# **CG** Asset Management Capital Gearing Trust August 2024 cgam

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# Capital Gearing Trust

Overview



## **Capital Gearing Trust Overview**

#### **Investment Objective**



- The Company's objective is to preserve and grow shareholders' real wealth over time
- The Company seeks cost-effective, long-term absolute returns via a global portfolio of equities, bonds and commodities
- It follows a simple, low-cost approach, no gearing, no short selling
- The Trust is actively managed, without reference to a benchmark

#### **Fees and Structure**



- Size: £1.0bn
- Management Fee: 0.39%<sup>1</sup> | Total Expense Ratio: 0.47%
- FTSE 250 Listed Investment Trust with a 42-year track record
- Discount Control Mechanism: The Company aims to purchase or issue shares to ensure that, under normal market conditions, the share price closely tracks the underlying Net Asset Value per share

#### **Investor Profile**



#### The fund has a broad range of investors who typically exhibit the following characteristics:

- A long-term investment horizon
- An aversion to significant short-term losses
- A desire to generate returns that outpace inflation over the long term
- A focus on GBP-denominated returns

<sup>1.</sup> Tiered fee structure, marginal rate is 0.3% above £500m



#### Overview

## **CG** Asset Management Overview

<b>2001</b> Founded	Founded in 2001 by Peter Spiller, former Chief Investment Officer and Chief Strategist of Cazenove	_
<b>£3.3bn</b> AUM	£3.3bn in assets under management	_
<b>2</b> Strategies	Manages two strategies, absolute return and real return, across six funds	
<b>14</b> Employees	Team of 14, based in London	_
<b>262</b> x Return	Low-cost offering, with fee reductions regularly reviewed	
<b>2</b> Down Years	Capital Gearing Trust ("CGT") has returned 262x since 1982, with only two down years	_



#### Overview

## **CGAM** in partnership with our clients

## What makes us different? What does that mean for our clients? The client comes first The firm's founding Don't be greedy principles 3. Have fun In turn these principles mean that: We have and will close funds to protect investors We continuously strive to lower fees, even on closed funds We have **low staff turnover Employee owned** Majority owned by an Employee Ownership Trust, which means we will remain independent All portfolio managers are significant shareholders in CGAM The right incentives A significant majority of our own capital is invested in our funds Our interests are directly aligned with those of our clients



