   1,574     Finance cost   1,879	2	Net capital (losses)/gains	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Currency gains/(losses)         27         (78)           Non-derivative securities (losses)/gains – unrealised         (4,219)         18,273           — realised         1,461         1,750           Total net capital (losses)/gains         (2,731)         19,945           3         Revenue         2022         2021           £ 7000         £ 7000         £ 7000           UK dividends         1,219         1,052           Overseas dividends         1,252         1,130           Bank interest         6         6           Total revenue         2,477         2,182           4         Expenses         2022         2021           £ 7000         £ 7000         £ 7000           Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:         3         55           ACD fee         501         455           Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:         44         40           Safe custody fees and cash transactions         11         8           55         48           Other expenses, including Audit fee:         6         6           Total expenses         562         509           5         Finance costs         2022 </th <th></th> <th>The net capital (losses)/gains comprise:</th> <th></th> <th></th>		The net capital (losses)/gains comprise:		
Non-derivative securities (losses)/gains - unrealised			27	(78)
Total net capital (losses)/gains			(4,219)	
Total net capital (losses)/gains   (2,731)   19,945				
UK dividends         1,219         1,052           Overseas dividends         1,252         1,130           Bank interest         6            Total revenue         2,477         2,182           4         Expenses         2022         2021           F 2000         £ 000         £ 000           Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:         501         455           Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:         Depositary fee         44         40           Safe custody fees and cash transactions         11         8           Other expenses, including Audit fee:         6         6           Total expenses         562         509           5         Finance costs         2022         2021           Food         £ 000         £ 000           Negative interest on deposits         2         7           Dividend for the year         1,879         1,574           Reconciliation of dividend:         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23		Total net capital (losses)/gains		
UK dividends         1,219         1,052           Overseas dividends         1,252         1,130           Bank interest         6            Total revenue         2,477         2,182           4         Expenses         2022         2021           F 2000         £ 000         £ 000           Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:         501         455           Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:         Depositary fee         44         40           Safe custody fees and cash transactions         11         8           Other expenses, including Audit fee:         6         6           Total expenses         562         509           5         Finance costs         2022         2021           Food         £ 000         £ 000           Negative interest on deposits         2         7           Dividend for the year         1,879         1,574           Reconciliation of dividend:         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23				
UK dividends       1,219       1,052         Overseas dividends       1,252       1,130         Bank interest       6          Total revenue       2,477       2,182         4       Expenses       2022       2021         Food       £000       £000         Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:       501       455         Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:       2022       44       40         Safe custody fees and cash transactions       11       8         Other expenses, including Audit fee:       6       6         Total expenses       562       509         5       Finance costs       2022       2021         Food       £000       £000         Negative interest on deposits       2       7         Dividend for the year       1,879       1,574         Reconciliation of dividend:       Net revenue after taxation       1,799       1,551         Equalisation on subscriptions       80       23	3	Revenue	2022	2021
Overseas dividends         1,252         1,130           Bank interest         6         -           Total revenue         2,477         2,182           4         Expenses         2022         2021           4         £*000         £*000         £*000           Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:         501         455           Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:         Depositary fee         44         40           Safe custody fees and cash transactions         11         8           Other expenses, including Audit fee:         6         6           Total expenses         562         509           5         Finance costs         2022         2021           Finance costs         2022         2021           Equalisative interest on deposits         2         7           Dividend for the year         1,879         1,574           Reconciliation of dividend:         Net revenue after taxation         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23			£'000	£'000
Overseas dividends         1,252         1,130           Bank interest         6         -           Total revenue         2,477         2,182           4         Expenses         2022         2021           4         £*000         £*000         £*000           Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:         501         455           Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:         Depositary fee         44         40           Safe custody fees and cash transactions         11         8           Other expenses, including Audit fee:         6         6           Total expenses         562         509           5         Finance costs         2022         2021           Finance costs         2022         2021           Equalisative interest on deposits         2         7           Dividend for the year         1,879         1,574           Reconciliation of dividend:         Net revenue after taxation         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23		UK dividends	1 219	1.052
Bank interest         6         -           Total revenue         2,477         2,182           4         Expenses         2022         2021           Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:         501         455           Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:         501         45           Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:         44         40           Safe custody fees and cash transactions         11         8           Other expenses, including Audit fee:         6         6           Total expenses         562         509           5         Finance costs         2022         2021           Food         £'000         £'000           Negative interest on deposits         2         7           Dividend for the year         1,879         1,574           Reconciliation of dividend:         Net revenue after taxation         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23				
Total revenue         2,477         2,182           4         Expenses         2022         2021           £'000         £'000         £'0000           Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:         501         455           Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:         Depositary fee         44         40           Safe custody fees and cash transactions         11         8           Other expenses, including Audit fee:         6         6           Total expenses         562         509           5         Finance costs         2022         2021           Food         £'000         £'000           Negative interest on deposits         2         7           Dividend for the year         1,879         1,574           Reconciliation of dividend:         Net revenue after taxation         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23				1,130
