YFM Equity Partners

British Smaller Companies VCT2 plc

Annual Report

for the year ended
31 December 2017

aic Shareholder Communication Awards 2017
Winner
Best VCT Report and Accounts

Transforming small businesses

bscfunds.com

ABOUT US

British Smaller Companies VCT2 plc was formed in 2000 and invests in a combination of businesses operating in traditional industries and emerging businesses offering opportunities in the application and development of innovation.

A diverse existing portfolio of 38 active investments reduces the exposure to particular markets and individual companies. The current investment portfolio has an audited valuation of £40.4 million as at 31 December 2017.

ABOUT US

Investment Adviser	British Smaller Companies VCT2 plc ("the Company") is advised by YFM Private Equity Limited ("the Investment Adviser") which is a wholly owned subsidiary of YFM Equity Partners LLP and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.
Investment Policy	The investment strategy of the Company is to create a portfolio with a mix of companies operating in traditional industries and those that offer opportunities in the development and application of innovation. The Company invests in UK businesses across a broad range of sectors including software, information technology and telecommunications, retail and brands, business services, manufacturing and industrial services and healthcare and these investments will primarily be in unquoted companies. Investments will be made with regard to the VCT regulations so as to maintain the Company's venture capital trust status. Wherever possible the Company invests in a combination of equities, preference shares and loan stock to enhance the security of the portfolio. Further details of the Company's investment policy can be found in the Strategic Report on page 8.
Dividend Policy	Your Board remains committed to achieving the objective of a consistent dividend but this depends upon the level of investment income and realisations that the Company is able to make or achieve in any one period and cannot be guaranteed. The tax reliefs that are available for an investment in a VCT are of particular benefit for qualifying shareholders as there is no income tax payable on the dividend received, or need to declare them in a tax return.
Share Buy-Backs	Share buy-backs enable shareholders to obtain some liquidity in an otherwise illiquid market when there is a need to dispose of shares. This policy is kept under active review to ensure that any decisions taken are in the interests of shareholders as a whole. The current rate of discount at which ordinary shares will be bought back is targeted to be no more than five per cent of the latest reported net asset value.
Dividend Re-Investment Scheme ("DRIS")	The Company operates a DRIS which gives shareholders the opportunity to re-invest any cash dividends. Currently dividends are re-invested at a 5 per cent discount to the latest reported net asset value as adjusted for the relevant dividend in question if this has not already been recognised. Any dividends that are re-invested by qualifying shareholders are eligible for income tax relief at 30 per cent of the amount invested subject to an annual investment limit of £200,000. The Finance Act 2014 confirmed that shares acquired at any time under dividend re-investment schemes will not impact tax relief on sales of, or subscriptions for, VCT shares, unless in the latter case it results in a breach of the £200,000 investment limit.

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FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Total Return increased by 3.5 per cent over opening net asset value

Since 31 December 2016 your Company's total return has increased by 2.1 pence, from 112.2 pence per ordinary share to 114.3 pence per ordinary share, which includes cumulative dividends paid of 55.5 pence per ordinary share.

Investment Growth

The underlying growth in the investment portfolio was £2.25 million, which represents an increase of 5.7 per cent.

3.7x Return

The sale of Selima Holding Company Ltd delivered proceeds of £1.0 million, achieving a multiple of 3.7x original cost, with the potential for further consideration.

Dividends for the Year

Total dividends paid during the year ended 31 December 2017 were 3.0 pence per ordinary share, which equates to 5.0 per cent of the opening 31 December 2016 net asset value per ordinary share. This comprises a final dividend relating to the year to 31 December 2016 of 1.5 pence per ordinary share and an interim dividend for the year to 31 December 2017 of 1.5 pence per ordinary share.

Fundraising

Offer for subscription fully subscribed and closed within 15 days of launch, raising net proceeds of £4.1 million.

FINANCIAL CALENDAR

Results Announced	16 March 2018
Ex-dividend Date	29 March 2018
Record Date	3 April 2018
DRIS Election Date	26 April 2018
Annual General Meeting	9 May 2018
Dividend Paid	11 May 2018

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY

	Year ended 31 December 2017	Year ended 31 December 2016	Year ended 31 December 2015	Year ended 31 December 2014	Year ended 31 December 2013
Income £000	**1,413**	1,937	1,953	1,272	689
Profit before and after taxation £000	**2,069**	1,412	4,132	1,157	2,131
Profit per ordinary share	**2.07p**	1.51p	4.96p	2.00p	4.73p
Dividends per ordinary share paid in the year	**3.0p**	4.5p	4.5p	4.5p	4.5p
Cumulative dividends paid per ordinary share	**55.5p**	52.5p	48.0p	43.5p	39.0p
Net assets attributable to ordinary shares £000	**59,056**	56,109	54,850	39,333	30,458
Net asset value per ordinary share	**58.8p**	59.7p	62.9p	62.9p	65.6p
Total return per ordinary share	**114.3p**	112.2p	110.9p	106.4p	104.6p
Increase in total return per ordinary share	**2.1p**	1.3p	4.5p	1.8p	4.6p
Cumulative 5 year increase in total return per ordinary share	**14.3p**				

STRATEGIC REPORT

The Company is pleased to present its Strategic Report for the year ended 31 December 2017. The purpose of this report is to inform shareholders and help them to assess how the Directors have performed in their duty to promote the success of the Company. This Report has been prepared by the Directors in accordance with section 414 of the Companies Act 2006.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

I am pleased to report that the Company has made good progress during the year with a total shareholder return of 2.1 pence per ordinary share. This equates to 3.5 per cent of the net asset value at 31 December 2016 and total shareholder return is now 114.3 pence per ordinary share.

Your Company's portfolio delivered a steady performance over the year, generating a return of 5.7 per cent over its opening value. New and follow-on investments totalling £2.37 million have also been completed.

Realisations in Year

Two full realisations were achieved in the year:

In May 2017 the Company realised its investment in **Selima Holding Company Ltd** generating initial proceeds of £1.0 million. The total return (including income) from this investment so far is £1.11 million, a multiple of 3.7x cost. There is the potential for additional contingent consideration of up to a maximum of £0.7 million, subject to the achievement of agreed milestones over the period to November 2019.

In August 2017 the Company realised its residual interest in **Harvey Jones Holdings Limited** for £0.56 million. This takes the total return from this investment to £1.87 million, a multiple of 1.6x cost.

New Investment

During the year your Company completed two new investments and made three follow-on investments.

In July 2017 your Company completed a £1.2 million investment into **Friska Limited**. Friska operates a chain of "food-to-go" restaurants centred in Bristol. This retail chain has a clear roll out strategy to extend to new UK locations building a distinctive 'Feel Good Food' brand. The Company's investment is being used to both support new store openings and invest in management and infrastructure to allow the business to scale its operations.

In September 2017 an investment of £0.6 million was completed into **e2E Engineering Limited**, a technical consultancy business operating in the satellite communications market. The business is utilising new technologies to become a niche managed service communications provider focusing on areas currently under-served by existing solutions. The Company's investment formed part of a £1.9 million round to commercialise the first of e2E's products in conjunction with the European Space Agency.

Follow-on investments totalling £0.57 million were made into **existing portfolio companies**.

Financial Results

In the year to 31 December 2017 your Company's total return increased by 2.1 pence per ordinary share to 114.3 pence per ordinary share, driven mainly by the underlying value growth in the investment portfolio. This equates to an increase of 3.5 per cent on the opening net asset value at 31 December 2016.

During the year your Company has paid total dividends of 3.0 pence per ordinary share, bringing the total cumulative dividends paid since inception to 55.5 pence per ordinary share. The net asset value at 31 December 2017 is 58.8 pence per ordinary share as summarised in the table below:

	Pence per ordinary share	£000
NAV at 31 December 2016	59.7	56,109
Net underlying increase in portfolio	2.2	2,249
Net loss after expenses	(0.2)	(180)
Issue/buy-back of new shares	0.1	3,898
	2.1	5,967
Dividends paid	(3.0)	(3,020)
	(0.9)	2,947
NAV at 31 December 2017	**58.8**	**59,056**
Cumulative dividends paid	55.5	
Total Return: at 31 December 2017	**114.3**	
at 31 December 2016	112.2	

The Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at 12:00 noon on 9 May 2018 at 33 St James Square, London, SW1Y 4JS. Full details of the agenda for this meeting are included in the Notice of the Annual General Meeting on page 75.

The charts on page 10 of these financial statements show in greater detail the movement in total return, net asset value and dividends paid over time.

The investments held at 31 December 2016, amounting to £39.32 million, delivered a return over the year of £2.25 million, equivalent to an increase in value for shareholders of 2.2 pence per ordinary share. This return comprises a gain on the revaluation of the portfolio of £2.21 million and a net gain over the opening value from the realisation of investments and deferred proceeds of £0.04 million.

Within the current portfolio there were £4.88 million of unrealised gains offset by £2.67 million of unrealised losses. There were strong performances from Matillion Limited, GTK (Holdco) Limited, Deep-Secure Ltd, Intelligent Office UK (IO Outsourcing Limited t/a Intelligent Office), Ketech Enterprises Limited, ACC Aviation, Business Collaborator Limited and Mangar Health Limited, which in part were offset by the poorer performances of DisplayPlan Holdings Limited, Immunobiology Limited and The Heritage Window Company Holdco Limited.

The realisation of Selima Holding Company Ltd contributed profits on their 31 December 2016 carrying value of £0.41 million and this was offset by losses of £0.55 million on the refinancing of The Heritage Window Company Holdco Limited. The latter also had a negative impact on the year's income, with a provision of £0.29 million against loan interest and preference dividends.

Shareholder Relations

Dividends

Dividends paid in the year comprise a final dividend of 1.5 pence per ordinary share in respect of the year ended 31 December 2016, and an interim dividend of 1.5 pence per ordinary share in respect of the financial year just ended, totalling 3.0 pence per ordinary share. This brings the cumulative dividends paid to 55.5 pence per ordinary share.

As highlighted in previous statements the VCT rules introduced and implemented in 2015 will lead to more investments in earlier stage businesses. The unquoted portfolio as at 31 December 2017 comprised £31.18 million (82 per cent) of investments made prior to the implementation of this change and £6.96 million (18 per cent) after this time. Whilst the older investments in the portfolio may provide an element of more stable returns in the short term, over the medium and longer term returns are expected to have a higher degree of volatility.

With this in mind and to maintain a sustainable level of future dividends the Board is proposing a final dividend of 1.5 pence per ordinary share for the year ended 31 December 2017. This final dividend is subject to approval by the shareholders at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting and if approved will then be paid on 11 May 2018 to shareholders on the register at 3 April 2018. The ex-dividend date is 29 March 2018.

Dividend Re-investment Scheme ("DRIS")

Your Company operates a DRIS, which gives shareholders the opportunity to re-invest any cash dividends and is open to all shareholders, including those who invested under the recent offers. The three advantages of the DRIS are:

1. the dividends remain tax free;
2. any DRIS investment attracts income tax relief at the rate of 30 per cent; and
3. the investment is made at a 5 per cent discount to the last reported net asset value.

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017 dividends totalling £0.66 million were invested in your Company by way of the DRIS.

Fundraising

During the first half of the financial year your Company raised net proceeds of £4.1 million through a "top-up" offer.

Subsequent to the year-end your Company launched a further top-up fundraising on 11 January 2018. The offer was fully subscribed from existing shareholders and was not therefore opened to new shareholders, closing on 26 January 2018. The Company allotted 7,366,700 ordinary shares on 16 February 2018 raising net proceeds of £4.3 million and following this allotment there were 107,857,275 ordinary shares in issue.

Shareholder relations

The Investment Adviser recently commissioned a survey to identify shareholder reasons for investing in VCTs and it is very pleasing that more than 1,000 shareholders replied. The results identified that primary drivers for investment are the tax reliefs and also the dividend yield. The recent Budget did not change the tax treatment on VCT dividends which I am sure is a positive for the industry and its shareholders. Almost half of the respondents (45 per cent) said they chose VCTs in order to support growing UK businesses and the investments in Selima and Harvey Jones reported earlier are good examples of the successes achieved by your Company in supporting the UK economy.

Shareholders also indicated a strong preference to be patient investors with 64 per cent having held their investment for more than 10 years and 32 per cent wanting information on how to transfer their shares to the next generation in their family.

The electronic communications policy continues to be a great success, with 83 per cent of shareholders now receiving communications in this way. Documents such as the annual report are disseminated via the website www.bscfunds.com rather than by post, saving on printing costs, as well as being more environmentally friendly.

Your Company's website www.bscfunds.com is refreshed on a regular basis, and provides a comprehensive level of information in what I hope is a user-friendly format.

The next Investor Workshop will take place on 16 May 2018 and is being held at the HAC – Honourable Artillery Company, Armoury House, City Road, London, EC1Y 2BQ.

Share Premium Cancellation

On 21 September 2017 the Company cancelled the balance of its Share Premium, £20.58 million, which was transferred to the Capital Reserve. As set out on page 51 this will become available for distribution at various times over the period to 1 January 2021.

Regulatory Developments

The new rules set out in the November 2017 Budget and the outcome of the Patient Capital Review included some changes principally to ensure that investment activity remains targeted at younger UK-based smaller businesses. The technical changes around investment structures are likely to see an even more sparing use of loan finance, with instruments now being unsecured but in general these changes are not expected to have a material impact on the Company. There was, however, a significant change with regards to investment limits which saw a doubling in the annual investment limit for Knowledge Intensive businesses to £10 million from £5 million. The lifetime investment limit for these businesses is £20 million. This provides the opportunity for the Company to provide greater amounts of capital for scale up investment for individual businesses than previously.

HMRC are still struggling to process applications for advance assurance. Despite HMRC's stated intention of bringing the approval process down to fifteen workings days for the significant majority of investments this has yet to be achieved. In fact in the short term waiting times seem to have increased and the Company has potentially lost one investment opportunity for £2 million where advance assurance had been requested but no response received in time.

This is not unique to your Company and the Investment Adviser and other VCT advisers are lobbying HM Treasury and HMRC to remedy this situation.

Post Balance Sheet Events

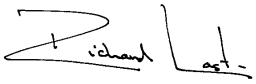
In March 2018 the Company made a new investment of £0.98 million into Ncam Technologies Limited and also made a follow-on investment of £0.38 million into Matillion Limited.

Outlook

The Board recognises that the new regulatory environment for VCTs will change the portfolio's composition over time. New investments will be in growing, earlier-stage businesses that will be less able to fund debt instruments or pay dividends with the result that the Company's ability to pay dividends will become increasingly dependent on the timing and amount of realisation proceeds.

The population of potential investments has been limited by recent legislative changes and this has led to some pressure on investment terms and pricing, especially in competitive processes. A number of other VCTs have recently raised large amounts of new funding and combined with new rules that come into effect in the near future this may see these pressures increase further. Nonetheless the recent changes that increase the investment limits in respect of Knowledge Intensive businesses allowing greater funding in any one year and a £20 million lifetime limit are welcomed as this affords the opportunity to follow investments as they scale.

It is pleasing that HMRC have recently given advance assurance for a number of potential investments (including Ncam Technologies Limited) and the Company is well placed to continue to pursue its objective of delivering long-term value through a diversified portfolio.



Richard Last
Chairman

16 March 2018

OBJECTIVES AND KEY POLICIES

The Company's objective is to provide investors with an attractive long-term tax free dividend yield whilst maintaining the Company's status as a venture capital trust.

Investment Policy

The Company's investment policy is to create a portfolio that blends a mix of businesses operating in traditional industries with those that offer opportunities in the application and development of innovation. Investing across a range of companies and sectors reduces exposure to particular markets and individual companies. The changes to the VCT legislation in November 2015 and those announced in the November 2017 Budget mean that there is greater emphasis on opportunities focussing on the application and development of innovation in their particular markets.

To this end the Company will invest in UK businesses across a broad range of sectors including but not limited to software, information technology and telecommunications, retail and brands, business services, manufacturing and industrial services and healthcare. These investments will primarily be in unquoted UK companies which meet the definition of a Qualifying Investment, in order to maintain the Company's VCT status. It is anticipated that the majority of these businesses will be re-investing their profits for growth and the investments will, therefore, comprise mainly equity instruments.

Borrowing

The Company funds the investment programmes out of its own resources and has no borrowing facilities for this purpose.

Co-investment

British Smaller Companies VCT2 plc and British Smaller Companies VCT plc ("the VCTs") have in aggregate first choice of all investment opportunities meeting the VCT qualifying criteria that require up to £4.5 million of equity. Amounts above £4.5 million will be allocated one third to YFM's co-investment funds and two thirds to the VCTs. Where there are opportunities for the VCTs to co-invest with each other the basis for allocation is 40 per cent to the Company and 60 per cent to British Smaller Companies VCT plc. The Board of the Company has discretion as to whether or not to take up or, where British Smaller Companies VCT plc does not take its allocation, increase its allocation in such co-investment opportunities.

Asset mix

Pending investment in VCT-qualifying securities, surplus cash is primarily held in interest bearing instant access, and short-notice bank accounts. Subsequent to the Finance (No. 2) Act 2015 investments can no longer be made in non-qualifying quoted investments traded on an unregulated exchange. This change therefore now excludes AIM investments in this category.

Remuneration Policy

The Company's policy on the remuneration of its directors, all of whom being non-executive directors, can be found on page 40.

Other Key Policies

Details of the Company's policies on the payment of dividends, the DRIS and the buy-back of shares are given on the inside of the front cover. In addition to these the Company's anti-bribery and environmental and social responsibilities policies can be found on page 29.

PROCESSES AND OPERATIONS

The Investment Adviser is responsible for the sourcing and screening of initial enquiries, carrying out suitable due diligence investigations and making submissions to the Board regarding potential investments. Once approved, further due diligence is carried out and HMRC clearance is obtained as the Board deem necessary for approval as a Qualifying Holding.

The Board approves all investment and divestment decisions save in that new investments up to £250,000 in companies whose securities are traded on a regulated stock exchange and where the decision is required urgently, in which case the Chairman of the Board of Directors, if appropriate, may act in consultation with the Investment Adviser.

The Board regularly monitors the performance of the portfolio and the investment requirements set by the relevant VCT legislation. Reports are received from the Investment Adviser regarding the trading and financial position of each investee company and senior members of the Investment Advisory Team regularly attend the Company's Board meetings. Monitoring reports are also received at each Board meeting on compliance with VCT regulations so that the Board can monitor that the Venture Capital Trust status of the Company is maintained and take corrective action if appropriate.

The Board reviews the terms of YFM Private Equity Limited's appointment as Investment Adviser on a regular basis.

YFM Private Equity Limited has performed investment advisory, administrative and secretarial services for the Company since its inception on 28 November 2000. The principal terms of the agreement under which these services are performed are set out in note 3 to the financial statements.

Performance Incentive

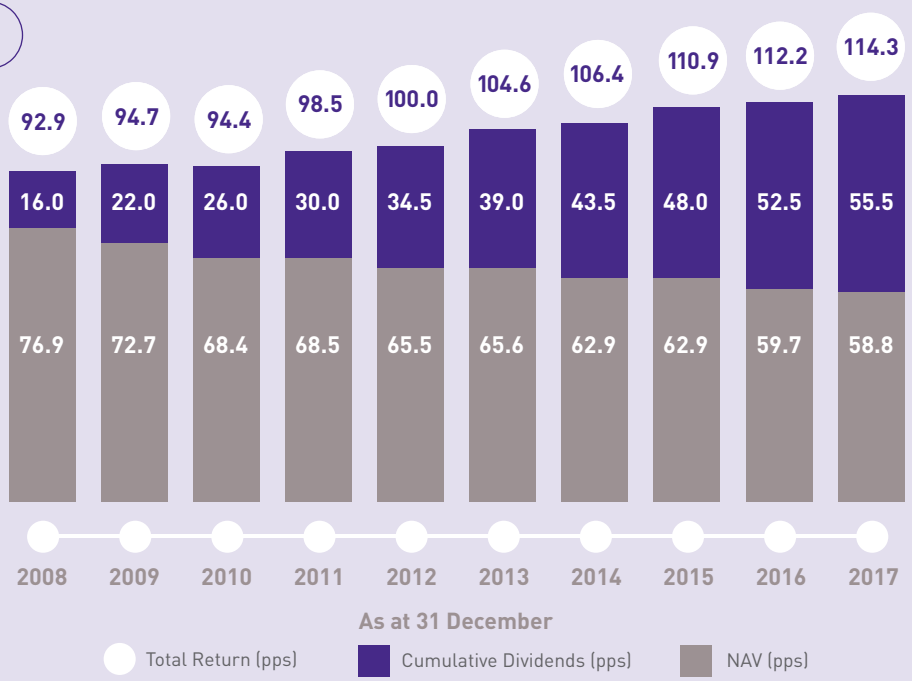
The Investment Adviser will receive an amount (satisfied by the issue of shares) equivalent to 20 per cent of the amount by which the cumulative dividends per ordinary share paid as at the last business day in December in any year, plus the average of the middle market price per ordinary share on the five dealing days prior to that day, exceeds 120 pence per ordinary share, multiplied by the number of ordinary shares issued and the ordinary shares under option (if any) (the "Hurdle"). Under the terms of the Subscription Rights Agreement, once the Hurdle has been exceeded it is reset at that value going forward, which becomes the new Hurdle. Any subsequent exercise of these rights will only occur once the new Hurdle has been exceeded. The subscription rights are exercisable in the ratio 95:5 between the Investment Adviser and Chord Capital Limited. Further details are given in note 3 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the directors the continuing appointment of YFM Private Equity Limited as Investment Adviser is in the interests of the shareholders as a whole in view of its experience in advising venture capital trusts and in making, managing and exiting investments of the kind falling within the Company's investment policies.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

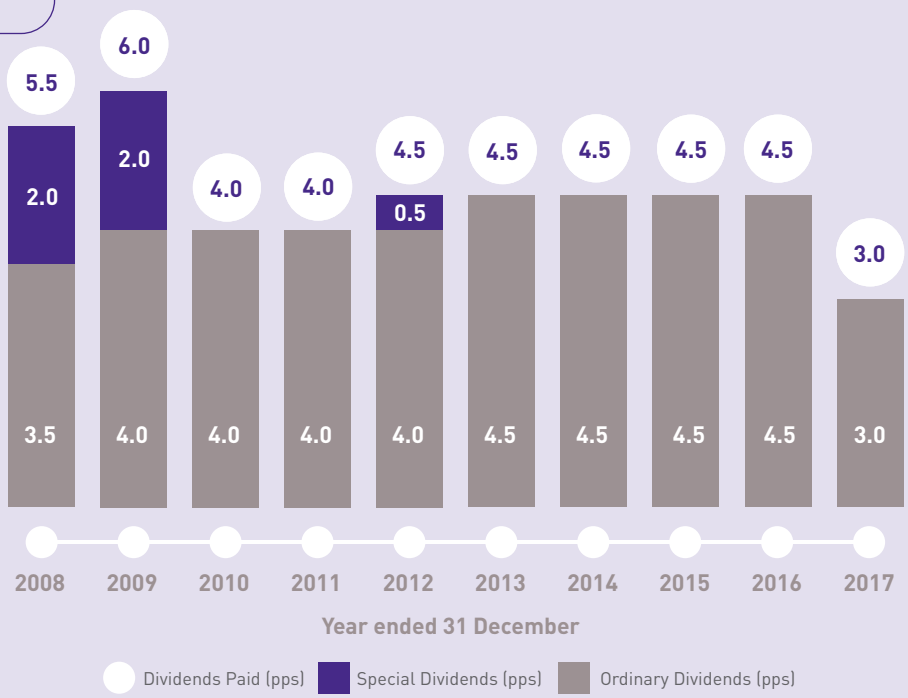
The commonly used benchmarks of performance for VCTs are **total return**, calculated as cumulative dividends paid plus net asset value, and **dividends paid**.

Total Return



The evaluation of comparative success of the Company's total return is by way of reference to the share price total return for approximately 50 generalist VCTs as published by the Association of Investment Companies ("the AIC"). This is the Company's stated benchmark index. A comparison and explanation of the calculation of this return is shown in the Directors' Remuneration Report on page 42.

Dividends Paid



Shareholder Returns

The table below shows the cumulative dividends, the total return on each fundraising round per ordinary share and the total return if a shareholder had opted to participate in the Company's DRIS. The cumulative dividend and total return figures in this table exclude the benefits of all tax reliefs, whilst the last column includes the benefit of tax reliefs as noted.

