# **BLACKROCK**°

#### **Key Information Document**

This document provides you with key information about this investment product. It is not marketing material. The information is required by law to help you understand the nature, risks, costs, potential gains and losses of this product and to help you compare it with other products.

# Product

**BlackRock Smaller Companies Trust plc** (the "Fund"), Ordinary Shares (the "Shares"), ISIN: GB0006436108, is manufactured by BlackRock Fund Managers Limited (the "Manager"). The Manager is authorised in the UK and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (the "FCA"). More information is available at **www.blackrock.com/kiid** or by calling **020 7743 3000**. This document is dated 07 April 2021.

# What is this product?

# Туре

BlackRock Smaller Companies Trust plc (the "Fund") is a closed-ended investment company, incorporated as a public limited company in Scotland. The Fund's Shares are listed and traded on the London Stock Exchange.

# Objectives

- The Fund aims to achieve long term capital growth on your investment.
- The Fund will seek to achieve its objective predominantly by investing in equity securities (e.g. shares) of smaller companies listed or quoted on the main
  market of the London Stock Exchange or the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) of the London Stock Exchange. The Fund will also have the ability to invest
  in equity securities of smaller companies listed or quoted on a stock exchange in other countries globally but with a secondary listing in the United Kingdom.
- Smaller companies are companies which, at the time of purchase, have an ordinary share class with market capitalisation of less than £2 billion or which are
  listed on the Numis Smaller Companies plus AIM (excluding Investment Companies) Index (Index).
- Market capitalisation is the share price of the company multiplied by the number of shares in issue.
- The Fund may also invest in unquoted securities with the prior approval of the directors of the Fund.
- The Manager may use derivatives (i.e. investments the prices of which are based on one or more underlying assets) to help achieve the Fund's investment objective with the prior approval of the directors of the Fund. The use of derivatives is expected to be limited.
- The Fund may borrow to purchase assets for the Fund.
- The Fund may, via derivatives and borrowing, generate varying amounts of market leverage (i.e. where the Fund gains market exposure in excess of the value of its assets). This will magnify any gains or losses made by the Fund.
- The Manager has discretion to select the Fund's investments.
- The Fund's full investment objective and policy is set out in the Fund's latest annual report which can be found at blackrock.co.uk/brsc.
- The return on your investment in the Fund is directly related to the prevailing market price of the Fund's Shares and may not reflect the value of the underlying assets of the Fund at the point of sale less costs (see "What are the costs?" below). Shares of the Fund are bought and sold on the secondary market. Typically, at any given time on any given day the price you pay for a Share will be higher than the price at which you can sell it.
- The price of equity securities fluctuates daily and may be influenced by factors affecting the performance of the individual companies issuing the equities, as well as market factors (e.g. supply and demand), and broader economic and political developments which in turn may affect the value of your investment.
- The price of a derivative changes on a daily basis depending on the value of the underlying reference asset(s) which in turn may affect the value of your investment. A change in the value of underlying reference assets can have a greater impact on the value of derivatives than if the assets were held directly since derivatives can be more sensitive to changes in the value of underlying reference assets.
- The Shares carry the right to receive dividends declared by the Fund.
- The relationship between the return on your investment, how it is impacted and the period for which you hold your investment is considered below under "How long should I hold it and can I take money out early?"
- The Shares are denominated in Sterling, the Fund's base currency.

## Intended retail investor

The Fund is intended for retail investors with the ability to bear losses up to the amount invested in the Fund.

#### Insurance benefits

The Fund does not offer any insurance benefits.

## Term

The Fund does not have a fixed term of existence, or maturity period, but in certain circumstances it may be wound up by the directors and shareholders of the Fund, subject to compliance with the Fund's articles of association and applicable laws. The Fund may not be unilaterally terminated by the Manager.

## What are the risks and what could I get in return?

# **Risk Indicator**



- The summary risk indicator is a guide to the level of risk of this product compared to other products. It shows how likely it is that the product will lose money because of movements in the markets or because the Fund is not able to pay you.
- We have classified this product as 5 out of 7, which is a medium high risk class. This classification rates the potential losses from future performance at a medium high level, and poor market conditions could affect the value of your investment. This classification is not guaranteed and may change over time and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the Fund. The lowest category does not mean risk free.
- Be aware of currency risk. You may receive payments in a different currency to that of your country and therefore the final return you will get will depend on the exchange rate between the two currencies. This risk is not considered in the indicator shown above.
- The insolvency of certain institutions providing services such as safekeeping of assets or acting as counterparty to derivatives or other instruments, may expose the Fund to financial loss.
- This product does not include any protection from future market performance so you could lose some or all of your investment.
- If the Fund is not able to pay you what is owed, you could lose your entire investment.

