## **Key Information Document**

**Purpose:** This document provides you with key information about this investment product. It is not marketing material. The information is required by law to help you understand the nature, risks, costs, potential gains and losses of this product and to help you compare it with other products.



#### **Product**

#### The European Smaller Companies Trust PLC ISIN: GB00BMCF8689

An Investment Trust manufactured by **Janus Henderson Fund Management UK Limited**. The Manufacturer is authorised in the UK and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA"). More information is available at www.janushenderson.com/JHIT or by calling +44 (0)20 7818 1818. This document is dated 30 October 2024.

## What is this product?

#### Type

This investment trust ("the Company") is an investment company as defined in Section 833 of the Companies Act 2006 and operates as an investment trust in accordance with Section 1158 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010. The Company is listed on the London Stock Exchange and subject to the UK Listing Rules, Prospectus Regulation Rules and Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules issued by the FCA.

#### **Objectives**

The Company seeks capital growth by investing in smaller and medium sized companies which are quoted, domiciled, listed or have operations in Europe (excluding the UK). Smaller and medium sized companies are defined as those whose market capitalisation is equal to or below the largest member of the Euromoney Smaller European Companies ex-UK index at the time of investing. The Company may use financial instruments known as derivatives for the purpose of efficient portfolio management

while maintaining a level of risk consistent with the profile of the company. Net gearing is limited to a maximum of 30% of NAV at the time of investment.

#### Intended Retail Investor

Investors (retail, professional and eligible counterparties) with at least basic capital markets knowledge or experience of shares, who understand the Company's risks, seeking capital growth from smaller European companies excluding the UK, and intend to invest their money for at least five years. This Company is designed to be used only as a component in a diversified investment portfolio and is not designed for investors who are unable to accept more than a minimal loss of their investment.

This investment has no maturity date. There are no circumstances under which Janus Henderson would be entitled to terminate the Company unilaterally. There are no circumstances under which the Company can be automatically terminated.

## What are the risks and what could I get in return?

#### **Risk Indicator**

Lower Risk

1 2

2 3







Higher Risk

The risk indicator assumes that you keep the product for 5 years. The actual risk can vary significantly if you cash in at an early stage and you may get back less.

The summary risk indicator is a guide to the level of risk of this product compared to other products. It shows how likely it is that the product will lose money because of movements in the markets or because we are not able to pay you.

We have classified this product as 5 out of 7, which is a medium-

high risk class.

This rates the potential losses from future performance at a medium-high level, and poor market conditions will likely impact the capacity of the manufacturer to pay you.

This product does not include any protection from future market performance so you could lose some or all of your investment.

The summary risk indicator does not include risks such as risks associated with gearing, portfolio concentration, single market exposure, currency risk, counterparty risk, regulatory risk, derivatives risk and emerging markets risk, for example. Details of all relevant risks are on the Company's website and in the annual report which can be found at www.janushenderson.com/JHIT.

#### Investment performance information

Aims to achieve capital growth in excess of the MSCI Europe ex UK Small Cap Index.

#### What could affect my return positively?

Historically, small-cap stocks have outperformed large-cap stocks over the long-term. They tend to outperform in young bull markets when stocks are moving higher. This is generally the case when the economy is strong or strengthening, company profits are rising, and investor confidence is high.

#### What could affect my return negatively?

Small-caps are riskier than their large cap counterparts and their value can be more sensitive to market movements and rising interest rates. As they are more volatile, they may be more vulnerable to recessions, market crashes, and other geopolitical events. In severe adverse market conditions you could lose some or all of your investment.

# What happens if Janus Henderson Fund Management UK Limited is unable to pay out?

In the event of the default or liquidation of Janus Henderson Fund Management UK Limited, there would be no direct impact on investors as the assets in the Company are held independently of Janus Henderson. The Board of the Company would seek to find a new investment manager. However, a default by the Company or any of the underlying holdings could affect the value of your investment. You may sell your shares at any time on the London Stock Exchange using your share dealing service. Your shares are sold to another buyer in the market and not directly to the Company or Janus Henderson Fund Management UK Limited. If the Company goes into liquidation the investments will be sold and you will receive your pro rata share of the proceeds after settlement of any liabilities. Investment Trusts are not covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

## What are the costs?

This disclosure has been prepared with reference to the FCA's statement on 19 September 2024 that Investment Trusts are no longer required to follow the historical cost disclosures under the PRIIPs Regulation.

