

Unicorn AIM VCT closes having raised £13.7 million as the award winning Fund plans a potential new offering

Unicorn AIM VCT closed its latest fund offering on 30 June 2014, having raised a total of £13.7m. This brings the total net assets of the VCT to £94.6 million, meaning it continues to be one of largest VCTs in the market place.

The VCT's Net Asset Value also increased healthily in recent months, due to continued strong performance from the investment portfolio. In the first nine months of its current financial year, the VCT generated a total return of +18.7% (including dividends paid), which compares very favourably with a total return of -0.3% for the FTSE AIM Index (Source: FE Analytics).

Net Asset Value as at 30 June 2014 was 148.1 pence per share (129.8 pence per share as at 30 September 2013).

Alongside capital growth, the VCT has continued to provide regular tax-free dividend income for investors. A dividend of 6 pence per share was paid in January 2014, bringing the total in dividends paid to investors since launch in 2001 to almost £35m. The VCT has also built up substantial reserves, which are available for future dividend distribution.

Unicorn AIM VCT has also received industry recognition having recently been named What Investment Best VCT 2014. In addition, the VCT has been highly rated by independent industry reviewers, including Allenbridge, Bestinvest and Martin Churchill.

Chris Hutchinson, Manager of the Unicorn AIM VCT commented, "The What Investment award, together with other Awards that Unicorn Asset Management has recently received, are recognition of our traditional, long term, high conviction approach to managing funds. The Unicorn investment team is focused and well-resourced – we don't aim to be the biggest, but we do want to be the best at what we do."

Chris Hutchinson added "We aim to have Offers for Subscription available on an annual basis, provided that we continue to see attractive opportunities in the AIM and smaller companies sector. At present, the existing portfolio of investee companies continues to develop and prosper. In addition, there is currently no shortage of interesting and sensibly valued opportunities as evidenced by recent additions to the fund. A new offering in the Unicorn AIM VCT will potentially be available later this year."

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Unicorn Asset Management

Unicorn Asset Management was established in 2000 and is an independently owned and managed company. It specialises in investing in UK small and mid-cap companies, AIM and fledgling markets.

Unicorn operates a team based approach to investment management and its experienced, committed and well-resourced investment team has almost 100 years' of combined experience. Unicorn is focused on being the 'best not the biggest' and its funds aim to deliver long term outperformance. Unlike many investment firms, Unicorn is majority owned by its directors and managers, providing further incentive to help ensure that the funds deliver consistently strong performance.

As at 30 June 2014, Unicorn managed £960 million in a range of funds designed to satisfy a variety of investor requirements, including UK Income, UK Growth, UK Smaller Companies, an investment trust and an AIM focused VCT.

Unicorn AIM VCT

Unicorn AIM VCT was launched in 2001. It is one of the largest VCTs in the market and also has one of the best performance track records amongst AIM-focused VCTs. In addition, Unicorn AIM VCT has a long established track record of making attractive, annual dividend payments; having returned almost £35m to shareholders since launch.

Chris Hutchinson has been lead manager of Unicorn AIM VCT since 2005.

Unicorn AIM VCT is highly rated by independent reviewers Allenbridge, Bestinvest and Martin Churchill.

The VCT seeks to provide Shareholders with an attractive return from a diversified portfolio of investments, predominantly in the shares of AIM quoted companies, by maximising the stream of dividend distributions to Shareholders from the income and capital gains generated by the portfolio while maintaining its status as a Venture Capital Trust.

Chris Hutchinson, Director & Senior Fund Manager

Chris is the lead manager of Unicorn AIM VCT and has been a member of the Unicorn Investment Committee since he joined the firm in 2005.

Prior to joining Unicorn, Chris was a Fund Manager at Montanaro Investment Managers for over eight years where he specialised in UK smaller companies.

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