## **Performance Scenarios**

#### Investment GBP 10,000

ii

Scenarios		1 year	3 years	<b>5 years</b> (Recommended holding period)	
		GBP	GBP	GBP	
Stress	What you might get back after costs	154	3,285	2,237	
	Average return each year	-98.5%	-22.4%	-15.5%	
Unfavourable	What you might get back after costs	7,765	7,438	7,752	
	Average return each year	-22.3%	-8.5%	-4.5%	
Moderate	What you might get back after costs	11,230	14,088	17,674	
	Average return each year	12.3%	13.6%	15.3%	
Favourable	What you might get back after costs	16,100	26,453	39,943	
	Average return each year	61.0%	54.8%	59.9%	

- This table shows the money you could get back over the next 5 years, under different scenarios, assuming that you invest GBP10,000.
- The scenarios shown illustrate how your investment could perform. You can compare them with the scenarios of other products.
- The scenarios presented are an estimate of future performance based on evidence from the past on how the value of this investment varies, and are not an exact indicator. What you get will vary depending on how the market performs and how long you keep the investment/product.
- The stress scenario shows what you might get back in extreme market circumstances, and it does not take into account the situation where the Fund is not able to pay you.
- The figures shown include all the costs of the product itself, but may not include all the costs that you pay to your broker, financial adviser or distributor. The figures do not take into account your personal tax situation, which may also affect how much you get back. The performance scenarios are based on share price total return with dividends reinvested.

## What happens if BlackRock Fund Managers Limited is unable to pay out?

The Manager is not obliged to pay out the Shares in the Fund. The Fund is a closed-ended investment company and, as such, shareholders in the Fund have no right to have their shares redeemed or repurchased by the Fund. The Fund is required to pay out any surplus assets to shareholders on a winding up of the Fund, provided the Fund has satisfied all of its liabilities. As a shareholder of the Fund you would not be able to make a claim to the Financial Services Compensation Scheme about the Fund in the event that the Fund is unable to pay out.

## What are the costs?

#### **Costs over time**

Investment GBP 10,000			
Scenarios	If you cash in after 1 year	If you cash in after 3 years	If you cash in after 5 years
Total costs (GBP)	145	527	1,065
Impact on return (RIY) per year	1.45%	1.45%	1.44%

#### **Presentation of costs**

- The Reduction in Yield (RIY) shows what impact the total costs you pay will have on the investment return you might get. The total costs take into account one-off, ongoing and incidental costs.
- The amounts shown here are the cumulative costs of the product itself, for one or more different scenarios. The figures assume you invest GBP10,000. The figures are estimates and may change in the future. Please check with your broker, financial adviser or distributor, who may charge you additional costs, for further information regarding their costs and the potential impact on your investment over time.

#### **Composition of costs**

This table shows the impact on return per year					
One-off costs	Entry costs	0.00%	The impact of the costs you pay when entering your investment.*		
One-on costs	Exit costs	0.00%	The impact of the costs of exiting your investment when it matures.*		
	Portfolio transaction costs	0.63%	The impact of the costs of us buying and selling underlying investments for the product. $^{\star\star}$		
Ongoing costs	Insurance costs	None	The impact of the amount you are paying to buy insurance protection.		
	Other ongoing costs	0.81%	The impact of the costs that are taken from the Fund each year for managing your investments.**		
Incidental costs	Performance fees	0.00%	Performance fees are not charged by the Fund.		
Incidental costs	Carried interests	0.00%	The impact of the carried interests.		

This table shows the impact each year of the different types of costs on the investment return you might get at the end of the recommended holding period and the meaning of the different cost categories. Costs include the Fund's cost of borrowing and derivatives. Further details on gearing deployed in the year and the costs associated with this are set out in the Fund's annual report.

- \* Please refer to your broker, financial adviser or distributor for the actual charges (including any taxes).
- \*\* This figure is based on estimated costs, often referencing historic data, and therefore the actual costs paid by an investor may differ.

# How long should I hold it and can I take money out early?

# **Recommended Holding Period: 5 years**

The recommended holding period (RHP) has been calculated in line with the investment strategy of the Fund and the time frame in which it is expected that it will be possible to achieve the investment objective of the Fund. Any investment should be considered against your specific investment needs and appetite for risk. BlackRock has not considered the suitability or appropriateness of this investment for your personal circumstances. If you are in any doubt about the suitability of the Fund to your needs you should seek appropriate professional advice. You can buy or sell your Shares daily on the secondary market. You may receive less than expected if you cash in earlier than the RHP. The RHP is an estimate and must not be taken as a guarantee or an indication of future performance, return or risk levels. Please contact your broker, financial adviser or distributor for any charges.

## How can I complain?

If you are not entirely satisfied with any aspect of the service you have received and you wish to complain, details of our complaints handling process are available at www.blackrock.com/uk/individual/about-blackrock/contact-us. Additionally, you can also write to the Investor Services Team, at our Registered Office, 12 Throgmorton Avenue, London, EC2N 2DL or e-mail them at cosec@blackrock.com.

## **Other relevant information**

The latest version of this document, the latest annual report and half-yearly report and any additional information issued to shareholders can be obtained free of charge, in English, from the BlackRock website at **www.blackrock.co.uk/brsc** or by calling the Investor Services Team on **020 7743 3000** or from your broker, financial adviser or distributor. The cost, performance and risk calculations included in this KID follow the methodology prescribed by EU rules.