

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Important Changes

On 1 September 2026, we are making changes to the **CT US Smaller Companies Fund** (“the Fund”) in our UK OEIC fund range.

1. What is changing?

On 1 September 2026 (“the Effective Date”), we will be making the following changes to the Fund:

- *Update to the Fund’s investment objective to more clearly set out the aim of the Fund;*
- *Enhancements to the Fund’s investment policy to better describe its existing investment approach;*
- *Amendment to the Fund’s name to reflect its investment approach.*

These changes are described in more detail below, and a comparison of the old and new investment objective and policy, as well as the Fund’s new naming convention, is included in the Appendix to this document. The shareholder letter (sent to you on 29 June 2026) also sets out the revised naming convention and investment objective and policy that will apply to the Fund from the Effective Date.

1.1 Investment objective changes:

We are changing the Fund’s investment objective to include a performance target benchmark (“target benchmark”), clearly setting out what the Fund aims to achieve. We believe doing so will make it easier for you to measure and evaluate your Fund’s performance over time.

The Fund’s performance target benchmark will be the Russell 2000 Index, which is currently used as a comparator for assessing performance.

In addition, many funds sold in the UK are grouped into sectors by the Investment Association (IA), the trade body that represents UK investment managers, to facilitate comparison between funds with broadly similar characteristics (“peer groups”). As the Fund is currently included in the IA North American Smaller Companies sector, we are adding this sector as a new comparator peer group to provide an additional useful measure when evaluating the performance of the Fund.

1.1a: What is the difference between a comparator and target benchmark?

A comparator benchmark is an index (or other measure) that provides a useful reference point for comparing a fund’s performance. In contrast, a target benchmark included within a fund’s investment objective is usually an index that it seeks to meet or exceed over time.

The Russell 2000 Index has been selected as the Fund’s target benchmark, as it is considered the most representative of actual returns from companies in which the Investment Manager invests.

1.1b: What is meant by “Gross Total Return” (TR) and “Net Total Return” (Net Tax), and how does this impact performance comparisons?

Most major indices have both Gross and Net versions of the same benchmark.

The Gross Total Return variant is a version of the index which shows the return if all dividends were reinvested in full, without any deductions. It assumes the entire dividend amount is received, with no taxes taken out.

The Net Total Return variant includes dividends but assumes that foreign withholding taxes are deducted before reinvestment. As such, it offers a more realistic measure of returns, as it better reflects the income an investor would actually receive.

In practice, this means that the Net Tax benchmark will generally show slightly lower returns than the TR benchmark, so historical comparisons may differ, but future evaluations will align more closely with investors' actual experience.

1.2 Investment policy changes:

The new investment policy explains that the Fund is actively managed using what we refer to as the “Integrated” investment approach. This means the Investment Manager combines two complementary methods of assessing companies for investment. First, a methodical process is applied across a broad universe of US smaller companies, relying on data and analysis to highlight companies with attractive financial characteristics and long-term potential. This process helps to create a diversified portfolio and reduces the influence of emotion and short-term market noise. The Investment Manager then uses fundamental research and professional judgement to review these findings, drawing on detailed company analysis and wider market insights. By combining data-driven analysis and fundamental expertise in this way, the Integrated approach aims to identify high-quality investment opportunities.

Further detail on this Integrated approach is included in the new investment policy. Appendix I of this document also sets out the current and new investment policy of the Fund.

These enhancements to the investment policy provide greater clarity around how the Fund is already being managed. The additional detail on the Fund's investment approach is intended to offer you a clearer insight into the strategy behind your investment.

1.2a: How does the Integrated investment approach differ from traditional active management?

The Integrated approach brings together the strengths of both quantitative tools and fundamental research, working alongside more traditional active management techniques.

Traditional active strategies typically rely on experienced fund managers carrying out in-depth research and using their judgement to select investments. This remains a powerful and widely used approach across many strategies.

The Integrated approach builds on this by adding a structured, data-driven starting point. A quantitative model is used to systematically screen companies based on factors such as quality, valuation and investor behaviour. This helps provide broad market insight, consistency in identifying opportunities, and reduces emotional decision-making.

The model's outputs are then reviewed and enhanced by the Investment Manager, who will apply their fundamental expertise to:

- Validate the model's findings
- Incorporate additional insights not captured in the data
- Adjust positioning where appropriate based on market conditions.

In summary, a traditional active approach is led primarily by expert judgement, while the Integrated approach is a combination of data insights and expert judgement working together. This blended approach aims to deliver the benefits of both perspectives (i.e.: quantitative and fundamental).

1.3 Fund name change:

The name of the Fund will be changed from ‘*CT US Smaller Companies Fund*’ to ‘*CT US Smaller Companies Integrated Fund*’ to signal its “Integrated” investment approach.

This change brings the Fund’s name into alignment with the new investment policy and improves the transparency of the Fund, making it easier for you to recognise the Fund’s investment philosophy.

2. When are the changes being made?

The changes to the Fund will be effective from 1 September 2026 (the “Effective Date”).

3. Will there be any changes to how the Fund is managed?

No, there will be no change to how the Fund is managed or the Fund’s risk profile, as a result of these changes. Instead, these enhancements aim to provide greater clarity on how the Fund is already being managed.

4. Will there be an impact on the fees I pay?

No, there will be no change to the fees you pay. The administrative costs associated with making these changes will be paid by Columbia Threadneedle Investments.

5. Which share classes and ISINs¹ are impacted by the changes?

The Fund’s share classes and respective ISIN codes are shown below. Please note the ISIN codes themselves are not impacted by the changes.

