



## Menhaden PLC

Information as at 30 April 2020

[www.menhaden.com](http://www.menhaden.com)

### Investment Objective

Menhaden PLC (the "Company") seeks to generate long-term shareholder returns, predominantly in the form of capital growth, by investing in businesses and opportunities, delivering or benefiting from the efficient use of energy and resources irrespective of their size, location or stage of development. Whilst the intention is to pursue an active, non-benchmarked total return strategy, the Company will be cognisant of the positioning of its portfolio against the MSCI World Index (Total Return, Sterling adjusted).

### 10 Largest Holdings at 30 April 2020 (% of total assets)

Name	Total
Alphabet	19.8
Charter Communications	19.0
X-ELIO *	13.7
Safran	7.4
Canadian Pacific Railway	6.6
Canadian National Railway	5.7
Calisen Group **	4.9
Microsoft	4.6
Airbus	3.3
Ocean Wilsons	3.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>88.0</b>

\*investment made through Helios Co-Invest LP

\*\*investment made through KKR Evergreen Co-Invest II LP

### Commentary

During April, the Company's net asset value ('NAV') per share was up 7.0%, the share price was up 39.6%, while the MSCI World Index (total return, sterling adjusted) was up 9.0%.

The impact of the current coronavirus epidemic cannot be understated and will likely be felt for a significant period. Global policy response has been swift, and the magnitude of the fiscal and monetary actions are unprecedented in such a short space of time. With government authorities seemingly having averted the worst predictions and beginning to bring the epidemic under control, financial markets have rallied hard on the back of fresh liquidity and hopes for a future recovery.

We do not claim to know whether this is sustainable or not in the near term and there are valid questions around the long-term economic effect of the actions taken to date. Irrespective of the future environment, we believe that our current portfolio, consisting of businesses which benefit from tangible barriers to entry, is well positioned. We continued to incrementally to deploy capital into our current listed portfolio holdings during the first half of the month at prices we believe offered attractive prospective long-term returns. While we have a cautious outlook, we do not attempt to time the market - rather we ask the question: "are these investments we would like to own at these prices in several years' time"?

The most significant contributors to our performance were our two core holdings, **Alphabet** and **Charter Communications**, which added 2.6% and 2.1% to our NAV respectively. Whilst Alphabet highlighted a significant slowdown in its advertising revenues in March, the shares reacted positively as management reacted to control costs and reduce capital investment, yet maintained share repurchases. We expect search to be the first area of advertising to recover, as it did after the last recession, because it offers a return on investment (ROI) which is both high and transparent.

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### Risk Warnings

This document is for information purposes only and does not constitute an offer or invitation to purchase shares in the Company and has not been prepared in connection with any such offer or invitation. Before investing in the Company, or any other investment product, you should satisfy yourself as to its suitability and the risks involved, and you may wish to consult a financial adviser.

Any return you receive depends on future market performance and is uncertain. The Company does not seek any protection from future market performance so you could lose some or all of your investment. Shares of the Company are bought and sold on the London Stock Exchange. The price you pay or receive, like other listed shares, is determined by supply and demand and may be at a discount or premium to the underlying net asset value of the Company. Usually, at any given time, the price you pay for a share will be higher than the price you could sell it. For further information on the principal risks the Company is exposed to please refer to the Company's Annual Report or Investor Disclosure Document available at [www.menhaden.com](http://www.menhaden.com).

The Company currently deploys leverage using currency forwards. These are designed to partially protect/hedge the NAV from unfavourable movements in foreign exchange rates by reducing the Company's exposure to foreign currencies. The Company can borrow but does not currently.

### Portfolio Manager Profile

Portfolio management services are provided by Menhaden Capital Management LLP ('MCM'). Three of the partners of MCM, Ben Goldsmith, Luciano Suana and Graham Thomas, form the Investment Committee, which makes all investment and divestment decisions in respect of the Company. Their investment philosophy is to assess all investment opportunities through a value lens, with the aim of acquiring investments with low downside risk, backed by identifiable assets and cash flows, at attractive valuations. The team seeks to invest with a long-term perspective and with high conviction. MCM is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

### Biographies

**Graham Thomas** is the non-executive chairman of MCM's Investment Committee. Graham is the Chief Executive of Stage Capital, a private equity firm backed by Goldman Sachs Asset Management and Glendower Capital. Before Stage Capital, he chaired RIT Capital Partners plc's Executive Committee and was a member of its investment committee with responsibility for its private investments. Previously he held senior roles at Standard Bank Group, and was a partner at MidOcean Partners, having started his career at Goldman Sachs in London. Graham also serves on the investment committee of Apis Partners.

**Ben Goldsmith** is the Chief Executive Officer of MCM. Before co-founding MCM, Ben co-founded the WHEB group, one of Europe's leading energy and resource-focused fund investment businesses. Ben is a director of Cavamont Holdings, the Goldsmith family's investment holding vehicle and also chairs the UK Conservative Environment Network.

**Luciano Suana** is an investment manager at MCM. Before joining MCM, Luciano was a Director at Barclays Capital in the Capital Markets division where he ran the credit trading operations for Brazil out of São Paulo. Before Barclays, Luciano was a Director at Dresdner Kleinwort in London. There he focused mainly on Infrastructure, Utilities and Real Estate assets as head of the Illiquids Credit group.

