City of London Investment Trust PLC

A 🖨

Regulatory Story

Go to market news section

TIDM CTY

Company

HeadlineHalf Yearly ReportReleased16:52 19-Feb-2014

Number 4813A16

RNS Number: 4813A

City of London Investment Trust PLC

19 February 2014

19 February 2014

THE CITY OF LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST PLC Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 31 December 2013

This announcement contains regulated information

Financial Highlights

	0	
Total Returns	Six Months to 31 December 2013	Year to 30 June 2013
Net asset value per ordinary share ("NAV") (1)	11.6%	23.8%
Average UK Growth & Income Investment Trust NAV (1) (3)	12.7%	26.0%
Relative NAV performance (percentage points)	(1.1)	(2.2)
Ordinary share price (1)	12̀.1%́	21.5%
FTSE All-Share Index (2)	11.3%	17.9%
	As at	As at
Dividend Yields	31 December 2013	30 June 2013
City of London (1)	3.8%	4.2%
Average UK Growth & Income Investment Trust (1) (3)	3.5%	3.8%
FTSE All-Share Index (2)	3.3%	3.5%
FTSE 350 Investment Companies Index (2)	2.4%	2.4%
	As at	As at
	31 December 2013	30 June 2013
Ordinary share price	378.00p	344.00p
NAV per ordinary share	374.45p	343.58p
Premium	0.9%	0.1%
NAV per ordinary share (with debt at market value)	370.97p	339.12p
Premium (with debt at market value)	1.9%	1.4%
Gearing (at par value)	7.5%	7.9%

Net Asset Value Total Return	6 months %	3 years %	5 years %
The City of London Investment Trust plc (1)	11.6	51.2	117.3
Average UK Growth & Income Investment Trust (1) (3)	12.7	53.0	123.9
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	11.3	31.0	95.2
FTSE All-Share Index (2)			
FTSE 350 Investment Companies Index (2)	8.3	20.4	96.3
Share Price Performance Total Return			_
Value of £1,000 with net income reinvested	6 months	3 years	5 years
The City of London Investment Trust plc (1)	1,121	1,478	2,289
Average UK Growth & Income Investment Trust (1) (3)	1,126	1,532	2,393
FTSE All-Share Index (2)	1,113	1,310	1,952
FTSE 350 Investment Companies Index (2)	1,083	1,204	1,963

Sources: (1) Statistics at Morningstar; (2) Datastream; (3) Size weighted average

Page 2 of 12

THE CITY OF LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST PLC Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 31 December 2013

INTERIM MANAGEMENT REPORT

Chairman's Statement

Net Asset Value Total Return

UK economic growth accelerated during the six months helped by falling unemployment and a buoyant housing market. Overseas, the US economy continued to grow steadily, Europe improved but emerging markets were mixed. Against this background, the UK equity market, as measured by the FTSE All-Share Index, produced a return of 11.3% but British Government bonds, as measured by the Gilts-All Stock Index, produced a negative return of 0.9% as investors brought forward their expectations of a rise in UK interest rates.

City of London produced a net asset value total return of 11.6% which was 0.3 percentage points ahead of the FTSE All-Share Index. We were 1.1 percentage points behind the average for our investment trust sector mainly due to having less exposure to medium and small companies which have significantly outperformed. In addition, our gearing, which ranged between 6% and 8% and enhanced NAV performance, was less aggressive than some of our competitors.

Within the portfolio, there was particularly strong performance from holdings outside the FTSE 100 Index, such as Smiths News, Britvic and Greencore. On the other hand, the gas and electricity utilities, Centrica and SSE, were notable underperformers.

Earnings and Dividends

City of London's earnings per share increased by 5.7% to 5.95p reflecting the dividend growth from investments. So far this financial year, City of London has declared two interim dividends of 3.63p each. The quarterly rate will be reviewed by the Board before the third interim is declared at the end of March 2014.

