



# Performance and risk

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## Financial review

### Highlights – Investment basis

#### Gross investment return

£5,211m

(2024: £4,168m)

#### Total return on opening shareholders' funds

25%

(2024: 23%)

#### Operating profit before carried interest

£5,098m

(2024: £4,077m)

#### Diluted NAV per share at 31 March 2025

2,542p

(31 March 2024: 2,085p)

#### Total return

£5,049m

(2024: £3,839m)

#### Total dividend

73.0p

(31 March 2024: 61.0p)

**Table 9: Total return for the year to 31 March**

	2025 £m	2024 £m
Investment basis		
Realised profits/(losses) over value on the disposal of investments	51	(4)
Unrealised profits on the revaluation of investments	4,839	3,926
Portfolio income		
Dividends	509	499
Interest income from investment portfolio	81	91
Fees receivable	10	1
Foreign exchange on investments	(361)	(461)
Movement in the fair value of derivatives	82	116
<b>Gross investment return</b>	<b>5,211</b>	<b>4,168</b>
Fees receivable from external funds	64	72
Operating expenses	(150)	(147)
Interest receivable	18	13
Interest payable	(65)	(61)
Exchange movements	20	29
Other income	–	3
<b>Operating profit before carried interest</b>	<b>5,098</b>	<b>4,077</b>
Carried interest		
Carried interest and performance fees receivable	29	62
Carried interest and performance fees payable	(81)	(305)
<b>Operating profit before tax</b>	<b>5,046</b>	<b>3,834</b>
Tax charge	(1)	(2)
<b>Profit for the year</b>	<b>5,045</b>	<b>3,832</b>
Re-measurements of defined benefit plans	4	7
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year ("Total return")</b>	<b>5,049</b>	<b>3,839</b>
<b>Total return on opening shareholders' funds</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>23%</b>

### Investment basis and Alternative Performance Measures ("APMs")

In our Strategic report, we report our financial performance using our Investment basis. We do not consolidate our portfolio companies as private equity and infrastructure investments are not operating subsidiaries. IFRS 10 sets out an exception to consolidation and requires us to fair value other companies in the Group (primarily intermediate holding companies and partnerships). As explained in the Investment basis, Reconciliation of Investment basis and IFRS sections below, the total comprehensive income and net assets are the same under our audited IFRS financial statements and our Investment basis. The Investment basis is simply a "look through" of IFRS 10 to present the underlying performance and we believe it is more transparent to readers of our Annual report and accounts.

In October 2015, the European Securities and Markets Authority ("ESMA") published guidelines about the use of APMs. These are financial measures such as KPIs that are not defined under IFRS. Our Investment basis is itself an APM, and we use a number of other measures which, on account of being derived from the Investment basis, are also APMs.

Further information about our use of APMs, including the applicable reconciliations to the IFRS equivalent where appropriate, is provided at the end of the Financial review and should be read alongside the Investment basis to IFRS reconciliation. Our APMs are gross investment return as a percentage of the opening investment portfolio value, cash realisations, cash investment, operating cash profit, net cash/(debt) and gearing.

## Financial review continued

## Realised profits/losses

We generated total realised proceeds of £1,837 million (2024: £888 million) primarily from Action's capital restructuring and the sales of nexeye and WP. The latter sales were the driver of the £50 million realised profits generated in Private Equity (2024: loss of £4 million from Infrastructure).

## Unrealised value movements

We recognised an unrealised profit of £4,839 million (2024: £3,926 million). Action's continued strong performance contributed £4,324 million (2024: £3,609 million). We also saw good contributions from Royal Sanders and a number of our other Private Equity investments including Audley Travel, MPM, Tato, Cirtec Medical and EBG offsetting a negative contribution principally from Wilson. Our infrastructure portfolio saw positive contributions from our infrastructure funds, offset by the decrease in the share price of our quoted investment in 3iN.

Further information on the Private Equity, Infrastructure and Scandlines valuations is included in the business reviews.

## Portfolio income

Portfolio income increased to £600 million for the year (2024: £591 million), primarily due to dividend income of £509 million (2024: £499 million), predominantly from Action. Other notable contributions include interest income from our portfolio companies, the majority of which is non-cash and a good level of portfolio fees from Private Equity which reflected a number of new investments in FY2025.

## Fees receivable from external funds

Fees receivable from external funds were £64 million in FY2025 (2024: £72 million). 3i receives a fund management fee from 3iN, which amounted to £51 million in FY2025 (2024: £51 million).

The remaining fee income received in the year of £13 million (2024: £21 million) includes fees from 3i MIA, our North American Infrastructure Fund and our management of the 3i 2020 Co-investment Programme related to Action.

## Operating expenses

Operating expenses increased in the year to £150 million (2024: £147 million) driven by a higher share-based payment charge reflecting the strong performance of 3i's share price during the year, which was offset by lower administration expenses and delayed staff recruitment.

## Interest payable

The Group recognised interest payable of £65 million (2024: £61 million). Interest payable includes interest on the Group's loans and borrowings and amortisation of capitalised fees.

## Operating cash profit

We generated an operating cash profit of £469 million in the year (2024: £467 million). Cash income increased to £598 million (2024: £594 million), principally due to an increase in dividend income, which included £433 million of cash dividends from Action (2024: £375 million). We also received cash dividends from 3iN, Scandlines and Tato, as well as cash fees from our external funds. Excluding the dividends received from Action, the operating cash profit was £36 million (2024: £92 million).

We paid cash operating expenses of £129 million (2024: £127 million) in the year. Cash operating expenses were lower than the £150 million (2024: £147 million) of operating expenses recognised in the Consolidated statement of comprehensive income as a result of share-based payments and other non-cash expenses.

Table 10: Unrealised value movements on the revaluation of investments for the year to 31 March

Investment basis	2025 £m	2024 £m
Private Equity	4,803	3,874
Infrastructure	17	72
Scandlines	19	(20)
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,839</b>	<b>3,926</b>

Table 11: Operating cash profit for the year to 31 March

Investment basis	2025 £m	2024 £m
Cash fees from external funds	65	74
Cash portfolio fees	7	12
Cash portfolio dividends and interest	526	508
<b>Cash income</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>594</b>
Cash operating expenses <sup>1</sup>	(129)	(127)
<b>Operating cash profit</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>467</b>

<sup>1</sup> Cash operating expenses include operating expenses paid and lease payments.

## Financial review continued

## Carried interest and performance fees

We receive carried interest and performance fees from third-party funds and 3iN. We also pay carried interest and performance fees to participants in plans relating to returns from investments. These are received and/or paid subject to meeting certain performance conditions and when cash proceeds have been received following a realisation, refinancing event or other cash distribution and performance hurdles are passed in cash terms. Due to the passage of time between investment and realisation, the schemes are usually active for a number of years and their participants include both current and previous employees of 3i. In Private Equity (excluding Action), we typically accrue net carried interest payable of c.12% of GIR, once the performance hurdle is achieved, based on the assumption that all investments are realised at their balance sheet value.

The overall strong performance of the Private Equity portfolio resulted in a £70 million increase in the carried interest payable expense. During the year, we reduced our carried interest and performance fees payable liability following the full crystallisation of the remaining carried interest liability of £428 million relating to Action. Going forward, we have no carried interest dilution to our 57.9% gross stake in Action.

In Infrastructure, 3iN pays a performance fee based on its NAV on an annual basis, subject to a hurdle rate of return. The continued strong performance of the assets held by 3iN resulted in the recognition of £29 million (2024: £62 million) of performance fees receivable, with £42 million received during the year.

Overall, the effect of the income statement charge of £81 million (2024: £305 million), cash payments of £521 million (2024: £778 million), as well as currency translation meant that the balance sheet carried interest and performance fees payable was £360 million (31 March 2024: £818 million).

Table 12: Carried interest and performance fees for the year to 31 March

	Investment basis Statement of comprehensive income		Investment basis Statement of financial position	
	2025 £m	2024 £m	2025 £m	2024 £m
<b>Carried interest and performance fees receivable</b>				
Private Equity	–	–	4	5
Infrastructure	29	62	29	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Carried interest and performance fees payable</b>				
Private Equity	(70)	(262)	(348)	(803)
Infrastructure	(11)	(43)	(12)	(15)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(81)</b>	<b>(305)</b>	<b>(360)</b>	<b>(818)</b>

Table 13: Carried interest and performance fees paid in the year to 31 March

Investment basis cash flow statement	2025 £m	2024 £m
<b>Carried interest and performance fees cash paid</b>		
Private Equity	510	745
Infrastructure	11	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>778</b>



## Financial review continued

## Net foreign exchange movements

The Group recorded a total foreign exchange translation loss of £259 million including the impact of foreign exchange hedging in the year (March 2024: £316 million loss), as a result of sterling strengthening by 2% against the euro and US dollar.

At 31 March 2025, the notional value of the Group's forward foreign exchange contracts was €2.6 billion and \$1.2 billion. The €2.6 billion includes the €600 million notional value of the forward foreign exchange contracts related to the Scandlines hedging programme. In April 2025, we completed a further €400 million of forward foreign exchange contracts to increase the notional value of the Group's euro foreign exchange hedging programme to €3.0 billion, reflecting increases in euro cash flows and capitalising on attractive hedge rates.

Including the impact from foreign exchange hedging, 79% of the Group's net assets are denominated in euros or US dollars. Based on the Group's net assets at 31 March 2025, including the impact from foreign exchange hedging, a 1% movement in euro and US dollar foreign exchange rates would impact the total return by £182 million and £12 million, as shown in Table 14 below.

## Pension

The Group completed the buy-out of its UK defined benefit plan ("the Plan") during the year, meaning that the buy-in policies were converted into individual annuity policies held in each Plan member's name, thereby fully removing the defined benefit obligation. The remaining assets held by the Plan are those surplus assets that were not needed to complete the buy-out, less expected wind-up costs.

## Tax

The Group's parent company continues to operate in the UK as an approved investment trust company. An approved investment trust is a UK investment company which is required to meet certain conditions set out in the UK tax rules to obtain and maintain its tax status. This approval allows certain investment profits of the Company, broadly its capital profits, to be exempt from tax in the UK. Income and expenditure, excepting those exempt returns in the Company, are both subject to taxation. The Group's tax charge for the year was £1 million (2024: £2 million) with no top-up tax payable under Pillar 2.

The Group's overall UK tax position for the financial year is dependent on the finalisation of the tax returns of the various corporate and partnership entities in the UK group.