Tax year	Net asset value as at 31 December 2017	Cumulative dividends paid since fundraising	Total return since fundraising/ date of acquisition	Offer price	Offer price net of initial tax relief	Overall return including tax relief since fundraising with participation in the DRIS[1]
	Pence	Pence	Pence	Pence	Pence	Pence
2000/01 and 2001/02	58.8	55.5	114.3	100.0	80.0	180.3
2001/02 and 2002/03	58.8	55.5	114.3	100.0	80.0	180.3
December 2005 issue of shares on acquisition of British Smaller Technology Companies [2]	40.4	37.2	77.6	100.0	80.0	178.9
2009/10 and 2010/11	58.8	33.5	92.3	77.3	54.1	137.8
2010/11 and 2011/12	58.8	29.5	88.3	70.3	49.2	127.9
2012	58.8	25.5	84.3	70.5	49.4	120.3
2012/13 and 2013/14	58.8	21.0	79.8	68.0	47.6	111.6
2013/14 and 2014/15	58.8	16.5	75.3	68.0	47.6	103.9
2014/15 and 2015/16	58.8	12.0	70.8	65.0	45.5	95.7
2015/16	58.8	7.5	66.3	63.0	44.1	88.3

Notes

1. NAV plus tax relief on the initial subscription plus additional tax relief and NAV on DRIS shares purchased. Assuming that all dividends since inception were invested under terms of current DRIS
2. Assuming initial offer price and initial tax relief from original subscription in British Smaller Technology Companies VCT plc.

Expenses

Ongoing Charges

The Board monitors expenses using the Ongoing Charges figure, as calculated in line with the AIC recommended methodology. This figure shows shareholders the annual percentage reduction in net asset value as a result of recurring operational expenses which, whilst based on historical information, provides an indication of the likely level of costs that will be incurred in managing the Company in the future.

Expenses	Year to 31 December 2017 (%)	Year to 31 December 2016 (%)
Ongoing Charges figure	**2.48**	2.51

Expenses Cap

The total costs incurred by the Company in the year (excluding any performance related fees, trail commission payable to financial intermediaries and VAT) is capped at 2.9 per cent of the total net asset value as at the relevant year end. The treatment of costs in excess of the cap is described in note 3 on page 58. There was no breach of the expenses cap in the current or prior year.

Compliance with VCT Legislative Tests

The main business risk facing the Company is the retention of VCT qualifying status. The Board receives regular reports on compliance with the VCT legislative tests from its Investment Adviser. In addition the Board receives formal reports from its VCT Status Adviser twice a year.

The Board can confirm that during the period all of the VCT legislative tests have been met.

Under Chapter 3 Part 6 of the Income Tax Act 2007, in addition to the requirement for a VCT's ordinary share capital to be listed in the Official List on a European regulated market throughout the period, there are a further five specific tests that VCTs must meet following the initial three year provisional period.

Income Test	The Company's income in the period must be derived wholly or mainly (70 per cent) from shares or securities.
Retained Income Test	The Company must not retain more than 15 per cent of its income from shares and securities.
Qualifying Holdings Test	At least 70 per cent by value of the Company's investments must be represented throughout the period by shares or securities comprised in Qualifying Holdings of investee companies.
Eligible Shares Test	At least 30 per cent of the Company's Qualifying Holdings must be represented throughout the period by holdings of non-preferential ordinary shares. For monies raised from 6 April 2011 onwards the eligible shares test above increases to at least 70 per cent of Qualifying Holdings that must be represented by eligible shares. In addition, monies are not permitted to be used to finance buy-outs or otherwise to acquire existing businesses or shares. There is also an annual limit for each investee company which provides that they may not raise more than £5 million of state aid investment (including from VCTs) in the 12 months ending on the date of each investment (£10 million for Knowledge Intensive Companies).
Maximum Single Investment Test	The value of any one investment has, at any time in the period, not represented more than 15 per cent of the Company's total investment value. This is calculated at the time of investment and further additions and therefore cannot be breached passively.

The Budget in November 2017 introduced further changes that come into effect in future years and more detail on these is given on page 16 under the heading "Budget Highlights and Patient Capital Review".

The Board can confirm that during the period all of the VCT legislative tests set out in the table on this page have been met.

Further restrictions placed on VCTs are:

Dividends from cancelled share premium

The Finance Act 2014 introduced a restriction with respect to the use of monies in respect of VCTs. In particular, no dividends can be paid out of cancelled share premium arising from shares allotted on or after 6 April 2014 until at least three full financial years have elapsed from the date of allotment.

Of amounts relating to cancelled share premium £20.24 million remains undistributable until on or after 1 January 2019.

Other

The Finance (No. 2) Act 2015 imposes further conditions in respect of investments, including those regarded as non-qualifying investments, including:

i) An aggregate limit of £12 million (or £20 million for Knowledge Intensive Companies) on the amount of State Aid Risk Finance investment a business can receive during its lifetime;

ii) No more than seven years can have elapsed since the first commercial sale achieved by the business (ten years in the case of a Knowledge Intensive Company), unless:

   a. the business has previously received an investment from a fund that has received state aid; or

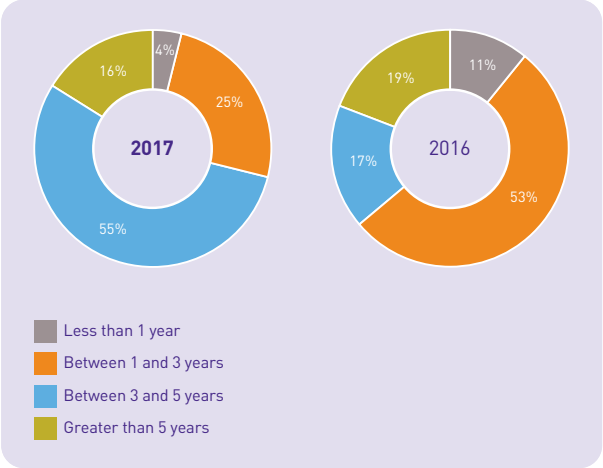
   b. the investment comprises more than 50 per cent of the average of the previous five years' turnover and the funds are to be used in the business to fund growth into new product markets and/or new geographies.

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

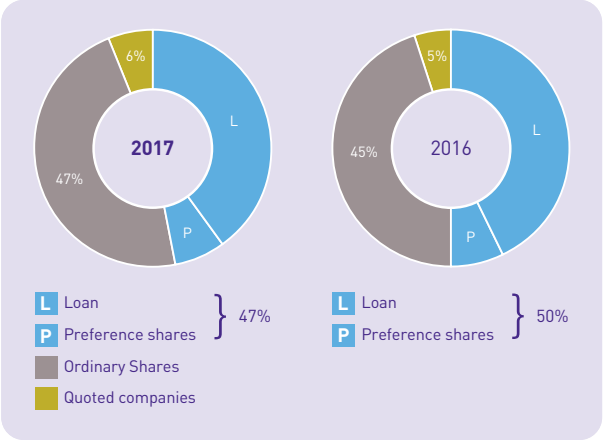
Portfolio Structure

This illustrates the broad range of the investment portfolio with 71 per cent of the portfolio valuation being held for more than 3 years, whilst 88 per cent is held at cost or above. 47 per cent of the portfolio's value is held in income generating financial instruments.

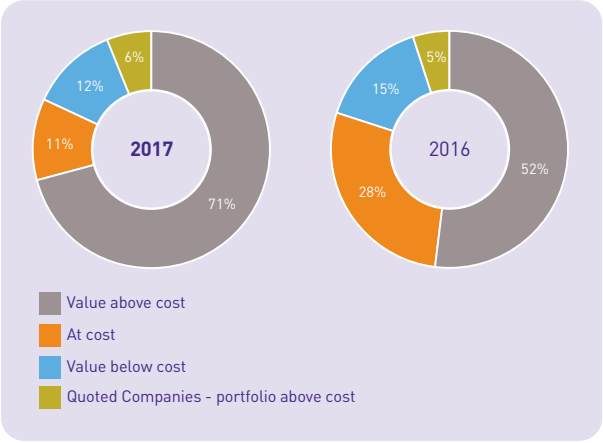
Age of Investments



Investment Instrument



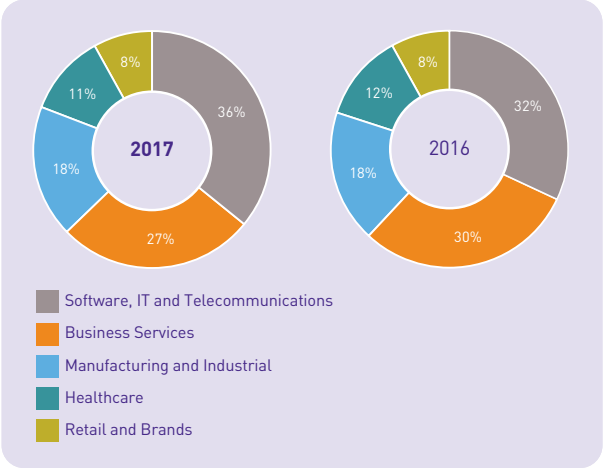
Value compared to Cost



Portfolio Diversity

Also included below is a profile of the investment portfolio by industry sector.

Portfolio Diversity



The portfolio delivered a strong performance in the year, with a return of £2.25 million on the opening value and income of £1.41 million.

Investment Review

The portfolio as a whole delivered an increased value of £2.25 million in the year, as shown in Table A below. A value gain of £1.45 million has come from the unquoted portfolio with strong performances from Matillion Limited, GTK (Holdco) Limited, Deep-Secure Ltd and Intelligent Office UK (IO Outsourcing Limited t/a Intelligent Office) offset by the impact of difficult trading conditions at DisplayPlan Holdings Limited, Immunobiology Limited and The Heritage Window Company Holdco Limited. DisplayPlan suffered from its exposure to the retail sector, with a number of clients cutting back expenditure. Management at Heritage Windows has been changed and in December 2017 its funding was restructured, receiving additional funding of £0.5 million with the new team investing alongside to drive future performance.

TABLE A

Investment portfolio

	£million	%
Unquoted value gain	1.45	64
Quoted value gain	0.76	34
Gain on disposal over opening value	0.01	1
	2.22	99
Gain from deferred proceeds	0.03	1
Total value movement	**2.25**	**100**

At 31 December 2017 the investment portfolio was valued at £40.42 million, representing 68.4 per cent of net assets (70.1 per cent at 31 December 2016). Cash at 31 December 2017 was £17.67 million representing 29.9 per cent of net assets (28.3 per cent at 31 December 2016). In April 2016 a new VCT rule came into force preventing your Company from holding deposits with more than seven days' notice. While this did not require pre-existing deposit/notice accounts to be closed, over time this will limit the level of income that can be generated from cash awaiting investment. As a result the Board continues to review alternative investments that would generate a higher level of income while minimising the level of risk.

Your Portfolio

Fair value of portfolio

Increase of 2.8%

(2016: £39.3 million)

Number of portfolio companies with value of more than £0.5 million

(2016: 26)

Income from the portfolio

(2016: £1.9 million)

Level of new investment

(2016: £4.5 million)

Other Significant Investment Movements

Investments

During the year ended 31 December 2017 the Company completed 5 investments totalling £2.37 million. This comprised 2 new investments of £1.80 million and 3 follow-on investments of £0.57 million. The analysis of these investments is shown in Table B below. The case study on page 17 gives more information on the investment in Friska Limited.

Disposal of Investments

During the year to 31 December 2017 the Company received proceeds from disposals, repayments of loans/preference shares and deferred consideration of £3.57 million. Overall this resulted in a value gain on disposal of investments of £0.04 million above the 31 December 2016 valuations as set out in Table C. The case study on page 17 gives some insight into the value created from the investment in Selima Holding Company Ltd.

The sale of Selima Holding Company Ltd and Harvey Jones Holdings Limited account for £1.56 million of the proceeds contributing a combined profit on cost of £0.81 million. The quoted portfolio delivered proceeds of £0.64 million with a profit on cost of £0.47 million.

Further analysis of all investments sold in the year can be found in note 7 to the financial statements on page 64.

TABLE B

Date	Company	Investments made £million		
		New	Follow-on	Total
Mar-17	PowerOasis Limited	-	0.06	0.06
Jun-17	Sipsynergy (via Hosted Network Services Ltd)	-	0.41	0.41
Jun-17	Immunobiology Limited	-	0.10	0.10
Jul-17	Friska Limited	1.20	-	1.20
Sep-17	e2E Engineering Limited	0.60	-	0.60
	Invested in the year	1.80	0.57	2.37
	Capitalised interest and dividends			0.06
	Total additions in the year			**2.43**

TABLE C

Disposal of Investments	Net proceeds from sale of investments £million	Opening value 31 December 2016 £million	Gain on opening value £million
Sale of portfolio investments	3.54	3.53	0.01
Deferred proceeds received	0.03	-	0.03
Total investment disposals	**3.57**	**3.53**	**0.04**

Portfolio Composition

As at 31 December 2017 the portfolio had a value of £40.42 million which comprised £38.14 million in unquoted investments (94 per cent) and £2.28 million in quoted investments (6 per cent). An analysis of the movements in the year is shown on page 61.

The portfolio remains well diversified, with 24 of 38 investments having a value greater than £0.5 million, compared to 26 a year earlier, with the single largest investment representing 5.6 per cent of the net asset value.

The charts on page 13 of these financial statements show the composition of the portfolio as at 31 December 2017 by industry sector, age of investment, investment instrument and the valuation compared to cost. This demonstrates representation across a wide range of industry sectors.

Valuation Policy

Unquoted investments are valued in accordance with the valuation policy set out in note 1 on pages 54 and 55, which takes account of current industry guidelines for the valuation of venture capital portfolios. Adjustments to fair value are made where an investment is significantly under-performing. As at 31 December 2017 the value of investments falling into each valuation category is shown in Table D.

Now that the focus of new investments is on younger businesses that are investing for growth, a higher proportion of valuations are based on a multiple of sales. This is likely to increase as the more mature companies in the portfolio are divested.

TABLE D

Valuation Policy	Valuation £million	% of portfolio by value
Earnings multiple	24.19	60
Sales multiple	6.96	17
Cost, reviewed for change in fair value	5.37	13
Price of recent investment, reviewed for change in fair value	1.62	4
Quoted investments at bid price	2.28	6
Total	**40.42**	**100%**

Budget Highlights and Patient Capital Review

It was pleasing that the Government reaffirmed its commitment to the Venture Capital Trust Schemes as one of the tools to support investment in the UK's small businesses which remain an engine of future growth and innovation. The changes announced seek to focus investment on earlier stage higher risk businesses and away from any capital preservation/asset-backed investments and also to achieve higher levels of investment in qualifying companies.

There are two new qualifying investment tests; the first is that for the Company as a whole 80 per cent of its investments will have to be held in Qualifying Investments as opposed to the current test of 70 per cent; for the Company this comes into force from 1 January 2020. The second test applies to financial years commencing on or after 6 April 2019 where 30 per cent of any funds raised have to be invested in Qualifying Investments within 12 months. This will apply for the year ending 31 December 2020. It is not believed that either of these changes will significantly impact the Company.

There are also proposed changes to the investment instruments that VCTs can use. In particular the use of loan structures will have conditions, these include that loans will have to be unsecured and be subject to a principles-based test with what is described as a safe harbour restricting the return on debt instruments to no more than 10 per cent on average over a five year period. Whilst this will have some limited impact on the Company, the majority of investments made subsequent to November 2015 have not included significant levels of loan stock.

The Government published the results of its consultation known as the Patient Capital Review at the same time as the November 2017 Budget.

Full details can be found at www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/661398/Patient_Capital_Review_Consultation_response_web.pdf

Summary and Outlook

In addition to the recent investment in Ncam Technologies Limited HMRC has now granted advance assurance in respect of a number of other investments. There is a good pipeline of enquiries following these. We continue to lobby HMRC and HM Treasury to improve the speed of advance assurances. We continue to pro-actively manage the portfolio seeking to add to, enhance and support the management teams that operate the businesses in which the Company is investing as well as setting agendas for realisations, re-investment and further fundraisings. As the portfolio realises and matures the nature of the underlying investments is likely to change with a greater proportion of equity instruments into younger businesses.

David Hall
YFM Private Equity Limited

16 March 2018

Case Studies

Selima
Simple Efficiency

" The support we have received from YFM Equity Partners since the management buy-in in 2012 has been fantastic and has contributed to Selima's strong and sustainable growth."

Wayne Blakemore,
Managing Director, Selima

Amount invested by the Company
£0.3 million

The business at investment

- At the time of the investment, Selima had become a traditional supplier of payroll and HR systems with a particular strength in the public sector.
- Fewer than 100 customers.

The investment

- Backing a strong new management team led by a Chairman that had been backed twice before.

Rationale for the deal

- Opportunity to migrate the company's offering to a SaaS model, generating a recurring revenue stream.
- Potential growth by focussing on key sectors – hospitality, education and retail.
- Ability to scale through investment in sales and marketing.

The business at exit

- Successfully entered new markets, driving customer numbers to over 300.
- A step change in profitability.
- A completely new technology base for the company's offering.

Exit

- A strategic purchase by the Access Group allowing them to cross-sell services across the larger group.
- Achieved a return of 3.7x cost, with potential further contingent consideration.

FRISKA
FEEL GOOD FOOD

" Over the past seven years, we have been honing our menu, the way our stores look and feel, our brand and of course our operating systems. We feel confident that now is the right time to bring our feel good food (and coffee) to cities around the UK and working with YFM and Steve will allow us to do this faster and better, just like our food."

Griff Holland,
Co-Founder of Friska

Amount invested by the Company
£1.2 million

The business at investment

- A well-established chain of "Feel Good Food" restaurants with 7 outlets centred around Bristol.
- A business using high quality food, with engaging store layouts and leading customer service levels.

The investment

- Backing the founders to scale-up the business and expand the management team.

Rationale for the deal

- A proven concept developed by the founders over a number of years.
- Opportunity for new restaurant openings in other major cities.
- Ability to use in-house technology to drive customer engagement.

Since investment

- A new restaurant opened at Manchester Science Park with one more planned for early March.
- Appointment of a new chairman with industry expertise.
- Recruitment of Head of Finance and Head of Operations.

Investment Portfolio Summary at 31 December 2017

Page No	Name of Company	Date of initial investment	Location	Industry Sector	Current cost £000	Valuation at 31 December 2017 £000	Proceeds to date £000	Realised & unrealised value to date* £000
Unquoted portfolio								
21	Intelligent Office UK (IO Outsourcing Limited t/a Intelligent Office)	May-14	Alloa	Business Services	1,956	3,307	-	3,307
22	ACC Aviation (via NewAcc (2014) Limited)	Nov-14	Reigate	Business Services	760	3,119	618	3,737
22	Mangar Health Limited	Jan-14	Powys	Healthcare	1,640	2,641	-	2,641
23	KeTech Enterprises Limited	Nov-15	Nottingham	Software, IT & Telecommunications	2,000	2,336	-	2,336
23	Matillion Limited	Nov-16	Knutsford	Software, IT & Telecommunications	1,400	2,222	-	2,222
24	GTK (Holdco) Limited	Oct-13	Basingstoke	Manufacturing & Industrial	295	1,950	1,055	3,005
24	Springboard Research Holdings Limited	Oct-14	Milton Keynes	Business Services	1,765	1,930	-	1,930
25	Gill Marine Holdings Limited	Sep-13	Nottingham	Retail & Brands	1,870	1,922	-	1,922
25	Business Collaborator Limited	Nov-14	Reading	Software, IT & Telecommunications	1,340	1,802	-	1,802
26	Leengate Holdings Limited	Dec-13	Derbyshire	Manufacturing & Industrial	934	1,522	-	1,522
26	Deep-Secure Ltd	Dec-09	Malvern	Software, IT & Telecommunications	500	1,276	-	1,276
	Friska Limited	Jul-17	Bristol	Retail & Brands	1,200	1,200	-	1,200
	DisplayPlan Holdings Limited	Jan-12	Baldock	Business Services	70	1,109	820	1,929
	Sipsynergy (via Hosted Network Services Limited)	Jun-16	Ware	Software, IT & Telecommunications	1,309	1,074	-	1,074
	Wakefield Acoustics (via Malvar Engineering Limited)	Dec-14	Heckmondwike	Manufacturing & Industrial	720	1,058	41	1,099
	Traveltek Group Holdings Limited	Oct-16	East Kilbride	Software, IT & Telecommunications	980	1,001	-	1,001
	Macro Art Holdings Limited	Jun-14	Cambridgeshire	Business Services	523	912	316	1,228
	Biz2Mobile Limited	Oct-16	Oxfordshire	Software, IT & Telecommunications	1,000	863	-	863
	Immunobiology Limited	Jun-03	Cambridge	Healthcare	2,482	806	-	806
	Seven Technologies Holdings Limited	Apr-12	Belfast	Software, IT & Telecommunications	1,238	619	762	1,381
	e2E Engineering Limited	Sep-17	Welwyn Garden City	Software, IT & Telecommunications	600	600	-	600
	TeraView Limited	Dec-11	Cambridge	Telecommunications	377	557	-	557
	Bagel Nash Group Limited	Jul-11	Leeds	Retail & Brands / Manufacturing & Industrial	630	507	200	707
	Other investments £0.5 million and below				4,526	3,808	409	4,217
Total unquoted investments					**30,115**	**38,141**	**4,221**	**42,362**
Quoted portfolio								
	Iomart Group plc	May-11	Glasgow	Software, IT & Telecommunications	119	529	209	738
	Other investments £0.5 million and below				1,129	1,753	1,466	3,219
Total quoted investments					**1,248**	**2,282**	**1,675**	**3,957**
					31,363	**40,423**	**5,896**	**46,319**
Full disposals to date					22,534	-	28,258	28,258
Total investment portfolio					**53,897**	**40,423**	**34,154**	**74,577**

* represents proceeds received to date plus the unrealised valuation at 31 December 2017.