4       Expenses       2022 £'000         Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:       501       455         Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:       501       455         Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:       501       455         Depositary fee       44       40         Safe custody fees and cash transactions       11       8         Other expenses, including Audit fee:       6       6         Total expenses       562       509         5       Finance costs       2022       2021         E'000       £'0000         Negative interest on deposits       2       7         Dividend for the year       1,879       1,574         Reconciliation of dividend:       Net revenue after taxation       1,799       1,551         Equalisation on subscriptions       80       23				2 182
Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:         £*000         £*000           Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:         501         455           Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:         2020         44         40           Safe custody fees and cash transactions         11         8           Other expenses, including Audit fee:         6         6           Total expenses         562         509           5         Finance costs         2022         2021           Evono         £*000         £*000           Negative interest on deposits         2         7           Dividend for the year         1,879         1,574           Reconciliation of dividend:         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23				,
Payable to the ACD, its associates, and agents of either:       501       455         Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:       \$\$\$ 44       40         Depositary fee       44       40         Safe custody fees and cash transactions       11       8         Other expenses, including Audit fee:       6       6         Total expenses       562       509         5       Finance costs       2022       2021         £'000       £'000       £'000         Negative interest on deposits       2       7         Dividend for the year       1,879       1,574         Reconciliation of dividend:       Net revenue after taxation       1,799       1,551         Equalisation on subscriptions       80       23	4	Expenses		
ACD fee       501       455         Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:       300       444       40       44       40       44       40       48       44       40       48       55       48         Other expenses, including Audit fee:       6       6       6       6         Total expenses       562       509       509         5       Finance costs       2022       2021       £'000       £'000         Negative interest on deposits       2       7         Dividend for the year       1,879       1,574         Reconciliation of dividend:       Net revenue after taxation       1,799       1,551         Equalisation on subscriptions       80       23		Payable to the ACD, its associates and exents of either	x 000	r ooo
Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:         Depositary fee       44       40         Safe custody fees and cash transactions       11       8         Other expenses, including Audit fee:       6       6         Total expenses       562       509         5       Finance costs       2022       2021         £'000       £'000       £'000         Negative interest on deposits       2       7         Dividend for the year       1,879       1,574         Reconciliation of dividend:       1,799       1,551         Equalisation on subscriptions       80       23			501	155
Depositary fee         44         40           Safe custody fees and cash transactions         11         8           55         48           Other expenses, including Audit fee:         6         6           Total expenses         562         509           5 Finance costs         2022         2021           £*000         £*000         £*000           Negative interest on deposits         2         7           Dividend for the year         1,879         1,574           Reconciliation of dividend:             Net revenue after taxation         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23		ACD fee	301	433
Safe custody fees and cash transactions         11         8           55         48           Other expenses, including Audit fee:         6         6           Total expenses         562         509           5 Finance costs         2022         2021           \$\frac{2}{3}000         \$\frac{2}{3}000         \$\frac{2}{3}000           Negative interest on deposits         2         7           Dividend for the year         1,879         1,574           Reconcilitation of dividend:         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23		Payable to the depositary, its associates, and agents of either:		
Other expenses, including Audit fee:       6       6         Total expenses       562       509         5 Finance costs       2022       2021         £'000       £'000       £'000         Negative interest on deposits       2       7         Dividend for the year       1,879       1,574         Reconciliation of dividend:       1,799       1,551         Equalisation on subscriptions       80       23		Depositary fee	44	40
Other expenses, including Audit fee:         6         6           Total expenses         562         509           Finance costs         2022         2021           £'000         £'000         £'000           Negative interest on deposits         2         7           Dividend for the year         1,879         1,574           Reconciliation of dividend:         Net revenue after taxation         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23		Safe custody fees and cash transactions	11	8
Total expenses         562         509           Finance costs         2022         2021           £'000         £'000         £'000           Negative interest on deposits         2         7           Dividend for the year         1,879         1,574           Reconciliation of dividend:         Net revenue after taxation         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23			55	48
5 Finance costs       2022       2021         £'000       £'000         Negative interest on deposits       2       7         Dividend for the year       1,879       1,574         Reconciliation of dividend:         Net revenue after taxation       1,799       1,551         Equalisation on subscriptions       80       23		Other expenses, including Audit fee:	6	6
Reconciliation of dividend:         1,879         1,574           Net revenue after taxation         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23		Total expenses	562	509
Reconciliation of dividend:         1,879         1,574           Net revenue after taxation         1,799         1,551           Equalisation on subscriptions         80         23	=	Einanga gasta	2022	2021
Negative interest on deposits27Dividend for the year1,8791,574Reconciliation of dividend:Net revenue after taxation1,7991,551Equalisation on subscriptions8023	5	r mance costs		
Dividend for the year 1,879 1,574  Reconciliation of dividend:  Net revenue after taxation 1,799 1,551  Equalisation on subscriptions 80 23		Negative interest on deposits		
Reconciliation of dividend:  Net revenue after taxation 1,799 1,551  Equalisation on subscriptions 80 23		regulare interest on deposits		,
Net revenue after taxation1,7991,551Equalisation on subscriptions8023		Dividend for the year	1,879	1,574
Equalisation on subscriptions 80 23		Reconciliation of dividend:		
		Net revenue after taxation	1,799	1,551
Dividend for the year 1,879 1,574		Equalisation on subscriptions	80	23
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Dividend for the year	1,879	1,574