Expenses

The ongoing charges ratio ("OCR"), which represents the investment management fee and other non-interest bearing expenses as a percentage of shareholders' funds, remains low compared with most other equity savings products. The OCR for the six months indicates a full year rate of 0.44% of net assets.

Material Events and Transactions During the Period

A total of 14,625,000 new shares were issued in the six months to 31 December 2013 at a premium to net asset value. A further 3,650,000 shares have been issued since the period end.

The Company also issued £35 million of fixed rate 15 year private placement notes (the "Notes") at an annualised coupon of 4.53%. The Notes provide City of London with better balance between its short and long-term debt and are expected to enhance long-term performance.

Additions were made to some existing holdings expected to benefit from the strengthening UK economy, such as Marks & Spencer and British Land, and a new holding was purchased in the housebuilder Berkeley Group. New holdings were also purchased in the IPO of Royal Mail and the issue of Nationwide Building Society equity instrument with an initial indicated yield of 10.25%. The holding in life assurer Aviva was sold.

Page 3 of 12

THE CITY OF LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST PLC Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 31 December 2013

Interim Management Report (continued)

Chairman's Statement (continued)

Outlook for the six months to 30 June 2014
Some 70% of UK listed companies' profits are earned overseas and it is likely that the recent trends will continue with improving growth in most major economies. The momentum behind UK economic growth is encouraging but there may be doubts as to its sustainability given the large current account deficit and the rise in sterling which is unhelpful for exporters. Currently, wage growth is low and inflationary pressures are muted, but the point at which the base rate will have to rise has moved closer.

Share prices have risen faster than company profits over the last year and so the valuation of the market is less attractive than it was. However, equities should progress further as profits growth comes through. Moreover, dividend yields remain attractive relative to the alternatives in fixed interest and bank deposit rates and given dividend growth expected by consensus forecasts.

Philip Remnant Chairman 19 February 2014

Page 4 of 12

THE CITY OF LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST PLC Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 31 December 2013

Interim Management Report (continued)

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties associated with the Company's business can be divided into the following main

- Investment activity and performance risk
- Financial risk
- Regulatory risk
- Operational risk

Information on these risks and how they are managed is given in the Annual Report and Financial Statements. In the view of the Board these principal risks and uncertainties are as applicable to the remaining six months of the financial year as they were to the six months under review.

Directors' Responsibility Statement

The Directors confirm that, to the best of their knowledge:

- a) the condensed set of financial statements has been prepared in accordance with the Accounting Standards Board's statement "Half-Yearly Financial Reports";
- b) the interim management report includes a fair review of the information required by Disclosure and Transparency Rule 4.2.7R (indication of important events during the first six months and description of principal risks and uncertainties for the remaining six months of the year); and
- c) the interim management report includes a fair review of the information required by Disclosure and Transparency Rule 4.2.8R (disclosure of related party transactions and changes therein).

For and on behalf of the Board Philip Remnant Chairman 19 February 2014

Page 5 of 12

THE CITY OF LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST PLC Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 31 December 2013

