#### 3 October 2023

The Manager
ASX Market Announcements
Australian Securities Exchange
Exchange Centre
Level 4
20 Bridge Street
Sydney NSW 2000



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#### **Electronic Lodgement**

# Australian Foundation Investment Company Limited 2023 Annual General Meeting Presentation

Dear Sir / Madam

The following presentation will be delivered to shareholders at the Company's Annual General Meeting to be held today.

Yours faithfully

Matthew Rowe Company Secretary

Authorised for release by the Company Secretary

# **Annual General Meeting**

October 2023





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ABN: 56 004 147 120

# **Agenda**



Overview and Investment Objectives	Mark Freeman
Financial Results	Andrew Porter
Markets and the Portfolio	David Grace
Recent portfolio activity	Nga Lucas
Outlook	David Grace



## **Our Company**



Invests in Australian and New Zealand companies

Largest listed investment company on the ASX, over 160k shareholders, independent Board of Directors

Shareholders own the 'management rights' to the portfolio

Management expense ratio of 0.14% with no performance fees

Long term investor with low turnover (tax effective). Portfolio and share price returns less volatile than the index

Long history of growing/stable fully franked dividends

Team manages three other funds – Djerriwarrh, Mirrabooka and AMCIL



## **Investment Objectives**

The Company aims to provide shareholders with attractive investment returns through access to a growing stream of fully franked dividends and growth in capital invested.

The Company's primary investment goals are:

- to pay dividends which, over time, grow faster than the rate of inflation; and
- to provide attractive total returns over the medium to long term.



#### Results to 30 June 2023

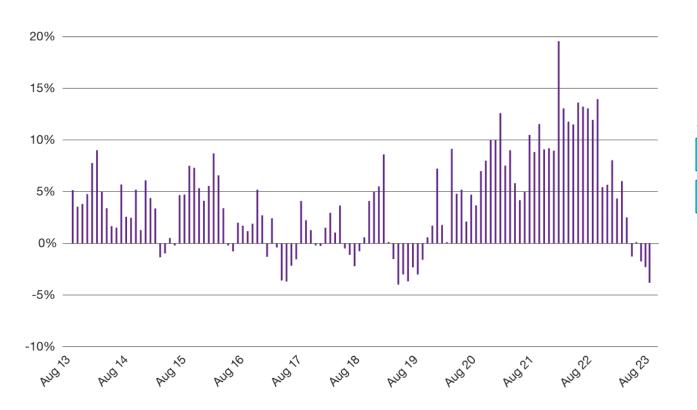


2023		2023			
Profit for the Year	\$310.2m	\$360.6m# in 2022	Total Portfolio Return	13.9% Including franking*	S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index including franking* 16.6%
Fully Franked Dividend	14¢   25¢	24 cents total in 2022	Management Expense Ratio	0.14%	0.16% in 2022

<sup>\*</sup> Assumes a shareholder can take full advantage of the franking credits.
# Includes a non-cash dividend of \$74.9 million from the BHP Petroleum/Woodside merger in 2022.