6	Taxation	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
(a)	Analysis of charge in the year		
	Irrecoverable overseas withholding tax	114	115
	Total current tax charge for the year (note 6b)	114	115
<b>(b)</b>	Factors affecting current tax charge for the year		
	The tax assessed for the year is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK for an open-ended investment company of 20% (2021: 20%). The differences are shown below.		
	Net revenues before taxation	1,913	1,666
	OEIC corporation tax at 20% (2021: 20%)	383	333
	Effects of:		
	Revenue not subject to UK corporation tax	(494)	(436)
	Current year expenses not utilised	111	103
	Irrecoverable overseas withholding tax	114	115
	Current tax charge for the year (note 6a)	114	115

## (c) Provision for deferred taxation

At 30 September 2022 there is a potential deferred tax asset of £628 (2021: £517) in relation to surplus management expenses. It is unlikely the Company will generate sufficient taxable profits in the future to utilise this amount and therefore no deferred tax asset has been recognised.

7	Debtors	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
	Accrued revenue	160	303
	Overseas withholding tax reclaimable	180	144
	Prepayments	8	_
	Unsettled trades	254	_
	Total debtors	602	447
8	Cash and bank balances  Cash and bank balances	2022 £'000 258	2021 £'000 1,188
9	Creditors	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
	Accrued expenses	136	123
	Total creditors	136	123

10	Share movement	Income shares	Acc. shares
	Shares outstanding at 1 October 2021	10,504,190	33,647,799
	Shares issued during the year	2,783,829	487,976
	Shares cancelled during the year	-	-
	Shares converted during the year	(778,812)	706,764
	Shares outstanding at 30 September 2022	12,509,207	34,842,539
11	Related party transactions  Authorised Corporate Director's fees and Investment Manager's	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
		£'000	£'000
	fees were payable to the following related parties during the period:		
	Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited	23	22
	Hollis Capital Limited	478	433
	The balances due to these related parties at 30 September 2022 were:		
	Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited	-	-
	Hollis Capital Limited	120	114

#### 12 Financial instruments

In pursuing its investment objective as stated on page 1, the Company holds a number of financial instruments. The Company's financial instruments comprise securities and other investments, cash balances, debtors and creditors that arise directly from its operations, for example, in respect of sales and purchases awaiting settlement, amounts receivable for issues and payable for redemptions and debtors for accrued revenue.

Below is a summary of the main risks arising from the Company's financial instruments, its underlying holdings and the ACD's policies for managing them. These policies have been applied throughout the year.

#### Market price risk

Market price risk is the risk that the value of the Company's investment holdings will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices caused by factors other than interest rate or foreign currency movement. Market price risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future prices of financial instruments the Company holds. It represents the potential loss the Company might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements.

The Company's investment portfolio is exposed to market price fluctuations, which are monitored by the ACD in pursuance of the investment objective and policy as set out in the Prospectus.

Adherence to investment guidelines and to investment and borrowing powers set out in the Instrument of Incorporation, the Prospectus and in the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook mitigates the risk of excessive exposure to any particular type of security or issuer.

### Foreign currency risk

The Company can invest in overseas securities and hold cash in foreign currencies.

Foreign currency risk may cause the Company's investments to fluctuate as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates. Revenue received in other currencies is converted to sterling on or near the date of receipt.

The currency exposure at 30 September consists of:

	Effectiv	e liquidity	Total	l equities Total		l portfolio	
	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Sterling	(134)	768	28,059	35,157	27,925	35,925	
Australian Dollar	4,219	3,651	-	-	4,219	3,651	
Brazilian Real	52	16	674	614	726	630	
Canadian Dollar	8,554	7,571	10,033	7,977	18,587	15,548	
Danish Krone	-	-	1,910	1,704	1,910	1,704	
Euro	122	119	19,707	17,087	19,829	17,206	
NZ Dollar	10	-	754	-	764	-	
S.African Rand	11	3	992	1,006	1,003	1,009	
Swedish Krona	29	-	12,504	10,783	12,533	10,783	
Swiss Franc	1,412	1,242	-	-	1,412	1,242	
US Dollar	4,025	3,655	35,927	30,225	39,952	33,880	
				-			
	18,300	17,025	110,560	104,553	128,860	121,578	
Mid to bid adjt.	(15)	(13)	(209)	(229)	(224)	(242)	
Total	18,285	17,012	110,351	104,324	128,636	121,336	

If foreign exchange rates at the balance sheet date had been 10% higher or lower, while all other variables remained the same, the return attributable to shareholders for the year ended 30 September 2022 would have increased or decreased by £10,094k (2021 £8,558k).

