Octopus Future Generations VCT

Backing businesses with the power to transform the world for the better

February 2025





octopus investments

A brighter way



### Risks and disclaimers

### Key investment risks. For UK investors only.

Octopus Future Generations VCT is a high risk investment. The value of an investment, and any income from it, can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the full amount invested.

Venture Capital Trust (VCT) shares could fall or rise in value more than other shares listed on the main market of the London Stock Exchange. They may also be harder to sell.

Please note that tax treatments available on VCT investments depend on individual circumstances and may change in the future. Tax treatments also depend on the VCT meeting and maintaining its VCT-qualifying status.

There can be no guarantee that the VCT will meet its investment objectives or that suitable investment opportunities will be identified.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. For past performance of Octopus Future Generations VCT, see page 11.

Where we refer to a specific company, this is for illustrative purposes only and is not an investment recommendation.

It is important that you read and fully understand the key risks involved before deciding whether this investment is right for you. To help, we have a dedicated section outlining the key risks on **page 24**.

This document is an advertisement and not a prospectus. Any decision to invest should only be made on the basis of the information contained in the prospectus and the Key Information Document (KID) available at octopusinvestments.com/fgvct.

The information provided within this brochure does not constitute advice on investments, legal matters, taxation or anything else. We always recommend you talk to a qualified financial adviser before making any investment decisions. All data and factual information provided within this document is sourced to Octopus and is correct at January 2025, unless otherwise stated.

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A word from our co-founder

# We're on a mission to invest in the ideas, industries and people that will change the world.



We are living through a period of unprecedented change, in which whole industries are transforming, almost overnight, creating value for investors at a rate never seen before. At the same time, society is struggling to deal with rising levels of inequality, the massive impact of climate change and creaking healthcare systems.

The combination of these factors creates a huge opportunity for investors. I believe that over the next couple of decades some of the best investment returns will come from companies trying to solve society's biggest problems. These companies will help build a better tomorrow, allowing us, and future generations, to live happier, healthier and longer lives.

Octopus Future Generations VCT offers investors an opportunity to access a portfolio of early-stage companies that we believe will help to transform the world in which we live. The VCT invests into private companies looking to build a sustainable planet, empower people or revitalise healthcare.

I look forward to seeing the positive change these investments have on society and the planet. This is just the start of a journey — one that I hope you're as excited as me to be a part of.

- Simon



I believe that over the next couple of decades some of the best investment returns will come from companies trying to solve society's biggest problems.

# **About Octopus**

We invest in the sectors we know inside out. And we've built investments that make a real difference to your financial planning.



### Renewable energy

We actively invest in solar installations across Europe, with a portfolio that also includes landfill gas sites, wind farms, and biomass plants.



### **Smaller companies**

We turn small businesses into big ones, driving the economy and creating jobs.



### Healthcare

We help build state-of-the-art care homes and retirement communities.



### **Property**

We provide award-winning finance for property investment and development.



# Octopus Energy – part of the Octopus family

You may be wondering 'is this the same Octopus?'. Octopus Energy is part of the Octopus family and is the UK's only Which? recommended energy supplier for eight years running. You can find out more about all the companies in the Octopus Group at octopusgroup.com.

While we no longer own Octopus Energy, we're proud to be its largest external shareholder.

# We're a B Corporation

A B Corporation (B Corp) is a company that has been certified by an independent organisation for meeting the highest standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency. It is the business equivalent of a Fairtrade coffee stamp.

Becoming a B Corp, which we did in 2021, has been the single most important decision we've ever made as a business. We have changed our Articles of Association (the rules that govern how a company is run) so that we consider the interests of all our stakeholders (employees, customers, shareholders, communities and the environment) in every decision we make.

We want to demonstrate, across all Octopus companies, the power of business as a force for good and to inspire the companies in which we invest to become partners in our vision for the future.

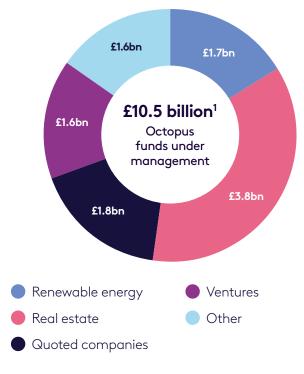




## Our investment credentials

### A trusted fund manager

We look after substantial assets on behalf of investors and large institutions.



