# **WS Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund**

# December 2024



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 rank

Financial Express (FE) Rank 10/36 over 10 years to 31 December 2024.

# **Fund managers**



Co-Manager **Ken Wotton** 

25 years' experience

**Gresham House** 

Specialist investment

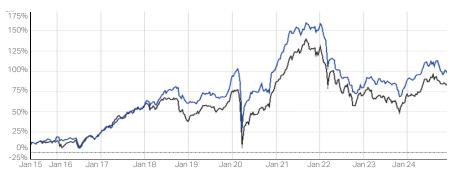


Co-Manager **Brendan Gulston** 

14 years' experience

# **Fund performance**

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



- A WS Gresham House UK Micro Cap A Acc in GB (106.0%)
- B IA UK Smaller Companies TR in GB (83.4%)

#### Cumulative performance

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

Cumulative returns month ending 31 December 2024	1 month	YTD	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	Since launch (19 May 2009)
WS Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund	3.3%	8.7%	8.7%	-20.2%	6.6%	106.0%	429.2%
IA UK Smaller Companies	-0.7%	6.7%	6.7%	-19.8%	5.0%	83.4%	357.0%
Quartile	1	2	2	2	2	2	3

#### Discrete performance

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

Discrete annual returns	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
WS Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund	8.7%	5.0%	-30.1%	25.4%	6.5%	20.4%
IA UK Smaller Companies	6.7%	0.5%	-25.2%	22.9%	6.5%	25.3%

## Performance

In December 2024, the WS Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund increased by 3.3%, significantly outperforming the IA UK Smaller Companies sector, which decreased by 0.7%

Positive contributions came from Windward (+3.9% Contribution to Total Return ("CTR")) following a recommended cash acquisition offer from US venture capital firm FTV at a 47% premium to priorday close or 92% to the six-month volume-weighted average price; Angling Direct (+0.6% CTR) following an update on capital allocation policy and a launch of a £4 million share buyback programme; and Trufin (+0.5% CTR) following a trading update which materially increased already upgraded fullyear earnings guidance due to the continued sales momentum of two games within the games label division, Playstack.

The largest detractors were SysGroup (-1.0% CTR) following interim results which downgraded full-year profit guidance due to elongated sales cycles; and lomart (-0.4% CTR) and Elixirr (-0.4% CTR) on no specific newsflow.

# **Fund information**

Launch date 19 May 2009

Fund size £155.4mn

Fund sector IA UK Smaller Companies

Number of holdings 41

Portfolio turnover rate 46%

(12-month period to 31 December 2024)

Fund price 204.88p C Acc (as at 31 December 2024)

Pricing 12:00 noon (GMT)

ISA eligible Yes



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# Platforms hosting the Fund<sup>1</sup>

- Aegon
- AJ Bell
- Allfunds
- Aviva
- BNY Mellon
- Embark
- FundsNetwork
- Hubwise
- James Hay
- Pershing Nexus
- Nucleus
- Platform Securities

1. Selection only

Parmenion

Raymond James

7IM

Aberdeen Wrap

Transact

Wealthtime

Zurich

#### Fund statistics1

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

Risk ratios month ending 31 December 2024	Volatility	Alpha	Beta	Sharpe	Information Ratio
WS Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund	13.46	-2.45	0.78	-0.01	-0.02
IA UK Smaller Companies	14.63	0.00	1.00	-0.02	0.00

#### Top 10 holdings

Holding	Description	NAV
Windward	Maritime artificial intelligence company	8.9%
Angling Direct	Specialist fishing tackle retailer	4.3%
Strategic Equity Capital	Closed-end fund aiming to achieve absolute returns	4.0%
AdvancedAdvT	Acquisition opportunities in software sector	3.8%
MPAC Group	Packaging solutions and support services provider	3.6%
Ricardo	Engineering & environmental consultancy	3.4%
Netcall	Communication equipment provider	3.4%
TruFin	Financing services to FinTech and banking businesses	3.3%
Franchise Brands	A collection of market-leading franchise businesses	3.2%
ActiveOps	Software solutions provider	3.2%

# Portfolio activity

We made no new investments or full exits during the period.

#### Primary share class information

#### C Sterling

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

#### Sector allocation



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

#### Index weighting



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

## Market cap breakdown



Source: Gresham House Asset Management Limited (portfolio at 31 December 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.

# 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

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