

View this email in your browser



# Monthly Monitor

**November 2017**

## ASCOF – Doubled in First Five Years

October saw the fifth anniversary of the launch of the Appian Small Company Opportunities Fund (ASCOF). This Fund has been very successful, gaining 109% over the five years – equivalent to a compound annual return of 16%. This five-year record has been recognised by Morningstar, which awarded the ASCOF a four star rating. Morningstar is one of the world's leading independent fund research companies, covering over 4,000 funds globally and the four star rating puts the ASCOF in the top 30% of similar funds on a risk and return basis.

Particularly pleasing is that the investment rationale for setting up the Fund has been proven robust, and has underpinned the doubling of the Fund.

Our initial research had indicated that high-quality small and mid-cap companies are capable of growing faster. Over the five years the companies in the ASCOF grew sales by 10% p.a. on average, significantly ahead of the 2% average for the broader market.

Our companies have also generated superior cash returns, supporting healthy dividend payments, re-investment back into their businesses, while maintaining balance sheet strength.

These strong balance sheets allow our companies pursue positive acquisition opportunities – and a number of them have successfully completed transformational deals during the five

Our holdings have also proven to be attractive to others, with 15 taken over by larger corporate buyers. This is an average of 3 per year, which is significant in the context of a fund which aims to hold 25-35 stocks.

Looking ahead, we believe the companies we own are well-positioned to grow further. They remain strongly cash generative with ample firepower to accelerate growth through acquisition.

We are still excited by the opportunities that are out there to uncover overlooked and undervalued stocks in the small and mid-cap arena. While those opportunities might be less plentiful than they were initially, five years on we have even more confidence in our process and believe that from here our strategy is capable of delivering our target return of 8-10%\* p.a. on average over the long term.

**\*This is a target return only and not a profit forecast. There can be no assurance that the target can or will be met and it should not be seen as an indication of the Fund's expected or actual results or returns.**



Tweet



Forward



Share

*The information contained in this material is not financial advice. Nor does it constitute an offer for the purchase or sale of any financial instruments, trading strategy, product or service. No one receiving this material should treat any of its contents as constituting advice. It does not take into account the investment objectives, knowledge, experience or financial situation of any particular person. You should seek advice in the context of your own personal circumstances prior to investing or taking out any product from your own independent adviser.*

*This material has been prepared and issued by Appian Asset Management Limited on the basis of publicly available information, internally developed data and other sources believed to be reliable. While all reasonable care has been given to the preparation of the information, no warranties or representation, express or implied are given or liability accepted by Appian Asset Management Limited or its affiliates or any directors or employees in relation to the accuracy, fairness or completeness of the information contained herein. Any opinion expressed*

If you decide to invest in the Appian Unit Trust, further information in relation to all risks is provided in the Fund Prospectus and supplements. This material is available from Appian Asset Management Limited, 42 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2. If you invest in the Appian Unit Trust, you may lose some or all of the money you invest. The value of your investment may go down as well as up. This investment may be affected by changes in currency rates.

References to past performance are for illustrative purposes only and are not a reliable guide to future performance. Projected returns are estimates only. Forecasted returns depend on assumptions that involve subjective judgement and on analysis that may or may not be correct.

The above disclaimer and limitations of liability are applicable to the fullest extent permitted by law, whether in Contract, Statute, Tort (including without limitation, negligence) or otherwise.

Appian Asset Management Limited is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

## Appian Unit Fund Prices

1 November 2017

Appian Value Fund	<b>144.67</b>
Appian Equity Fund	<b>186.56</b>
Appian Small Companies Opportunities Fund	<b>210.52</b>
Appian Liquidity Fund	<b>105.91</b>
Appian Ethical Value Fund	<b>101.25</b>
Appian Burlington Property Fund	<b>108.81</b>

For more detailed information on each of our funds click [here](#)

## Investment Team



Patrick J Lawless  
*Chief Executive Officer*



Eugene Kiernan  
*Head of Investment Strategy*



John Mattimoe  
*Senior Fund Manager*



Pat Kilduff  
*Senior Fund Manager*



Niall Dineen  
*Senior Fund Manager*

[Click here for more information about our Investment Team](#)

## Contact our Client Relationship Team



Kevin Menton  
*Director*  
Tel: (01) 662 3989 *direct*  
[Click here to email Kevin](#)



John Flavin  
*Senior Relationship Manager*  
Tel: (01) 662 4053 *direct*  
[Click here to email John](#)

---

 Follow Appian on Twitter

 Connect with Appian on LinkedIn



**Appian**  
Asset Management

---

*Copyright © 2017 Appian Asset Management, All rights reserved.*

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)