Disposal History to 31 December 2017

Name of Company	Date of initial investment	Date of disposal	Industry sector	Cost £000	Capital proceeds to date £000	Capital return multiple x	Gains (losses) on disposal £000
Cozart plc	Jul-04	Oct-07	Healthcare	1,566	2,978	1.90	1,412
Sarian Systems Limited	Dec-05	Apr-08	Telecoms	928	2,605	2.81	1,677
DxS Limited	Apr-04	Sep-09	Healthcare	163	2,515	15.43	2,352
Vibration Technology Limited	Mar-02	Sep-06	Industrial	1,061	2,328	2.19	1,267
Primal Pictures Limited	Dec-05	Aug-12	Medical instruments	961	2,258	2.35	1,297
Sirigen Group Limited	Jun-10	Aug-12	Medical technology	517	1,962	3.79	1,445
Amino Technologies plc	Sep-01	Nov-04	Electronics	415	1,872	4.51	1,457
Waterfall Services Limited	Feb-07	Dec-14	Business services	483	1,422	2.94	939
Harvey Jones Holdings Limited	May-07	Aug-17	Retail & Brands	1,193	1,310	1.10	117
Digital Healthcare Limited	Jun-05	Aug-13	Medical instruments	3,072	1,285	0.42	(1,787)
Callstream Group Limited	Sep-10	Mar-16	Software	500	1,050	2.10	550
Selima Holding Company Ltd	Mar-12	May-17	Software	300	996	3.32	696
Insider Technologies (Holdings) Limited	Aug-12	Oct-15	Software	780	773	0.99	(7)
Pressure Technologies plc	Jun-07	Jul-15	Industrial	302	657	2.18	355
The ART Technology Group Inc.	Apr-03	Oct-09	Software	275	638	2.32	363
Brady plc	Dec-10	Apr-16	Software	603	484	0.80	(119)
Tamesis Limited	Jul-01	Sep-07	Software	150	317	2.11	167
Optos plc	Dec-05	Jan-14	Healthcare	152	316	2.08	164
Tekton Group Limited	Dec-05	Dec-06	Software	103	296	2.87	193
Tikit Group plc	May-11	Jan-13	Software	198	283	1.43	85
Oxonica plc	May-02	Sep-09	Chemical	241	258	1.07	17
Group NBT plc	May-11	Nov-11	IT support	197	256	1.30	59
Vianet Group plc	Oct-06	Sep-14	Business services	243	176	0.72	(67)
Patsystems plc	Sep-07	Jan-12	Software	317	164	0.52	(153)
Hargreaves Services plc	Aug-12	Jun-15	Transport	325	160	0.49	(165)
Cambridge Cognition Holdings plc	May-02	Jun-15	Healthcare	240	157	0.65	(83)
May Gurney Integrated Services plc	May-11	Mar-13	Construction	211	141	0.67	(70)
Cambrian Park & Leisure Homes Limited (via Cambrian Lodges Holdings Limited)	Oct-14	Mar-17	Manufacturing	1,200	128	0.11	(1,072)
Ness (Holdings) Limited	Mar-15	Mar-17	Retail & Brands	1,031	120	0.12	(911)
Arakis Limited	Mar-04	Aug-05	Healthcare	14	108	7.71	94
				17,741	28,013		10,272
Proceeds £0.1 million and below				4,793	245		(4,548)
Total				**22,534**	**28,258**		**5,724**

Investment acquired solely from the merger with British Smaller Technology Companies VCT plc in December 2005
Investment made prior to 31 December 2003

Summary of Investment Portfolio Movement since 31 December 2016

Name of Company	Investment valuation at 31 December 2016 £000	Disposal proceeds £000	Additions including capitalised interest and dividends £000	Valuation gains including profits / (losses) on disposal £000	Investment valuation at 31 December 2017 £000
Unquoted portfolio					
Intelligent Office UK (IO Outsourcing Limited t/a Intelligent Office)	2,951	-	-	356	3,307
ACC Aviation (via Newacc (2014) Limited	3,480	(618)	-	257	3,119
Mangar Health Limited	2,486	-	-	155	2,641
KeTech Enterprises Limited	2,000	-	-	336	2,336
Matillion Limited	1,400	-	-	822	2,222
GTK (Holdco) Limited	1,675	(446)	-	721	1,950
Springboard Research Holdings Limited	1,706	-	59	165	1,930
Gill Marine Holdings Limited	1,690	-	-	232	1,922
Business Collaborator Limited	1,743	-	-	59	1,802
Leengate Holdings Limited	1,408	-	-	114	1,522
Deep-Secure Ltd	625	-	-	651	1,276
Friska Limited	-	-	1,200	-	1,200
Displayplan Holdings Limited	2,015	-	-	(906)	1,109
Sipsynergy (via Hosted Network Services Ltd)	900	-	409	(235)	1,074
Wakefield Acoustics (via Malvar Engineering Limited)	883	-	-	175	1,058
Traveltek Group Holdings Limited	980	-	-	21	1,001
Macro Art Holdings Limited	959	(104)	-	57	912
Biz2Mobile Limited	1,000	-	-	(137)	863
Immunobiology Limited	1,486	-	100	(780)	806
Seven Technologies Holdings Limited	619	-	-	-	619
e2E Engineering Limited	-	-	600	-	600
TeraView Limited	555	-	2	-	557
Bagel Nash Group Limited	548	-	-	(41)	507
The Heritage Window Company Holdco Limited	954	-	-	(617)	337
Selima Holding Company Ltd	586	(996)	-	410	-
Harvey Jones Holdings Limited	622	(559)	-	(63)	-
Other investments £0.5 million and below	3,976	(180)	60	(385)	3,471
Total unquoted investments	**37,247**	**(2,903)**	**2,430**	**1,367**	**38,141**
Quoted portfolio					
Iomart Group plc	407	-	-	122	529
AB Dynamics plc	636	(409)	-	247	474
Other quoted investments £0.5 million and below	1,029	(229)	-	479	1,279
Total quoted investments	**2,072**	**(638)**	**-**	**848**	**2,282**
Total	**39,319**	**(3,541)**	**2,430**	**2,215**	**40,423**

INVESTEE COMPANY INFORMATION

Software, IT and Telecommunications	Business Services	Manufacturing and Industrial Services	Healthcare	Retail and Brands
Fair Value	**Fair Value**	**Fair Value**	**Fair Value**	**Fair Value**
£14.3m	£10.9m	£7.3m	£4.5m	£3.4m
2016: £12.6m	2016: £11.6m	2016: £7.1m	2016: £4.9m	2016: £3.1m
Number of companies	**Number of companies**	**Number of companies**	**Number of companies**	**Number of companies**
15	6	9.5*	5	2.5*
2016: 15	2016: 6	2016: 9.5	2016: 6	2016: 4.5

* one company is represented in two industry sectors.

Investment Portfolio

This section describes the business of the active companies in the portfolio with a value greater than £1.25 million in order of valuation at 31 December 2017. The Company's voting rights in an investee company are the same as the percentage of equity held for each investment detailed below.

Intelligent Office UK (IO Outsourcing Limited t/a Intelligent Office)

www.intelligentofficeuk.com
Alloa

Intelligent Office is a leading provider of process outsourcing solutions to UK legal practices and has recently won a number of significant new customers. The Managed Services division works within firms' own premises to help them transform and manage key administrative functions and secretarial services.

Cost:	£1,956,000
Valuation:	£3,307,000
Date of initial investment:	May 2014
Equity held:	17.77%
Valuation basis:	Earnings multiple
Interest:	£39,316 (2016 £39,423)
Dividends:	£84,594 (2016 £84,594)

Year ended 30 September	**2017 £million**	2016 £million
Sales	**26.24**	29.12
EBITA	**1.30**	1.67
(Loss) profit before tax	**(0.69)**	0.06
Retained losses	**(1.78)**	(0.87)
Net assets	**7.03**	7.16

ACC Aviation (via Newacc (2014) Limited)

www.flyacc.com
Reigate

With annual sales of over £60 million, **ACC Aviation** has built an excellent reputation for providing services to clients globally in all aspects of aircraft leasing, charter and flight management. The airline industry continues to change at a fast pace and ACC has evolved its model to become a valued partner.

Cost:	£760,000
Valuation:	£3,119,000
Date of initial investment:	November 2014
Equity held:	13.22%
Valuation basis:	Earnings multiple
Interest:	£36,910 (2016 £37,011)
Dividends:	£67,724 (2016 £76,268)

Year ended 31 December	**2016 £million**	2015 £million
Sales	**60.89**	40.56
EBITA	**3.30**	1.35
Profit before tax	**2.19**	0.13
Retained profits (losses)	**0.91**	(0.58)
Net assets (liabilities)	**1.58**	(0.07)

Mangar Health Limited

www.mangar.co.uk
Powys

Mangar is a world leader in inflatable lifting and handling and bathing equipment for the elderly, disabled and emergency services markets. It distributes its products to care providers, local authorities, ambulance services and care homes. Products facilitate extended independence for elderly users.

Cost:	£1,640,000
Valuation:	£2,641,000
Date of initial investment:	January 2014
Equity held:	17.10%
Valuation basis:	Earnings multiple
Interest:	£131,200 (2016 £131,559)
Dividends:	£14,760 (2016 £14,194)

Year ended 31 July	**2017 £million**	2016 £million
Sales	**8.78**	7.74
EBITA	**1.26**	1.34
Profit before tax	**0.01**	0.06
Retained losses	**(0.52)**	(0.33)
Net assets	**0.46**	0.66

KeTech Enterprises Limited

www.ketech.com
Nottingham

KeTech has refined its product range to become a specialist manufacturer and distributor of the rail communications systems. Its core products include on train and on platform solutions and are increasingly being specified on some high profile new projects and upgrades.

Cost:	£2,000,000
Valuation:	£2,336,000
Date of initial investment:	November 2015
Equity held:	15.22%
Valuation basis:	Earnings multiple
Interest:	£104,885 (2016 £86,131)
Dividends:	£48,168 (2016 £48,432)

Year ended 31 August	**2017 £million**	2016* £million
Sales	**4.77**	7.13
EBITA	**0.47**	0.44

* Adjusted to reflect underlying performance as a full year's trading results have not been filed.

Matillion Limited

www.matillion.com
Knutsford

Matillion is a leading provider of cloud-based integration technologies and can integrate with Amazon, Microsoft and Snowflake platforms. Products enable its customers to store securely and easily access large quantities of their data in the cloud.

Cost:	£1,400,000
Valuation:	£2,222,000
Date of initial investment:	November 2016
Equity held:	10.50%
Valuation basis:	Sales multiple

Year ended 31 December	2016* £million
Sales	1.29
LBITA	(0.78)

* Adjusted to reflect underlying performance as a full year's trading results have not been filed.

GTK (Holdco) Limited

www.gtk.co.uk
Basingstoke

GTK is a manufacturer of cable assemblies, connectors, optoelectronics and manufacturing solutions for high technology customers. With a small sourcing team in Taiwan and facilities in the UK and Romania it provides design, procurement and manufacturing services to a wide range of customers.

Cost:	£295,000
Valuation:	£1,950,000
Date of initial investment:	October 2013
Equity held:	17.70%
Valuation basis:	Earnings multiple
Interest:	£21,797 (2016 £48,194)

Year ended 31 August	**2017 £million**	2016 £million
Sales	**14.32**	12.19
EBITA	**1.38**	1.08
Profit before tax	**1.21**	0.62
Retained profits	**2.07**	0.97
Net assets	**2.71**	1.61

Springboard Research Holdings Limited

www.spring-board.info
Milton Keynes

Springboard Research is a leading provider of retail performance monitoring; providing footfall, dwell time and analysis of consumer behaviour. A continually shifting retail environment means that retailers and landlords are seeking new ways of improving their competitive advantage. The company has seen a significant increase in sales to North America.

Cost:	£1,765,000
Valuation:	£1,930,000
Date of initial investment:	October 2014
Equity held:	12.95%
Valuation basis:	Earnings multiple
Interest:	£83,223 (2016 £107,353)
Dividends:	£59,136 (2016 £59,298)

Year ended 31 December	**2016 £million**	2015 £million
Sales	**4.47**	4.10
EBITA	**0.19**	0.01
Loss before tax	**(0.90)**	(0.93)
Retained profits (losses)	**1.61**	(0.95)
Net assets	**1.52**	2.08

Gill Marine Holdings Limited

www.gillmarine.com
Nottingham

Gill Marine is a manufacturer of technical sailing equipment and clothing. Exports account for over 70 per cent of turnover with Gill recently taking over direct supply to its key North American market. The strategy is to develop the brand further and increase its share in existing and new markets, including direct online sales.

Cost:	£1,870,000
Valuation:	£1,922,000
Date of initial investment:	September 2013
Equity held:	13.80%
Valuation basis:	Earnings multiple
Interest:	£168,300 (2016 £168,761)

Year ended 30 September	**2017 £million**	2016 £million
Sales	**14.19**	12.23
EBITA	**1.35**	1.45
Loss before tax	**(0.72)**	(0.87)
Retained losses	**(1.22)**	(0.51)
Net assets	**0.35**	1.06

Business Collaborator Limited

www.groupbc.com
Reading

Business Collaborator is an established provider of collaboration software hosted on the cloud to the construction sector and a leader in the Building Information Modelling ("BIM") software market. Sales growth is driven by the products' ability to deliver cost savings to its customer base of construction firms and asset owners, supported by government regulations.

Cost:	£1,340,000
Valuation:	£1,802,000
Date of initial investment:	November 2014
Equity held:	19.38%
Valuation basis:	Sales multiple
Interest:	£117,400 (2016 £119,311)

Year ended 30 November	**2016 £million**	2015 £million
Sales	**3.80**	2.86
EBITA	**0.29**	0.21
Profit (loss) before tax	**0.05**	(0.26)
Retained losses	**(0.25)**	(0.26)
Net assets	**0.23**	0.21

Leengate Holdings Limited

www.leengatevalves.co.uk
Derbyshire

Leengate Valves is a wholesaler, stockist and distributor, supplying one of the largest ranges of industrial valves in the UK to leading re-sellers in the gas, water and industrial sectors. In addition it supplies engineering actuation and automation packages, offering a next day service and high quality technical advice.

Cost:	£934,000
Valuation:	£1,522,000
Date of initial investment:	December 2013
Equity held:	7.00%
Valuation basis:	Earnings multiple
Interest:	£71,456 (2016 £75,737)
Dividends:	£22,416 (2016 £22,477)

Year ended 31 December	**2016 £million**	2015 £million
Sales	**8.23**	7.83
EBITA	**1.42**	1.53
Profit before tax	**0.55**	0.63
Retained profits	**0.79**	0.48
Net assets	**1.37**	1.06

Deep-Secure Limited

www.deep-secure.com
Malvern

Deep-Secure specialises in high security network gateway products, specialising in Content Threat Removal. A proven and highly successful CEO has been appointed and the sales and marketing resource has been bolstered resulting in significant new customers. Deep-Secure has developed a market leading approach to cyber security which is a strong growth sector.

Cost:	£500,000
Valuation:	£1,276,000
Date of initial investment:	December 2009
Equity held:	7.95%
Valuation basis:	Earnings multiple
Interest:	£54,000 (2016 £54,148)

Year ended 31 December	**2016 £million**	2015 £million
Sales	**3.87**	2.94
EBITA	**0.64**	0.60
Loss before tax	**(0.50)**	(0.52)
Retained losses	**(4.21)**	(3.94)
Net liabilities	**(3.81)**	(3.54)

RISK FACTORS

The Board carries out a regular and robust review of the risk environment in which the Company operates. The principal risks and uncertainties identified by the Board and techniques used to mitigate these risks are set out in this section.

The Board seeks to mitigate its principal risks by setting policy, regularly reviewing performance and monitoring progress and compliance. In the mitigation and management of these risks, the Board applies rigorously the principles detailed in section C.2: "Risk Management & Internal Control" of The UK Corporate Governance Code issued by the Financial Reporting Council in April 2016. Details of the Company's internal controls are contained in the Corporate Governance Internal Control section on pages 38 and 39 and further information on exposure to risks including those associated with financial instruments is given in note 17a of the financial statements.

Loss of Approval as a VCT

Risk - The Company must comply with Chapter 3 Part 6 of the Income Tax Act 2007 which allows it to be exempted from corporation tax on capital gains. Any breach of these rules may lead to the Company losing its approval as a VCT, qualifying shareholders who have not held their shares for the designated holding period having to repay the income tax relief they obtained and future dividends paid by the Company becoming subject to tax. The Company would also lose its exemption from corporation tax on capital gains.

Mitigation - One of the Key Performance Indicators monitored by the Company is the compliance with legislative tests. Details of how the Company manages these requirements can be found under the heading "Compliance with VCT Legislative Tests" on page 12.

Economic

Risk - Events such as recession and interest rate fluctuations could affect investee companies' performance and valuations.

Mitigation - As well as the response to 'Investment and Strategic' risk below the Company has a clear investment policy (summarised on page 8) and a diversified portfolio operating in a range of sectors. The Investment Adviser actively monitors investee performance which provides quality information for monthly reviews of the portfolio.

Investment and Strategic

Risk - Inappropriate strategy, poor asset allocation or consistently weak stock allocation may lead to under performance and poor returns to shareholders. The quality of enquiries, investments, investee company management teams and monitoring, and the risk of not identifying investee under performance might also lead to under performance and poor returns to shareholders.

Mitigation - The Board reviews strategy annually. At each of the Board meetings the directors review the appropriateness of the Company's objectives and stated strategy in response to changes in the operating environment and peer group activity. The Investment Adviser carries out due diligence on potential investee companies and their management teams and utilises external reports where appropriate to assess the viability of investee businesses before investing. Wherever possible a non-executive director will be appointed to the board of the investee on behalf of the Company.

Regulatory

Risk - The Company is required to comply with the Companies Act 2006, the rules of the UK Listing Authority, the Prospectus Rules made by the Financial Conduct Authority and International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union and is subject to the EU's Alternative Investment Fund Manager's Directive. Breach of any of these might lead to suspension of the Company's Stock Exchange listing, financial penalties or a qualified audit report.

Mitigation - The Investment Adviser and the Company Secretary have procedures in place to ensure recurring Listing Rules requirements are met and actively consult with brokers, solicitors and external compliance advisers as appropriate. The key controls around regulatory compliance are explained on pages 38 and 39.

Reputational

Risk - Inadequate or failed controls might result in breaches of regulations or loss of shareholder trust.

Mitigation - The Board is comprised of directors with suitable experience and qualifications who report annually to the shareholders on their independence. The Investment Adviser is well-respected with a proven track record and has a formal recruitment process to employ experienced investment staff. Allocation rules relating to co-investments with other funds managed/advised by the Investment Adviser, have been agreed between the Investment Adviser and the Company. Advice is sought from external advisors where required. Both the Company and the Investment Adviser maintain appropriate insurances.

Operational

Risk - Failure of the Investment Adviser's and administrator's accounting systems or disruption to its business might lead to an inability to provide accurate reporting and monitoring.

Mitigation - The Investment Adviser has a documented business continuity plan, which provides for back-up services in the event of a system breakdown.

Financial

Risk - Inadequate controls might lead to misappropriation of assets. Inappropriate accounting policies might lead to misreporting or breaches of regulations.

Mitigation - The key controls around financial reporting are described on pages 38 and 39.

Market/Liquidity

Risk - Lack of liquidity in both the venture capital and public markets. Investment in unquoted and AIM quoted companies, by their nature, involve a higher degree of risk than investment in companies trading on the main market. In particular, smaller companies often have limited product lines, markets or financial resources and may be dependent for their management on a smaller number of key individuals. The fact that a share is traded on AIM or on the main market does not guarantee its liquidity. The spread between the buying and selling price of such shares may be wide and thus the price used for valuation may not be achievable. The market for stock in smaller companies is often less liquid than that for stock in larger companies, bringing with it potential difficulties in acquiring, valuing and disposing of such stock.

Mitigation - Overall liquidity risks are monitored on an ongoing basis by the Investment Adviser and on a quarterly basis by the Board.

OTHER MATTERS

Environment

The Board recognises the requirement under Section 414C of the Companies Act 2006 to detail information about environmental matters (including the impact of the Company's business on the environment), employee, human rights, social and community issues, including information about any policies it has in relation to these matters and effectiveness of these policies.

The Company seeks to ensure that its business is conducted in a manner that is responsible to the environment, and has introduced an electronic communications policy. This policy has led to a significant increase in the number of such communications, with a commensurate reduction in the distribution of hard copy documents. The management and administration of the Company is undertaken by the Investment Adviser. YFM Private Equity Limited recognises the importance of its environmental responsibilities, monitors its impact on the environment and implements policies to reduce any damage that might be caused by its activities. Initiatives of the Investment Adviser designed to minimise its and the Company's impact on the environment include recycling and reducing energy consumption.

Given the size and nature of the Company's activities and the fact that it has no employees, the Board considers there is limited scope to develop and implement social and community policies.

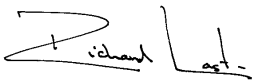
Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy

The Company has a zero tolerance approach to bribery. The following is a summary of its policy:

- it is the Company's policy to conduct all of its business in an honest and ethical manner. The Company is committed to acting professionally, fairly and with integrity in all its business dealings and relationships;
- the directors of the Company, the Investment Adviser and any other service providers must not promise, offer, give, request, agree to receive or accept financial or other advantage in return for favourable treatment, to influence a business outcome or gain any business advantage on behalf of the Company or encourage others to do so; and
- the Company has communicated its anti-bribery policy to the Investment Adviser and its other service providers.

The Company had no employees during the year. The Board is composed of three male non-executive directors. For a review of the policies used when appointing directors to the Board of the Company please refer to the Directors' Remuneration Report.

The Strategic Report on pages 4 to 29 is approved by order of the Board



Richard Last
Chairman

16 March 2018

DIRECTORS

Name	Background and Experience

Richard Last Chairman

Richard Last (appointed 16 November 2000) is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales with substantial experience in the IT software and services sectors and is chairman and non-executive director of ITE Group plc which is listed on the main market of the London Stock Exchange. He is also a chairman and non-executive director of Gamma Communications plc, Lighthouse Group plc, Tribal Group plc and Arcontech Group plc and non–executive director of Corero Network Security plc, all AIM listed. In addition he is director of a number of private companies.

Robert Martin Pettigrew

Robert Pettigrew (appointed 16 November 2000) has more than 30 years' experience in the development of emerging businesses and, in particular, the commercial exploitation of new technologies. He co-founded The Generics Group of companies (renamed Science Group plc) in 1986, which is one of the country's leading technology consulting and investment groups and was a key member of the team that took the company public in December 2000. He retired from The Generics Group at the end of 2002 to pursue independent investment activities. He is currently an investor-director and non-executive chairman of Sunamp Limited, 4 T 2 Technologies Limited and Pervasid Limited and a director and non-executive chairman of Cambridge Touch Technologies Limited.

Peter Charles Waller

Peter Waller (appointed 1 November 2010) is an experienced chairman and director with extensive UK and international executive experience in the IT technology, software and services sector. He initially worked with IBM and Hitachi then with Spring plc, at that time one of the UK's largest recruitment and training businesses. He is currently chairman of KeyPoint Technologies (UK) Limited, director and founder of Turnberry Management Company Limited and non-executive director of BCS Learning & Development Limited. For the past decade Peter has worked as a board member with a succession of early stage and early growth private and public companies. His particular skills are in sales and marketing and working with companies to develop successful sales growth strategies.

Secretary

The City Partnership (UK) Limited
110 George Street
Edinburgh
EH2 4LH

Registered No: SC269164

Registered Office of the Company

5th Floor
Valiant Building
14 South Parade
Leeds
LS1 5QS

Registered No: 04084003

DIRECTORS' REPORT

For the year ended 31 December 2017

The directors present their report and audited financial statements of British Smaller Companies VCT2 plc ("the Company") for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Principal Activity

The Company is a public limited company incorporated and domiciled in the United Kingdom. The address of the registered office and principal place of business is 5th Floor, Valiant Building, 14 South Parade, Leeds, LS1 5QS.

The Company has its primary, and sole, listing on the London Stock Exchange.

The principal activity of the Company is the making of long term equity and loan investments, mainly in unquoted businesses.

The Company operates as a venture capital trust ("VCT") and has been approved by HM Revenue & Customs as an authorised venture capital trust under Chapter 3 Part 6 of the Income Tax Act 2007. It is the directors' intention to continue to manage the Company's affairs in such a manner as to comply with Chapter 3 Part 6 of the Income Tax Act 2007.

Business Performance and Future Prospects

A detailed and fair review of the Company's business, its development, its financial performance during and at the end of the financial year, and its future prospects is set out in the Strategic Report on pages 4 to 29. The principal risks and uncertainties the Company faces are detailed on pages 27 to 28.

Results and Dividends

The Statement of Comprehensive Income is set out on page 48. The profit before and after taxation for the year amounted to £2,069,000 (2016: £1,412,000).

During the year the Company paid a total of £3,020,000 (2016: £ 4,191,000) in dividends totalling 3.0 pence per ordinary share (2016: 4.5 pence). A detailed review can be found in note 5 on page 59.

The directors recommend the payment of a final dividend of 1.5 pence per ordinary share (2016: 1.5 pence). A resolution to this effect will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 9 May 2018.

The net asset value per ordinary share at 31 December 2017 was 58.8 pence (2016: 59.7 pence). The transfer to and from reserves is given in the Statement of Changes in Equity on page 50.

Going Concern

The directors have carefully considered the issue of going concern and are satisfied that the Company has sufficient resources to meet its obligations for the foreseeable future. The directors therefore believe that it is appropriate to continue to apply the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Statement on Long-term Viability

The AIC's Code of Corporate Governance requires the Board to assess the Company's viability over an appropriate period and the directors consider that for the purpose of this exercise it is not practical or meaningful to look forward over a period of more than three years. Taking into account the Company's current position and principal risks, the directors have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue in operation and meet its liabilities as they fall due over that period.

In making their assessment the directors have taken into account the principal risks and their mitigation identified in the strategic report on pages 27 to 28, the nature of the Company's business, including its substantial reserves of cash, the potential of its venture capital portfolio to generate future income and capital proceeds, and the ability of the directors to minimise the level of cash outflows should this be necessary.

Corporate Governance

The statement on corporate governance set out on pages 30 to 43 is included in the Directors' Report by reference.

Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance

The Company has, as permitted by the Companies Act 2006, maintained insurance cover on behalf of the directors indemnifying them against certain liabilities which may be incurred by any of them in relation to the Company.

Provision of Information to the External Auditor

The directors confirm that so far as each director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditor is unaware; and that each of the directors has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information.

Share Capital

As shown in note 11 of the financial statements, the Company has only one class of share, being ordinary shares of 10 pence each.

Buy-Back and Issue of Ordinary Shares

In accordance with the Company's stated buy-back policy the Company purchased during the year (under the authority granted by the shareholders at a general meeting held on 6 May 2016) 1,460,605 ordinary shares of 10 pence each in the market (as disclosed in the table below) for aggregate consideration of £814,000. These shares are held in treasury.

Under the existing authority, which expires on the conclusion of the Company's Annual General meeting in 2019 or on 6 May 2019, whichever is the later, the Company has the power to purchase shares up to 14.99 per cent of the Company's ordinary share capital as at 24 March 2016, being 13,932,647 ordinary shares.