**Table 14: Net assets<sup>1</sup> and sensitivity by currency at 31 March**

				Pre-hedging update	Post-hedging update <sup>3</sup>
	FX rate	£m	%	1% sensitivity £m	1% sensitivity £m
Sterling	n/a	4,942	20	n/a	
Euro <sup>2</sup>	1.1935	18,257	74	182	179
US dollar <sup>2</sup>	1.2908	1,211	5	12	
Danish krone	8.9040	177	1	2	
Other	n/a	24	–	n/a	

<sup>1</sup> The Group's foreign exchange hedging is treated as a sterling asset within the above table.

<sup>2</sup> The sensitivity impact calculated on the net assets position includes the impact of foreign exchange hedging.

<sup>3</sup> Sensitivity based on net assets at 31 March 2025 including the impact of the additional €400 million in the hedging programme.

## Financial review continued

## Balance sheet and liquidity

At 31 March 2025, the Group had net debt of £771 million (31 March 2024: £806 million) and gearing of 3% after the receipt of cash income of £598 million and net cash proceeds of £659 million offsetting the payment of carried interest and performance fees of £521 million and Group dividend payments of £625 million.

The Group had liquidity of £1,323 million as at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £1,296 million), comprising cash and deposits of £423 million (31 March 2024: £396 million) and an undrawn RCF of £900 million.

The investment portfolio value increased to £25,579 million at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £21,636 million), mainly driven by unrealised profits of £4,839 million in the year.

Further information on investments and realisations is included in the Private Equity, Infrastructure and Scandlines business reviews.

## Going concern

The Annual report and accounts 2025 were prepared on a going concern basis. The Directors made an assessment of going concern, taking into account the Group's current performance and the outlook, and performed additional analysis to support the going concern assessment. Further details on going concern can be found on page 128 in the Resilience statement.

## Dividend

The Board has recommended a second FY2025 dividend of 42.5 pence per share (2024: 34.5 pence), taking the total dividend for the year to 73.0 pence per share (2024: 61.0 pence). Subject to shareholder approval, the dividend will be paid to shareholders in July 2025.

Table 15: Simplified consolidated balance sheet at 31 March

Investment basis Statement of financial position	2025 £m	2024 £m
Investment portfolio	25,579	21,636
Gross debt	(1,194)	(1,202)
Cash and deposits	423	396
<b>Net debt</b>	<b>(771)</b>	<b>(806)</b>
Carried interest and performance fees receivable	33	47
Carried interest and performance fees payable	(360)	(818)
Other net assets	130	111
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>24,611</b>	<b>20,170</b>
<b>Gearing<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Gearing is net debt as a percentage of net assets.

## Key accounting judgements and estimates

A key judgement is the assessment required to determine the degree of control or influence the Group exercises and the form of any control to ensure that the financial treatment of investment entities is accurate. The introduction of IFRS 10 resulted in a number of intermediate holding companies being presented at fair value, which has led to reduced transparency of the underlying investment performance. As a result, the Group continues to present a non-GAAP Investment basis set of financial statements to ensure that the commentary in the Strategic report remains fair, balanced and understandable. The reconciliation of the Investment basis to IFRS is shown on pages 76 to 78.

In preparing these accounts, the key accounting estimate is the carrying value of our investment assets, which is stated at fair value.

Given the importance of the valuation of investments, the Board has a separate Valuations Committee to review the valuation policy, process and application to individual investments. However, asset valuations for unquoted investments are inherently subjective, as they are made on the basis of assumptions which may not prove to be accurate. At 31 March 2025, 96% by value of the investment assets were unquoted (31 March 2024: 96%).

# Reconciliation of Investment basis and IFRS

## Background to Investment basis financial statements

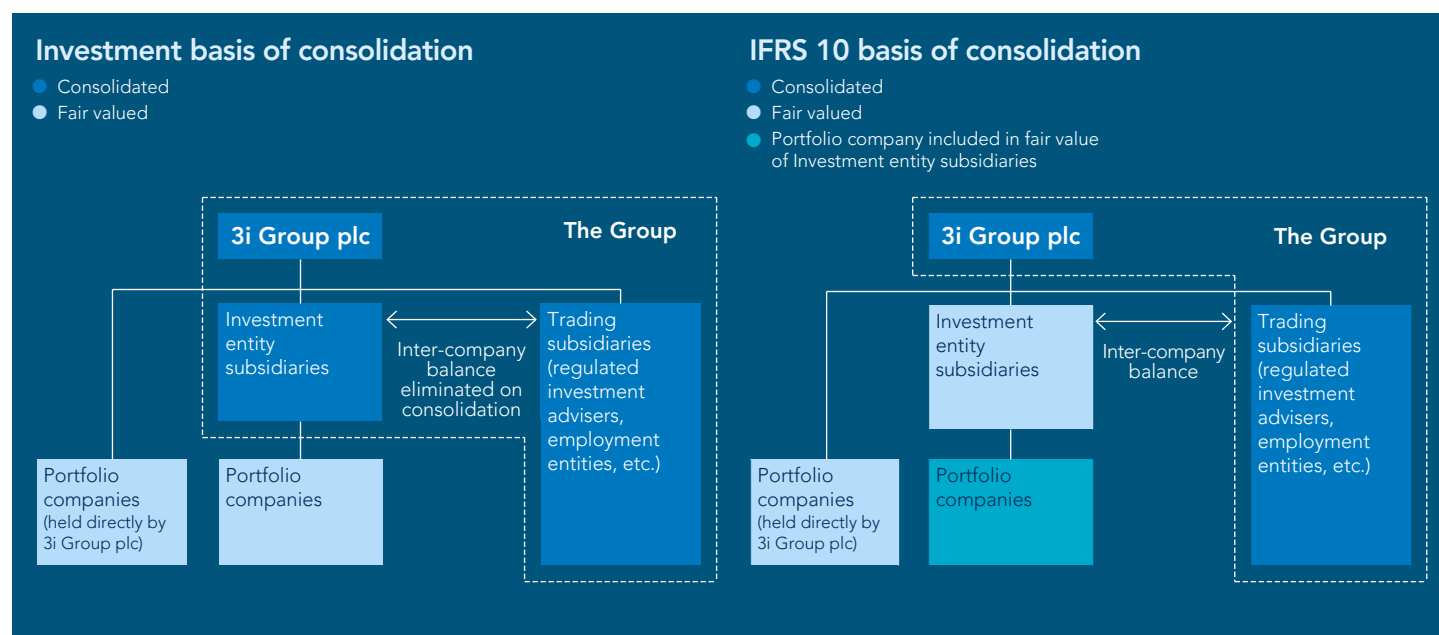
The Group makes investments in portfolio companies directly, held by 3i Group plc, and indirectly, held through intermediate holding company and partnership structures ("Investment entity subsidiaries"). It also has other operational subsidiaries which provide services and other activities such as employment, regulatory activities, management and advice ("Trading subsidiaries"). The application of IFRS 10 requires us to fair value a number of intermediate holding companies that were previously consolidated line by line. This fair value approach, applied at the intermediate holding company level, effectively obscures the performance of our proprietary capital investments and associated transactions occurring in the intermediate holding companies.

The financial effect of the underlying portfolio companies and fee income, operating expenses and carried interest transactions occurring in Investment entity subsidiaries are aggregated into a single value. Other items which were previously eliminated on consolidation are now included separately.

To maintain transparency in our report and aid understanding we introduced separate non-GAAP "Investment basis" Statements of comprehensive income, financial position and cash flow in our 2014 Annual report and accounts. The Investment basis is an APM and the Strategic report is prepared using the Investment basis as we believe it provides a more understandable view of our performance. Total return and net assets are equal under the Investment basis and IFRS; the Investment basis is simply a "look through" of IFRS 10 to present the underlying performance.

## Reconciliation of Investment basis and IFRS

A detailed reconciliation from the Investment basis to IFRS basis of the Consolidated statement of comprehensive income, Consolidated statement of financial position and Consolidated cash flow statement is shown on the following pages.



## Reconciliation of Investment basis and IFRS continued

## Reconciliation of consolidated statement of comprehensive income for the year to 31 March

	Footnotes	Investment basis 2025 £m	IFRS adjustments 2025 £m	IFRS basis 2025 £m	Investment basis 2024 £m	IFRS adjustments 2024 £m	IFRS basis 2024 £m
Realised profits/(losses) over value on the disposal of investments	1,2	51	(46)	5	(4)	5	1
Unrealised profits on the revaluation of investments	1,2	4,839	(1,027)	3,812	3,926	(1,184)	2,742
Fair value movements on investment entity subsidiaries	1	–	953	953	–	861	861
Portfolio income							
Dividends	1,2	509	(96)	413	499	(136)	363
Interest income from investment portfolio	1,2	81	(52)	29	91	(62)	29
Fees receivable	1,2	10	3	13	1	2	3
Foreign exchange on investments	1,3	(361)	116	(245)	(461)	223	(238)
Movement in the fair value of derivatives		82	–	82	116	–	116
<b>Gross investment return</b>		<b>5,211</b>	<b>(149)</b>	<b>5,062</b>	<b>4,168</b>	<b>(291)</b>	<b>3,877</b>
Fees receivable from external funds		64	–	64	72	–	72
Operating expenses	1,4	(150)	1	(149)	(147)	1	(146)
Interest receivable	1,4	18	(3)	15	13	(4)	9
Interest payable		(65)	–	(65)	(61)	–	(61)
Exchange movements	1,3	20	57	77	29	23	52
Income from investment entity subsidiaries	1	–	21	21	–	21	21
Other (expense)/income	1,4	–	(1)	(1)	3	–	3
<b>Operating profit before carried interest</b>		<b>5,098</b>	<b>(74)</b>	<b>5,024</b>	<b>4,077</b>	<b>(250)</b>	<b>3,827</b>
Carried interest							
Carried interest and performance fees receivable		29	–	29	62	–	62
Carried interest and performance fees payable	1,4	(81)	67	(14)	(305)	254	(51)
<b>Operating profit before tax</b>		<b>5,046</b>	<b>(7)</b>	<b>5,039</b>	<b>3,834</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3,838</b>
Tax charge	1	(1)	–	(1)	(2)	–	(2)
<b>Profit for the year</b>		<b>5,045</b>	<b>(7)</b>	<b>5,038</b>	<b>3,832</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3,836</b>
Other comprehensive income							
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations	1,3	–	7	7	–	(4)	(4)
Re-measurements of defined benefit plans		4	–	4	7	–	7
<b>Other comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year ("Total return")</b>		<b>5,049</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>5,049</b>	<b>3,839</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>3,839</b>

The IFRS basis is audited and the Investment basis is unaudited.

