### Aberforth Partners LLP

Aberforth Geared Value & Income Trust plc (AGVIT)

**AGM Investor Presentation** 

October 2025



ABERFORTH PARTNERS

14 Melville Street - Edinburgh EH3 7NS Tel 0131 220 0733 enquiries@aberforth.co.uk - www.aberforth.co.uk

# Introduction to AGVIT



IPO on 1 July 2024	<ul> <li>£147m total assets split across Ordinary and ZDP shares</li> <li>Support from investors rolling out of ASLIT and £15m new money raised</li> <li>Partners of Aberforth increased their investment by £4m in the IPO</li> </ul>
Transaction costs	<ul> <li>c.£1.1m = c.1.1p per Ordinary Share</li> <li>Net of a contribution of £450k from Aberforth Partners</li> </ul>
37.5% gearing at IPO	<ul> <li>To take advantage of the investment opportunity in smaller companies</li> <li>Additional upside for the Ordinary Shares from 16% discount to NAV</li> </ul>
7 year fixed life	<ul> <li>Planned wind-up no later than 30 June 2031</li> <li>A clear solution to discount risk</li> </ul>
Financial Highlights	<ul> <li>Ordinary NAV per Share at 30 June 2025 = 99.6p</li> <li>Total dividends in the period to 30 June 2025 of 5.85p</li> <li>ZDP NAV per Share at 30 June 2025 = 106.2p</li> <li>ZDP projected final cumulative cover unchanged at 2.0 times over the year</li> </ul>

# Financial Highlights – year to 30 June 2025



### Capital performance – a volatile year

	30-Jun-25
Ordinary Share Price	83.5p
Ordinary NAV per Share	99.6p
Discount/(Premium)	16.2%
ZDP Share Price	108.0p
ZDP NAV per Share	106.2p
Discount/(Premium)	(1.7%)

### ■ Income performance — ahead of our expectations

Per Ordinary Share	30-Jun-25
Revenue Return	6.85p
Ordinary Dividends	5.00p
Special Dividends	0.85p
Retained Revenue Reserves	1.00p

# Ordinary shares – attractive income





- Good portfolio dividend experience
- Economic uncertainty mitigated by strong balance sheets and portfolio dividend cover
- Dividends ahead of the 4.00-5.00p Prospectus range:

Ordinary Dividends per Share5.00p

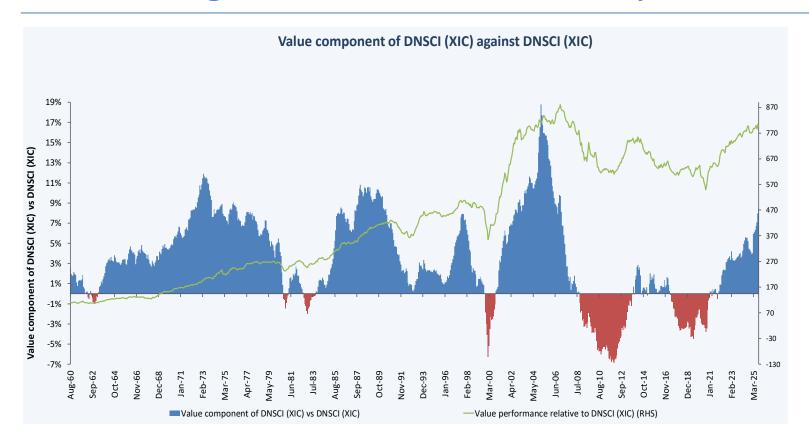
Special Dividends per Share0.85p

Ordinary share yield from the historical 5.00p ordinary dividend would be 6.0%

Aberforth Partners LLP; Bloomberg.