The person/company selling you or advising you about this product may charge you costs (which may include broker commission, platform fees, advisory fees and/or stamp duty). If so, this person/company will provide you with information about these costs, and show you the impact that all costs will have on your investment over time. In purchasing the Company's ordinary shares, as with shares in listed companies more generally, there should be no additional costs paid by you other than those mentioned above.

As a listed company, the Company's operating costs are disclosed in the annual report and accounts. The Association of Investment Companies ("AIC") has recommended that Investment Trusts disclose an Ongoing Charges Figure ("OCF"). This is calculated annually as a percentage of the average net assets and provides an indication of the underlying day-to-day operating costs of the Company. The most recent figure for the year ended 30 June 2024 was 0.67%. More information on the calculation of the OCF, as well as costs more generally, are set out in the annual report.

For the avoidance of doubt, the OCF does not represent an additional fee that shareholders must pay directly to the Company. Instead, the operating costs are paid by the Company and are reflected in the Company's Net Asset Value (NAV).

#### The table below shows the breakdown of annualized costs and charges payable by you to the Company

	1		
One-off costs	Entry costs	0.00%	The impact of the costs you pay when entering your investment. Neither the investment manager nor the Company makes any charges when you purchase your investment. Stamp Duty Reserve Tax (SDRT) of 0.5% is payable if UK shares are purchased on the secondary market.
	Exit costs	0.00%	The impact of the costs of exiting your investment when you sell it. Neither the investment manager nor the Company makes any charges when you sell your investment.
Ongoing costs	Portfolio transaction costs	0.00%	The impact of the costs of us buying and selling underlying investments for the Company's portfolio. No portfolio transaction costs, relating to the buying and selling of underlying investments, are payable by you to the Company. You should be aware that portfolio transaction costs are incurred by the Company, as set out in the annual report.
	Other ongoing costs	0.00%	No management or advisory fees are payable by you to the Company, its investment manager or other service providers. You should be aware that management, advisory and administration expenses are incurred by the Company, as set out in the Company's annual report. The most recent OCF for the year ended 30 June 2024 was 0.67%.
Incidental costs	Performance fees	0.00%	No performance fees are payable by you to the Company, its investment manager or other service providers. You should be aware that a performance fee could be incurred by the Company, as set out in the Company's annual report. The performance fee paid for the year ended 30th June 2024 was 0.08%.
	Carried interest	0.00%	There are no carried interests.



## How long should I hold it and can I take money out early?

#### Recommended holding period: 5 years

Investment Trusts should be considered medium to long term investments. This means 5 years or more. There is no minimum (or maximum) holding period and shares can be sold at any time after purchase. These transactions may be subject to dealing charges and taxes. There is no guarantee that any appreciation in the value of the Company's investments will occur and investors may not get back the full value of their investments. The value of the shares and the income derived from them (if any) may go down as well as up. The share sale price will be based on trading prices at the time and is unlikely to equal the net asset value per share of the Company. The share price, premium/discount and net asset value are available on the Company's website.

## How can I complain?

Should you wish to complain you can do so by contacting us by telephone, email or post. Telephone: +44 (0)20 7818 1818. Email: ITSecretariat@janushenderson.com. Post: Janus Henderson Investors, Investment Trusts, 201 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 3AE. Contact information can also be found on our website www.janushenderson.com/JHIT.

#### Other relevant information

This disclosure has been prepared with reference to the FCA's statement on 19 September 2024 that <u>Investment Trusts are no longer required to follow the historical cost disclosures under the PRIIPs Regulation</u>. Further information on the Company can be found in the annual and half-year reports and Factsheet which are available on the Company's website at www.janushenderson.com/JHIT. The annual report will include details of the Company's management fees, administrative expenses and borrowing costs. Janus Henderson Investors is the name under which investment products and services are provided by Janus Henderson Fund Management UK Limited (reg. no. 2678531), is incorporated and registered in England and Wales with registered office at 201 Bishopsgate London EC2M 3AE and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority to provide investment products and services.