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the capital value or income of the Company's investments will fluctuate as a result of changes in interest rates.

The Company currently does not invest in floating rate securities. The Company does hold cash balances which are subject to variable interest rates.

At the period end date 0.2% of the Company's net assets by value were interest bearing.

## Maturity of financial liabilities

The financial liabilities of the Company at 30 September 2022 are payable either within one year or on demand.

#### Liquidity risk

The Company's assets comprise mainly of readily realisable securities. The main liability of the Company is the redemption of any shares that its investors wish to sell. Assets of the Company may need to be sold if insufficient cash is available to finance such redemptions.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a counterparty may be unable or unwilling to make a payment or fulfil contractual obligations.

Certain transactions in securities that the Company enters into expose it to the risk that the counterparty will not deliver the investment for a purchase, or cash for a sale after the Company has fulfilled its responsibilities. The Company only buys and sells investments through brokers which are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and have been approved by the ACD as acceptable counterparties. In addition, limits are set to the exposure to any individual broker.

The Company is also exposed to credit risk through its investments in debt securities. To limit credit risk during the period, all bonds held by the Company were backed by either the UK or US government. Finally, there is credit risk when cash balances are held by banking institutions. The ACD and the investment manager review the banking partners and deposit levels on an ongoing basis.

#### Fair value disclosure

All investments are valued using prices for identical instruments in active markets.

13	Portfolio transaction costs	2022	% of	2021	% of
		£'000	purchases	£'000	purchases
	Analysis of total purchase costs:				
	Purchases before transaction costs	15,291		16,669	
	Commissions	8	0.05	8	0.05
	Taxes	24	0.16	33	0.20
	Total transaction costs	32	0.21	41	0.25
	Total purchases plus transaction costs	15,323		16,710	
		£'000	% of sales	£'000	% of sales
	Analysis of total sale costs:				
	Sales before transaction costs	4,275		8,610	
	Commissions	1	0.02	1	0.01
	Taxes	_	0.00		0.00
	Total transaction costs	1	0.02	1	0.01
	Total sales less transaction costs	4,274		8,609	
			% of average		% of average
		£'000	net assets	£'000	net assets
	Analysis of total transaction costs:				
	Commissions	9	0.01	9	0.01
	Taxes	24	0.02	33	0.03
	Total transaction costs	33	0.03	42	0.04

The average portfolio dealing spread at 30 September 2022 is 0.4% (2021 0.4%).

## 14 Contingent assets and liabilities

At 30 September 2022 the Company had no contingent liabilities or commitments.

#### 15 Dividend tables

The company distributes all its net income in a single dividend payment each year. All expenses are charged against revenue.

The tables split share subscriptions into two categories. Group 1 shares were bought before 1 October 2021. Group 2 shares were bought during the reporting period, on or after 1 October 2021.

Equalisation applies only to Group 2 shares bought during the reporting period. It is the average amount of revenue included in the purchase price of all Group 2 shares and is refunded to shareholders with the dividend as a return of capital. It is capital so is not liable to income tax but should be deducted from the cost of the shares for capital gains tax purposes.

		Income shares				
	Dividend per share	Equalisation per share	Total paid per share			
Group 1	3.69p	-	3.69p			
Group 2	1.13p	2.56p	3.69p			
	Ac	Accumulation shares				
	Dividend per share	Equalisation per share	Total reinvested per share			
Group 1	4.07p	-	4.07p			
Group 2	2.35p	1.72p	4.07p			