## **Share Price Relative to Net Asset Backing Per Share**





31 August 2023

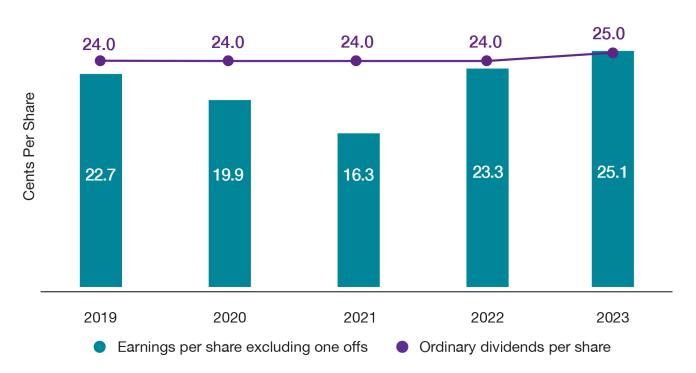
NTA: **\$7.20** 

Share price: \$6.94

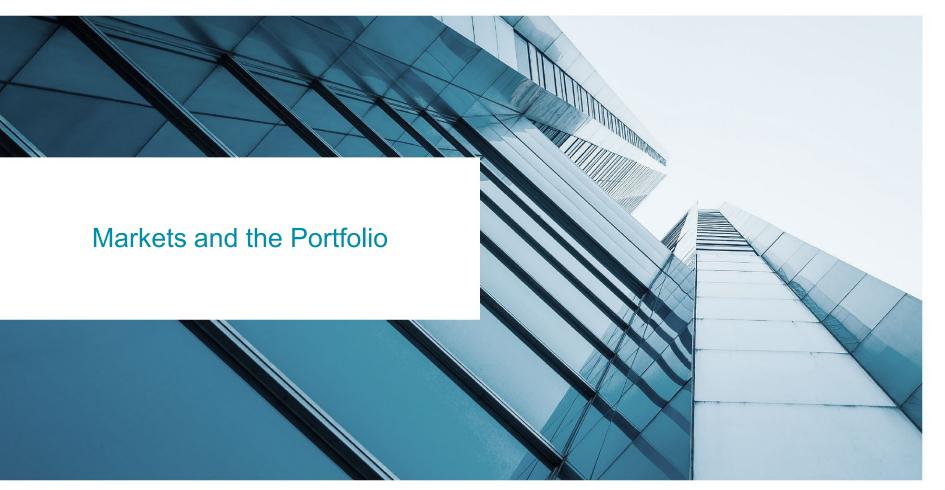
## Consistent dividend even through volatile times



AFIC's franking reserve balance ensures we can pay a consistent dividend even through volatile times.



In 2019 AFIC also paid a special fully franked interim dividend of 8 cents per share



## **Our Investment Process – Focus on Long Term Quality**



Long term investor in companies, not traders of share prices

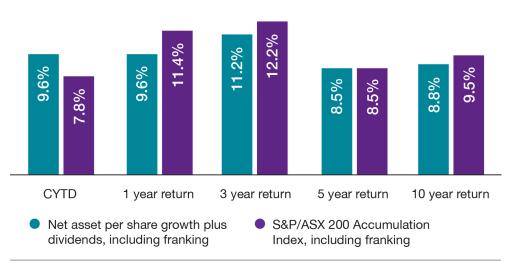
Identify quality companies with sound growth prospects that we can buy at a reasonable price

This supports our belief in the power of compounding returns from great businesses

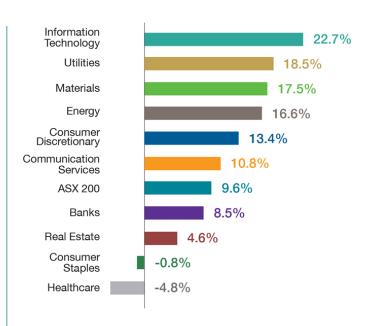
Our research process is built on observing the key characteristics of a company that our experience indicates will produce strong investment returns

## Portfolio and Sector Performance – to 31 August 2023





Figures assume an investor can take full advantage of the franking credits. Past performance is not indicative of future performance.



<sup>1</sup> Year Sector returns to 31 August - do not include franking.

#### **Market Conditions**



#### **Positive**

- Solid economic growth, reducing the risk of a recession.
- China policy initiatives to stabilise market conditions.
- Immigration likely to drive strong population growth.

#### **Negative**

- Inflation is moderating but still above Central Bank targets.
- Slowing consumer spending.
- Sharp rise in interest costs in response to higher rates.
- Earnings growth becoming more challenging with price rises expected to slow.
- Employment trends will be important.

#### **Our Approach**

We remain committed that holding a diversified portfolio of quality companies over the long-term remains appropriate.

## **Market Valuation in a Long Term Context**

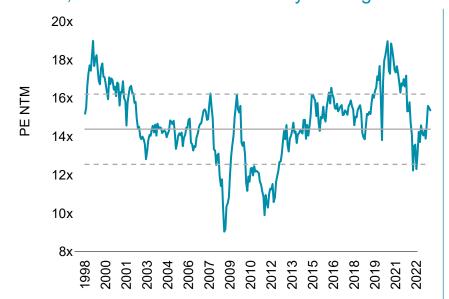


#### ASX 200 valuation slightly above 20-year average.





ASX 200 firms trade at an average forward PE of 15.4x, which is 7% above the 20-yr average