#### Corporate Details

#### **CGAM Team**



Peter Spiller
Co - Chief Investment
Officer



Hassan Raza, CFA
Portfolio Manager



**Sophia Sednaoui** *Head of Investor Relations* 

#### **Investments & IR**



Alastair Laing
CEO, Fund Manager



Emma Moriarty
Portfolio Manager



Katie Forbes
Head of Investor
Relations of CGT



Chris Clothier
Co - Chief Investment
Officer



Jock Henderson Investment Analyst



Chris Taylor
Chief Operations
Officer



**Lydia Groves** *Operations Manager* 



**Finn** *Chief Morale Officer* 

#### **Operations**



Jason Barlow Senior Operations Manager



**Prath Ketheeswaran** *Operations Apprentice* 

Risk & Compliance



Richard Goody
Senior Compliance
Officer

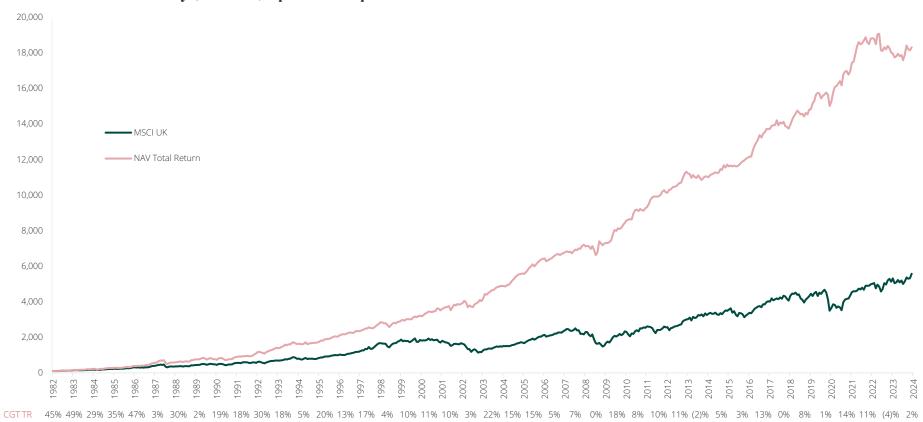


**Sindy Somander** *Finance & Reporting Manager* 

#### Overview

## Since 1982 the CGT share price total return has been 262x1

#### NAV Total Return History (Rebased) Apr 1982 to Apr 2024



<sup>1</sup> Share price terms, assumes all dividends reinvested over the period specified Source: Northern Trust, Morningstar

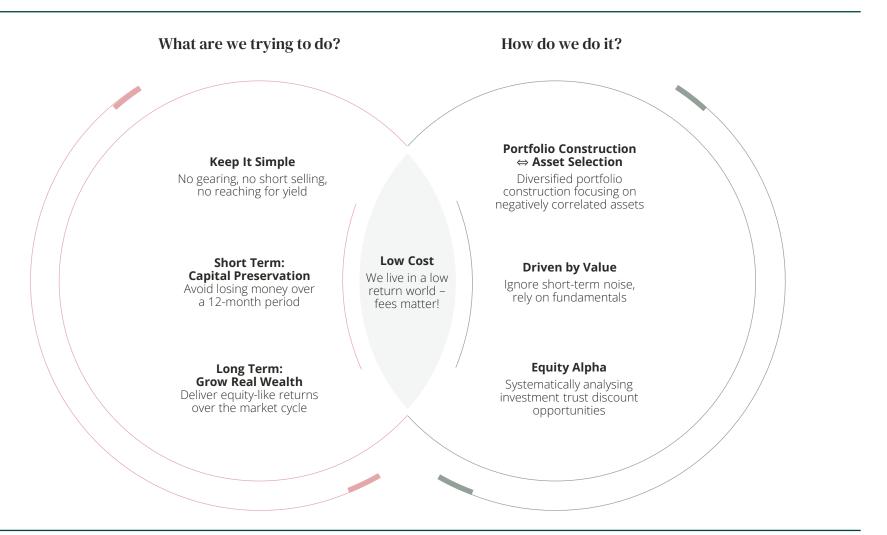


## **Investment Process**

Capital Gearing Trust



## **Principles**





## 5 inputs drive our asset allocation, underpinned by a focus on duration

#### **Valuations**

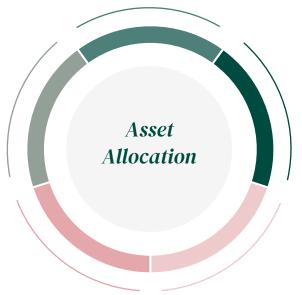
All major asset classes
Absolute / Relative / Relative to own history

#### **Investor Behaviour**

Degree of risk taking / speculative behaviours

#### **Monetary Environment**

Degree to which monetary backdrop is supportive of or threatening to asset prices



