# WS Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund

August 2024

## Fund objective

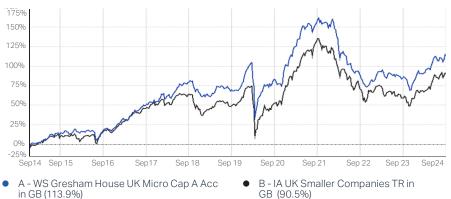
To achieve capital growth over any five-year period, after all costs and charges have been taken. **Capital invested is at risk and there is no guarantee the objective will be achieved over any time period**. The fund targets to invest, up to 70% of the portfolio, in the shares of UK companies.

#### Fund performance

#### Fund rank

Financial Express (FE) Rank 12/41 over 10 years to 31 August 2024.

Source: FE Analytics based on the returns of the A share class, net of charges, ten-year return to 31 August 2024



#### Cumulative performance

Source: FE Analytics net of charges, as at 31 August 2024

Cumulative returns month ending 31 August 2024	1 month	YTD	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	Since launch (19 May 2009)
WS Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund	1.4%	12.3%	15.2%	-16.8%	26.9%	113.9%	446.8%
IA UK Smaller Companies	-0.9%	12.6%	18.7%	-18.6%	28.0%	90.5%	382.2%
Quartile	1	2	4	2	2	2	3

#### Discrete performance

Source: FE Analytics net of charges, as at 31 August 2024

Discrete annual returns	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
WS Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund	12.3%	5.0%	-30.1%	25.4%	6.5%	20.4%
IA UK Smaller Companies	12.6%	0.5%	-25.2%	22.9%	6.5%	25.3%

## Performance

In August 2024, the WS Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund increased by 1.4%, outperforming the IA UK Smaller Companies sector, which saw a decrease of 0.9%. Positive contributions came from **Windward** (+31.7%) following interim results in-line with recently upgraded guidance, characterised by exceptional growth in recurring revenue as well as a narrowed EBITDA loss; **Costain Group** (+17.4%) after an announced contract win with Southern Water worth c.£500mn over seven years, alongside strong interim results which re-iterated mid-term margin guidance; and **Elixirr** (+11.5%) on no specific news flow. Conversely, the largest detractors were **Inspired Energy** (-15.6%), despite an interim trading update which reiterated full-year guidance, with higher cash conversion and debt levels within the expected range; and **Staffline** (-11.1%) following half-year results which indicated a lower expected profit contribution from its PeoplePlus business.



## Fund managers



Co-Manager Ken Wotton

23 years' experience



#### Co-Manager Brendan Gulston

12 years' experience

## **Fund information**

Launch date 19 May 2009

Fund size £191.6m

Fund sector IA UK Smaller Companies

Number of holdings 40

Portfolio turnover rate 36% (12-month period to 31 August 2024)

Fund price 211.71p C Acc (as at 31 August 2024)

Pricing 12:00 noon (GMT)

#### ISA eligible Yes



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## Platforms hosting the Fund

Raymond James

Aberdeen WrapTransact

WealthtimeZurich

7IM

- Aegon
- AJ Bell
- Allfunds
- Aviva
- BNY Mellon
- EmbarkENZ
- FundsNetwork
- Hubwise
- James Hay
- Pershing Nexus
- Nucleus
- M&G
- Platform Securities
- Parmenion

Capital at risk. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Portfolio investments in smaller companies typically involve a higher degree of risk. Charts and graphs are provided for illustrative purposes only as there is no official benchmark for this fund.

Fund statistics<sup>1</sup>

Source: FE Analytics, based on three years to 31 August 2024 . Volatility, Alpha, Beta, Sharpe and Info Ratio are benchmarked against the Fund's own sector average

Risk ratios month ending 31 August 2024	Volatility	Alpha	Beta	Sharpe	Information Ratio
WS Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund	13.32	-1.66	0.76	-0.01	0.09
IA UK Smaller Companies	15.04	0.00	1.00	-0.02	0.00

#### Top 10 holdings

Holding	Description	NAV
Windward	Maritime artificial intelligence company	4.8%
Elixirr	Digital design and business regulation services	4.5%
Netcall	Communication equipment provider	4.4%
Fintel	Outsourced regulatory services provider	4.4%
Costain Group	Technology based construction and engineering company	4.4%
AdvancedAdvT	Acquisition opportunities in software sector	4.0%
Diaceutics	Pharmaceutical data analytics and services	3.9%
XPS Pensions Group	Actuarial consultancy	3.9%
Ricardo	Engineering and environmental consultancy	3.9%
Franchise Brands	A collection of market-leading franchise businesses	3.7%

## Portfolio activity

We made no new investments during the period, but we made a selective follow-on, into **MPAC Group**, a global designer and manufacturer of industrial process and packaging automation machinery, which the Manager believes has a strong market position within a structurally growing market, with a clearly defined organic and inorganic growth strategy. There was one full exit in the period – **Alpha Financial Markets Consulting** – following the completed takeover by UK private equity firm, Bridgepoint.

#### Primary share class information

	A Class	C Institutional Class	
Туре	Acc	Acc	Inc
Minimum investment	£100,000	£10,000	£10,000
Minimum top up	£10,000	£1,000	£1,000
Minimum regular savings plan	N/A	N/A	N/A
Initial charge (fully discounted)	Up to 5%	Up to 2.5%	Up to 2.5%
Annual management charge	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%
Ongoing Charges	0.98%	0.98%	0.98%
ISIN code	GB00B55S9X98	GB00BV9FYS80	GB00BV9FYT97
SEDOL code	B55S9X9	BV9FYS8	BV9FYT9
MEXID	SWBAAJ	CGAAOU	CGAAOV

#### Sector allocation



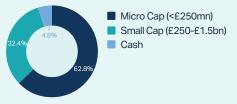
Source: Gresham House Asset Management Limited (portfolio at 31 August 2024)

#### Index weighting



Source: Gresham House Asset Management Limited (portfolio at 31 August 2024)

#### Market cap breakdown



Source: Gresham House Asset Management Limited (portfolio at 31 August 2024)

## 1. Fund statistics definitions

Volatility is a statistical measurement that, when applied to an investment fund, expresses its volatility, or risk. It shows how widely a range of returns varied from the fund's average return over a particular period.

Alpha is a measure of a fund's over-orunderperformance in comparison to the benchmark of the fund. Alpha represents the extra value the manager's activities have contributed, the greater the alpha, the greater the outperformance.

**Beta** is a statistical estimate of a fund's volatility in comparison to its benchmark. It depicts how sensitive the fund is to movements in the section of the market that comprises the benchmark.

Sharpe is the level of a fund's return over and above the return of a notional risk-free investment, such as cash or government bonds. The difference in returns is then divided by the fund's standard deviation (volatility). This is an indication of the amount of excess return generated per unit of risk. In general it is considered that the higher the Sharpe ratio, the better.

Information ratio is a risk-adjusted measure of actively managed fund performance. It assesses the degree to which a manager uses skill and knowledge to enhance the fund returns. The higher the information ratio, the better. It is generally considered that a figure of 0.5 reflects a good performance, 0.75 very good, and 1 outstanding.

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## Get in touch



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#### Portfolio manager

Gresham House Asset Management Ltd (GHAM)

As the operating business of Gresham House, GHAM manages and advises funds and coinvestments across a range of differentiated alternative investment strategies for third-party clients. Gresham House is a specialist asset manager and adviser with c.£8.8bn AUM.

Source: Gresham House as at 30 June 2024.

#### Key risks

- 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

#### Important information

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