During the year to 31 December 2017 a total of 7,976,866 ordinary shares were issued. As a result of the offer for subscription 6,787,231 shares were issued, while 1,189,635 were issued under the Company's DRIS. Further details are given in note 11 on page 69.

The directors have unconditional authority to allot shares in the Company or to grant rights to subscribe for or to convert any security into ordinary shares in the Company expiring on 9 May 2018 up to an aggregate nominal amount of £4,000,000.

This authority will be replaced by a new authority to issue shares up to an aggregate nominal amount of £4,000,000 at the next Annual General Meeting.

In addition, the directors have a separate unconditional authority to allot shares in the Company in connection with the Company's DRIS until 3 December 2019.

Buy-Back of Shares

Date	Number of ordinary shares of 10p bought-back	Percentage of issued share capital at that date	Consideration paid per ordinary share (pence)
13 April 2017	350,000	0.35%	55.80
26 June 2017	360,000	0.36%	56.46
27 September 2017	150,000	0.15%	55.13
20 October 2017	290,605	0.29%	55.13
19 December 2017	310,000	0.31%	55.51

Capital Disclosures

The following information has been disclosed in accordance with Schedule 7 of the Large and Medium Sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (as amended):

- the Company's capital structure is summarised in note 11 to the financial statements. Each ordinary share carries one vote. There are no restrictions on voting rights or any agreement between holders of securities that result in restrictions on the transfer of securities or on voting rights;
- there are no securities carrying special rights with regard to the control of the Company;
- the Company does not have an employee share scheme;
- the rules concerning the appointment and replacement of directors, amendments to the Articles of Association and powers to issue or buy-back the Company's shares are contained in the Articles of Association of the Company and the Companies Act 2006;
- with the exception of the Investment Adviser's Incentive Agreement, there are no agreements to which the Company is party that take effect, alter or terminate upon a change in control following a takeover bid; and
- there are no agreements between the Company and its directors providing for compensation for loss of office that may occur because of a takeover bid.

Environment

The Company has no greenhouse gas emissions to report from the operations of the Company, nor does it have responsibility for any emissions producing sources including those within its underlying investment portfolio under part 7 of schedule 7 to the Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, as amended.

Directors and their Interests

The directors of the Company at 31 December 2017, their interests and contracts of significance are set out in the Directors' Remuneration Report on pages 40 to 42.

Substantial Shareholdings

The directors are not aware of any substantial shareholdings representing 3 per cent or more of the Company's issued share capital as at 31 December 2017 and the date of this report.

Independent Auditor

BDO LLP has indicated its willingness to continue in office and a resolution concerning its reappointment will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

No fees are payable to the auditor in respect of non-audit services.

Financial Instruments

Details of the financial instruments held by the Company and the risks associated with them are set out on pages 70 to 74 and this information is accordingly incorporated into the Directors' Report by reference.

Employment Policies

The employment policies of the Company are set out on page 41.

Events after the Balance Sheet Date

Subsequent to the year end the Company allotted a total of 7,366,700 ordinary shares on 16 February 2018 pursuant to the offer detailed under "Fundraising" on page 6, raising net proceeds of approximately £4.3 million.

In March 2018 the Company made a new investment of £0.98 million into Ncam Technologies Limited and also made a follow-on investment of £0.38 million into Matillion Limited.

Annual General Meeting

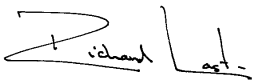
Shareholders will find the Notice of the Annual General Meeting on pages 75 to 78 of these financial statements.

The ordinary business of the meeting includes a resolution (resolution 8) proposed to ensure the directors retain the authority to allot shares in the Company until the date of the 2019 Annual General Meeting up to an aggregate nominal amount of £4,000,000 (representing approximately 37 per cent of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company as at 16 March 2018, excluding treasury shares).

Also included is one special resolution:

Resolution 9 is proposed to empower the directors to allot shares under the authority granted by resolution 8 and to sell treasury shares without regard to any rights of pre-emption on the part of the existing shareholders.

This report was approved by the Board on 16 March 2018 and signed on its behalf by



Richard Last
Chairman

British Smaller Companies VCT2 plc.
Registered number 04084003

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Board is committed to the principle and application of sound corporate governance and confirms that the Company has taken steps, appropriate to a venture capital trust and relevant to its size and operational complexity, to comply with the principles and recommendations of the Association of Investment Companies' Code of Corporate Governance issued in July 2016 ("AIC Code") by reference to the AIC Corporate Governance Guide for Investment Companies ("AIC Guide") available on the AIC website www.theaic.co.uk.

The AIC Code as explained by the AIC Guide, addresses all the principles set out in the UK Corporate Governance Code issued by the Financial Reporting Council ("FRC"), as well as setting out additional principles and recommendations on issues which are of specific relevance to the Company.

The UK Corporate Governance Code can be found on the website of the FRC at www.frc.org.uk.

The Board considers that reporting against the principles and recommendations of the AIC Code and by reference the AIC Guide (which incorporates the UK Corporate Governance Code), will provide better information to shareholders.

The Company is committed to maintaining the highest standards of corporate governance and during the year to 31 December 2017 complied with the recommendations of the AIC Code and relevant provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code, except as set out below.

The UK Corporate Governance Code includes provisions relating to the appointment of a chief executive and a recognised senior independent non-executive director, those relating to the establishment of an independent Remuneration Committee, the presumption concerning the Chairman's independence and the need for an internal audit function. For reasons set out in the AIC Guide, and in the preamble to the UK Corporate Governance Code, the Board considers these provisions are not relevant to the position of British Smaller Companies VCT2 plc, which is an externally advised venture capital trust. The Company has therefore not reported further in respect of these provisions.

In accordance with The UK Corporate Governance Code issued in April 2016 section C.3.1 the Board should establish an Audit Committee of at least three independent non-executive directors and the Chairman of the Company should not be chair of this Committee. The Company has not complied with this criteria as the chair of the Audit Committee is Mr R Last. Given the size and nature of the Company and the significant experience of Mr R Last at performing this duty it was felt that adequate controls were in place to ensure the Audit Committee remained independent.

Role of the Board

An investment advisory agreement between the Company and YFM Private Equity Limited sets out the matters over which the Investment Adviser has authority. This includes monitoring of the Company's assets and the provision of accounting, company secretarial, administration and some marketing services. All other matters are reserved for the approval of the Board. A formal schedule of matters reserved to the Board for decision has been approved. This includes determination and monitoring of the Company's investment objectives and policy and its future strategic direction, gearing policy, management of the capital structure, appointment and removal of third party service providers, review of key investment and financial data and the Company's corporate governance, risk control and custody arrangements.

The Board meets at least quarterly and additional meetings are arranged as necessary. Full and timely information is provided to the Board to enable it to function effectively and to allow directors to discharge their responsibilities.

There is an agreed procedure for directors to take independent professional advice if necessary and at the Company's expense. This is in addition to the access that every director has to the advice and services of the Company Secretary, who is responsible to the Board for ensuring that applicable rules and regulations are complied with and that Board procedures are followed. The Company indemnifies its directors and officers and has purchased insurance to cover its directors. Neither the insurance nor the indemnity provide cover if the director has acted fraudulently or dishonestly.

Board Composition

The Board consists of three non-executive directors, all of whom are regarded by the Board as independent and also as independent of the Company's Investment Adviser, including the Chairman. The

independence of the Chairman was assessed upon his appointment. Although The UK Corporate Governance Code presumes that the chairman of a company is deemed not to be an independent director, the remaining directors, having considered the nature of the role in the Company, are satisfied that Mr R Last fulfils the criteria for independence as a non-executive director. The directors have a breadth of investment, business and financial skills and experience relevant to the Company's business and provide a balance of power and authority including recent and relevant financial experience. Brief biographical details of each director are set out on page 30.

A review of Board composition and balance is included as part of the annual performance evaluation of the Board, details of which are given below.

There are no executive officers of the Company. Given the structure of the Board and the fact that the Company's administration is conducted by YFM Private Equity Limited, the Company has not appointed a chief executive officer or a senior independent non-executive director. In addition, the directors consider that the role of a senior independent non-executive director is taken on by all of the directors. Shareholders are therefore able to approach any director with any queries they may have.

Boardroom Diversity

The Board is committed to ensuring that the Company is run in the most effective manner. Consequently the Board monitors the diversity of all directors to ensure an appropriate level of experience and qualification.

The Board believes in the value and importance of diversity in the boardroom but does not consider that it is appropriate or in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders to set prescriptive targets for gender or nationality on the Board.

Diversity of thought, experience and approach are all important and the directors will always seek to appoint on merit against objective criteria.

Tenure

Directors are initially appointed until the following Annual General Meeting when, under the Company's Articles of Association, it is required that they be elected by shareholders. Thereafter, it is the Board's policy that a director's appointment will run for a term of one year until the next Annual General Meeting. Subject to the performance evaluation carried out each year, the Board will agree whether it is appropriate for the director to seek a further term. The Board does not believe that length of service in itself necessarily disqualifies a director from seeking re-election but, when making a recommendation, the Board will take into account the ongoing requirements of The UK Corporate Governance Code, including the need to refresh the Board and its Committees.

The Board seeks to maintain a balance of skills and the directors are satisfied that as currently composed the balance of experience and skills of the individual directors is appropriate for the Company, in particular with regards to investment appraisal and investment risk management.

The terms and conditions of directors' appointments are set out in formal letters of appointment, copies of which are available for inspection on request at the Company's registered office and at the Annual General Meeting. There are no set minimum notice periods for Mr R Last or Mr R M Pettigrew, though Mr P C Waller's appointment is terminable by him or the Company on three months' notice.

The directors recommend the re-election of Mr P C Waller, Mr R M Pettigrew, and Mr R Last at this year's Annual General Meeting, because of their commitment, experience and continued contribution to the Company.

Meetings and Committees

The Board delegates certain responsibilities and functions to Committees. Directors who are not members of Committees may attend at the invitation of the Chairman.

The table below details the number and function of the meetings attended by each director. There were no Nominations Committee meetings held in the year.

During the year there were eight formal Board meetings, three Audit Committee meetings, one Allotment Committee meeting and one General meeting. The directors met via telephone and electronic conferences on 31 other occasions.

Meetings attended

	Mr R Last	Mr P C Waller	Mr R M Pettigrew	Total
Board meetings	8	8	7	8
Audit Committee	3	3	3	3
Allotment Committee	-	1	-	1
Telephone and electronic conferences	28	30	30	31
General meetings	1	1	1	1
Total	**40**	**43**	**41**	**44**

As set out on page 38 the quorum for the Allotment Committee is one director.

In addition there were two DRIS allotment meetings which the directors were not required to attend, but which were attended by the company secretary.

Training and Appraisal

On appointment, the Investment Adviser and Company Secretary provide all directors with induction training. Thereafter, regular briefings are provided on changes in regulatory requirements that affect the Company and its directors. Directors are encouraged to attend industry and other seminars covering issues and developments relevant to VCTs.

The performance of the Board has been evaluated in respect of the financial year ended 31 December 2017. The Board, led by the Chairman, has conducted a performance evaluation to determine whether it and individual directors are functioning effectively.

The factors taken into account were based on the relevant provisions of The UK Corporate Governance Code and included attendance and participation at Board and Committee meetings, commitment to Board activities and the effectiveness of their contribution. The results of the overall evaluation process are communicated to the Board. Performance evaluation continues to be conducted on an annual basis.

The Chairman has confirmed that the performance of the other directors being proposed for re-election continues to be effective and that they continue to show commitment to the role. The independent directors have similarly appraised the performance of the Chairman. They considered that the performance of Mr R Last continues to be effective and that he continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to the role.

Remuneration Committee

Due to the size of the Board and the remuneration procedures currently in place, in the directors' opinion, there is no role for an independent Remuneration Committee. The Directors' Remuneration Report may be found on pages 40 to 42.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee consists of Mr R Last, Mr R M Pettigrew and Mr P C Waller and meets at least three times each year. The directors consider that it is appropriate that the Chairman of the Committee should be Mr R Last. The members of the Committee consider that they have the requisite skills and experience to fulfil the responsibilities of the Committee, and that the Chair of the Committee meets the requirements of The UK Corporate Governance Code as to recent and relevant financial experience.

The Audit Committee's terms of reference include the following roles and responsibilities:

- monitoring and making recommendations to the Board in relation to the Company's published financial statements (including in relation to the valuation of the Company's unquoted investments) and other formal announcements relating to the Company's financial performance;
- monitoring and making recommendations to the Board in relation to the Company's internal control (including internal financial control) and risk management systems;
- annually considering the need for an internal audit function;
- making recommendations to the Board in relation to the appointment, re-appointment and removal of the external auditor and approving the remuneration and terms of engagement of the external auditor;
- reviewing and monitoring the external auditor's independence and objectivity and effectiveness of the audit process, taking into consideration relevant UK professional and regulatory requirements;
- monitoring the extent to which the external auditor is engaged to supply non-audit services; and
- ensuring that the Investment Adviser has arrangements in place for the investigation and follow-up of any concerns raised confidentially by staff in relation to the propriety of financial reporting or other matters.

It reviews the terms of the investment advisory agreement and examines the effectiveness of the Company's internal control and risk management systems, receives information from the Investment Adviser's compliance department and reviews the scope and results of the external audit, its cost effectiveness and the independence and objectivity of the external auditor.

The directors' statement on the Company's system of internal control is set out on pages 38 and 39.

The Audit Committee has written terms of reference which define clearly its responsibilities, copies of which are available for inspection on request at the Company's registered office and at the Annual General Meeting, and also on the Company's website at www.bscfunds.com.

The Company does not have an independent internal audit function as it is not deemed appropriate given the size of the Company and the nature of the Company's business. However the Committee considers annually whether there is a need for such a function and, if so, would recommend this to the Board.

During the year ended 31 December 2017 the Audit Committee discharged its responsibilities by:

- reviewing and approving the external auditor's terms of engagement, remuneration and independence;

- reviewing the external auditor's plan for the audit of the Company's financial statements, including identification of key risks;
- reviewing YFM Private Equity Limited's statement of internal controls operated in relation to the Company's business and assessing the effectiveness of those controls in minimising the impact of key risks;
- reviewing reports on the effectiveness of YFM Private Equity Limited's compliance procedures;
- reviewing the appropriateness of the Company's accounting policies;
- reviewing the Company's draft annual financial statements, half yearly results statement and interim management statements prior to Board approval, including the proposed fair value of investments as determined by the directors;
- reviewing the external auditor's detailed reports to the Committee on the annual financial statements; and
- recommending to the Board and shareholders the re-appointment of BDO LLP as the Company's external auditor.

The key areas of risk that have been identified and considered by the Audit Committee in relation to the business activities and financial statements of the Company are as follows:

- valuation of unquoted investments; and
- compliance with HM Revenue & Customs' conditions for maintenance of approved venture capital trust status.

These issues were discussed with the Investment Adviser and the auditor at the pre-year-end audit planning meeting and at the conclusion of the audit of the financial statements.

Valuation of unquoted investments

The Audit Committee reviewed the estimates and judgements made in the investment valuations and was satisfied that they were appropriate. The Investment Adviser and the auditor confirmed to the Audit Committee that the investment valuations had been carried out consistently with prior periods and in accordance with the published industry guidelines, taking account of the latest available information about investee companies and current market data and a report from the auditor on the valuations was considered.

Venture capital trust status

The Investment Adviser confirmed to the Audit Committee that the conditions for maintaining the Company's status as an approved venture capital trust had been complied with throughout the year. The position was also reviewed by the Company's advisers.

Financial statements

The Investment Adviser confirmed to the Audit Committee that it was not aware of any material unadjusted misstatements. Having reviewed the reports received from the Investment Adviser and the auditor, the Audit Committee is satisfied that the key areas of risk and judgement have been appropriately addressed in the financial statements and that the significant assumptions used in determining the value of assets and liabilities and revenue recognition have been properly appraised and are sufficiently robust. The Committee considers that BDO LLP has carried out its duties as auditor in a diligent and professional manner.

Relationship with the Auditor

As part of the review of audit effectiveness and independence, BDO LLP has confirmed that it is independent of the Company and has complied with applicable auditing standards. BDO LLP was appointed as the result of a competitive tendering process in 2016. As a consequence, this is their second year of office as auditor, in accordance with professional guidelines the engagement partner will be rotated after at most five years and the current partner has served for two years.

Having completed its review the Audit Committee is satisfied that BDO LLP remained effective and independent in carrying out its responsibilities up to the date of signing this report and its recommendation for re-appointment is endorsed by the Board. No non-audit services were provided by BDO LLP during the year.

Nominations Committee

The Company has a Nominations Committee which consists of Mr R Last, Mr R M Pettigrew and Mr P C Waller, all of whom who are considered by the Board to be independent of the Investment Adviser. The Chairman of the Board acts as Chairman of the Committee.

In considering appointments to the Board, the Nominations Committee takes into account the ongoing requirements of the Company and the need to have a balance of skills and experience within the Board.

Meetings are held as and when required. There were no Nominations Committee meetings during the year.

Investment Committee

The Board has determined that, due to the investment procedures currently in place, in its opinion there is no role for an independent Investment Committee.

Allotment Committee

The Company has an Allotment Committee which consists of the directors who are considered by the Board to be independent of the Investment Adviser. The quorum for Committee meetings is one director, unless otherwise determined by the Board. In addition the Company Secretary has an authority to allot shares under the DRIS.

The Committee considers and, if appropriate, authorises the allotment of shares. The Committee ensures that the total number of shares to be issued does not exceed the authority given by the shareholders. There are no written terms of reference.

Relations with Shareholders

The Board regularly monitors the shareholder profile of the Company. It aims to provide shareholders with a full understanding of the Company's activities and performance, and reports formally to shareholders twice a year by way of the Annual Report and the Interim Report. This is supplemented by the daily publication of the Company's share price and the publication for the two quarters of the year where an Annual or Interim Report is not issued (31 March and 30 September), through the London Stock Exchange, of the net asset value of the Company together with a factsheet detailing developments for the Company in that quarter.

All shareholders have the opportunity, and are encouraged, to attend the Company's Annual General Meeting at which the directors and representatives of the Investment Adviser are available in person to meet with and answer shareholders' questions. In addition representatives of the Investment Adviser periodically hold shareholder workshops which review the Company's performance and industry developments, and which give shareholders a further opportunity to meet members of the Board and chief executives or chairmen of some of the investee companies. During the year the Company's Investment Adviser has held regular discussions with shareholders. The directors are made fully aware of shareholders' views. The Chairman and directors make themselves available, as and when required, to address shareholder queries. The directors may be contacted through the Company Secretary whose details are shown on page 81.

The Company's Annual Report is published in time to give shareholders at least 21 clear days' notice of the Annual General Meeting. Shareholders wishing to raise questions in advance of the meeting are encouraged to write to the Company Secretary at the address shown on page 81. Separate resolutions are proposed for each separate issue. Proxy votes will be counted and the results announced at the Annual General Meeting for and against each resolution.

There was a good response to last year's shareholder survey with more than 1,000 responses and the key findings will be highlighted at the Investor Workshop on 16 May 2018.

Internal Control and Risk Management

Under an agreement dated 28 November 2000, superseded by an agreement dated 31 October 2005 and as varied by agreements dated 8 December 2010, 26 October 2011, 16 November 2012, 17 October 2014 and 7 August 2015, certain functions of the Company have been sub-contracted to YFM Private Equity Limited. The Board receives operational and financial reports on the current state of the business and on appropriate strategic, financial, operational and compliance issues. These matters include, but are not limited to:

- a clearly defined investment strategy for the Investment Adviser to the Company;
- all decisions concerning the acquisition or disposal of investments are taken by the Board after due consideration of the recommendations made by the Investment Adviser;
- regular reviews of the Company's investments, liquid assets and liabilities, revenue and expenditure;
- regular reviews of compliance with the VCT regulations to retain status; and
- the Board receives copies of the Company's management accounts on a regular basis showing comparisons with budget. These include a report by the Investment Adviser with a review of performance. Additional information is supplied on request.

The Board confirms the procedures to implement the guidance detailed in section C.2: "Risk Management & Internal Control" of The UK Corporate Governance Code and those identified in the Principles 13 and 15 of the AIC Code were in place throughout the year ended 31 December 2017 and up to the date of this report. A detailed review of the risks faced by the Company and the techniques used to mitigate these risks can be found in the Strategic Report on pages 27 and 28.

The Board acknowledges that it is responsible for overseeing the Company's system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. Such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives and can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Board arranges its meeting agenda so that risk management and internal control is considered on a regular basis and a full robust risk and control assessment takes place no less frequently than twice a year. There is an ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the significant risks faced by the Company. This process has been in place for longer than the year under review and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report. The process is formally reviewed bi-annually by the Board. However, due to the size and nature of the Company, the Board has concluded that it is not necessary at this stage to set up an internal audit function. This decision will be kept under review. The directors are satisfied that the systems of risk management that they have introduced are sufficient to comply with the FRC Guidance

on Risk Management, Internal Control and Related Financial and Business Reporting.

In particular the Board, together with the Audit Committee, is responsible for overseeing and reviewing internal controls concerning financial reporting. In addition to those controls sub-contracted as listed above the following controls have been in place throughout the year:

- a robust system of internal control is maintained by the Investment Adviser over the preparation and reconciliation of investment portfolio valuations;
- monthly reconciliation of assets held as cash or on fixed term deposit;
- independent review of the valuations of portfolio investments by the Board (quarterly);
- the Audit Committee review of financial reporting and compliance (as set out on pages 36 and 37);
- the Board reviews financial information including the Annual Report, Interim Report and interim management statements prior to their external communication; and
- the Board reviews the financial information in any prospectus or offer for subscription issued by the Company in connection with the issue of new share capital.

Following the FCA's registration of the Company as a Small Registered Alternative Investment Fund Manager in 2014 the Company holds its own investments. All investments made for the accounts of and monies received for the Company will be deposited in the name of the Company or will be held by a custodian or the Company's solicitors. All certificates and other documents evidencing title (whether or not in registered form) will be received by the Company and will be held in the Company's name or forwarded directly to the custodian or the Company's solicitors. No third party custodian has been appointed. The Company will take legal ownership of its assets.

The Board has reviewed the effectiveness of the Company's systems of internal control and risk management for the year and up to the date of this Report. The Board is of the opinion that the Company's systems of internal, financial, and other controls are appropriate to the nature of its business activities and methods of operation given the size of the Company, and the Board has a reasonable expectation that the Company will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Conflicts of Interest

The directors have declared any conflicts or potential conflicts of interest to the Board which has the authority to authorise such situations if appropriate. The Company Secretary maintains the Register of Directors' Interests which is reviewed quarterly by the Board, when changes are notified, and the directors advise the Company Secretary and the Board as soon as they become aware of any conflicts of interest. Directors who have conflicts of interest which have been approved by the Board do not take part in discussions or decisions which relate to any of their conflicts. Details of all related party transactions are shown in note 15 on page 70.

Corporate Governance in relation to Investee Companies

The Company delegates responsibility for monitoring its investments to its Investment Adviser whose policy, which has been noted by the Board, is as follows:

YFM Private Equity Limited is committed to introducing corporate governance standards into the companies in which its clients invest. With this in mind, the Company's investment agreements contain contractual terms specifying the required frequency of management board meetings and of annual shareholders' meetings, and for representation at such meetings through YFM Private Equity Limited. In addition, provision is made for the preparation of regular and timely management information to facilitate the monitoring of an investee company performance in accordance with best practice in the private equity sector.

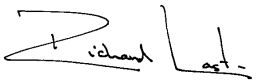
Co-Investment

Typically the Company invests alongside other venture capital funds and other private equity funds advised or managed by the Investment Adviser, such syndication spreading investment risk. Details of the amounts invested in individual companies are set out in the Strategic Report. Co-Investments are detailed in note 7 to the financial statements on pages 66 and 67.

Management

The Board has delegated the monitoring of the investment portfolio to the Investment Adviser.

This report was approved by the Board on 16 March 2018 and signed on its behalf by



Richard Last
Chairman

British Smaller Companies VCT2 plc
Registered number 04084003

DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION REPORT

The Board has prepared this report in accordance with the requirements of the Large and Medium Sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) (Amendment) Regulations 2013. Ordinary resolutions for the approval of this report and the Directors' Remuneration Policy will be put to the members at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The law requires the Company's auditor, BDO LLP, to audit certain information included in this report. Where disclosures have been audited, they are indicated as such. The auditor's opinion is included in the Independent Auditor's Report on pages 44 to 47.