- Octopus, 30 September 2024. Funds Under Management data includes undrawn commitments, funds under advisory mandates and funds monitored, and is based upon the latest information available at the time of the calculation. The figure includes Octopus Investments, Octopus AIF Management and Octopus Investments Australia.
- <sup>2.</sup> Association of Investment Companies, January 2024.
- 3. Octopus Ventures, January 2024.
- <sup>4.</sup> Octopus Investments, December 2023.

### 25 years of Octopus

We launched Octopus in 2000, wanting to create an investment company that put its customers first. We looked at what didn't work well and found ways to do things differently.

Along the way, we've become the largest manager of Venture Capital Trusts and investments that qualify for relief from inheritance  $\tan^2$  And we're still looking for new ways to improve people's financial lives. Today, we have more than 650 employees across our investment businesses and manage £10.5 billion on behalf of tens of thousands of investors.<sup>1</sup>

### Our investment philosophy

We want the world to be a better place because of where (and how) we invest our clients' money.

And we're making good progress. Today, more than 50% of our funds under management are focused on building a sustainable planet, empowering people to create a fairer and more equitable society or revitalising healthcare.

Our philosophy is simple. We believe that some of the best returns in the future will come from companies solving society's biggest problems.

Right: our offices at 33 Holborn, London

Octopus in numbers

£10.5 bn

Octopus funds under management<sup>1</sup>

### Four

Number of companies we've backed that have either been held or exited at over \$1 billion.
Companies like these are known as 'unicorns'.<sup>3</sup>

### Ten

The number of years in a row we have been given five stars in the UK Financial Adviser Service Awards.<sup>4</sup>



# **30** years of Venture Capital Trusts

The UK has become one of the world's most successful markets for entrepreneurial small companies. Venture Capital Trusts (VCTs) have played an important part in this.

Smaller companies are often hailed as the backbone of the British economy. They create jobs, innovate the industries in which they are operating and are an important source of revenue for the government. But many of these companies need investment to flourish.

### Thirty years of government support

The government introduced VCTs in 1995 to encourage investment into Britain's exciting, entrepreneurial businesses. VCTs offer an important source of patient capital and provide specialist support for businesses looking to grow. At the same time, VCTs have given investors the opportunity to share in the success of these companies.

Most recently, in 2024, the government extended the legislation that governs VCTs to continue running until at least 2035, a testament to VCTs positive impact to the UK's economic performance.

### **VCTs offer tax reliefs**

Investing in small, unquoted companies comes with a high amount of risk. Therefore, to incentivise investors to back UK growing businesses, VCTs offer a number of attractive tax reliefs.

Investors can claim 30% upfront income tax relief, receive tax-free dividends and, when the time comes to sell the shares, they don't have to pay any capital gains tax if they've risen in value.

### The biggest name in VCTs

Octopus is the UK's largest VCT manager. We launched our first VCT in 2002, and today we manage over  $\mathfrak{L}1.6$  billion across our VCTs on behalf of more than 40,000 investors.

We think VCTs offer great investment potential, with some attractive tax benefits attached.

But VCTs are not suitable for everyone, which is why we always recommend talking to a qualified financial adviser before deciding to invest.

### Got a question?

If you have any questions after reading this brochure, visit **octopusinvestments.com** or call us on **0800 316 2295**. We're always happy to hear from you.



Please note, VCT shares must be held for a minimum of five years in order to retain the 30% upfront income tax relief.

A VCT is a company that is listed on the London Stock Exchange. It invests its funds across a portfolio of small, early-stage companies that are typically not listed on any stock exchange and must meet HMRC's requirements.

VCTs are high-risk investments. It is important to understand that smaller companies can struggle and many will not be successful. The tax incentives are there to provide investors some compensation for the risk they take with their money. For more information on the key risks, please see **page 24**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1.</sup> The Association of Investment Companies, August 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2.</sup> Octopus Investments, 30 September 2024.

# Weighing up a VCT investment

### **Growth potential**

VCTs invest in small, young companies in the UK. These have the potential to grow faster than larger companies.

