



Aberforth UK Small Companies Fund

Monthly Factsheet

31 July 2025

Fund structure

The Fund is an authorised unit trust scheme under the Financial Services & Markets Act 2000 and also a UCITS scheme as defined by the Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook. The Fund is open-ended and issues Accumulation (Acc) and Income (Inc) units.

Manager: Aberforth Partners

The Fund is managed by Aberforth's investment team of five fund managers:

Sam Ford	Jeremy Hall
Euan Macdonald	Peter Shaw
Rob Scott Moncrieff	

Further information on the investment team is available at www.aberforth.co.uk.

Benchmark: DNSCI (XIC)

The Fund's primary investment universe is the Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies Index (excluding Investment Companies). It is used as a target and comparator benchmark. The DNSCI (XIC) index is rebalanced every January and its profile at the date of this Factsheet was:

Number of companies	340
Total market value	£161bn
Largest constituent	£2.9bn
Largest constituent if index rebalanced at Factsheet date	£2.2bn

Key Fund information

Total investments	£150m
Number of investments	80
Active share	77.9%
Total net assets	£150m
Issue price (Acc)	£374.81
Cancellation price (Acc)	£368.85
Issue price (Inc)	£230.84
Cancellation price (Inc)	£227.17
Launch date	20 Mar 91
Next year-end	31 Dec 25

Fees & charges

Ongoing charges (at 30 Jun 25 & includes Management fee)	0.81%
Management fee	0.75%
Performance fee	None
Initial/exit charges	0%
Dealing spread	1.60%

Yield & distributions (Inc units)

Yield	3.4%
Interim distribution (payable 31 Aug 25)	407.5709p
Final distribution (paid 28 Feb 25)	360.3761p

Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek to achieve a total return, calculated on an income reinvested basis, greater than the Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies Index (excluding Investment Companies) over the long term, with the focus on rolling five year periods.

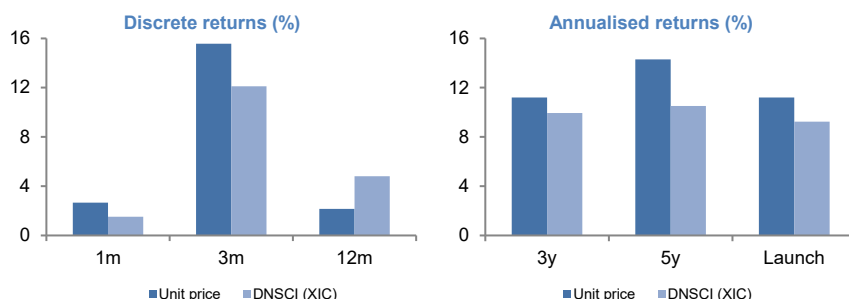
Investment style: Value

Aberforth are value investors who buy shares in companies that they calculate to be selling below their intrinsic value. This is determined through detailed financial and industrial analysis, combined with a valuation approach that focuses on both stockmarket and corporate worth.

Investment performance (annualised total returns)

Growth (%)	1m	3m	12m	3y	5y	Launch
Unit price	2.7	15.6	2.1	10.3	15.9	11.2
DNSCI (XIC)	1.5	12.1	4.8	8.4	10.6	9.3

Notes: 1m & 3m returns not annualised; Launch date = 20 Mar 91; Unit price = Cancellation price of the Fund's Accumulation units.



Monthly investment commentary: July

UK equities outperformed global peer indices in July. The FTSE All-share rose 4.0%, with large caps leading the way. This was thanks in part to a stronger dollar boosting translated overseas earnings of the UK's biggest companies. While the value style was a general headwind to relative performance, inbound M&A interest in UK smaller companies continued to expose low starting valuations. The latter theme contributed to the 2.7% rise for the Fund. The benchmark DNSCI (XIC) was up 1.5%.

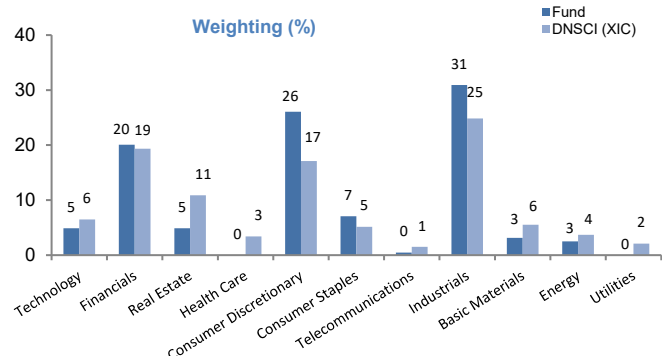
Leading the Fund's winners was **Just Group**, which announced a recommended offer from Brookfield Wealth Solutions at a 75% premium to the undisturbed share price. **Jupiter Fund Management's** acquisition of CCLA Investment Management, an asset manager focussed on serving non-profit organisations, was well received by the market. **International Personal Finance** disclosed it was subject to a possible offer for the business from a US-based specialty finance group. **Rank Group** continued its strong run of share price performance for the year after releasing a positive trading update. The company stands to benefit from the land-based casino reforms coming into force from July onwards.

