

Miton UK MicroCap Trust plc

Objective

To provide its shareholders with capital growth over the long term.

Awards and ratings



Key facts

Net assets	£41.7m
Shares in issue	76,923,603
Gearing	0.00%
Share price	47.70p
NAV	54.17p
Premium/(Discount)	(11.94)%
No. of holdings	136
Domicile	United Kingdom
Launch date	30 Apr 2015
Reporting dates	Final - 30 Apr Interim - 31 Oct
ISA eligible	Yes
AIC sector	UK Smaller Companies

Performance comparators

Deutsche Numis 1000 index
IT UK Smaller Companies sector

Trust managers



Gervais Williams
 Joined Premier Miton
Mar 2011
 Manager since
Apr 2015



Martin Turner
 Joined Premier Miton
May 2011
 Manager since
Apr 2015

Directors

Ashe Windham (Chairman),
 Louise Bonham,
 Peter Dicks,
 Davina Walter

Fund codes

ISIN	GB00BWFQ085
SEDOL	BWFGQ08
Bloomberg	MINI LN

Manager commentary

The 'small company (small-cap) effect' identifies that over the longer term the return of individual company shares are typically inversely related to their size. But during 2023, return has been dominated by the appreciation of the largest companies known as mega-caps. The seven technology mega-caps in the US for example, have on average more than doubled over 2023. Meanwhile, UK small-caps listed on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM exchange) on average fell modestly.

During the final quarter of 2023, the companies whose share prices rose started to include the medium (mid) sized companies. Bond prices also improved markedly as investors anticipated interest rate cuts in 2024.

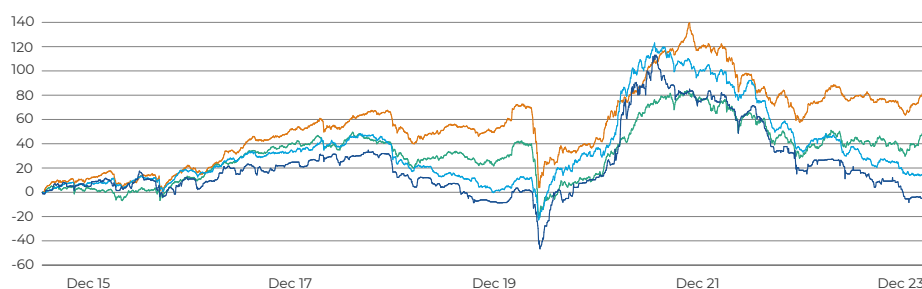
At this stage however, the small-cap trend hasn't worked all the way down into UK-quoted genuine small and micro-caps. The final quarter may have been the best of the four for companies listed on the AIM exchange, but often the share price increases only made up for when these had been weak earlier in the year.

If anything, economic conditions are changing from the period of globalisation. With interest rates above inflation for example, global growth often suffers a pronounced setback. At such times, large companies with their major market positions can really struggle, as the large can't easily make up for a demand shortfall by expanding rapidly enough in other areas. In contrast, small-caps, with their greater agility, can sometimes make up for a setback by expanding elsewhere.

Thus, if the current economic and geopolitical trends continue, they favour the UK stock market because it is dominated by cash generative companies that tend to be somewhat resilient when financial conditions are tough. During the persistent inflationary pressures and recessions between 1965 and 1985 for example, we note that the UK stock market greatly outperformed the US stock market. Alongside, the best performing part of one of the best performing global stock markets were UK micro-caps!

Gervais Williams & Martin Turner
 31.12.2023

Performance since trust launch (%)



Cumulative performance (%)	1m	3m	1y	3y	5y	Trust launch
Share price	-1.04	-12.48	-24.91	-31.11	-8.99	-5.04
NAV	0.86	-7.45	-20.22	-32.13	-6.48	13.18
Deutsche Numis 1000 index	8.23	5.55	6.63	6.54	20.94	48.22
IT UK Smaller Companies sector	5.35	3.80	3.73	4.10	28.88	81.63

Calendar year performance (%)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Share price	-17.86	-0.90	33.32	28.61	-28.67	-24.91
NAV	-11.81	-8.17	50.04	20.03	-29.13	-20.22
Deutsche Numis 1000 index	-14.33	15.28	-1.53	24.99	-20.06	6.63
IT UK Smaller Companies sector	-10.13	22.22	1.29	26.02	-20.37	3.73

Discrete annual performance (%)	31.12.18	31.12.19	31.12.20	31.12.21	30.12.22	30.12.23
Share price	-0.90	33.32	28.61	-28.67	-24.91	
NAV	-8.17	50.04	20.03	-29.13	-20.22	
Deutsche Numis 1000 index	15.28	-1.53	24.99	-20.06	6.63	
IT UK Smaller Companies sector	22.22	1.29	26.02	-20.37	3.73	

Source of performance data: Morningstar, as at 31.12.2023, net income reinvested, bid to bid basis, Index on a total return basis. ©2023 Morningstar. All Rights Reserved. The information contained herein; is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; may not be copied or redistributed; and is not warranted to be accurate, complete or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information.