### Complementing other investments

While they have a high risk profile, VCTs can complement other long-term investments that attract tax relief, such as pensions and Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs).

#### Diversification

Through a VCT, you gain access to unquoted smaller companies in the UK. These have a unique profile and can diversify an investment portfolio.

### Additional income

VCTs offer the potential to receive supplementary income in the form of tax-free dividends.

#### Tax reliefs

New VCT shares attract tax reliefs for investments up to £200,000 each year:

- 30% upfront income tax relief, provided your investment is held for at least five years. So, if you invest £10,000 in a VCT (after adviser charges), £3,000 can be taken off your income tax bill.
- Any dividends paid out are free from income tax.
- Tax-free capital gains if you sell your VCT shares and make a profit, provided you have held your shares for at least five years.



### **Key risks**

### Your capital is at risk

The value of a VCT investment, and any income from it, can fall as well as rise. You may not get back the full amount that you invest.

### Tax rules can change

Tax treatment depends on individual circumstances and may change in the future.

### The VCT's qualifying status is not guaranteed

Tax reliefs depend on the VCT meeting and maintaining its VCT-qualifying status.

### Investments in smaller companies can be volatile

VCT shares can fall and rise in value more sharply than the shares of other companies listed on the main market of the London Stock Exchange.

### VCT shares may be difficult to sell

There isn't an active secondary market for VCT shares in the way there is for most other listed companies' shares. This means that, if you decide to sell your VCT shares, you may have to accept a price lower than the Net Asset Value (NAV) of the investment. We expect the VCT's share buy back facility to be available after 2025. However, this is not guaranteed, and is at the Board's discretion to offer or withdraw this option at any point.

# **Octopus Future Generations VCT**

### Backing businesses that aim to address society's biggest challenges.

#### The team

The VCT is managed by Octopus Ventures, known for its expertise in identifying and supporting innovative businesses that have grown to become household names, including Depop and Zoopla.

The VCT benefits from the team's rigorous investment process and specialist expertise in the sectors in which they invest. The team aims to invest in early-stage companies that offer the potential of returning significant multiples of the initial investment.

### The opportunity

We're living in a period of unprecedented change. Entire industries are transforming at an increasingly fast rate — and they need to. Society faces very real issues, from inequality to the tremendous impact of climate change. Businesses have a critical role to play in solving these problems.

We believe the companies that understand what it means to make the world a better place have the potential to deliver some of the best returns to investors over the coming decades.

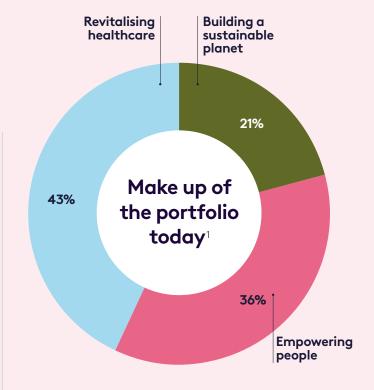
#### The VCT

Octopus Future Generations VCT invests in companies that have the ambitions and propositions to address these problems. The VCT looks to invest in unquoted smaller companies armed with innovative technology, talented management teams and often in sectors primed for disruption.

#### Three investment themes

Every Octopus Future Generations VCT investment will align with one of the three core investment themes:

- 1. Building a sustainable planet
- **2.** Empowering people to create a fairer and more equitable society, or
- **3.** Revitalising healthcare.





Read more about the three investment themes on **page 12**.



Octopus donates 10% of our annual management charge to **Octopus Giving**, our charitable foundation dedicated to helping charities that are making the world a better place.

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Before deciding to invest, please familiarise yourself with the risks. VCTs are high-risk investments. The value of a VCT investment can go down as well as up. They may also be hard to sell. You can read more about the risks on page 24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1.</sup> By value, Octopus Ventures, 30 June 2024

# The Octopus Future Generations VCT is celebrating its third anniversary

Achievements in this short time highlight a promising path for the VCT.