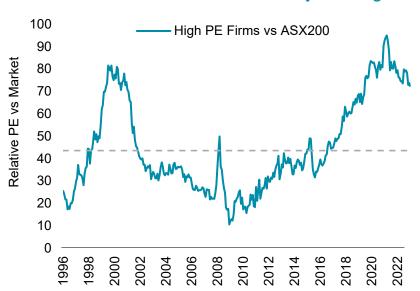
Source: Goldman Sachs Research

### **Wide Dispersion of Valuations**

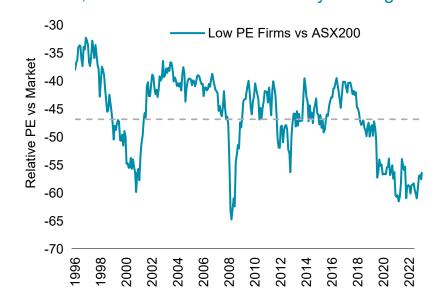


#### Highly valued companies trading materially above their long-term average.

High PE firms trade at a 72% premium to the market, which is 29% above the 20-yr average



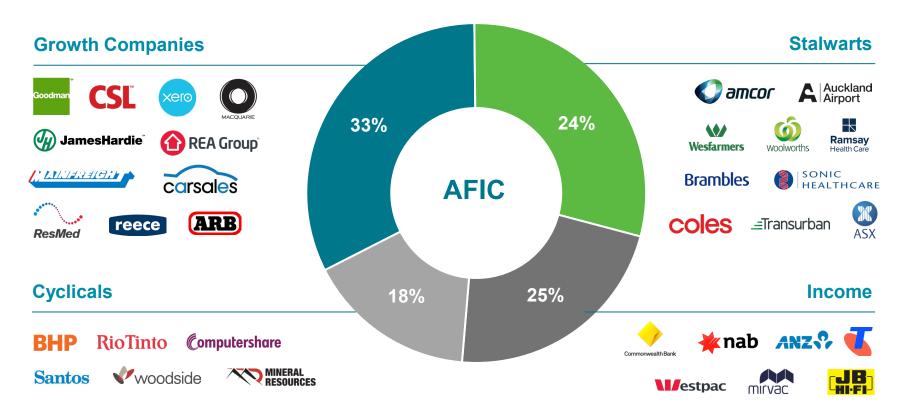
Low PE firms trade at a 56% discount to the market, which is 10% below the 20-yr average



Source: Goldman Sachs Research

## Portfolio Set to Perform in a Variety of Economic Settings







## **Active Portfolio Management – Recent Transactions**







New Purchases	Additions to Existing Holdings	
	Goodman	CSL
MINERAL RESOURCES	ВНР	<b>‰</b> idp
	ASX	<b>T</b>
	<b>*</b> nab	

#### **CSL**

750

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#### **EPS vs Share Price US\$**



300



CSL is a specialist biotechnology company that develops and manufactures products to treat serious human medical conditions.

Market leadership position in plasma fractionation operating more efficiently than competitors.

Recent capital investment increasing capacity while delivering operating efficiencies and higher returns.

Consistent investment in Research & Development of new pipeline drugs for long-term earnings growth.

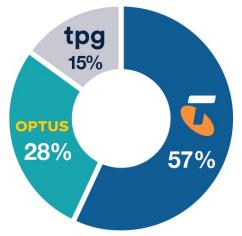
Source: CSL Website, Diogenes Research

Annual General Meeting / October 2023

#### **Telstra**



#### **Mobile Service Revenue Market Share**





Source: Telstra Website, E&P Research

Telstra is Australia's leading Telecommunications company with dominant market share and extensive infrastructure assets.

Mobile network superiority with 99% network coverage and 85% 5G coverage. More rational competitors given industry returns.

T22 strategy triggered company's digital transformation allowing for better management of the business and ability to implement CPI pricing.

Good earnings growth driven by mobile, facilitates a growing fully franked dividend.

### **Goodman Group**

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#### **EPS vs Share Price**





Source: Goodman Group Website, Diogenes Research

Goodman Group is a specialist developer, owner and manager of industrial properties operating in 14 countries.

Market leader in providing high-quality essential infrastructure for the digital economy and data centres.

Unique opportunity to invest alongside the founder of the company, Greg Goodman, who remains a significant shareholder.

Strong balance sheet and experienced management team.



#### **Outlook**



#### What's Occupying Our Mind

- Solid economic growth with inflation remaining stubborn.
- Consumer spending starting to slow.
- Company earnings growth to stabilise following two years of strong growth.
- Strong migration to drive near record population growth.
- Economic growth in China stabilising.

#### **Portfolio Positioning**

- Diversified portfolio of quality companies owning strategic assets, with strong balance sheets that are well managed.
- An appropriate mix of forecast growth and income returns to meet our long-term investment objectives.

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