

Trust Fact Sheet

28 February 2019



Trust Facts

Ordinary Shares

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| Share Price | 127.00p |
| NAV per share | 134.41p |
| Premium | - |
| Discount | -5.51% |
| Capital | 202,775,000 shares of 5p |

Assets & Gearing ¹

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Total Net Assets | £272.5m |
| AIC Gearing Ratio | 3.37% |
| AIC Net Cash Ratio | 0.00% |

Historic Yield (%)² 3.27

Dividends (p/share)

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| February 2019 (paid) | 1.90 |
| July 2018 (paid) | 2.25 |
| February 2018 (paid) | 1.80 |
| July 2017 (paid) | 2.10 |

Benchmark ³

MSCI World Financials + Real Estate Net Total Return Index

Fees ^{4,5}

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Management | 0.85% |
| Performance | 10% |
| Ongoing Charges | 0.99% |

Risk Warning

Your capital is at risk. You may not get back the full amount you invested. Please note the Important Information at the end of this document and the Investment Policy and full Risk Warnings set out in the Prospectus, Annual Report and/or Investor Disclosure Document.

Discount Warning

The shares of investment trusts may trade at a discount or a premium to Net Asset Value for a variety of reasons including market sentiment and market conditions. On a sale you could realise less than the Net Asset Value and less than you initially invested.

Subscription shares will have a dilutive effect on ordinary shares when the Net Asset Value (NAV) is greater than the conversion price.

Company Profile

Investment Objective

The Company's investment objective is to generate for investors a growing dividend income together with capital appreciation.

Investment Policy

The Company will seek to achieve its objective by investing primarily in a global portfolio consisting of listed or quoted securities issued by companies in the financials sector operating in the banking, insurance, property and other sub-sectors.

Performance

Performance Since Launch (%)



| | 1 month | 3 month | YTD | 1 year | 3 years | 5 years | Since Launch |
|--|---------|---------|------|--------|---------|---------|--------------|
| ■ Ordinary Share Price (TR) ⁶ | 1.91 | -2.33 | 5.24 | -8.33 | 54.32 | 41.05 | 49.51 |
| ■ NAV per Share (TR) | 1.88 | -1.49 | 6.82 | -6.04 | 50.01 | 57.57 | 65.34 |
| ■ Benchmark ³ | 1.49 | -2.31 | 6.59 | -3.43 | 50.24 | 57.49 | 64.65 |

Discrete Performance (%)

| | 30.11.18 28.02.19 | 30.11.17 30.11.18 | 30.11.16 30.11.17 | 28.11.15 30.11.16 | 29.11.14 28.11.15 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Ordinary Share Price (TR) ⁶ | -2.33 | -1.69 | 16.66 | 21.43 | 6.21 |
| NAV per Share (TR) | -1.49 | -1.60 | 16.40 | 22.17 | 5.23 |
| Benchmark ³ | -2.31 | -0.12 | 14.20 | 24.47 | 0.88 |

Source: Bloomberg & HSBC Securities Services (UK) Limited, percentage growth, Net of Fees in GBP. The Trust was launched on 1 July 2013. The Net Asset Value (NAV) as at 1 July 2013 was 98.0p per ordinary share based on the subscription price of 100.0p per ordinary share and launch costs of 2.0p per ordinary share. Past performance is not indicative or a guarantee of future results. The share price performance is adjusted for dividends paid out.

- Gearing calculations are exclusive of current year revenue.
- The Historic Yield reflects distributions declared over the past twelve months as a percentage of the share price, as at the date of this fact sheet. It does not include any initial charge and investors may be subject to tax on their distributions.
- As of August 2016, the MSCI removed Real Estate as a constituent from the MSCI World Financials Index. Benchmark data above illustrates linked performance of the MSCI World Financials Index prior to August 2016 and MSCI World Financials + Real Estate Net Total Return Index since August 2016 to present.
- The performance fee is on any outperformance over a hurdle of the index +1.25 pence per annum. Further details can be found in the Report and Accounts and Prospectus.
- Ongoing charges calculated at the latest published year end date, excluding any performance fees.
- Ordinary share price (TR), calculated by reinvesting dividends at relevant ex-dividend dates, does not take into account returns shareholders would have received from the subscription shares that they were issued with at launch. Please note that the subscription shares issued at the time of launch were subject to a single exercise date being 31 July 2017.

