

# 3i GROUP PLC

(incorporated with limited liability in England and Wales with registered number 01142830)

# €500,000,000 4.875% Notes due 14 June 2029

Issue Price: 98.506%

The €500,000,000 4.875% Notes due 14 June 2029 (the "Notes") will be issued by 3i Group plc (the "Issuer") on 14 June 2023 (the "Issue Date"). The Notes will be constituted by a trust deed to be dated on or about the Issue Date (such trust deed, as amended or supplemented from time to time, the "Trust Deed") between the Issuer and Citicorp Trustee Company Limited (the "Trustee"). The terms and conditions of the Notes are set out more fully in "Terms and Conditions of the Notes" below (the "Conditions", and references herein to a numbered "Condition" shall be construed accordingly).

The Notes will bear interest from (and including) the Issue Date to (but excluding) 14 June 2029 (the **"Maturity Date"**) at a fixed rate of 4.875% per annum, payable annually in arrear on 14 June each year commencing on 14 June 2024.

Unless previously redeemed or purchased and cancelled, the Notes will be redeemed on the Maturity Date at their principal amount together with accrued and unpaid interest thereon. The Notes are subject to early redemption in whole (but not in part) at their principal amount together with accrued and unpaid interest thereon, subject to certain conditions, at the option of the Issuer at any time in the event of certain changes to the tax treatment of the Notes. The Notes may also be redeemed prior to their stated maturity at the option of the Issuer in whole (but not in part) at their principal amount or at the Make-Whole Redemption Amount (as defined in the Conditions), as applicable, as further described in Condition 6.3 (Redemption at the Option of the Issuer).

Payments in respect of the Notes by or on behalf of the Issuer will be made without withholding or deduction for, or on account of, Taxes (as defined in the Conditions) imposed by or on behalf of the Relevant Jurisdiction (as defined in the Conditions), unless that withholding or deduction is required by law. In the event that any such withholding or deduction is made in respect of such payments, additional amounts may be payable by the Issuer, subject to certain exceptions, as more fully described in the Conditions.

This Prospectus has been approved by the Financial Conduct Authority (the "FCA"), as competent authority under Regulation (EU) 2017/1129 as it forms part of United Kingdom ("UK") domestic law by virtue of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (the "EUWA") (the "UK Prospectus Regulation"). The FCA only approves this Prospectus as meeting the standards of completeness, comprehensibility and consistency imposed by the UK Prospectus Regulation. Such approval should not be considered as an endorsement of the Issuer or the quality of the Notes that are the subject of this Prospectus. Investors should make their own assessment as to the suitability of investing in the Notes.

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Application has been made to the FCA, in its capacity as competent authority under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended (the "FSMA") for the Notes to be admitted to the official list maintained by the FCA (the "Official List") and to the London Stock Exchange plc (the "London Stock Exchange") for such Notes to be admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange's main market (the "Regulated Market"), which is a UK regulated market for the purposes of Regulation (EU) No 600/2014 on markets in financial instruments as it forms part of UK domestic law by virtue of the EUWA ("UK MiFIR"). References in this Prospectus to the Notes being "listed" (and all related references) shall mean that the Notes have been admitted to the Official List and have been admitted to trading on the Regulated Market.

The Notes will be issued in bearer form and will be offered and sold in denominations of €100,000 and integral multiples of €1,000 in excess thereof up to and including €199,000. No Notes in definitive form will be issued with a denomination above €199,000. The Notes will initially be represented by a temporary global note (the "Temporary Global Note"), without interest coupons, which will be deposited with a common depositary for Euroclear Bank SA/NV ("Euroclear") and Clearstream Banking S.A. ("Clearstream, Luxembourg") on or about the Issue Date. Interests in the Temporary Global Note will be exchangeable for interests in a permanent global note (the "Permanent Global Note" and, together with the Temporary Global Note, the "Global Notes"), without interest coupons, on or after 24 July 2023, upon certification as to non-U.S. beneficial ownership. Interests in the Permanent Global Note will be exchangeable for definitive Notes only in the limited circumstances described under "Summary of provisions relating to the Notes while in Global Form".

The Notes have not been, nor will they be, registered under the United States Securities Act 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). The Notes are being offered and sold outside the United States by the Managers (as defined in "Subscription and Sale" below) in accordance with Regulation S under the Securities Act ("Regulation S"), and may not be offered or sold or delivered within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons (as defined in Regulation S) except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. The Notes are subject to U.S. tax law requirements and may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or its possessions or to a United States person (as defined in the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and U.S. Treasury regulations thereunder), except in certain transactions permitted by U.S. Treasury regulations.

The Notes are expected to be assigned a rating of Baa1 by Moody's Investors Service Limited ("Moody's") and BBB+ by S&P Global Ratings UK Limited ("S&P"). Moody's and S&P are established in the UK and each is registered under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 as it forms part of UK domestic law by virtue of the EUWA (the "UK CRA Regulation"). Moody's and S&P are not established in the European Union and are not registered under Regulation (EC) No. 1060/2009 (as amended) (the "EU CRA Regulation"). Moody's Deutschland GmbH currently endorses the international credit ratings published by Moody's, for regulatory purposes in the European Union in accordance with the EU CRA Regulation. S&P Global Ratings Europe Limited currently endorses the international credit ratings published by S&P, for regulatory purposes in the European Union in accordance with the EU CRA Regulation. Moody's Deutschland GmbH and S&P Global Ratings Europe Limited are established in the European Union and are registered under the EU CRA Regulation and are included in the list of credit rating agencies published by the European Securities and Markets Authority on its website in accordance with the EU CRA Regulation. A rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency.

You should read the whole of this Prospectus and the documents incorporated herein by reference. In particular, your attention is drawn to the risk factors described in the section entitled "Risk Factors" set out on pages 15 to 28 of this Prospectus, which you should read in full.

Certain information in relation to the Issuer has been incorporated by reference into this Prospectus, as set out in "Documents Incorporated by Reference".

Capitalised terms used but not otherwise defined in this Prospectus shall, unless the context requires otherwise, have the meaning given to them in the Conditions.

# Joint Lead Managers

Barclays Deutsche Bank ING

**Co-Lead Managers** 

ABN AMRO ICBC Standard Bank

Rabobank SMBC Nikko

### **IMPORTANT NOTICES**

This Prospectus constitutes a prospectus for the purposes of the UK Prospectus Regulation and contains the necessary information which is material to an investor for making an informed assessment of: (i) the assets and liabilities, profits and losses, financial position, and prospects of the Issuer; (ii) the rights attaching to the Notes; and (iii) the reasons for the issuance and its impact on the Issuer.

The Issuer accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Prospectus and declares that to the best of its knowledge, the information contained in this Prospectus is in accordance with the facts and the Prospectus makes no omission likely to affect its import.

This Prospectus is to be read in conjunction with all documents which are deemed to be incorporated herein by reference (see "Documents Incorporated by Reference"). This Prospectus shall be read and construed on the basis that such documents are incorporated and form part of this Prospectus. Other than in relation to the documents which are deemed to be incorporated by reference (see "Documents Incorporated by Reference"), the information on the websites to which this Prospectus refers does not form part of this Prospectus and has not been scrutinised or approved by the FCA.

None of the Managers or the Trustee has independently verified or confirmed the information contained in this Prospectus. No representation, warranty or undertaking, express or implied, is made by the Managers or the Trustee as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this Prospectus or any other information provided by the Issuer in connection with the offering of the Notes. None of the Managers or the Trustee accepts any liability whatsoever in relation to the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus or any other information provided by the Issuer in connection with the offering of the Notes or their distribution. Each Manager and the Trustee accordingly disclaims all and any liability whether arising in tort or contract or otherwise which it might otherwise have in respect of this Prospectus or any such information.

No person is or has been authorised by the Issuer, the Managers or the Trustee to give any information or to make any representation not contained in or not consistent with this Prospectus and, if given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorised by the Issuer, the Managers or the Trustee.

Neither this Prospectus nor any other information supplied in connection with the Notes (a) is intended to provide the basis of any credit or other evaluation or (b) should be considered as a recommendation by the Issuer, the Managers or the Trustee that any recipient of either this Prospectus or any other information supplied in connection with the Notes should purchase such Notes. Each investor contemplating purchasing the Notes should make its own independent investigation of the financial condition and affairs, and its own appraisal of the creditworthiness, of the Issuer. Neither this Prospectus nor any other information supplied in connection with the Notes constitutes an offer or invitation by or on behalf of the Issuer the Managers or the Trustee to any person to subscribe for or to purchase the Notes.

Neither the delivery of this Prospectus nor the offering, sale or delivery of the Notes shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that the information contained in this Prospectus is correct at any time subsequent to the date hereof or that any other information supplied in connection with the offering of the Notes is correct as of any time subsequent to the date indicated

in the document containing the same or that there has been no change in the affairs of the Issuer since the date of this Prospectus or that there has been no adverse change in the financial position of the Issuer since the date of this Prospectus. None of the Managers or the Trustee undertakes to review the financial condition or affairs of the Issuer during the life of the Notes, or to advise any investor in the Notes of any information coming to their attention. Investors should review, inter alia, all documents which are deemed to be incorporated by reference (see "Documents Incorporated by Reference") when deciding whether or not to purchase the Notes.

This Prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy the Notes in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make the offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. The distribution of this Prospectus and the offer or sale of Notes may be restricted by law in certain jurisdictions. None of the Issuer, the Managers or the Trustee represents that this Prospectus may be lawfully distributed, or that the Notes may be lawfully offered, in compliance with any applicable registration or other requirements in any such jurisdiction, or pursuant to an exemption available thereunder, or assumes any responsibility for facilitating any such distribution or offering. In particular, no action has been taken by the Issuer, the Managers or the Trustee which is intended to permit a public offering of the Notes or distribution of this Prospectus in any jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required. Accordingly, no Notes may be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, and neither this Prospectus nor any advertisement or other offering material may be distributed or published in any jurisdiction, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with any applicable laws and regulations.

Persons into whose possession this Prospectus or the Notes may come must inform themselves about, and observe, any such restrictions on the distribution of this Prospectus and the offering and sale of Notes (see "Subscription and Sale").

The Notes may not be a suitable investment for all investors. Each potential investor in the Notes must determine the suitability of any investment in light of its own circumstances. In particular, each potential investor should consider, either on its own or with the help of its financial and other professional advisers, whether it:

- (a) has sufficient knowledge and experience to make a meaningful evaluation of the Notes, the merits and risks of investing in the Notes and the information contained in or incorporated by reference into this Prospectus (and any applicable supplement to this Prospectus);
- (b) has access to, and knowledge of, appropriate analytical tools to evaluate, in the context
  of its particular financial situation, an investment in the Notes and the impact the Notes
  will have on its overall investment portfolio;
- (c) has sufficient financial resources and liquidity to bear all of the risks of an investment in the Notes, including Notes where the currency for principal or interest payments is different from the potential investor's currency;
- (d) understands thoroughly the terms of the Notes and is familiar with the behaviour of the financial markets; and
- (e) is able to evaluate (either alone or with the help of a financial adviser) possible scenarios for economic, interest rate and other factors that may affect its investment and its ability to bear the applicable risks.

The investment activities of certain investors are subject to "legal investment" laws and regulations, or review or regulation by certain authorities. Each potential investor should consult its legal advisers to determine whether and to what extent (i) the Notes are legal investments for it, (ii) the Notes can be used as collateral for various types of borrowing and (iii) other restrictions apply to its purchase or pledge of the Notes. Financial institutions should consult their legal advisers or the appropriate regulators to determine the appropriate treatment of the Notes under any applicable risk-based capital or similar rules.

The Notes constitute a new issue of securities by the Issuer. Prior to this issue, there will have been no public market for the Notes. Although application has been made for the Notes to be admitted to the Official List and admitted to trading on the Regulated Market, there can be no assurance that an active public market for the Notes will develop and, if such a market were to develop, the Managers are under no obligation to maintain such a market. The liquidity and the market prices for the Notes can be expected to vary with changes in market and economic conditions, the financial condition and prospects of the Issuer and other factors that generally influence the market prices of securities.

This Prospectus has been prepared on the basis that any purchaser of Notes is a person or entity having sufficient knowledge and experience of financial matters as to be capable of evaluating the merits and risks of the purchase. Before making any investment decision with respect to the Notes, prospective investors should consult their own counsel, accountants or other advisers and carefully review and consider their investment decision in light of the foregoing. An investment in the Notes is only suitable for financially sophisticated investors who are capable of evaluating the merits and risks of such an investment and who have sufficient resources to be able to bear any losses which may result therefrom.

MIFID II PRODUCT GOVERNANCE/PROFESSIONAL INVESTORS AND ECPS ONLY TARGET MARKET – Solely for the purposes of each manufacturer's product approval process, the target market assessment in respect of the Notes has led to the conclusion that: (i) the target market for the Notes is eligible counterparties and professional clients only, each as defined in Directive 2014/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on markets in financial instruments (as amended "MiFID II"); and (ii) all channels for distribution of the Notes to eligible counterparties and professional clients are appropriate. Any person subsequently offering, selling or recommending the Notes (a "distributor") should take into consideration the manufacturers' target market assessment; however, a distributor subject to MiFID II is responsible for undertaking its own target market assessment in respect of the Notes (by either adopting or refining the manufacturers' target market assessment) and determining appropriate distribution channels. For the avoidance of doubt, references in this paragraph to "manufacturer" do not refer to the Issuer, who is not subject to MiFID II.

**UK MIFIR PRODUCT GOVERNANCE/PROFESSIONAL INVESTORS AND ECPS ONLY TARGET MARKET** – Solely for the purposes of each manufacturer's product approval process, the target market assessment in respect of the Notes has led to the conclusion that: (i) the target market for the Notes is only eligible counterparties, as defined in the FCA Handbook Conduct of Business Sourcebook, and professional clients, as defined in UK MiFIR; and (ii) all channels for distribution of the Notes to eligible counterparties and professional clients are appropriate. Any distributor should take into consideration the manufacturers' target market assessment; however, a distributor subject to the FCA Handbook Product Intervention and Product Governance Sourcebook is responsible for undertaking its own target market assessment in respect of the Notes (by either adopting or refining the manufacturers' target market assessment) and

determining appropriate distribution channels. For the avoidance of doubt, references in this paragraph to "manufacturer" do not refer to the Issuer, who is not subject to UK MiFIR.

PROHIBITION OF SALES TO EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA RETAIL INVESTORS – The Notes are not intended to be offered, sold or otherwise made available to and should not be offered, sold or otherwise made available to any retail investor in the European Economic Area (the "EEA"). For these purposes, a retail investor means a person who is one (or both) of: (i) a retail client as defined in point (11) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II; or (ii) a customer within the meaning of Directive 2016/97/EU (as amended, the "Insurance Distribution Directive"), where that customer would not qualify as a professional client as defined in point (10) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II. No key information document required by Regulation (EU) No 1286/2014 (the "EU PRIIPs Regulation") for offering or selling the Notes or otherwise making them available to retail investors in the EEA has been prepared and therefore offering or selling the Notes or otherwise making them available to any retail investor in the EEA may be unlawful under the EU PRIIPs Regulation.

PROHIBITION OF SALES TO UNITED KINGDOM RETAIL INVESTORS – The Notes are not intended to be offered, sold or otherwise made available to and should not be offered, sold or otherwise made available to any retail investor in the UK. For these purposes, a retail investor means a person who is one (or more) of: (i) a retail client, as defined in point (8) of Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 2017/565 as it forms part of UK domestic law by virtue of the EUWA; or (ii) a customer within the meaning of the provisions of the FSMA and any rules or regulations made under the FSMA to implement the Insurance Distribution Directive, where that customer would not qualify as a professional client, as defined in point (8) of Article 2(1) of UK MiFIR. No key information document required by Regulation (EU) No 1286/2014 as it forms part of domestic law by virtue of the EUWA (the "UK PRIIPs Regulation") for offering or selling the Notes or otherwise making them available to retail investors in the UK has been prepared and therefore offering or selling the Notes or otherwise making them available to any retail investor in the UK may be unlawful under the UK PRIIPs Regulation.

PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 309B OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES ACT 2001 (2020 REVISED EDITION) OF SINGAPORE - Notification under Section 309B(1)(c) of the Securities and Futures Act 2001 (2020 Revised Edition) of Singapore, as modified or amended from time to time (the "SFA") – all Notes shall be prescribed capital markets products (as defined in the Securities and Futures (Capital Markets Products) Regulations 2018 of Singapore) and Excluded Investment Products (as defined in MAS Notice SFA 04 N12: Notice on the Sale of Investment Products and MAS Notice FAA N16: Notice on Recommendations on Investment Products).

ALTERNATIVE PERFORMANCE MEASURES – Certain alternative performance measures ("APMs") as described in the European Securities and Markets Authority Guidelines on Alternative Performance Measures are included or referred to in this Prospectus (including in the documents incorporated by reference). APMs are non-GAAP measures used by the Issuer and its consolidated subsidiaries within its financial publications to supplement disclosures prepared in accordance with other applicable regulations such as International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). The Issuer considers that these measures provide useful information to enhance the understanding of financial performance. The APMs should be viewed as complementary to, rather than a substitute for, the figures determined according to other regulatory measures. An explanation of each such metric's components and calculation method can be found on pages 68-73 and 77 of the consolidated financial statements of the Issuer for the

year ended 31 March 2023 (incorporated by reference into this Prospectus) and pages 45-49 and 57 of the consolidated financial statements of the Issuer for the year ended 31 March 2022 (incorporated by reference into this Prospectus).

**STABILISATION** – In connection with the issue of the Notes, Barclays Bank PLC (the "**Stabilising Manager**") (or any person acting on behalf of the Stabilising Manager) may over-allot Notes or effect transactions with a view to supporting the market price of the Notes at a level higher than that which might otherwise prevail. However, stabilisation may not necessarily occur. Any stabilisation action may begin on or after the date on which adequate public disclosure of the terms of the offer of the Notes is made and, if begun, may cease at any time, but it must end no later than the earlier of 30 days after the issue date of the Notes and 60 days after the date of the allotment of the Notes. Any stabilisation action or over-allotment must be conducted by the Stabilising Manager (or persons acting on behalf of the Stabilising Manager) in accordance with all applicable laws and rules.

**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS** – This Prospectus includes statements that are, or may be deemed to be, 'forward-looking statements'. These forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking expressions, including (but not limited to) the terms 'believes', 'estimates', 'anticipates', 'expects', 'intends', 'may', 'will', 'plans' or 'should' or, in each case, their negative or other variations or similar expressions, or by discussions of strategy, plans, objectives, expectations, goals, future events or intentions. These forward-looking statements include all matters that are not historical facts. They appear in a number of places throughout this Prospectus and include, but are not limited to, the following: statements regarding the intentions, beliefs or current expectations of the Issuer and the Group concerning, amongst other things, the Group's results of operations, financial condition, liquidity, prospects, growth, strategies and the industries in which the Group operates.