Current Fund Name	New Fund Name	Share Class	ISIN Code
CT US Smaller Companies Fund	CT US Smaller Companies Integrated Fund	1 Income	GB00B06PF580
		C Income	GB00B7YDFB99

Note: Class 1 shares are available to investors typically in arrangements where commission may be paid to a financial adviser or intermediary, or rebates are provided to the investor. Class C shares are generally intended for direct investors or clients of distributors who have agreed separate fee-based arrangements, such as those receiving portfolio management or investment advice without commission payments.

6. What action do I need to take?

You do not need to take any action as a result of these changes, which will take effect automatically on the Effective Date.

7. What can I do if I disagree with the changes?

We believe that these changes are in the best interest of investors and do not represent a change to how your investment is managed. However, if you feel this investment no longer meets your needs, you can discuss your options with us, including how to redeem your shares, transfer your investment to another provider or switch your investment, free of charge, into

¹ ISIN stands for international securities identification number and is a 12 digit code we use to identify specific shareclasses in our funds
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another fund(s) in our UK range². We are unable to provide tax advice so we therefore suggest you seek advice from your tax adviser about any potential tax implications before you take any action.

8. Do you have other American equity funds I can invest in?

Columbia Threadneedle Investments also manages the CT American Smaller Companies Fund (US), a sub-fund of the Columbia Threadneedle Investment Funds ICVC. For more information about this fund and other funds we manage, please see columbiathreadneedle.com/literature

9. Who should I contact if I want to find out more?

If you have any questions regarding the Shareholder Letter or would like more information regarding any of your investments with us, please contact your financial intermediary or telephone us on 0330 123 3798 or on +44 1268 44 3902* if you're calling from outside the UK. We're here to help from 9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday (UK time). Alternatively, you can email us at account.enquiries@columbiathreadneedle.com. Please note that we are unable to provide financial or tax advice.

If you are unsure about your investment you should speak to a financial adviser. If you are based in the UK, you can find one in your area by visiting www.unbiased.co.uk – please note we do not endorse individual advisers on the site.

² Only funds managed by Columbia Threadneedle Funds Management Limited, are currently available for this purpose. A fund's prospectus or Key Investor Information Document (KIID) (available on our website) will provide this information, please contact us on 0330 123 3798 if you require help establishing the alternative funds available to you.

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Appendix I: Comparison of the Fund’s Current and New Name and Current and New Investment Objective and Policy

Current (prior to Effective Date):	New (from Effective Date):
<p>CT US Smaller Companies Fund</p>	<p>CT US Smaller Companies Integrated Fund</p>
<p>Investment Objective: The Fund aims to achieve long term capital growth, with some income, over the long term (at least 5 years).</p>	<p>Investment Objective: The Fund aims to achieve capital growth, with some income, over the long term (5 years, or more). It also looks to outperform the Russell 2000 Index (the “Index”) over rolling 3 year periods, after the deduction of charges.</p>
<p>Investment Policy: The Fund invests primarily in equities at least 80% in shares of smaller and medium sized US companies.</p> <p>A US company is one from any economic sector that may be listed, quoted or traded in the US or elsewhere but which is incorporated, domiciled or conducts a significant portion of its business in the US. The Fund may be invested in any industry sector. Smaller and medium sized companies are defined by the investment manager for the Fund as companies with a market capitalisation of less than US\$10 billion at the time of purchase.</p> <p>To the extent that the Fund is not fully invested in equities shares of small and medium US companies, the Fund may also invest in other transferable securities, collective investment schemes (which may include schemes managed by Columbia Threadneedle Investments), deposits, cash, near cash, money market instruments and warrants.</p> <p>The collective investment schemes in which the Fund may invest may include other collective investments schemes managed by the ACD.</p> <p>The Fund may use derivatives only for the purposes of efficient portfolio management.</p>	<p>Investment Policy: The Fund is actively managed, and invests at least 80% of its assets in shares of small and medium sized US companies. In this respect, small and medium US companies are those domiciled in the United States of America (US), or which have significant US business operations, and which have a market size of less than \$10 billion at the time of investment.</p> <p>The Investment Manager integrates both quantitative and fundamental analysis within its investment process to identify companies suitable for investment across any economic or industry sector.</p> <p>The integrated approach is defined as using a methodical, disciplined investment process to create the Fund’s portfolio, and complementing this quantitative framework with the Investment Manager’s fundamental insights and judgement.</p> <p>As part of this integrated approach, a proprietary model is initially used to identify investment opportunities, helping to avoid behavioural or emotional bias. This quantitative process scores companies by various quantifiable characteristics, or “factors”, which are considered to generate long term outperformance. Generally, these factors fall into three broad groups, which are described below, but may change over time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamentals: Examines the quality and longevity of each company’s financials, considering factors such as earnings quality, growth, and profitability. • Valuation: Focuses on diverse metrics that indicates whether a company’s stock price is reasonable compared to its financial strength and stability. • Investor Interest: Considers indicators of investor sentiment about the company, as well as evaluating real-time information available on the company’s financials.

	<p>Following the quantitative process, the Investment Manager reviews and validates all company buy and sell decisions. In doing so, a range of tools, risk models and insights from Columbia Threadneedle's fundamental research team are used to support the assessment of the financial data that feeds into the quantitative framework. This oversight ensures data quality, incorporates any relevant information not captured by the quantitative model, and allows the Investment Manager to override any model-driven recommendations where necessary to maintain appropriate portfolio positioning in changing market conditions.</p> <p>The Fund may invest in other transferable securities and collective investment schemes (including funds managed by Columbia Threadneedle Investments). The Fund may also hold money market instruments, deposits, cash and near cash.</p> <p>The Fund is not permitted to invest in derivatives for investment purposes, but derivatives may be used with the aim of reducing risk or managing the Fund more efficiently.</p>
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