Foxtons was among the weak Fund performers in the month. The group continues to benefit from strong performance in its Lettings business but is seeing overall performance held back by a still sluggish market for its Sales business. A recent capital markets event set out targets for an increase in operating profits to £50m over the medium term, more than double the current level. **Conduit** released a disappointing results update as it adapts its business in the reinsurance market under new senior management. Slower demand in its industrial end markets weighed on **Vesuvius**, which lowered profit expectations in an unscheduled trading update.

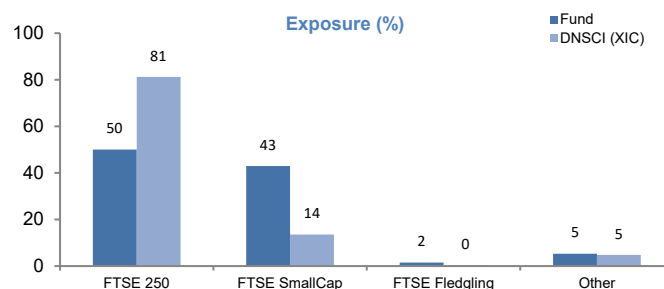
Top 10 equity investments

Name	Activity	%
Just Group	Annuity provider	3.1
Rank Group	Multi-channel gaming operator	3.1
Wilmington	Business information and training	2.8
Jupiter Fund Management	Investment manager	2.7
Bakkavor Group	Food manufacturer	2.7
Senior	Aerospace and automotive engineering	2.5
Galliford Try Holdings	Building and infrastructure contractor	2.4
International Personal Finance	Home credit provider	2.4
Morgan Advanced Materials	Manufacturer of carbon and ceramic materials	2.3
Rathbones Group	Wealth management	2.3

Sector exposure



Size exposure



Dealing & pricing information

Dealings in the Fund normally take place every business day between 9.00am and the Valuation Point that day - usually 4.30pm. Orders may be placed by calling the Fund's Dealing Line on 0345 608 0940 or contacting Aberforth using the details in the Subscribe & contact section.

The dealing spread shown in the Fees & charges section is the difference between the Issue and Cancellation prices and reflects the underlying spread on the Fund's portfolio.

Data sources & calculations

All data supplied by Aberforth, except DnSCI (XIC) data (from Deutsche Numis/Paul Marsh and Elroy Dimson – London Business School) and FTSE data (from FTSE International Limited).

Performance returns are total returns after all expenses and assume reinvestment of dividends. Yield is based on the Fund's trailing 12 months' dividends. Active share is a measure of how the Fund's portfolio differs from the DnSCI (XIC). Small companies are represented by the DnSCI (XIC).

Standardised past performance

Discrete total return performance over 12 month periods to 30 June 2025:

Growth (%)	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Unit price	5.1	21.1	8.0	-16.9	70.8
DnSCI (XIC)	11.1	14.5	4.4	-17.2	49.8

Notes: the table above is updated on a calendar quarter basis in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority's regulations; Unit price = Cancellation price of the Fund's Accumulation units.

Security codes & other information

Acc units	Inc units	Other information
SEDOL: 0007272	SEDOL: B2N9GS7	Launched: 20 Mar 91
ISIN: GB0000072727	ISIN: GB00B2N9GS70	Next year-end: 31 Dec 25
MEXID: HIUKSC	MEXID: HIUKSI	LEI: 213800ONHC5DGL7RPF30

Subscribe & contact

If you wish to subscribe to this Factsheet, or have any queries regarding its content, please contact Aberforth's Investor Support team:

(T) 0131 220 0733

(E) investors@aberforth.co.uk

Risk warnings

Capital may be at risk as the value of investments may go down as well as up and is not guaranteed; therefore investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Past performance is not a guide to future performance, nor a reliable indicator of future results or performance.

Investments in shares of smaller companies are generally considered to carry a higher degree of risk as the market for their shares may be less liquid than that for shares of larger companies, making shares of smaller companies more difficult to buy and sell.

The performance of shares of smaller companies may be more volatile than the shares of larger companies over short time periods; therefore investors should regard such investments as long term.

There can be no guarantee that the investment objective of the Fund will be achieved or provide the returns sought by the Fund.

An investment in the Fund is only suitable for investors who are capable of evaluating the merits and risks of such an investment and who have sufficient resources to be able to bear any losses which may arise from such an investment (which may be equal to the whole amount invested). Such an investment should be regarded as long term in nature and complementary to existing investments in a range of other financial assets and should not form a major part of an investment portfolio.

The dealing spread of the Fund, which represents the difference between the buying and selling prices, will have an impact on the realisable value of any investment made in the Fund, particularly in the short term. To mitigate the impact of capital erosion, investors should regard investments in the Fund as long term.

Further information on the Fund, including the Key Investor Information Document, is available on request or via the Aberforth website www.aberforth.co.uk.

Neither Aberforth Partners LLP or Aberforth Unit Trust Managers Limited provide retail investors with investment advice.

This document has been issued for information purposes only. It does not contain any investment recommendations or an invitation to invest in the Fund. Investors should seek advice from an authorised financial adviser prior to making investment decisions.

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