# **COMPARATIVE TABLES**

	Income shares		
For the year ended 30 September	2022	2021	2020
Change in net assets per share			
Opening net asset value per share	255.5p	211.8p	228.4p
Return before operating charges †	(0.2p)	48.1p	(13.9p)
Operating charges	(1.2p)	(1.1p)	(1.0p)
Return after operating charges	(1.4p)	47.0p	(14.9p)
Dividend on income shares	(3.7p)	(3.3p)	(1.7p)
Closing net asset value per share	250.4p	255.5p	211.8p
† after direct transaction costs of	0.08p	0.09p	0.07p
Returns			
Total return after charges	(0.6%)	22.2%	(6.5%)
Other information			
Closing net asset value	£31.3m	£26.8m	£19.6m
Closing number of shares	12.5m	10.5m	9.2m
Operating charges	0.49%	0.45%	0.46%
Direct transaction costs	0.03%	0.04%	0.03%
Share prices			
Highest offer price  Lowest bid price	271.1p 250.4p	265.8p 209.7p	243.3p 186.5p
	Accur	nulation shares	<b>s</b>
For the year ended 30 September	Accur	nulation shares	2020
For the year ended 30 September Change in net assets per share			
Change in net assets per share	2022	2021	2020
Change in net assets per share Opening net asset value per share	<b>2022</b> 281.6p	<b>2021</b> 230.4p	<b>2020</b> 246.5p
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share  Return before operating charges †  Operating charges  Return after operating charges	2022  281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p)	2021 230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p)
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share  Return before operating charges †  Operating charges  Return after operating charges  Dividend on accumulation shares	2022 281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p)	230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p (3.6p)	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p)
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share  Return before operating charges †  Operating charges  Return after operating charges  Dividend on accumulation shares  Reinvested dividend on accumulation shares	2022  281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p) 4.1p	230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p (3.6p) 3.6p	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p) 1.8p
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share  Return before operating charges †  Operating charges  Return after operating charges  Dividend on accumulation shares	2022 281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p)	230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p (3.6p)	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p)
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share  Return before operating charges †  Operating charges  Return after operating charges  Dividend on accumulation shares  Reinvested dividend on accumulation shares	2022  281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p) 4.1p	230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p (3.6p) 3.6p	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p) 1.8p
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share  Return before operating charges †  Operating charges  Return after operating charges  Dividend on accumulation shares  Reinvested dividend on accumulation shares  Closing net asset value per share  † after direct transaction costs of  Returns	2022  281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p) 4.1p 279.9p 0.08p	230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p (3.6p) 3.6p 281.6p	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p) 1.8p 230.4p 0.07p
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share  Return before operating charges †  Operating charges  Return after operating charges  Dividend on accumulation shares  Reinvested dividend on accumulation shares  Closing net asset value per share  † after direct transaction costs of	2022  281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p) 4.1p 279.9p	230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p (3.6p) 3.6p 281.6p	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p) 1.8p 230.4p
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share  Return before operating charges † Operating charges Return after operating charges Dividend on accumulation shares Reinvested dividend on accumulation shares Closing net asset value per share † after direct transaction costs of  Returns Total return after charges  Other information	2022  281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p) 4.1p 279.9p 0.08p (0.6%)	2021  230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p (3.6p) 3.6p 281.6p 0.09p	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p) 1.8p 230.4p 0.07p (6.5%)
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share  Return before operating charges  Operating charges  Return after operating charges  Dividend on accumulation shares  Reinvested dividend on accumulation shares  Closing net asset value per share  † after direct transaction costs of  Returns  Total return after charges  Other information  Closing net asset value	2022  281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p) 4.1p 279.9p  0.08p  (0.6%)	2021  230.4p  52.4p (1.2p)  51.2p (3.6p) 3.6p  281.6p  0.09p  22.2%	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p) 1.8p 230.4p 0.07p (6.5%)
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges Return after operating charges Dividend on accumulation shares Reinvested dividend on accumulation shares Closing net asset value per share  † after direct transaction costs of  Returns Total return after charges  Other information Closing net asset value Closing number of shares	2022  281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p) 4.1p 279.9p  0.08p  (0.6%)	2021  230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p (3.6p) 3.6p 281.6p  0.09p  22.2%  £94.7m 33.6m	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p) 1.8p 230.4p 0.07p (6.5%)
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Operating charges Return after operating charges Dividend on accumulation shares Reinvested dividend on accumulation shares Closing net asset value per share  † after direct transaction costs of  Returns Total return after charges  Other information Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges	281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p) 4.1p 279.9p 0.08p (0.6%) £97.5m 34.8m 0.49%	230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p (3.6p) 3.6p 281.6p 0.09p 22.2% £94.7m 33.6m 0.45%	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p) 1.8p 230.4p 0.07p (6.5%) £73.6m 31.9m 0.46%
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Per operating charges Return after operating charges Dividend on accumulation shares Reinvested dividend on accumulation shares Closing net asset value per share  † after direct transaction costs of  Returns Total return after charges  Other information Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges Direct transaction costs	2022  281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p) 4.1p 279.9p  0.08p  (0.6%)	2021  230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p (3.6p) 3.6p 281.6p  0.09p  22.2%  £94.7m 33.6m	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p) 1.8p 230.4p 0.07p (6.5%)
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share  Return before operating charges  Operating charges  Return after operating charges  Dividend on accumulation shares  Reinvested dividend on accumulation shares  Closing net asset value per share  † after direct transaction costs of  Returns  Total return after charges  Other information  Closing net asset value  Closing number of shares  Operating charges  Direct transaction costs  Share prices	2022  281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p) 4.1p 279.9p  0.08p  (0.6%)  £97.5m 34.8m 0.49% 0.03%	230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p (3.6p) 3.6p 281.6p 0.09p 22.2% £94.7m 33.6m 0.45% 0.04%	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p) 1.8p 230.4p  0.07p (6.5%) £73.6m 31.9m 0.46% 0.03%
Change in net assets per share  Opening net asset value per share Return before operating charges Per operating charges Return after operating charges Dividend on accumulation shares Reinvested dividend on accumulation shares Closing net asset value per share  † after direct transaction costs of  Returns Total return after charges  Other information Closing net asset value Closing number of shares Operating charges Direct transaction costs	281.6p (0.3p) (1.4p) (1.7p) (4.1p) 4.1p 279.9p 0.08p (0.6%) £97.5m 34.8m 0.49%	230.4p 52.4p (1.2p) 51.2p (3.6p) 3.6p 281.6p 0.09p 22.2% £94.7m 33.6m 0.45%	246.5p (15.0p) (1.1p) (16.1p) (1.8p) 1.8p 230.4p 0.07p (6.5%) £73.6m 31.9m 0.46%

