

## SARASIN AIM STRATEGY

SARASIN  
& PARTNERS

Data as at: | As at 31 March 2021

## PORTFOLIO INFORMATION

Structure	<b>Discretionary Portfolio</b>
Benchmark	<b>Numis Alternative Markets Index</b>
Peer Group	<b>ARC AIP</b>
Net Assets	<b>£91.4m</b>
Dividend Yield	<b>1.1%</b>
Number of Holdings	<b>26</b>
Management Fee	<b>1.5% + VAT</b>
Dealing Fee	<b>0%</b>
Initial Fee	<b>0%</b>

## STRATEGY PROFILE

The Sarasin & Partners AIM Service provides investors with a concentrated portfolio of 20-30 stocks listed on the AIM market. These are companies that are capable of generating sustained long term growth, usually driven by themes identified in our investment process. As with all Sarasin investment products we take an active approach, and ESG considerations are incorporated into fundamental and risk analysis.

All stocks are expected to qualify for Business Relief after being held for 2 years, and are checked by a third party before initial investment and annually thereafter.

The strategy seeks to generate a net total return in excess of the Benchmark.

## MONTHLY COMMENTARY

In March the AIM portfolio performed strongly and rose 4.3%. This was ahead of the benchmark which gained 1.3%. After a challenging February for quality and growth stocks, earnings season was highly reassuring and reminded investors of the resilience and durability of many of the portfolio companies. This portfolio growth came in spite of a continued rise in 10-year treasury yields, a dynamic that has persisted since the start of the year and that so often hinders longer duration equities.

There was a significant volume of news flow from the companies in the portfolio, a large portion of which was related to financial results. As indicated in prior trading updates 2020 was well navigated by most, but of more interest was guidance for the year ahead. Understandably, management teams are reluctant to be too precise in their forecasting due to uncertainties around the timing of different markets reopening, but the tone has been generally positive. Just under half of the portfolio reported, and indications are for strong growth in the coming year, even for those companies that were less impacted during 2020.

Balance sheets are in good health, and many anticipate a pick up in M&A activity as risks to future cashflows begin to mitigate. Some companies have begun already, and AB Dynamics, Keywords Studios, Smart Metering Systems and Ideagen each made notable acquisitions during the month. Zoo Digital raised over £7m at the end of the month in order to satisfy accelerating demand and invest in new capabilities to broaden the offering to its customers. This increases their addressable market and will help to grow and sustain their current trajectory.

## PERFORMANCE STATISTICS

## CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE (%)

	YTD	1y	3y	5y	Since Launch
Strategy <sup>1</sup>	3.8	51.4	10.9	56.5	144.4
Benchmark	4.0	75.6	21.4	78.3	33.1

## ANNUALISED STATISTICS SINCE LAUNCH (%)

	Returns (Ann)	Volatility (Ann)
Strategy	6.5	24.2
Benchmark	2.0	23.3

## CALENDAR YEAR PERFORMANCE (%)

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Strategy <sup>1</sup>	8.9	27.3	-25.5	34.3	3.8
Peer Group	0.3	25.3	-15.2	18.7	11.6
Quartile	1	1	4	1	4

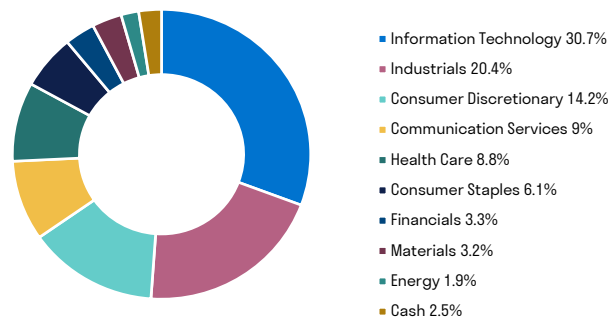
Peer group performance data is available quarterly and this figure shows performance to the latest available quarter. Data as at 31.12.20.

Inception of strategy: 01.01.07.

Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

The value of the investments of the model portfolios and the income from them can fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. The benchmark from inception to 30.06.2020 was the FTSE AIM All Share Index. From 01.07.2020 the benchmark changed to the Numis Alternative Markets (inc Investment Companies) Index. ARC IHT Portfolio Indices ("AIP") are based on historical information and past performance is not indicative of future performance. 'S&P's composite performance is measured by the average of all AIM clients weighted by portfolio size whereas ARC's calculation is composed of an average of all AIM clients not weighted by size of portfolio. This difference in methodology could lead to slight discrepancies.