By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to future events and circumstances. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and the actual results of the Group's operations, financial condition and liquidity, and the development of the countries and the industries in which the Group operates may differ materially from those described in, or suggested by, the forward-looking statements contained in this Prospectus. In addition, even if the Group's results of operations, financial condition and liquidity, and the development of the countries and the industries in which the Group operates, are consistent with the forward-looking statements contained in this Prospectus, those results or developments may not be indicative of results or developments in subsequent periods. These and other factors are discussed in more detail under the section entitled "Risk Factors". Many of these factors are beyond the control of the Issuer and the Group. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialise, or should underlying assumptions on which the forward-looking statements are based prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described in this Prospectus as anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. Except to the extent required by laws and regulations, the Issuer does not intend, and do not assume any obligation, to update any forward-looking statements set out in this Prospectus.

This Prospectus is based on English law in effect as of the date of issue of this Prospectus. Except to the extent required by laws and regulations, the Issuer does not intend, and does not assume any obligation, to update this Prospectus in light of the impact of any judicial decision or change to English law or administrative practice after the date of this Prospectus.

**PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION** – In this Prospectus, all references to: (a) U.S. dollars, U.S.\$ and \$ refer to United States dollars; (b) sterling and £ refer to pounds sterling; (c) euro and € refer to the currency introduced at the start of the third stage of European economic and monetary union pursuant to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as amended; and (d) the **"Group"** are to the Issuer and its consolidated subsidiaries.

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### **OVERVIEW**

This overview must be read as an introduction to this Prospectus and any decision to invest in the Notes should be based on consideration of this Prospectus as a whole, including the documents incorporated by reference herein. Capitalised terms which are defined in "Terms and Conditions of the Notes" have the same meaning when used in this overview.

**Issuer:** 3i Group plc

Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) of the

Issuer:

35GDVHRBMFE7NWATNM84

Website of the Issuer: <a href="https://www.3i.com/">https://www.3i.com/</a>

Notes: €500,000,000 4.875% Notes due 14 June 2029

Issue Date: 14 June 2023

**Issue Price:** 98.506% of the principal amount of the Notes

Status of the Notes: The Notes will constitute direct, unconditional,

unsubordinated and (subject to the provisions of Condition 3 (Negative Pledge)) unsecured obligations of the Issuer and shall at all times (subject as aforesaid) rank pari passu, without any preference among themselves, with all other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated

obligations of the Issuer.

**Negative Pledge:** The terms of the Notes will contain a negative pledge

provision as further described in Condition 3

(Negative Pledge).

**Interest on the Notes:** The Notes will bear interest from (and including) the

Issue Date up to (but excluding) the Maturity Date at a rate of 4.875% per annum payable annually in arrear on 14 June in each year. The first payment of interest (representing a full year's interest) will be

made on 14 June 2024.

Interest Payment Dates: 14 June in each year, up to (and including) the

Maturity Date.

Redemption at the Maturity Date: Unless previously redeemed or purchased and

cancelled, the Notes will be redeemed at their principal amount, together with accrued and unpaid

interest, on the Maturity Date.

Early Redemption for Tax Reasons:

The Notes may be redeemed prior to their stated maturity at the option of the Issuer (in whole but not in part) as described in Condition 6.2 (*Redemption for Taxation Reasons*).

Optional Redemption by the Issuer:

The Notes may be redeemed prior to their stated maturity at the option of the Issuer (in whole but not in part) as described in Condition 6.3 (*Redemption at the Option of the Issuer*).

Purchase:

The Issuer and any of the Issuer's Subsidiaries may at any time purchase Notes in any manner and at any price. All purchased Notes will be cancelled as described in Condition 6.5 (*Cancellation*).

**Events of Default:** 

The Terms and Conditions of the Notes permit the acceleration of the Notes following the occurrence of certain Events of Default.

Following an Event of Default, the Trustee may, and if so requested by holders of not less than 25% in the principal amount of the Notes outstanding or directed by an Extraordinary Resolution shall, by notice to the Issuer, declare the Notes immediately due and payable and all principal, interest and all other amounts payable on the Notes will become immediately due and payable.

Trustee certification as to material prejudice to the interests of the Noteholders will be required before certain events will be deemed to constitute Events of Default.

**Cross Acceleration:** 

The terms of the Notes will contain a cross acceleration provision as further described in Condition 9.1(vi) (*Events of Default*), subject to an aggregate threshold of the Specified Amount.

Form of Notes:

The Notes will be issued in bearer form as described in "Summary of Provisions Relating to the Notes While Represented by the Global Notes" below.

**Denomination of Notes:** 

The Notes have denominations consisting of a minimum of €100,000 plus one or more higher integral multiples of €1,000 in excess thereof up to and including €199,000.

Taxation:

All payments of principal, premium and interest in respect of the Notes and Coupons will be made without withholding or deduction for or on account of

Taxes imposed by or on behalf of the Relevant Jurisdiction as provided in Condition 7 (*Taxation*) unless such withholding or deduction is required by law. In such event, the Issuer will, save in certain limited circumstances provided in Condition 7 (*Taxation*), be required to pay additional amounts to cover the amounts so withheld or deducted.

Rating:

The Notes are expected to be rated Baa1 by Moody's and BBB+ by S&P.

Each of Moody's and S&P is established in the United Kingdom and registered under the UK CRA Regulation.

A security rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency.

**Clearing and Settlement:** 

Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg.

The Notes will initially be represented by the Temporary Global Note, which will be deposited with a common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg. The Temporary Global Note will be exchangeable for interests in the Permanent Global Note on or after 24 July 2023. The Permanent Global Note will be exchangeable for definitive Notes in bearer form in the limited circumstances set out in it.

Listing and admission to trading:

Application has been made to the FCA for the Notes to be admitted to the Official List and to the London Stock Exchange for such Notes to be admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange's main market.

**Governing Law:** 

The Notes and the Trust Deed and any noncontractual obligations arising out of or in connection with the Notes or the Trust Deed will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, English law.

Joint Lead Managers:

Barclays Bank PLC

Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch

ING Bank N.V.

**Co-Lead Managers:** ABN AMRO Bank N.V. Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A. ICBC Standard Bank Plc SMBC Nikko Capital Markets Limited Trustee: Citicorp Trustee Company Limited **Principal Paying Agent:** Citibank, N.A., London Branch ISIN: XS2626289222 **Common Code:** 262628922 CFI Code: DBFNFB, as updated, as set out on the website of the Association of National Numbering Agencies (ANNA) or alternatively sourced from the responsible National Numbering Agency that assigned the ISIN 3I GROUP PLC/EUR NT 22001231 RESTN, as FISN: updated, as set out on the website of the Association of National Numbering Agencies (ANNA) or alternatively sourced from the responsible National Numbering Agency that assigned the ISIN Use of Proceeds: The net proceeds of the issue of the Notes will be applied for the general corporate purposes of the Group. **Selling Restrictions:** The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act and, subject to certain

exceptions, may not be offered or sold within the United States. Particular restrictions on sales of the Notes apply in the United States, the United Kingdom, the EEA and Singapore. The Notes may be sold in other jurisdictions only in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. See "Subscription

and Sale" below.

### **RISK FACTORS**

The risk factors which the Issuer believes are material for the purposes of assessing the market risks associated with the Notes are described below.

The Issuer believes that the factors described below represent the principal risks involved in investing in the Notes, but the Issuer may be unable to pay interest, principal or other amounts on or in connection with the Notes for other reasons, which may not be considered significant risks by the Issuer based on the information currently available to it or which it may not currently be able to anticipate. Prospective investors should also read the detailed information set out elsewhere in this Prospectus (including any documents incorporated by reference herein) and reach their own views prior to making any investment decision.

Unless the context requires otherwise, capitalised terms which are defined in "Terms and Conditions of the Notes" have the same meaning when used herein.

# FACTORS THAT MAY AFFECT THE ISSUER'S ABILITY TO FULFIL ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE NOTES

# 1. Risks related to the Issuer's business activities, industry and financial situation

### Global economic and geopolitical uncertainty

The Group is exposed to ongoing volatile economic and geopolitical conditions affecting the Group's core investment markets of northern Europe, the UK and North America and the wider global economy. Factors affecting volatility include increased geopolitical tensions, the ongoing war in Ukraine, dislocations related to Covid-19 and the impact of higher inflation and interest rates.

High levels of economic and geopolitical uncertainty may lead to lower market confidence and risk appetite as well as an increased risk of market volatility, price shocks or a significant market correction, which could impact the Group's net asset value and earnings growth.

Uncertain economic conditions may also affect the Group's financial performance due to a decrease in investor demand for private equity and infrastructure investments. A decrease in investor demand, alongside reduced merger and acquisition volumes in a time of economic instability is likely to lead to weaker exit valuations and wider outcomes on core investment case assumptions, which would have a negative effect on the Group's private equity returns.

Geopolitical risks may give rise to supply chain issues, higher energy and commodity prices, transportation costs and an increase in the number and complexity of sanctions which may affect the profitability of the Group's portfolio companies, in turn affecting the Group's target returns on investment and net asset value. Reduced portfolio company profitability increases portfolio company debt covenant compliance risks and macro-economic uncertainty can negatively affect the global debt markets, which become more risk-averse. This may reduce the Group's ability to refinance portfolio companies, and may lead to the Group investing additional proprietary capital to support portfolio companies.

If the Group does not adapt in a timely and appropriate manner to changes resulting from the uncertain macroeconomic environment and industry conditions, or to difficulties in the financial markets, the Issuer's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes may be affected.

### Underperformance of portfolio companies

The value and performance of the Group's portfolio companies are influenced by prevailing market and economic conditions, including interest rate fluctuations, the availability of credit, inflation, economic uncertainty, business and consumer confidence, employment levels, currency movements and commodity and energy price changes, in addition to the business operational performance and execution of the business strategy. During periods of challenging market conditions, the Group's portfolio companies may experience a decline in operating performance, decreased revenues, financial losses, difficulty obtaining access to financing and increased funding costs.

The varied nature of the Group's portfolio exposes the Group to a range of sector risks, and each portfolio company may face operational issues which could affect performance.

The underperformance of any of the Group's portfolio companies could negatively impact the Group's net asset value and total return due to lower valuations and reduced dividends or interest income. Underperformance of the Group's portfolio companies could also lead to the Group investing additional proprietary capital to support portfolio companies and could reduce realisation potential which may impact shareholder returns. This could have a negative impact on the reputation of the Group as an investor of proprietary capital leading to decreased confidence and a subsequent reduction in investment.

# Illiquid nature of the Group's investments

The Group generates cash from selling/realising investments, as well as receiving cash from other sources including fees, dividends and other distributions or returns from portfolio companies and management/advisory fees, performance fees and carried interest from third party investors. The majority of the Group's investments are in unlisted companies (as at 31 March 2023, £17,426 million of proprietary capital) which by their nature are illiquid. This creates a risk that the Group is unable to realise investments on a timely basis which could affect its ability to service the Notes. If the Group is unable to realise investments on a sustained basis, then it could become unable to service or repay its debts, make new investments and/or pay dividends. A lower investment rate on a sustained basis could negatively impact the Group's reputation as an investor of proprietary capital, its ability to maintain its portfolio and fee income through the cycle, and its ability to retain and attract investment professionals.

### Investment rate or quality is lower than expected

The Group aims to invest up to £750 million of proprietary capital annually in between four and seven private equity investments, and support the development of the Group's infrastructure portfolio. Although it may be prudent in certain market conditions to reduce levels of investment, if the annual investment rate falls significantly below this level on a sustained basis, it could negatively impact the Group's reputation as an investor of proprietary capital, its ability to maintain its portfolio and fee income through the cycle, and its ability to retain and attract investment professionals. An investment rate significantly above this level could expose the Group to vintage risk (i.e. an over exposure to the prevailing pricing and nature of investment opportunities at a particular point in time) or the risk of investing too heavily at the wrong point of the economic cycle. The Group has controls over vintage risk and has maintained a disciplined and selective approach to investment and expanding its portfolio with an average investment level of £588 million per annum from 2013 to 2023.

The quality of an initial investment decision may have a significant impact on the performance of the Group's portfolio. If the Group makes an investment at an over-inflated price, the Group may face difficulties realising longer term returns which could affect the Group's overall financial position and market reputation.

# Volatility in capital markets

The Group is impacted by the condition and performance of global debt and equity capital markets. Global capital markets often fluctuate as a consequence of the financial condition of companies, industry market conditions and general economic factors. Global and domestic political instability, terrorism, pandemics and natural disasters may have an unforeseeable effect on capital markets. Turbulent capital market conditions and lack of liquidity in the debt financing markets are likely to result in reduced investment opportunities. Any unforeseen or significant changes in the market conditions for initial public offerings, the level of mergers and acquisitions activity and the availability of well-priced debt finance may have a negative impact on the Group as such conditions present an increased risk for the Group in terms of its ability to invest and the exit strategies available to its portfolio companies. Changes in market conditions and subsequent large movements in valuations could also have a material impact on the value of the Group's portfolio and therefore on returns.

The Group may also be adversely affected by volatility in the capital markets due to its quoted asset exposure. As at 31 March 2023, the Group's quoted asset exposure was £962 million, equating to 5.2% of its total portfolio, of which £841 million (4.6% of its total portfolio) was the Group's holding in 3i Infrastructure plc ("3iN").

Many of the Group's portfolio companies rely on leverage to finance their business operations and increase the rates of return on equity and so the absence of available debt finance for extended periods could materially adversely affect the Group's portfolio companies and the Group as a whole. Furthermore, a lack of readily available financing increases the difficulty for potential buyers to raise sufficient capital to purchase investments which may reduce the Group's opportunities to exit and realise value from its investments which could in turn, have an adverse effect on the Group's returns and cash flow, and the Issuer's ability to service the Notes.

# Market competition

The Group operates in a competitive market. Competition from other private equity and infrastructure investors, as well as trade and other financial buyers, may make it challenging to invest at suitable prices to allow the Group to maximise its returns. Competition for investment opportunities in the markets in which the Group operates is based on a range of factors including sector experience, pricing, terms and structure of a proposed investment, reputation of investment professionals, certainty of execution and the ability to fund further investments where necessary. The Group may face competitive disadvantages from competitors who have greater capital, lower cost capital or better access to debt finance.

The Group principally invests proprietary capital so maintains flexibility to modify the pace and level of new investments. However, it may lose investment opportunities if it does not match the investment prices, structures and terms offered by its competitors.

A competitive market can also have a positive impact on the valuation of the Group's existing portfolio and lead to potential higher realisation proceeds due to higher prices. However, over-

inflation of certain markets can lead to increased, overvalued prices creating a risk that the Group overpays for investments which could impact longer-term returns and capital management and in turn have a negative impact on the Group's overall financial position and affect the Issuer's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

The Group aims to utilise its local expert teams and extensive external network to facilitate less competitive or off-market transactions at lower entry prices than might be required in an extensive auction process. A weakening of the Group's reputation and network may negatively impact its ability to access these opportunities.

### Foreign exchange fluctuations

The Group reports its results in sterling whilst the majority of the Group's underlying assets are denominated in other currencies. As at 31 March 2023, 71% of the Group's net assets were denominated in euros or US dollars. The Group aims to match foreign currency cash flows to reduce the impact of currency fluctuations on its financial results. For example, the Group may hold euros or US dollars from a realisation in anticipation of expected future investments in euros or US dollars.

Foreign exchange rate movements can impact the Group's total return and net asset value. An appreciation of sterling against the euro or US dollar would reduce the valuation of the Group's euro and US dollar investments and generate an unrealised foreign exchange loss. Foreign exchange movements are crystalised when investments are realised. As at 31 March 2023, a 1% appreciation in sterling against the euro or US dollar would have a negative impact on the Group's total return of £106 million and £12 million respectively.

The Group's exposure to currency fluctuations is partially hedged. The Group has implemented a medium-term foreign exchange hedging programme to reduce net asset value volatility on its euro and US dollar portfolio, with a total size of €2.0 billion and \$1.2 billion respectively as at 31 March 2023. The Group may also hedge specific assets or exposures where appropriate; for example, in relation to currency exposures on longer-term investments, such as Scandlines (€600 million hedging programme). The Group may also engage in short-term hedging to match foreign currency cash flows across the Group's operations.

# Failure to recruit, develop, and retain key people

Attracting, investing in and retaining high-performing investment professionals and other employees is an important part of the Group's ability to originate and manage assets successfully. The Group's future success and growth depends on the continued services, development and performance of its investment professionals and business leaders to maintain its ability to originate new investments and create value from its portfolio. There is no guarantee that the Group can retain its current investment professionals and employees particularly due to the competitive market for qualified investment and other professionals.

The Group's board of directors regularly reviews succession plans, however, significant changes to the executive committee and other senior members of staff could have a negative impact on the Group.

The Group's investment professionals have significant expertise in originating, executing and managing the Group's investments. The Group could lose significant investment opportunities

through the loss of its investment professionals to competitor firms. An inability to hire, develop, engage and retain a sufficient number of qualified employees could negatively affect the Group's business by potentially undermining investor and shareholder confidence and delaying the execution of strategic plans across the Group.

In order to attract and retain high-quality investment professionals, the Group attempts to maintain reward levels in line with market practice. As well as receiving a base salary and being considered for a performance-related annual variable incentive award, investment professionals in the private equity business line may also participate in carried interest schemes, which allow them to share directly in future profits on investments. A failure to offer a competitive reward package would risk the Group losing key investment professionals, however, increasing reward levels could result in significant additional expenses which could adversely affect the Group's financial position.

The Group has experienced low voluntary employee turnover and, in the year to 31 March 2023, voluntary employee turnover was 9.5%.

### Maintenance of operating cash profit

The Group aims to cover its operating costs with income from its portfolio and from fees generated from managing external investors' capital, currently principally from its Infrastructure business line. If the Group's investments underperform and are unable to pay dividends or cash interest, or the Group is unable to maintain externally managed assets under management then it may not be able to generate sufficient income to cover its operating costs.

The Group's operating costs could increase if management relaxes the discipline and control over costs or if staff or premises or costs associated with compliance and regulation increase.

### Concentration risk

The Group's largest investment is in Action, a leading non-food discount retailer headquartered in the Netherlands. The Group originally invested £106 million in Action in 2011, and has made further investments of £547 million in aggregate since then. During the financial year ended 31 March 2023, the Group's direct holding in Action increased to 52.9% (from 52.7% as of 31 March 2022) gross and 48.9% (from 47.7% as of 31 March 2022) net (i.e. before and after the ongoing carry liability). The value at 31 March 2023 of the Group's investment in Action of £11,188 million accounted for 60.8% of the Group's total investment portfolio and therefore represents a concentration risk should Action's trading and/or financial performance deteriorate in the future. As a result of this exposure, the Group could suffer adverse consequences should Action's trading and/or financial performance worsen. The adverse consequences for the Group could include a reduction in total return and net asset value due to a reduction in the valuation of Action, and a reduction in dividends the Group receives from Action. A reduction in dividends from Action would affect the Group's cash operating profit.

The Group's Chief Executive has been Chairman of the board of Action since October 2020, as part of the additional monitoring of this portfolio company.

Excluding the Group's largest asset, Action, the Group has diversified its portfolio by vintage, geography and economic sector.