Key risks: The value of investments may fluctuate which will cause fund prices to fall as well as rise and investors may not get the original amount invested. The performance information presented on this page relates to the past. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. Reference to any stock or fund is not a recommendation for investment purposes. More information about the risks of investment is provided later in this document.

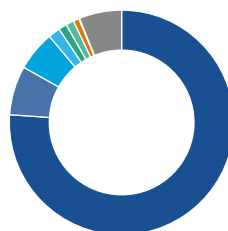


Portfolio breakdown

Top 20 holdings (%)

Yu Group	8.5
Accrol Group	2.8
MTI Wireless Edge	2.4
Trufin	2.1
CyanConnode Holdings	2.1
Journeo	2.0
Shield Therapeutics	2.0
Braemar	1.9
Zinc Media Group	1.8
Supreme	1.6
Serabi Gold	1.6
Ingenta	1.6
Andrada Mining	1.5
Ultimate Products	1.5
Frontier IP Group	1.5
Concurrent Technologies	1.5
STM Group	1.4
CT Automotive Group	1.4
Ondo Insurtech	1.4
Van Elle	1.3

Index weighting (%)



■ FTSE AIM	76.1
■ FTSE Small Cap	7.1
■ UK-listed non-indexed shares	5.7
■ Nex Exchange	1.7
■ Other	1.2
■ Overseas	1.1
■ FTSE Fledgling	0.8
■ FTSE 100 Put Options	0.1
■ Cash	6.1

Charges

Ongoing charges figure (OCF)	1.72%
as at 30.04.2023	

The ongoing charges figure (OCF) is not the same as the ongoing costs figure set out in the Company's Key Information Document. The key differences are that gearing costs and portfolio transaction costs are not included in the OCF. In addition costs are calculated on slightly different bases. The OCF figure set out above mirrors that in the Report and Accounts and is based on costs incurred in the year which are likely to recur in the foreseeable future. The ongoing costs figures in the Key Information Document provide investors with the impact costs have had on returns averaged over the five year recommended holding period.

Management fee on market cap	0.90%
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General risks

All types of investment carry a degree of risk. It is possible you could lose some, or all, of the money you invest. The level of risk varies depending on the type of investment.

Typically, you are less likely to lose money over the long term from an investment that is considered low risk, although potential returns may also be lower. Investments considered higher risk typically offer greater opportunities for better long-term returns, though the risk of losing money is also likely to be higher.

When you invest, it is important that you understand the risk to your money and are

comfortable with that level of risk. If you are unsure, we would recommend that you consult a financial adviser.

Past performance of an investment is not an indication of how it will perform in the future. The value of your investment and any income generated by your investment can go down as well as up, and you could get back less than you invested.

The value of your investment might not keep up with any rise in the cost of living. You could lose money if financial markets fall.

There is no guarantee that the investment objective of the trust will be achieved.

The levels of taxation that apply to income or capital gains from the trust, including any tax relief that may be available, will depend on your personal tax situation.

Trusts with similar objectives may not perform in the same way as they are likely to have different holdings or hold different amounts of the same investment.

Performance will be affected by investment decisions made by the fund managers.

Other risks

Some of the main specific risks of investing in this trust are summarised here.

Derivative

A contract whose value is based on the change in price of a specific asset or index. When derivatives are used within a trust, it doesn't necessarily increase risk. However, price changes in the underlying asset can translate into big swings in the value of derivatives (up and down), which has a direct effect on the value of the trust.

Equities

Equities (shares) can experience high levels of price fluctuation.

Geographic concentration

Trusts that have a strong focus on a particular country or region can carry a higher risk than trusts with a more diversified portfolio.

Hedging

A hedge is designed to offset the risk of another investment falling in price. It can also act as a limit on potential gains if the investment that has been hedged increases in value.

Inflation

Higher inflation can lead to some investments falling in value, particularly those with a fixed level

of interest, for example government bonds and corporate bonds.