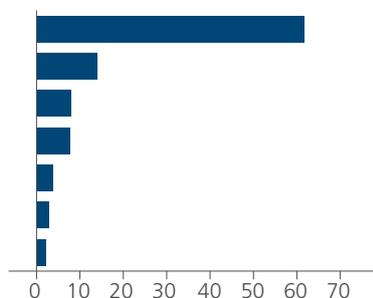
Polar Capital Global Financials Trust plc

Portfolio Exposure

As at 28 February 2019

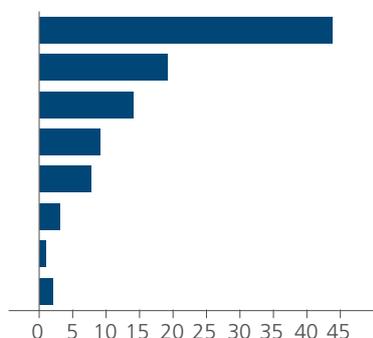
Sector Exposure (%)

| | |
|------------------------|------|
| Banks | 61.6 |
| Insurance | 14.0 |
| Diversified Financials | 7.9 |
| Fixed Income | 7.8 |
| Real Estate | 3.7 |
| Software & Services | 2.9 |
| Cash | 2.1 |



Geographic Exposure (%)

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| North America | 43.8 |
| Europe | 19.1 |
| Asia Pacific (ex-Japan) | 14.0 |
| UK | 9.1 |
| Fixed Income | 7.8 |
| Japan | 3.1 |
| Eastern Europe | 1.0 |
| Cash | 2.1 |



Top 15 Holdings (%)

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| JPMorgan | 5.3 |
| Bank of America | 3.9 |
| Mastercard | 2.9 |
| Chubb | 2.9 |
| Citigroup | 2.4 |
| Arch Capital | 2.4 |
| Sumitomo Mitsui Financial | 2.3 |
| Citizens Financial Group | 2.3 |
| Toronto-Dominion | 2.2 |
| Marsh & McLennan | 2.2 |
| KBC Groep | 2.2 |
| Wells Fargo | 2.0 |
| US Bancorp | 2.0 |
| PNC | 2.0 |
| Sampo | 2.0 |

Total 39.0

Total Number of Positions 71

Market Capitalisation Exposure (%)

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Large (greater than US\$ 5bn) | 79.9 |
| Medium (US\$ 0.5bn - 5bn) | 16.9 |
| Small (less than US\$ 0.5bn) | 3.2 |

Investing in the Trust and Shareholder Information

Trust Characteristics

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Launch Date | 01 July 2013 |
| Year End | 30 November |
| Half Year End | 31 May |
| Results Announced | Late Jan/Feb |
| Next AGM | Late April |
| Trust Term | Fixed life to May 2020 |
| Listed | London Stock Exchange |

Market Purchases

The ordinary shares are listed and traded on the London Stock Exchange. Investors may purchase shares through their stockbroker, bank or other financial intermediary.

Corporate Contacts

Registered Office and Website

16 Palace Street, London SW1E 5JD
www.polarcapitalglobalfinancialtrust.co.uk

Custodian

HSBC Plc is the Depositary and provides global custody of all the company's investments

Registrar

Equiniti Limited, Aspect House, Spencer Road, Lancing, West Sussex, BN99 6DA
www.shareview.co.uk

Codes

Ordinary Shares

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| ISIN | GB00B9XQT119 |
| SEDOL | B9XQT11 |
| London Stock Exchange | PCFT |

The entire investment portfolio is published in the annual and half year report as well as being announced to the London Stock Exchange on a quarterly basis. It should not be assumed that recommendations made in future will be profitable or will equal performance of the securities in this document. A list of all recommendations made within the immediately preceding 12 months is available upon request.

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Fund Manager Comments

As at 28 February 2019

The rally in equity markets and consequently financials continued into February albeit the strength in sterling did act as a headwind to absolute returns. European financials led the rally, on optimism that a no-deal Brexit scenario will be avoided, Fitch's decision not to downgrade Italy's credit rating and hope that the ECB would extend support to the banking sector through an extension of the TLTRO funding scheme. Against this background, our benchmark index, the MSCI World Financials + Real Estate Index, rose by 1.5% and the Trust's net asset value by 1.9%.

The biggest drag on performance was our holding in Swedbank, one of Sweden's largest banks. Following the uncovering last year of Danske Bank's (no exposure in the Trust) role in facilitating potentially \$200bn of money laundering through its Estonian branch, Swedbank has been accused of handling approximately €6bn of suspicious transactions between 2007 and 2015 through its Baltic operations.

While the scale of Swedbank's alleged involvement is materially smaller than Danske Bank's, the stock fell 17% in the month, exacerbated by poor communications from Swedbank's CEO, with investors having seen Danske Bank shares fall by half, wary of further revelations. What remains unclear is the extent that Swedbank has reported the transactions to the relevant authorities so materially mitigating any responsibility, but the share price is discounting a fine in the order of \$5bn.

The announcement during the month of the merger between SunTrust and BB&T to create the sixth largest bank in the US led to outperformance by regional banks with expectations that similar mergers would follow. A more favourable environment for such mergers has come alongside a recognition by regional banks that the winners in a digital banking environment will be those that have scale and an ability to compete in terms of technology investment (BB&T's 2018 technology budget was \$1.1bn about a tenth of what JPMorgan or Bank of America spend).