### Interest rate risk

The Group's financial position may be adversely affected through the impact of interest rate fluctuations on the financial performance and valuation of its portfolio companies as many of the Group's portfolio companies rely on leverage to finance their business operations and increase the rate of return on their equity, increasing their sensitivity to interest rate fluctuations. A substantial increase in interest rates could adversely affect the ability of the Group's portfolio companies to service their debt. In some circumstances rising interest rates could potentially lead to a breach of financial covenants in portfolio company credit agreements or may limit the ability of the Group to refinance its investments. The impact of a substantial increase in interest rates is mitigated by interest rate hedging at the portfolio company level. At 31 March 2023, over 70% of the total Private Equity portfolio term debt is hedged at a weighted average tenor of more than three years with the interest rate element capped at a weighted average hedge rate below 2%.

The Group's direct exposure to interest rate changes through its debt position is limited to any drawings under its committed multi-currency facility as the Group's outstanding debt is fixed rate.

The Group is also exposed to interest rate changes through variability of interest income on its cash and deposit holdings. As at 31 March 2023, the Group had a total of £412 million cash and cash equivalents.

### Valuation risk

The Group values its investment portfolio at fair value quarterly, by valuing investments on an appropriate basis, applying a consistent approach across the portfolio, and ensuring that the portfolio valuation is compliant with the fair value guidelines under IFRS and, in so doing, is also compliant with the guidelines published by the International Private Equity and Venture Capital valuation board. The determination of fair value takes into account a range of factors, including, the acquisition price of an investment, the nature of an investment, local market conditions, trading values on public exchanges for comparable securities, current and projected operating performance, equity investments in the portfolio company since its acquisition, levels of leverage, levels of control and comparable transaction multiples. Determining fair value requires the use of management judgment.

The majority of the Group's portfolio is comprised of unquoted investments and there are no readily ascertainable market prices for these illiquid assets. Due to the uncertainty in the valuation of illiquid investments, the Group's valuations of its portfolio companies, accounted for in the Group's net asset value, do not always reflect the actual prices which would be realised by the Group upon sale of its investments. Obtaining a lower price for an investment than its valuation would negatively affect the Group's results and changes in the valuations of portfolio companies could result in volatility in the Group's returns and net asset value.

### Changes to the Group's credit rating

The Group's access to financing from banks or capital markets and the associated cost of financing could be adversely affected if its credit rating was to be downgraded as a result of the weakening of the Group's financial condition.

# Credit risk and counterparty risk

The Group is exposed to counterparty credit risk from its cash holdings and derivative transactions, meaning there is a risk of financial loss if the counterparty fails. The Group sets counterparty credit limits based on counterparty credit ratings, with the minimum credit rating requirement being BBB+. As at 31 March 2023, 91% of the Group's surplus cash was held in AAA rated same day access money market funds.

### Re-emergence of a global pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic resulted in an unprecedented economic downturn in countries in which the Group operates and the global economy more widely, as well as in disruptions to supply chains, lower equity market valuations, increased unemployment levels and volatility in financial markets. The pandemic impacted the performance of the Group's portfolio companies to varying degrees, reflecting the geographic and sector diversity of the portfolio. Some portfolio companies were affected by supply chain disruptions and some were exposed to the effects of lockdown measures. A re-emergence of Covid-19, or the emergence of a new global pandemic, could materially impact the performance of the Group's portfolio companies and lead to volatility in the Group's return and net asset value.

A new outbreak may also disrupt the Group's day-to-day business operations if significant portions of its workforce are unable to work effectively; for example, owing to illness, quarantines, government actions or system issues impacting the ability of employees to work remotely.

# UK / EU trading relationship

Uncertainties still remain regarding the economic impact of the UK's withdrawal from the European Union, especially in relation to trade and financial services. The long-term effects of Brexit will depend on the development of trading relationships between the UK and European Union as well as agreements the UK makes with other potential trading partners. Increasing trade tensions, new regulatory requirements or barriers, or any other developments to trading relationships could have a material impact on the operations of the Group or the ability of the Group's portfolio companies to trade with suppliers and customers which could impact the overall performance of the Group.

The underperformance of the Group's portfolio companies could negatively impact the Group's net asset value and total return due to lower valuations and reduced dividends or interest income.

# 2. Environmental, social, and governance risks

### ESG risks and reporting requirements

The Group is a small organisation with approximately 250 employees across seven offices. With assets under management of £29.9 billion the impact of the Group on the environment and society is determined largely by its portfolio.

The Group has a diversified portfolio of private equity and infrastructure investments, each with their own environmental, social and governance ("**ESG**") risks determined, among other factors, by the countries and sectors in which they operate, the physical locations of their operations, the end markets they serve and the regulations to which they are subject.

Most portfolio companies are affected to differing degrees by ESG risks including environmental and social regulation, occupational health and safety, cyber security, fraud and sanctions, and climate change physical and transition risks, among others. These risks can impact portfolio companies' earnings and operations, as well as their reputation and commercial viability and therefore have the potential to impact the valuation of the Group's portfolio and the Group's reputation as an investor.

The Group screens all new investment opportunities against the criteria and exclusions set out in its responsible investment policy, assesses material ESG risks in relation to potential investments in the pre-investment phase and monitors its portfolio companies regularly, including through detailed annual ESG assessments, supported by a data collection process.

The companies in the Group's portfolio operate independently of the Group, with their own boards. The Group's oversight is exercised through the appointment of investment executives to serve as directors on portfolio company boards. Each board is responsible for its own risk management framework. The Group sets minimum governance standards for its investment portfolio companies, overseen by its appointed directors. These standards cover the overall governance structure, internal controls and risk management, IT systems and cyber security, legal and regulatory compliance and critical incident management in addition to financial reporting and independent financial review. These governance standards form part of a broader range of ESG and sustainability measures applied by the Group to each investment portfolio company, benchmarked against industry standards for the relevant sector. Reporting against these standards and the development of specific action plans is an integral part of the Group's semi-annual investment portfolio company review process. The Group's internal auditors provide an independent assessment of the completeness and accuracy of the investment portfolio company review reports as part of their work on the Group's investment business units.

The Group has established an ESG Committee, which is responsible for reviewing best practice in the assessment and management of ESG-related risks and opportunities through its investment and portfolio management processes and to recommend changes to the Group's processes to reflect emerging best practice, evolving stakeholder expectations and upcoming sustainability regulations across its markets. The Group has also embedded dedicated ESG resource in its private equity and infrastructure investments teams, as well as in its central functions, to accelerate the implementation of ESG initiatives across the Group and portfolio.

The Group discloses its approach to ESG with regards to its own operations and of its investment portfolio in its annual report and accounts and in its sustainability report. The Group has also been making voluntary, preliminary disclosures under the Task Force for Climate-related Financial Disclosures framework in its annual report and accounts ahead of such disclosures becoming compulsory by 30 June 2024 for asset managers such as the Group.

A failure to appropriately consider and mitigate potential ESG risks could result in poor investment decisions and reputational damage and could also impact the Group's net asset value, realisation potential and shareholder returns.

### Legal and regulatory risk

# Legal and regulatory risk

The Group's operations are subject to extensive regulation. The Group's activities in the United Kingdom are regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority whilst its investment activities in certain other jurisdictions are regulated by similar regulatory bodies and regimes, including in particular Luxembourg and the United States. In particular, the Group has two full scope Alternative Investment Fund Managers regulated under the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Regulations 2013 and the EU Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive (Directive 2011/61/EU) and two investment advisers regulated by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

These regulatory bodies are empowered to conduct investigations and administrative proceedings that could result in fines or other sanctions. Regulation breaches such as a breach of the Listing Rules or the Group's continuing obligations as a listed company or breaches of other regulatory obligations, such as the UK and the EU General Data Protection Regulations, could have material adverse effects on the Group, including reputational damage, or loss of licences to operate. Breaches of competition rules applicable to merger activity could result in fines and difficulties completing investment transactions.

The Group is required to maintain minimum levels of regulatory capital on a consolidated basis and an individual basis in some of its regulated subsidiaries. A failure to maintain minimum levels of regulatory capital could result in the Group not being able to operate and execute on its strategic objectives thus having a significant adverse impact on the financial performance of the Group. The largest regulatory capital requirement is that for the consolidated Group: at 31 March 2023 the requirement was £39 million and the surplus was £6,384 million.

The Group faces significant compliance challenges due to the evolving regulatory environment and greater regulatory scrutiny over financial markets and financial institutions. The Group is likely to incur additional costs monitoring regulatory developments and ensuring compliance which may increase the Group's operating costs.

### Tax risk

The Issuer is an approved investment trust under section 833 of the Companies Act 2006 and HM Revenue and Customs has approved the Issuer as an investment trust under section 1158 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 ("CTA 2010"). For the Issuer to remain an approved investment trust, it must continue to satisfy the relevant conditions set out in section 1158 of the CTA 2010. If the Issuer were to fail to satisfy any of those conditions, it may be subject to corporation tax on capital gains, including gains on the sale or other disposal of investments that were realised in the accounting period in which the failure occurred, which would have a material adverse effect on the Group's returns and net asset value. The Issuer operates a number of controls to ensure that the investment trust status is maintained. Other protections against the risk of taxation of capital gains currently exist in UK legislation and are available to the Issuer.

The Group could also face financial losses as a result of changes in tax legislation (including in its interpretation) or practice or in the tax treatment of investment trusts. Changes in the basis of taxation, in the UK and other jurisdictions in which the Group operates, for example, those affecting permanent establishments, withholding taxes and tax treaties, could materially impact the Group's performance or performance of its obligations under the Notes.

### 4. Internal control risk

# Operational risks

The Group is exposed to operational risk resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people or systems or from external events and failure of key suppliers. The Group is highly reliant on its financial, accounting and other data processing systems, as well as business processes and procedures covering information security, change management, business continuity and disaster recovery. If any of these systems do not operate properly or are disabled, or the Group fails to keep such systems up-to-date across its businesses, the Group could suffer financial loss, disruption of businesses or damage to its reputation.

The Group is dependent on the capacity and reliability of the information and technology systems supporting its operations, whether developed, owned and operated by the Group or by third parties. A serious breakdown in the Group's information technology systems that are prolonged or occur on a regular basis could adversely affect the Group's key operations and its ability to deliver critical processes. In addition, the increasing sophistication of cyber criminality exposes the Group to the risk that the availability, confidentiality and integrity of the Group's systems and processes, especially those concerning payments and banking, are compromised, thereby damaging the Group's reputation and potentially causing significant financial loss.

Despite implementing robust risk and internal control mitigation strategies across key processes, systems and data, it is not possible to eliminate entirely each of the operational risks to which the Group is exposed.

# FACTORS WHICH ARE MATERIAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSESSING THE MARKET RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE NOTES

# 1. Risks related to the Notes generally

Set out below is a description of certain risks relating to the Notes generally.

The optional redemption features of the Notes may limit the market value of the Notes and an investor may not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a manner which achieves a similar effective return

The optional redemption features contained in Condition 6.3 (*Redemption at the Option of the Issuer*) of the Terms and Conditions of the Notes are likely to limit the market value of the Notes.

During any period when the Issuer may elect to redeem the Notes, the market value of the Notes generally will not rise substantially above the price at which they can be redeemed. This also may be true prior to any redemption period.

The Issuer may be expected to redeem Notes when its cost of borrowing is lower than the interest rate on the Notes. At those times, an investor generally would not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds at an effective interest rate as high as the interest rate on the Notes being redeemed and may only be able to do so at a significantly lower rate. Potential investors should consider reinvestment risk in light of other investments available at that time.

The Terms and Conditions of the Notes contain provisions which may permit their modification without the consent of all investors and confer significant discretions on the Trustee which may be exercised without the consent of the Noteholders and without regard to the individual interests of particular Noteholders

The Terms and Conditions of the Notes contain provisions for calling meetings of Noteholders to consider and vote upon matters affecting their interests generally, or to pass resolutions in writing or through the use of electronic consents. These provisions permit defined majorities to bind all Noteholders, including Noteholders who did not attend and vote at the relevant meeting or, as the case may be, did not sign the written resolution or give their consent electronically, and including those Noteholders who voted in a manner contrary to the majority.

The Issuer has appointed the Trustee to represent the Noteholders. The Trustee has certain discretions to agree with the Issuer changes to the Terms and Conditions of the Notes without seeking the consent of the Noteholders. In particular, the Terms and Conditions of the Notes provide that the Trustee may, without the consent of Noteholders and without regard to the interests of particular Noteholders, agree to (i) any modification (other than a Basic Terms Modification) of any of the provisions of the Notes, the Trust Deed or the Agency Agreement that is in its opinion of a formal, minor or technical nature or is made to correct a manifest error or an error which is, in the opinion of the Trustee, proven, (ii) any other modification (other than a Basic Terms Modification), and any waiver or authorisation of any breach or proposed breach, of any of the provisions of the Notes, the Trust Deed or the Agency Agreement that is, in the opinion of the Trustee, not materially prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders, and (iii) in certain circumstances, the substitution of certain other entities in place of the Issuer, or any previous substituted company as principal debtor, as the case may be, under the Trust Deed and the Notes.

# Investors who purchase Notes in denominations that are not an integral multiple of €100,000 may be adversely affected if definitive Notes are subsequently required to be issued

The Notes have denominations consisting of a minimum of €100,000 plus one or more higher integral multiples of €1,000 (up to a maximum of €199,000). It is possible that the Notes may be traded in the clearing systems in amounts that are not integral multiples of €100,000. In such a case, should definitive Notes be required to be issued, holders of the Notes who, as a result of trading such amounts, hold less than €100,000 in their account in the relevant clearing system may need to purchase, a principal amount of Notes such that their holding is at least equal to €100,000, otherwise such Noteholders may not receive all of their entitlements in definitive Notes or be able to sell their holding of Notes.

If definitive Notes are issued, holders should be aware that definitive Notes which have a denomination that is not an integral multiple of €100,000 may be illiquid and difficult to trade.

As the Global Notes relating to the Notes will be held by or on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, investors will have to rely on the procedures of those clearing systems for transfer, payment and communications with the Issuer

The Notes will be held by investors through Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and will be represented by one or more Global Notes which will be deposited with a common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg. Except in the circumstances described in the relevant Global Note, investors will not be entitled to receive Notes in definitive form (i.e. physical securities). Each of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and their respective direct and indirect participants will maintain records of the beneficial interests in each Global Note held through it. While the Notes are represented by a Global Note, investors will be able to trade their beneficial interests only through the relevant clearing systems and their respective participants.

While the Notes are represented by Global Notes, the Issuer will discharge its payment obligation under the Notes by making payments through the relevant clearing systems. A holder of a beneficial interest in a Global Note must rely on the procedures of the relevant clearing system and its participants to receive payments under the Notes. The Issuer has no responsibility or liability for the records relating to, or payments made in respect of, beneficial interests in any Global Note.

Holders of beneficial interests in a Global Note will not have a direct right to vote in respect of the Notes so represented. Instead, such holders will be permitted to act only to the extent that they are enabled by the relevant clearing system and its participants to appoint appropriate proxies.

# The value of the Notes could be adversely affected by a change in English law or administrative practice

The Terms and Conditions of the Notes are based on English law in effect as at the date of issue of the Notes. No assurance can be given as to the impact of any possible judicial decision or change to English law or administrative practice after the date of issue of the Notes and any such change could materially adversely impact the value of the Notes.

# 2. Risks related to the market generally

Set out below is a brief description of the principal market risks, including liquidity risk, exchange rate risk, interest rate risk and credit risk.

# The value of the Notes may be adversely affected by movements in market interest rates

Investment in the Notes, which carry a fixed rate of interest, involves the risk that if market interest rates subsequently increase above the rate paid on the Notes, this will adversely affect the value of the Notes.

# An active secondary market in respect of the Notes may never be established or may be illiquid and this would adversely affect the value at which an investor could sell its Notes

The Notes may have no established trading market when issued, and one may never develop. If a market for the Notes does develop, it may not be liquid or may become illiquid at a later stage. Therefore, investors may not be able to sell their Notes easily or at prices that will provide them

with a yield comparable to similar investments that have a developed secondary market. Illiquidity may have a severely adverse effect on the market value of the Notes.

# Investors may receive a lower price than the amount originally invested if the investors sells the Notes in the secondary market prior to maturity

If an investor chooses to sell its Notes in the open market at any time prior to the maturity of the Notes, the price the investor will receive from such sale may be less than its original investment, and may be less than the amount due to be repaid at the maturity of the Notes if an investor were to hold onto the Notes until that time. Factors that will influence the price received by investors who choose to sell their Notes in the open market may include, but are not limited to, market appetite, inflation, the period of time remaining to maturity of the Notes, prevailing interest rates and the financial position of the Issuer. In addition, inflation may reduce the real value of the Notes over time which may affect what investors can buy with their investments in the future (including on the maturity of the Notes).

If the Notes are not denominated in an investor's home currency, the investor will be exposed to movements in exchange rates adversely affecting the value of its holding. In addition, the imposition of exchange controls in relation to the Notes could result in an investor not receiving payments on those Notes

The Issuer will pay principal and interest on the Notes in euro. This presents certain risks relating to currency conversions if an investor's financial activities are denominated principally in a currency or currency unit (the "Investor's Currency") other than euro. These include the risk that exchange rates may significantly change (including changes due to devaluation of euro or revaluation of the Investor's Currency) and the risk that authorities with jurisdiction over the Investor's Currency may impose or modify exchange controls that could adversely affect an applicable exchange rate. An appreciation in the value of the Investor's Currency relative to euro would decrease (i) the Investor's Currency-equivalent yield on the Notes, (ii) the Investor's Currency equivalent value of the principal payable on the Notes and (iii) the Investor's Currency equivalent market value of the Notes.

Government and monetary authorities may impose (as some have done in the past) exchange controls that could adversely affect an applicable exchange rate or the ability of the Issuer to make payments in respect of the Notes. As a result, investors may receive less interest or principal than expected, or no interest or principal.

# Credit ratings assigned to the Issuer or the Notes may not reflect all the risks associated with an investment in the Notes

The Issuer has been rated Baa1 by Moody's and BBB+ by S&P and the Notes are expected to be rated Baa1 by Moody's and BBB+ by S&P. These ratings may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to structure, market, additional factors discussed above, and other factors that may affect the value of the Notes. A credit rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be revised, suspended or withdrawn by the rating agency at any time. Any such revision, suspension or withdrawal could adversely affect the market value of the Notes. For

the avoidance of doubt, the Issuer does not commit to ensure that the specific rating of any Notes will be upheld nor that the credit rating agencies rating any Notes will remain the same.

In general, European regulated investors are restricted under the EU CRA Regulation from using credit ratings for regulatory purposes in the EEA, unless such ratings are issued by a credit rating agency established in the EEA and registered under the EU CRA Regulation (and such registration has not been withdrawn or suspended, subject to transitional provisions that apply in certain circumstances). Such general restriction will also apply in the case of credit ratings issued by third country non-EEA credit rating agencies, unless the relevant credit ratings are endorsed by an EEA-registered credit rating agency or the relevant third country rating agency is certified in accordance with the EU CRA Regulation (and such endorsement action or certification, as the case may be, has not been withdrawn or suspended, subject to transitional provisions that apply in certain circumstances).

The list of registered and certified rating agencies published by the European Securities and Markets Authority ("ESMA") on its website in accordance with the EU CRA Regulation is not conclusive evidence of the status of the relevant rating agency included in such list, as there may be delays between certain supervisory measures being taken against a relevant rating agency and the publication of the updated ESMA list.