## AUTHORISED CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The rules of the Financial Conduct Authority's (FCA) Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook require the Authorised Corporate Director to prepare financial statements for each accounting period which give a true and fair view of the financial affairs of the Company and of its net revenue and net capital losses for the period. In preparing these financial statements the Authorised Corporate Director is required to:

- comply with the Prospectus and applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures which are required to be disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in operation for the foreseeable future

The Authorised Corporate Director is required to keep proper accounting records and to manage the Company in accordance with the FCA's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook and Investment Funds Sourcebook, the Instrument of Incorporation, and the Prospectus. The Authorised Corporate Director is responsible for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### **Authorised Corporate Director's statement**

In accordance with the requirements of the FCA's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook and Investment Funds Sourcebook, we hereby certify the annual report.

David E. Smith CA

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited Authorised Corporate Director

## AUTHORISED CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

#### **Remuneration of the Authorised Corporate Director**

The ACD is subject to a remuneration policy which meets the requirements of the ESMA published Guidelines on sound remuneration policies under the AIFMD as set out in SYSC 19B of the FCA Handbook.

The policy is designed to ensure practices for employee remuneration are consistent with, and promote, sound and effective risk management. It does not encourage risk-taking which is inconsistent with the risk profiles, rules or instrument of incorporation of the funds managed, and does not impair the ACD compliance with its duty to act in the best interests of the funds it manages.

The ACD has reviewed the Remuneration Policy and its application in the last year which has resulted in no material changes to the policy or irregularities to process.

The ACD is required to disclose the total remuneration it pays to its staff during the financial year of the fund, split into fixed and variable remuneration, with separate aggregate disclosure for staff whose actions may have a material impact to the risk profile of a fund or the ACD itself. This includes executives, senior risk and compliance staff and certain senior managers.

30.09.2022	Number of Beneficiaries	Fixed Remuneration	Variable Remuneration	Total Remuneration
	<b>20101101</b>	2.02.1.02.02.02.02.0	Paid	Paid
Total remuneration paid by the ACD during the year	95	£ 2,760,167	£ nil	£ 2,760,167
Remuneration paid to employees of the ACD who have a material impact on the risk profile of the AIF	8	£ 492,146	£ nil	£ 492,146
Senior Executive Management	18	£ 1,042,368	£ nil	£ 1,042,368
Control Functions	13	£ 652,722	£ nil	£ 652,722
Employees receiving total remuneration that takes them into the same remuneration brackets as senior management and risk takers	3	£ 149,085	£ nil	£ 149.085

Further information is available in the ACD's Remuneration Policy document which can be obtained from www.valu-trac.com. A paper copy of the remuneration policy is available on request from the registered office of the Authorised Corporate Director free of charge.

## **DEPOSITARY'S REPORT**

The Depositary must ensure that the Company is managed in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook, the Investment Funds Sourcebook, the Open-Ended Investment Companies Regulations 2001 (SI 2001/1228) (the OEIC Regulations), as amended, the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended, (together "the Regulations"), the Company's Instrument of Incorporation and Prospectus (together "the Scheme documents") as detailed below.

The Depositary must in the context of its role act honestly, fairly, professionally, independently and in the interests of the Company and its investors.

The Depositary is responsible for the safekeeping of all custodial assets and maintaining a record of all other assets of the Company in accordance with the Regulations.

The Depositary must ensure that:

- the Company's cash flows are properly monitored and that cash of the Company is booked into the cash accounts in accordance with the Regulations;
- the sale, issue, redemption and cancellation of shares are carried out in accordance with the Regulations;
- the value of shares in the Company is calculated in accordance with the Regulations;
- any consideration relating to transactions in the Company's assets is remitted to the Company within the usual time limits;
- the Company's income is applied in accordance with the Regulations; and
- the instructions of the Alternative Investment Fund Manager ("the AIFM") are carried out (unless they conflict with the Regulations).

The Depositary also has the duty to take reasonable care to ensure that the Company is managed in accordance with the Regulations and the Scheme documents in relation to the investment and borrowing powers applicable to the Company.