£46m

**AUM** 



£33m+

Deployed into exciting portfolio companies<sup>1</sup>



36

Active portfolio companies spanning all three investment themes<sup>1</sup>



2

Successful exits: one full, one partial



45%

Actual portfolio revenue growth (2022 to 2023)<sup>2</sup>



86.8p

Net Asset Value (NAV)<sup>3</sup>

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. Before deciding to invest, please familiarise yourself with the risks. VCTs are high-risk investments. The value of a VCT investment can go down as well as up. They may also be hard to sell. You can read more about the risks on page 24.

### Discrete Year-On-Year (YoY) Performance<sup>4</sup>

	25 Mar 2023	25 Mar 2024
NAV	95.1p	93.7p
Total Return	-4.9%	-1.5%

- <sup>1</sup> Octopus Ventures, 30 December 2024.
- <sup>2</sup> Based on available portfolio data comparing full year actual revenue in 2022 to full year actual revenue in 2023.
- 3. NAV is the combined value of all the assets owned by the VCT after deducting the value of its liabilities. Total return % is an alternative performance measure, calculated as total return/opening NAV for the last year to 30 June.
- <sup>4</sup> The performance information above shows the total return of the Octopus Future Generations VCT over discrete 12-month periods since the first shares were allotted on 25 March 2022. These initial shares were issued at 100 per share. The annual total return is calculated from the movement in NAV over the period. The figure is divided by the NAV at the start of that period to get the annual total return. Performance shown is net of all fees and costs. Please note, the NAV per share may be higher than the share price, which is the price you may get for the shares on the secondary market. The VCT's annual reporting period ends 31 December. The latest NAV available at the time of publishing was 86.8p as of 30 June 2024.

## The investment themes

Octopus Future Generations VCT invests in three key areas that we believe demonstrate excellent investment prospects and have potential to transform outdated industries for the better.

### 1. Building a sustainable planet

As society moves to a low carbon economy, the way we produce and consume information, materials and energy is changing.

Some of the most exciting early-stage businesses are helping to accelerate this transition.

Businesses under this theme might be reducing carbon emissions, protecting ecosystems or creating a circular economy that removes waste.

### 2. Empowering people

We want to empower people to create a fairer and more equitable society so invest in businesses that are reimagining the future of society. These companies could democratise education or financial services, disrupt the food industry to stop people going hungry or increase connectivity between people and protect their privacy online. This could drive innovations that will make the world a better and safer place.

### 3. Revitalising healthcare

Healthcare is essential. We want to back businesses moving health and wellbeing forward.

That could mean investing in entrepreneurs who are improving lives through digital health solutions. Or it might mean supporting businesses helping people conquer addictions or creating software that will make healthcare services more efficient and accessible.

On the following pages we show examples of portfolio companies that span each of the three investment themes and why we believe each has the potential to transform its industry.

# Why do we think these areas have great potential?

- 1. Tackling society's biggest challenges means there are huge markets to address.
- **2.** The demand for solutions to the planet's challenges is urgent and growing.
- **3.** People increasingly want to work for businesses that make a positive difference in the world; as a result, these companies are attracting the best talent.





#### Building a sustainable planet

### **DRIFT**

#### What DRIFT does

DRIFT aims to drive the clean energy transition worldwide with high-performance sailing vessels that harness deep ocean wind to produce green hydrogen at sea and deliver it globally. It does this using a unique, Al-enabled vessel routing system that enables the vessels to find and stay in optimum weather conditions.

The growing demand for clean hydrogen to accelerate the decarbonisation of sectors such as heavy industry, transportation and manufacturing is sparking innovation in the sector.

DRIFT's solution is mobile, resilient and works outside of existing infrastructure. The company is developing renewable energy partnerships that will benefit coastal and island communities around the world.

### Why we like it

DRIFT is leading the way in developing a truly innovative new class of mobile renewable energy, building the world's first net-positive ships and unlocking a new era of clean fuel generation capable of covering 70% of the globe. The company's technology uniquely unlocks the planet's greatest resource, overcoming supply challenges and enabling a fair and equitable clean energy transition.

**Key stats** 

### €10 trillion

Goldman Sachs estimates that the green hydrogen market could reach €10 trillion by 2050.