Income Statement

for the half year ended 31 December 2013

	Half	naudited) year ended cember 20 Capital		(Unaudited) Half year ended 31 December 2012 Revenue Capital		Half year ended Yea			Audited) ear ended June 2013 Capital		
	Return £'000	Return £'000	Total £'000	Return £'000	Return £'000	Total £'000	Return £'000	Return £'000	Total £'000		
Gains on investments held at fair value through profit or loss	-	87,313	87,313	-	52,137	52,137	-	126,310	126,310		
Income from investments held at fair value through profit or loss	17,223	-	17,223	14,936	-	14,936	40,572	-	40,572		
Other interest receivable and similar income	282	-	282	274	-	274	503	-	503		
Gross revenue and capital gains	17,505	87,313	104,818	15,210	52,137	67,347	41,075	126,310	167,385		
Management fees	(538)	(1,254)	(1,792)	(396)	(923)	(1,319)	(857)	(2,000)	(2,857)		
Other administrative expenses	(358)	-	(358)	(331)	-	(331)	(629)	-	(629)		
Net return on ordinary activities before finance charges and taxation	16,609	86,059	102,668	14,483	51,214	65,697	39,589	124,310	163,899		
Finance charges	(789)	(1,657)	(2,446)	(763)	(1,598)	(2,361)	(1,549)	(3,247)	(4,796)		
Net return on ordinary activities before taxation	15,820	84,402	100,222	13,720	49,616	63,336	38,040	121,063	159,103		
Taxation on net return on ordinary activities	(68)	-	(68)	(78)	-	(78)	(331)	-	(331)		
Net return on ordinary activities after taxation	15,752	84,402 =====	100,154	13,642	49,616	63,258	37,709	121,063	158,772		
Return per ordinary share - basic and diluted (note 2)	5.95p =====	31.86p =====	37.81p	5.63p ====	20.47p =====	26.10p	15.27p ====	49.02p	64.29p =====		

The total columns of this statement represent the Income Statement of the Company. All revenue and capital items derive from continuing operations. No operations were acquired or discontinued during the year. The Company has no recognised gains or losses other than those recognised in the Income Statement and the Reconciliation of Movements in Shareholders' Funds.

Page 6 of 12

THE CITY OF LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST PLC UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

Reconciliation of Movements in Shareholders' Funds for the half year ended 31 December 2013

Half year ended 31 December 2013 (unaudited)	Called-up share capital £'000	Share premium account £'000	Capital redemption reserve £'000	Other capital reserves £'000	Revenue reserve £'000	Total £'000
At 1 July 2013 Net return on ordinary activities after	64,496	172,471	2,707	615,689	31,034	886,397
Issue of 14,625,000 new ordinary shares Fourth interim dividend (3.63p per share) for year ended 30 June 2013 paid 31	3,656	49,712	-	84,402 -	15,752 -	100,154 53,368
August 2013 First interim dividend (3.63p per share) for year ended 30 June 2014 paid 30	-	-	-	-	(9,423)	(9,423)
November 2013 Unclaimed dividends over 12 years old	-	-	-	-	(9,713) 17	(9,713) 17
At 31 December 2013	68,152 =====	222,183	2,707 =====	700,091 =====	27,667 =====	1,020,800
Half year ended 31 December 2012 (unaudited)	Called-up share capital £'000	Share premium account £'000	Capital redemption reserve £'000	Other capital reserves £'000	Revenue reserve £'000	Total £'000
At 1 July 2012 Net return on ordinary activities after	59,715	114,340	2,707	494,626	28,158	699,546
taxation Issue of 8,075,000 new ordinary shares Fourth interim dividend (3.52p per share) for year ended 30 June 2012 paid 31 August	2,019	22,952	-	49,616 -	13,642	63,258 24,971
2012 First interim dividend (3.52p per share) for year ended 30 June 2013 paid 30	-	-	-	-	(8,441)	(8,441)
November 2012 Unclaimed dividends over 12 years old	-	-	-	-	(8,586) 138	(8,586) 138
At 31 December 2012	61,734 =====	137,292	2,707	544,242 =====	24,911 =====	770,886 =====
Year ended 30 June 2013 (Audited)	Called-up share capital £'000	Share premium account £'000	Capital redemption reserve £'000	Other capital reserves £'000	Revenue reserve £'000	Total £'000
At 1 July 2012	59,715	114,340	2,707	494,626	28,158	699,546
Net return on ordinary activities after taxation Issue of 19,125,000 new ordinary shares Fourth interim dividend (3.52p per share) for	4,781	- 58,131	-	121,063	37,709 -	158,772 62,912
year ended 30 June 2012 paid 31 August 2012 First interim dividend (3.52p per share) for	-	-	-	-	(8,441)	(8,441)
year ended 30 June 2013 paid 30 November 2012 Second interim dividend (3.52p per share) for year ended 30 June 2013 paid 28	-	-	-	-	(8,586)	(8,586)
February 2013 Third interim dividend (3.63p per share) for	-	-	-	-	(8,735)	(8,735)
year ended 30 June 2013 paid 31 May 2013 Unclaimed dividends over 12 years old	- -	-		-	(9,209) 138	(9,209) 138
At 30 June 2013	64,496 =====	172,471	2,707 =====	615,689	31,034	886,397 =====

