

Strategic Equity Capital plc (SEC.LN)

Q1 2021

April 2021



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



- The value of the fund and the income from it is not guaranteed and may fall as well as rise. As your capital is at risk you may get back less than you originally invested
- Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance
- Funds investing in smaller companies may carry a higher degree of risk than funds investing in larger companies. The shares of smaller companies may be less liquid than securities in larger companies
- This fund may experience high volatility due to the composition of the portfolio or the portfolio management techniques used

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Q1 2021 shareholder update

- Portfolio evolution: portfolio evolution and enhanced process implementation progressing well since September 2020:
 - Portfolio turnover: two full exits and top-slicing representing 7% of opening NAV; two new toe hold investments and five follow-ons (representing 9% of closing NAV). In total there have now been four new investments and five full exits since September 2020
 - Building influential equity stakes: six portfolio companies where GHAM have a c.10% stake
 - Enhanced engagement: a number of initiatives underway. Focus on corporate activity, ESG and remuneration
 policies during the period
 - Pipeline of potential new investment opportunities is well developed, including the possibility of scaling toe hold positions over time as DD and market conditions allow
- Strong absolute performance (NAV/share +12.4%)¹, modest lag versus Index as exceptional market recovery and sector rotation continued
- Positive portfolio news flow during the period including increasing levels of M&A and broad based strength in share prices. Increasing levels of M&A activity, both inbound and outbound
- UK Small Cap valuation discount remains attractive despite trajectory over the last 6 months. Improving macroeconomic outlook and the vaccine roll out is improving sentiment towards UK equities offering support for valuations and inbound M&A activity from both international trade and private equity
- Core investment strategy remains consistent and focused on delivering long term shareholder returns and reducing share price discount to NAV

Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Portfolio investments in smaller companies typically involve a higher degree of risk.

1. Q1 2021 (1 January 2021 - 31 March 2021), on a total return basis Source: PATAC, Bloomberg, as at 31 March 2021

STRATEGIC EQUITY CAPITAL PLC (SEC)



Application of private equity techniques to public small companies

- Differentiated strategy with highly-concentrated portfolio, deep research focus and engaged approach
- **Genuine small cap** a structurally overlooked part of the market
- Long term investment horizon, low portfolio turnover with a quality company focus
- Small-cap specialists with significant public and private equity expertise leveraging Gresham House's broader platform and network
- Recent team changes with objective to drive performance and close discount to NAV leveraging track record of Ken Wotton and the Gresham House equities team

Specialist equity fund targeting absolute returns (15% IRR)¹ over the medium term. Low correlation to market and peers.

Defensive characteristics. Tendency to outperform in weaker markets.²

1. Internal target only, not guaranteed

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^{2. &}lt;u>http://performance.morningstar.com/funds/cef/ratings-risk.action?t=SEC®ion=gbr&culture=en-US&ownerCountry=USA</u>

OUR TEAM

Investment team led by Ken Wotton



Ken Wotton

Managing Director, Public Equity

- Over 20 years' experience in AIM and other listed investments
- Fund Manager for LF Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund and LF Gresham House UK Multi Cap Income Fund
- Previously at Livingbridge



Adam Khanbhai Investment Director

- Over 13 years' investment experience
- Previously at GVQ and OC&C Strategy Consultants н.
- Joined Gresham House in 2020 н.



Brendan Gulston Investment Director





Richard Staveley Laurence Hulse Managing Director Investment Manager Corporate Finance





- Started Gresham House Asset Management in 2015 н.
- CEO of Gresham House plc
- 25 years' experience in public and private equity н.
- Previously CEO of SVG Advisers and SVGIM



Paul Dudley



Resource platform



Wider Strategic Equity team

Bevan Duncan	James Hendry
Steve Cordiner	Mackenzie Travers
Thomas Makey	Maya Ward
Henry Alty	Rupesh Patel