# The Managers' value investment style

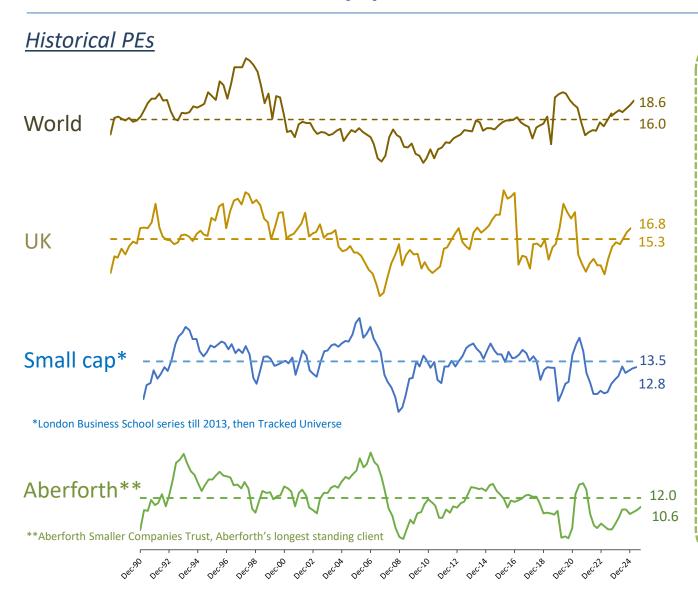




- The long term DNSCI (XIC) value premium since:
  - The index's inception in 1955 +3.2% p.a.
  - Aberforth's inception in 1990 +2.0% p.a.
- LBS data indicates that the value cohort performed well in the year to 30 June 2025

# Valuation recovery potential





#### PE relatives

#### 1. The UK vs. RoW

34Y average 0.96 Today 0.90

#### 2. Small caps vs. UK

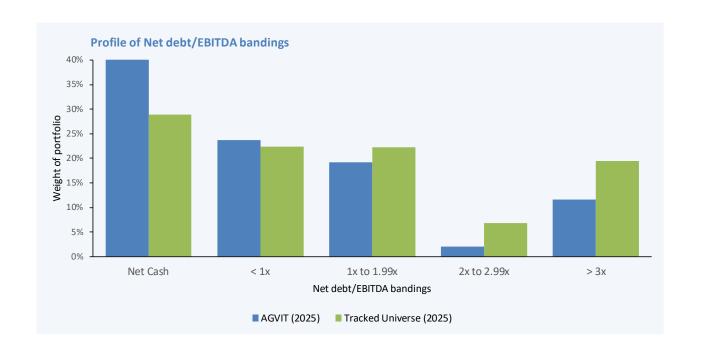
34Y average 0.89 Today 0.76

#### 3. Aberforth vs. Small caps

34Y average 0.88 Today 0.83

# Resilient small UK quoted companies

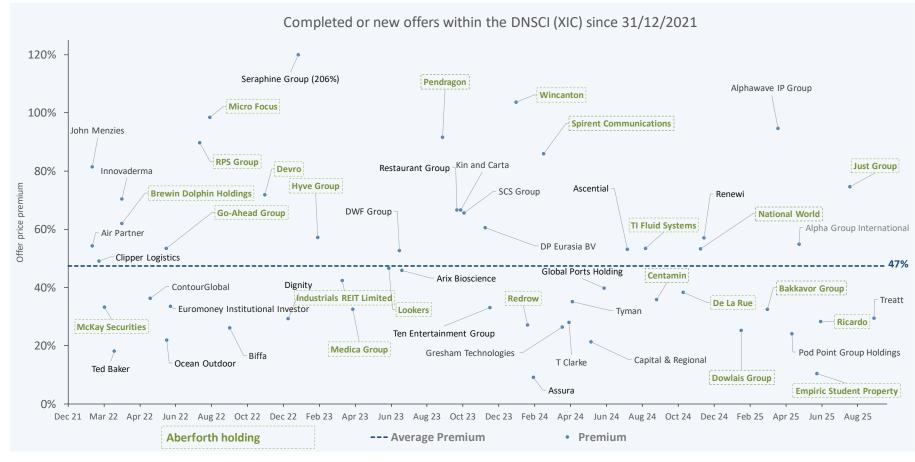




- Smaller companies are well financed
- The lower valuations of Small cap and the portfolio are not justified by weaker balance sheets
- Strong balance sheets are supporting dividend growth and a high rate of share buy-backs
  - Over the period to 30 June 2025, 23 holdings bought back shares