**Edward Pybus** is a Research Analyst at MCM. Before joining MCM, Edward was an analyst at Exane BNP Paribas in the Research division, where he was a member of the Oil & Gas team and covered European integrated oil companies. Edward is a CFA Charterholder and qualified as a Chartered Accountant at Deloitte.

### Investment Policy

The Company's investment objective is pursued through constructing a conviction-driven portfolio consisting primarily of direct listed and unlisted holdings across different asset classes and geographies. The Company invests, either directly or through external funds, in a portfolio that is comprised of three main allocations: listed equity; yield assets; and special situations. The flexibility to invest across asset classes affords the Company two main benefits: 1) It enables construction of a portfolio based on an assessment of market cycles; and 2) It enables investment in all opportunities which benefit from the investment theme. It is expected the portfolio will comprise approximately 15 to 30 positions.

The portfolio will be predominantly focused on investments in developed markets, though if opportunities that present an attractive risk and reward profile are available in emerging markets then these may also be pursued. While many of the companies forming the portfolio are headquartered in the UK, USA or Europe, it should be noted that many of those companies are global in nature so their reporting currency may not reflect their actual geographic or currency exposures. Subject to any applicable investment restrictions contained in the Listing Rules from time to time, the Company will not make an investment if it would cause a breach of any of the following limits at the point of investment: 1) no more than 20% of the Company's gross assets may be invested, directly or indirectly through external funds, in the securities of any single entity; and, 2) no more than 20% of the Company's gross assets may be invested in a single external fund.

Menhaden PLC conducts its affairs so that its shares can be recommended by independent financial advisers ("IFAs") to retail private investors. The shares are excluded from the Financial Conduct Authority's ("FCA's") restrictions which apply to non-mainstream investment products because they are shares in a UK-listed investment trust.

### Asset Allocation Breakdown as at 30 April 2020 (%)

Asset	Total
Public equities	71.9
Private investments	19.2
Yield investments	3.8
Liquidity	5.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: All portfolio information sourced from Frostrow Capital LLP

### Geographic Breakdown as at 30 April 2020 (%)

Asset	Total
US	49.7
Europe	24.4
Canada	12.3
UK	4.9
Emerging Markets	3.0
Unquoted UK LPs	0.6
Liquidity	5.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: All portfolio information sourced from Frostrow Capital LLP. Geographic classification based on location of primary economic activity.

### Standardised Discrete Performance (%)

Percentage Growth	1 month	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	Since Inception
NAV	7.0	-8.5	7.1	23.5	10.9
Share Price	39.6	-13.2	4.9	34.1	-17.6
Index <sup>^</sup>	9.0	-8.0	-0.8	18.7	57.7

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed. An investor may receive back less than the original amount invested.

Source: Morningstar/Frostrow.

<sup>^</sup> MSCI World Index (Total Return, Sterling adjusted). The Company pursues an active, non-benchmarked strategy but is cognisant of the positioning and returns of its portfolio against the MSCI World Index.

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Meanwhile Charter Communications reported its results after the month end. The group continues to transform itself into a more focused broadband supplier, adding more than 560,000 new internet subscribers in the quarter. We remain optimistic on the group's prospects as we continue to believe that the business can deliver meaningfully higher free cash flow in the years ahead based upon a combination of modest revenue growth, lower customer churn and falling capital intensity.

### Important Information

Menhaden PLC (the Company) is a public limited company whose shares are premium listed on the London Stock Exchange (LSE) and is registered with HMRC as an investment trust.

The Company has an indeterminate life although shareholders consider and vote on the continuation of the Company every five years (the next such vote will be held in 2020).

The Company may, but does not currently, borrow to purchase investments. Borrowing could potentially magnify any gains or losses made by the Company.

### Fast acts

<b>AIC Sector</b>	Environmental
<b>Launch Date</b>	31 July 2015
<b>Annual Management Fee</b> (payable by the Company): Portfolio Management Fee 1.25% p/a on first £100m of AUM, 1.0% thereafter; AIFM Fee 0.225% p/a up to £100m, 0.20% p/a thereafter up to £500m, 0.175% in excess of £500m	
<b>Performance fee</b>	See Prospectus for details
<b>Ongoing charges*</b>	2.0%
<b>Continuation Vote</b>	At AGM in 2020; every 5 years

**Year / Half Year** 31 December / 30 June

**Capital Structure** 80,000,001 Ordinary Shares of 1p

\*Calculated at the financial year-end, includes management fees and all other operating expenses.

### Trust Characteristics

<b>Number of Holdings</b>	14
<b>Total Net Assets (£m)</b>	£86.1m
<b>Market Capitalisation (£m)</b>	£67.0m
<b>Gearing (AIC basis) *</b>	0%
<b>Leverage**:</b> Gross	159.2%
Commitment	100.3%
<b>Share Price (p)</b>	83.75
<b>NAV (p)</b>	107.57
<b>(Discount) / Premium</b>	(22.1%)

\* Calculated as borrowings / by Net Assets

\*\* Calculated as exposures (as defined in the AIFMD) / Net Assets. The Gross method takes the absolute exposure of all instruments, including hedging arrangements, whilst the commitment method takes the net exposure. The Board has set a maximum leverage level of 200% under the gross method and the commitment method.

### Codes

<b>Sedol</b>	BZ0XWD0
<b>ISIN</b>	GB00BZ0XWD04
<b>Legal Entity Identifier</b>	2138004NTCUZTHFWXS17
<b>Bloomberg</b>	MHN LN
<b>Epic</b>	MHN

### How to Contact Us

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