Investors regulated in the UK are subject to similar restrictions under the UK CRA Regulation. As such, UK regulated investors are required to use, for UK regulatory purposes, ratings issued by a credit rating agency established in the UK and registered under the UK CRA Regulation. In the case of ratings issued by third country non-UK credit rating agencies, third country credit ratings can either be: (i) endorsed by a UK registered credit rating agency; or (ii) issued by a third country credit rating agency that is certified in accordance with the UK CRA Regulation. Note this is subject, in each case, to: (i) the relevant UK registration, certification or endorsement, as the case may be, not having been withdrawn or suspended; and (ii) transitional provisions that apply in certain circumstances. In the case of third country ratings, for a certain limited period of time, transitional relief accommodates continued use, for regulatory purposes in the UK, of existing pre-

If the status of the rating agency rating the Notes changes for the purposes of the EU CRA Regulation or the UK CRA Regulation, relevant regulated investors may no longer be able to use the rating for regulatory purposes in the EEA or the UK, as applicable, and the Notes may have a different regulatory treatment, which may impact the value of the Notes and their liquidity in the secondary market. Certain information with respect to the credit rating agencies and ratings is set out on the cover of this Prospectus.

### INFORMATION INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

This Prospectus should be read and construed in conjunction with the following documents:

- (i) the annual report and accounts of the Issuer and its consolidated subsidiaries for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 (including the Issuer's audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 and the audit report thereon) published on the Issuer's website on 18 May 2023 (which can be accessed from the following hyperlink: <a href="https://www.3i.com/media/orvbwrof/3i">https://www.3i.com/media/orvbwrof/3i</a> group ar23.pdf); and
- (ii) the annual report and accounts of the Issuer and its consolidated subsidiaries for the financial year ended 31 March 2022 (including the Issuer's audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 and the audit report thereon) published on the Issuer's website on 12 May 2022 (which can be accessed from the following hyperlink: https://www.3i.com/media/5lclm35q/3i group ar2022 final a.pdf).

Such documents shall be deemed to be incorporated in, and form part of, this Prospectus, save that any statement contained in a document which is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for the purpose of this Prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein modifies or supersedes such earlier statement (whether expressly, by implication or otherwise). Any statement so modified or superseded shall not, be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Prospectus.

Any documents themselves incorporated by reference in the documents incorporated by reference in this Prospectus shall not form part of this Prospectus.

### PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION RELATING TO THE ISSUER

The Issuer prepares its consolidated financial statements on a non-GAAP "investment basis" and reconciles its "investment basis" consolidated financial statements to IFRS basis consolidated financial statements. The "investment basis" is an APM and, unless otherwise stated, all financial information relating to the Issuer contained or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus has been prepared on an "investment basis" and reconciled to an IFRS basis. The reconciliation of the non-GAAP "investment basis" consolidated financial statements to the IFRS consolidated financial statements is explained in detail in the annual report of the Issuer for the year ended 31 March 2023 at page 73.

All financial information relating to the Issuer contained in this Prospectus, unless otherwise stated, has been extracted from either the audited consolidated financial statements of the Issuer as of and for the financial years ended 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2022 which are incorporated by reference into this Prospectus.

Percentages in tables have been rounded and accordingly may not add up to 100%. Certain financial data have been rounded. As a result of this rounding, the totals of the data presented in this Prospectus may vary slightly from the actual arithmetic totals of such data.

### **ISSUER NON-IFRS MEASURES**

The Issuer assesses the performance of its business using a variety of key financial measures. Some of these measures are termed a "non-IFRS measure" because they are calculated using financial measures that are not calculated in accordance with IFRS. The non-IFRS measures discussed in this Prospectus, and how such measures are used, are presented below. The Issuer does not regard these non-IFRS measures as substitutes for equivalent measures calculated and presented in accordance with IFRS or those calculated financial measures that are calculated in accordance with IFRS. The non-IFRS measures presented below may not be directly comparable to similarly-titled measures used by other companies including competitors of the Issuer.

# Gross investment return as a percentage of opening portfolio value

Gross investment return as a percentage of opening portfolio value is a non-IFRS measure which assesses the performance of the Group's proprietary investment portfolio. It is calculated as the gross investment return, as shown in the investment basis consolidated statement of comprehensive income, as a percentage of the opening portfolio value, as explained on page 77 of the Issuer's 2023 annual report.

### Cash realisations

Cash realisations is a non-IFRS measure which represents the Group's cash proceeds from its investments which can be used to support return to shareholders and the Group's ability to invest in new opportunities. This measure calculates the cash proceeds received from the disposal of investments in the year as shown in the investment basis consolidated cash flow statement, as explained on page 77 of the Issuer's 2023 annual report.

### **Cash investments**

Cash investments is a non-IFRS measure which allows the Group to monitor its cash investments and is calculated as the cash paid for the purchase of investments in the year as shown in the investment basis consolidated cash flow statement, as explained on page 77 of the Issuer's 2023 annual report.

# Operating cash profit

Operating cash profit is a non-IFRS measure which allows the Group to monitor and reduce the potential dilution of capital returns which could result if the Group's cash cost of running the business cannot be covered by cash income. It is calculated by measuring cash income from the Group's portfolio together with fees received from its external funds less cash operating expenses and leases payments as shown in the investment basis consolidated cash flow statement, as explained on page 77 of the Issuer's 2023 annual report.

### Net cash/net (debt)

Net cash/net (debt) is a non-IFRS measure of the available cash for investment in the business and an indicator of the financial risk in the Group's balance sheet. This is calculated on the basis of cash and cash equivalents plus deposits less loans and borrowings as shown in the investment basis consolidated statement of financial position, as explained on page 77 of the Issuer's 2023 annual report.

### Gearing

Gearing is a non-IFRS measure of the financial risk in the Group's balance sheet. It is calculated as net debt as a percentage of the Group's net assets under the investment basis, as explained on page 77 of the Issuer's 2023 annual report.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOTES

The following is the text of the Conditions of the Notes which (subject to modification) will be endorsed on each Note in definitive form (if issued):

The €500,000,000 4.875% Notes due 14 June 2029 (the "Notes", which expression shall in these Conditions, unless the context otherwise requires, include any further notes issued pursuant to Condition 16 and forming a single series with the Notes) of 3i Group plc (the "Issuer") are constituted by a Trust Deed dated 14 June 2023 (the "Trust Deed") made between the Issuer and Citicorp Trustee Company Limited (the "Trustee", which expression shall include its successor(s)) as trustee for the holders of the Notes (the "Noteholders") and the holders of the interest coupons appertaining to the Notes (the "Couponholders" and the "Coupons" respectively).

The statements in these Conditions include summaries of, and are subject to, the detailed provisions of and definitions in the Trust Deed. Copies of the Trust Deed and the Agency Agreement dated 14 June 2023 (the "Agency Agreement") made between the Issuer, Citibank, N.A., London Branch as the principal paying agent (the "Principal Paying Agent", which expression shall include its successor(s) as principal paying agent) and the other paying agents named therein (together with the Principal Paying Agent and any additional or successor paying agents appointed pursuant to the Agency Agreement, the "Paying Agents") and the Trustee are available for inspection during normal business hours by the Noteholders and the Couponholders at the specified office of each of the Paying Agents or may be provided electronically on request. The Noteholders and the Couponholders are entitled to the benefit of, are bound by, and are deemed to have notice of, all the provisions of the Trust Deed and the Agency Agreement applicable to them. References in these Conditions to "€", "euro" and "cent" refer to the currency introduced at the start of the third stage of European economic and monetary union pursuant to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as amended.

# 1. FORM, DENOMINATION AND TITLE

### 1.1 Form and Denomination

The Notes are in bearer form, serially numbered, in the denominations of €100,000 and integral multiples of €1,000 in excess thereof up to and including €199,000 each with Coupons attached on issue. Notes of one denomination may not be exchanged for Notes of any other denomination.

# 1.2 Title

Title to the Notes and to the Coupons will pass by delivery.

### 1.3 Holder Absolute Owner

The Issuer, any Paying Agent and the Trustee will (except as otherwise required by applicable law) deem and treat the bearer of any Note or Coupon as the absolute owner for all purposes (whether or not the Note or Coupon shall be overdue and notwithstanding any notice of ownership or writing on the Note or Coupon or any notice of previous loss or theft of the Note or Coupon) and shall not be required to obtain any proof thereof or as to the identity of such bearer.

### 2. STATUS

The Notes and the Coupons are direct, unconditional and (subject to the provisions of Condition 3) unsecured obligations of the Issuer and (subject as provided above) rank and will rank *pari passu*, without any preference among themselves, with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer, present and future, but, in the event of insolvency, only to the extent permitted by applicable laws relating to creditors' rights.

### 3. NEGATIVE PLEDGE

### 3.1 Negative Pledge

So long as any Note remains outstanding (as defined in the Trust Deed) the Issuer shall not and shall procure that no member of the Financial Group (as defined below) shall create or permit to subsist any mortgage, lien, pledge or other charge ("Security") upon any part of their respective undertakings or assets, present or future, (including uncalled capital) as security for any Obligation (as defined below) and the Issuer shall not permit any Material Subsidiary (as defined below) to give any guarantee of or indemnity in respect of any Obligation without in each case at the same time according to the Noteholders a pari passu and rateable interest in the same security and/or guarantee and/or indemnity or such other security and/or quarantee and/ or indemnity or other arrangement (whether or not including the granting of security and/or a guarantee and/ or an indemnity) as the Trustee shall in its absolute discretion deem not materially less beneficial to the Noteholders or as shall have been approved by an Extraordinary Resolution (as defined in the Trust Deed) of the Noteholders provided that any member of the Financial Group (other than the Issuer) may have outstanding Security with respect to an Obligation of such member of the Financial Group (without the obligation to secure the Notes or provide such other arrangement as aforesaid) so long as:

- (i) such Security was outstanding on the date on which such member of the Financial Group became a member of the Financial Group and was not created in contemplation of such member of the Financial Group becoming a member of the Financial Group or such Security was created in substitution for or to replace either such outstanding Security or any such substituted or replacement Security; and
- (ii) the principal amount of the Obligation secured is not increased after the date such member of the Financial Group became a member of the Financial Group.

# 3.2 Interpretation

For the purposes of these Conditions:

- (a) "Financial Group" means the Group, excluding any Investee Companies;
- (b) "GAAP" means generally accepted accounting principles in the United Kingdom;
- (c) "Group" means the Issuer and its Subsidiaries;

- (d) "Investee Company" means any company or other entity in which a member of the Group has made an investment and which forms part of the investment portfolio of the Group and, for these purposes, a company will form part of the investment portfolio of the Group from time to time if (i) the relevant investment made by the relevant member of the Group is included in the line headed "Investment portfolio" (or similar designation) in the consolidated statement of financial position in the most recent audited consolidated financial statements of the Issuer or (ii) the relevant investment made by the relevant member of the Group would be included in the line headed "Investment portfolio" (or similar designation) in the consolidated statement of financial position if audited consolidated statements of the Issuer were drawn up as of the relevant time;
- (e) "Material Subsidiary" means any member of the Financial Group whose net assets (in each case attributable to the members of the Financial Group) represent ten% or more of the consolidated net assets of the Financial Group as shown in the then latest audited consolidated accounts of the Group and the then latest audited accounts of such member of the Financial Group;

### (f) "Obligation" means:

- (i) any present or future indebtedness of the Issuer or a member of the Financial Group having a stated maturity of not less than one year and represented by bonds, notes, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock or other securities which for the time being are, or are intended to be, dealt in on a stock exchange or other securities market; and
- (ii) any guarantee of any such indebtedness as is referred to in (i) above; and
- (g) **"Subsidiary"** means a subsidiary within the meaning of Section 1159 of the Companies Act 2006.

### 4. INTEREST

# 4.1 Interest Rate and Interest Payment Dates

The Notes bear interest on their principal amount from and including 14 June 2023 at the rate of 4.875% per annum (the "Rate of Interest"), payable annually in arrear on 14 June (each an "Interest Payment Date"). The first payment (representing a full year's interest) shall be made on 14 June 2024.

### 4.2 Interest Accrual

Each Note will cease to bear interest from and including its due date for redemption unless, upon due presentation, payment of the principal in respect of the Note is improperly withheld or refused or unless default is otherwise made in respect of payment. In such event interest will continue to accrue as provided in the Trust Deed.

# 4.3 Calculation of Broken Interest

When interest is required to be calculated in respect of a period of less than a full year, it shall be calculated by applying the Rate of Interest to each €1,000 in principal amount of Notes (the "Calculation Amount") and on the basis of (a) the actual number of days in the period from and including the date from which interest begins to accrue (the "Accrual Date") to but excluding the date on which it falls due divided by (b) the actual number of days from and including the Accrual Date to but excluding the next following Interest Payment Date. The resultant figure shall be rounded to the nearest cent, half a cent being rounded upwards. The interest payable in respect of a Note shall be the product of such rounded figure and the amount by which the Calculation Amount is multiplied to reach the denomination of the relevant Note, without any further rounding.

### 5. PAYMENTS

# 5.1 Payments in respect of Notes

Payments of principal and interest in respect of each Note will be made against presentation and surrender (or, in the case of part payment only, endorsement) of the Note, except that payments of interest due on an Interest Payment Date will be made against presentation and surrender (or, in the case of part payment only, endorsement) of the relevant Coupon, in each case at the specified office outside the United States of any of the Paying Agents.

For the purposes of these Conditions, references to "**principal**" shall, wherever the context so admits, be deemed to include a reference to any premium payable pursuant to Condition 6.3.

# 5.2 Method of Payment

Payments will be made by credit or transfer to an account in euro maintained by the payee with a Bank. For these purposes, "**Bank**" means a bank which has access to the T2 (as defined below).

# 5.3 Missing Unmatured Coupons

Each Note should be presented for payment together with all relative unmatured Coupons, failing which the full amount of any relative missing unmatured Coupon (or, in the case of payment not being made in full, that proportion of the full amount of the missing unmatured Coupon which the amount so paid bears to the total amount due) will be deducted from the amount due for payment. Each amount so deducted will be paid in the manner mentioned above against presentation and surrender (or, in the case of part payment only, endorsement) of the relative missing Coupon at any time before the expiry of 10 years after the Relevant Date (as defined in Condition 7) in respect of the relevant Note (whether or not the Coupon would otherwise have become void pursuant to Condition 8) or, if later, five years after the date on which the Coupon would have become due, but not thereafter.

# 5.4 Payments subject to applicable laws

Payments in respect of principal and interest on the Notes are subject in all cases to (i) any fiscal or other laws and regulations applicable in the place of payment or other laws and regulations to which the Issuer or the Paying Agents are subject, but without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 7 and (ii) any withholding or deduction required pursuant to an agreement described in Section 1471(b) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") or otherwise imposed pursuant to Sections 1471 through 1474 of the Code, any regulations or agreements thereunder, any official interpretations thereof, or (without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 7) any law implementing an intergovernmental approach thereto (any such withholding or deduction being a "FATCA Withholding").

# 5.5 Payment only on a Presentation Date

A holder shall be entitled to present a Note or Coupon for payment only on a Presentation Date and shall not, except as provided in Condition 4, be entitled to any further interest or other payment if a Presentation Date is after the due date.

In this Condition:

"Bank" has the meaning given to it in Condition 5.2 (Method of Payment);

"Business Day" means, in relation to any place, a day on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments and are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in that place.

"Payment Business Day" means a day (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) (A) on which banks and foreign exchange markets are open for business in (i) London and (ii) the place in which the Bank is located and (B) which is a TARGET Business Day;

"Presentation Date" means a day which (subject to Condition 8):

- (a) is or falls after the relevant due date;
- (b) is a Business Day in the place of the specified office of the Paying Agent at which the Note or Coupon is presented for payment; and
- (c) in the case of payment by credit or transfer to a euro account (as referred to above), is a Payment Business Day;

"TARGET Business Day" means a day on which the T2 is open for the settlement of payments in euro; and

**"T2"** means the Trans-European Automated Real-time Gross Settlement Express Transfer System or any successor or replacement for that system.

## 5.6 Initial Paying Agents

The names of the initial Paying Agents and their initial specified offices are set out at the end of these Conditions. The Issuer reserves the right, subject to the prior written approval of the Trustee, at any time to vary or terminate the appointment of any Paying Agent and to appoint additional or other Paying Agents provided that:

- (a) there will at all times be a Principal Paying Agent;
- (b) so long as the Notes are listed on any stock exchange or admitted to listing by any other relevant authority, there will at all times be at least one Paying Agent (which may be the Principal Paying Agent) having a specified office in the place required by the rules and regulations of the relevant Stock Exchange or any other relevant authority; and
- (c) there will at all times be a Paying Agent in a jurisdiction within Europe, other than the jurisdiction in which the Issuer is incorporated.

Notice of any variation, termination, appointment and/or of any changes in specified offices will be given to the Noteholders promptly by the Issuer in accordance with Condition 12.

#### 6. REDEMPTION AND PURCHASE

## 6.1 Redemption at Maturity

Unless previously redeemed or purchased and cancelled as provided below, the Issuer will redeem the Notes at their principal amount on 14 June 2029 (the "Maturity Date").

# 6.2 Redemption for Taxation Reasons

If the Issuer satisfies the Trustee immediately before the giving of the notice referred to below that:

- (a) as a result of any change in, or amendment to, the laws or regulations of a Relevant Jurisdiction (as defined in Condition 7), or any change in the application or official interpretation of the laws or regulations of a Relevant Jurisdiction, which change or amendment becomes effective after 14 June 2023, on the next Interest Payment Date the Issuer would be required to pay additional amounts as provided or referred to in Condition 7; and
- (b) the requirement cannot be avoided by the Issuer taking reasonable measures available to it,

the Issuer may at its option, having given (i) not less than 10 nor more than 30 days' notice to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 12 and (ii) notice to the Trustee and the Principal Paying Agent not less than 10 days before the giving of the notice referred to in (i) (which notices shall be irrevocable), redeem all the Notes, but not some only, at any time at their principal amount together with any unpaid interest accrued to but excluding the date on which the Notes are redeemed pursuant to this Condition 6.2,

provided that no such notice of redemption shall be given earlier than 90 days prior to the earliest date on which the Issuer would be obliged to pay such additional amounts, were a payment in respect of the Notes then due. Prior to the publication of any notice of redemption pursuant to this paragraph, the Issuer shall deliver to the Trustee a certificate signed by two Directors of the Issuer stating that the requirement in (a) above will apply on the next Interest Payment Date and cannot be avoided by the Issuer taking reasonable measures available to it, and the Trustee shall be entitled to accept the certificate as sufficient evidence of the satisfaction of the conditions precedent set out above without enquiry or liability to any person, in which event it shall be conclusive and binding on the Noteholders and the Couponholders.