Directors' Remuneration Policy

This statement of the Directors' Remuneration Policy took effect following approval by shareholders at the Annual General Meeting held on 10 May 2017. A resolution to approve the Directors' Remuneration Policy will be put to shareholders every three years.

The Board currently comprises three directors, all of whom are non-executive. The Board does not have a separate Remuneration Committee due to the size of the Board and the remuneration procedures currently in place. In the directors' opinion and under the Listing Rules, there is no requirement for an independent Remuneration Committee.

The Board has not retained external advisors in relation to remuneration matters but has access to information about directors' fees paid by other companies of a similar size and nature. Shareholders' views in respect of the directors' remuneration are communicated at the Company's AGM and are taken into consideration in formulating the Directors Remuneration Policy.

At the last Annual General Meeting over 94 per cent of shareholders who exercised their voting rights voted for the resolution approving the Directors' Remuneration Report, showing significant shareholder approval.

The Board's policy is that the remuneration of non-executive directors should reflect the experience of the Board as a whole, to be fair and comparable to that of other relevant venture capital trusts that are similar in size and have similar investment objectives and structures. Furthermore, the level of remuneration should be sufficient to attract and retain the directors needed to oversee properly the Company and to reflect the duties and responsibilities of the Directors and the value and amount of time committed to the Company's affairs.

It is not considered appropriate that directors' remuneration should be performance-related, and as such the directors are not eligible for bonuses, share options, pension benefits, long-term incentive schemes or other benefits in respect of their services as non-executive directors of the Company.

It is the Board's policy that directors do not have service contracts, but new directors are provided with a letter of appointment. The terms of directors' appointments provide that directors should retire and be subject to election at the first Annual General Meeting after their appointment. Thereafter, it has been agreed that all directors will offer themselves for re-election on an annual basis. There is no notice period other than for Mr P C Waller, whose appointment is terminable by him or the Company on three months' notice. Any director who ceases to hold office is not entitled to receive any payment other than accrued fees (if any) for past services. There were no payments for loss of office made during the period.

The policy will continue to be applied in the forthcoming year.

Brief biographical notes on the directors are given on page 30.

Statement by the Chairman of the Nominations Committee

The directors' fees payable by the Company have been fixed from 1 April 2016 by the Board at £34,000 per annum for the Chairman and £20,500 per annum for the other directors.

The directors have agreed to forego the ability to reclaim certain expenses and the level of their fees compensates for this. The cap on aggregate fees is £100,000, which provides the flexibility to recruit new directors in the future.

In accordance with the Directors' Remuneration Policy the directors fees were reviewed in May 2017 by the Board who agreed they should be held constant and reviewed again in a year's time.

Directors' Remuneration for the year ended 31 December 2017 (audited)

The directors who served in the year received the following emoluments in the form of fees, which represent the entire remuneration payable to directors (see Table A).

There are no executive directors (2016: none).

Directors and their Interests (audited)

The directors of the Company at 31 December 2017 and their beneficial interests in the share capital of the Company (including those of immediate family members) were as shown in Table B.

None of the directors held any options to acquire additional shares at the year end.

The Company has not set out any formal requirement or guidelines concerning their ownership of shares in the Company.

Relative Importance of Spend on Pay

Directors' remuneration, dividend distribution and share buy-backs are shown in Table C.

Consideration of Employment Conditions of Non-director Employees

The Company does not have any employees. Accordingly, the disclosures required under paragraph 38 and 39 of Schedule 8 to the Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 are not required.

Total fees paid (audited)

TABLE A

	2017 £	2016 £
R Last	**34,000**	33,375
R M Pettigrew	**20,500**	19,875
P C Waller	**20,500**	19,875
	75,000	73,125

The 2017 figures include the first full year of the fee increase agreed in the prior year (effective from 1 April 2016).

Directors and their interests (audited)

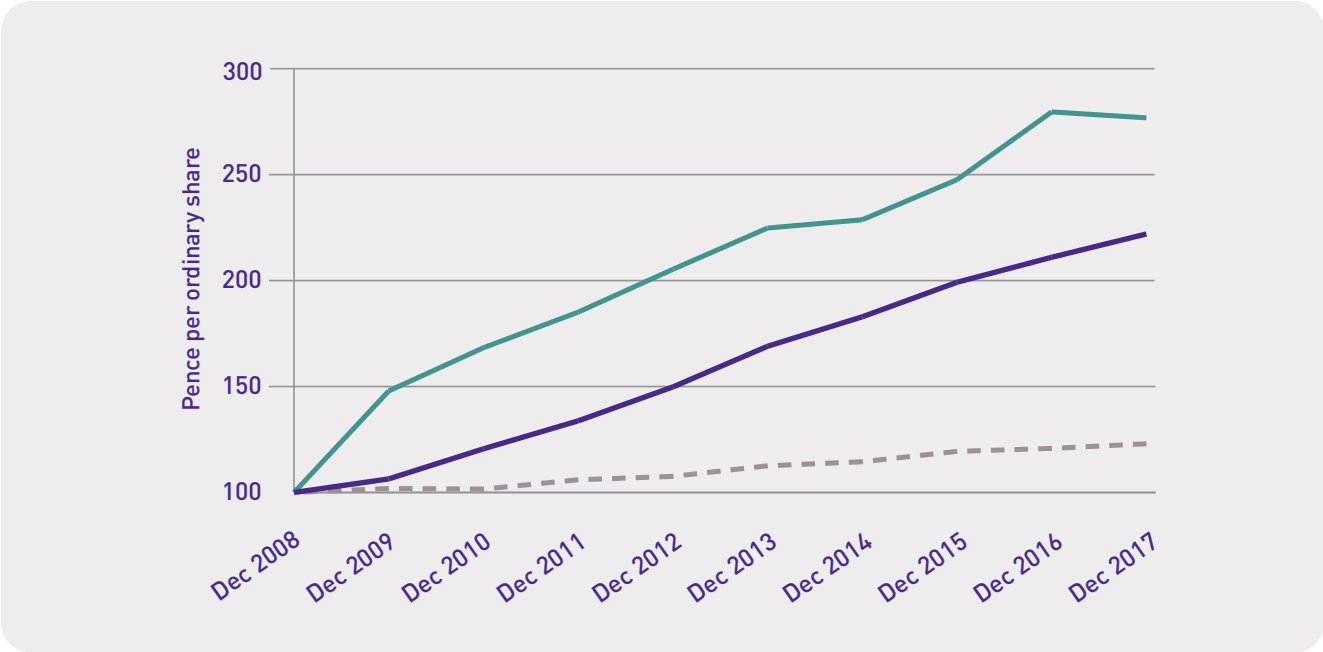
TABLE B

	Number of ordinary shares at: 31 December 2017	31 December 2016	Percentage of voting rights: 31 December 2017	31 December 2016
R Last	**134,632**	134,632	**0.13%**	0.14%
R M Pettigrew	**80,333**	80,333	**0.08%**	0.09%
P C Waller	**35,560**	35,560	**0.04%**	0.04%

Relative importance of pay

TABLE C

	2017 £	2016 £
Dividends	**3,020,000**	4,191,000
Share buy-backs	**814,000**	240,000
Total directors fees	**75,000**	73,125



VCT Generalist Share Price Total Return* (Source: Index compiled by the AIC)

BSC2 Share price return (Dividends re-invested since inception)*

BSC2 Net Asset Value Total Return (NAV plus dividends paid)**

* assumes dividends re-invested
** assumes dividends not re-invested

Company Performance

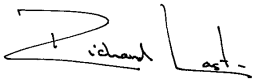
The Board is responsible for the Company's investment strategy and performance, although the management of the Company's investment portfolio is delegated to the Investment Adviser through the advisory agreement, as referred to in the Directors' Report.

Net asset value total return (calculated by reference to the net asset value and cumulative dividends paid, as set out in note 13 of these financial statements and excluding tax reliefs received by shareholders) is the primary recognised measure of performance in the VCT industry. This measure is shown on page 10.

The graph above shows a comparison over the last nine years of the movements in both the Company's share price total return and the share price total return for approximately 50 Generalist VCTs as published by the Association of Investment Companies (the AIC). In line with the AIC index all the relative performance measures have been rebased to 100 as at December 2008. The directors consider this to be the most appropriate published index on which to report on comparative performance.

Changes in the Company's net asset value total return are included on the graph as the Board believes this reflects the return to shareholders not participating in the DRIS.

This report was approved by the Board and signed on its behalf on 16 March 2018.



Richard Last
Chairman

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The directors are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare the financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors are required to prepare the financial statements and have elected to prepare the Company's financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union. Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss for the Company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether they have been prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare a strategic report, directors' report and directors' remuneration report which comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that its financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Website Publication

The directors are responsible for ensuring the annual report and the financial statements are made available on a website. Financial statements are published on the Company's website at www.bscfunds.com in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements, which may vary from legislation in other jurisdictions. The maintenance and integrity of the Company's website is the responsibility of the directors. The directors' responsibility also extends to the ongoing integrity of the financial statements contained therein.

Directors' Responsibilities pursuant to DTR4

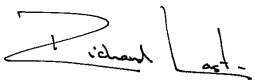
The directors confirm to the best of their knowledge:

- the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union and give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit and loss of the Company; and
- the annual report includes a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the financial position of the Company, together with a description of the principal risks and uncertainties that it faces.

Having taken advice from the Audit Committee, the Board considers the annual report and accounts, taken as a whole, are fair, balanced and understandable and that it provides the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Company's performance, business model and strategy.

The names and functions of all the directors are stated on page 30.

This statement was approved by the Board and signed on its behalf on 16 March 2018.



Richard Last
Chairman

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRITISH SMALLER COMPANIES VCT2 PLC

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of British Smaller Companies VCT 2 plc ("the Company") for the year ended 31 December 2017 which comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs") as adopted by the European Union.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2017 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRS's as adopted by the European Union; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, as applied to listed public interest entities, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

This report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

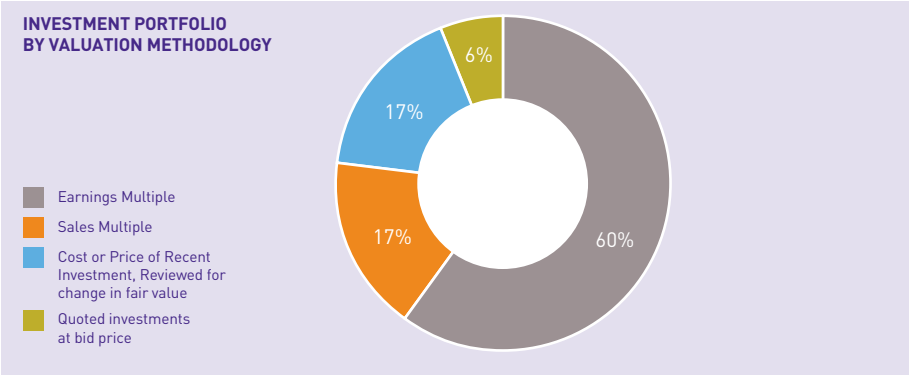
Conclusions relating to principal risks, going concern and viability statement

We have nothing to report in respect of the following information in the annual report, in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you whether we have anything material to add or draw attention to:

- the disclosures in the annual report set out on pages 27 and 28 that describe the principal risks and explain how they are being managed or mitigated;
- the directors' confirmation set out on page 31 in the annual report that they have carried out a robust assessment of the principal risks facing the Company, including those that would threaten its business model, future performance, solvency or liquidity;
- the directors' statement set out on page 31 in the financial statements about whether the directors considered it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements and the directors' identification of any material uncertainties to the Company's ability to continue to do so over a period of at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements;
- whether the directors' statement relating to going concern required under the Listing Rules in accordance with Listing Rule 9.8.6R(3) is materially inconsistent with our knowledge obtained in the audit; or
- the directors' explanation set out on page 31 in the annual report as to how they have assessed the prospects of the Company, over what period they have done so and why they consider that period to be appropriate, and their statement as to whether they have a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue in operation and meet its liabilities as they fall due over the period of their assessment, including any related disclosures drawing attention to any necessary qualifications or assumptions.

Key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements of the current period and include the most significant assessed risks of material misstatement (whether or not due to fraud) that we identified. These matters included those which had the greatest effect on: the overall audit strategy, the allocation of resources in the audit; and directing the efforts of the engagement team. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Matter	Audit response
Valuation of unquoted investments We consider the valuation of investments to be the most significant audit area as there is a high level of estimation uncertainty involved in determining the unquoted investment valuations. There is an inherent risk of management override arising from the unquoted investment valuations being prepared by the Investment Adviser, who is remunerated based on the net asset value of the Company. The Company's accounting policy for assessing the fair value of investments is disclosed on page 53 in note 1 and disclosures regarding the fair value estimates are given on page 60 in note 7.	Our sample for the testing of unquoted investments was stratified according to risk considering, inter alia, the value of individual investments, the nature of the investment, the extent of the fair value movement and the subjectivity of the valuation technique. A breakdowns of the investment portfolio valuation technique is shown below.  For all investments in our sample we: • Challenged whether the valuation methodology was the most appropriate in the circumstances under the International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation ("IPEV") Guidelines and IFRSs; • Recalculated the value attributable to the Company, having regard to the application of enterprise value across the capital structures of the investee companies; For investments sampled that were valued using less subjective valuation techniques (cost and price of recent investment reviewed for changes in fair value) we: • Verified the cost or price of recent investments to supporting documentation; • Considered whether the investment was an arm's length transaction; and • Considered whether there were any indications that the cost or price of recent investment was no longer representative of fair value considering, inter alia, the current performance of the investee company and the milestones and assumptions set out in the investment proposal. For investments sampled that were valued using more subjective techniques (earnings and revenue multiples) we: • Challenged and corroborated the inputs to the valuation with reference to management information of investee companies, market data and our own understanding and assessed the impact of the estimation uncertainty concerning these assumptions and the disclosure of these uncertainties in the financial statements; • Reviewed the historical financial statements and any recent management information available to support assumptions about maintainable revenues and earnings used in the valuations; • Considered the revenue or earnings multiples applied by reference to observable listed company market data; and • Challenged the consistency and appropriateness of adjustments made to such market data in establishing the earnings multiple applied in arriving at the valuations adopted. Where appropriate, we performed a sensitivity analysis by developing our own point estimate where we considered that alternative input assumptions could reasonably have been applied and we considered the overall impact of such sensitivities on the portfolio of investments in determining whether the valuations as a whole are reasonable and free from bias.

Our application of materiality

We apply the concept of materiality both in planning and performing our audit, and in evaluating the effect of misstatements. For planning, we consider materiality to be the magnitude by which misstatements, including omissions, could reasonably influence the economic decisions of users that are taken on the basis of the financial statements.

Importantly, misstatements below this level will not necessarily be evaluated as immaterial as we also take account of the nature of identified misstatements, and the particular circumstances of their occurrence, when evaluating their effect on the financial statements as a whole.

The application of these key considerations gives rise to two levels of materiality, the quantum and purpose of which are tabulated below. In setting materiality, we had regard to the nature and disposition of the investment portfolio.

Materiality Measure [Basis]	Purpose	Key considerations	2017 Quantum (£)	2016 Quantum (£)
Financial Statement Materiality [2% value of investments]	Assessing whether the financial statements as a whole present a true and fair view. We consider this to be the key measurement for shareholders.	• The value of investments • The level of judgement inherent in the valuation • The range of reasonable alternative valuations	800,000	800,000
Performance Materiality [75% of materiality]	The maximum error in an assertion that we would be prepared to accept and still conclude that the result from an audit procedure has achieved our objective.	• The value of investments • The level of judgement inherent in the valuation • The range of reasonable alternative valuations	600,000	600,000
Specific Materiality – classes of transactions and balances which impact on revenue profits [10% revenue return before tax]	Assessing those classes of transactions, balances or disclosures for which misstatements of lesser amounts than materiality for the financial statements as a whole could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.	• The level of net income return	65,000	120,000

We agreed with the Audit Committee that we would report to the committee all individual audit differences in excess of £3,000 (2016: £10,000) as well as differences below that threshold that, in our view, warranted reporting on qualitative grounds.

An overview of the scope of our audit

Our audit approach was developed by obtaining an understanding of the Company's activities, the key functions undertaken by the Board and the overall control environment. Based on this understanding we assessed those aspects of the Company's transactions and balances which were most likely to give rise to a material misstatement.

Other information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

In this context, we also have nothing to report in regard to our responsibility to specifically address the following items in the other information and to report as uncorrected material misstatements of the other information where we conclude that those items meet the following conditions:

- Fair, balanced and understandable set out on page 43 – the statement given by the directors that they consider the annual report and financial statements taken as a whole is fair, balanced and understandable and provides the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Company's performance, business model and

strategy, is materially inconsistent with our knowledge obtained in the audit; or

- Audit Committee reporting set out on pages 36 and 37 – the section describing the work of the Audit Committee does not appropriately address matters communicated by us to the Audit Committee; or
- Directors' statement of compliance with the UK Corporate Governance Code set out on page 34 – the parts of the directors' statement required under the Listing Rules relating to the Company's compliance with the UK Corporate Governance Code containing provisions specified for review by the auditor in accordance with Listing Rule 9.8.10R(2) do not properly disclose a departure from a relevant provision of the UK Corporate Governance Code.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, the part of the Directors' Remuneration Report to be audited has been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements;
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report or the Directors' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements and the part of the directors' remuneration report to be audited are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities set out on page 43, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Other matters which we are required to address

Following a recommendation of the Audit Committee, we were reappointed by The Board of Directors on 22 August 2016 to audit the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016 and subsequent financial periods. The period of total uninterrupted engagement is 2 years, covering the years ending 31 December 2016 to 31 December 2017.

The non-audit services prohibited by the FRC's Ethical Standard were not provided to the Company and we remain independent of the Company in conducting our audit.

Our audit opinion is consistent with the additional report to the Audit Committee.

Peter Smith (senior statutory auditor)
For and on behalf of BDO LLP,
statutory auditor
London
United Kingdom

16 March 2018

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127).

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 December 2017

	Notes	2017 Revenue £000	2017 Capital £000	2017 Total £000	2016 Revenue £000	2016 Capital £000	2016 Total £000
Gains on investments held at fair value	7	**-**	**2,209**	**2,209**	-	704	704
Income	2	**1,413**	**-**	**1,413**	1,937	-	1,937
Gain on disposal of investments	7	**-**	**40**	**40**	-	339	339
Total income		**1,413**	**2,249**	**3,662**	1,937	1,043	2,980
Administrative expenses:							
Investment Adviser's fee		**(289)**	**(866)**	**(1,155)**	(280)	(839)	(1,119)
Other expenses		**(438)**	**-**	**(438)**	(449)	-	(449)
	3	**(727)**	**(866)**	**(1,593)**	(729)	(839)	(1,568)
Profit before taxation		**686**	**1,383**	**2,069**	1,208	204	1,412
Taxation	4	**(73)**	**73**	**-**	(116)	116	-
Profit for the year		**613**	**1,456**	**2,069**	1,092	320	1,412
Total comprehensive income for the year		**613**	**1,456**	**2,069**	1,092	320	1,412
Basic and diluted earnings per ordinary share	6	**0.61p**	**1.46p**	**2.07p**	1.17p	0.34p	1.51p

The accompanying notes on pages 53 to 74 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The Total column of this statement represents the Company's Statement of Comprehensive Income, prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ('IFRSs') as adopted by the European Union. The supplementary Revenue and Capital columns are prepared under the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Financial Statements of Investment Trust Companies and Venture Capital Trusts' (issued in November 2014 and updated in January 2017 with consequential amendments – "SORP") published by the AIC.

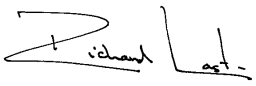
BALANCE SHEET

At 31 December 2017

	Notes	2017 £000	2016 £000
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	7	**40,423**	39,319
Trade and other receivables	8	**825**	837
		41,248	40,156
Current assets			
Trade and other receivables	8	**392**	391
Cash on fixed term deposit	9	**1,988**	3,037
Cash and cash equivalents	9	**15,681**	12,826
		18,061	16,254
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	10	**(253)**	(301)
Net current assets		**17,808**	15,953
Net assets		**59,056**	56,109
Shareholders' equity			
Share capital	11	**10,450**	9,652
Share premium account		**257**	16,902
Capital redemption reserve		**88**	88
Other reserve		**2**	2
Merger reserve		**5,525**	5,525
Capital reserve		**32,198**	15,621
Investment holding gains and losses reserve		**9,090**	7,077
Revenue reserve		**1,446**	1,242
Total shareholders' equity		**59,056**	56,109
Net asset value per ordinary share	12	**58.8p**	59.7p

The accompanying notes on pages 53 to 74 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors and were signed on its behalf on 16 March 2018.



Richard Last
Chairman

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 31 December 2017

	Share capital £000	Share premium account £000	Other reserves* £000	Capital reserve £000	Investment holding gains and losses reserve £000	Revenue reserve £000	Total equity £000
Balance at 31 December 2015	**8,939**	**13,337**	**5,615**	**20,781**	**5,127**	**1,051**	**54,850**
Revenue return for the year	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*1,208*	*1,208*
Capital expenses	*-*	*-*	*-*	*(839)*	*-*	*-*	*(839)*
Investment holding gain on investments held at fair value	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*704*	*-*	*704*
Realisation of investments in the year	*-*	*-*	*-*	*339*	*-*	*-*	*339*
Taxation	*-*	*-*	*-*	*116*	*-*	*(116)*	*-*
Total comprehensive (expense) income for the year	-	-	-	(384)	704	1,092	1,412
Issue of share capital	*568*	*3,030*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*3,598*
*Issue costs ***	*-*	*(146)*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*(146)*
Purchase of own shares	*-*	*-*	*-*	*(240)*	*-*	*-*	*(240)*
Issue of shares – DRIS	*145*	*681*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*826*
Dividends	*-*	*-*	*-*	*(3,321)*	*-*	*(870)*	*(4,191)*
Total transactions with owners	713	3,565	-	(3,561)	-	(870)	(153)
Transfer between reserves	-	-	-	(1,933)	1,964	(31)	-
Realisation of prior year investment holding gains	-	-	-	718	(718)	-	-
Balance at 31 December 2016	**9,652**	**16,902**	**5,615**	**15,621**	**7,077**	**1,242**	**56,109**
Revenue return for the year	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*686*	*686*
Capital expenses	*-*	*-*	*-*	*(866)*	*-*	*-*	*(866)*
Investment holding gain on investments held at fair value	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*2,209*	*-*	*2,209*
Realisation of investments in the year	*-*	*-*	*-*	*40*	*-*	*-*	*40*
Taxation	*-*	*-*	*-*	*73*	*-*	*(73)*	*-*
Total comprehensive (expense) income for the year	-	-	-	(753)	2,209	613	2,069
Issue of share capital	*679*	*3,571*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*4,250*
*Issue costs ***	*-*	*(176)*	*-*	*(10)*	*-*	*-*	*(186)*
Cancellation of share premium account, net of costs	*-*	*(20,579)*	*-*	*20,569*	*-*	*-*	*(10)*
Purchase of own shares	*-*	*-*	*-*	*(814)*	*-*	*-*	*(814)*
Issue of shares – DRIS	*119*	*539*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*658*
Dividends	*-*	*-*	*-*	*(2,611)*	*-*	*(409)*	*(3,020)*
Total transactions with owners	798	(16,645)	-	17,134	-	(409)	878
Realisation of prior year investment holding gains	-	-	-	196	(196)	-	-
Balance at 31 December 2017	**10,450**	**257**	**5,615**	**32,198**	**9,090**	**1,446**	**59,056**

The accompanying notes on pages 53 to 74 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Equity (continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2017

Reserves available for distribution

Under the Companies Act 2006 the capital reserve and the revenue reserve are distributable reserves. The table below shows amounts that are available for distribution.

	Capital reserve £000	Revenue reserve £000	Total equity £000
Distributable reserves as shown on page 50	32,198	1,446	33,644
Less : Interest and dividends not yet distributable	-	(1,181)	(1,181)
: Cancelled share premium not yet distributable	(21,922)	-	(21,922)
Reserves available for distribution* **	**10,276**	**265**	**10,541**

* Other reserves include the capital redemption reserve, the merger reserve and the other reserve, which are non-distributable. The other reserve was created upon the exercise of warrants, the capital redemption reserve was created for the purchase and cancellation of own shares, and the merger reserve was created on the merger with British Smaller Technologies Company VCT plc.