Footnotes to the Reconciliation of consolidated statement of comprehensive income above:

- 1 Applying IFRS 10 to the Consolidated statement of comprehensive income consolidates the line items of a number of previously consolidated subsidiaries into a single line item "Fair value movements on investment entity subsidiaries". In the "Investment basis" accounts we have disaggregated these line items to analyse our total return as if these Investment entity subsidiaries were fully consolidated, consistent with prior years. The adjustments simply reclassify the Consolidated statement of comprehensive income of the Group, and the total return is equal under the Investment basis and the IFRS basis.
- 2 Realised profits, unrealised profits and portfolio income shown in the IFRS accounts only relate to portfolio companies that are held directly by 3i Group plc and not those portfolio companies held through Investment entity subsidiaries. Realised profits, unrealised profits and portfolio income in relation to portfolio companies held through Investment entity subsidiaries are aggregated into the single "Fair value movement on investment entity subsidiaries" line. This is the most significant reduction of information in our IFRS accounts.
- 3 Foreign exchange movements have been reclassified under the Investment basis as foreign currency asset and liability movements. Movements within the Investment entity subsidiaries are included within "Fair value movements on investment entities".
- 4 Other items also aggregated into the "Fair value movements on investment entity subsidiaries" line include operating expenses, interest receivable, other(expense)/income and carried interest and performance fees payable.

Footnotes to the Reconciliation of Consolidated statement of financial position on page 77:

- 1 Applying IFRS 10 to the Consolidated statement of financial position aggregates the line items into the single line item "Investments in investment entity subsidiaries". In the Investment basis we have disaggregated these items to analyse our net assets as if the Investment entity subsidiaries were consolidated. The adjustment reclassifies items in the Consolidated statement of financial position. There is no change to the net assets, although for reasons explained below, gross assets and gross liabilities are different. The disclosure relating to portfolio companies is significantly reduced by the aggregation, as the fair value of all investments held by Investment entity subsidiaries is aggregated into the "Investments in investment entity subsidiaries" line. We have disaggregated this fair value and disclosed the underlying portfolio holding in the relevant line item, ie, quoted investments or unquoted investments. Other items which may be aggregated include carried interest, other assets and other payables, and the Investment basis presentation again disaggregates these items.
- 2 Intercompany balances between Investment entity subsidiaries and trading subsidiaries also impact the transparency of our results under the IFRS basis. If an Investment entity subsidiary has an intercompany balance with a consolidated trading subsidiary of the Group, then the asset or liability of the Investment entity subsidiary will be aggregated into its fair value, while the asset or liability of the consolidated trading subsidiary will be disclosed as an asset or liability in the Consolidated statement of financial position for the Group.
- 3 Investment basis financial statements are prepared for performance measurement and therefore reserves are not analysed separately under this basis.



## Reconciliation of Investment basis and IFRS continued

## Reconciliation of consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 March

	Footnotes	Investment basis 2025 £m	IFRS adjustments 2025 £m	IFRS basis 2025 £m	Investment basis 2024 £m	IFRS adjustments 2024 £m	IFRS basis 2024 £m
<b>Assets</b>							
<b>Non-current assets</b>							
Investments							
Quoted investments	1	916	(60)	856	946	(67)	879
Unquoted investments	1	24,663	(7,163)	17,500	20,690	(6,497)	14,193
Investments in investment entity subsidiaries	1,2	–	6,916	6,916	–	5,804	5,804
<b>Investment portfolio</b>		<b>25,579</b>	<b>(307)</b>	<b>25,272</b>	<b>21,636</b>	<b>(760)</b>	<b>20,876</b>
Carried interest and performance fees receivable	1	–	–	–	2	1	3
Other non-current assets	1	33	(6)	27	36	(8)	28
Intangible assets		2	–	2	4	–	4
Retirement benefit surplus		63	–	63	61	–	61
Property, plant and equipment		18	–	18	4	–	4
Right of use asset		41	–	41	49	–	49
Derivative financial instruments		46	–	46	83	–	83
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>25,782</b>	<b>(313)</b>	<b>25,469</b>	<b>21,875</b>	<b>(767)</b>	<b>21,108</b>
<b>Current assets</b>							
Carried interest and performance fees receivable		33	–	33	45	–	45
Other current assets	1	49	–	49	53	(6)	47
Current income taxes		2	–	2	1	–	1
Derivative financial instruments		91	–	91	82	–	82
Cash and cash equivalents	1	423	(11)	412	396	(38)	358
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>598</b>	<b>(11)</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>(44)</b>	<b>533</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>26,380</b>	<b>(324)</b>	<b>26,056</b>	<b>22,452</b>	<b>(811)</b>	<b>21,641</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>							
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>							
Trade and other payables	1	(7)	1	(6)	(50)	45	(5)
Carried interest and performance fees payable	1	(333)	304	(29)	(280)	250	(30)
Loans and borrowings		(1,194)	–	(1,194)	(1,202)	–	(1,202)
Derivative financial instruments		(4)	–	(4)	–	–	–
Retirement benefit deficit		(17)	–	(17)	(21)	–	(21)
Lease liability		(42)	–	(42)	(45)	–	(45)
Deferred income taxes		(1)	–	(1)	(1)	–	(1)
Provisions		(2)	–	(2)	(2)	–	(2)
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>(1,600)</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>(1,295)</b>	<b>(1,601)</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>(1,306)</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>							
Trade and other payables	1	(137)	4	(133)	(136)	2	(134)
Carried interest and performance fees payable	1	(27)	15	(12)	(538)	514	(24)
Lease liability		(3)	–	(3)	(4)	–	(4)
Current income taxes		(1)	–	(1)	(3)	–	(3)
Provisions		(1)	–	(1)	–	–	–
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>(169)</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>(150)</b>	<b>(681)</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>(165)</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>(1,769)</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>(1,445)</b>	<b>(2,282)</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>(1,471)</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>24,611</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>24,611</b>	<b>20,170</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>20,170</b>
<b>Equity</b>							
Issued capital		719	–	719	719	–	719
Share premium		792	–	792	791	–	791
Other reserves	3	23,181	–	23,181	18,752	–	18,752
Own shares		(81)	–	(81)	(92)	–	(92)
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>24,611</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>24,611</b>	<b>20,170</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>20,170</b>

The IFRS basis is audited and the Investment basis is unaudited.  
Footnotes: see page 76.

## Reconciliation of Investment basis and IFRS continued

## Reconciliation of consolidated cash flow statement for the year to 31 March

	Footnotes	Investment basis 2025 £m	IFRS adjustments 2025 £m	IFRS basis 2025 £m	Investment basis 2024 £m	IFRS adjustments 2024 £m	IFRS basis 2024 £m
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>							
Purchase of investments	1	(1,182)	1,032	(150)	(603)	97	(506)
Proceeds from investments	1	1,841	(734)	1,107	883	(340)	543
Amounts paid to investment entity subsidiaries	1	–	(1,537)	(1,537)	–	(674)	(674)
Amounts received from investment entity subsidiaries	1	–	865	865	–	580	580
Net cash flow from derivatives		113	–	113	69	–	69
Portfolio interest received	1	11	(5)	6	8	(3)	5
Portfolio dividends received	1	515	(95)	420	500	(134)	366
Portfolio fees received		7	–	7	12	–	12
Fees received from external funds		65	–	65	74	–	74
Carried interest and performance fees received		44	–	44	58	–	58
Carried interest and performance fees paid	1	(521)	498	(23)	(778)	725	(53)
Operating expenses paid	1	(123)	1	(122)	(121)	–	(121)
Co-investment loans (paid)/received	1	(40)	5	(35)	42	(37)	5
Tax paid		(3)	–	(3)	(3)	–	(3)
Other cash income	1	1	–	1	3	(1)	2
Other cash expenses	1	(11)	1	(10)	–	–	–
Interest received	1	18	(3)	15	13	(4)	9
<b>Net cash flow from operating activities</b>		<b>735</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>366</b>
<b>Cash flow from financing activities</b>							
Issue of shares		1	–	1	1	–	1
Dividends paid		(625)	–	(625)	(541)	–	(541)
Proceeds from long-term borrowing		–	–	–	422	–	422
Lease payments		(6)	–	(6)	(6)	–	(6)
Interest paid		(60)	–	(60)	(40)	–	(40)
<b>Net cash flow from financing activities</b>		<b>(690)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(690)</b>	<b>(164)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(164)</b>
<b>Cash flow from investing activities</b>							
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(16)	–	(16)	(3)	–	(3)
<b>Net cash flow from investing activities</b>		<b>(16)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(16)</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(3)</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>(10)</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>199</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of year	2	396	(38)	358	412	(250)	162
Effect of exchange rate fluctuations	1	(2)	(1)	(3)	(6)	3	(3)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of year</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>(11)</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>(38)</b>	<b>358</b>

The IFRS basis is audited and the Investment basis is unaudited.

Footnotes to the Reconciliation of consolidated cash flow statement above:

- 1 The Consolidated cash flow statement is impacted by the application of IFRS 10 as cash flows to and from Investment entity subsidiaries are disclosed, rather than the cash flows to and from the underlying portfolio. Therefore in our Investment basis financial statements, we have disclosed our cash flow statement on a "look through" basis, in order to reflect the underlying sources and uses of cash flows and disclose the underlying investment activity.
- 2 There is a difference between the change in cash and cash equivalents of the Investment basis financial statements and the IFRS financial statements because there are cash balances held in Investment entity subsidiaries. Cash held within Investment entity subsidiaries will not be shown in the IFRS statements but will be seen in the Investment basis statements.

# Alternative Performance Measures ("APMs")

We assess our performance using a variety of measures that are not specifically defined under IFRS and are therefore termed APMs. The APMs that we use may not be directly comparable with those used by other companies. Our Investment basis is itself an APM. The explanation of and rationale for the Investment basis and its reconciliation to IFRS is provided on page 75. The table below defines our additional APMs.

## Purpose

## Calculation

## Reconciliation to IFRS

### Gross investment return as a percentage of opening portfolio value

A measure of the performance of our proprietary investment portfolio.

It is calculated as the gross investment return, as shown in the Investment basis Consolidated statement of comprehensive income, as a % of the opening portfolio value.

The equivalent balances under IFRS and the reconciliation to the Investment basis are shown in the Reconciliation of the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and the Reconciliation of the consolidated statement of financial position respectively.

➤ Page 16 for KPIs

### Cash realisations

Cash proceeds from our investments support our returns to shareholders, as well as our ability to invest in new opportunities.