#### **Core Macroeconomic Beliefs**

Guiding long-term asset allocation

#### **Business Cycle**

Responding to changing inflation and growth environment

#### Duration

Keep duration short where values are poor and vice versa

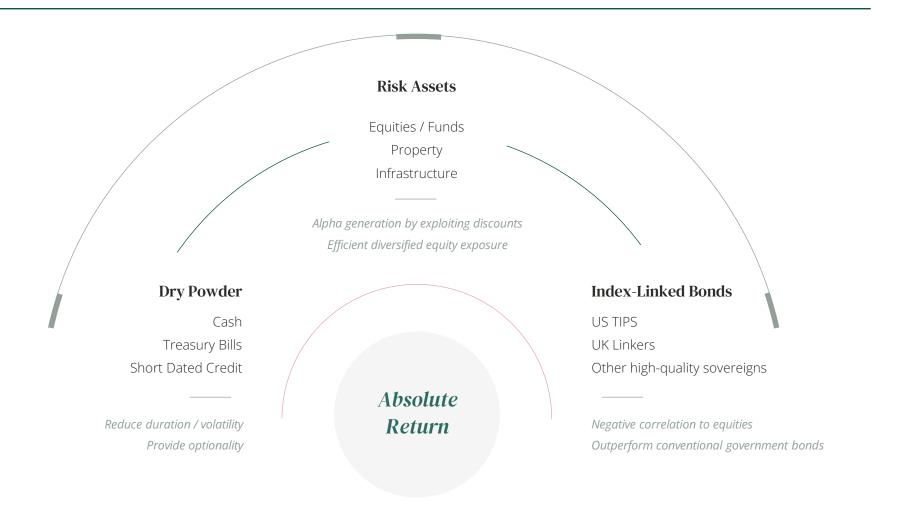


## Dynamic asset allocation that responds to the business cycle





## 3 Core Asset Allocation Pillars





#### **Investment Process**

## Index-Linked bonds are a fundamental component of our asset allocation

#### Protection against financial repression

Only asset that we believe is likely to deliver protection

#### Negative correlation with risk assets

Particularly overseas against sterling denominated risk assets

#### Historic outperformance vs nominal bonds

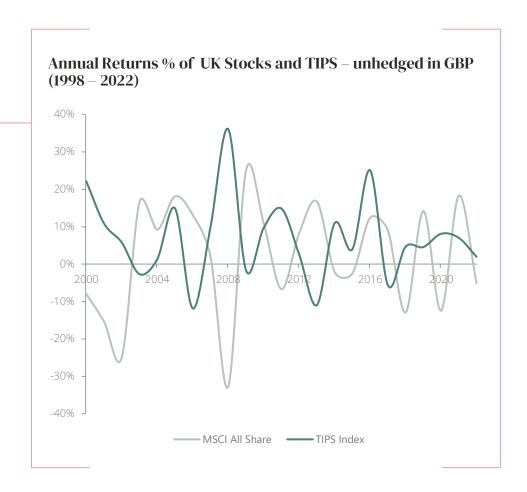
Such outperformance is likely to persist into the future