Having carried out such procedures as we consider necessary to discharge our responsibilities as Depositary of the Company, it is our opinion, based on the information available to us and the explanations provided, that in all material respects the Company, acting through the AIFM:

- has carried out the issue, sale, redemption and cancellation, and calculation of the price of the Company's shares and the application of the Company's income in accordance with the Regulations and the Scheme documents of the Company, and
- (ii) has observed the investment and borrowing powers and restrictions applicable to the Company.

NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited 1 October 2022

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have audited the financial statements of Moray Place Investment Company ("the Company") for the year ended 30 September 2022 which comprise the Statement of Total Return, Statement of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Shareholders, Balance Sheet and the related Notes to the Financial Statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company at 30 September 2022 and of the net revenue and the net capital losses on the scheme property of the Company for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the IA Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds, the rules of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook (COLL) of the Financial Conduct Authority and the Instrument of Incorporation.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are described further in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the Financial Reporting Council's (FRC) Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Authorised Corporate Director's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Authorised Corporate Director with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Authorised Corporate Director is responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Opinions on other matters prescribed by the COLL regulations

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- proper accounting records for the Company have been kept and the accounts agree with those records;
- we have received all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit; and
- the information given in the report of the Authorised Corporate Director for the year is consistent with the financial statements.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### Responsibilities of the Authorised Corporate Director

As explained more fully in the Authorised Corporate Director's Responsibilities Report set out on page 20, the Authorised Corporate Director is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and for such internal control as the Authorised Corporate Director determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Authorised Corporate Director is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Authorised Corporate Director either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

#### Extent to which the audit is considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

We assessed whether the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence and capabilities to identify or recognise non-compliance with laws and regulations by considering their experience, past performance and support available.

All engagement team members were briefed on relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks at the planning stage of the audit. Engagement team members were reminded to remain alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Company, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The most relevant frameworks we identified include:

- UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice including Financial Reporting Standard 102 and the IA Statement of Recommended Practice for Authorised Funds
- the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook
- the Financial Conduct Authority's Investment Funds Sourcebook
- the Company's Prospectus

We gained an understanding of how the Company is complying with these laws and regulations by making enquiries of the Authorised Corporate Director. We corroborated these enquiries through our review of any relevant correspondence with regulatory bodies and the Company's breaches register.

We assessed the susceptibility of the Company's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by meeting with management to understand where it was considered there was susceptibility to fraud. This evaluation also considered how the Authorised Corporate Director was remunerated and whether this provided an incentive for fraudulent activity. We considered the overall control environment and how the Authorised Corporate Director oversees the implementation and operation of controls. In areas of the financial statements where the risks were considered to be higher, we performed procedures to address each identified risk.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The following procedures were performed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free of material fraud or error:

- Performing audit work procedures over the risk of management override of controls, including testing
  of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of
  significant transactions outside the normal course of business, review of a pre sign-off Net Asset
  Valuation (NAV) statement for any unexpected activity and reviewing judgements made by the
  Authorised Corporate Director in its calculation of accounting estimates for potential management
  bias: and
- Assessing the Company's compliance with the key requirements of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook, Investment Funds Sourcebook and its Prospectus.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to the risk of material misstatements in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material risk due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <a href="https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit-aspx">https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance-Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit-aspx</a>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Company's shareholders, as a body, in accordance with Rule 4.5.12 of the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook ("the COLL Rules") issued by the Financial Conduct Authority under the Open-Ended Investment Companies Regulations 2001. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's shareholders those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's shareholders as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Johnston Carmichael LLP, Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor, Elgin

## INFORMATION FOR INVESTORS

#### **Authorised Corporate Director's charges**

The current annual ACD charge is £24,620, indexed each year on 1 October to the Consumer Price Index, plus the investment management fee. The annual investment management fee is:

- 0.50% of the net asset value of the Company on the first £20 million;
- 0.35% of the net asset value of the Company between £20 million and £150 million; and
- 0.30% of the net asset value of the Company thereafter.

#### **Dividend**

All the net revenue of the Company will be paid as a dividend to shareholders on or before 30 November each year.

#### Issue and redemption of shares

Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited is the Registrar. Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited will receive requests for the purchase or sale of shares at any time during normal business hours. Instructions may be given by telephone (01343 880344) and by sending an application form. Application forms are available from the Registrar.

Dealing is possible on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> (or the next business day) of each month. The price of shares will be determined by a valuation of the Company's net assets at 4.30pm on the dealing day.

The ACD has the right to reject, on reasonable grounds relating to the circumstances of the applicant, any application for shares in whole or part. In this event the ACD will return any money sent, or the balance of such monies, at the risk of the applicant. The minimum value of shares that a shareholder may hold is £200,000 at cost. The ACD may at its discretion accept subscriptions lower than the minimum amount.

Any subscription monies remaining after a whole number of shares has been issued will not be returned to the applicant. Instead, smaller denomination shares will be issued.

A contract note giving details of the shares bought and the price paid will be issued by the Registrar by the end of the third business day following the valuation point.