Operating partners

Hazel Cameron Head of Portfolio Talent

Tamer Ozmen Technology **Operating Partner**

Investment Committee

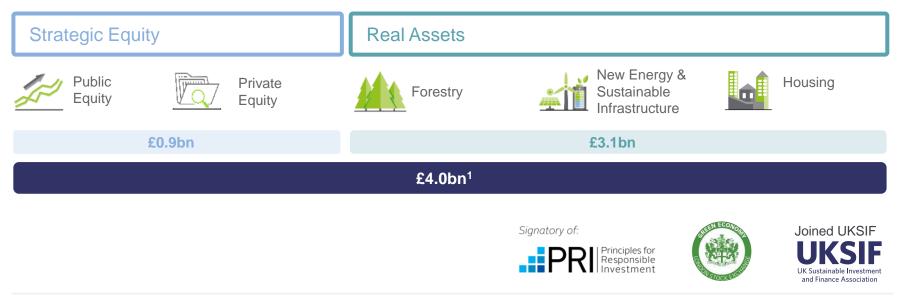
Anthony Dalwood (Chair)	Graham Bird
Ken Wotton	Richard Staveley
Bruce Carnegie-Brown	Tom Teichman

SPECIALISTS IN ALTERNATIVES



Gresham House is a London Stock Exchange-quoted specialist alternative asset management group (GHE.LN), providing funds, direct investments and tailored investment solutions, including co-investment.

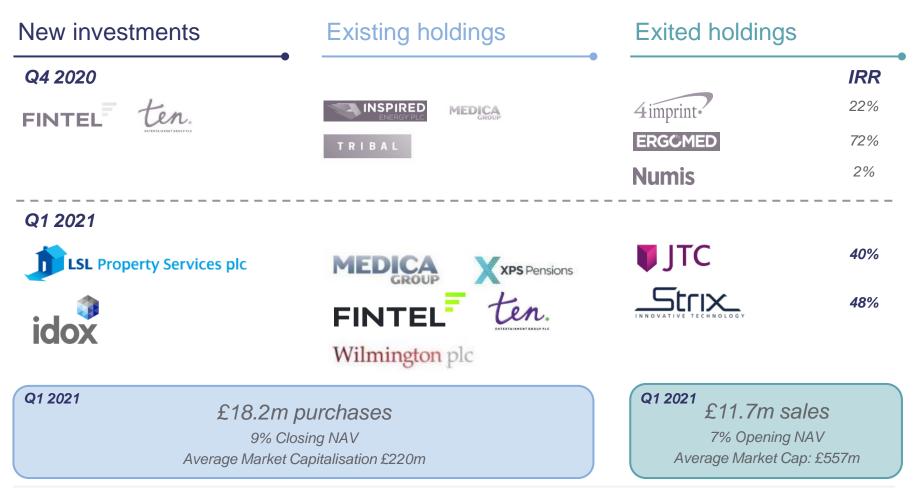
- → Specialists in five areas of alternative investment
- → Growing organically and through acquisition, expanding our shareholder base, and developing our investment pipeline
- → Committed to operating responsibly and sustainably, building long-term value across our portfolio



PORTFOLIO EVOLUTION

Since 1857 Gresham House Specialist asset management

Good start to evolution of portfolio; expect significant further progress in first half of 2021



Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Portfolio investments in smaller companies typically involve a higher degree of risk. Not investment recommendations.

Source: Gresham House, As at 31 March 2021

PORTFOLIO & PIPELINE THEMES





Healthcare and pharmaceutical services

- Trend to outsource non-core service provision / support
- Increasing role for technology-led solutions



Pensions and savings

- Increase in complexity of requirements and regulations
- Ageing population; increasing need for investment solutions



Regulation and compliance

- Growing regulatory burden across all white collar sectors
- Need for accurate, auditable, and cost effective solutions; often technology-led



Digitisation and data

- AI and 'Big Data' increasingly entering real world applications
- Opportunity to drive NPD and monetise underappreciated data assets