#### Inflation poses the greatest risk to investor wealth

Against which equities are only a partial hedge

#### Significant risk of inflation persistence

The historical record does not support a swift return to the target



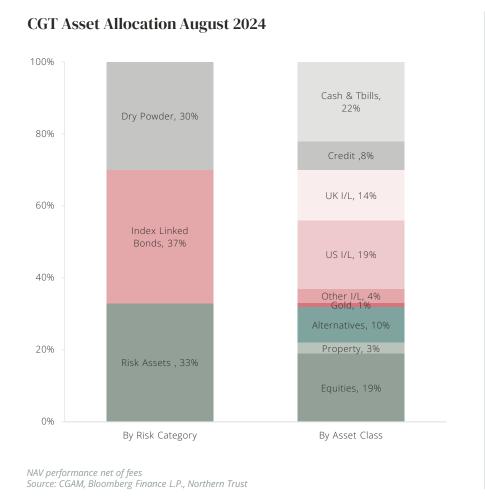


# Capital Gearing Trust

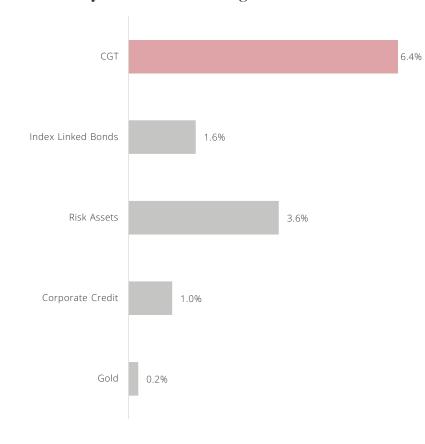
**Positioning and Returns** 



## Positioning is defensive, with a focus on inflation protection

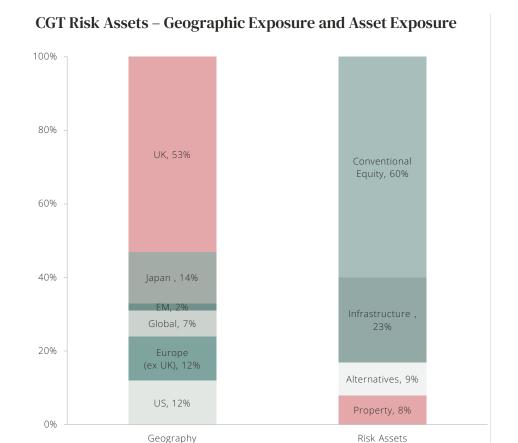


#### **Contribution by Asset Class LTM August 2024**

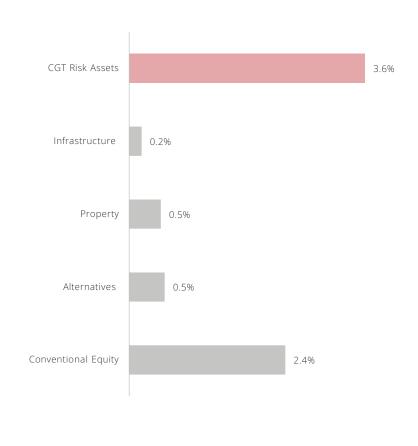




## Infrastructure assets have faced headwinds in the last year



#### Contribution by Risk Assets LTM August 2024





NAV performance gross of fees

Alternatives include: Loan Funds, HY, PE & Hedge Funds Source: CGAM, Bloomberg Finance L.P., Northern Trust

## Both equity and bond portfolios have contributed to outperformance

#### CGT Risk Assets Returns Performance to August 2024<sup>1</sup>



#### CGT Bonds Only Returns Performance to August 2024<sup>1</sup>

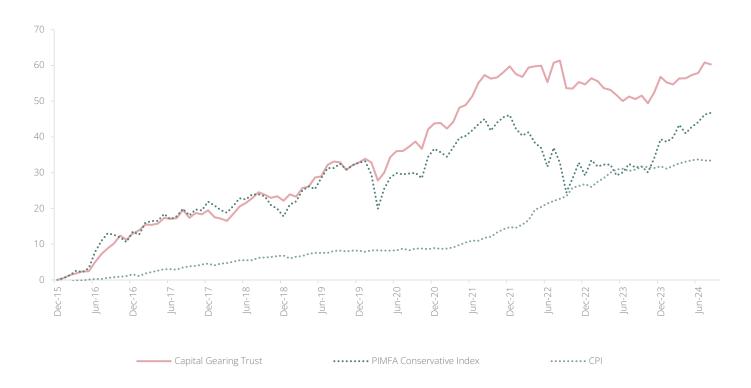


1.Risk Assets include equities, property, alternatives and gold. Bonds include credit and sovereign bonds (excluding T-Bills and cash), start period reflects the longest period available for CGT under Bloomberg AIM Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P., Northern Trust