** Issue costs include both fundraising costs and costs incurred from the Company's DRIS.

*** Subject to filing these financial statements at Companies House, see table below.

The merger reserve was created to account for the difference between the nominal and fair value of shares issued as consideration for the acquisition of the assets and liabilities of British Smaller Technology Companies VCT plc. The reserve was created after meeting the criteria under section 131 of the Companies Act 1985 and the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 for merger relief. The merger reserve is a non-distributable reserve.

The capital reserve and revenue reserve are both distributable reserves. The reserves total £33,644,000 representing an increase of £16,781,000 during the year. The directors also take into account the level of the investment holding gains and losses reserve and the future requirements of the Company when determining the level of dividend payments.

Of the potentially distributable reserves of £33,644,000 shown above, £1,181,000 relates to interest and dividends not yet distributable and £21,922,000 of cancelled share premium which becomes distributable from 1 January 2018 onwards (see below).

The total amount held in the share premium account at 30 June 2017 (£20,579,000) was cancelled on 21 September 2017.

The reduction enables the Company to create distributable reserves which may be used for the purposes of buy-backs of the Company's shares, thereby improving the liquidity of its shares and minimising their discount to net asset value, and for other corporate purposes capable of being undertaken by the Company from time to time.

Total share premium cancelled including £1,343,000 previously cancelled will be available for distribution from the following dates.

	£000
1 January 2018	1,343
Date of filing these financial statements at Companies House	342
1 January 2019	12,995
1 January 2020	3,565
1 January 2021	3,677
Cancelled share premium not yet distributable	**21,922**

On filing these financial statements at Companies House the reserves available for distribution will be £12,226,000.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 December 2017

	Notes	2017 £000	2016 £000
Net cash (outflow) inflow from operating activities		**(211)**	20
Cash flows from (used in) investing activities			
Purchase of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	7	**(2,371)**	(4,508)
Proceeds from sale of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	7	**3,479**	2,874
Deferred consideration	7	**34**	183
Cash maturing from (placed on) fixed term deposit		**1,049**	(1,045)
Net cash inflow (outflow) from investing activities		**2,191**	(2,496)
Cash flows from (used in) financing activities			
Issue of ordinary shares		**4,230**	3,598
Costs of ordinary share issues*		**(166)**	(146)
Purchase of own ordinary shares		**(814)**	(240)
Share premium cancellation costs		**(10)**	-
Dividends paid	5	**(2,365)**	(3,354)
Net cash inflow (outflow) from financing activities		**875**	(142)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		**2,855**	(2,618)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		**12,826**	15,444
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	9	**15,681**	12,826

* Issue costs include both fundraising costs and expenses incurred from the Company's DRIS.

Reconciliation of Profit before Taxation to Net Cash (Outflow) Inflow from Operating Activities

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Profit before taxation	**2,069**	1,412
(Decrease) increase in trade and other payables	**(45)**	6
Decrease (increase) in trade and other receivables	**73**	(275)
Gain on disposal of investments	**(40)**	(339)
Gains on investments held at fair value	**(2,209)**	(704)
Capitalised interest and dividends	**(59)**	(80)
Net cash (outflow) inflow from operating activities	**(211)**	20

The accompanying notes on pages 53 to 74 are an integral part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2017

1. Principal Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis and in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union and those parts of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies reporting under IFRS.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis as modified by the measurement of investments at fair value through profit or loss.

The accounts have been prepared in compliance with the recommendations set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Financial Statements of Investment Trust Companies and Venture Capital Trusts' issued by the Association of Investment Companies (issued in November 2014 and updated in January 2017 with consequential amendments – "SORP") to the extent that they do not conflict with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with IFRSs and interpretations in force at the reporting date. New standards coming into force during the year have not had a material impact on these financial statements.

Standards, amendments to standards and interpretations have been issued which will be effective for future reporting periods but have not been adopted early in these financial statements. These include IFRS 9, IFRS 15 and amendments to IFRS 2 and IFRS 10. The Company has carried out an assessment and considers that these standards, amendments and interpretations, issued but not yet effective, will not affect the Company's accounting policies, results or net assets. In particular the Company will be able to continue to quantify its investments at fair value through profit and loss under IFRS 9, and will consequently not need to apply the impairment model.

The financial statements are presented in sterling and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand (£000), except where stated.

Financial Assets held at Fair Value through Profit or Loss

Financial assets designated as at fair value through profit or loss at inception are those that are managed and whose performance is evaluated on a fair value basis, in accordance with the documented investment strategy of the Company. Information about these financial assets is provided internally on a fair value basis to the Company's key management. The Company's investment strategy is to invest cash resources in venture capital investments as part of the Company's long-term capital growth strategy. Consequently, all investments are classified as held at fair value through profit or loss.

All investments are measured at fair value on the whole unit of account basis with gains and losses arising from changes in fair value being included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as gains or losses on investments held at fair value.

Transaction costs on purchases are expensed immediately through profit or loss.

Redemption premiums are designed to protect the value of the Company's investment. These are accrued daily on an effective rate basis and included within the capital valuation of the investment (and thus classified under "Gain or loss on investments held at fair value" in the Statement of Comprehensive Income).

Although the Company holds more than 20 per cent of the equity of certain companies, it is considered that the investments are held as part of the investment portfolio, and their value to the Company lies in their marketable value as part of that portfolio. These investments are therefore not accounted for using equity accounting, as permitted by IAS 28 'Investments in associates' and IFRS 11 'Joint arrangements' which give exemptions from equity accounting for venture capital organisations.

Under IFRS10 "Consolidated Financial Statements", control is presumed to exist when the Company has power over an investee (whether or not used in practice); exposure or rights; to variable returns from that investee, and ability to use that power to affect the reporting entities returns from the investees. The Company does not hold more than 50 per cent of the equity of any of the companies within the portfolio. The Company does not control any of the companies held as part of the investment portfolio. It is not considered that any of the holdings represent investments in subsidiary undertakings.

Valuation of Investments

Unquoted investments are valued in accordance with IFRS 13 "Fair Value Measurement" and, where appropriate, the International Private Equity and Venture Capital (IPEV) Valuation Guidelines ("the Guidelines") issued in December 2015. Quoted investments are valued at market bid prices. A detailed explanation of the valuation policies of the Company is included below.

1. Principal Accounting Policies (continued)

Initial measurement

Financial assets are initially measured at fair value. The best estimate of the initial fair value of a financial asset that is either quoted or not quoted in an active market is the transaction price (i.e. cost).

Subsequent measurement

The Guidelines identify six of the most widely used valuation methodologies for unquoted investments. The Guidelines advocate that the best valuation methodologies are those that draw on external, objective market based data in order to derive a fair value.

Unquoted Investments

- **Price of recent investment, reviewed for change in fair value.** This represents the cost of the investment or the price at which a significant amount of new investment has been made by an independent third party adjusted, if necessary, for factors relevant to the background of the specific investment. The value of the investment is assessed for changes or events that would imply either a reduction or increase to its fair value through comparison of financial, technical and marketing milestones set at the time of investment. Where it is considered that the fair value no longer approximates to the cost of the recent investment an estimated adjustment to the cost, based on objective data, will be made to the investment's carrying value.
- **Earnings multiple.** A multiple that is appropriate and reasonable, given the risk profile and earnings growth prospects of the underlying company, is applied to the maintainable earnings of that company. The multiple is adjusted to reflect any risk associated with lack of marketability and to take account of the differences between the investee company and the benchmark company or companies.
- **Net assets.** The value of the business is derived by using appropriate measures to value the assets and liabilities of the investee company.
- **Discounted cash flows of the underlying business.** The present value of the underlying business is derived by using reasonable assumptions and estimations of expected future cash flows and the terminal value, and discounted by applying the appropriate risk-adjusted rate that quantifies the risk inherent in the company.
- **Discounted cash flows from the investment.** Under this method, the discounted cash flow concept is applied to the expected cash flows from the investment itself rather than the underlying business as a whole.
- **Sales multiples and industry valuation benchmarks.** Where appropriate comparator companies can be identified, multiples of revenues may be used as a valuation benchmark.

Discounted cash flows and industry valuation benchmarks are only likely to be reliable as the main basis of estimating fair value in limited situations. Their main use is to support valuations derived using other methodologies and for assessing reductions in fair value.

Where an independent third party valuation exists, this will be used as the basis to derive the gross attributable enterprise value of the company. In other cases, the most suitable valuation technique, as set out above, is used to determine this value. This value is then apportioned appropriately to reflect the respective amounts accruing to each financial instrument holder in the event of a sale at that level at the reporting date.

Unquoted investments held in the form of loan investments are valued at fair value using the appropriate methodologies as used for valuing equity investments, primarily being price of recent investment, earnings multiple and sales multiple.

Quoted Investments

Quoted investments are valued at active market bid price. An active market is defined as one where transactions take place regularly with sufficient volume and frequency to determine price on an ongoing basis. Where the Company judges that the level of trading does not meet these requirements one of the methodologies above will be used to value the investment. No methodology other than active market bid price has been applied as at 31 December 2017.

Income

Dividend income on unquoted equity shares is recognised at the time when the right to the income is established. Interest on loan stock and dividends on preference shares are accrued daily on an effective rate basis. Provision is made against this income where recovery is doubtful. Where interest and preference dividends are rolled up and/or payable at redemption then they are recognised as income unless there is reasonable doubt as to their receipt.

Expenses

Expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenses are charged through the Revenue column of the Statement of Comprehensive Income, except for Investment Adviser's fee and incentive fees. Of the Investment Adviser's fees 75 per cent are allocated to the Capital column of the Statement of Comprehensive Income, to the extent that these relate to an enhancement in the value of the investments and in line with the Board's expectation that over the long term 75 per cent of the Company's investment returns will be in the form of capital gains. The incentive fee payable to the Investment Adviser (as set out in note 3) is charged wholly through the Capital column.

Tax relief is allocated to the Capital Reserve using a marginal basis.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at hand as this meets the definition in IAS 7 'Statement of cash flows' of a short term highly liquid investment that is readily convertible into known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of change in value.

Balances held in fixed term deposits are not classified as cash and cash equivalents, unless they are due for maturity within three months, as they do not meet the definition in IAS 7 'Statement of cash flows' of short-term highly liquid investments.

Cash flows classified as "operating activities" for the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows are those arising from the Revenue column of the Income Statement, together with the items in the Capital column that do not fall to be easily classified under the headings for "Investing Activities" given by IAS 7 'Statement of cash flows', being advisory and incentive fees payable to the Investment Adviser. The capital cash flows relating to acquisition and disposal of investments are presented under "investing activities" in the Statement of Cash Flows in line with both the requirements of IAS 7 and the positioning given to these headings by general practice in the industry.

Share Capital and Reserves

Share Capital

This reserve contains the nominal value of all shares allotted under offers for subscription.

Share Premium Account

This reserve contains the excess of gross proceeds less issue costs over the nominal value of shares allotted under offers for subscription, to the extent that it has not been cancelled.

Capital Redemption Reserve

The nominal value of shares bought back and cancelled is held in this reserve, so that the Company's capital is maintained.

Capital Reserve

The following are included within this reserve:

- Gains and losses on realisation of investments;
- Realised losses upon permanent diminution in value of investments;
- 75 per cent of the Investment Adviser's fee expense, together with the related taxation effect to this reserve in accordance with the policy on expenses in note 1 of the financial statements;
- Incentive fee payable to the Investment Adviser;
- Capital dividends paid to shareholders;
- Purchase and holding of the Company's own shares; and
- Credits arising from cancellation of any share premium account.

Investment Holding Gains and Losses Reserve

Increases and decreases in the valuation of investments held at the year end are accounted for in this reserve, except to the extent that the diminution is deemed permanent.

1. Principal Accounting Policies (continued)

Revenue Reserve

This reserve includes all income from investments along with any costs associated with the running of the Company – less 75 per cent of the advisory fee expense as detailed in the Capital Reserve above.

Taxation

Due to the Company's status as a venture capital trust and the continued intention to meet the conditions required to comply with Chapter 3 Part 6 of the Income Tax Act 2007, no provision for taxation is required in respect of any realised or unrealised appreciation of the Company's investments which arises. Deferred tax is recognised on all temporary differences that have originated, but not reversed, by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax assets are only recognised to the extent that they are regarded as recoverable. Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply when the asset is realised. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Dividends Payable

Dividends payable are recognised only when an obligation exists. Interim and special dividends are recognised when paid and final dividends are recognised when approved by shareholders in general meetings.

Segmental Reporting

In accordance with IFRS 8 'Operating segments' and the criteria for aggregating reportable segments, segmental reporting has been determined by the directors based upon the reports reviewed by the Board. The directors are of the opinion that the Company has engaged in a single operating segment - investing in equity and debt securities within the United Kingdom - and therefore no reportable segmental analysis is provided.

Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting practice requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Although these estimates are based on management's best knowledge of the amount, event or actions, actual results may ultimately differ from those estimates. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are those used to determine the fair value of investments at fair value through profit or loss, as disclosed in note 7 to the financial statements.

The fair value of investments at fair value through profit or loss is determined by using valuation techniques. As explained above, the Board uses its judgement to select from a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are mainly based on market conditions at each balance sheet date.

2. Income

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Dividends from unquoted companies	**290**	611
Dividends from AIM quoted companies	**17**	17
Interest on loans to unquoted companies	**989**	1,140
Income from investments held at fair value through profit or loss	**1,296**	1,768
Interest on bank deposits	**117**	169
	1,413	1,937

The above is stated net of £349,000 (2016: £133,000) of income in relation to loan interest and preference dividends, which has not been recognised.

3. Administrative Expenses

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Investment Adviser's fee	**1,155**	1,119
Administration fee	**63**	62
Total payable to YFM Private Equity Limited	**1,218**	1,181
Other expenses:		
Trail commission	**120**	133
Directors' remuneration	**82**	81
General expenses	**57**	52
Listing and registrar fees	**47**	46
Printing	**26**	34
Auditor's remuneration - audit fees (excluding irrecoverable VAT)	**25**	23
Irrecoverable VAT	**18**	18
	1,593	1,568
Ongoing charges figure	**2.48%**	2.51%

Directors' remuneration comprises only short term benefits including social security contributions of £7,000 (2016: £7,000).

The directors are the Company's only key management personnel.

No fees are payable to the auditor in respect of non-audit services supplied pursuant to legislation (2016: £nil).

YFM Private Equity Limited has acted as Investment Adviser and performed administrative and secretarial duties for the Company under an agreement dated 28 November 2000, superseded by an agreement dated 31 October 2005 and as varied by agreements dated 8 December 2010, 26 October 2011, 16 November 2012, 17 October 2014 and 7 August 2015 (the "IAA"). The agreement may be terminated by not less than twelve months' notice given by either party at any time. Following the Financial Conduct Authority's registration of the Company as a Small Registered Alternative Investment Fund Manager in 2014, the Company has retained responsibility for the custody of its investments.

The key features of the agreement are:

- YFM Private Equity Limited receives an Investment Adviser fee, payable quarterly in advance, calculated at half-yearly intervals as at 30 June and 31 December. The fee is allocated between capital and revenue as described in note 1;

3. Administrative Expenses (continued)

- The annual advisory fee payable to the Investment Adviser is 2.50 per cent of net assets up to £16.0 million, 1.25 per cent of net assets in excess of £16.0 million and up to £26.667 million, and 2.00 per cent of net assets in excess of £26.667 million. Based on the Company's net assets at 31 December 2017 of £59.056 million, this equates to 2.0 per cent of net assets, or £1,181,000 per annum;
- YFM Private Equity Limited shall bear the annual operating costs of the Company (including the advisory fee set out above but excluding any payment of the performance incentive fee, details of which are set out below and excluding VAT and trail commissions) to the extent that those costs exceed 2.9 per cent of the net asset value of the Company; and
- Under the IAA YFM Private Equity Limited also provides administrative and secretarial services to the Company for a fee of £46,000 per annum plus annual adjustments to reflect movements in the Retail Prices Index. This fee is charged fully to revenue, and totalled £63,000 for the year ended 31 December 2017 (2016: £62,000).

When the Company makes investments into its unquoted portfolio the Investment Adviser charges that investee an advisory fee. With effect from 1 October 2013 if the average of relevant fees exceeds 3.0 per cent of the total invested into new portfolio companies and 2.0 per cent into follow-on investments over the Company's financial year, this excess will be rebated to the Company. As at 31 December 2017, the Company was due a rebate from the Investment Adviser of £nil (2016: £nil).

Monitoring and directors' fees the Investment Adviser receives from the investee companies are limited to a maximum of £40,000 (excluding VAT) per annum per company.

The total remuneration payable to YFM Private Equity Limited under the IAA in the year was £1,218,000 (2016: £1,181,000).

Under the IAA, YFM Private Equity Limited is entitled to receive fees from investee companies in respect of the provision of non-executive directors and other advisory services. YFM Private Equity Limited is responsible for paying the due diligence and other costs incurred in connection with proposed investments which for whatever reason do not proceed to completion. In the year ended 31 December 2017 the fees receivable by YFM Private Equity Limited from investee companies which were attributable to advisory and directors' and monitoring fees amounted to £385,000 (2016: £412,000).

Under the Subscription Rights Agreement dated 23 November 2001 between the Company, YFM Private Equity Limited and Chord Capital Limited ("Chord" formerly Generics Asset Management Limited), as amended by an agreement between those parties dated 31 October 2005, YFM Private Equity Limited and Chord have a performance-related incentive, structured so as to entitle them to an amount (satisfied by the issue by the Company of ordinary shares) equivalent to 20 per cent of the amount by which the cumulative dividends per ordinary share paid as at the last business day in December in any year, plus the average of the middle market price per ordinary share on the five dealing days prior to that day, exceeds 120 pence per ordinary share, multiplied by the number of ordinary shares issued and the ordinary shares under option (if any) (the "Hurdle"). Under the terms of the Subscription Rights Agreement, once the Hurdle has been exceeded it is reset at that value going forward, which becomes the new Hurdle. Any subsequent exercise of these rights will only occur once the new Hurdle has been exceeded. The subscription rights are exercisable in the ratio 95:5 between the Investment Adviser and Chord Capital Limited.

By a Deed of Assignment dated 19 December 2003 (together with a supplemental agreement dated 5 October 2005), the benefit of the YFM Private Equity Limited subscription right was assigned to YFM Private Equity Limited Carried Interest Trust (the "Trust"), an employee benefit trust formed for the benefit of certain employees of YFM Private Equity Limited and associated companies. Pursuant to a deed of variation dated 16 November 2012 between the Company, the trustees of the Trust and Chord, the Subscription Rights Agreement was varied so that the subscription rights will be exercisable in the ratio of 95:5 between the trustees of the Trust and Chord. Pursuant to a deed of variation dated 5 August 2014 the Subscription Rights Agreement was varied so that the recipient was changed from the Trust to YFM Private Equity Limited.

As at 31 December 2017 the total of cumulative cash dividends paid and mid-market price was 110.50 pence per ordinary share. No shares have been issued under this agreement.

Under the terms of the offer launched on 3 January 2017, YFM Private Equity Limited was entitled to 5.0 per cent of gross subscriptions from execution brokers and 3.0 per cent of gross subscriptions for applications through intermediaries offering financial advice or directly from applicants, less the cost of incentive shares and re-investment of intermediary commission. The net amount paid to YFM Private Equity Limited under this offer amounted to £148,597.

The Investment Adviser met all costs and expenses arising from this offer out of this fee, including any payment or re-investment of initial intermediary commissions.

The details of directors' remuneration are set out in the Directors' Remuneration Report on page 41 under the heading "Directors' Remuneration for the year ended 31 December 2017 (audited)".

4. Taxation

	2017			2016		
	Revenue £000	Capital £000	Total £000	Revenue £000	Capital £000	Total £000
Profit before taxation	**686**	**1,383**	**2,069**	1,208	204	1,412
Profit before taxation multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in UK of 19.25% (2016: 20%)	**132**	**266**	**398**	242	40	282
Effect of:						
UK dividends received	**(59)**	**-**	**(59)**	(126)	-	(126)
Non-taxable profits on investments	**-**	**(433)**	**(433)**	-	(209)	(209)
Excess advisory expenses	**-**	**94**	**94**	-	53	53
Tax charge (credit)	**73**	**(73)**	**-**	116	(116)	-

The Company has no provided or unprovided deferred tax liability in either year.

Deferred tax assets of £596,000 (2016: £514,000) calculated at 17% in respect of unrelieved management expenses (£3.51 million as at 31 December 2017 and £3.02 million as at 31 December 2016) have not been recognised as the directors do not currently believe that it is probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available against which assets can be recovered.

Due to the Company's status as a venture capital trust and the continued intention to meet with the conditions required to comply with Section 274 of the Income Tax Act 2007, the Company has not provided for deferred tax on any capital gains or losses arising on the revaluation or realisation of investments.

5. Dividends

Amounts recognised as distributions to equity holders in the period to 31 December:

	2017			2016		
	Revenue £000	Capital £000	Total £000	Revenue £000	Capital £000	Total £000
Final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2016 of 1.5p (2015: 2.5p) per ordinary share	**177**	**1,334**	**1,511**	277	2,045	2,322
Interim dividend for the year ended 31 December 2017 of 1.5p (2016: 2.0p) per ordinary share	**232**	**1,277**	**1,509**	593	1,276	1,869
	409	**2,611**	**3,020**	870	3,321	4,191
Shares allotted under DRIS			**(658)**			(826)
Unclaimed dividends			**3**			(11)
Dividends paid in Statement of Cash Flows			**2,365**			3,354

The final year-end dividend of 1.5 pence per ordinary share in respect of the year to 31 December 2016 was paid on 12 May 2017 to shareholders on the register at 31 March 2017.

The interim dividend of 1.5 pence per ordinary share was paid on 29 September 2017 to shareholders on the register as at 1 September 2017.

A final dividend of 1.5 pence per ordinary share in respect of the year to 31 December 2017 is proposed. This dividend has not been recognised in the year ended 31 December 2017 as the obligation did not exist at the balance sheet date.

During the year the Company has received £nil (2016: £14,000) from the Registrars in respect of unclaimed dividends. The Company has made efforts to contact the relevant shareholders, with the result that £3,000 (2016: £3,000) has been paid to shareholders in the year. The unclaimed balance is held in a separate bank account until contact can be made with the shareholders affected.

6. Basic and Diluted Earnings per Ordinary Share

The basic and diluted earnings per ordinary share is based on the profit after tax attributable to shareholders of £2,069,000 (2016: £1,412,000) and 99,881,803 (2016: 93,363,744) ordinary shares being the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the year.

The basic and diluted revenue earnings per ordinary share is based on the profit for the year attributable to shareholders of £613,000 (2016: £1,092,000) and 99,881,803 (2016: 93,363,744) ordinary shares being the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the year.

The basic and diluted capital earnings per ordinary share is based on the capital profit for the year attributable to shareholders of £1,456,000 (2016: £320,000) and 99,881,803 (2016: 93,363,744) ordinary shares being the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the year.

During the year the Company allotted 6,787,231 new ordinary shares from a top up offer, and 1,189,635 new ordinary shares in respect of its DRIS.

The Company has also repurchased 1,460,605 of its own shares in the year, and these shares are held in the capital reserve. The total of 4,006,351 treasury shares has been excluded in calculating the weighted average number of ordinary shares for the period. The Company has no securities that would have a dilutive effect and hence basic and diluted earnings per ordinary share are the same.

The only potentially dilutive shares are those shares which, subject to certain criteria being achieved in the future, may be issued by the Company to meet its obligations under the Subscription Rights Agreement as set out in note 3. No such shares have been issued or are currently expected to be issued because the conditions have not been met at the year end. Consequently, basic and diluted earnings per ordinary share are equivalent in both the year ended 31 December 2017 and 31 December 2016.

7. Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit or Loss

IFRS13, in respect of financial instruments that are measured in the balance sheet at fair value, requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level of the following fair value measurement hierarchy:

- **Level 1:** quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets is based on quoted market prices at the balance sheet date. A market is defined as a market in which transactions for the asset or liability take place with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis. The quoted market price used for financial assets held by the Company is the current bid price. These instruments are included in level 1 and comprise AIM quoted investments and other fixed income securities classified as held at fair value through profit or loss.
- **Level 2:** the fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market is determined by using valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise the use of observable market data where it is available and rely as little as possible on entity specific estimates. If all significant inputs required to fair value an instrument are observable, the instrument is included in level 2. The Company held no such instruments in the current or prior year.
- **Level 3:** the fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market (for example, investments in unquoted companies) is determined by using valuation techniques such as earnings multiples. If one or more of the significant inputs is not based on observable market data, the instrument is included in level 3. The majority of the Company's investments fall into this category.