High-quality cyclical / Covid recovery

- Niche, high IP, with underappreciated recovery potential
- Positioned to take share as economic activity resumes

Pipeline opportunities and recent investments

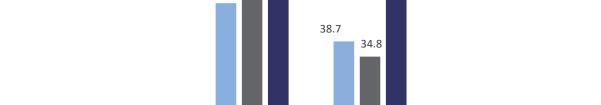
- Continue to focus on long term structural themes
- Differentiated B2B 'winners' facing short term headwinds
- Selective market leading niche consumer businesses
- ESG considerations applied

30

74.9

48.6

66.6





51.4

■ FTSE Small Cap x IT Total Return ■ IT UK Smaller Companies Total Return SEC NAV Total Return

Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Portfolio investments in smaller companies typically involve a higher degree of risk.

Chart source: Unaudited Bloomberg, PATAC, FE Analytics as at 31 March 2021, net of fees

2. On a total return basis * Lead Manager change

1. Comparator index FTSE Small Cap ex Investment Trusts Total Return



Annualised

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

80

70

60

50

40

%

Q1 ATTRIBUTION ANALYSIS



	Positiv	e attribution	Negative attribution					
Company	% pts	Comment	Company	ompany % pts Comment				
T R I B A L Educational Software	+2.2	 Significant strategic contract wins in 2020 drive upgrades Bolt on acquisition of Semestry for £4.5m supports strategy 	Benchmark® Aquaculture Genetics, Healthcare & Nutrition	-0.5	 Q1 results indicate improving growth and profitability following extensive strategic changes over the course of 2020 First customer signed for key pipeline product for sea lice treatment (BMK08) 			
MEDICA Teleradiology Services	+2.1	 Resilient trading performance despite Covid disruption to NHS Participated in placing to finance accretive acquisition of RadMD, a US clinical trial imaging specialist 	XXPS Pensions Pensions Consultancy	-0.3	 No news in the period Reported in line trading post period end including 6% organic growth over 2020 			
CLINIGEN Specialty Pharmaceuticals & Services	+1.4	 In line H1 results with demonstration of improving cash generation; small FX headwind Onboarding of Ewinase (key driver of growth) started earlier 	proactis Spend Control and eProcurement Software	-0.1	 In line trading statement, churn stabilised Announced a number of modest contract wins in markets outside UK / Dutch core 			

1. Tumour Infiltrating Lymphocyte; Iovance's novel therapy is used in conjunction with Clinigen owned drug Proleukin Source: Attribution estimates based on Bloomberg Portfolio Analytics as at 31 March 2021, Bloomberg, company reports

ESG FOCUS: PUBLIC EQUITY



As long-term investors with a focus on small and micro-cap companies in the UK equity market, we are active stock pickers applying a private equity approach to quoted equities. We offer a range of investments including our open-ended equity funds, listed strategic public equity investment trusts and limited partnership vehicles.

Our public equity philosophy revolves around taking a hands-on approach to engaging with our investee company stakeholders, including management, shareholders, customers and suppliers, in order to capitalise on market inefficiencies and identify value creation and recovery opportunities.

> **4.8 years** weighted average holding period as at 31 December 2020

We are proud signatories to the following member organisations:









ESG Implementation



Private Equity

Public Equity

Peers

A

Gresham House & peers

Gresham House & peers

1. Initial Public Offering 2. Holding across all Gresham House funds as at 31 March 2021

INSPIRED

ESG IN ACTION

Case study

Changing the way businesses purchase and use energy

The business

Inspired Energy plc is a leading UK corporate energy services and procurement specialist. They are energy management experts and work with corporate energy consumers to optimise their energy costs. The company provides three key services: We invested in the company when it first listed in 2011 but worked with the management team before this point on areas such as Board composition and management incentives prior to IPO.¹ Since 2011 we have regularly engaged with the management team on various projects, most notably:

- 1. Business strategy
- 2. Raising capital for expansion
- 3. Board composition and planning

Now We own 19.8%² of the company

Delivers technology and software solutions that underpin the services provided by Inspired PLC and makes them available to third parties.