Infrastructure

Investments are often in large-scale projects whose profitability can be affected by supply problems or rising prices for raw materials or natural resources. Changes in the wider economy and government regulation can also have a significant influence.

Interest rate

Changes in central bank interest rates can affect all types of assets, in particular, securities such as government bonds and corporate bonds that generally offer a fixed level of interest. If interest rates go up, the value of a bond may fall, and vice versa.

Legal and tax

The income or capital gains from investments can sometimes be affected by changes in legal and tax regulations or how these rules are applied.

Liquidity

In some instances, for example, when market conditions generally are difficult, holdings in a trust may be difficult to sell and buy at the desired price. The trust value could fall as a result.

Operational

Processes, systems and controls around your investment might fail. The more complex or unusual the investments that the trust holds, the more likely this is to happen. For example, developing markets may have less reliable systems or lower standards of governance than more developed markets.

Property and Real Estate Investment Trusts

Property values can rise and fall sharply depending on the strength of a country's economy.

Put-options

A type of derivative. Put-options can be used for a number of reasons. For example, they can be used to protect the value of an underlying investment or group of investments against a fall in value. They can be thought of as an insurance policy. These can make a trust more volatile from time to time.

Smaller companies

Investment in smaller companies is typically higher risk than investment in larger companies. Shares in smaller companies can experience greater levels of volatility.



Ratings, awards and other information

The methodology and calculations used by the third parties providing the ratings/awards are not verified by Premier Miton Investors and we are unable to accept responsibility for their accuracy, nor should they be relied upon for making an investment decision.

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Glossary

Annual management charge (AMC)

The yearly fee paid to Premier Miton for managing a trust, expressed as a percentage of your investment. The AMC does not typically change from year to year.

Assets

Different groups of investments such as company shares, bonds, commodities or property.

Bonds (or fixed income)

Types of investments that allow investors to loan money to governments and companies, usually in return for a regular fixed level of interest until the bond's maturity date, plus the return of the original value of the bond at the maturity date. The price of bonds will vary and the investment terms of bonds will also vary.

Capital

Describes financial assets, particularly cash, or other assets, such as shares, owned by a person or organisation.

Capital growth

The increase in the value of an asset or investment over time, measured by its current value compared to its purchase cost.

Discount

The shares of investment trusts can have a price below the value of their net assets, this difference is known as the discount. The shares can also be at a premium to their net assets.

Dividends

The portion of its capital that a company chooses to return to its shareholders. For a

trust, this is the payment of trust's income to its shareholders.

Equities

Another name for shares (or stock) in a company.

FTSE 100 Put Option

A type of derivative contract in which the underlying value is based on the level of the FTSE 100 index which tracks the performance of the top 100 largest companies by market value listed on the London Stock Exchange. Such contracts can be used to protect the value of an underlying investment or group of investments against a fall in the value of those 100 largest companies and can be thought of as an insurance policy.

Gearing

The level of a company's debt in relation to its capital. A company with significant debt compared to its capital is considered to be highly geared.

Individual Savings Account (ISA)

A type of tax-free scheme, set up by the government, designed to help people make the most of their savings and investments. All income and gains from an ISA investment are exempt from UK Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax. HM Revenue and Customs sets the maximum amounts that you are allowed to invest into an ISA each tax year.

Small-cap

On the London Stock Exchange, the term 'small cap' refers to companies with a market capitalisation between £50m and £230m.

Micro-Cap

A company with a market capitalisation (the total value of all a company's shares) of below £250 million.

Net Asset Value (NAV)

The total of a company's assets minus its liabilities. The net asset value per share is the total of a company's assets minus its liabilities divided by the number of shares in issue.

Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF)

As recommended by the Association of Investment Companies in its guidance, ongoing charges are the Company's annualised revenue and capital expenses (excluding finance costs and certain non-recurring items) expressed as a percentage of the average monthly net assets of the Company during the year. Please note this figure is different to what is stated in the PRIIPS KID.

Total return

A way of showing how an investment has performed, and is made-up of the capital appreciation or depreciation and includes any income generated by the investment. Measured over a set period, it is expressed as a percentage of the value of the investment at the start of that period.

Share price yield

The dividend per share divided by the stock's or fund's price per share and expressed as a percentage. The historic yield is the dividend income distributed during the past year and expressed as a percentage of the share price on a particular day.

Corporate contacts

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Contact us

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A free, English language copy of the trust's full prospectus, the Key Information Document and Pre-investment Disclosure Document are available on the Premier Miton website, or you can request copies by calling us on 01483 306090.

For your protection, calls may be monitored and recorded for training and quality assurance purposes.

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