Page 7 of 12

THE CITY OF LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST PLC UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2013

	(Unaudited) 31 December 2013 £'000	(Unaudited) 31 December 2012 £'000	(Audited) 30 June 2013 £'000
Investments held at fair value through profit or loss			
Listed at market value in the United Kingdom Listed at market value overseas Investment in subsidiary undertakings	1,004,780 93,074 347	779,722 60,262 347	875,502 80,999 347
	1,098,201	840,331	956,848
Current assets Debtors Cash at bank	4,026 - 	3,161 - 	8,260 179
	4,026	3,161	8,439
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(34,028)	(25,207)	(31,491)
Net current liabilities	(30,002)	(22,046)	(23,052)
Total assets less current liabilities	1,068,199	818,285	933,796
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	(47,399)	(47,399)	(47,399)
Net assets	1,020,800	770,886 =====	886,397 =====
Capital and reserves Called-up share capital (note 3) Share premium account Capital redemption reserve Other capital reserves Revenue reserve	68,152 222,183 2,707 700,091 27,667	61,734 137,292 2,707 544,242 24,911	64,496 172,471 2,707 615,689 31,034
Equity shareholders' funds	1,020,800	770,886 =====	886,397 =====
Net asset value per ordinary share basic and diluted (note 4)	374.45p =====	312.18p	343.58p =====

Page 8 of 12

THE CITY OF LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST PLC Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 31 December 2013

Cash Flow Statement

for the half year ended 31 December 2013

(Unaudited) Half year ended 31 December 2013 £'000	(Unaudited) Half year ended 31 December 2012 £'000	(Audited) Year ended 30 June 2013 £'000
18,021 (2,403) 11 (58,289) (19,119) 55,087	`25,409 	`61,631
(6,692) =====	144 =====	(1,571) =====
102,668 (86,059)	65,697 (51,214)	163,899 (124,310)
16,609 2,587 157 (1,254) (78)	14,483 1,988 98 (923) (82)	39,589 (1,220) 177 (2,000) (504)
18,021	15,564	36,042 ====
(6,692) 17 (71,856) 	(22,590) (47,399) (69,989)	(1,571) (175) (70,110) (71,856) ===== (24,457) (47,399) (71,856)
	Half year ended 31 December 2013 £'000 18,021 (2,403) 11 (58,289) (19,119) 55,087 (6,692) ===== 102,668 (86,059) (19,119) (1,254) (78) (71,254) (78) (71,856) (78,531) ====== (31,132) (47,399) (47,399) (1,254) (47,399) (1,254) (47,399) (1,254) (47,399) (1,254) (47,399) (1,254	Half year ended 31 December 2013 £'000 £'0000 18,021 (2,403) (2,370) 11 106 (58,289) (21,676) (19,119) (16,889) 55,087 25,409 (6,692) 144 ===== 102,668 65,697 (86,059) (51,214)

Page 9 of 12

THE CITY OF LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST PLC Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 31 December 2013

Notes

1. Accounting policy - Basis of preparation

The condensed set of financial statements has been prepared using the same accounting policies as are set out in the Company's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013.

The condensed set of financial statements has not been audited or reviewed by the Company's auditors.