# Continued M&A activity





- Trade and private equity interest in the asset class is elevated
  - Portfolio 2025 EV/EBITA of 8.3x compares with 14.7x for the 55 takeovers
  - The Managers' focus remains on the valuation, not the bid premium achieved

### Conclusion



- Macro-economic uncertainty lingers
  - Confidence that small companies will again prove their resilience
  - Broad opportunity set presented by global politics and economics
- Much of the risk already reflected in valuations
  - Upside from the portfolio very attractive
  - Structural gearing provided by the ZDP shares

- Ordinary Shareholder returns
  - Income for the year to 30 June 2025 better than our expectations
  - Confident in the investment opportunity over AGVIT's planned life

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# **Appendix**

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### Illustrative returns



#### **Ordinary shares**

Redemption yi	elds:	IRRs:				
Capital	Terminal		Divider	nd growth	p.a.	
growth p.a.	NAV	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.0%	+10%
-10.0%	9.4p	-16.7%	-15.4%	-14.0%	-12.9%	-11.1%
-5.0%	35.2p	-5.2%	-4.4%	-3.5%	-2.8%	-1.6%
+0.0%	68.3p	3.4%	4.0%	4.6%	5.2%	6.1%
+5.0%	110.4p	10.7%	11.2%	11.7%	12.2%	12.9%
+7.0%	130.1p	13.4%	13.9%	14.4%	14.8%	15.5%
+10.0%	163.2p	17.4%	17.8%	18.2%	18.6%	19.2%
+15.0%	228.8p	23.7%	24.1%	24.4%	24.8%	25.3%
+20.0%	309.5p	29.8%	30.1%	30.4%	30.7%	31.1%

#### **ZDP** shares

Redemption yields: (p.a. returns to 30 June 2031)

NOW	0.14%	114p to 160.58p at 30 June 2031
At launch	7 00%	100n to 160 58n at 30 June 2031

Hurdle rates: (p.a. returns to 30 June 2031)

	<u>30 Sep.</u>	<u>Launch</u>
To return share price	1.9%	3.0%
To return 100p	3.9%	3.0%
To return nil value	(12.2)%	(10.3)%

Hurdle rates: (p.a. returns to 30 June 2031)

	<u>30 Sep.</u>	<u>Launcn</u>
To return 160.58p	-12.2%	-10.3%
To return nil value	-59.8%	-52.9%

Premium/(discount) incl. revenue reserves:

Dividends:	2024/2025
Ordinary	5.00p
Special	0.85p
Revenue reserves	1.00p

Premium/(discount) to net asset value:

Final cumulative cover:	30 Sep.	<u>Launch</u>
	2 1v	2 ∩v

The valuation statistics set out above are projected, illustrative and do not represent profit forecasts. There is no guarantee that these returns will be achieved. Terms used above have the same meaning as described further in the Prospectus dated 28 May 2024.

(12.3)%

5.5%

# Top 20 holdings



Rank	Company	Activity	Total portfolio (%)
1	Vesuvius	Metal flow engineering	3.9
2	Jupiter Fund Management	Investment manager	3.4
3	Rathbones Group	Wealth management	3.0
4	Galliford Try Holdings	Building and infrastructure contractor	3.0
5	FirstGroup	Bus and rail operator	2.9
6	Quilter	Wealth management	2.8
7	Smiths News	Newspaper distribution	2.7
8	MONY Group	Price comparison websites	2.7
9	PayPoint	Alternative payment services	2.6
10	Chesnara	Life insurance	2.5
11	Ashmore Group	Investment manager	2.5
12	Morgan Advanced Materials	Manufacturer of carbon and ceramic materials	2.4
13	Card Factory	Retailing - greetings cards	2.4
14	Sabre Insurance Group	Car insurance	2.3
15	ZIGUP	Van rental	2.2
16	Bakkavor Group	Food manufacturer	2.2
17	NCC Group	IT security	2.2
18	Bodycote	Engineering - heat treatment	2.0
19	C&C Group	Brewer and drinks distributor	2.0
20	Wilmington	Business information and training	1.9
Top 20			51.5
21 - 30			16.9
31 - 67			31.6
Actively	managed portfolio with an	active share of 81%	100.0