Each investment is reviewed at least quarterly to ensure that it has not ceased to meet the criteria of the level in which it is included at the beginning of each accounting period. The change in fair value for the current and previous year is recognised through profit or loss.

There have been no transfers between these classifications in either period.

All items held at fair value through profit or loss were designated as such upon initial recognition.

Valuation of Investments

Full details of the methods used by the Company are set out in note 1 of these financial statements. Where investments are held in quoted stocks, fair value is set at the market bid price.

Movements in investments at fair value through profit or loss during the year to 31 December 2017 are summarised as follows:

IFRS 13 measurement classification	Level 3	Level 1	
	Unquoted Investments £000	Quoted Equity Investments £000	Total Investments £000
Opening cost	30,853	1,419	**32,272**
Opening investment holding gain	6,394	653	**7,047**
Opening fair value at 1 January 2017	**37,247**	**2,072**	**39,319**
Additions at cost	2,371	-	**2,371**
Capitalised interest and dividends	59	-	**59**
Disposal proceeds	(2,903)	(638)	**(3,541)**
Net (loss) profit on disposal*	(87)	93	**6**
Change in fair value	1,454	755	**2,209**
Closing fair value at 31 December 2017	**38,141**	**2,282**	**40,423**
Closing cost	30,115	1,248	**31,363**
Closing investment holding gain**	8,026	1,034	**9,060**
Closing fair value at 31 December 2017	**38,141**	**2,282**	**40,423**

* The net profit on disposal in the table above is £6,000 whereas that shown in the Statement of Comprehensive Income is £40,000. The difference comprises deferred proceeds of £34,000 in respect of assets which have been disposed of in prior years and are not included within the investment portfolio at 1 January 2017 (see page 64).

** Following the merger between the Company and British Smaller Technologies Company VCT plc a total of £975,000 of negative goodwill was recognised in the investment holding gains and losses reserve in respect of the investments acquired. The relevant amount per investment is realised, at the point of disposal to the capital reserve. At 31 December 2017 a total of £30,000 (2016: £30,000) was held on investments yet to be realised in the investment holdings gains and losses reserve.

There were no individual reductions in fair value during the year that exceeded 5 per cent of the total assets of the Company (2016: £nil).

Level 3 valuations include assumptions based on non-observable market data, such as discounts applied either to reflect change in fair value of financial assets held at the price of recent investment, or to adjust earnings multiples. IFRS 13 requires an entity to disclose quantitative information about the significant unobservable inputs used. Of the Company's Level 3 investments, 64 per cent are held on an earnings multiple basis and 18 per cent on a sales multiple basis, which have significant judgement applied to the valuation inputs. The table overleaf sets out the range of Price Earnings multiple, Sales multiples and discounts applied in arriving at investments valued on these bases. 14 per cent are recent deals held at cost. The remaining 4 per cent are valued based on previous investment round reviewed for impairment.

7. Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit or Loss (continued)

	Earnings multiple inputs	Software, IT & Telecoms	Business Services	Manufacturing & Industrial Services	Healthcare	Retail & Brands
2017	**PE Multiple Range**	**29.44 – 54.72**	**19.13 – 28.34**	**14.74 – 32.07**	**33.86**	**20.46 – 23.99**
	PE Multiple Weighted Average	**38.37**	**25.57**	**27.81**	**33.86**	**23.58**
2016	PE Multiple Range	36.29	24.18 – 24.63	24.18 – 32.34	35.25	15.99 – 27.66
	PE Multiple Weighted Average	36.29	24.46	29.45	35.25	19.31
2017	**Combined PE and/or Marketability Discount Range**	**60% – 68%**	**56% – 68%**	**40% – 72%**	**68%**	**56% – 60%**
	Combined PE and/or Marketability Discount Weighted Average	**65%**	**62%**	**67%**	**68%**	**56%**
2016	Combined PE and/or Marketability Discount Range	40% – 68%	60% – 68%	56% – 72%	72%	48% – 60%
	Combined PE and/or Marketability Discount Weighted Average	60%	64%	68%	72%	52%

	Sales multiple inputs	Software, IT & Telecoms
2017 (2016: none)	**Sales Multiple Range**	**3.83 – 6.50**
	Sales Multiple Weighted Average	**4.77**
	Combined PE and/or Marketability Discount Range	**44% – 68%**
	Combined PE and/or Marketability Discount Weighted Average	**54%**

The standard also requires disclosure, by class of financial instruments, if the effect of changing one or more inputs to reasonably possible alternative assumptions would result in a significant change to the fair value measurement. Each unquoted portfolio company has been reviewed in order to identify the sensitivity of the valuation methodology to using alternative assumptions. Where discounts have been applied (for example to Earnings Levels or PE ratios) alternatives have been considered which still fall within the IPEV Guidelines (see page 54). For each unquoted investment, two scenarios have been modelled: more prudent assumptions (downside case) and more optimistic assumptions (upside case). Applying the downside alternative the value of the unquoted investments would be £3.7 million or 9.7 per cent lower. Using the upside alternative the value would be increased by £4.0 million or 10.5 per cent.

Movements in investments at fair value through profit or loss during the previous year to 31 December 2016 are summarised as follows:

IFRS 13 measurement classification	Level 3*	Level 1	
	Unquoted Investments £000	Quoted Equity Investments £000	Total Investments £000
Opening cost	29,332	2,223	**31,555**
Opening investment holding gain	4,636	461	**5,097**
Opening fair value at 1 January 2016	**33,968**	**2,684**	**36,652**
Additions at cost	4,508	-	**4,508**
Capitalised interest and dividends	80	-	**80**
Disposal proceeds	(1,727)	(1,147)	**(2,874)**
Net profit on disposal*	133	116	**249**
Change in fair value	285	419	**704**
Closing fair value at 31 December 2016	**37,247**	**2,072**	**39,319**
Closing cost	30,853	1,419	**32,272**
Closing investment holding gain	6,394	653	**7,047**
Closing fair value at 31 December 2016	**37,247**	**2,072**	**39,319**

* The net profit on disposal in the table above is £249,000 whereas that shown in the Statement of Comprehensive Income is £339,000. The difference comprises deferred proceeds of £90,000 in respect of assets which have been disposed of and are not included in the portfolio at 1 January 2016.

7. Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit or Loss (continued)

The following disposals took place in the year (all companies are unquoted except where otherwise indicated):

	Net proceeds from sale £000	Cost £000	Opening carrying value as at 1 January 2017 £000	Profit (loss) on disposal £000
Unquoted investments:				
Selima Holding Company Ltd*	996	300	586	410
GTK (Holdco) Limited	446	446	446	-
Harvey Jones Holdings Limited	559	442	622	(63)
Macro Art Holdings Limited	104	104	104	-
PowerOasis Limited	60	60	60	-
Cambrian Park & Leisure Homes Limited (via Cambrian Lodges Holdings Limited)	-	1,133	-	-
ACC Aviation (via Newacc (2014) Limited)	618	618	618	-
Ness (Holdings) Limited	120	1,031	-	120
The Heritage Window Company Holdco Limited	-	1,058	554	(554)
Quoted investments:				
AB Dynamics plc	409	73	380	29
Gooch & Housego plc	146	74	106	40
Gamma Communications plc	83	24	59	24
Total from disposals in the year**	**3,541**	**5,363**	**3,535**	**6**
Deferred proceeds:				
Callstream Group Limited	33	-	-	33
Silistix Limited	1	-	-	1
Deferred proceeds received	**34**	**-**	**-**	**34**
Total from quoted and unquoted investments	**3,575**	**5,363**	**3,535**	**40**

* Includes potential deferred proceeds of £19,000. There is the potential for total contingent consideration of up to a maximum of £700,000, subject to the achievement of agreed milestones over the period to November 2019.

** The total from disposals in the year in the table above is £3,541,000 whereas that shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is £3,479,000. The difference comprises deferred proceeds of £62,000 which had not been received at 31 December 2017.

The following disposals took place in the previous year to 31 December 2016:

	Net proceeds from sale £000	Cost £000	Opening carrying value as at 1 January 2016 £000	Profit (loss) on disposal £000
Unquoted investments:				
Bagel Nash Group Limited	27	27	27	-
Callstream Group Limited	752	329	679	73
Cambrian Park & Leisure Homes Limited (via Cambrian Lodges Holdings Limited)	61	61	61	-
GTK (Holdco) Limited	272	72	212	60
Harvey Jones Holdings Limited	469	469	469	-
Macro Art Holdings Limited	104	104	104	-
Wakefield Acoustics (via Malvar Engineering Limited)	41	41	41	-
Quoted investments:				
AB Dynamics plc	503	131	416	87
Brady plc	320	498	315	5
Gamma Communications plc	170	73	171	(1)
Gooch & Housego plc	155	102	130	25
Total proceeds on disposals in the year	**2,874**	**1,907**	**2,625**	**249**
Deferred proceeds:				
Ellfin Homecare Limited	1	-	-	1
Primal Pictures Limited	2	-	-	2
Silistix Limited	9	-	-	9
Sirigen Group Limited	171	-	93	78
Deferred proceeds received	**183**	**-**	**93**	**90**
Total from quoted and unquoted investments	**3,057**	**1,907**	**2,718**	**339**

7. Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit or Loss (continued)

Significant Interests

YFM Private Equity Limited, the Company's Investment Adviser, also acts as investment adviser or manager to certain other funds that have invested in some of the companies within the current portfolio of the Company. Details of these investments are summarised in the tables below.

At 31 December 2017 the Company held a significant holding of at least 20 per cent of the issued ordinary share capital, either individually or alongside commonly advised/managed funds, in the following companies:

Company	Principal activity	No of shares held by the Company	Percentage of class held by the Company*	Percentage of class held by commonly advised/ managed funds*
ACC Aviation (via Newacc (2014) Limited)	Business Services	14,365,817	13%	50%
Bagel Nash Group Limited	Food Retail and Manufacturing	33,091	5%	40%
Biz2Mobile Limited	Software, IT & Telecomms	1,694,916	11%	27%
Business Collaborator Limited	Software, IT & Telecomms	126,000	19%	48%
Deep-Secure Ltd	Software, IT & Telecomms	49,678	8%	57%
DisplayPlan Holdings Limited	Business Services	1,260	12%	35%
e2E Engineering Limited	Manufacturing & Industrial	348	9%	23%
EL Support Services Limited**	Business Services	3,500	50%	100%
Friska Limited	Retail & Brands	60,232	14%	36%
Gill Marine Holdings Limited	Retail & Brands	138,137	14%	66%
GTK (Holdco) Limited	Manufacturing & Industrial	14,603,200	18%	48%
The Heritage Window Company Holdco Limited**	Manufacturing & Industrial	10,000	20%	50%
Immunobiology Limited**	Healthcare	33,285,280	25%	25%
Intamac Systems Limited	Software, IT & Telecomms	1,500,000	12%	34%
Intelligent Office UK (IO Outsourcing Limited t/a Intelligent Office)	Business Services	106,609	18%	44%
KeTech Enterprises Limited	Software, IT & Telecomms	128,333	15%	46%
Macro Art Holdings Limited	Business Services	100,000	14%	35%
Mangar Health Limited	Healthcare	78,555	17%	48%
Matillion Limited	Software, IT & Telecomms	22,987	11%	30%
NB Technology Services Limited**	Software, IT & Telecomms	3,500	50%	100%
OC Engineering Services Limited**	Retail & Brands	3,500	50%	100%
RMS Group Holdings Limited	Manufacturing & Industrial	59,619	6%	21%
Seven Technologies Holdings Limited	Software, IT & Telecomms	619,130	6%	38%
SH Healthcare Services Limited**	Healthcare	3,500	50%	100%
Sipsynergy (via Hosted Network Services Limited)	Software, IT & Telecomms	369,546	16%	50%
SP Manufacturing Services Limited**	Manufacturing & Industrial	3,500	50%	100%
Springboard Research Holdings Limited	Business Services	171,892	13%	32%
Wakefield Acoustics (via Malvar Engineering Limited)	Manufacturing & Industrial	49,600	16%	41%

* Fully diluted holding.

** The registered office of these significant holdings is given on page 81.

In a number of cases the issued ordinary share capital of an investee company is split into different classes of shares and thus the percentages given above do not necessarily represent the Company's (or other commonly managed funds') percentage holding of an investee company's total equity.

The amounts shown below are the net cost of investments as at 31 December 2017 and exclude those companies which are in receivership or liquidation.

	British Smaller Companies VCT2 plc £000	British Smaller Companies VCT plc £000	British Smaller Companies EIS Fund £000	The Chandos Fund LP £000	Other commonly managed/ advised funds £000	Total £000
AB Dynamics plc	49	68	-	-	-	117
ACC Aviation (via Newacc (2014) Limited)	760	1,142	-	-	952	2,854
Bagel Nash Group Limited	630	944	-	2,185	-	3,759
Biz2Mobile Limited	1,000	1,500	-	-	-	2,500
Business Collaborator Limited	1,340	2,010	-	-	-	3,350
Deep-Secure Limited	500	1,000	-	2,571	429	4,500
DisplayPlan Holdings Limited	70	130	-	-	-	200
e2E Engineering Limited	600	900	-	-	-	1,500
EKF Diagnostics plc	437	448	-	-	-	885
EL Support Services Limited	500	500	-	-	-	1,000
Friska Limited	1,200	1,800	-	-	-	3,000
Gamma Communications plc	72	104	-	-	-	176
Gill Marine Holdings Limited	1,870	2,500	600	4,000	-	8,970
GTK (Holdco) Limited	295	449	250	-	-	994
The Heritage Window Company Holdco Limited	410	615	-	-	300	1,325
Intamac Systems Limited	905	302	-	2,422	-	3,629
Intelligent Office UK (IO Outsourcing Limited t/a Intelligent Office)	1,956	2,934	-	-	-	4,890
KeTech Enterprises Limited	2,000	2,000	-	-	1,000	5,000
Leengate Holdings Limited	934	1,401	-	-	-	2,335
Macro Art Holdings Limited	523	785	-	-	-	1,308
Mangar Health Limited	1,640	2,460	500	-	-	4,600
Matillion Limited	1,400	2,100	-	-	500	4,000
NB Technology Services Limited	500	500	-	-	-	1,000
OC Engineering Services Limited	500	500	-	-	-	1,000
PowerOasis Limited	594	445	-	1,186	-	2,225
RMS Group Holdings Limited	70	180	-	-	-	250
Seven Technologies Holdings Limited	1,238	1,984	370	4,491	500	8,583
SH Healthcare Services Limited	500	500	-	-	-	1,000
SP Manufacturing Services Limited	500	500	-	-	-	1,000
Springboard Research Holdings Limited	1,765	2,647	-	-	-	4,412
Sipsynergy (via Hosted Network Services Ltd)	1,309	1,770	-	-	921	4,000
TeraView Limited	377	377	-	-	-	754
Traveltek Group Holdings Limited	980	1,470	-	-	1,250	3,700
Wakefield Acoustics (via Malvar Engineering Limited)	720	1,080	-	-	-	1,800

8. Trade and Other Receivables

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Non-current assets:		
Accrued income	**825**	837
Current assets:		
Trade receivables	**400**	449
Less: Allowances for credit losses on trade receivables	**(75)**	(133)
Prepayments and accrued income	**67**	75
	392	391
Allowance for credit losses on trade receivables:		
Allowances as at 1 January	**133**	-
Trade receivable written off	**(93)**	-
Additions – charged to Statement of Comprehensive Income	**35**	133
Allowances as at 31 December	**75**	133

Non-current assets relate to loan interest receivable on exit from the relevant investee company where this is expected to be more than one year from the balance sheet date.

Trade receivables are assessed for reduction in fair value when older than 90 days or where there is reasonable doubt that payment will be received in due course. As of 31 December 2017, there were no trade receivables that were past due but not impaired (2016: £nil).

The carrying amounts of the Company's trade and other receivables are denominated in sterling.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date in respect of trade and other receivables is the carrying value of each class of receivables mentioned above. The Company does not hold any collateral as security.

9. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Cash at bank	**15,681**	12,826
Cash and Cash Equivalents	**15,681**	12,826

At 31 December 2017 a further £1.99 million (2016: £3.04 million) was also held in fixed term deposit accounts which were due to mature in April 2018. In accordance with the definition of cash and cash equivalents the amounts in both the current and prior year are shown separately as a current asset on the face of the balance sheet.

10. Trade and Other Payables

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Amounts payable within one year:		
Accrued expenses	**253**	301
	253	301

11. Called-up Share Capital

	2017 Allotted, called-up and fully paid £000	2016 Allotted, called-up and fully paid £000
Ordinary shares of 10 pence		
Issued: 104,496,926 (2016: 96,520,060) including 4,006,351 shares held in treasury (2016: 2,545,746)	**10,450**	9,652

The movement in the year was as follows:

		Price pence	Date	Number of shares	Share Capital £000
Total as at 1 January 2017				96,520,060	9,652
Issue of shares	Fundraising	62.165-63.407	10 February 2017	6,787,231	679
Issue of shares	DRIS	55.96	12 May 2017	583,201	58
Issue of shares	DRIS	54.63	29 September 2017	606,434	61
As at 31 December 2017 (including treasury shares)				**104,496,926**	**10,450**
As at 31 December 2017 (excluding treasury shares)				**100,490,575**	

The movement in the previous year to 31 December 2016 was as follows:

		Price pence	Date	Number of shares	Share Capital £000
Total as at 1 January 2016				89,390,578	8,939
Issue of shares	Fundraising	63.00-64.50	14 January 2016	5,683,709	569
Issue of shares	DRIS	58.05	9 May 2016	763,247	76
Issue of shares	DRIS	56.05	26 September 2016	682,526	68
As at 31 December 2016 (including treasury shares)				96,520,060	9,652
As at 31 December 2016 (including treasury shares)				93,974,314	

During the year the Company purchased 1,460,605 (2016: 417,743) of its own shares and these shares are held on the balance sheet in the Capital Reserve. Full details of the share purchases are set out in the Directors' Report under the heading 'Buy-Back and Issue of Shares'. The treasury shares have been included in calculating the number of ordinary shares in issue, and excluded in calculating the number of ordinary shares with voting rights in issue, at 31 December 2017 and 31 December 2016.

The Company is party to a share based payment arrangement as defined by IFRS 2 'Share based payments'. The details of the arrangement are explained in note 3. As the arrangement was entered into prior to 7 November 2002, the Company is not required to account for the arrangement under IFRS 2. No shares have been issued to date under this arrangement.

12. Basic and Diluted Net Asset Value per Ordinary Share

The basic and diluted net asset value per ordinary share is calculated on attributable assets of £59,056,000 (2016: £56,109,000) and 100,490,575 (2016: 93,974,314) ordinary shares in issue at the year end.

The treasury shares have been excluded in calculating the number of ordinary shares in issue at 31 December 2017.

The only potentially dilutive shares are those shares which, subject to certain criteria being achieved in the future, may be issued by the Company to meet its obligations under the Subscription Rights Agreement as set out in note 3. No such shares have been issued or are currently expected to be issued because the conditions have not been met at the year end. Consequently, basic and diluted net asset values per ordinary share are equivalent in both the year ended 31 December 2017 and 31 December 2016.

13. Total Return per Ordinary Share

The total return per ordinary share is calculated on cumulative dividends paid of 55.5 pence per ordinary share (2016: 52.5 pence per ordinary share) plus the net asset value as calculated per note 12.

14. Financial Commitments

There are no financial commitments at 31 December 2017.

15. Related Party Transactions

Mr R Last is chairman and non-executive director of Gamma Communications plc, in which he has a 0.06 per cent equity stake. During the year to 31 December 2017 he received remuneration of £76,500 from Gamma in respect of his services.

16. Events after the Balance Sheet Date

On 16 February 2018 the Company allotted a total of 7,366,700 ordinary shares pursuant to the offer detailed under "Fundraising" on page 6, raising net proceeds of approximately £4.3 million.

In March 2018 the Company made a new investment of £0.98 million into Ncam Technologies Limited and also made a follow-on investment of £0.38 million into Matillion Limited.

17. Financial Instruments

The Company has no derivative financial instruments and has no financial asset or liability for which hedge accounting has been used in either year. The Company classifies its financial assets as either fair value through profit or loss or loans and receivables, and its financial liabilities, primarily accrued expenses, at amortised cost.

It is the directors' opinion that the carrying value of financial assets and liabilities approximates their fair value. Therefore, the directors consider all assets and liabilities to be carried at a valuation which equates to fair value.

Investments are made in a combination of equity, fixed rate and variable rate financial instruments so as to comply with VCT legislation and provide potential future capital growth. Surplus funds are held in bank deposits until suitable qualifying investment opportunities arise.

In accordance with IAS 39, the Company has reviewed all contracts for embedded derivatives that are required to be separately accounted for if they do not meet certain criteria set out in the standard. No embedded derivatives have been identified by the Company.

The accounting policies for financial instruments have been applied to the items below:

Assets as per balance sheet

	2017		2016	
	Loans and receivables £000	Assets at fair value through profit or loss £000	Loans and receivables £000	Assets at fair value through profit or loss £000
Non-current assets				
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	**-**	**40,423**	-	39,319
Accrued income	**825**	**-**	837	-
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	**15,681**	**-**	12,826	-
Cash on fixed term deposit	**1,988**	**-**	3,037	-
Trade and other receivables	**325**	**-**	316	-
	18,819	**40,423**	17,016	39,319
Other assets – not financial instruments	**67**	**-**	75	-
	18,886	**40,423**	17,091	39,319

Liabilities as per balance sheet

	2017 Other financial liabilities £000	2016 Other financial liabilities £000
Trade and other payables	**(253)**	(301)
	(253)	(301)

Assets classified as fair value through profit or loss were designated as such upon initial recognition. The Company has not reclassified financial assets between any of the categories detailed in IAS 39, either in current or prior periods.

The Company's investing activities expose it to various types of risk that are associated with the financial instruments and markets in which it invests. The most important types of financial risk to which the Company is exposed are market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. The nature and extent of the financial instruments outstanding at the balance sheet date and the risk management policies employed by the Company are discussed below. There have been no changes since last year in the objectives, policies, and processes for managing and measuring risks facing the Company.

17a Market Risk

Market Price Risk

The Company invests in new and expanding businesses, the shares of which may not be traded on the stock market. Consequently, exposure to market factors, in relation to many investments, stems from market based measures that may be used to value unlisted investments.

The market also defines the value at which investments may be sold. Returns are therefore maximised when investments are bought or sold at appropriate times in the economic cycle.

17. Financial Instruments (continued)

Market price risk arises from uncertainty about the future prices of financial instruments held in accordance with the Company's investment objectives. It represents the potential loss that the Company might suffer through holding market positions in the face of market movements. In addition, the ability of the Company to purchase or sell investments is also constrained by requirements set down for VCTs.

Of the Company's investments, 6 per cent are quoted on AIM (2016: 5 per cent). A 5 per cent increase in stock prices as at 31 December 2017 would have increased the net assets attributable to the Company's shareholders and the total profit for the year by £114,000 (2016: £104,000). An equal change in the opposite direction would have decreased the net assets attributable to the Company's shareholders and the total profit for the year by an equal amount.

Of the Company's investments, 94 per cent are in unquoted companies held at fair value (2016: 95 per cent). The valuation methodology for these investments includes the application of externally produced FTSE® PE multiples. Therefore the value of the unquoted element of the portfolio is also indirectly affected by price movements on the listed market. Investments have been valued in line with the valuation guidelines described within note 1. Those using an earnings multiple methodology include judgements regarding the level of discount applied to that multiple. A 10 per cent decrease in the discount applied would have increased the net assets attributable to the Company's shareholders and the total profit for the year by £3,210,000 (5.4 per cent of net assets). An equal change in the opposite direction would have decreased net assets attributable to the Company's shareholders and the total profit for the year by the same amount.

Other valuations are valued at the price of recent investment, reviewed and discounted where the fair value of the investment no longer equates to the cost of the recent investment. A 10 per cent decrease in the discount applied would have increased the net assets attributable to the Company's shareholders and the total profit for the year by less than 0.5 per cent of net assets.

The largest single concentration of risk relates to the Company's investment in Intelligent Office UK (IO Outsourcing Limited t/a Intelligent Office) which constitutes 5.6 per cent of the net assets attributable to the Company's shareholders. The Board seeks to mitigate this risk by diversifying the portfolio and monitors the status of all investments on an ongoing basis. The average investment, excluding those that have had their fair value reduced to nil, is 1.8 per cent (2016: 1.8 per cent) of the value of net assets.