Specialises in end-to-end solutions for investors and Corporate Businesses to make effective ESG Disclosures and transform them into ESG Impacts Delivers energy, water and sustainability assurance and optimisation services, so Corporate Businesses can manage their costs better, reduce their carbon efficiently and meet their net zero targets.



2011

Initially we took a

9.4% stake



Gresham House

Specialist asset management

PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS



Portfolio vs Small Cap Index

- High quality companies trading at discount to historic valuation range and precedent M&A
- Higher growth with lower gearing and higher margins than the index
- Targeting profit recovery & accelerating earnings growth
- Opportunity for rating expansion
- Accelerated cash generation/de-gearing
- Catalysts for de-risking

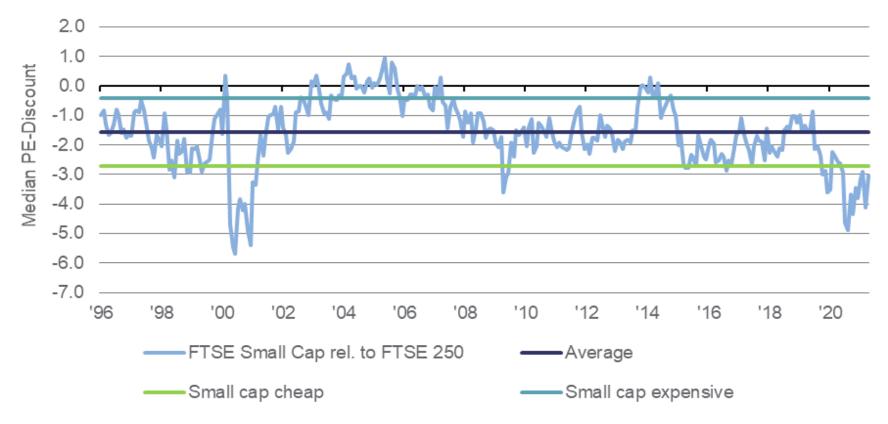
	Portfolio weighted avg. metrics vs. index Based on next financial year (i.e. FY21)							
		SEC Top Ten ¹	FTSE Small Cap					
tion	Price to Earnings	14.9x	13.0x					
Valuatior	EV: Sales	2.4x	1.1x					
Va	EV: EBITDA	10.3x	6.7x					
Quality	Net debt: EBITDA	1.0x	2.2x					
Qui	EBITDA Margin %	23.4%	16.4%					
vth	EBITDA Growth	20.5%	14.9%					
Growth	Sales Growth	15.3%	8.4%					

Table source: Bloomberg and Gresham House data as at 31 March 2021

1. Weighted average of top ten portfolio holdings, representing c.70% of NAV



SMALL-CAP DISCOUNT



- Small caps are trading at multi-year discounts relative to larger companies
- We believe this is owing to concerns over liquidity, perceived risk and a reduction in resources devoted to this area of the market - this provides a distinct opportunity for our strategy in our view

Sources: Liberum, 31 March 2021

DISCOUNT REDUCTION PLAN



Narrowing the share price discount to NAV is a key strategic priority to be achieved over time through a package of measures

- Appointment of Ken Wotton as Lead Fund Manager and focus on leveraging the wider Gresham House platform and capability to support SEC
- Evolution of the investment portfolio and enhancement of engagement activity to drive performance improvement
- Emphasise proprietary "Strategic Public Equity" process differentiation in marketing and PR initiatives
- Aberdeen Standard Investments promotion agreement to provide substantial resources in support of the marketing and distribution of the Trust
- Improved shareholder engagement and investor relations activity
- Gresham House track record of supporting its client funds with balance sheet capital