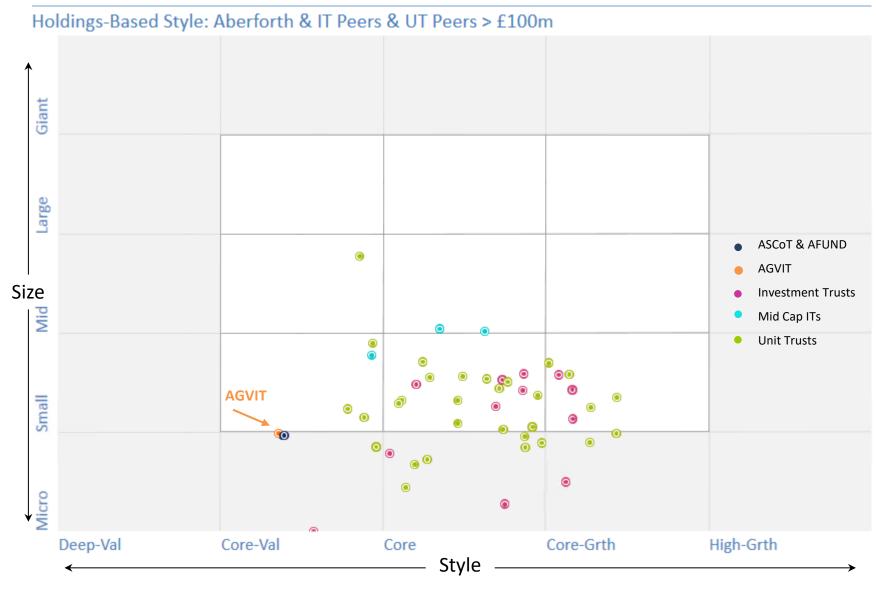
# Sector exposure



Sector	DNSCI (XIC) weight	AGVIT weight	Relative weight	Significant holdings (>1.5% portfolio weight)
Technology	6.4%	6.0%	-0.4%	NCC Group, MONY Group
Telecommunications	1.7%	0.0%	-1.7%	
Health Care	3.3%	0.0%	-3.3%	
Financials	21.0%	25.8%	4.8%	Sabre Insurance Group, Rathbones Group, Jupiter Fund Management, Chesnara, Conduit Holdings, Quilter, City of London Investment Group, Ashmore Group, Brooks Macdonald Group
Real Estate	10.9%	6.2%	-4.7%	Workspace Group, NewRiver REIT
Consumer Discretionary	16.6%	18.7%	2.1%	Card Factory, Halfords Group, Wilmington, Wickes Group
Consumer Staples	5.0%	6.8%	1.8%	C&C Group, Bakkavor Group, Hilton Food Group
Industrials	22.9%	32.0%	9.1%	Bodycote, FirstGroup, Morgan Advanced Materials, PayPoint, Vesuvius, Smiths News, Galliford Try Holdings, ZIGUP
Basic Materials	6.3%	1.7%	-4.5%	Kenmare Resources
Energy	4.0%	2.8%	-1.2%	
Utilities	2.0%	0.0%	-2.0%	