The cash received from the disposal of investments in the year as shown in the Investment basis Consolidated cash flow statement.

The equivalent balance under IFRS and the reconciliation to the Investment basis is shown in the Reconciliation of the consolidated cash flow statement.

➤ Page 16 for KPIs

### Cash investment

Identifying new opportunities in which to invest proprietary capital is the primary driver of the Group's ability to deliver attractive returns.

The cash paid to acquire investments in the year as shown on the Investment basis Consolidated cash flow statement.

The equivalent balance under IFRS and the reconciliation to the Investment basis is shown in the Reconciliation of the consolidated cash flow statement.

➤ Page 17 for KPIs

### Operating cash profit

By covering the cash cost of running the business with cash income, we reduce the potential dilution of capital returns.

The cash income from the portfolio (interest, dividends and fees) together with fees received from external funds less cash operating expenses and leases payments as shown on the Investment basis Consolidated cash flow statement. The calculation is shown in Table 11 of the Financial review.

The equivalent balance under IFRS and the reconciliation to the Investment basis is shown in the Reconciliation of the consolidated cash flow statement.

➤ Page 17 for KPIs

### Net (debt)/cash

A measure of the available cash to invest in the business and an indicator of the financial risk in the Group's balance sheet.

Cash and cash equivalents plus deposits less loans and borrowings as shown on the Investment basis Consolidated statement of financial position.

The equivalent balance under IFRS and the reconciliation to the Investment basis is shown in the Reconciliation of the consolidated statement of financial position.

### Gearing

A measure of the financial risk in the Group's balance sheet.

Net debt (as defined above) as a % of the Group's net assets under the Investment basis. It cannot be less than zero.

The equivalent balance under IFRS and the reconciliation to the Investment basis is shown in the Reconciliation of the consolidated statement of financial position.

# Risk management

Effective risk management underpins the successful delivery of our strategy and longer-term sustainability of the business. Our values and culture are integral to our approach to risk management.

## Understanding our risk appetite

As both an investor and asset manager, 3i is in the business of taking risks in order to seek to achieve its targeted returns for shareholders and other investors.

The Board approves the strategic objectives that determine the level and types of risk that 3i is prepared to accept. The Board reviews 3i's strategic objectives and associated risk appetite at least annually. The Group's risk management framework is designed to support the delivery of the Group's strategic objectives and the longer-term sustainability of the business and its investment portfolio, within the agreed risk appetite parameters.

3i's Risk appetite statement, which is consistent with previous years, is built on rigorous and comprehensive investment procedures and conservative capital management. Please refer to page 81 for further details.

## Values and culture

Strong values and institutional culture are integral to our approach to risk management and are embedded in 3i's approach to risk governance, described in the next section, led by the Board and the Chief Executive. To underpin this, 3i has in place a comprehensive compliance manual, code of conduct and policy framework, supported by a systematic programme of refresher training and independent monitoring.

Members of the Executive Committee are responsible for ensuring individual behaviours meet the Group's high standards of conduct across their respective business or functional areas. All employees share the responsibility for upholding 3i's strong control culture and supporting effective risk management. Senior managers, typically those who report to Executive Committee members, are required to confirm their individual and business area compliance annually. In addition, all staff are required to comply with regulatory conduct rules, complete an annual verification questionnaire, and are assessed on how they demonstrate 3i's values as part of their annual appraisal. 3i's global policies and procedures are reinforced through an annual e-learning programme covering topics such as financial crime, anti-bribery and money laundering, market abuse, preventing tax evasion, data protection, and regulatory conduct rules.

Finally, the Remuneration Committee is responsible for ensuring the Group's remuneration policy is aligned with the Group's culture and values, weighted towards variable compensation dependent on performance, and does not encourage inappropriate or excessive risk taking. More specifically, our investment teams, which are responsible for investment origination and asset management, have reward structures specifically designed to ensure alignment with the Group's investment objectives and risk management appetite.

## Approach to risk governance

The Board is responsible for risk assessment, the risk management process and the protection of the Group's reputation, brand integrity and longer-term sustainability. It considers the most significant current and emerging risks facing the Group using a range of quantitative data and analyses where possible. These include: vintage controls which consider the portfolio concentration by geography and sector; periodic reporting of financial and non-financial KPIs from the portfolio, including leverage levels and sustainability indicators; and liquidity reporting. Longer-term and new and emerging risks are evaluated as part of the strategic review process and development of the Group's investment strategy.

Board oversight is exercised through the Audit and Compliance Committee which focuses on: upholding standards of integrity; financial and non-financial reporting; risk management; going concern and resilience; and internal control. This includes monitoring and reviewing the effectiveness of the risk management and internal control systems. The Audit and Compliance Committee's activities are discussed further in its report on pages 121 to 126.

The Investment Committee oversees the investment pipeline development and approves new investments, significant portfolio changes and divestments. It is integral to ensuring a consistent approach to managing the Group's most material risks. This includes alignment with 3i's financial and strategic objectives and risk appetite and ensuring that the long-term sustainability of portfolio companies is taken into consideration.

The Board has delegated the responsibility for risk oversight to the Chief Executive. He is assisted by the Group Risk Committee ("GRC") in managing this responsibility and is guided by the Board's appetite for risk and any specific limits set. The GRC maintains the Group risk review, which summarises the Group's principal risks, associated mitigating actions and key risk indicators and identifies any changes to the Group's risk profile. The review also incorporates a watch list of new and emerging risks for monitoring and risk mitigation purposes. The risk review takes place four times a year, with the last review in May 2025. The Chief Executive provides updates after each meeting to the Audit and Compliance Committee.



**Pages 82-84**  
Read more about the Group's risk governance framework

## Risk management continued

## Risk appetite

Our risk appetite is defined by our strategic objectives. We invest capital in businesses to deliver capital returns, and portfolio and fund management cash income to cover our costs and increase returns to our investors. As proprietary capital investors, we have a long-term, responsible approach.

### Investment risk

The substantial majority of the Group's capital is invested in our long-term hold portfolio (Action and Royal Sanders) and in Private Equity.

Before the Group commits to a Private Equity investment, we assess the opportunity using the following criteria:

- return objective: individually assessed and subject to a minimum target of a 2x money multiple over four to six years;
- geographic focus: headquartered in our core markets of Europe and North America;
- sector expertise: focus on Consumer & Private Label, Healthcare, Industrial, Services & Software;
- responsible investment: all investments are screened against the criteria and exclusions set out in our Responsible Investment policy; and
- vintage: invest up to £750 million per annum in four to seven new investments in companies with an enterprise value range of €100 million to €500 million at investment.

If a Private Equity portfolio company exhibits particularly strong compounding characteristics, is cash generative with an EBITDA of c.€//\$100 million, and can continue to meet a 15% return hurdle, the Group may conclude that it is in the interest of shareholders, and consistent with our strategic objectives to hold an investment for a longer period of time.

Investments made by 3iN need to be consistent with 3iN's overall return target of 8% to 10% over the medium term and generate a mix of capital and income returns. Other Infrastructure investments made by the Group should be capable of delivering capital growth and fund management fees which together generate mid-teen returns. All Infrastructure investments are also subject to the criteria set out in the Group's Responsible Investment policy.

## Capital management

3i adopts a conservative approach to managing its capital resources as follows:

- the Group aims to operate within a range of net cash equivalent to c.2.5% of NAV and a level of net debt equivalent to c.5% of NAV, with tolerance to operate outside of this range on a short-term basis and up to a gearing level of 15% dependent on investment and realisation flows. The Group may raise debt, or use other financing from time to time, to manage investment and realisation flows. The Group has no appetite for structural gearing; the achievement of its returns objectives is not reliant on gearing;
- the Group manages liquidity conservatively; maintaining an RCF to provide additional committed liquidity and financial flexibility, and monitoring using a framework that assesses forecast cash flows and a broader range of factors;
- the Group accepts a degree of currency exposure risk with respect to its investment portfolio, but aims to partially reduce the impact of currency movements on its net asset value through a combination of matching currency realisations with investments and the use of its euro and US dollar foreign exchange hedging programmes, taking into account the associated costs and liquidity risks. These portfolio hedging programmes had a total size of €2.0 billion and \$1.2 billion respectively during FY2025; the euro hedge was increased by €0.4 billion in April 2025;
- in addition, the Group may hedge specific assets or exposures where appropriate; for example, in relation to currency exposures on Scandlines (€600 million hedging programme); and
- we have limited appetite for the dilution of capital returns as a result of operating and interest expenses. All our business lines generate cash income to mitigate this risk.



**Risk management** continued**Role of the Investment Committee**

Our Investment Committee is fundamental to the management of investment risk. It is involved in and approves every material step of the investment, portfolio management and realisation process.

3i's approach to portfolio construction is built on originating opportunities thematically and investing selectively in businesses that benefit from sustainable long-term structural growth. Integral to this thematic approach is the identification of new and emerging risks and opportunities, in areas such as consumer preferences; the environment and sustainability; technological change; and demographic and social trends.

New investment opportunities are considered at the outset of the investment process. Investment proposals cover the expected benefit of operational improvements, growth initiatives, sustainability initiatives, and M&A activity, that will be driven by a combination of our investment professionals and the portfolio company's management team. They will also include a view on the likely exit strategy and timing. All proposed investments are screened against 3i's Responsible Investment policy.

In evaluating new and existing investments, including those in the longer-term hold portfolio and re-investment therein, the Investment Committee considers potential reputational risks and broader sustainability developments and trends. The latter includes the risks and opportunities in relation to the environmental and social aspects of each company's products and services, the markets in which they operate, and the supply chain. Investment cases may include consideration of the feasibility and cost of initiatives to reduce the company's environmental footprint, where material.

After investing, 3i works with portfolio companies' management to manage risks and invest in initiatives that support sustainable long-term growth, whilst closely monitoring each investment case:

- our monthly portfolio monitoring reviews assess current performance against budget, prior year and a set of traffic light indicators and bespoke, forward-looking financial and non-financial KPIs;
- we hold semi-annual in-depth reviews of our portfolio companies. These focus on the longer-term performance and plan for the investment compared to the original investment case, together with any strategic developments, an assessment of sustainability risks and opportunities, and market outlook; and
- where necessary, additional reviews may take place for assets where there are more significant operational challenges or where there have been specific external developments that may have an impact on the portfolio or a specific sector (changing tariff regimes, supply chain disruptions or adverse market conditions and restrictions). As part of this process, leverage, banking covenants and counterparty risks are closely monitored across the portfolio.

Our monitoring processes consider instances where individual portfolio company underperformance could have adverse reputational consequences for the Group, even though the value impact may not be material.