## CGT has outperformed comparators on an absolute and risk adjusted basis

#### CGT vs. Comparators: Total Returns to August 2024<sup>1,2</sup>

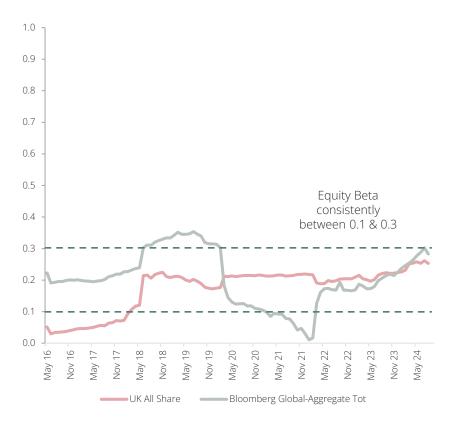


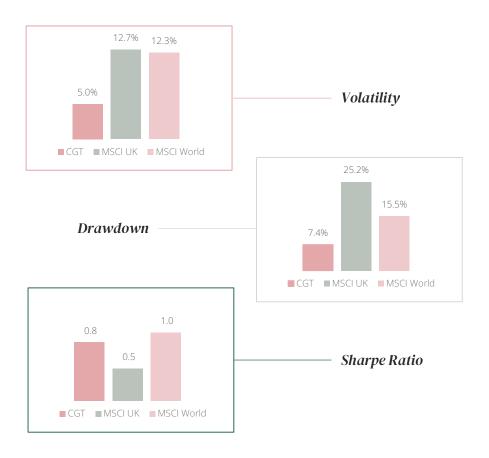
1.The MSCI PIMFA (Private Investor Conservative Index) aims to represent the investment strategy of a UK private client adopting a conservative approach to their investment 2.For comparability, the start period reflects the longest period available for CGT under which a Risk Asset and Bond attribution can be extracted from Bloomberg AIM



# Returns have come with low volatility, and low correlation to equity & bond markets, and excellent risk adjusted performance

#### Sharpe Ratio & Volatility (%) vs. Major Indices

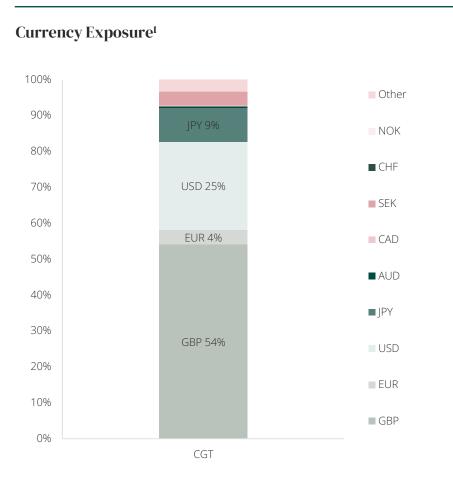


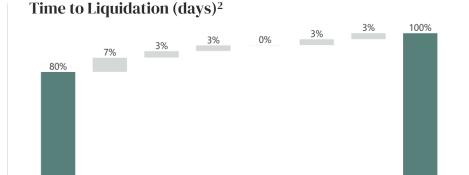


For comparability, the start period is taken from inception of the CG Absolute Return Fund. Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P, risk statistics per Bloomberg standard definitions.



## Duration, currency and liquidity are actively managed





#### Duration and Yield<sup>3</sup>

	Weight	Duration (Yrs)	Yield (%)	Rating <sup>4</sup>
Cash & Tbills	22%	0.4	1.9	A-
I/L Bonds	37%	7.2	3.9 / 1.3	AAA
Corp. Bonds	8%	3.0	6.4	A-
Risk Assets (HY)	1%	2.0	10.7	BB-
Risk Assets (Other)	32%	n.a	4.7	n.a.
CGT	100%	4.5	3.6	A-

1-3 days 3-5 days 5-10 days 10-15 days 15-30 days >30 days

Duration refers to Option Adjusted Duration, Yield refers to yield to maturity for fixed income with real yield also shown for index-linked and dividend yield for other risk assets which excludes high yield bonds
Bloomberg composite rating, Moody's weighted average rating for Cash & T-Bills