As highlighted above, European financials outperformed in February. The outperformance comes despite a mixed Q4 banks' results season (consensus 2019 EPS was -2% in the last month) with revenues affected by weaker trading activity as well as headwinds to net interest income from low interest rates and volume growth. This was partially offset by a continued benign asset quality environment (the corollary of low interest rates) with provisioning remaining at very low levels. Dividends broadly came in line with expectations leading to high total yields (including buy-backs) at Lloyds Banking Group (9.5%), Intesa Sanpaolo (10.1%), ING Groep (6.2%) and DNB (6.8%) which are all held in the Trust.

During the month we visited companies in Mumbai and Chennai which gave us the opportunity to discuss certain issues which have weighed on the sector recently. Overall, the meetings highlighted the current opportunity for private sector banks (the focus of our Indian exposure) given the liquidity and capital constraints on non-bank financial companies (NBFCs) and public sector banks respectively. The recent liquidity crunch has also improved private sector banks' pricing power with loan repricing allowing them to offset higher funding costs.

In relation to Indian NBFCs, which were affected by a funding crisis at the end of 2018, it was clear that liquidity constraints have eased but the market is now more discerning in the pricing at which it will fund NBFCs. Asset quality improvements are expected to continue this year supported by improvements in the rural economy which has benefited from infrastructure spend (the amount, in kilometres, of roads built per annum has tripled under Modi) and Jan Dhan (financial inclusion programme, 340 million new bank accounts opened since 2014) and Aadhaar (biometric database) with stimulus to farmers now not siphoned off to intermediaries.

At the end of the month Berkshire Hathaway released its results and Warren Buffet's annual letter to shareholders. While we do not own Berkshire Hathaway currently and he has come under criticism for some of his investments in technology, and more recently Kraft Heinz, it is instructive that in the second half of 2018 he increased Berkshire Hathaway's exposure to US banks by \$15bn, an area he arguably has done extremely well in, starting two new holdings in JPMorgan and PNC, both held in the Trust, with the only bank he reduced being Wells Fargo.

An abbreviated version of him talking on CNBC about his investment in US banks is also interesting:

"They're very good investments at sensible prices, based on my thinking. And they're cheaper than other businesses that are also good businesses by some margin. I was dumb not buying it [JPMorgan] earlier. But it's a very well-managed bank. You can find a bank like JPMorgan, a business that earns 15% or 16% or 17% on net tangible equity, that's incredible in a world of 3% bonds. Because if you have an instrument that could compound at 15% for 10 years and use the added capital, that's worth way more than three times tangible equity at current interest rates, way more." At the end of January, JPMorgan was trading on 1.9 times tangible book value.

We took the opportunity to add to our holding in Swedbank on the back of the fall in its share price as we think the fall is overdone. Despite the lack of visibility in the short term it remains a very good bank. We also added to our holding in AIA Group and to several of our UK holdings, including OneSavings Bank and Charter Court Financial Services. Against these we reduced a number of other holdings, including BNP Paribas and Wells Fargo, while we also sold our holding in Caixabank.

Nick Brind & John Yakas

11 March 2019

Fund Managers



Nick Brind
Fund Manager

Nick has managed the Trust since launch, he joined Polar Capital in 2010 and has 25 years of industry experience.



John Yakas
Fund Manager

John has managed the Trust since launch, he joined Polar Capital in 2010 and has 30 years of industry experience.

Polar Capital Global Financials Trust plc

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Benchmarks

The following benchmark index is used: MSCI World Financials + Real Estate Net Total Return Index. This benchmark is generally considered to be representative of the Financial Equity universe. This benchmark is a broad-based index which is used for comparative/illustrative purposes only and has been selected as it is well known and is easily recognizable by investors. Please refer to www.msci.com for further information on these indices. Comparisons to benchmarks have limitations as benchmark's volatility and other material characteristics may differ from the Company. Security holdings, industry weightings and asset allocation made for the Company may differ significantly from the benchmark. Accordingly, investment results and volatility of the Fund may differ from those of the benchmark. The indices noted in this document are unmanaged, are unavailable for direct investment, and are not subject to management fees, transaction costs or other types of expenses that the Fund may incur. The performance of the indices reflects reinvestment of dividends and, where applicable, capital gain distributions. Therefore, investors should carefully consider these limitations and differences when evaluating the comparative benchmark data performance. Information regarding indices is included merely to show general trends in the periods indicated, it is not intended to imply that the Fund is similar to indices in composition or risk. The benchmark used to calculate the performance fee is provided by an administrator on the ESMA register of benchmarks which includes details of all authorised, registered, recognised and endorsed EU and third country benchmark administrators together with their national competent authorities.

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