Ownership of shares will be recorded by an entry on the Company's Register of Shareholders. Certificates will not be issued. Annual statements will show the number of shares held by the recipient on which the dividend is paid. Individual statements of a shareholder's (or, when shares are jointly held, the first named holder's) shares will also be issued at any time on request by the registered holder.

Where shares are sold, payment will be made not later than the close of business on the fourth business day following the trade date.

A redemption charge is payable on any shares sold within five years of purchase. The redemption charge is paid to the Company to compensate continuing shareholders; it is not paid to the ACD or the investment manager.

The most recent issue and redemption prices are available from the ACD.

#### Value assessment

The ACD conducts an assessment of value for the Company each year. The assessment of value report is available on the ACD's website.

## INFORMATION FOR INVESTORS

#### **Taxation**

The Company will pay no corporation tax for the year ended 30 September 2022 and capital gains within the Company will not be taxed.

The information below on taxation is a general summary. Shareholders should consult their tax advisers about their own circumstances. Shareholders should also note that the position as outlined may change to reflect future changes in tax legislation.

#### Individual shareholders

#### Tax on dividends

Individual shareholders resident in the UK for tax purposes may be liable to income tax on their dividend income. Presently there is a tax-free annual dividend income allowance for individuals. Dividend income in excess of that amount is charged at the rate of tax applicable to the individual taxpayer.

#### Capital gains tax

Individual shareholders resident in the UK for tax purposes may be liable to capital gains tax on realisation of their shares as with other chargeable assets. Presently each year there is a tax-free allowance for individuals. Gains in excess of that amount are charged at the rate of tax applicable to the individual taxpayer.

#### ISAs

Individuals resident in the UK for tax purposes may invest each year in Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs), free of income and capital gains tax. The ISA allowance for the 2022/23 tax year is £20,000. The ACD offers a simple, zero-charge ISA which is invested solely in MPIC accumulation shares. For each investor the overall minimum initial and subsequent investment in MPIC still applies. Further details may be obtained from the ACD.

#### Corporate shareholders

Companies resident in the UK for tax purposes which hold shares should note that OEIC dividends are streamed into both franked and unfranked income. The unfranked income element will be treated as an annual payment which is subject to tax. On realisation of their shares, UK resident companies may be liable to pay corporation tax on any capital gains.

#### Advantages of investing through an open-ended investment company

Moray Place Investment Company is an open-ended investment company (OEIC). Investing through an OEIC offers considerable advantages for individual investors compared to managing their own portfolio directly or through a financial adviser. These advantages include:

- The full-time attention of an experienced professional investor
- Participation in a diversified portfolio of assets
- The OEIC does not incur capital gains tax on transactions within its portfolio. Investors thus defer any capital gains tax liability until they sell their shares in the OEIC
- The OEIC is able to offset management and administration costs against taxable income. It is not possible to do this with the costs of directly managed portfolios or financial adviser fees
- Less paperwork and record-keeping

# HISTORICAL INFORMATION

	Value of company	NAV per acc. share	Dividend per inc. share	Consumer Price Index (2)	Real NAV per acc. share (1)/(2)*100
At and for the period ended					
15 May 2012		100.0p		100	100
30 Sept 2012	£15.6m	104.1p	nil	101	103
30 Sept 2013	£22.8m	121.9p	1.04p	103	118
30 Sept 2014	£28.3m	128.4p	1.45p	105	123
30 Sept 2015	£34.2m	141.0p	1.80p	104	135
30 Sept 2016	£51.4m	186.9p	2.22p	105	177
30 Sept 2017	£68.7m	210.4p	2.56p	109	194
30 Sept 2018	£81.0m	228.2p	2.95p	111	205
30 Sept 2019	£92.2m	246.5p	3.27p	113	218
30 Sept 2020	£93.0m	230.4p	1.69p	114	202
30 Sept 2021	£121.3m	281.6p	3.34p	117	240
30 Sept 2022	£128.6m	279.9p	3.69p	129	217
Gain since incept	ion				
Cumulative		180%		29%	117%
Annualised		17.3%		2.5%	7.7%

## Notes

The company started trading on 15 May 2012 when shares were issued at 100p each. The UK CPI in May 2012 was 95.9. It has been rebased to 100 to aid comparability. Real NAV is the net asset value per accumulation share deflated by the UK CPI.

## **CORPORATE DIRECTORY**

ACD, AIFM and Registrar Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited

Orton Moray IV32 7QE

Telephone: 01343 880344 Fax: 01343 880267

E-mail: mpic@valu-trac.com

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Registered in England No. 2428648

**Director** Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited as ACD

Investment Manager Hollis Capital Limited

43 Melville Street

Edinburgh EH3 7JF

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

**Depositary** NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited

House A, Floor 0 175 Glasgow Road

Gogarburn Edinburgh EH12 1HQ

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Auditor Johnston Carmichael LLP

Chartered Accountants
Commerce House
South Street

Elgin IV30 1JE