2. Return per ordinary share

	(Unaudited) Half year	(Unaudited) Half year	
	ended	ended	(Audited)
	31 December	31 December	Year ended
	2013	2012	30 June 2013
	£'000	£'000	£'000
The return per ordinary share is based on the			
following figures:			
Revenue return	15,752	13,642	37,709
Capital return	84,402	49,616	121,063
•			
Total	100,154	63.258	158.772
	=====	=====	======
Weighted average number of ordinary shares			
in issue for each period	264,871,961	242,368,703	246,953,500
Revenue return per ordinary share	5.95p	5.63p	15.27p
Capital return per ordinary share	31.86p	20.47p	49.02p
-			
Total return per Ordinary share	37.81p	26.10p	64.29p
	=====	=====	=====

The Company does not have any dilutive securities, therefore, the basic and diluted returns per share are the same.

3. Called-up share capital

During the half year ended 31 December 2013, 14,625,000 ordinary shares were issued for total proceeds of £53,368,000 (half year ended 31 December 2012: 8,075,000 ordinary shares issued for total proceeds of £24,971,000; year ended 30 June 2013: 19,125,000 ordinary shares issued for total proceeds of £62,912,000). The number of ordinary shares in issue at 31 December 2013 was 272,609,868.

4. Net asset value per ordinary share

The net asset value per ordinary share is based on the net assets attributable to the ordinary shares of £1,020,800,000 (31 December 2012: £770,886,000; 30 June 2013: £886,397,000) and on 272,609,868 ordinary shares (31 December 2012: 246,934,868; 30 June 2013: 257,984,868) being the number of ordinary shares in issue at the end of the period.

Page 10 of 12

THE CITY OF LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST PLC Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 31 December 2013

Notes (continued)

5. Transaction costs

Purchase transaction costs for the half year ended 31 December 2013 were £264,000 (half year ended 31 December 2012: £192,000; year ended 30 June 2013: £598,000). These comprise mainly stamp duty and commissions. Sale transaction costs for the half year ended 31 December 2013 were £25,000 (half year ended 31 December 2012: £36,000; year ended 30 June 2013: £93,000).

6. Dividend

A first interim dividend of 3.63p was paid on 30 November 2013. The second interim dividend of 3.63p (declared on 17 December 2013) will be paid on 28 February 2014 to shareholders on the register on 24 January 2014. The Company's shares went ex-dividend on 22 January 2014.

7. Related party transaction

The only related party arrangement currently in place is with Henderson Global Investors Limited for the provision of investment management, accounting, company secretarial and administration services. Other than fees payable in the ordinary course of business, there have been no material transactions with the related party affecting the financial position or performance of the Company during the six months.

8. Going concern

The directors believe that it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. The assets of the Company consist mainly of securities that are readily realisable and, accordingly, the Company has adequate financial resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

9. Financial information

The financial information contained in this half year report does not constitute statutory accounts as defined in section 434 of the Companies Act 2006.

The figures and financial information for the year ended 30 June 2013 have been extracted from the latest published audited financial statements of the Company. Those financial statements have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and included the report of the auditors, which was unqualified and did not contain a statement under section 498(2) or 498(3) of the Companies Act 2006.

10.(a) Investment Objective

The Company's objective is to provide long-term growth in income and capital, principally by investment in equities listed on the London Stock Exchange. The Board continues to recognise the importance of dividend income to shareholders.

(b) Company Status

The City of London Investment Trust plc is registered in England and Wales, No 34871, has its registered office at 201 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3AE and is listed on the London and New Zealand Stock Exchanges. The SEDOL/ISIN number is GB0001990497.

(c) Directors and Secretary

The Directors of the Company are Philip Remnant (Chairman), Richard Hextall (Chairman of the Audit Committee), Simon Barratt, David Brief and Martin Morgan. The Secretary is Henderson Secretarial Services Limited, represented by David Rice ACIS.

(d) Details of the Company's share price and net asset value, together with general information about the Company, monthly fact sheets and data, copies of announcements, report and details of general meetings can be found at www.cityinvestmenttrust.com

Page 11 of 12

THE CITY OF LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST PLC Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 31 December 2013

(e) Half year report

An update extracted from the Company's report for the half year ended 31 December 2013 will be posted to shareholders in February 2014. Copies of the half year announcement and the half year Update will be available on our website (www.cityinvestmenttrust.com) by the end of February 2014. Copies can also be requested thereafter from the Company Secretary at the Registered Office, 201 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3AE.