CONCLUSION & OUTLOOK



- Covid-19 vaccine driven recovery could be rapid and strong but also uneven and we expect periodic market volatility driven by the ongoing uncertainty
- Macroeconomic environment consumer and stimulus driven recovery in the near term but considerable uncertainty beyond 2021 as stimulus unwinds
- UK small and micro-cap valuations are attractive focus on fundamentals and corporate liquidity
- Opportunity the current environment offers good potential to unearth attractive long term investment opportunities
- Focus our investment strategy is focused on finding quality niche companies that are well positioned to grow despite economic uncertainty
- Engagement our "Strategic Public Equity" constructive engagement approach can support companies to deliver shareholder value
- Rigour and discipline we have a structured and disciplined process designed to insulate us from macro and external factors that might affect companies' performance

APPENDIX

MORNINGSTAR SMALL CAP INVESTMENT TRUST OVERLAP ANALYSIS



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	ASL	BRSC	THRG	GHS	HSL	IPU	JMI	ΜΙΝΙ	MTU	ΟΙΤ	SLS	SEC
Aberforth Smaller Companies Ord (ASL)	100%	11%	12%	0%	33%	18%	18%	2%	0%	1%	3%	3%
BlackRock Smaller Companies Ord (BRSC)	7%	100%	70%	0%	32%	24%	43%	4%	26%	2%	34%	3%
BlackRock Throgmorton Trust plc (THRG)	4%	66%	100%	0%	37%	20%	42%	0%	28%	0%	36%	3%
Gresham House Strategic plc (GHS)	6%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	34%	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Henderson Smaller Companies Ord (HSL)	15%	42%	53%	0%	100%	34%	35%	0%	17%	5%	25%	5%
Invesco Perpetual UK Smaller Ord (IPU)	13%	33%	38%	0%	50%	100%	28%	2%	19%	7%	37%	5%
JP Morgan Smaller Companies Ord (JMI)	10%	58%	66%	1%	42%	27%	100%	3%	16%	0%	40%	4%
Miton UK Microcap (MINI)	2%	13%	0%	2%	1%	3%	7%	100%	3%	0%	0%	0%
Montanaro UK Smaller Companies Ord (MTU)	0%	61%	69%	0%	27%	30%	37%	2%	100%	4%	54%	2%
Odyssean Investment Trust Ord (OIT)	6%	23%	12%	0%	42%	46%	0%	0%	12%	100%	0%	15%
Standard Life UK Smaller Co. Ord (SLS)	1%	54%	65%	0%	36%	35%	51%	0%	44%	0%	100%	2%
Strategic Equity Capital plc (SEC)	21%	27%	27%	0%	39%	28%	8%	0%	16%	24%	8%	100%

A differentiated approach with limited overlap with other smaller company investment trusts

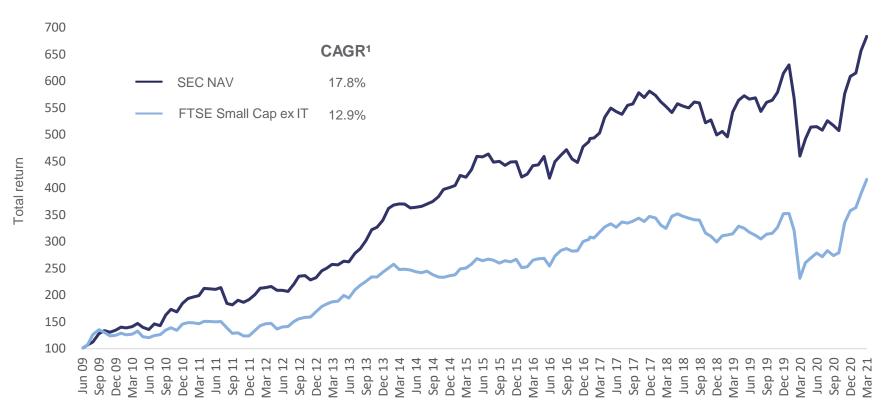
	100%	41 - 99%	31 - 40%	21 - 30%	11 - 20 %	1 - 10%	0%

As at 31 March 2021 - using latest reporting available from Morningstar Source: Winterflood

LONG-TERM TRACK RECORD



Cumulative rebased total returns



Strong cumulative performance since process improvements in June 2009. No use of gearing or derivatives.