The monthly portfolio monitoring reviews and the semi-annual reviews are attended by the Investment Committee and the senior members of the investment teams. Non-executive Directors also have the opportunity to attend the semi-annual reviews.

Finally, we recognise the need to plan and execute a successful exit at the optimum time, taking consideration of market conditions. This exit risk is closely linked to the external economic environment. Exit plans are refreshed where appropriate in the semi-annual portfolio reviews and the divestment process is clearly defined and overseen by the Investment Committee.

We regularly review our internal processes and investment decisions in light of actual outcomes. This includes periodic back-testing of the more recent Private Equity investments by comparing their performance and forecast returns on exit against the original investment case presented at the time of the investment.

**Role of the Group Risk Committee**

The quarterly Group risk review process includes an analysis of key developments since its last review; new and emerging risks; and the key strategic and financial metrics (such as KPIs) considered to be indicators of potential changes in the Group's risk profile. The GRC uses this information to determine and review its principal risks and the implications of any new and emerging risks.

It then evaluates the impact and likelihood of each principal risk in the context of the Group's strategic objectives, risk appetite and with reference to associated measures and KPIs. The adequacy of the mitigation plans is then assessed and, if necessary, additional actions are agreed and reviewed at the subsequent meeting. A report summarising the key conclusions of each GRC meeting together with a copy of the risk review report is provided to the Audit and Compliance Committee, which provides independent oversight of the work of the GRC, as described on pages 121 to 126.

## Risk management continued

A number of focus topics are also agreed in advance of each meeting. In FY2025, the GRC covered the following:

- a review of the Group's IT framework including cyber security, systems developments, the use of artificial intelligence tools, IT provider concentration risk, and IT resilience;
- an update on the Group's business continuity and resilience planning and testing, including oversight of third-party suppliers;
- a review of the Group's stress tests to support its Going concern, Viability and Resilience statements;
- semi-annual updates from the investment business lines on sustainability issues and themes with respect to the Group's portfolio companies, including progress with emissions reporting and the setting of near-term science-based emission reduction targets; CSRD readiness; and the development and deployment of a human rights risk management framework;
- an assessment of the cyber maturity of the portfolio and the actions taken by the Group's portfolio companies to manage cyber risk;
- semi-annual updates from 3i's Sustainability Committee, including TCFD reporting; progress against science-based targets; monitoring and assessment of climate-related physical and transition risks, and of nature-related risks in the portfolio;
- ad-hoc updates on specific external and/or portfolio developments, including the consideration of risks from changes in US policy, and assessing risks associated with volatility in capital markets; and
- the proposed risk disclosures in the FY2025 Annual report and accounts.

There were no significant changes to the GRC's overall approach to risk governance or its operation in FY2025. This approach is benchmarked from time to time against a peer group of private equity investment trusts, European investment companies, traditional asset managers and a selection of US alternative asset managers to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

The GRC also receives an update on the Group's risk log which is used to record operational risk incidents and near misses. The Board and Executive Committee have a very limited tolerance for operational risk events and errors. Accordingly, a relatively low reporting threshold is applied. This involves both a qualitative and quantitative impact assessment; any financial losses or exposures greater than £20,000 must be reported.

The risk log is also used to record incidents at portfolio companies which could impact 3i's reputation as an investor or where 3i may have regulatory reporting obligations. Examples include fraud, cyber security, data protection, health and safety, and litigation. The responsible 3i investment team is required to set out the risk mitigation steps being undertaken and provide updates on progress.

## Role of the Sustainability Committee

The Group's Sustainability Committee provides input and advice on developing the Group's sustainability strategy; the assessment and management of relevant sustainability risk and opportunities; regulatory and reporting obligations; and coordination of sustainability-related activities and initiatives.

The GRC receives semi-annual updates on the work of the Committee as part of its risk review process. Refer to the Sustainability section on pages 39 to 68 for further details.

## Related risk management activities

3i's risk management framework is augmented by a separate Risk Management function ("function") which has specific responsibilities under the FCA's Investment Funds sourcebook and is functionally and hierarchically separate from the investment teams. It considers the separate risk reports for each Alternative Investment Fund ("AIF") managed by the Group, including areas such as portfolio composition, portfolio valuation, operational updates and team changes, which are then considered by the GRC. The function meets ahead of the GRC meetings to consider the AIF risk reports, and also to discuss any key developments that might impact the principal risks affecting the Group.

In practice, the Group operates a "three lines of defence" framework to support the identification and management of risk. These are:

- (1) First line – line management across our business lines and professional services teams.
- (2) Second line – teams with specific oversight and control responsibilities – for example, Compliance, HR, Finance and IT – and oversight and challenge by the GRC.
- (3) Third line – Internal Audit, which provides independent assurance over the operation of the Group's risk management framework and the internal controls designed to manage and mitigate risk.

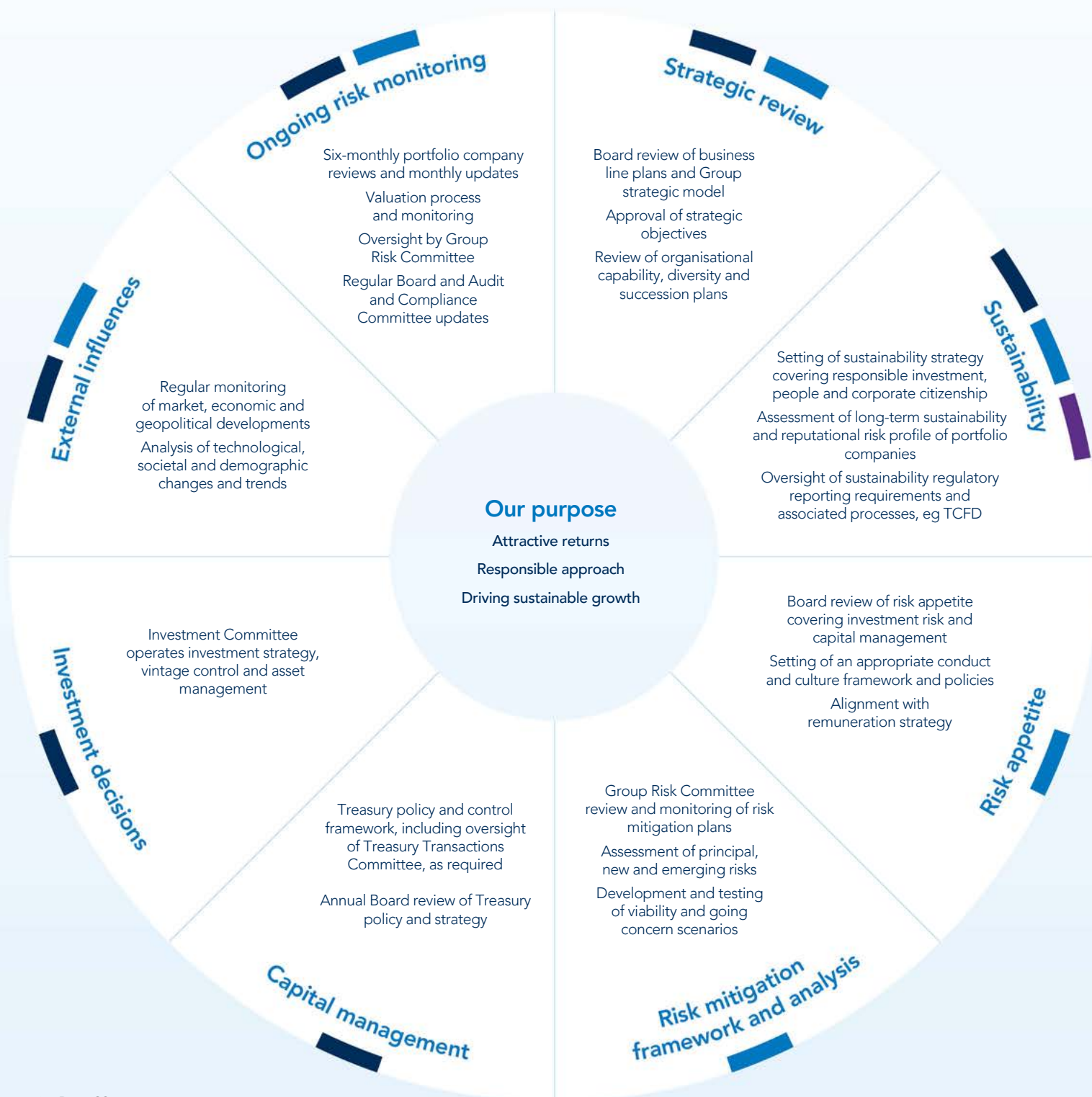


Our responsible investment policy  
[www.3i.com/sustainability/sustainability-policies](http://www.3i.com/sustainability/sustainability-policies)

## Integrated approach to risk management

3i's approach to risk management consists of a number of interrelated processes, illustrated below, the operation of which is overseen by a combination of the Investment Committee, Executive Committee, Group Risk Committee and Sustainability Committee.

- Responsibility of Investment Committee
- Responsibility of Group Risk Committee
- Responsibility of Sustainability Committee



# Principal risks and mitigations – aligning risk to our strategic objectives

## Business and risk environment in FY2025

We define our principal risks as those that have the potential to impact materially the delivery of our strategic objectives. During the year, the Directors considered a robust assessment of the principal risks and new and emerging risks facing the Group, including those that would threaten its business model, future performance, solvency or liquidity. Further details can be found in the Audit and Compliance Committee report on pages 121 to 126.

This section provides an overview of the Group's principal risks, new and emerging risks, and the key matters considered during the year as part of the risk assessment process.

The Group's overall principal risk profile, summarised on pages 88 to 93, has remained relatively stable although the precise nature of the individual risks may have evolved. The main changes agreed by the GRC were:

- for the reasons noted below under External, "Global economic uncertainty" and "Geopolitical and policy risks" are considered to be higher compared to last year and are expected to remain elevated in the short term. Geopolitical risk has been broadened to specifically include changes to government policies, United States trade policy in particular, given their significance and potential impact on global markets;
- "Volatility in capital markets, foreign exchange and commodities" risk increased as markets reacted to slowing growth forecasts, the fear of potential recession and differentials in interest rates and inflation between the United States and Europe;
- the "Impact of higher interest rates on debt markets and pricing of specific asset classes" reduced over the year as interest rates stabilised/decreased in some geographies and there being an expectation for further rate cuts albeit at a slower pace than previously expected;
- the risk of "Lower investment or realisation rates" increased as despite there being some improvement in private market deal activity, the factors mentioned above dampened potential buyer/seller appetite and further compounded by limited liquidity in the private market; and
- the promotion of "Cyber risks" from our watch list to principal risk, reflecting greater digital-dependency and use of online platforms within 3i and certain large portfolio companies, and a heightened and increasingly artificial intelligence enabled threat landscape.