Largest Investments

The 60 largest investments at 31 December 2013, convertibles and all classes of equity in any one company being treated as one investment, were as follows:

Market value 31 December 2013 £'000 Market value 31 December 2013 £'000

Vodafone	59,250	British Sky Broadcasting	9,917
Royal Dutch Shell	58,163	Greene King	9,686
HSBC	54,648	Novartis	9,661
British American Tobacco	48,570	Marks and Spencer	9,482
GlaxoSmithKline	48,023	Provident Financial	8,932
Diageo	41,000	Hiscox	8,660
BP	40,020	Whitbread	8,440
Unilever	26,786	United Utilities	8,394
AstraZeneca	22,698	Smiths News	8,378
National Grid	20,488	Standard Life	8,091
Centrica	18,428	Tesco	8,024
Reed Elsevier	17,958	Severn Trent	7,673
Prudential	17,420	Nationwide Building Society	7,468
Rio Tinto	17,048	Next	7,358
BHP Billiton	16,821	Eni	7,275
Scottish & Southern Energy	16,783	Spirax-Sarco Engineering	7,198
Land Securities	14,934	Schroders	7,056
IMI	14,488	Sainsbury (J)	6,753
Legal & General	14,476	Segro	6,680
Pearson	14,416	Merck	6,649
Croda	12,899	Nestlé	6,645
Reckitt Benckiser	12,769	Daily Mail & General Trust	6,243
British Land	12,385	Direct Line	6,132
Imperial Tobacco	11,690	Munich Re	5,937
BAE Systems	11,528	Compass	5,808
BT	11,382	Cineworld	5,700
Barclays	11,150	Royal Mail	5,700
Phoenix Group	10,555	Siemens	5,381
Britvic	10,388	BBA	5,370
Amlin	10,096	Halma	5,130

These investments total £917,081,000 or 83.53% of the portfolio.

Page 12 of 12

THE CITY OF LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST PLC HALF YEAR REPORT Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 31 December 2013

Sector Analysis of Portfolio as at 31 December 2013

	%
Financials	21.8
Consumer Goods	16.2
Consumer Services	12.5
Industrials	10.8
Oil & Gas	10.6
Health Care	7.9
Telecommunications	7.3
Utilities	7.2
Basic Materials	4.7
Technology	1.0
Total	100.0
	====

Neither the contents of the Company's website nor the contents of any website accessible from hyperlinks on the Company's website (or any other website) is incorporated into, or forms part of, this announcement.

For further information please contact:

Portfolio Manager, The City of London Investment Trust plc

Telephone: 020 7818 4367

James de Sausmarez Director and Head of Investment Trusts, Henderson Global Investors Telephone: 020 7818 3349

Sarah Gibbons-Cook Investor Relations and PR Manager, Henderson Global Investors Telephone: 020 7818 3198

This information is provided by RNS
The company news service from the London Stock Exchange

END

IR QKLFFZLFZBBD

CLOSE

√dianomi'

FINANCIAL PUBLICATIONS PROVIDED BY DIANOMI



Premier Banking
From Lloyds Bank. Discover our
Premier International Account.

Click Here



Lloyds Banking GroupShould you be investing in Lloyds Banking Group?

Download Free Report



Clear ISA & SIPP Pricing Introducing Bestinvest's marketleading ISA & SIPP pricing structure

Click Here

London Stock Exchange plc is not responsible for and does not check content on this Website. Website users are responsible for checking content. Any news item (including any prospectus) which is addressed solely to the persons and countries specified therein should not be relied upon other than by such persons and/or outside the specified countries. Terms and conditions, including restrictions on use and distribution apply.

©2013 London Stock Exchange plc. All rights reserved

Half Yearly Report - RNS