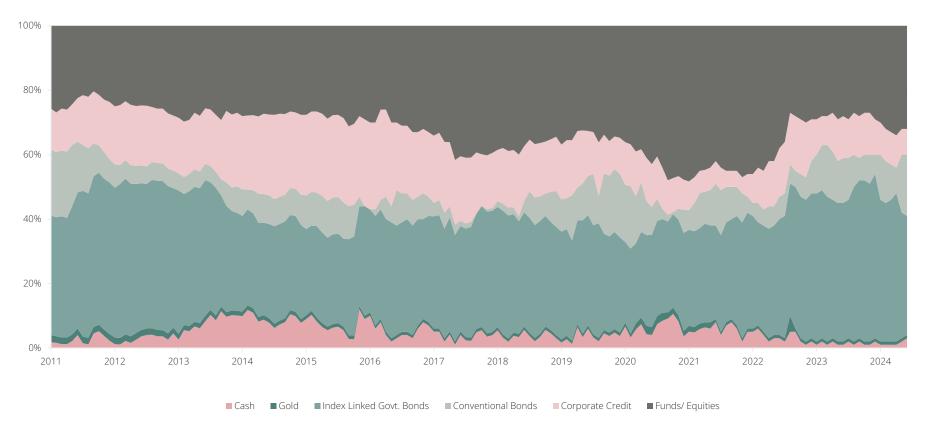


<sup>.</sup> Currency exposure is estimated using CGAM analysis of Bloomberg, Numis and Company data

<sup>2.</sup> Assumes 25% average daily volume participation rate

# Changes to asset allocation tend to be modest over the short term but can be fundamental over the long term

#### CGT Asset Allocation – 2011 to 2024



Source: CGAM, Bloomberg Finance L.P., Northern Trust.



## **Top Equity and Bond Holdings**

#### **Top 10 Equity Holdings**

#### **Top 10 Bond Holdings**

3.8%	UK I/L 0.125% 10/08/28	5.6%
2.6%		
	UK I/L 0.125% 22/03/29	4.1%
1.8%	US I/L 0.125% 15/10/26	3.0%
1.7%	UK I/L 0.125% 22/03/26	2.6%
1.0%	US I/L 0.125% 15/07/26	2.2%
1.0%	JTDB 0.00% 20/06/25	2.1%
1.0%	US I/L 0.125% 15/04/26	2.0%
1.0%	JTDB 0.00% 20/05/25	1.9%
1.0%	US I/L 0.375% 15/01/27	1.6%
0.8%	JTDB 0.00% 10/01/25	1.6%
15.9%		26.7%
	1.7% 1.0% 1.0% 1.0% 1.0% 1.0% 0.8%	1.7%  UK I/L 0.125% 22/03/26  1.0%  US I/L 0.125% 15/07/26  1.0%  JTDB 0.00% 20/06/25  US I/L 0.125% 15/04/26  1.0%  JTDB 0.00% 20/05/25  US I/L 0.375% 15/01/27  US I/L 0.375% 100/01/25

Source: CGAM, Northern Trust.



#### **Current Focus Areas**









#### **Real Interest Rates**

Developed market issuers offering risk free inflation beating returns

US TIPS are offering attractive real yields

UK index-linked are offering an attractive opportunity for portfolio construction

#### **Japanese Equities**

The Yen is offering exceptional value, making Japanese corporates highly competitive and driving strong earnings growth

#### **Investment Trusts**

The average discounts have widened to levels last seen since the financial crisis, and there is scope for active engagement with boards

#### Infrastructure

Defensively positioned infrastructure assets with inflation linked cashflows are offering attractive real returns



# Capital Gearing Trust

Approach to Responsible Investing



## The principles underpinning our approach to responsible investment

#### Be honest

No greenwashing, no PR-led initiatives, no jargon. We believe in an accurate presentation of our activities not a marketing campaign.

#### One firm, one rule

Our standards apply to all the funds we advise. We do not have ethical and by implication unethical funds.

#### **Ethics, not mathematics**

There is no formula that can be applied in a uniform way to every situation. We emphasise judgement over simplistic third party ESG scoring systems.

#### Don't disinvest, engage

When investors have the influence to effect change, it is most valuable to encourage positive transition rather than engage in blanket disinvestment.

#### **Targeted**

As a small firm, we must focus our efforts where they will have the most impact, rather than taking a generalist approach.

