

# **Key Fund characteristics**

Monthly NAV total return	+0.57%	Ticker	SMEF:LN
NAV per ordinary share	101.26 GBp	ISIN	GB00BYMK5S87
Mid-Price	95.00 GBp	Domicile	UK
Premium / discount	-6.2%	Listing	LSE SFS
Dividend frequency	Monthly	Ordinary shares in issue	52,660,350
Fund indicated yield *	7.5%	Market capitalisation	50,027,333 GBP
Weighted average coupon	9.0%	NAV	53,375,487 GBP
Gearing	None	Number of direct loans	243
Currency hedged to GBP	100%	Weighted average maturity	2.36 years
*Source Bloomberg		All data as at 31/08/16	

# **Investment Objective**

The SME Loan Fund PLC is a UK Investment Trust with the investment objective of providing shareholders with attractive risk adjusted returns through investment, principally via online finance platforms, in a range of SME loan assets, diversified by way of asset class, geography and duration. The Fund pays a monthly dividend and over a rolling twelve-month period, is targeting an outright income level of 8%.

#### **Performance and Dividend History**

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	Inception to date
NAV per share total return,	2015									1.46%	0.64%	-0.43%	1.75%	3.44%	8.25%
including income*	2016	1.12%	0.42%	0.57%	0.05%	0.55%	0.74%	0.52%	0.57%					4.64%	0.23 /6
Dividend per share**	2015												0.60p	0.60p	4.95p
20	2016	0.40p	0.55p	0.55p	0.55p	0.55p	0.55p	0.60p	0.60p					4.35p	4.33p
Share price performance	2015									2.25%	0.00%	0.00%	-0.73%	1.50%	-5.00%
total return***	2016	-1.97%	-3.02%	-0.78%	0.78%	-0.52%	-6.51%	2.79%	2.98%					-6.40%	-3.00%

<sup>\*</sup> Per Ordinary Share excluding set-up costs \*\* Per Ordinary Share paid from income reserves to date \*\*\* Source Bloomberg

#### **NAV Total Return vs. Share Price**



Source: Amberton Asset Management Limited



#### **Market Commentary**

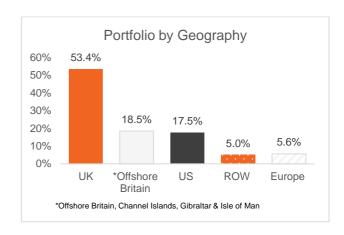
In spite of fears of a global economic slowdown following the Brexit vote, macro data broadly surprised on the upside in the US, UK and also Europe. In the UK, Retail Sales were up, unemployment was down and inflation actually beat expectations coming in at 0.6% year-on-year vs. the forecast of 0.5%. Indeed, only housing data and business confidence readings disappointed. Worryingly, Home Sales experienced the biggest decline since 2008 with the South East being particularly hard hit. Of benefit to the UK is the fall in the exchange rate with EUR / GBP falling from a peak of 1.4295 in mid-2015 to its month-end close of 1.1775. The US has enjoyed a continuation of its good economic performance and there is no doubt that all eyes will be on the Federal Reserve to see when the next increase in the Fed Funds rate may take place. The Eurozone also released some impressive macro data, with the expansion accelerating to its fastest pace in seven months, according to Markit PMI data. The services sector was particularly strong offsetting a slight contraction in manufacturing.

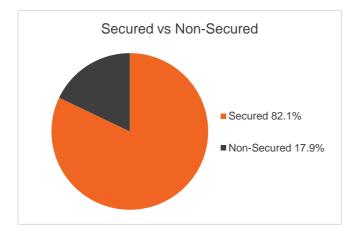
The AltFi sector continued to power ahead with total UK volumes exceeding £7.8 Billion, a jump of £250 Million in the month. This is slightly contradictory to some anecdotal information that suggested poor origination during the month. The SME Loan Fund had no such problem in deploying capital into high quality loans with exposure being taken in a variety of sectors including horticulture, leisurewear and property financing. The refinancing of several property loans saw cash end the month at 9.5%, an increase of 3.2%. Property exposure fell from 12.6% to 9.9% whilst exposure to renewable energy fell from 17.2% to 16.1%. Correspondingly the gross yield snapshot at month end was 9%, down from 9.4% however a good pipeline of new loans has been identified which will lead to a more normalised cash level and a pick-up in gross yield.

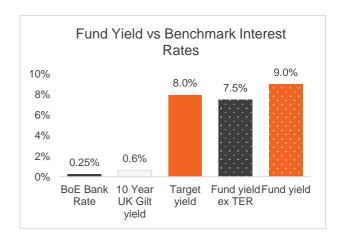
Following the change in name from GLI Alternative Finance plc to The SME Loan Fund plc, the Company website has been changed and can be seen at <a href="https://www.thesmeloanfund.com">www.thesmeloanfund.com</a>. The Board are also delighted to advise that Cantor Fitzgerald Europe have been appointed as the new corporate broker and financial advisor.

## **Portfolio Analytics**











## Monthly factsheet, August 2016

#### **Top-Ten Loan Exposure**

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Asset	Coupon	Maturity	Currency	Geographic region	Weighting
Loan 1	8.00%	Mar 17	GBP	Offshore Britain	2.32%
Loan 2	9.00%	Oct 19	GBP	UK	2.23%
Loan 3	9.50%	May 18	GBP	UK	2.12%
Loan 4	7.30%	Dec 19	GBP	UK	2.00%
Loan 5	9.75%	Sep 18	GBP	UK	1.96%
Loan 6	9.95%	Mar 17	GBP	Offshore Britain	1.85%
Loan 7	8.00%	Dec 16	GBP	Offshore Britain	1.85%
Loan 8	9.75%	Jul 18	GBP	UK	1.85%
Loan 9	9.50%	Mar 18	GBP	UK	1.83%
Loan 10	7.50%	Sep 18	GBP	UK	1.81%

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