## 6.3 Redemption at the Option of the Issuer

The Issuer may, having given:

- (a) not less than 10 nor more than 30 days' notice to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 12; and
- (b) notice to the Trustee and the Principal Paying Agent not less than 10 days before the giving of the notice referred to in (a),

(which notices shall specify the date fixed for redemption (the "Optional Redemption Date") and shall be irrevocable; provided, however, that in the case of a redemption in accordance with paragraph (ii) below, the relevant notice may be made subject to one or more conditions precedent, in which case the relevant notice shall state that, in the Issuer's sole discretion, the relevant Optional Redemption Date may be delayed until such time as any or all such conditions shall be satisfied (or waived by the Issuer in its sole discretion) (any such date, the "Delayed Optional Redemption Date") (and, in such circumstances, all references in these Conditions to the Optional Redemption Date shall be construed as references to Delayed Optional Redemption Date), or such redemption may not occur and such notice may be rescinded in the event that any or all such conditions shall not have been satisfied (or waived by the Issuer in its sole discretion) by the relevant Optional Redemption Date), redeem all (but not some only) of the Notes:

- (i) on any date from (and including) 14 March 2029 (the "First Par Call Redemption Date") to (but excluding) the Maturity Date at their principal amount; or
- (ii) at any time prior to the First Par Call Redemption Date at the Make Whole Amount (as defined below),

together, in each case, with interest accrued to the relevant Optional Redemption Date.

For the purposes of this Condition 6.3:

"FA Selected Bond" means a government security or securities selected by the Financial Adviser as having an actual or interpolated maturity comparable to the First Par Call Redemption Date that would be utilised, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities denominated in euro and of a comparable maturity to the First Par Call Redemption Date;

**"FA Selected Bond Price"** means, with respect to any date of redemption, (A) the arithmetic average of the Reference Government Bond Dealer Quotations for such date of redemption, after excluding the highest and lowest such Reference Government Bond Dealer Quotations, or (B) if the Financial Adviser obtains fewer than four such Reference Government Bond Dealer Quotations, the arithmetic average of all such quotations;

**"FA Selected Bond Rate"** means, with respect to any date of redemption, the rate per annum equal to the annual yield to maturity or interpolated yield to maturity (on the relevant day count basis) of the FA Selected Bond, assuming a price for the FA Selected Bond (expressed as a percentage of its nominal amount) equal to the FA Selected Bond Price for such date of redemption;

"Financial Adviser" means an independent financial adviser acting as an expert selected by the Issuer;

"Make Whole Amount" means an amount equal to the higher of:

- (a) 100% of the principal amount outstanding of the Notes; or
- (b) the sum of the then current values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the Notes (not including any interest accrued but unpaid on the Notes to (but excluding) the relevant Optional Redemption Date and not including any interest which will accrue for the period from (and including) the First Par Call Redemption Date to (but excluding) the Maturity Date), discounted to the relevant Optional Redemption Date on an annual basis at the sum of (i) the FA Selected Bond Rate and (ii) 0.45%,

all as determined by the Financial Adviser;

"Reference Date" will be set out in the relevant notice of redemption referred to above.

"Reference Government Bond Dealer" means each of five banks selected by the Issuer, or their affiliates, which are (A) primary government securities dealers, and their respective successors, or (B) market makers in pricing corporate bond issues; and

"Reference Government Bond Dealer Quotations" means, with respect to each Reference Government Bond Dealer and any date for redemption, the arithmetic average, as determined by the Financial Adviser, of the bid and offered prices for the FA Selected Bond (expressed in each case as a percentage of its nominal amount) at 11:00 a.m. (Central European time) on the Reference Date quoted in writing to the Financial Adviser by such Reference Government Bond Dealer.

# 6.4 Purchases

The Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries (as defined above) may at any time purchase Notes (provided that all unmatured Coupons appertaining to the Notes are purchased with the Notes) in any manner and at any price.

#### 6.5 Cancellations

All Notes which are (a) redeemed or (b) purchased by or on behalf of the Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries will forthwith be cancelled, together with all relative unmatured Coupons attached to the Notes or surrendered with the Notes, and accordingly may not be reissued or resold.

#### 6.6 Notices Final

Upon the expiry of any notice as is referred to in Conditions 6.2 or 6.3 above the Issuer shall be bound to redeem the Notes to which the notice refers in accordance with the terms of such paragraph.

#### 7. TAXATION

## 7.1 Payment without Withholding

All payments in respect of the Notes by or on behalf of the Issuer shall be made without withholding or deduction for, or on account of, any present or future taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature ("Taxes") imposed or levied by or on behalf of the Relevant Jurisdiction, unless the withholding or deduction of the Taxes is required by law. In that event, the Issuer will pay such additional amounts as may be necessary in order that the net amounts received by the Noteholders and Couponholders after the withholding or deduction shall equal the respective amounts which would have been receivable in respect of the Notes or, as the case may be, Coupons in the absence of the withholding or deduction; except that no additional amounts shall be payable in relation to any payment in respect of any Note or Coupon:

- (a) the holder of which is liable for Taxes in respect of such Note or Coupon by reason of having some connection with the Relevant Jurisdiction other than a mere holding of the Notes; or
- (b) presented for payment in the United Kingdom; or
- (c) presented for payment by or on behalf of a holder who would not be liable or subject to such withholding or deduction if he were to satisfy any procedural requirements or make a declaration of non-residence or other similar claim for exemption but fails to do so; or
- (d) presented for payment more than 30 days after the Relevant Date (as defined below) except to the extent that a holder would have been entitled to additional amounts on presenting the same for payment on the last day of the period of 30 days assuming that day to have been a Presentation Date (as defined in Condition 5); or
- (e) for or on account of any FATCA Withholding.

# 7.2 Interpretation

In these Conditions:

- (a) "Relevant Date" means the date on which the payment first becomes due but, if the full amount of the money payable has not been received by the Principal Paying Agent or the Trustee on or before the due date, it means the date on which, the full amount of the money having been so received, notice to that effect has been duly given to the Noteholders by the Issuer in accordance with Condition 12; and
- (b) "Relevant Jurisdiction" means the United Kingdom or any political subdivision or any authority thereof or therein having power to tax or any other jurisdiction or any political subdivision or any authority thereof or therein having power to tax to which the Issuer becomes subject in respect of payments made by it of principal and interest on the Notes and Coupons.

#### 7.3 Additional Amounts

Any reference in these Conditions to any amounts in respect of the Notes shall be deemed also to refer to any additional amounts which may be payable under this Condition or under any undertakings given in addition to, or in substitution for, this Condition pursuant to the Trust Deed.

#### 8. PRESCRIPTION

Notes and Coupons will become void unless presented for payment within periods of 10 years (in the case of principal) and five years (in the case of interest) from the Relevant Date in respect of the Notes or, as the case may be, the Coupons, subject to the provisions of Condition 5.

## 9. EVENTS OF DEFAULT

### 9.1 Events of Default

The Trustee at its discretion may, and if so requested in writing by the holders of at least one-quarter in principal amount of the Notes then outstanding or if so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Noteholders shall (subject in each case to being indemnified and/or secured and/or pre-funded to its satisfaction), (but, in the case of the happening of any of the events described in subparagraphs (ii) to (v) inclusive and (vii) below (other than the winding up or the appointment of an administrative or other receiver of the whole or any material part of the undertaking or assets of the Issuer), only if the Trustee shall have certified in writing that such event is, in its opinion, materially prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders) give notice to the Issuer that the Notes are, and they shall accordingly thereby immediately become, due and repayable at their principal amount, together with accrued interest as provided in the Trust Deed, if any of the following events (together with, where applicable, the certification by the Trustee as referred to above, "Events of Default") shall occur and be continuing:

(i) default is made for a period of seven days or more in the payment of any principal due on the Notes or any of them or 21 days or more in the payment of any interest due on the Notes or any of them; or

- (ii) an order is made or an effective resolution passed for winding up the Issuer or any Material Subsidiary (except, in the case of a Material Subsidiary, a winding up for the purpose of a reconstruction or amalgamation the terms of which have previously been approved in writing by the Trustee or by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Noteholders or a voluntary solvent winding up in connection with the transfer of all or the major part of the business, undertaking and assets of such Material Subsidiary to the Issuer or another member of the Financial Group) or an administration order is made in relation to the Issuer or any Material Subsidiary; or
- (iii) if the Issuer or any Material Subsidiary ceases to carry on the whole of its business or a substantial part of its business or (in the case of a Material Subsidiary) substantially the whole of its business (except (1) (in each case) where such cessation is for the purpose of a reconstruction or amalgamation the terms of which have previously been approved in writing by the Trustee or by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Noteholders or (2) where such cessation is in connection with the transfer of all or a substantial part (as defined below) of the business of the Issuer to a Material Subsidiary or a sale of assets of the Issuer at fair market value where the proceeds of such sale are reinvested in the business of the Issuer or (3) (in the case of a Material Subsidiary) where such cessation is in connection with a solvent winding up of such Material Subsidiary (provided such Material Subsidiary is not the Issuer) or the transfer of the whole or substantially the whole of the business of such Material Subsidiary to the Issuer or to any company which is at the time thereof or will immediately thereafter be a wholly-owned member of the Financial Group or a sale of assets of such Material Subsidiary at fair market value where the proceeds of such sale are reinvested in the business of the Issuer or any wholly-owned member of the Financial Group);
- (iv) an encumbrancer takes possession or an administrative or other receiver is appointed of the whole or any material part of the undertaking or assets of the Issuer or any Material Subsidiary or a distress or execution is levied or enforced upon or sued out against all or any material part of the assets of the Issuer or any Material Subsidiary and is not removed, discharged or paid out within 30 days; or
- (v) the Issuer or any Material Subsidiary stops or threatens in writing to stop making payments of its debts generally or is deemed to be unable to pay its debts within the meaning of Section 123(1)(e) and Section 123(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986; or
- (vi) any indebtedness for moneys borrowed (as defined in the Trust Deed) of the Issuer or any Material Subsidiary is not paid on its due date where there is no applicable grace period or, if there is an originally applicable grace period, by the expiry of such period or becomes due and payable prior to the stated maturity by reason of a default or any guarantee of any indebtedness for moneys borrowed of any third party given by the Issuer or any Material Subsidiary is not honoured when due and called upon or any security created by any debenture, mortgage or charge created by the Issuer or any Material Subsidiary becomes enforceable and steps are taken to enforce the same provided that no such event shall constitute an event of default unless the indebtedness for moneys borrowed or the amount so secured and in respect of which such enforcement steps are taken

either alone or when aggregated with other such indebtedness for moneys borrowed and amounts so secured shall be equal to or exceed the Specified Amount; or

(vii) default is made by the Issuer in the performance or observance of any obligation, condition or provision binding on it under the Notes or the Trust Deed (other than any obligation for the payment of any principal or interest in respect of the Notes) and, except where such default is incapable of remedy, such default continues for 30 days after written notice thereof by the Trustee to the Issuer requiring the same to be remedied has been given.

# 9.2 Interpretation

For the purposes of this Condition:

(a) "Specified Amount" shall mean the greater of (a) €100,000,000 (or its equivalent in any other currency or currencies) and (b) such amount in pounds sterling (or its equivalent in any other currency or currencies) as is equal to 1% of the consolidated net assets of the Financial Group, as shown in the then latest audited consolidated accounts of the Group.

A certificate of two Directors of the Issuer or of its Auditors (as defined in the Trust Deed) as to the Specified Amount shall, in the absence of manifest error, be conclusive and binding on all parties; and

(b) "substantial part" means 10% or more of the consolidated gross assets of the Financial Group as shown in the then latest audited consolidated accounts of the Group.

### 10. ENFORCEMENT

## 10.1 Enforcement by the Trustee

The Trustee may at any time, at its discretion and without notice, take such proceedings and/or other steps or action (including lodging an appeal in any proceedings) against or in relation to the Issuer as it may think fit to enforce the provisions of the Trust Deed, the Notes and the Coupons or otherwise, but it shall not be bound to take any such proceedings or other steps or action or any other action under or pursuant to the Trust Deed unless (a) it has been so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Noteholders or so requested in writing by the holders of at least one-quarter in principal amount of the Notes then outstanding and (b) it has been indemnified and/or secured and/or pre-funded to its satisfaction.

#### 10.2 Limitation on Trustee actions

The Trustee may refrain from taking any action in any jurisdiction if the taking of such action in that jurisdiction would, in its opinion based upon legal advice in the relevant jurisdiction, be contrary to any law of that jurisdiction. Furthermore, the Trustee may also refrain from taking such action if it would otherwise render it liable to any person in that jurisdiction or if, in its opinion based upon such legal advice, it would not have the power

to do the relevant thing in that jurisdiction by virtue of any applicable law in that jurisdiction or if it is determined by any court or other competent authority in that jurisdiction that it does not have such power.

#### 10.3 Enforcement by the Noteholders

No Noteholder or Couponholder shall be entitled to (i) take any steps or action against the Issuer to enforce the performance of any of the provisions of the Trust Deed, the Notes or the Coupons or (ii) take any other proceedings (including lodging an appeal in any proceedings) in respect of or concerning the Issuer, in each case unless the Trustee, having become bound so to take any such action, steps or proceedings, fails or is unable so to do within 60 days and the failure or inability shall be continuing.

#### 11. REPLACEMENT OF NOTES AND COUPONS

Should any Note or Coupon be lost, stolen, mutilated, defaced or destroyed it may be replaced at the specified office of the Principal Paying Agent upon payment by the claimant of the expenses incurred in connection with the replacement and on such terms as to evidence and indemnity as the Issuer may reasonably require. Mutilated or defaced Notes or Coupons must be surrendered before replacements will be issued.

#### 12. NOTICES

All notices to the Noteholders will be valid if published in a leading English language daily newspaper published in London. It is expected that publication in a newspaper will normally be made in the *Financial Times*. The Issuer shall also ensure that notices are duly published in a manner which complies with the rules and regulations of any stock exchange or other relevant authority on which the Notes are for the time being listed. Any such notice will be deemed to have been given on the date of the first publication or, where required to be published in more than one newspaper, on the date of the first publication in all required newspapers. If publication as provided above is not practicable, notice will be given in such other manner, and shall be deemed to have been given on such date, as the Trustee may approve. Couponholders will be deemed for all purposes to have notice of the contents of any notice given to the Noteholders in accordance with this paragraph.

#### 13. SUBSTITUTION

The Trustee may, without the consent of the Noteholders or Couponholders, agree with the Issuer to the substitution in place of the Issuer (or of any previous substitute under this Condition) as the principal debtor under the Notes, the Coupons and the Trust Deed of any other company being a Subsidiary of the Issuer, subject to:

- (a) the Trustee being satisfied that the substitution is not materially prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders; and
- (b) certain other conditions set out in the Trust Deed being complied with.

# 14. MEETINGS OF NOTEHOLDERS, MODIFICATION, WAIVER, AUTHORISATION AND DETERMINATION

# 14.1 Meetings of Noteholders

The Trust Deed contains provisions for convening meetings of the Noteholders to consider any matter affecting their interests, including the modification or abrogation by Extraordinary Resolution of any of these Conditions or any of the provisions of the Trust Deed. The quorum at any meeting for passing an Extraordinary Resolution will be one or more persons present holding or representing more than 50% in principal amount of the Notes for the time being outstanding, or at any adjourned such meeting one or more persons present whatever the principal amount of the Notes held or represented by him or them, except that, at any meeting the business of which includes any matter defined in the Trust Deed as a Basic Terms Modification, including the modification of certain of the provisions of these Conditions and certain of the provisions of the Trust Deed (including the date of maturity of the Notes or any date for payment of interest thereon, reducing or cancelling the amount of principal or the rate of interest payable in respect of the Notes or altering the currency of payment of the Notes), the necessary quorum for passing an Extraordinary Resolution will be one or more persons present holding or representing not less than two-thirds, or at any adjourned such meeting not less than one third, of the principal amount of the Notes for the time being outstanding. The Trust Deed provides that (i) a resolution passed at a meeting duly convened and held in accordance with the Trust Deed by a majority consisting of not less than three-fourths of the votes cast on such resolution. (ii) a resolution in writing signed by or on behalf of the holders of not less than three-fourths in principal amount of the Notes for the time being outstanding or (iii) consent given by way of electronic consents through the relevant clearing system(s) (in a form satisfactory to the Trustee) by or on behalf of the holders of not less than threefourths in principal amount of the Notes for the time being outstanding, shall, in each case, be effective as an Extraordinary Resolution of the Noteholders. An Extraordinary Resolution passed by the Noteholders will be binding on all Noteholders, whether or not they are present at any meeting and whether or not they voted on the resolution, and on all Couponholders.

# 14.2 Modification, Waiver, Authorisation and Determination

The Trustee may agree, without the consent of the Noteholders or Couponholders (i) to any modification (excluding any Basic Terms Modification) of, or to the waiver or authorisation of any breach or proposed breach of, any of these Conditions or any of the provisions of the Trust Deed or the Agency Agreement, or determine, without any such consent as aforesaid, that any Event of Default or Potential Event of Default (as defined in the Trust Deed) shall not be treated as such (provided that, in any such case, it is not, in the opinion of the Trustee, materially prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders), or (ii) to any modification (excluding as aforesaid) which, in its opinion, is of a formal, minor or technical nature or to correct a manifest error or an error which is, in the opinion of the Trustee, proven.

## 14.3 Trustee to have Regard to Interests of Noteholders as a Class

In connection with the exercise by it of any of its trusts, powers, authorities and discretions (including, without limitation, any modification, waiver, authorisation, determination or

substitution), the Trustee shall have regard to the general interests of the Noteholders as a class but shall not have regard to any interests arising from circumstances particular to individual Noteholders or Couponholders (whatever their number) and, in particular but without limitation, shall not have regard to the consequences of any such exercise for individual Noteholders or Couponholders (whatever their number) resulting from their being for any purpose domiciled or resident in, or otherwise connected with, or subject to the jurisdiction of, any particular territory or any political sub-division thereof and the Trustee shall not be entitled to require, nor shall any Noteholder or Couponholder be entitled to claim, from the Issuer, the Trustee or any other person any indemnification or payment in respect of any tax consequence of any such exercise upon individual Noteholders or Couponholders except to the extent already provided for in Condition 7 and/or any undertaking given in addition to, or in substitution for, Condition 7 pursuant to the Trust Deed.

#### 14.4 Notification to the Noteholders

Any modification, abrogation, waiver, authorisation, determination or substitution shall be binding on the Noteholders and the Couponholders and, unless the Trustee agrees otherwise, any modification or substitution shall be notified by the Issuer to the Noteholders as soon as practicable thereafter in accordance with Condition 12.

# 15. INDEMNIFICATION AND PROTECTION OF THE TRUSTEE AND ITS CONTRACTING WITH THE ISSUER

#### 15.1 Indemnification and protection of the Trustee

The Trust Deed contains provisions for the indemnification of the Trustee and for its relief from responsibility and liability towards the Issuer, the Noteholders and the Couponholders, including (i) provisions relieving it from taking action unless indemnified and/or secured and/or pre-funded to its satisfaction and (ii) provisions limiting or excluding its liability in certain circumstances. The Trust Deed provides that, when determining whether an indemnity or any security or pre-funding is satisfactory to it, the Trustee shall be entitled (i) to evaluate its risk in any given circumstance by considering the worst-case scenario and (ii) to require that any indemnity or security given to it by the Noteholders or any of them be given on a joint and several basis and be supported by evidence satisfactory to it as to the financial standing and creditworthiness of each counterparty and/or as to the value of the security and an opinion as to the capacity, power and authority of each counterparty and/or the validity and effectiveness of the security.