## SECTOR ALLOCATION



## TOP 5 HOLDINGS

Company	Weight (%)
Asos Plc	7.9%
Clinigen Group Plc	5.0%
Rws Holdings Plc	5.0%
Smart Metering Systems Plc	4.8%
Team17 Group Plc	4.6%

## MANAGER PROFILE

### Hugo Wood

Hugo is a member of the UK equity team and is responsible for coverage of AIM companies and main market mid- and small-sized UK companies. He is also the manager of the AIM portfolios.

Prior to joining Sarasin & Partners in 2018, Hugo spent four years at Smith & Williamson working as a discretionary investment manager, as well as making up part of the AIM team. Hugo is a CFA charterholder.

### Edward Campbell-Johnston

Edward is responsible for the management of portfolios for private clients, personal pension funds and charities. He also manages Sarasin & Partners' AIM inheritance tax sheltered portfolio service.

Edward has an MA Hons degree in Management and International Relations from the University of St Andrews, and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Securities & Investments (CISI).

## CONTACT US

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**Past performance is no guide to future performance and there is no guarantee that your AIM portfolio's objective will be achieved. We can make no guarantee either of investment performance or the level of capital gains or income that will be generated by your AIM portfolio. The value of qualifying investments and the income derived from them may go down as well as up and you may not get back the full amount invested.** Assessing the relative risk of the factors above is very subjective and can change in response to specific events or revised social/economic forecasts. It is not possible to lay down precise guidelines for the measurement of risk or the potential impact, whether positive or negative, upon an investment portfolio. Liquidity Please note that qualifying investments carry a higher degree of risk than investing in more liquid shares of larger companies. The share prices of AIM investments are generally more volatile than shares listed on the London Stock Exchange main market. The value of your investments may decline and there is a risk that this may outweigh any IHT saving. You should be aware that the qualifying investments in your AIM portfolio may be classified under FCA Rules as 'not readily realisable' (these are investments in which the market is limited or could become so: they can be difficult to deal in or obtain reliable information about their value). You should also be aware that certain qualifying investments may not have a regular dealing date, only deal on certain dates or have a minimum holding period. As such, it may well not be possible to deal in such qualifying investments on a regular basis. Tax Rates of tax, tax benefits and allowances are based on current legislation and HMRC practice. These may change from time to time and are not guaranteed. The AIM portfolio service has been designed with UK-resident taxpayers in mind. If you are not resident or ordinarily resident in the UK for tax purposes, it may not be appropriate or advantageous for you to subscribe to the AIM Portfolio Service. Qualifying investments Qualifying investments in which we invest may cease to qualify for IHT exemption. In this case, the relief available on that particular investment will be lost. In some instances, investments in particular companies will be sold if we believe that the investment rationale outweighs the tax benefits associated with retaining the holding. This may give rise to a capital gains tax charge. If the investment was qualifying at the time of sale and a new qualifying investment is acquired with the proceeds of sale, the two year holding period can be satisfied by combining these periods of ownership. If not, the relief available on that particular investment will be lost and the two-year holding period will begin afresh. This document is issued by Sarasin & Partners LLP, a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales with registered number 0C329859, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. It has been prepared solely for information purposes and is not a solicitation, or an offer to buy or sell any security. The information on which the document is based has been obtained from sources that we believe to be reliable, and in good faith, but we have not independently verified such information and no representation or warranty, express or implied, is made as to their accuracy. All expressions of opinion are subject to change without notice. Sarasin & Partners LLP and/or any other member of the Bank J. Safra Sarasin group accepts no liability or responsibility whatsoever for any consequential loss of any kind arising out of the use of this document or any part of its contents. The use of this document should not be regarded as a substitute for the exercise by the recipient of his or her own judgement. Sarasin & Partners LLP and/or any person connected with it may act up on or make use of the material referred to herein and/or any of the information upon which it is based, prior to publication of this document. For your protection, telephone calls may be recorded. © 2021 Sarasin & Partners LLP – all rights reserved. This document can only be distributed or reproduced with permission from Sarasin & Partners LLP. Please contact marketing@sarasin.co.uk