#### Driven by governance

Investors have multiple direct mechanisms to influence governance, so we primarily focus on governance even when the ultimate objective is positive social or environmental change.

#### Integration, not separation

The entire team is collectively responsible for stewardship activities, with the ultimate responsibility lying with the chief executive. We do not have a standalone responsible investment team.

#### Act, with humility

Every action results in both intended and unintended consequences. Reflect deeply on the risk that good intentions can lead to unintended negative outcomes.



## ESG integration by asset class

#### 1. Direct Government Securities

A majority of the assets held by the funds are invested in direct holdings of securities issues by governments including bonds, bills and cash. As our capacity to influence governments is extremely limited, our primary approach is to exclude sovereigns that do not maintain high ESG standards.

In order to help access these criteria we consider indices compiled by a range of NGOs and require sovereigns, at a minimum, to achieve strong rankings in at least four out of five of these criteria. In addition to using third party indices we also overlay our own subjective assessments which typically leads to material additional exclusions.

Index	Criteria
World Bank governance effectiveness index	Top quartile
World press freedom index	Good or satisfactory
Global freedom score	Free rating
UN human development index	Very high human development rank
Net zero by 2025 statement	Statement of intent by 2050 or earlier

#### 2. Direct Corporate Credit and Preference Shares

The funds hold small quantities of direct credit and preference share holdings issues by corporate issuers. Given our small participation in the market and therefore limited influence, our primary approach is to exclude corporate issuers who are primarily engaged in the following activities:

Exclusion Area	Exclusion sub-Area	Threshold 0%
Controversial weapons	Anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions, chemical weapons	
Tobacco	Manufacture or marketing	<5%
Thermal Coal	Coal mining or coal-based energy production	<5%
Oil sands or arctic drilling	Production	<5%
Gambling	Services	<5%
Adult entertainment	Production or broadcasting	<5%
Firearms	Manufacture	<5%
Predatory lending	Services	<5%



## ESG integration by asset class

## 3. Listed Closed-Ended Funds, Investment Trust, REITs and Property Companies

CGAM has a long history of active engagement in the London market for listed closed ended funds and other collective investment companies including REITs. In this priority area for engagement we seek to achieve positive transition so do not employ systematic exclusions.

Listed investment companies are fundamentally different to operating companies and typically have the following features:

- They hold a broad portfolio of securities on behalf of their shareholders;
- External investment managers rather than executive management teams;
- No employees or customers; and
- Have a board of directors to represent shareholder interests and concerns.

Given the prominent role that directors play in investment companies CGAM frequently undertakes activities that aim to influence boards and ultimately improve governance. The techniques employed vary based on the specific scenario but include those listed here (see box).

As well as engagement in the sector, CGAM places particular weight on providing primary capital to high impact investment companies with an environmental or social focus. In our assessment by providing primary capital, via IPO sponsorship or follow on fund raisings, investors have a greater impact than by simply trading securities in the secondary market.

Activist Engagement Technique	Frequency of Employment
Management Engagement	Continuous
Board Engagement	Continuous
Shareholder co-ordination	Frequent
Voting against significant resolutions	Frequent
Raising ESG matters in fund reporting	Frequent
Amplification through press engagement	Periodic
Replacing directors to improve governance	Periodic
Publishing open letters	Periodic
Publishing research incorporating ESG views	Periodic
Threatening to requisitioning meetings	Periodic

#### 4. Exchange Traded Funds ('ETFs')

Funds advised by CGAM hold relatively small quantities of exchange traded funds. ETFs are listed collective funds which typically track an index and provide low cost, efficient access to a broad portfolios of securities. CGAM does engage directly with our approved panel of ETF providers to encourage improved stewardship standards. However our capacity for effective engagement is limited, we therefore consider exclusions where there are suitable ETFs available. Typically this is via ESG screened ETFs which is a dynamic and growing sector. The programme of identifying and conducting due diligence on these products is ongoing.



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