#### 15.2 Trustee Contracting with the Issuer

The Trust Deed also contains provisions pursuant to which the Trustee is entitled, *inter alia*, (a) to enter into business transactions with the Issuer and/or any of the Issuer's Subsidiaries and to act as trustee for the holders of any other securities issued or guaranteed by, or relating to, the Issuer and/or any of the Issuer's Subsidiaries, (b) to exercise and enforce its rights, comply with its obligations and perform its duties under or in relation to any such transactions or, as the case may be, any such trusteeship without regard to the interests of, or consequences for, the Noteholders or Couponholders, and (c) to retain and not be liable to account for any profit made or any other amount or benefit received thereby or in connection therewith.

#### 16. FURTHER ISSUES

The Issuer may from time to time without the consent of the Noteholders or Couponholders create and issue further notes, having terms and conditions the same as those of the Notes, or the same except for the amount and date of the first payment of interest, which may be consolidated and form a single series with the outstanding Notes. Any further notes or bonds which are to form a single series with the Notes shall be constituted by a deed supplemental to the Trust Deed. The Trust Deed contains provisions for convening a single meeting of the Noteholders and the holders of notes or bonds of other series in certain circumstances where the Trustee so decides.

#### 17. GOVERNING LAW AND SUBMISSION TO JURISDICTION

## 17.1 Governing Law

The Trust Deed, the Notes and the Coupons and any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with the Trust Deed, the Notes and the Coupons are governed by, and construed in accordance with, English law.

#### 17.2 Submission to Jurisdiction

- (a) Subject to Condition 17.2(c) below, the English courts have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any dispute arising out of or in connection with the Trust Deed, the Notes or the Coupons, including any dispute as to their existence, validity, interpretation, performance, breach or termination or the consequences of their nullity and any dispute relating to any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with the Trust Deed, the Notes or the Coupons (a "Dispute") and each of the Issuer, the Trustee and any Noteholders or Couponholders in relation to any Dispute submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts.
- (b) For the purposes of this Condition, the Issuer waives any objection to the English courts on the grounds that they are an inconvenient or inappropriate forum to settle any Dispute.
- (c) To the extent allowed by law, the Trustee, the Noteholders and the Couponholders may, in respect of any Dispute or Disputes, take (i) proceedings in any other court with jurisdiction and (ii) concurrent proceedings in any number of jurisdictions.

# 18. RIGHTS OF THIRD PARTIES

No rights are conferred on any person under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 to enforce any term of this Note, but this does not affect any right or remedy of any person which exists or is available apart from that Act.

# SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE NOTES WHILE REPRESENTED BY THE GLOBAL NOTES

The following is a summary of the provisions to be contained in the Trust Deed to constitute the Notes and in the Global Notes which will apply to, and in some cases modify, the Conditions of the Notes while the Notes are represented by the Global Notes.

#### 1. Accountholders

For so long as all of the Notes are represented by one or both of the Global Notes and such Global Note(s) is/are held on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, each person (other than Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg) who is for the time being shown in the records of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg as the holder of a particular principal amount of such Notes (each an "Accountholder") (in which regard any certificate or other document issued by Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg as to the principal amount of such Notes standing to the account of any person shall, in the absence of manifest error, be conclusive and binding for all purposes) shall be treated as the holder of such principal amount of such Notes for all purposes (including but not limited to, for the purposes of any quorum requirements of, or the right to demand a poll at, meetings of the Noteholders) other than with respect to the payment of principal and interest on such principal amount of such Notes, the right to which shall be vested, as against the Issuer and the Trustee, solely in the bearer of the relevant Global Note in accordance with and subject to its terms and the terms of the Trust Deed. Each Accountholder must look solely to Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, for its share of each payment made to the bearer of the relevant Global Note.

# 2. Payments

On and after 24 July 2023, no payment will be made on the Temporary Global Note unless exchange for an interest in the Permanent Global Note is improperly withheld or refused. Payments of principal, premium (if any) and interest in respect of Notes represented by a Global Note will, subject as set out below, be made against presentation for endorsement and, if no further payment falls to be made in respect of the Notes, surrender of such Global Note to the order of the Principal Paying Agent or such other Paying Agent as shall have been notified to the Noteholders for such purposes. A record of each payment made will be endorsed on the appropriate part of the schedule to the relevant Global Note by or on behalf of the Principal Paying Agent, which endorsement shall be prima facie evidence that such payment has been made in respect of the Notes. Payments of interest on the Temporary Global Note (if permitted by the first sentence of this paragraph) will be made only upon certification as to non-U.S. beneficial ownership unless such certification has already been made.

# 3. Notices

For so long as all of the Notes are represented by one or both of the Global Notes and such Global Note(s) is/are held on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, notices to Noteholders may be given by delivery of the relevant notice to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg (as the case may be) for communication to the relevant Accountholders rather than by publication as required by Condition 12, provided that, so long as the Notes are listed on any stock exchange, notices shall also be published in

accordance with the rules of such exchange. Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given to the Noteholders on the day on which such notice is delivered to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg (as the case may be) as aforesaid.

#### 4. Interest Calculation

For so long as Notes are represented by one or both of the Global Notes, interest payable to the bearer of a Global Note will be calculated on the principal amount of the Global Note but otherwise shall be calculated in accordance with Condition 4. The resultant figure is rounded to the nearest cent (half a cent being rounded upwards).

## 5. Exchange

The Permanent Global Note will be exchangeable in whole but not in part (free of charge to the holder) for definitive Notes only:

- (a) upon the happening of any of the events defined in the Trust Deed as "Events of Default":
- (b) if the Issuer has been notified that both Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg have been closed for business for a continuous period of 14 days (other than by reason of holiday, statutory or otherwise) or have announced an intention permanently to cease business or have in fact done so and no successor clearing system satisfactory to the Trustee is available; or
- (c) if the Issuer has or will become subject to adverse tax consequences which would not be suffered were the Notes in definitive form and a certificate to such effect signed by two Directors of the Issuer is given to the Trustee.

Thereupon (in the case of (a) and (b) above) the holder of the Permanent Global Note (acting on the instructions of one or more of the Accountholders (as defined below)) or the Trustee may give notice to the Issuer and the Principal Paying Agent and (in the case of (c)) the Issuer may give notice to the Trustee, the Principal Paying Agent and the Noteholders, of its intention to exchange the Permanent Global Note for definitive Notes. Any exchange shall occur no later than 45 days after the date of receipt of the first relevant notice by the Principal Paying Agent.

Exchanges will be made upon presentation of the Permanent Global Note to or to the order of the Principal Paying Agent on any day on which banks are open for general business in London. In exchange for the Permanent Global Note the Issuer will deliver, or procure the delivery of, an equal aggregate principal amount of definitive Notes (having attached to them all Coupons in respect of interest which has not already been paid on the Permanent Global Note), security printed in accordance with any applicable legal and stock exchange requirements and in or substantially in the form set out in the Trust Deed. On exchange of the Permanent Global Note, the Issuer will procure that it is cancelled and, if the holder so requests, returned to the holder together with any relevant definitive Notes.

# 6. Prescription

Claims against the Issuer in respect of principal, premium (if any) and interest on the Notes represented by a Global Note will be prescribed after 10 years (in the case of principal or premium) and five years (in the case of interest) from the Relevant Date (as defined in Condition 7).

#### 7. Cancellation

Cancellation of any Note represented by a Global Note and required by the Conditions of the Notes to be cancelled following its redemption or purchase will be effected by endorsement by or on behalf of the Principal Paying Agent of the reduction in the principal amount of the relevant Global Note on the relevant part of the schedule thereto.

## 8. Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg

Notes represented by a Global Note are transferable in accordance with the rules and procedures for the time being of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, as appropriate. References in the Global Notes and this summary to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg shall be deemed to include references to any other clearing system approved by the Trustee.

# **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds of the issue of the Notes, after deduction of commissions, fees and estimated expenses, is expected to be approximately €490,530,000. This will be used for the general corporate purposes of the Group.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE ISSUER**

#### General

The Issuer was incorporated on 1 November 1973 under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1967 in England and Wales under the name "Finance for Industry Limited" as a company with limited liability and re-registered as a public limited company on 24 August 1981 under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1980. On 1 July 1983 the Issuer's name was changed to "Investors in Industry Group plc" and on 29 April 1988 its name was changed to "3i Group plc".

The Issuer was formed to acquire the entire issued share capital of Finance Corporation for Industry Limited ("FCI") and of Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation Limited ("ICFC"), each of which was formed in 1945 at the request of the UK Government to supply long-term and medium-term capital respectively to British industry and commerce. ICFC was formed as a specialised financing vehicle to provide share and loan capital for small and medium-sized businesses and FCI was formed as a means of supporting the post-war reconstruction of British industry by providing medium-term loans to large companies.

The Issuer is now the parent of a group of companies engaged in investment and investment management activities with investment operations in six countries across northern Europe, the UK and North America, together with a small non-investing office in India.

The ordinary shares of the Issuer are listed on the Official List of the FCA and traded on the London Stock Exchange, after originally listing in 1994. The Issuer is a member of the FTSE 100, and had a market capitalisation of £18.7 billion as at 23 May 2023. The Issuer is an Alternative Investment Fund for the purposes of the Alternative Investment Funds Managers Directive 2011/61/EU.

#### **Contact details**

The Issuer's registered office is located at 16 Palace Street, London, SW1E 5JD. The switchboard number of its registered office is +44 (0)20 7975 3131 and its website is <a href="https://www.3i.com/">https://www.3i.com/</a>.

# Management

As at the date of this Prospectus, the Directors of the Issuer, their functions and their principal outside activities are as follows:

Name	Position	External Directorships
David Hutchison	Chairman	None.
Simon Borrows	Chief Executive	Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Peer Holding I B.V., the Dutch holding company for the Group's investment in Action.
James Hatchley	Group Finance Director	None.

Caroline Banszky	Independent Non-Executive Director	Non-executive Director of IntegraFin Holdings plc and Gore Street Energy Storage Fund plc.
Stephen Daintith	Independent Non-Executive Director	Chief Financial Officer and an Executive Director of Ocado Group plc.
Jasi Halai	Chief Operating Officer	Non-executive Director of Barratt Developments PLC.
Lesley Knox	Independent Non-Executive Director	Non-executive Director of Legal & General Group plc and Dovecot Studios Limited, Senior Independent Director and Chair of Remuneration Committee of Genus Plc, and a Trustee of Grosvenor Group Limited pension fund and National Galleries of Scotland Foundation.
Coline McConville	Independent Non-Executive Director	Senior Independent Director of Fevertree Drinks plc, a non-executive Director of Travis Perkins plc, a member of the Supervisory Board of Tui AG and a non-executive Director of King's Cross Central General Partnership.
Peter McKellar	Independent Non-Executive Director	Deputy Chairman of AssetCo plc, a Board Member of Scottish Enterprise and Vice Chairman of Investcorp Europe Acquisition Corp 1.
Alexandra Schaapveld	Independent Non-Executive Director	Senior Independent Director and Chair of the Remuneration Committee at Bumi Armada Berhad, and non- executive Director and Chair of the Audit Committee at Société Générale S.A.

Further details of Board members and the Executive team can be found in the Group's 2023 annual report on pages 97 and 99 respectively.

The business address of each of the Directors of the Issuer is that of the registered office set out above and at the back of this Prospectus.

The Group has processes to identify actual or potential conflicts of interest between the duties to the Issuer of the Directors and their private interests and/or other duties. Any conflicts identified by such processes are managed appropriately.

The Company Secretary of the Issuer is Kevin Dunn.

# **Employees**

The Group employs approximately 250 individuals globally, including approximately 80 investment professionals in the Group's Private Equity business line and approximately 40 investment professionals in the Group's Infrastructure business.

#### **BUSINESS OPERATIONS**

# **Business segments**

The Issuer is an investment company, with complementary private equity and infrastructure business segments, specialising in core investment markets in northern Europe, the UK and North America. Investments are made with capital from the Group's own balance sheet and/or from funds which the Group manages for third parties. Total assets under management at 31 March 2023 were £29.9 billion, including £11.5 billion managed on behalf of third parties.

The Group has two broad business segments which reflect its continuing operations:

# (a) Private Equity

The Group's Private Equity business line had assets under management of £22.9 billion as at 31 March 2023 (31 March 2022: £16.7 billion), of which £16.4 billion was proprietary capital (31 March 2022; £12.4 billion) and £6.5 billion was third-party capital (31 March 2022: £4.3 billion). The primary aim of the Private Equity business line is to generate capital returns by investing in mid-market businesses with an enterprise value of between €100 million and €500 million at acquisition and headquartered in its core investment markets of northern Europe, the UK and North America with a potential to grow internationally. Following the initial investment, the Private Equity business line's team works closely with portfolio companies to deliver ambitious growth plans, realising investments to deliver strong cash-to-cash returns (specifically with the objective of generating a multiple of at least two times the cost of the Group's initial investment over a typical holding period of four to six years) for the Group's shareholders and other investors. New investment is focused on the business and technology services, consumer, industrial technology and healthcare sectors. The Private Equity business has majority or significant minority stakes in the Group's portfolio companies, and since 2012 has secured representation at board level in respect of each new portfolio company it has invested in and currently holds, except for one small minority investment in insightsoftware.

The Private Equity business line's proprietary capital by geography as at 31 March 2023 is as set out below:

3i office location	Number of companies	3i carrying value 2023 £m	% of carrying value 2023	% of carrying value 2023, excluding Action
Netherlands	10	12,520	76%	25%
France	1	305	2%	6%
Germany	7	777	5%	15%
UK	9	1,144	7%	22%
US	9	1,652	10%	32%

Other	3	27	-	-
Total	39	16,425		

The Private Equity business line's proprietary capital by sector as at 31 March 2023 is as set out below:

Sector	Number of companies	3i carrying value 2023 £m	% of carrying value 2023	% carrying value 2023, excluding
Consumer	14	13,171	80%	38%
Healthcare	5	1,169	7%	22%
Industrial Technology	7	1,168	7%	22%
Business and Technology Services	13	917	6%	18%
Total	39	16,425		

The Private Equity business line's proprietary capital by vintage as at 31 March 2023 is as set out below:

Vintage	Number of companies	3i carrying value 2023 £m	% of carrying value 2023	% carrying value 2023, excluding Action
Pre-2017	16	12,800	77%	31%
2017	2	160	1%	3%
2018	4	1,243	8%	24%
2019	2	470	3%	9%
2020	2	694	4%	13%
2021	3	414	3%	8%
2022	6	417	3%	8%
2023	4	228	1%	4%

Total 39 16,425

As at 31 March 2023, the Private Equity business line's portfolio comprised 38 assets and one quoted stake (31 March 2022: 36 assets and one quoted stake). In the year to 31 March 2023 ("FY2023"), the Group's Private Equity portfolio delivered a gross investment return of £4,966 million, or 40%, on the opening portfolio value (2022: £4,172 million or 47%) and the portfolio value increased to £16,425 million (31 March 2022: £12,420 million). This result was driven predominantly by the very strong performance of Action (the Group's largest investment), as well as by a good contribution from a number of the Group's other assets operating in the value-for-money consumer and private label, healthcare, industrial technology, and business and technology services sectors. These have responded well to, and so far largely mitigated, high inflation, increased energy prices and interest rates and weaker consumer sentiment. In FY2023 there was, however, softer trading in a number of Private Equity portfolio companies exposed to discretionary consumer spending, which resulted in material value declines in a small number of cases. Overall 90% of the Private Equity portfolio companies by value grew their earnings in the last twelve months to the end of December 2022.

The leverage in the Private Equity business line's portfolio comprises all senior debt, which is competitively priced and has a long-dated maturity profile, with approximately 40% of such debt not due for repayment until 2026, increasing to 80% following the successful amendment and extension of Action's senior debt facilities post 31 March 2023. At 31 March 2023, Action's net debt was €2,545 million. The below table shows the private equity portfolio debt repayment profile before and after Action's refinancing.

Year	Debt maturity (% gross debt) before Action's refinancing	Debt maturity (% gross debt) after Action's refinancing
2023	0%	0%
2024	3%	3%
2025	58%	17%
2026	12%	12%
2027 or later	27%	68%

Across the whole portfolio, leverage was 2.5x at 31 March 2023 (31 March 2022: 3.3x) and able to benefit from a degree of covenant flexibility. At 31 March 2023, over 70% of the total Private Equity portfolio term debt was hedged at a weighted average tenor of more than three years with the interest rate element capped at a weighted average hedge rate below 2%.

The Private Equity business line's largest value increases and decreases greater than £20 million in the year ended 31 March 2023 are set out below:

Portfolio company	Value growth (excluding FX)	Value at 31 March 2023	Key driver of value movement
Action	£3,708m	£11,188m	↑ Performance/ Transaction valuation
Sanisure	£99m	£389m	↑ Performance
AES	£82m	£351m	↑ Performance and Multiple
WilsonHCG	£70m	£196m	↑ Performance
Royal Sanders	£60m	£369m	↑ Performance and Multiple
Audley Travel	£44m	£162m	↑ Performance
nexeye	£34m	£393m	↑ Performance
Dutch Bakery	£26m	£73m	↑ Performance and Multiple
Q Holding	£21m	£117m	↑ Performance
Dynatect	£20m	£128m	↑ Performance

Portfolio	Value decline	Value at 31 March	Key driver of value
company	(excluding FX)	2023	movement

Luqom	£(242)m	£271m	
YDEON	£(115)m	£37m	
BoConcept	£(36)m	£160m	↓ Performance
Formel D	£(24)m	£27m	
Mepal	£(22)m	£69m	

Action has experienced continued growth represented by a 21% compound annual growth rate ("CAGR") in its number of stores between 2013 and 2022 and a 25% CAGR in sales and 28% CAGR in earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation ("EBITDA") over the same period. In 2022, Action experienced a 30% increase in sales, 46% increase in EBITDA, 18.1% like-for-like growth, 78% cash conversion rate and added 280 new stores, increasing the total number of stores to 2,263. Actions enterprise valuation in euros at 30 September 2021 was €15.6 billion, at 31 March 2022 was €18.7 billion, at 30 September 2022 was €21.0 billion, and at 31 March 2023 was €26.6 billion.

3i Investments plc ("3i Investments"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Issuer incorporated in England and Wales and authorised and regulated by the FCA, and 3i Investments (Luxembourg) S.A. (a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Issuer incorporated in Luxembourg and authorised and regulated by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier) ("3i ILSA"), act as investment managers to the Private Equity business line.

# (b) Infrastructure

The Group's Infrastructure business line had assets under management of £6.4 billion as at 31 March 2023 (31 March 2022: £5.7 billion), of which £1.4 billion was proprietary capital (31 March 2022: £1.4 billion) and £5.0 billion was third-party capital (31 March 2022: £4.3 billion). The primary aim of the Infrastructure business line is to generate attractive capital returns and earn fund management fees and portfolio income for the Group. The Infrastructure business line manages a range of funds investing principally in mid-market economic infrastructure and operational projects in Europe and North America, focusing on sectors adjacent to communications, healthcare, natural resources and energy, social infrastructure, transport and logistics, and utilities. Infrastructure is a defensive asset class that provides a good source of income and fund management fees for the Group, enhancing returns on the Group's proprietary capital. The Infrastructure business line is also active in the deployment of proprietary capital.