### Aberforth's differentiation





# Glossary – Aberforth Funds



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- Aberforth's investment philosophy and putting it into practice is explained further at www.aberforth.co.uk/about-Aberforth/
- **Aberforth Standard Value** refers to The Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust plc, Aberforth's longest standing client.
- Accumulation Units: units not receiving a cash payment representing income; rather, income will be included in the value of the units.
- Active Share is calculated by summing the absolute differences between a portfolio's weight in a stock and an index's weight in a stock for all the stocks in the portfolio or index. The total is then divided by two to give a ratio between 0% and 100%.
- **AGM**: An annual general meeting (AGM) is a mandatory annual assembly of a company's executives, directors, and interested shareholders.
- AuM: Assets Under Management.
- CAGR: Compound Annual Growth Rate is the annualised rate of growth over the specified time period.
- Cancellation refers to the cancellation of units by the Trustee.
- Closed-end funds: funds that offer a fixed number of shares through an investment company, raising capital by putting out an initial public offering (IPO).
- Capacity refers to Aberforth's self-imposed limit on the total funds under management that is managed by the firm
- **Discount** is the amount by which the stockmarket price is lower than the Net Asset Value, or NAV, per Ordinary Share. The discount is normally expressed as a percentage of the NAV per Ordinary Share. The opposite of a discount is a premium.
- DPS: Dividend Per Share.
- **EBITA:** Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, and Amortisation (EBITA), is a measure of company profitability used by investors.
- **ESG:** Environmental, Social and Governance.
- **EV/EBITA:** Enterprise Value (EV) divided by Earnings Before Interest, Tax and Amortisation (EBITA).
- **EV/EBITDA:** Enterprise Value (EV) divided by Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortisation (EBITDA).
- FANGS: Refers to the stocks of four prominent American technology companies. Meta (formerly Facebook), Amazon, Netflix and Alphabet/Google. FANG stocks are famous for the impressive growth they have shown in recent years.
- Funds: ASCoT The Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust plc; AGVIT Aberforth Geared Value & Income Trust plc; AFUND Aberforth UK Small Companies Fund.
- Gearing is the use of debt to increase capital.
- **GFC:** Global Financial Crisis, was a severe worldwide economic crisis that occurred in 2007 to 2008.
- GHG: Green House Gas emissions.
- **Hurdle rate** is the rate of capital growth per annum to return a stated amount per share at the planned winding-up date.
- Income Units entitle the holder to a cash distribution representing the net income attributable to that unit at each income allocation date.

Aberforth Partners LLP Source: Aberforth Partners LLP

## Glossary – Aberforth Funds



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- IPO: Initial Public Offering.
- IRRs: Internal Rate of Return (IRR) is a metric used in financial analysis to estimate the profitability of potential investments.
- Issue refers to the issue of units by the Trustee.
- Leverage is a measurement of the use of debt.
- LTCM: Long Term Capital Management. In 1998 the federal government of the United States feared that the imminent collapse of LTCM would precipitate a larger financial crisis and orchestrated a bailout to calm the markets.
- M&A: Mergers and Acquisitions.
- Net Asset Value (ZDP Share) is the value of the entitlement to the ZDP Shareholders.
- **Net Asset Value**: Net Asset Value (NAV) per share is the net value of an investment fund's assets less its liabilities, divided by the number of shares outstanding.
- NSCI (XIC): The Numis Smaller Companies Index (excluding Investment Companies).
- **PE:** The price-earnings ratio (P/E ratio).
- RDR: Retail Distribution Review.
- Redemption Yield (Ordinary Share) is the annualised rate at which projected future income and capital cash flows (based on assumed future capital/dividend growth rates) is discounted to produce an amount equal to the share price at the date of calculation.
- Redemption Yield (ZDP Share) is the annualised rate at which the total discounted value of the planned future payment of capital equates to its share price at the date of calculation.
- Retained Revenue: the accumulated income that has not been distributed.
- RoCE: Return on Capital Employed (RoCE) is a measure of how good a business is at generating profits from capital.
- **RoE**: Return on equity (RoE) is the measure of a company's net income divided by its shareholders' equity.
- RoW: Rest of the world.
- Rump is the Tracked Universe, adjusted to exclude the growth stocks.
- SBTI: Science Based Targets Initiative.
- Scope 4: Relates to a category of Green House Gas emissions. Termed as avoided emissions, Scope 4, can be defined as reductions that occur outside of a product's life cycle or value chain, but as a result of the use of that product.
- Share buy backs: A share buyback, also known as a share repurchase, is when a company buys its own outstanding shares to reduce the number of shares available on the open market.