The Group's principal risk mitigation plans, which are subject to regular review by the GRC, have not required any notable changes during the year.

### External

External risks are the risks to our business which are usually outside of our direct control such as political, economic, environmental, social, regulatory and competitor risks.

Global economic uncertainty and geopolitical risks were a focal point of discussion for the GRC over the past year. Of particular concern were the scope and duration of conflict in Russia/Ukraine and in the Middle East, and the potential for broader escalation; and the risk of trade wars through the imposition of tariffs triggering retaliatory tariffs and trade restrictions. While the impact of these on the portfolio has been limited to date, these have the potential, inter alia, to increase market volatility and disrupt supply chains, which could affect the operations of some of 3i's portfolio companies and impact 3i's investment and realisation plans.

The main focus of the GRC has been on understanding how these changes potentially play out across the different geographies and sectors in which 3i's portfolio companies operate, supply chain risks, and the impact on deal activity. Measures and initiatives put in place have enabled most portfolio companies to manage their performance through various economic headwinds. This is reflected in the continued positive momentum in the overall portfolio performance across both business lines; in particular, investments in consumer and private label, healthcare, industrial and infrastructure.

The Group's resilience assessment and viability testing covers a range of stress test scenarios including a number of severe yet plausible external events linked back to the Group's principal risks. Further details can be found in the Group's Resilience statement on pages 127 to 129. As part of its overall resilience planning, 3i continues to maintain a conservative approach to managing its capital resources and costs.

Sustainability considerations are an important component of our strategic and investment objectives and approach to risk management. Further information on work done in relation to Sustainability reporting and compliance obligations, including TCFD-aligned reporting, and our approach to climate-related risk and opportunities can be found in the Sustainability section on pages 39 to 68.

### Investment

The Investment Committee is responsible for managing the Group's investment risks. The focus of the quarterly GRC meetings is on 3i's investment outcomes in the context of the Group's risk appetite, overall risk profile and potential risks to the achievement of its strategic objectives.

The core areas of the Group's investment strategy and focus remain unchanged, although delivery of these continues to be refined in terms of approach, resourcing and processes. The underlying views on key long-term risks and trends remains consistent with last year.

During the year, the GRC discussed the gradual resurgence in deal activity and, more recently, changes to market sentiment brought about by increasing geopolitical and macro-economic uncertainty, which had the potential to delay new investment and planned realisations in the private capital market in 2025. A very selective and disciplined approach to investment remains appropriate in the current market.

The performance of Action and the associated risk of potential underperformance and impact on the Group was discussed at the GRC. Action's strong cash-generative characteristics and sector-leading growth continues to underpin the resilience of the business, and the GRC concluded no change was required to the risk assessment.

The performance risk assessment for the portfolio, excluding Action, has been stable over the period, reflecting resilient performance by the majority of the portfolio, partly offset by mixed performance by a minority of companies in more challenged sectors.

Notwithstanding the challenging external environment described previously, portfolio performance continues to benefit from: a combination of the diversity and structure of the portfolio; a disciplined approach to investment and exit planning; and mitigating steps taken to address cost pressures and weaker consumer demand where there is a particular exposure.



**Principal risks and mitigations – aligning risk to our strategic objectives** continued

Our investment and portfolio monitoring processes continue to evolve in response to new and evolving risks. 3i's Responsible Investment policy and minimum requirements provide our expectations for what portfolio companies should be doing or commit to doing, to manage sustainability risks and explore sustainability opportunities facing their business. Our sustainability due diligence on new investments has continued to evolve, becoming more targeted with an in-depth assessment process, together with enhanced standards and a clearer sustainability maturity roadmap to support portfolio companies.

The GRC receives updates on the work of the Sustainability Committee and progress with sustainability initiatives across the portfolio. Good progress has been made in advancing the sustainability maturity of the portfolio and in setting near-term science-based emissions reduction targets across the portfolio.

**Operational**

3i's operational risk profile has remained stable over the year.

Attracting and retaining key people remains a principal risk and significant operational priority. The market for talented and qualified candidates remains competitive, and our ability to recruit, develop and retain key people is crucial to our continued success. Our overall risk assessment is unchanged.

During the year, the Group experienced modest levels of voluntary staff turnover; 7.6% in FY2025. This reflects 3i's strong performance and helps to underpin the longer-term resilience of the business.

Our Remuneration Committee ensures that our compensation arrangements are in line with market practice and consistent with sound risk management. These arrangements include carried interest schemes for investment executives, an important long-term incentive, which rewards cash-to-cash returns.

The effective on-boarding and integration of new hires remains a priority and is an important part of maintaining a cohesive Group culture and good control mindset.

Detailed succession plans are in place for each business area. The Board completed its last formal annual review of the Group's organisational capability and succession plans in September 2024.

The GRC also receives updates on IT security and operational resilience. 3i has continued to operate robust and secure IT systems supported by key third-party service providers. There were no significant IT performance or security issues in the period. 3i continues to review and refresh its IT systems, device strategy, and cyber security framework. 3i engages the services of a leading cyber security services company, including a part-time Chief Information Security Officer, which provides ready access to intelligence and expert advice on new and emerging cyber security threats.

Incident management, business continuity, and disaster recovery plans are reviewed at least annually. This includes consideration of a broad range of severe but plausible business disruption scenarios and incorporates an assessment of third-party supplier risks.

Fraud risk is considered on a regular basis. 3i has a robust fraud risk assessment and anti-fraud programme in place. The latter includes fraud prevention work by Internal Audit, awareness training and provision of an independent reporting service or hotline accessible by all staff. The Group's cyber security programme also aims to identify and mitigate the risks of third-party frauds, for example, ransomware and phishing attacks, through the use of IT security tools, internal and external vulnerability testing, and regular staff training.

**Capital management**

3i continues to maintain a conservative approach to managing its capital resources and has operated within the limits set out in its Risk appetite statement on page 81, and in accordance with the Treasury policy approved by the Board. The latter includes a detailed liquidity and currency exposure risk monitoring and reporting framework, incorporating a range of quantitative and qualitative measures and associated risk tolerance levels.

During the year, S&P and Moody's upgraded the Group's long-term issuer credit ratings. The Group's S&P credit rating improved from BBB+ to A-, and the Moodys credit rating improved from Baa1 to A3, with Stable outlook for both ratings.

Accordingly, there are currently no principal risks in relation to capital management.

**New and emerging risks**

The key elements to 3i's approach to identifying and monitoring new and emerging risks include the following:

- a thematic approach to investment origination and portfolio construction, which involves consideration of emerging risks and trends that can support long-term sustainable growth in the portfolio;
- the quarterly review by the GRC of significant developments which could potentially impact the Group's risk profile and the achievement of its strategic objectives;
- maintenance of a watch list of risks which are deemed of sufficient importance to require active monitoring by the GRC, but are not currently regarded as risks to the achievement of the Group's strategic objectives; and
- monitoring of developments by 3i's professional service teams, covering their respective specialist areas such as tax, legal and regulatory compliance, and sustainability.

3i's thematic approach to investment origination and portfolio construction is developed based on an analysis of new and emerging risks and trends over a longer time horizon. The current themes (pages 12 and 13) include: value-for-money and discount; energy transition, energy security and resource scarcity; digitalisation, digital transformation and big data; and demographic and social change. This approach enables 3i to adapt its investment strategy in a way which manages longer-term risks whilst taking advantage of the upside opportunities.



**Principal risks and mitigations – aligning risk to our strategic objectives** continued

The Board carries out an in-depth annual strategic review which includes an update and discussion on current and emerging risks and the Group's risk appetite. The outputs are linked back to the work of the GRC and the Investment Committee, the latter being responsible for the execution of the investment strategy, including the assessment and management of risks over the investment lifecycle. The outputs also form part of our medium-term viability stress testing and long-term business resilience assessment (pages 127 to 129).

New and emerging sustainability risks are factored into the development of 3i's investment themes. In addition, changes in legislation and reporting requirements are closely monitored. Investment opportunities are screened at an early stage against 3i's Responsible Investment policy to filter out any which are exposed to excessive risks. Once invested, we monitor sustainability risks closely and use our influence to support our portfolio companies across a range of sustainability-related areas, including improvements in risk management processes; addressing emerging regulations and legislation; and encouraging the development of more environmentally and socially sustainable behaviours. 3i also has the flexibility to sell investments that become or have the potential to become overly exposed to sustainability risks. Further information can be found in the Sustainability section on pages 39 to 68.

The quarterly GRC risk review considers any significant developments which could impact the Group's principal risks and the achievement of its strategic objectives. The areas of risk considered include external developments, investment outcomes, the Group's capital management and operational risks. External developments typically cover geopolitical developments, the economic outlook and market performance. The focus is on near to medium-term emerging risks and trends. Based on this analysis, the GRC reviews the need to update principal risks and initiate or change the risk mitigation plan. The Group's current principal risks and risk mitigation plan are summarised on pages 88 to 93.

In addition to the review of principal risks, the GRC maintains a watch list of risks which are deemed of sufficient importance to require active monitoring by the GRC, but are not currently regarded as risks to the achievement of the Group's strategic objectives. This includes new and emerging risks. The watch list sets out details of how these risks are being mitigated and any further actions agreed by the GRC. Risks on the watch list may be reclassified as principal risks and vice versa based on the GRC's assessment.

During the year, cyber risks was promoted from the watch list to a principal risk and broadened to include the impact of artificial intelligence technology. The other risks on the watch list are unchanged from last year and have continued to evolve.

These include:

- external environment – UK/EU trading relationships; increased sustainability reporting and compliance obligations; reputational risks in relation to the private equity industry; and the potential re-emergence of a global pandemic;
- investment outcomes – portfolio concentration; and
- operations – third-party supplier resilience.

The risk mitigation plans for risks on the watch list are reviewed quarterly by the GRC and are broadly unchanged from last year.

**Outlook**

The longer-term economic outlook continues to be affected by a number of factors including lower growth forecasts; persistent inflation; cost-of-living pressures; interest rates being kept higher for longer; and increasing geopolitical and trade tensions. Whilst there have been some positive economic indicators, our outlook remains cautious in view of the number of potential downside factors which could impact economic growth and market volatility.