The Infrastructure business line manages the following investment vehicles, funds and strategies:

3iN: a closed-ended investment company listed on the London Stock Exchange, which is a member of the FTSE 250, managed by 3i Investments plc and in which the Group holds a 29% equity stake. 3iN invests in a broad range of mid-market economic infrastructure assets in Europe and the UK. 3iN has achieved an annualised total shareholder return of 11.7% since its IPO in 2007 vs. FTSE 250 average annualised total shareholder return of 6.1% (source: Bloomberg). As at 31 March 2023, 3iN had a portfolio of 13 assets. 3iN generated a total return on opening net asset value of 14.7% in the financial year ended 31 March 2023 (31 March 2022: 17.2%), exceeding its target total return of between 8% and 10% per annum to be achieved over the medium term, and has achieved a net annualised return of 19% since adopting current strategy of focusing on core-plus infrastructure investments in 2015. Despite the strong performance of its underlying portfolio 3iN's share price decreased by 10% in the financial year ended 31 March 2023 and closed at 313 pence on 31 March 2023 (31 March 2022: 347 pence). The Group therefore recognised a £93 million unrealised value loss on its holding in 3iN, offset in part by the receipt of £29 million of dividend income from 3iN. 3iN achieved a total shareholder return of (7)% for the year ended 31 March 2023, a total dividend per share of 11.15 pence and made new investments less amounts syndicated of £452 million.

3iN's portfolio value of £3.6 billion as at 31 March 2023 had good sector and geographic diversification, as shown in the tables below.

Asset/	Sector	% split
Project		
ESVAGT	Natural resources / Energy	13%
Infinis	Utilities	11%
TCR	Transportation	15%
Tampnet	Communications	8%
Joulz	Utilities	8%
Ionisos	Healthcare	8%
Oystercatcher	Transportation	7%
DNS:NET	Communications	5%
SRL	Transportation	6%
Valorem	Utilities	5%

Attero	Utilities	4%
GCX	Communications	9%
Future Biogas	Utilities	1%

Country	% split
UK	27%
Belgium	15%
France	13%
Denmark	13%
Netherlands	12%
Singapore	8%
Luxembourg	7%
Germany	5%

- BIIF: £680 million yield-based European public private partnership ("**PPP**") fund launched in 2008 and invested in over 80 operational projects. BIIF aims to generate income yield and had assets under management of £457 million as at 31 March 2023 (31 March 2022: £457 million).
- 3i Managed Infrastructure Acquisitions LP: £698 million unlisted fund closed in June 2017 managing five economic infrastructure investments with assets under management of £1,280 million as at 31 March 2023 (31 March 2022: £1,038 million).
- 3i European Operational Projects Fund ("EOPF"): a European operational PPP fund established in 2017 and invested in 25 operational projects (representing the deployment of approximately 86% of €456 million of committed capital). EOPF aims to generate income yield and had assets under management of £359 million as at 31 March 2023 (31 March 2022: £267 million).
- 3i North American Infrastructure platform: first close of third party fund in March 2022. To date the fund has invested in three investments and bolt-on acquisitions for those investments with assets under management of £389 million as at 31 March 2023.
- US Infrastructure: proprietary capital Group investment in Smarte Carte, which closed in November 2017 and with assets under management of £300 million as at 31 March 2023 (31 March 22: £207 million).

- 3i managed accounts: the Infrastructure business line manages assets worth £744 million in respect of third party co-investor arrangements in four economic infrastructure assets.

The Infrastructure business line's assets under management as at 31 March 2023 are as set out below:

Fund/strategy	Close date	Fund size	3i commitment / share	Remaining 3i commitment	invested at 31 March 2023	AUM £m	Fee income earned in 2023
3iN <sup>1</sup>	Mar 07	n/a	£841m	n/a	n/a	2,882	49
3i Managed Infrastructure Acquisitions LP	Jun 17	£698m	£35m	£5m	87%	1,280	4
3i European Operational Projects Fund	Apr 18	€456m	€40m	€5m	86%	359	2
3i North American Infrastructure platform	Mar 22	\$495m	\$300m	\$108m	64%	389	2
BIIF	May 08	£680m	n/a	n/a	91%	457	4
3i India Infrastructure Fund	Mar 08	\$1,195m	\$250m	n/a	73%	-	-
3i managed accounts	Various	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	744	5
US Infrastructure	Nov 17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	300	-
Total						6,411	66

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Assets under management based on the share price at 31 March 2023.

Each of these funds is managed by one of 3i Investments, 3i ILSA or 3i BIFM Investments Limited (a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Issuer incorporated in England and Wales and authorised and regulated by the FCA).

# (c) Scandlines

In addition to the Group's two business segments, the Group manages its investment in European ferry operator Scandlines separately to its Private Equity business line and its Infrastructure business line.

Scandlines delivered a gross investment return of £52 million, or 10% of opening portfolio value (31 March 2022: £112 million, 26% of opening portfolio value) and made dividend payments of £38 million to the Group in the year ended 31 March 2023.

# **Group additional information**

The Group's 20 largest investments as at 31 March 2023 are set out below:

Investment	Business description	3i carrying value 2023 £m
Action	General merchandise discount retailer	11,188
3i Infrastructure plc	Quoted investment company, investing in infrastructure	841
Scandlines	Ferry operator between Denmark and Germany	554
Cirtec Medical	Outsourced medical device manufacturer	552
Tato	Manufacturer and seller of specialty chemicals	411
nexeye	Value-for-money optical retailer	393
Sanisure	Manufacturer, distributor and integrator of single-use bioprocessing systems and components	389
Royal Sanders	Private label and contract manufacturing producer of personal care products	369
AES Engineering	Manufacturer of mechanical seals and support systems	351
Evernex	Provider of third-party maintenance services data centre infrastructure	305
Smarte Carte	Provider of self-serve vended luggage carts, electronic lockers and concession carts	300
WP	Global manufacturer of innovative plastic packaging solutions	274

Luqom	Online lighting specialist retailer	271
WilsonHCG	Global provider in recruitment process outsourcing and other talent solutions	196
МРМ	An international branded, premium and natural pet food company	181
Audley Travel	Provider of experiential tailor-made travel	162
BoConcept	Urban living designer	160
Dynatect	Manufacturer of engineered, mission critical protective equipment	128
BasicFit	Discount gyms operator	121
Q Holding	Manufacturer of catheter products serving the medical device market	117

The Group's portfolio split by underlying exposure as at 31 March 2023 is as set out below:

Underlying exposure	Examples	% of Total Portfolio value 2023
Value-for-money	Action, nexeye, Royal Sanders, Basic-Fit, Dutch Bakery	66%
Infrastructure	3iN, Scandlines, Regional Rail, SmarteCarte, EC Waste,	
including Scandlines	Shared Tower, MIA, EOPF	11%
Industrial Technology	Tato, AES, WP, Dynatect and Formel D	7%
Healthcare	Cirtec, Q Holding, Sanisure, ten23	6%
Online Retail &	Luqom, BoConcept, Mepal, Konges Slojd, YDEON, MPM,	
Discretionary Consumer	Yanga	4%
Business &	Evernex, Wilson, xSuite, MAIT, Insightsoftware, Digital	
Technology Services	Barriers, JMJ	4%
Travel	Audley, arrivia, VakantieDiscounter	2%

## Business objective and strategy

The Group's objective is to generate attractive through-the-cycle returns for its shareholders and other investors by investing in and managing private equity and infrastructure assets in line with its strategic objectives, which are set out as follows:

- grow investment portfolio earnings;
- realise Private Equity investments with good cash-to-cash returns (specifically with the objective of selling investments at least two times the cost of the Group's initial investment over a period of four to six years);
- maintain an operating cash profit;
- use its strong balance sheet to invest; and
- increase shareholder distributions.

The Group aims to cover its cash operating costs with income from its portfolio and from fees generated from managing external investors' capital, which at present are principally generated by the Group's Infrastructure business line.

The Group's investment strategy is to invest proprietary capital in four to seven private equity investments per year and to support the development of its Infrastructure portfolio. As proprietary capital investors the Group has a long-term, responsible approach. The Group aims to compound value through thoughtful origination, disciplined investment and active management of the Group's assets, driving sustainable growth in the Group's investee companies. Investments are selected within its target sectors and geographies on the basis of their compatibility with the Group's return targets. The Group creates value and sustainable growth in its portfolio through leveraging its expertise, access to capital, extensive network of business leaders and advisers, active partnership approach to portfolio company management, strong reputation, institutional culture and values, strong corporate governance, effective risk management and the responsible approach to its investment activity and the management of its operations and portfolio (as explained in detail in the annual report of the Issuer for the year ended 31 March 2023 at pages 13 to 14). The Group targets businesses that benefit from long-term growth trends including valuefor-money and discount, demographic and social change, energy transition and security and digitalisation, automation and big data. The Group is focused on developing a select number of other portfolio companies to fulfil their potential to also become long-term compounders for the Group. These other portfolio companies are likely to grow in prominence in the Group's results over the coming years.

The Group believes that a responsible approach to investment and asset management will add value to its portfolio and embeds an assessment of the long-term sustainability existing and potential new investments in its investment and portfolio management processes. Once invested, the Group supports its portfolio companies as they develop strategies to manage their ESG risks and opportunities and respond to stakeholder expectations. Its approach to responsible investment is developed and refined on an ongoing basis. The Group has been a signatory to the United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment since 2011. The Group's approach to responsible investment, including examples of how it engages with portfolio companies on

material sustainability factors, is set out in the Issuer's annual report of the Issuer for the year ended 31 March 2023.

# Strengths and opportunities

Competitive advantages and strengths

The Issuer believes that the Group has a number of competitive advantages and strengths, which are important factors in maintaining and further developing its business including, but not limited to, the following:

- Reputation: the Group has over 75 years of investing history and a long-established and trusted reputation as a result of its strong Private Equity and Infrastructure investment and asset management capabilities, its continuity and its ability to adapt through business cycles. The Group's reputation and network are important factors in enabling it to originate new investments in less competitive processes.
- Balance sheet and liquidity management: the Group has a strong and robust balance sheet having adopted a conservative balance sheet strategy since completing a strategic review in 2012. Gross debt has been reduced from £2.5 billion in 2008 to £775 million as at 31 March 2023 and the Group maintains high cash balances, with a five-year average cash balance of £556 million. Cash as at 31 March 2023 was £412 million, with approximately 91% of this being held in AAA-rated money market funds. The Group has a £900 million committed revolving credit facility ("RCF"), comprised of a £500 million base facility maturing in March 2027 and an additional £400 million tranche maturing in July 2025. The RCF has no financial covenants. The Group has no appetite for structural gearing at the Group level but at present has a tolerance to operate within a range of £1.0 billion net debt to £0.5 billion net cash. A Group objective is to cover its cost with income from a variety of sources, including management fee income, portfolio fee income, portfolio dividends and portfolio interest and its five-year average operating cash profit is £163 million per annum. Included within the average is £325 million and £284 million of cash dividends received from Action in FY2023 and the financial year ended 31 March 2022 respectively. The Group has a strong track record of generating realisation proceeds through business cycles. The Group principally invests proprietary capital and therefore does not experience the same pressures to invest that a number of other alternative assets managers who raise third-party funds may experience. The Group therefore maintains the flexibility to modify the pace and level of new investments in response to lower levels of realisations, which it believes is a valuable liquidity management tool to adapt through business cycles.
- Performance: since the completion of the Group's strategic review in 2012 the Group has experienced high levels of operational performance and profitability, reflected in an average total return on opening net assets of 23% per annum from 2013 to 2023, driven by the Group's disciplined investment process and strong track record in asset management.
- Management: the Group has well-established and highly effective executive and senior management teams that combine individuals with significant experience in the investment and asset management industry with a range of experience from other industries. Under

the stewardship of existing key executives, the Group has performed successfully in respect of its strategic objectives since the completion of the strategic review in 2012.

Active asset management approach: the Group takes an active approach to managing its portfolio companies by ensuring it maintains both appropriate representation at board level in its portfolio companies and the ability to exercise a level of control over the strategic objectives of its portfolio companies. It utilises its global network of business leaders and advisers to assist in identifying and accessing opportunities, transforming businesses and driving value. The Group has reduced the number of its portfolio companies since the completion of the strategic review in 2012, allowing for a higher degree of focus from its investment professionals in respect of the portfolio companies and a greater ability to exercise central control and oversight.

The following table illustrates the Group's investment performance since the completion of the strategic review in 2012:

	Year to 31 Mar 2023	Year to 31 Mar 2022	Year to 31 Mar 2021	Year to 31 Mar 2020	Year to 31 Mar 2019	Year to 31 Mar 2018	Year to 31 Mar 2017 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2016 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2015 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2014 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2013 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2012
Total return (m)	£4,585	£4,014	£1,726	£253	£1,252	£1,425	£1,592	£824	£659	£478	£373	£(656)
% over opening net asset value	36%	44%	22%	3%	18%	24%	36%	22%	20%	16%	14%	(20)%
Cash operating profit (m)	£364	£340	£23	£40	£46	£11	£33	£37	£28	£5	£(8)	n/a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As reported. Figures not restated to reflect the sale of Debt Management.

The following tables illustrate the Group's financial condition over the past 20 year period:

	Year to 31 Mar 2023 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2022 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2021 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2020¹	Year to 31 Mar 2019 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2018 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2017 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2016 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2015 <sup>1</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2014 <sup>1</sup>
Cash and deposits (m)	£412	£229	£225	£845	£1,070	£1,054	£994	£1,002	£864	£697
Undrawn RCF (m)	£900	£500	£500	£400	£350	£350	£329	£350	£350	£500
Liquidity (m)	£1,312	£729	£725	£1,245	£1,420	£1,404	£1,323	£1,352	£1,214	£1,197
Gross debt (m)	£775	£975	£975	£575	£575	£575	£575	£837	£815	£857
Net debt/(cash) (m)	£363	£746	£750	£(270)	£(495)	£(479)	£(419)	£(165)	£(49)	£160

Purchase of investments (m)	£(330)	£(596)	£(479)	£(1,279)	£(859)	£(827)	£(692)	£(449)	£(474)	£(337)
Proceeds from investments (m)	£885	£758	£319	£801	£1,261	£1,277	£1,063	£771	£841	£677
Other cash flows <sup>5</sup> (m)	£(372)	£(158)	£(460)	£253	£(386)	£(390)	£(379)	£(184)	£(200)	£(389)
Portfolio value (m)	£18,388	£14,305	£10,40	£8,098	£7,553	£6,657	£5,675	£4,497	£3,877	£3,565
Net asset value (m)	£16,844	£12,754	£9,164	£7,757	£7,909	£7,024	£5,836	£4,455	£3,806	£3,308
Gearing	2%	6%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Figures prepared on investment basis, including adoption of new accounting standards.

	Year to 31 Mar 2013 <sup>2</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2012 <sup>2</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2011 <sup>2</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2010 <sup>2</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2009 <sup>2</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2008 <sup>2</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2007 <sup>2</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2006 <sup>2</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2005 <sup>3</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2004 <sup>3</sup>	Year to 31 Mar 2003 <sup>3</sup>
Cash and deposits (m)	£746	£1,159	£1,521	£2,252	£734	£796	£2,154	£1,955	£1,199	£819	£811
Undrawn RCF (m)	£336	£494	£325	£479	£286	£286	£491	£488	£764	£583	£634
Liquidity (m)	£1,082	£1,653	£1,846	£2,731	£1,020	£1,082	£2,645	£2,443	£1,963	£1,402	£1,445
Gross debt (m)	£1,081	£1,623	£2,043	£2,510	£2,656	£2,458	£2,154	£2,007	£1,725	£1,755	£1,824
Net debt/(cash) (m)	£335	£464	£522	£258	£1,912	£1,638	£(1)	£56	£527	£938	£1,015
Purchase of investments (m)	£(149)	£(447)	£(561)	£(190)	£(827)	£(2,072)	£(1,503)	£(1,068)	£(719)	£(756)	£(690)
Proceeds from investments (m)	£606	£771	£609	£1,315	£1,308	£1,824	£2,364	£2,213	£1,287	£913	£975
Other cash flows <sup>4</sup> (m)	£(870)	£(686)	£(779)	£393	£(543)	£(1,110)	£(662)	£(389)	£(188)	£(149)	£(229)
Portfolio value (m)	£3,247	£3,169	£3,993	£3,517	£4,050	£6,016	£4,362	£4,139	£4,301	£4,326	£3,939
Net asset value (m)	£2,934	£2,627	£3,357	£3,068	£1,862	£4,057	£4,249	£4,006	£3,637	£3,395	£2,936
Gearing	11%	18%	16%	8%	103%	40%	0%	1%	14%	28%	35%

During the year to 31 March 2023 the Group generated an operating cash profit of £364 million. £497 million of cash income was generated from Private Equity (£351 million), Infrastructure (£107 million) and Scandlines (£39 million), which was offset by £133 million of operating cash expenses.

#### Opportunities

The strengths outlined above, combined with the Group's expert internal resource and well developed external network, mean the Group is well-positioned to continue to deliver on its strategic objectives and invest where opportunities arise, including during periods of depressed valuations.

### Risk management

The board of directors of the Issuer (the "Board") is responsible for risk assessment, the risk management process and the protection of the Group's reputation and brand integrity, including in respect of what it considers to be the most significant risks facing the Group. The Board delegates the responsibility for risk oversight to the Chief Executive of the Issuer, who is assisted by the Group Risk Committee ("GRC") and guided by the Board's appetite for risk and any specific limits set. The GRC maintains the Group's 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 risk review also incorporates a watch list of new and emerging risks for monitoring purposes.

Non-executive oversight is also exercised through the Group's Audit and Compliance Committee, which focuses on upholding standards of integrity, financial reporting, risk management, going concern, viability and internal control.

The Group's Investment Committee, which is involved in and approves all material portfolio management decisions and all material steps involved in the investment and realisation processes, is fundamental to the monitoring and management of investment risk and ensures a consistent approach to investment processes across the business.

The Group's Valuation Committee has specific and primary responsibility for the valuation policy and valuation of the Group's investment portfolio. The Group's Valuation Policy is included in the annual report of the Issuer for the year ended 31 March 2023 on page 229.

An overview of the Group's risk governance structure is set out in the annual report of the Issuer for the year ended 31 March 2023 at page 80.

# Recent developments

The following are recent developments in respect of Action's trading:

• Q1 2023 trading: net sales of €2.5 billion (36% increase since Q1 2022), 24% LFL sales growth, LTM EBITDA of €1,328 million.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Figures prepared on IFRS basis, including adoption of new accounting standards.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Figures prepared on UK GAAP basis, including adoption of new accounting standards.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Other cash flows" means opening cash and deposits, less investments, less closing cash and deposits.

- Q2 2023 trading: strong P4 (the period from 3 April 2023 to 30 April 2023) to start Q2.
- 52 new stores in the period from 2 January 2023 to 10 May 2023 (vs. 44 at the same time last year).
- Successfully allocated and signed an increase and extension of senior debt facilities, totalling €3.6 billion, including €500 million undrawn RCF.