Chart source: Bloomberg, PATAC as at 31 March 2021, net of charges Notes: Data rebased to SEC start NAV June 2009 1. CAGR: Compound Annual Growth Rate

TOP 10 HOLDINGS^{1 -} INVESTMENT THESES



Company and % of NAV	Investment thesis	Company and % of NAV	Investment thesis
MEDICA 10.8% Healthcare	 A niche market leader in the UK teleradiology sector which is acyclical and is growing rapidly driven by increasing healthcare requirements and a structural shortage of radiologists Above market organic growth and underappreciated cash generation characteristics 	Wilmington plc 6.4% Media	 International provider of B2B data and training in the compliance, insurance, financial and healthcare sectors New Chair, CEO and CFO incentivised to re-focus the business and deliver a return to organic growth
T R I B A L 9.7% Software	 International provider of student administration software with market leading positions in the UK, Australia and NZ Strong defensive characteristics with high visibility of earnings Transition to cloud-based platform 	EQUINITI 6.0% Business Services	 Market leader in defensive share services and regulated technology markets De-gearing and cash flow demonstration required to drive a re-rating Precedent M&A in this sector given financial characteristics
CLINIGEN 9.2% Healthcare	 Leading positions in unlicensed medicines and territories without access to healthcare High barriers to entry built through M&A and organic investment Attractive growth and cash flow potential Significant potential medium-term upside 	INSPIRED ENERGY PLC 5.5% Business Services	 UK B2B corporate energy services and procurement specialist. Strong ESG credentials Leading playing in fragmented industry; significant opportunity to gain market share through client wins, proposition extension and M&A
XPS Pensions 7.3% Business services	 Leading 'challenger' brand in the pensions administration and advice market with organic market share opportunity following industry consolidation Highly defensive - high degree of revenue visibility and largely non-discretionary, regulation driven client activity Below market rating despite favourable cash flow characteristics 	BM BROOKS MACDONALD 4.8% Financials	 UK focused wealth management platform; structural growth given continuing transition to self-investment Opportunity to leverage operational investments to grow margin and continue strong cash flow generation A consolidating market; opportunity for Brooks as both predator and prey
C TYMAN PLC 6.9%	 Market leader in residential and commercial window and door manufacturing Multiple self-help opportunities under new management to improve ROCE; de-gearing should drive a re-rating 	FINTEL 4.7% Business Services	 Leading UK provider of technology enabled regulatory solutions and services to IFAs, financial institutions and other intermediaries Strategically valuable technology platform with opportunity to drive material growth in revenues and margins through supporting customers' digitisation journeys

As at 31 March 2021

1. Top 10 holdings representing c.69% of NAV

Case studies selected for illustrative purposes only to demonstrate investment strategy and are not investment recommendations. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Portfolio investments in smaller companies typically involve a higher degree of risk.

FUND OVERVIEW



Strategic Equity Capital plc							
Shares in issue ¹	63,296,844						
Governance	London Stock Exchange listed, UK domiciled investment trust, independent Board						
Corporate broker	Investec						
Discount control	Authorisation to purchase 14.99% of own shares for cancellation or to be held in treasury						
Continuation vote	Annual						
Gearing	Up to 25% of net assets. At present, the policy is 'no gearing'						
Fees	Management fee of 0.75% of the Company's NAV Performance fee of 10% above rolling three year FTSE Small Cap (ex IT) total return + 2% p.a., subject to high watermark						
Analysts	Alan Brierley (Investec), Simon Elliot (Winterflood), Ewan Lovett-Turner (Numis)						
Investment policy	Up to 20% private, typically 15-25 holdings						
Market makers	Investec, Winterflood, Numis						

1. As at 31 March 2021

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