3i's business model, its disciplined approach to investment, active portfolio management, and diverse investment portfolio have been resilient to the challenges of the past year. This resilience has also been confirmed in the results of the latest stress tests carried out as part of our viability assessment.

Our conservative approach to managing capital resources and our exposure to Action, private label, infrastructure and healthcare, should all offer various forms of downside protection.









3i continues to work closely with portfolio management teams to support their respective business and contingency plans, in response to challenging economic and market conditions. Where appropriate, enhanced portfolio monitoring and reporting processes may be put in place to support portfolio companies through more difficult periods and to identify possible further actions.

We have a clear and consistent strategy and a disciplined approach to investment whilst looking to put more capital behind those portfolio companies we already know well. We expect competition for the best assets in our sectors to remain intense and prices high. Accordingly, our focus remains on identifying attractive and sensibly priced new investments and value-accretive bolt-on acquisitions for our portfolio companies.

## Principal risks and mitigations – aligning risk to our strategic objectives continued

The disclosures on the following pages are not an exhaustive list of risks and uncertainties faced by the Group, but rather a summary of the principal risks which are regularly reviewed by the GRC and the Board, and have the potential to affect materially the achievement of the Group's strategic objectives and impact its financial performance, reputation and brand integrity.

## Movements in risk status and link to strategic objectives

- |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
|  Risk exposure has increased            |  Grow investment portfolio earnings |  Realise investments with good cash-to-cash returns |  Maintain an operating cash profit |
|  No significant change in risk exposure |  Use our strong balance sheet       |  Increase shareholder distributions                 |   |
|  Risk exposure has decreased            |  |  |   |

## External

## Principal risk

## Global economic uncertainty

## Movement in risk status in FY2025



## Link to strategic objectives



## Potential impact

- Impacts general market confidence and risk appetite
- Higher risk of market volatility, price shocks or a significant market correction
- Potential for extended period of higher inflation and interest rates
- Limits earnings growth or reduces NAV owing to contraction of earnings in our investments and/or changes in multiples and discount rates used for their valuation
- Increases liquidity or covenant risks across the portfolio or limits ability to refinance our investments
- Leads to reduced M&A volumes in 3i's core markets, economic instability and lower growth, which impacts investment portfolio exit plans and realisation levels

## Risk management and mitigation

- Regular portfolio company reviews and Investment Committee focus on investment strategy, exit processes and refinancing strategies
- Monthly portfolio monitoring to identify and address portfolio issues promptly
- Monitoring of valuations and application of the valuations policy by the Valuations Committee
- Regular liquidity and currency monitoring and strategic reviews of the Group's balance sheet
- Regular review of resourcing and key man exposures as part of business line reviews and the portfolio company review process
- Overall shape and resilience of the portfolio

## FY2025 outcome

- In the longer-term portfolio, both Action and Royal Sanders continue to deliver strong growth
- The rest of the portfolio performed resiliently; a small number of assets continue to experience weaker end-markets
- Overall value growth of £4,839 million and Group GIR of 24% for the year
- Low Group gearing of 3% and liquidity of £1,323 million, including our undrawn RCF of £900 million

## Principal risks and mitigations – aligning risk to our strategic objectives continued

## External continued

## Principal risk

## Geopolitical and policy risks

## Movement in risk status in FY2025



## Link to strategic objectives



## Potential impact

- Indirect operational impact, e.g. third-party suppliers or supply chain disruption
- Impact of higher energy and commodity prices, price shocks and supply chain issues
- Increased transportation times and costs
- Increased number and complexity of sanctions and tariff regimes
- Direct or indirect reputational risks, e.g. exposures to Russia
- Impact on NAV through contraction of Private Equity portfolio earnings or changes in valuation multiples
- Reduced realisation potential, impacting shareholder returns
- Reduced viability of certain business models, and the attractiveness of certain geographies and markets

## Risk management and mitigation

- Detailed scenario and contingency planning at the portfolio company level
- Steps taken by portfolio companies to manage through an extended period of disruption
- Regular assessment of portfolio company operations and performance
- Sanctions policy and monitoring
- Long-term approach to valuation multiples
- Strong network of engaged advisers along with 3i internal team's awareness
- Monitoring of current global and local initiatives and potential changes

## FY2025 outcome

- Contingency plans in place to address key risks and subject to review as part of the portfolio company review process
- Continued monitoring of headwinds faced from international conflict (and a broader expansion), and of the imposition of tariffs and trade restrictions
- Supply side constraints and price inflation continue to be closely managed and monitored across the portfolio

## Principal risk

## Volatility in capital markets, foreign exchange and commodities

## Movement in risk status in FY2025



## Link to strategic objectives



## Potential impact

- May impact portfolio company valuations and realisation processes
- Increases risks with exit plans and bank financing
- Potential for large equity market fall to impact asset valuations
- Unhedged foreign exchange rate movements impact total return and NAV
- Impact of higher energy and commodity prices, price shocks and supply chain issues

## Risk management and mitigation

- Portfolio company reviews focus on investment strategy, exit plans and refinancing strategies
- Long-term, through-the-cycle approach to setting valuation multiples
- Active management of exit strategies by Investment Committee to enable us to adapt to market conditions
- Regular liquidity and currency monitoring, and strategic reviews of the Group's balance sheet
- Foreign exchange hedging programmes and management of investment and realisation currency flows

## FY2025 outcome

- Strong portfolio performance, demonstrating resilience, leading to an increase in portfolio value in the year
- Continuation of euro and US dollar medium-term foreign exchange hedging programme. These portfolio hedging programmes had a total size of €2.6 billion and \$1.2 billion respectively during FY2025; the euro hedge was increased by €0.4 billion in April 2025
- Foreign exchange exposures at the portfolio company level monitored and hedged where appropriate
- At 31 March 2025, 79% of net assets denominated in euros or US dollars. Sterling strengthened by 2% against the euro and 2% against the US dollar and as a result, we generated a total foreign exchange translation loss of £259 million (2024: £316 million loss) net of hedging in the year

## Principal risks and mitigations – aligning risk to our strategic objectives continued

## External continued

## Principal risk

### Impact of higher interest rates on debt markets and pricing of specific assets

**Movement in risk status in FY2025**

**Link to strategic objectives**

**Potential impact**

- Higher risk of market volatility, price shocks or a significant market correction
- Limits earnings growth or reduces NAV owing to contraction of earnings in our investments and/or changes in multiples and discount rates used for their valuation
- Increases liquidity or covenant risks across the portfolio or limits ability to refinance our investments
- Impacts market confidence and risk appetite more generally

**Risk management and mitigation**

- Regular portfolio company reviews, as well as Investment Committee focus on investment strategy, exit processes and refinancing strategies
- Monthly portfolio monitoring, including financing arrangements, to identify and address issues promptly
- Monitoring of valuations and application of the valuations policy by the Valuations Committee
- Regular liquidity, currency and counterparty risk monitoring and strategic reviews of the Group's balance sheet

**FY2025 outcome**

- Strong performance of Action and resilient performance overall from the remainder of the portfolio led to an overall increase in portfolio valuation and Group GIR of 24%
- Action continued to optimise its debt profile throughout the year and successfully raised a total of €2.1 billion in July 2024
- Action also completed two leverage-neutral amend-and-extend and repricing transactions saving c€33 million in recurring interest per annum
- Low Group gearing of 3% and liquidity of £1,323 million, including our undrawn RCF of £900 million
- Private Equity portfolio is funded with all-senior debt structures, with long-dated maturity profiles. As at 31 March 2025, 91% of portfolio company debt was repayable from 2028 to 2032
- Average leverage across the Private Equity portfolio was 2.9x (31 March 2024: 2.7x)

## Principal risk

### Transaction execution challenges in current market

**Movement in risk status in FY2025**

**Link to strategic objectives**

**Potential impact**

- Reduced investment rates in Private Equity and Infrastructure, as a result of pricing challenges or market uncertainties
- Risk of wider outcomes on core investment case assumptions, impacting returns
- Market uncertainty may result in some attractive investment opportunities
- Reduced level of realisations and refinancing

**Risk management and mitigation**

- Strong central oversight and disciplined approach to investment pipeline and pricing
- Active management of investments and exit strategies by Investment Committee
- 3i's local teams and networks facilitate the origination of off-market transactions

**FY2025 outcome**

- Invested £1,182 million, including the £768 million reinvestment into Action and £318 million across three new investments
- Completed 12 bolt-on acquisitions for the Private Equity portfolio
- Completed two realisations in the Private Equity portfolio and realised proceeds of £1,827 million including £1,164 million proceeds received from Action's capital restructuring

## Principal risks and mitigations – aligning risk to our strategic objectives continued

## Investment

## Principal risk

## Underperformance of Action

## Movement in risk status in FY2025



## Link to strategic objectives



## Potential impact

- Reduction in NAV and realisation potential impacting shareholder returns
- Impact on 3i's reputation as an investor of proprietary capital
- Materiality of the investment increases the potential impact and profile of underperformance
- May set back specific strategic initiatives

## Risk management and mitigation

- Regular monthly monitoring to review operating performance, identify weaknesses and opportunities early and take action as appropriate
- Additional asset monitoring and reporting, including 3i Chief Executive in the role of chair and 3i Chief Operating Officer being on the Action board
- Sharing of any operational incidents, such as fraud and cyber breaches, to ensure appropriate remedial actions and monitoring

## FY2025 outcome

- Close monitoring of Action, including frequent performance updates to the 3i Board
- Action generated a GIR of £4,551 million, or 32%, on its opening value
- Action added 352 new stores during 2024
- 3i Chief Operating Officer joined the Action board in March 2025
- Refer to the Action case study on pages 20 to 23 for further details

## Principal risk

## Underperformance of portfolio companies (ex-Action)

## Movement in risk status in FY2025



## Link to strategic objectives



## Potential impact

- Reduction in NAV and realisation potential impacting shareholder returns
- Impacts reputation as an investor of proprietary capital and as a manager of 3iN and other funds
- May set back specific strategic initiatives
- May impact long-term returns

## Risk management and mitigation

- Rigorous initial assessment of new investment opportunities to maintain quality of our investment pipeline
- Monthly portfolio monitoring to review operating performance, identify weaknesses and opportunities early and act as appropriate
- Active management of portfolio company Chair, CEO and CFO appointments
- Sharing of any incidents of portfolio fraud and cyber breaches across investment teams to ensure monitoring is up to date

## FY2025 outcome

- Royal Sanders delivered very strong organic and acquisitive growth
- 97% of our portfolio companies valued on an earnings basis grew their earnings over the last 12 months to 31 December 2024
- Close monitoring and adaptation of portfolio company exit plans
- Liquidity support provided to Wilson