#### SUBSCRIPTION AND SALE

## **Summary of Subscription Agreement**

Barclays Bank PLC, Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch and ING Bank N.V. (together, the "Joint Lead Managers") and ABN AMRO Bank N.V., Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A., ICBC Standard Bank Plc and SMBC Nikko Capital Markets Limited (together with the Joint Lead Managers, the "Managers") have, pursuant to a subscription agreement dated 12 June 2023 (the "Subscription Agreement"), jointly and severally agreed with the Issuer, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, to subscribe the Notes at 98.506% of their principal amount less a combined management, selling and underwriting commission payable to the Managers. In addition, the Issuer has agreed to reimburse the Managers for certain of their expenses in connection with the issue of the Notes. The Subscription Agreement may be terminated in certain circumstances prior to payment being made to the Issuer and the Managers are entitled in certain circumstances to be released and discharged from their obligations under the Subscription Agreement prior to the closing of the issue of the Notes, including in the event that certain conditions precedent are not delivered or met to their satisfaction on the Issue Date. In this situation, the issuance of the Notes may not be completed. Investors will have no rights against the Issuer or the Managers in respect of any expense incurred or loss suffered in these circumstances.

#### **United States**

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act or the securities laws of any state or other jurisdiction of the United States and may not be offered or sold within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons except in certain transactions exempt from, or not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act. The Notes are being offered and sold outside the United States in reliance on Regulation S. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by Regulation S under the Securities Act.

The Notes are subject to U.S. tax law requirements and may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or its possessions or to a United States person, except in certain transactions permitted by U.S. Treasury regulations. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the U.S. Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder.

Each Manager has represented and agreed that it has not offered, sold or delivered and will not offer, sell or deliver the Notes (a) as part of its distribution at any time or (b) otherwise until 40 days after the later of the commencement of the offering and the Closing Date (as defined in the Subscription Agreement) (the "distribution compliance period") within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons, and it will have sent to each distributor, Manager or person receiving a selling concession, fee or other remuneration to which it sells any Notes during the distribution compliance period a confirmation or other notice setting forth the restrictions on offers and sales of the Notes within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by Regulation S.

Until 40 days after the commencement of the offering of the Notes, an offer or sale of such Notes within the United States by any dealer (whether or not participating in the offering) may violate the registration requirements of the Securities Act if such offer or sale is made otherwise than in accordance with an available exemption from registration under the Securities Act.

## **United Kingdom**

#### Prohibition of sales to UK retail investors

Each Manager has represented and agreed that it has not offered, sold or otherwise made available and will not offer, sell or otherwise make available the Notes to any retail investor in the UK. For the purposes of this provision the expression "**retail investor**" means a person who is one (or more) of the following:

- (a) a retail client as defined in point (8) of Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 2017/565 as it forms part of the domestic law of the UK by virtue of the EUWA; or
- (b) a customer within the meaning of the provisions of the FSMA and any rules or regulations made under the FSMA to implement the Insurance Distribution Directive, where that customer would not qualify as a professional client as defined in point (8) of Article 2(1) of Regulation (EU) No 600/2014 as it forms part of the domestic law of the UK by virtue of the EUWA.

## Other regulatory restrictions

Each Manager has represented and agreed that:

- (a) it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to any Notes in, from or otherwise involving the UK; and
- (b) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of section 21 of the FSMA received by it in connection with the issue or sale of any Notes in circumstances in which section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the Issuer.

## **Prohibition of sales to EEA Retail Investors**

Each Manager has represented and agreed that it has not offered, sold or otherwise made available and will not offer, sell or otherwise make available any Notes to any retail investor in the EEA. For the purposes of this provision the expression "**retail investor**" means a person who is one (or more) of the following:

- (a) a retail client as defined in point (11) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II; or
- (b) a customer within the meaning of the Insurance Distribution Directive (as amended), where that customer would not qualify as a professional client as defined in point (10) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II.

## Singapore

Each Manager has acknowledged that this Prospectus has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, each Manager has represented, warranted and agreed that it has not offered or sold any Notes or caused the Notes to be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase and will not offer or sell any Notes or cause the Notes

to be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, and has not circulated or distributed, nor will it circulate or distribute, this Prospectus or any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the Notes, whether directly or indirectly, to any person in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor (as defined in Section 4A of the SFA) pursuant to Section 274 of the SFA, (ii) to a relevant person (as defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA) pursuant to Section 275(1) of the SFA, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A) of the SFA, and in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275 of the SFA, or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

Where the Notes are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the SFA by a relevant person which is:

- (a) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor (as defined in Section 4A of the SFA)) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or
- (b) a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary of the trust is an individual who is an accredited investor,

securities or securities-based derivatives contracts (each term as defined in Section 2(1) of the SFA) of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest (howsoever described) in that trust shall not be transferred within six months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the Notes pursuant to an offer made under Section 275 of the SFA except:

- (i) to an institutional investor or to a relevant person, or to any person arising from an offer referred to in Section 275(1A) or Section 276(4)(c)(ii) of the SFA;
- (ii) where no consideration is or will be given for the transfer;
- (iii) where the transfer is by operation of law;
- (iv) as specified in Section 276(7) of the SFA; or
- (v) as specified in Regulation 37A of the Securities and Futures (Offers of Investments) (Securities and Securities-based Derivatives Contracts) Regulations 2018 of Singapore.

## General

None of the Issuer or any Manager has made any representation that any action will be taken in any jurisdiction by the Issuer or the Managers that would permit a public offering of the Notes, or possession or distribution of this Prospectus (in preliminary, proof or final form) or any other offering or public materials relating to the Notes (including roadshow materials and investor presentations), in any country or jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required.

Each Manager will comply, to the best of its knowledge and belief, with all applicable laws, regulations and directives in each jurisdiction in which it purchases, offers, sells or delivers Notes or has in its possession or distributes this Prospectus (in preliminary, proof or final form) or any other offering material in all cases at its own expense.

#### **TAXATION**

#### General

The following is a general description of certain tax considerations relating to the Notes. It does not purport to be a complete analysis of all tax considerations relating to the Notes, whether in those jurisdictions or elsewhere. The description assumes that there will be no substitution of the Issuer and does not address the consequences of any such substitution (notwithstanding that such substitution may be permitted by the Terms and Conditions of the Notes). It is not intended and does not constitute tax advice or legal opinion. Prospective purchasers of Notes are advised to consult their own tax advisers as to the consequences, under the tax laws of the countries of their respective citizenship, residence or domicile, of a purchase of Notes, including, but not limited to, the consequences of receipt of payments under the Notes and their disposal or redemption. This summary is based upon the law as in effect on the date of this Prospectus and is subject to any changes in law that might take effect after such date.

#### **United Kingdom Taxation**

The comments below are of a general nature and reflect the understanding of the Issuer of current United Kingdom tax law as applied in England and Wales and HM Revenue & Customs practice ("HMRC") (which may not be binding on HMRC), in each case as at the latest practicable date before the date of this Prospectus, and are not intended to be exhaustive. They do not necessarily apply where the income is deemed for tax purposes to be the income of any other person. They relate only to the position of persons who are the absolute beneficial owners of their Notes and Coupons and may not apply to certain classes of persons such as dealers, certain professional investors, or persons connected with the Issuer. The comments are intended as a general guide and should be treated with appropriate caution. The comments are not intended to be exhaustive. This summary does not cover any issues or taxes not expressly covered; nor should it be considered legal or tax advice to any person. The summary does not take into account the effect of any overriding anti-avoidance legislation that may apply to Noteholders in their particular circumstances or to any wider arrangements to which they may be a party. The United Kingdom tax treatment of prospective Noteholders depends on their individual circumstances and may be subject to change in the future, possibly with retrospective effect. Each potential purchaser is advised to consult its own tax adviser as to the United Kingdom tax consequences attributable to acquiring, holding and disposing of Notes and in particular it is recommended that any Noteholders who are in doubt as to their own tax position, or who may be subject to tax in a jurisdiction other than the United Kingdom, consult their professional advisers.

# 1. Interest

1.1 While the Notes are and continue to be listed on a recognised stock exchange (designated as such by HMRC) within the meaning of Section 1005 Income Tax Act 2007, and carry a right to interest, payments of interest by the Issuer may be made without withholding or deduction for or on account of United Kingdom income tax. The London Stock Exchange is a recognised stock exchange for these purposes. Notes will be treated as listed on the London Stock Exchange if they are included in the Official List by the FCA and are admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange.

In all other cases, interest on the Notes that has a United Kingdom source will generally be paid by the Issuer under deduction of United Kingdom income tax at the basic rate

(currently 20%), subject to the availability of other reliefs under domestic law or any direction to the contrary from HMRC in respect of such relief as may be available pursuant to the provisions of any applicable double taxation treaty.

Interest on the Notes that constitutes United Kingdom source income for tax purposes may be chargeable to United Kingdom tax by direct assessment. Where the interest with a United Kingdom source is paid without withholding or deduction on account of United Kingdom tax, such interest will not be assessed to United Kingdom tax in the hands of holders of the Notes (other than certain trustees) who are not resident (or deemed resident for tax purposes) in the United Kingdom, except where the Noteholder carries (or is deemed to carry on) on a trade, profession or vocation in the United Kingdom through a branch or agency, or in the case of a corporate holder, carries on (or is deemed to carry on) a trade through a permanent establishment in the United Kingdom, in connection with which the interest is received or to which the Notes are attributable, in which case (subject to exemptions for interest received by certain categories of agent) tax may be levied on the United Kingdom branch or agency, or permanent establishment.

If interest were required to be paid under deduction of United Kingdom income tax (e.g. if the Notes lost their listing), Noteholders who are not resident in the United Kingdom may be able to recover all or part of the tax deducted if there is an appropriate provision in an applicable double taxation treaty.

The references to "interest" above mean interest as understood in United Kingdom tax law and in particular any premium element of the redemption amount of the Notes redeemable at a premium may constitute a payment of interest subject to the withholding tax discussed. In certain circumstances, the discount at which a Note is issued to its principal amount could also constitute "interest" for these purposes.

#### **FATCA**

Pursuant to Sections 1471 through 1474 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), any associated regulations or other official guidance, an agreement entered into with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service pursuant to such sections of the Code, or an intergovernmental agreement between the United States and another jurisdiction in furtherance of such sections of the Code, including any non-U.S. laws implementing such an intergovernmental agreement (collectively referred as "FATCA"), a "foreign financial institution" (as defined by FATCA) may be required to withhold on certain payments it makes ("foreign passthru payments") to persons that fail to meet certain certification, reporting, or related requirements. The Issuer is a foreign financial institution for these purposes. A number of jurisdictions (including the United Kingdom) have entered into, or have agreed in substance to, intergovernmental agreements with the United States to implement FATCA ("IGAs"), which modify the way in which FATCA applies in their jurisdictions.

Certain aspects of the application of the FATCA provisions and IGAs to instruments such as the Notes, including whether withholding would ever be required pursuant to FATCA or an IGA with respect to payments on instruments such as the Notes, are uncertain and may be subject to change.

Even if withholding would be required pursuant to FATCA or an IGA with respect to payments on instruments such as the Notes, such withholding would not apply prior to the date that is two years

after the date on which final U.S. Treasury regulations defining foreign passthru payments are published in the U.S. Federal Register, and Notes characterised as debt (or which are not otherwise characterised as equity and have a fixed term) for U.S. federal tax purposes that are issued on or prior to the date that is six months after the date on which final regulations defining "foreign passthru payments" are filed with the U.S. Federal Register generally would be "grandfathered" for purposes of FATCA withholding unless materially modified after such date (including by reason of a substitution of the Issuer). In the preamble to the proposed regulations, the U.S. Treasury Department indicated that taxpayers may rely on these proposed regulations until the issuance of final regulations. Notes that are characterised as debt (or which are not otherwise characterised as equity and have a fixed term) for U.S. federal tax purposes that are issued on or prior to the date that is six months after the date on which final regulations defining "foreign passthru payments" are filed with the U.S. Federal Register generally would be "grandfathered" for purposes of FATCA withholding unless materially modified after such date (including by reason of a substitution of the Issuer). However, if additional notes (as described under "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—Further Issues") that are not distinguishable from previously issued Notes are issued after the expiration of the grandfathering period and are subject to withholding under FATCA, then withholding agents may treat all Notes, including the Notes offered prior to the expiration of the grandfathering period, as subject to withholding under FATCA. In the event any withholding would be required pursuant to FATCA or an IGA with respect to payments on the Notes, no person will be required to pay additional amounts as a result of the withholding.

Noteholders should consult their own tax advisors regarding how these rules may apply to their investment in the Notes.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Listing

Application has been made to the FCA for the Notes to be admitted to the Official List and to the London Stock Exchange for such Notes to be admitted to trading on the Regulated Market. It is expected that listing of the Notes on the Official List and admission of the Notes to trading on the Regulated Market will be granted on or about 14 June 2023, subject only to the issue of the Notes. Prior to official listing and admission to trading, however, dealings will be permitted by the London Stock Exchange in accordance with its rules. Transactions will normally be effected for delivery on the third business day in London after the date of the transaction.

#### **Expenses**

The total expenses related to the admission to trading of the Notes are estimated to be £6,750.

#### **Authorisations**

The Issuer has obtained all necessary consents, approvals and authorisations in England and Wales in connection with the issue and performance of the Notes. The issue of the Notes was authorised by resolutions of: (a) the Board of Directors of the Issuer passed on 9 May 2023; and (b) the Treasury Transaction Committee authorised by the Board of the Issuer passed on 7 June 2023.

## No significant/material adverse change

There has been no significant change in the financial position or financial performance of the Issuer or the Group since 31 March 2023 (being the date of the Issuer's last published audited consolidated financial statements) to the date of this Prospectus nor any material adverse change in the prospects of the Issuer since 31 March 2023 to the date of this Prospectus.

#### Legends

The Notes and Coupons will bear the following legend: "Any United States person who holds this obligation will be subject to limitations under the United States income tax laws, including the limitations provided in Sections 165(j) and 1287(a) of the Internal Revenue Code".

# **Clearing of the Notes**

The Notes have been accepted for clearance through the Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg systems (which are the entities in charge of keeping the records). The International Securities Identification Number (ISIN) for the Notes is XS2626289222 and the Common Code for the Notes is 262628922, The CFI Code for the Notes is DBFNFB and the FISN is 3I GROUP PLC/EUR NT 22001231 RESTN, in each case, as updated, as set out on the website of the Association of National Numbering Agencies (ANNA) or alternatively sourced from the responsible National Numbering Agency that assigned the ISIN.

The address of Euroclear is Euroclear Bank SA/NV, 1 Boulevard du Roi Albert II, B-1210 Brussels and the address of Clearstream, Luxembourg is Clearstream Banking, S.A., 42 Avenue JF Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg.

#### **Material contracts**

There are no material contracts entered into other than in the ordinary course of the Group's business, which could result in any member of the Group being under an obligation or entitlement that is material to the Issuer's ability to meet its obligations in respect of the Notes.

## Legal and arbitration proceedings

There have been no governmental, legal or arbitration proceedings (including any such proceedings which are pending or threatened of which the Issuer is aware) during the 12 months preceding the date of this Prospectus which may have, or have had in the recent past, significant effects on the financial position or profitability of the Issuer and/or the Group.

# Documents available for inspection

For so long as any Note remains outstanding, copies of the following documents will be available for inspection on the Issuer's website at <a href="https://www.3i.com/investor-relations/debt-investors/">https://www.3i.com/investor-relations/debt-investors/</a>, save where an alternative location is stated below:

- (a) this Prospectus together with any supplement to it;
- (b) the Trust Deed;
- (c) the Agency Agreement; and
- (d) the up to date Articles of Association of the Issuer (accessible at: <a href="https://www.3i.com/">https://www.3i.com/</a>).

This Prospectus will also be published on the website of the Regulatory News Service operated by the London Stock Exchange at <a href="http://www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/news/market-news/market-news-home.html">http://www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/news/market-news-home.html</a>.

#### Independent auditors

KPMG LLP are the independent auditors of the Issuer and have audited the consolidated financial statements of the Issuer, without qualification, for the financial years ended 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2022. KPMG LLP is registered to carry out audit work in the UK and Ireland by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

#### Interests of the Managers

Certain of the Managers and their respective affiliates have engaged, and may in the future engage, in investment banking and/or commercial banking transactions with, and may perform services for the Issuer and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business. Certain of the Managers and their affiliates may have positions, deal or make markets in the Notes, related derivatives and reference obligations, including (but not limited to) entering into hedging strategies on behalf of the Issuer and its affiliates, investor clients, or as principal in order to manage their exposure, their general market risk, or other trading activities.

In addition, in the ordinary course of their business activities, the Managers and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity

securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of the Issuer and its affiliates. Certain of the Managers and their respective affiliates that have a lending relationship with Issuer routinely hedge their credit exposure to the Issuer consistent with their customary risk management policies. Typically, such Managers and their respective affiliates would hedge such exposure by entering into transactions which consist of either the purchase of credit default swaps or the creation of short positions in securities, including potentially the Notes. Any such positions could adversely affect future trading prices of the Notes. The Managers and their respective affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

#### Indication of Yield

The yield of the Notes is 5.171% per annum. The yield is calculated as at the Issue Date on the basis of the Issue Price. It is not an indication of future yield.

#### Trustee's action

The Conditions and the Trust Deed provide for the Trustee to take action on behalf of the Noteholders in certain circumstances, but only if the Trustee is indemnified and/or secured and/or pre-funded to its satisfaction. It may not always be possible for the Trustee to take certain actions, notwithstanding the provision of an indemnity and/or security and/or pre-funding to it. Where the Trustee is unable to take any action, the Noteholders are permitted by the Conditions and the Trust Deed to take the relevant action directly.

## **Third Party Information**

Where information in this Prospectus has been sourced from third parties, this information has been accurately reproduced, and as far as the Issuer is aware and is able to ascertain from the information published by such third parties, no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading. The source of third party information is identified where used.

## Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)

As noted on the section entitled "Overview", the Legal Entity Identifier of the Issuer is 35GDVHRBMFE7NWATNM84.

#### THE ISSUER

# 3i Group plc

16 Palace Street London SW1E 5JD United Kingdom

#### **JOINT LEAD MANAGERS**

# **Barclays Bank PLC**

1 Churchill Place London E14 4HP United Kingdom

## Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch

Winchester House
1 Great Winchester Street
London EC2N 2DB
United Kingdom

## ING Bank N.V.

Foppingadreef 7 1102 BD Amsterdam The Netherlands

#### **CO-LEAD MANAGERS**

#### ABN AMRO Bank N.V.

Gustav Mahlerlaan 10 1082 PP Amsterdam The Netherlands

# Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A.

Croeselaan 18 3521 CB Utrecht The Netherlands

# **ICBC Standard Bank Plc**

20 Gresham Street London EC2V 7JE United Kingdom

# **SMBC Nikko Capital Markets Limited**

100 Liverpool Street London EC2M 2AT United Kingdom

# **TRUSTEE**

# **PRINCIPAL PAYING AGENT**

# **Citicorp Trustee Company Limited**

Citigroup Centre Canada Square Canary Wharf London E14 5LB United Kingdom

# Citibank, N.A., London Branch

Citigroup Centre Canada Square Canary Wharf London E14 5LB United Kingdom

# **LEGAL ADVISERS**

To the Issuer

To the Managers and the Trustee

**Slaughter and May** 

One Bunhill Row London EC1Y 8YY United Kingdom Allen & Overy LLP

One Bishops Square London E1 6AD United Kingdom

# **AUDITORS OF THE ISSUER**

# **KPMG LLP**

15 Canada Square Canary Wharf London E14 5GL United Kingdom