Comparison of realised proceeds to unrealised valuations

The table below shows a comparison of the realised proceeds to the unrealised valuations one year prior to sale, for all disposals of unquoted investments over the last ten years.

	Date of Disposal	Sale proceeds to date £000	Valuation one year earlier £000	Increase (decrease) £000
Sarian Systems Limited	Apr-08	2,605	1,305	1,300
DxS Limited	Sep-09	2,515	320	2,195
Silistix Limited	Dec-10	10	387	(377)
Primal Pictures Limited	Aug-12	1,916	1,008	908
Sirigen Group Limited	Aug-12	1,962	517	1,445
Digital Healthcare Limited	Aug-13	1,285	1,156	129
Waterfall Services Limited	Jan-14	964	489	475
Insider Technologies (Holdings) Limited	Oct-15	773	587	186
Callstream Group Limited	Mar-16	785	773	12
Cambrian Park & Leisure Homes Limited	Mar-17	-	1,251	(1,251)
Ness (Holdings) Limited*	Mar-17	120	509	(389)
Selima Holding Company Ltd*	May-17	996	462	534
Harvey Jones Holdings Limited	Aug-17	559	617	(58)
		14,490	**9,381**	**5,109**

* Includes estimated value of deferred consideration on exit or liquidation.

Interest Rate Risk

The Company's venture capital investments include £14,098,000 (2016: £14,527,000) of loan stock in unquoted companies. The majority of this loan stock at 31 December 2017 is at fixed rates to guard against fluctuations in interest rates. As a result the Company is only exposed to cash flow interest rate risk on £750,000 (2016: £750,000) of its loan stock portfolio.

The Company has some exposure to interest rates as a result of interest earned on bank deposits. Other financial assets (being accrued income and trade and other receivables) and other financial liabilities (being accrued expenses) attract no interest. A sensitivity analysis has not been performed as the amounts involved are not considered to be significant.

	2017			2016		
	£000	Weighted average interest rate %	Weighted average time for which rate is fixed Months	£000	Weighted average interest rate %	Weighted average time for which rate is fixed Months
Fixed rate loan stock and preference shares	**18,017**	**8.5**	**20**	18,727	9.3	27
Cash on fixed term deposit	**1,988**	**1.5**	**3**	3,037	0.9	3
Combined	**20,005**	**7.8**	**19**	21,764	8.2	24

Exchange Rate Risk

The Company has no significant exposure to exchange rate risk.

17b Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that the counterparty to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation or commitment that it has entered into with the Company. The Investment Adviser has in place a monitoring procedure in respect of counterparty risk which is reviewed on an ongoing basis. The carrying amounts of financial assets excluding equity investments total £37,764,000 (2016: £36,492,000) which best represents the maximum credit risk exposure at the balance sheet date.

The Company does not invest in floating rate instruments other than, on occasion, unquoted loan stock. Credit risk on unquoted loan stock held within unlisted investments is considered to be part of market risk as disclosed above.

The fair value of the loans and receivables is not regarded as having changed due to the changes in credit risk in either year.

Credit risk arising on transactions with brokers relates to transactions awaiting settlement. Risk relating to unsettled transactions is considered to be small due to the short settlement period involved and the high credit quality of the brokers used. The Board monitors the quality of service provided by the brokers used to further mitigate this risk. Bankruptcy or insolvency of the broker may cause the Company's rights with respect to securities held by the broker to be delayed or limited. The Investment Adviser monitors the Company's risk by reviewing the broker's internal control reports on a regular basis.

The cash held by the Company is held across a number of banks to spread the risk. Bankruptcy or insolvency of these banks may cause the Company's rights with respect to the cash held by the bank to be delayed or limited. The banks used by the Company are large and reputable. Should the credit quality or the financial position of the banks or broker deteriorate significantly the Investment Adviser will move the cash holdings to another bank.

17. Financial Instruments (continued)

The maturities of the loan stock portfolio are as follows:

	2017 £000				2016 £000			
	<1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years	>5 years	<1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years	>5 years
Unquoted loan investments	**3,989**	**7,015**	**2,757**	**337**	2,603	2,835	9,089	-

The past due maturity dates of the loan stock portfolio are as follows:

Included within unquoted loan investments are £757,000 (2016: £548,000) of loans which are past their due date but have been re-negotiated.

An aged analysis of the unquoted loan investments included above, which are past due but not individually impaired, is set out below. For this purpose these loans are considered to be past due when any payment due date under the loan's contractual terms (such as payment of interest) is received late or missed. The full value of the loan is given even though, in some cases, the only default is in respect of interest.

	2017 £000 0-6 months	2016 £000 0-6 months
Loans to investee companies past due	**1,799**	1,225

17c Liquidity Risk

The risk to the Company relates to liabilities which fall due within one year. These liabilities are deemed immaterial and as such the risk associated with them is minimal.

The Company needs to retain enough liquid resources to support the financing needs of its investment businesses. To meet this aim the Company places its surplus funds in bank interest deposit accounts. Investments in liquid funds are held for the purpose of liquidity whilst waiting for suitable qualifying investment opportunities to arise.

The Company's liquidity risk is managed on an ongoing basis by the Investment Adviser in accordance with policies and procedures in place. The cash requirements of the Company in respect of each investment are assessed at monthly portfolio meetings.

The Company's overall liquidity risks are monitored on a quarterly basis by the Board. The Company maintains sufficient investments in cash and readily realisable securities to pay accounts payable and accrued expenses. Of the Company's assets 26.6 per cent (2016: 22.9 per cent) are in the forms of liquid cash. There are no undrawn committed borrowing facilities at either year end. The Company does not have a material amount of liabilities at the year end.

18. Capital Management

The Company's objectives when managing capital are:

- to safeguard its ability to continue as a going concern, so that it can continue to provide returns for shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders; and
- to ensure sufficient liquid resources are available to meet the funding requirements of its investments and to fund new investments where identified.

The Company has no external debt; consequently all capital is represented by the value of share capital, distributable and other reserves. Total shareholder equity at 31 December 2017 was £59.06 million (2016: £56.11 million).

In order to maintain or adjust its capital structure the Company may adjust the amount of dividends paid to shareholders, return capital to shareholders, issue new shares or sell assets.

There have been no changes in capital management objectives or the capital structure of the business from the previous year. The Company is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements.

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

No: 04084003
BRITISH SMALLER COMPANIES VCT2 PLC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held at 33 St James Square, London, SW1Y 4JS on 9 May 2018 at 12:00 noon for the following purposes:

To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following resolutions:

Ordinary Resolutions

(1) That the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017 be received.

(2) That the final dividend of 1.5 pence per ordinary share for the year ended 31 December 2017 be approved.

(3) That the Directors' Remuneration Report for the year ended 31 December 2017 be approved other than the part of such report containing the Directors' Remuneration Policy.

(4) That Mr P C Waller be re-elected as a director.

(5) That Mr R M Pettigrew be re-elected as a director.

(6) That Mr R Last be re-elected as a director.

(7) That BDO LLP be re-appointed as auditor to the Company to hold office until the conclusion of the next general meeting at which accounts are laid before the Company and that the directors be authorised to fix their remuneration.

(8) That the directors be and are hereby generally and unconditionally authorised in accordance with Section 551 of the Companies Act 2006 (the "Act") to exercise all the powers of the Company to allot shares in the Company or to grant rights to subscribe for or to convert any security into shares in the Company up to an aggregate nominal amount of £4,000,000, during the period commencing on the passing of this Resolution and expiring on the later of 15 months from the passing of this Resolution or the next Annual General Meeting of the Company (unless previously revoked, varied or extended by the Company in general meeting), but so that this authority shall allow the Company to make before the expiry of this authority offers or agreements which would or might require shares in the Company to be allotted, or rights to subscribe for or to convert any security into shares to be granted, after such expiry and that all previous authorities given to the directors be and they are hereby revoked, provided that such revocation shall not have retrospective effect.

Special Resolutions

(9) That the directors be and are hereby empowered in accordance with Section 570(1) of the Act during the period commencing on the passing of this Resolution and expiring at the conclusion of the Company's next Annual General Meeting, or on the expiry of 15 months following the passing of this Resolution, whichever is the later, (unless previously revoked, varied or extended by the Company in general meeting), to allot equity securities (as defined in Section 560 of the Act) for cash pursuant to the general authority conferred upon the directors in Resolution 8 above as if Section 561 of the Act did not apply to any such allotment provided that this power is limited to the allotment of equity securities in connection with the allotment for cash of equity securities up to an aggregate nominal amount of £4,000,000, but so that this authority shall allow the Company to make offers or agreements before the expiry and the directors may allot securities in pursuance of such offers or agreements as if the powers conferred hereby had not so expired. This power applies in relation to a sale of shares which is an allotment of equity securities by virtue of Section 560(3) of the Act as if in the first paragraph of this Resolution the words "pursuant to the general authority conferred upon the directors in Resolution 8 above" were omitted.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

The City Partnership (UK) Limited
Company Secretary

16 March 2018

Registered office: 5th Floor, Valiant Building, 14 South Parade, Leeds LS1 5QS

Information regarding the Annual General Meeting, including the information required by section 311A of the Companies Act 2006, is available from www.bscfunds.com.

Notes:

(a) Any member of the Company entitled to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting is also entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend, speak and vote instead of that member. Any such appointment can only be made using the procedures set out in these notes and the notes of the Form of Proxy. A member may appoint more than one proxy in relation to the Annual General Meeting provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by that member. A proxy may demand, or join in demanding, a poll. A proxy need not be a member of the Company but must attend the Annual General Meeting in order to represent his appointer. A member entitled to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting may appoint the Chairman or another person as his proxy although the Chairman will not speak for the member. A member who wishes his proxy to speak for him should appoint his own choice of proxy (not the Chairman) and give instructions directly to that person. If you are not a member of the Company but you have been nominated by a member of the Company to enjoy information rights, you do not have a right to appoint any proxies under the procedures set out in these notes. Please read note (k) below. Under section 319A of the Companies Act 2006, the Company must answer any question a member asks relating to the business being dealt with at the Annual General Meeting unless:

- answering the question would interfere unduly with the preparation for the Annual General Meeting or involve the disclosure of confidential information;
- the answer has already been given on a website in the form of an answer to a question; or
- it is undesirable in the interests of the Company or the good order of the Annual General Meeting that the question be answered.

(b) To be valid, a Form of Proxy must be completed and signed and with the power of attorney or other written authority, if any, under which it is signed or an office or notarially certified copy or a copy certified in accordance with the Powers of Attorney Act 1971 of such power and written authority, must be delivered to Link Asset Services, PXS1, 34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham BR3 4ZF not less than 48 hours (excluding weekends and public holidays) before the time appointed for holding the Annual General Meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the Form of Proxy proposes to vote. In the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours (excluding weekends and public holidays) after it is demanded, the document(s) must be delivered as aforesaid not less than 24 hours (excluding weekends and public holidays) before the time appointed for taking the poll, or where the poll is taken not more than 48 hours (excluding weekends and public holidays) after it was demanded, be delivered at (and prior to the commencement of) the meeting at which the demand is made. If no voting indication is given in the Form of Proxy, your proxy will vote (or abstain from voting) as they think fit in relation to any matter put to the Annual General Meeting.

(c) To be valid, any Form of Proxy or other instrument appointing a proxy, must be returned by no later than 12.00 noon on 4 May 2018 through any one of the following methods:

i) by post, courier or (during normal business hours only) hand to the Company's UK registrar at:

Link Asset Services
PXS1
34 Beckenham Road
Beckenham
BR3 4ZF;

ii) electronically through the website of the Company's UK registrar at www.signalshares.com; or

iii) in the case of shares held through CREST, via the CREST system (see note (p) below);

(d) If you return more than one proxy appointment, either by paper or electronic communication, the appointment received last by the Registrar before the latest time for the receipt of proxies will take precedence. You are advised to read the terms and conditions of use carefully. Electronic communication facilities are open to all shareholders and those who use them will not be disadvantaged.

(e) The return of a completed Form of Proxy, electronic filing or any CREST Proxy Instruction (as described in note (p) below) will not prevent a shareholder from attending the Meeting and voting in person if he/she wishes to do so.

(f) In order to revoke a proxy instruction a member will need to inform the Company by sending a signed hard copy notice clearly stating the intention to revoke the proxy appointment to Link Asset Services, PXS1, 34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham BR3 4ZF. In the case of a member which is a company, the revocation notice must be executed under its common seal or signed on its behalf by an officer of the company or an attorney for the company. Any power of attorney or any other authority under which the revocation notice is signed (or a duly certified copy of such power or authority) must be included with the revocation notice. The revocation notice must be received by Link Asset Services before the Annual General Meeting or the holding of a poll subsequently thereto. If a member attempts to revoke his or her proxy appointment but the revocation is received after the time specified then, subject to note (g) directly below, the proxy appointment will remain valid.

(g) Completion and return of a Form of Proxy will not preclude a member of the Company from attending and voting in person. If a member appoints a proxy and that member attends the Annual General Meeting in person, the proxy appointment will automatically be terminated.

(h) Copies of the directors' Letters of Appointment, the Register of Directors' Interests in the ordinary shares of the Company, a copy of the amended articles of association (marked up to show the changes) and a copy of the current articles of association of the Company will be available for inspection at the registered office of the Company during usual business hours on any weekday (weekends and public holidays excluded) from the date of this Notice, until the end of the Annual General Meeting and at the Annual General Meeting venue itself for at least 15 minutes prior to and during the meeting.

(i) Pursuant to Regulation 41 of the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001, the Company has specified that only those holders of the Company's shares registered on the Register of Members of the Company as at close of business on 4 May 2018 or, in the event that the Annual General Meeting is adjourned, on the Register of Members at close of business on the day two days before the time of any adjourned meeting, shall be entitled to attend and vote at the said Annual General Meeting in respect of such shares registered in their name at the relevant time. Changes to entries on the Register of Members after close of business on 4 May 2018 or, in the event that the Annual General Meeting is adjourned, on the Register of Members less than 48 hours before the time of any adjourned meeting, shall be disregarded in determining the right of any person to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting.

(j) As at 16 March 2018 the Company's issued share capital comprised 107,857,275 ordinary shares of 10 pence each with a further 4,006,351 shares held in treasury. Those treasury shares represented 3.6 per cent of the total issued share capital (including treasury shares) at the aforementioned date. Each ordinary share carries one voting right at the Annual General Meeting of the Company and so the total number of voting rights in the Company as at 16 March 2018 was 107,857,275. The website referred to above will include information on the number of ordinary shares and voting rights.

(k) If you are a person who has been nominated under section 146 of the Companies Act 2006 to enjoy information rights ("Nominated Person"):

- You may have a right under an agreement between you and the member of the Company who has nominated you to have information rights ("Relevant Member") to be appointed or to have someone else appointed as a proxy for the Annual General Meeting;
- If you either do not have such a right or if you have such a right but do not wish to exercise it, you may have a right under an agreement between you and the Relevant Member to give instructions to the Relevant Member as to the exercise of voting rights;
- Your main point of contact in terms of your investment in the Company remains the Relevant Member (or, perhaps your custodian or broker) and you should continue to contact them (and not the Company) regarding any changes or queries relating to your personal details and your interest in the Company (including any administrative matters). The only exception to this is where the Company expressly requests a response from you.

(l) A company which is a member can appoint one or more corporate representatives who may exercise, on its behalf, all its powers as a member provided that no more than one corporate representative exercises powers over the same share.

(m) In the case of joint members, any one of them may sign the Form of Proxy. The vote of the person whose name stands first in the register of members of the Company will be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders.

(n) A vote withheld is not a vote in law, which means that the vote will not be counted in the calculation of votes for or against the resolution. If no voting indication is given on the Form of Proxy, the proxy will vote or abstain from voting at his or her discretion. The proxy will vote (or abstain from voting) as he or she thinks fit in relation to any other matter which is put before the Annual General Meeting.

(o) Members may not use any electronic address provided either in this Notice of Annual General Meeting, or any related documents (including the Chairman's letter and Form of Proxy), to communicate with the Company for any purposes other than those expressly stated.

(p) CREST members who wish to appoint a proxy or proxies through the CREST electronic proxy appointment service may do so by using the procedures described in the CREST Manual. CREST Personal Members or other CREST sponsored members, and those CREST members who have appointed a service provider(s), should refer to their CREST sponsor or voting service provider(s), who will be able to take the appropriate action on their behalf. In order for a proxy appointment or instruction made using the CREST service to be valid, the appropriate CREST message (a "CREST Proxy Instruction") must be properly authenticated in accordance with Euroclear UK & Ireland's specifications, and must contain the information required for such instruction, as described in the CREST Manual (available via www.euroclear.com/CREST). The message, regardless of whether it constitutes the appointment of a proxy or is an amendment to the instruction given to a previously appointed proxy must, in order to be valid, be transmitted so as to be received by the issuer's agent (ID RA10) not less than 48 hours (excluding weekends and public holidays) before the time of the Annual General Meeting. For this purpose, the time of receipt will be taken to be the time (as determined by the time stamp applied to the message by the CREST Application Host) from which the issuer's agent is able to retrieve the message by enquiry to CREST in the manner prescribed by CREST. After this time any change of instructions to proxies appointed through CREST should be communicated to the appointee through other means.

BRITISH SMALLER COMPANIES VCT2 PLC

Form of Proxy

To be used at the Annual General Meeting of the Company to be held at 33 St James Square, London, SW1Y 4JS on 9 May 2018 at 12:00 noon

I/We _____ being a member/members of the above named Company entitled to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting of the Company hereby appoint the Chairman of the Annual General Meeting or (see notes (2) to (6)) _____ of

_____

as my/our proxy to vote for me/us on my/our behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Company to be held on 9 May 2018 at 12:00 noon and at any adjournment thereof.

Please tick here if this proxy is one of multiple proxy appointments being made (see note 2) ☐

My/our proxy is to vote on the resolutions as indicated below. Please indicate with an "x" how you wish your vote to be cast. If no voting indication is given, your proxy will vote or abstain from voting on the resolutions at their discretion.

	FOR	AGAINST	WITHHELD
Ordinary Resolutions			
1. To receive the annual report and accounts	☐	☐	☐
2. To approve a final dividend of 1.5 pence per ordinary share	☐	☐	☐
3 To approve the Directors' Remuneration Report	☐	☐	☐
4. To re-elect Mr P C Waller as a director	☐	☐	☐
5. To re-elect Mr R M Pettigrew as a director	☐	☐	☐
6. To re-elect Mr R Last as a director	☐	☐	☐
7. To re-appoint BDO LLP as auditor	☐	☐	☐
8. To authorise the directors to allot shares.	☐	☐	☐
Special Resolutions			
9. To waive pre-emption rights in respect of the allotment of shares.	☐	☐	☐

Signature **Dated** **2018**

Please refer to notes overleaf.

Please complete, sign and date, detach and return the Form of Proxy in the pre-paid envelope provided OR alternatively submit your proxy vote using the on-line facility at www.signalshares.com. You will be asked to enter your investor code, surname and postcode to be able to lodge your vote. Your investor code can be found on your share certificate or recent tax voucher.

Form of Proxy

To be used at the Annual General Meeting of the Company
to be held at 33 St James Square, London, SW1Y 4JS on 9 May 2018 at 12:00 noon

NOTES

1. The Notice of the Annual General Meeting is set out on pages 75 to 78 of the annual report.
2. Any member of the Company entitled to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting is also entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend, speak and vote instead of that member. Any such appointment can only be made using the procedures set out in these notes and set out in the Notice of the Annual General Meeting. A member may appoint more than one proxy in relation to the Annual General Meeting provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by that member. A proxy may demand, or join in demanding, a poll. A proxy need not be a member of the Company but must attend the Annual General Meeting in order to represent his appointer. A member entitled to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting may appoint the Chairman or another person as his proxy although the Chairman will not speak for the member. A member who wishes his proxy to speak for him should appoint his own choice of proxy (not the Chairman) and give instructions directly to that person.
3. If you wish to appoint a proxy of your own choice delete the words "the Chairman of the Annual General Meeting" and insert the name and address of the person whom you wish to appoint in the space provided.
4. To be valid, a Form of Proxy and the power of attorney or other written authority, if any, under which it is signed or an office or notarially certified copy or a copy certified in accordance with the Powers of Attorney Act 1971 of such power and written authority, must be delivered to Link Asset Services, PXS1, 34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham, BR3 4ZF not less than 48 hours (excluding weekends and public holidays) before the time appointed for holding the Annual General Meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the Form of Proxy proposes to vote. In the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours (excluding weekends and public holidays) after it is demanded, the document(s) must be delivered as aforesaid not less than 24 hours (excluding weekends and public holidays) before the time appointed for taking the poll, or where the poll is taken not more than 48 hours (excluding weekends and public holidays) after it was demanded, be delivered at (and prior to the commencement of) the meeting at which the demand is made. If you would like to submit your form of proxy using the web-based voting facility go to www.signalshares.com. You will be asked to enter your investor code, surname and postcode to be able to lodge your vote. Your investor code can be found on your share certificate or recent tax voucher.
5. Any alterations to the Form of Proxy must be initialled by the person who has signed the Form of Proxy.
6. In order to revoke a proxy instruction a member will need to inform the Company by sending a signed hard copy notice clearly stating the intention to revoke the proxy appointment to Link Asset Services, PXS1, 34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham, BR3 4ZF. In the case of a member which is a company, the revocation notice must be executed under its common seal or signed on its behalf by an officer of the company or an attorney for the company. Any power of attorney or any other authority under which the revocation notice is signed (or a duly certified copy of such power or authority) must be included with the revocation notice. The revocation notice must be received by Link Asset Services before the Annual General Meeting or the holding of a poll subsequently thereto. If a member attempts to revoke his or her proxy appointment but the revocation is received after the time specified then, subject to Note 9 below, the proxy appointment will remain valid.
7. In the case of a company, this Form of Proxy must be executed under its common seal or signed on its behalf by its attorney or a duly authorised officer of the company.
8. In the case of joint shareholders, any one of them may sign. The vote of the person whose name stands first in the register of members will be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders.
9. Completion and return of a Form of Proxy will not preclude a member of the Company from attending and voting in person. If a member appoints a proxy and that member attends the Annual General Meeting in person, the proxy appointment will automatically be terminated.
10. A vote withheld is not a vote in law, which means that the vote will not be counted in the calculation of votes for or against the resolution. If no voting indication is given, the proxy will vote or abstain from voting at his or her discretion on any other matter which is put before the Annual General Meeting.
11. CREST members who wish to appoint a proxy or proxies through the CREST electronic proxy appointment service may do so by using the procedures described in the CREST Manual. CREST Personal Members or other CREST sponsored members, and those CREST members who have appointed a service provider(s), should refer to their CREST sponsor or voting service provider(s), who will be able to take the appropriate action on their behalf.

Please complete, sign and date, detach and return the Form of Proxy in the pre-paid envelope provided.

ADVISERS TO THE COMPANY

Investment Adviser
YFM Private Equity Limited
5th Floor, Valiant Building
14 South Parade
Leeds
LS1 5QS

Registrars
Link Asset Services
The Registry
34 Beckenham Road
Beckenham
Kent
BR3 4TU

Solicitors
Howard Kennedy LLP
1 London Bridge
London
SE1 9BG

Stockbrokers
Panmure Gordon (UK) Limited
One New Change
London
EC4M 9AF

Independent Auditor
BDO LLP
55 Baker Street
London
W1U 7EU

VCT Status Adviser
Philip Hare & Associates LLP
Suite C, First Floor
4-6 Staple Inn
Holborn
London
WC1V 7QH

Bankers
Santander UK plc
44 Merrion Street
Leeds
LS2 8JQ

Company Secretary
The City Partnership (UK) Limited
110 George Street
Edinburgh
EH2 4LH

REGISTERED OFFICE OF SIGNIFICANT HOLDINGS

EL Support Services Limited
NB Technology Services Limited
OC Engineering Services Limited
SH Healthcare Services Limited
SP Manufacturing Services Limited
5th Floor, Valiant Building
14 South Parade
Leeds
LS1 5QS

The Heritage Window Company Holdco Limited
Unit 23
Bellingham Trading Estate
Randlesdown Road
London
SE6 3BX

Immunobiology Limited
Babraham Research Campus
Babraham
Cambridge
CB22 3AT

British Smaller Companies VCT2 plc

5th Floor, Valiant Building
14 South Parade
Leeds LS1 5QS

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