## Principal risks and mitigations – aligning risk to our strategic objectives continued

## Investment continued

## Principal risk

## Lower investment or realisation rates

## Movement in risk status in FY2025



## Link to strategic objectives



## Potential impact

- May impact longer-term returns and capital management and therefore ability to deliver strategic plan
- May impact progress with specific strategic initiatives
- May reduce staff morale and confidence
- Cost base may not be sustainable
- May impact Group's reputation as an investor of proprietary capital and as a manager of 3iN and other funds
- Increases the importance of the role of bolt-on acquisition opportunities

## Risk management and mitigation

- Regular monitoring of investment and divestment pipeline
- Early involvement of Investment Committee as new investment ideas are identified
- Disciplined approach to sourcing investment opportunities and pricing
- Regular review of asset allocation
- Focus on bolt-on acquisition opportunities, which can be more attractively priced and offer synergy benefits

## FY2025 outcome

- We invested £318 million in three new investments in our Private Equity portfolio, increased our investment in Action and completed 12 bolt-on acquisitions in Private Equity
- Investment Committee maintained a cautious stance, declining a number of investment proposals where price and risk and reward failed to meet Group requirements
- We realised proceeds of £1,837 million including £1,164 million proceeds received from Action's capital restructuring

## Principal risk

## Portfolio sustainability risk profile/performance

## Movement in risk status in FY2025



## Link to strategic objectives



## Potential impact

- Poor or insufficient management of sustainability risks or adverse developments impact 3i's reputation as an investor
- Potential impact on NAV, realisation potential and shareholder returns
- May affect 3i's ability to meet external reporting obligations or published targets

## Risk management and mitigation

- Investment Committee, GRC and Sustainability Committee involvement with Board oversight
- Responsible Investment policy
- Structured approach to identify and manage sustainability risks and themes and to collect relevant data as part of the portfolio company review process
- Early engagement with 3i Communications team in the event of any incidents
- Limited exposure to higher risk sectors and geographies
- Close monitoring of trends and developments in external reporting
- Dedicated 3i sustainability resources and provision of training where required

## FY2025 outcome

- Further refinements in the monitoring of sustainability risks and portfolio performance, including development of a human rights framework and high-level assessment of nature-related impacts and dependencies
- Enhancements to the annual sustainability assessment questionnaire for portfolio companies
- Progress on an individual and portfolio-wide engagement with portfolio companies covering material topics, including CSRD, human rights and climate
- Progress in the number of portfolio companies having science-based targets at 31 March 2025, seven across Group and 3iN in comparison to one as of the FY2023 base year
- Collected Scope 1 and 2 data from 100% of our Private Equity and economic infrastructure portfolio companies<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Excludes some legacy minority and other minority investments where we have limited influence.

## Principal risks and mitigations – aligning risk to our strategic objectives continued

## Operational

## Principal risk

## Cyber risks

This risk was promoted from the watch list to principal risk in the period

Link to strategic objectives



## Potential impact

- Disruption to core business operations and services (within the Group or at a key third-party supplier impacting the Group) or within certain large portfolio companies
- Loss, theft, or compromise of sensitive data
- Reputational damage leading to loss of confidence of existing or prospective shareholders
- Financial loss due to remediation costs and operational downtime
- Regulatory penalties and legal consequences
- May impact portfolio company valuation and NAV

## Risk management and mitigation

- 24/7 threat monitoring with defined incident response protocols
- Part time CISO provides independent, expert input
- Regular monitoring of cyber risks and performance via KPI framework
- Technical controls
- Penetration testing and vulnerability scans
- Periodic cyber security training for all staff and ethical phishing programme
- Information Security policies and incident management processes, which are periodically tested and refreshed
- Annual assessment of portfolio company cyber maturity with remediation actions where required

## FY2025 outcome

- The GRC received updates on cyber security and penetration testing, and business resilience including IT and disaster recovery during the year
- Increasing number of cyber incidents reported across the portfolio and at Group level during the year; none however were of a serious nature
- Improved cyber security maturity and detective and preventative controls
- Enhancements made to business operational resilience and in managing third-party IT supplier risk
- 3i staff training and awareness campaigns on cyber security risks
- CTO Forum held; continued sharing of awareness and best practices across the portfolio

## Principal risk

## Ability to recruit, develop and retain key people

Movement in risk status in FY2025



Link to strategic objectives



## Potential impact

- Impairs ability to deliver key performance objectives
- Potential to delay execution of strategic plan with possible impact on shareholder returns

## Risk management and mitigation

- Specific focus by Remuneration Committee which approves all material incentive arrangements to ensure they reflect market practice
- Annual Board review of succession planning
- Regular review of resourcing and key man exposures as part of business line reviews and the portfolio company review process
- HR policies and procedures for recruitment and vetting and ongoing performance management

## FY2025 outcome

- Organisational capability and succession plan reviewed by the Board in September 2024
- Successful talent recruitment and continuous training and development programmes throughout the year. 18 new hires in FY2025
- Limited staff voluntary turnover of 7.6%
- Good progress with recruitment and integration of new hires

# Directors' duties under Section 172

## Section 172 statement

The Directors believe that, during the year, they have, individually and together, acted in a way that they consider, in good faith, was most likely to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of its members as a whole, and in doing so had regard to the factors set out below ("section 172 factors").

Our business model is set out on pages 14 and 15 and the Board's strategic objectives and key performance indicators are set out on pages 16 and 17.

When making decisions, the Board takes into consideration the Company's purpose and strategic objectives, as well as the potential long-term impact of those decisions on its various stakeholder groups, including those listed in section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 ("section 172"). A summary of the principal section 172 factors is set out below.

## Section 172 factors

### The likely consequences of any decision in the long term

Our purpose and strategy, including our long-term responsible investment approach, aims to drive sustainable growth in our investment portfolio.

[Read more in the Strategic report](#)

### The interests of the Company's employees

Our employees are critical to the success of the Company. Our approach as a responsible employer is described more fully in the Sustainability section.

[Read more in the Sustainability report](#)

### The need to foster the Company's business relationships with suppliers, customers and others

We engage with all our third-party service providers, suppliers and customers in an open and transparent way to foster strong business relationships to ensure both the success of the Company and its legal and regulatory compliance.

[Read more in the Governance report](#)

### The impact of the Company's operations on the community and the environment

We embed responsible business practices throughout our organisation by promoting the right values and culture. In addition we partner with charities which relieve poverty, promote education and support elderly and disabled people.

[Read more in the Sustainability report](#)

### The desirability of maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct

Our success relies on maintaining a strong reputation and seeking to ensure our values and culture are aligned to our purpose, our strategy and our ways of working.

[Read more in the Overview and strategy section and the Sustainability report](#)

### The need to act fairly towards all members of the Company

The Board engages actively with its shareholders and takes into account their interests when implementing our strategy.

[Read more in this section and in the Governance report](#)

## Directors' duties under Section 172 continued

## How stakeholder interests have influenced decision making

The Board takes into account stakeholder interests and other section 172 factors in its key business decisions. Directors are reminded of their section 172 duties at Board meetings.

Throughout the year and when implementing the Company's strategic priorities, the Board has taken account of the varied interests of the Company's stakeholders and the impact of key decisions on them. The Board recognises that not all decisions will yield positive outcomes for every stakeholder group. The Board and management take account of these conflicts during decision making.

Examples of key decisions made by the Board this year, along with how stakeholder interests and other section 172 factors were considered, are detailed below. Additional information on Board decision making can be found on pages 107 to 109.

### Key decisions in the year

#### FY2024 second dividend and FY2025 first dividend

**Background:** In May 2024 the Board decided on an increased total dividend for FY2024 and in November 2024 a first dividend for FY2025 (in line with the Company's dividend policy announced in May 2018) of one half of the total dividend for the previous year.

**Stakeholder considerations:** In May 2024 the Board carefully considered factors relevant to setting the FY2024 second dividend. The Board considered that in setting the dividend it needed to ensure the reward for shareholders was reflective of the Company's strong performance in FY2024, whilst taking account of the Company's future cash flow needs including the need to maintain liquidity for investment as well as operational and other costs, whilst maintaining a robust, low-geared balance sheet. Despite adverse macro-economic conditions, the Company's portfolio had performed well overall with excellent performance from Action and resilient performance across the rest of the portfolio, notwithstanding some pockets of weakness.

**Impact on the success of 3i:** Being thoughtful about setting the dividend is important as it potentially impacts a number of the Company's stakeholders. In particular, some 3i shareholders rely on the consistent application of the Company's dividend policy, which is an important aspect of the investment case for them.

### Increasing the Company's stake in Action

**Background:** Action has been identified as an investment to be held for the long term. From time to time opportunities arise for the Company to acquire additional shares in Action from other investors. Prior to each such acquisition, that additional new investment is considered on its own merits to identify whether the investment is an appropriate use of the Company's capital.

In the year, the Company acquired additional interests in Action for a net consideration of £768 million taking the Company's interest in Action from 54.8% to 57.9%. As part of these transactions, the Company completed the final payment of the carried interest liability relating to Action. Further details of the transactions are set out on page 25.

**Stakeholder considerations:** Shareholders have a direct interest in the success of the Company's investments. The Company's ability to make such investments also affects our fund investors, as the transactions can provide a mechanism for fund investors who wish to sell interests in Action, or acquire additional interests, to do so. The transactions also ensured that participants in the relevant carried interest scheme were paid in cash for their interests, which might otherwise not have been realisable for many years.

**Impact on the success of 3i:** The Directors believe these further investments in Action will prove to be profitable investments and will promote the long-term success of the Company.

### Appointment of an additional non-executive Director

**Background:** A key task for the Board and Nominations Committee is keeping the size, balance and composition of the Board under review to ensure that the Board has the necessary skills and experience to enable the Group to deliver its current and future strategic objectives. This includes the need to ensure orderly succession among the non-executive Directors. Following the retirement of Ms Banskzy at the 2023 AGM, the need to appoint an additional non-executive Director in the medium term was identified. Further details of the process, which led to the appointment of Mr Patel as an additional non-executive Director in February 2025, are set out on page 115.

**Stakeholder considerations:** Sound governance of the Company is a key concern for our shareholders and holders of our debt, as it impacts the ability of the Board to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of its members as whole.

**Impact on the success of 3i:** The Board is now satisfied that the composition of the Board meets the Company's needs.

For the purposes of the UK Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report of 3i Group plc comprises pages 1 to 95.

By order of the Board

**Simon Borrows**

Chief Executive

14 May 2025