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Source: Aberforth Partners LLP

# Glossary – Aberforth Funds



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- SONIA: Sterling Overnight Index Average is a measure of the rate at which interest is paid on sterling short-term wholesale funds in circumstances where credit, liquidity and other risks are minimal.
- TCFD: Task Force on Climate-Related Disclosures.
- Terminal NAV (Ordinary Share) is the projected NAV per Ordinary Share at the planned winding-up date at a stated rate of capital growth in the company's investment portfolio after taking into account the final capital entitlement of the ZDP Shares, future estimated costs charged to capital and estimated winding-up costs.
- Tracked Universe refers to those constituents of the NSCI (XIC) that Aberforth follows closely and whose financial characteristics are aggregated on internal systems.
- **Total return**: capital appreciation plus reinvested dividends.
- Turnover is calculated by summing the lesser of purchases and sales and dividing by the average portfolio value.
- Unit: an equal portion representing part ownership of a unit trust fund.
- Value style: the strategy by which all Aberforth's portfolios are invested.
- Value Premium: the relative out/(under) performance of the value investment style.
- **ZDP:** Zero Dividend Preference shares are a share class that receive no dividends. Instead, holders receive a fixed capital payment on the redemption date.

ZIRP: A zero interest rate policy (ZIRP) is when a central bank sets its target short-term interest rate at or close to 0%.

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Source: Aberforth Partners LLP



# Important information

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## Important information



- Throughout this presentation references to: SMALL COMPANIES mean constituents of the Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies Index (Excluding Investment Companies) which are referred to as "DNSCI (XIC)"; LARGE COMPANIES mean constituents of the FTSE All-Share Index which are referred to as "FTAS"; total return means with dividends reinvested (prior to 2.7.97 with gross dividends reinvested thereafter with net dividends reinvested); and Aberforth clients' portfolio characteristics use one of Aberforth's "Standard Value" clients as representative unless otherwise stated.
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- Capital may be at risk as the value of investments may go down as well as up and is not guaranteed; therefore investors
  may not get back the amount originally invested.
- Past performance is not a guide to future performance, nor a reliable indicator of future results or performance.
- Investments in shares of smaller companies are generally considered to carry a higher degree of risk as the market for their shares is often less liquid than that for shares of larger companies, making shares of smaller companies more difficult to buy and sell. Smaller companies can also be expected, in comparison to larger companies, to have less mature businesses, a more restricted depth of management and a higher risk profile.
- The performance of shares of smaller companies may be more volatile than the shares of larger companies over short time periods; therefore investors should regard such investments as long term.
- Unless the performance of an investment meets or exceeds the rate of inflation, the real value of that investment will
  reduce.
- Changes in economic or political conditions or other factors can substantially and potentially adversely affect the value of investments and, accordingly, the performance and prospects of the investment trusts, unit trusts and other funds managed by Aberforth Partners LLP or Aberforth Unit Trust Managers Limited (the "Funds").
- The market price of securities issued by a Fund may fluctuate significantly and investors may not be able to sell their securities at or above the price at which they acquired them. Securities markets have in the past experienced extreme volatility that has often been unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. Any broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of the securities issued by a Fund.
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# Risk warnings



- An investment trust may only pay dividends to the extent that it has distributable profits available for that purpose. A reduction in the income from an investment trust's portfolio could adversely affect the yield, if any, on its shares.
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- The Ordinary Shares of Aberforth Geared Value & Income Trust plc are geared by the Zero Dividend Preference Shares of the company and rank for repayment of capital after the Zero Dividend Preference Shares and any creditors of the company. A positive net asset value for those Ordinary Shares will be dependent upon the company's assets being sufficient to meet the prior capital entitlements of the holders of the Zero Dividend Preference Shares. The Ordinary Shares should therefore be regarded as carrying above average risk. The Zero Dividend Preference Shares are not a protected or guaranteed investment. In particular, should the company be wound up prior to its planned winding up date, holders of Zero Dividend Preference Shares would only receive their accrued capital entitlement to the date of winding up which would be less than the final anticipated capital entitlement of those shares.
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