24%

Bank of America predicts that clean hydrogen could provide 24% of global energy needs by 2050

### **COP 28 winner**

DRIFT is a COP 28 award-winning DeepTech company and winner of the Monaco Prize for Innovation in Renewable Hydrogen and Transportation 2024.



DRIFT is unlocking a new era of clean fuel generation

**Empowering people** 

# **Swiipr**

### **What Swiipr does**

When flights are disrupted, compensating passengers is a hassle for both airlines and travellers. Swiipr's platform simplifies this by automating payment verification and processing through a system designed specifically for airlines. The company provides passengers with virtual and physical prepaid cards, offering instant, flexible spending compared to outdated paper vouchers or slow payments. Swiipr also supports airlines with solutions for crew, operational, and crisis payments, enabling fast, direct payouts to staff. Passengers get guick, easy-to-use compensation, airlines save on processing costs while improving service, and retailers benefit from instant payment settlement. Swiipr also integrates with airline Customer Relationship Management systems, making it an essential partner for the industry.

### Why we like it

Octopus Ventures is excited about Swiipr's travelfocused digital payments solution and its potential to revolutionise how airlines handle pay-outs. Swiipr's innovative product aims to transform compensation payments and spend management processes for airlines and beyond. By enabling digital payments, Swiipr seeks to boost efficiency, enhance customer experiences, and provide automated processes that are transparent and compliant with regulations.

With over 500 million passengers affected by travel disruptions each year, simplifying the path to compensation has the potential to significantly improve customer satisfaction, build trust, and foster loyalty in the industry.

**Key stats** 

Only 1-2%

of disrupted passengers currently receive compensation.

c. 60%

cut in airline claim processing costs offered by Swiipr.

### **Billions**

of dollars lost by passengers in outdated, inefficient pay-out processes every year.



Swiipr's innovative product aims to transform compensation payments and spend management processes for airlines

#### **Revitalising healthcare**

# **CoMind**

#### What CoMind does

CoMind is building revolutionary brain sensing technologies. Their mission is to redefine the way the brain is measured and treated at every stage of care. One of the first applications of CoMind's core technology is in measuring intracranial brain pressure using an adhesive sensor and advanced signal processing. This will be a step change from the current standard of having to drill through the skull to measure intracranial pressure in patients impacted by traumatic brain injury, stroke, and/or other neurocritical conditions.

### Why we like it

While other companies are trying to create non-invasive technology in this sector, we believe CoMind has a distinct competitive advantage. CoMind has developed an advanced optical sensing technique that has opened up new possibilities in monitoring brain health. Unlike existing methods, CoMind's technology is more similar to the "LiDAR" (Light Detection and Ranging) systems used in self-driving cars. This allows CoMind's devices to give a unique, detailed view of brain health, helping doctors deliver more personalized and targeted treatments to patients at every stage of care.

CoMind's mission is to redefine the way the brain is measured and treated at every stage of care.

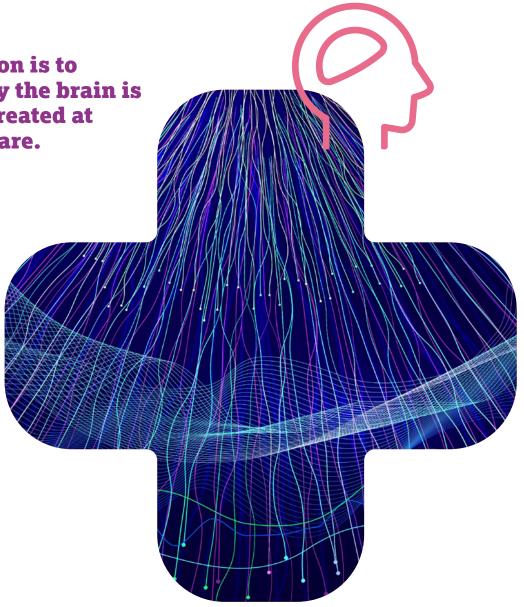
Key stats

>250

subjects were measured in 2024

### **Several**

devices are currently being used in hospitals for clinical trials



## The investment team

Octopus Future Generations VCT is managed by Octopus Ventures, known for its expertise in identifying and supporting innovative businesses.

The team's experience and network bring significant advantages to investors.

### 1. Highly selective

Octopus Ventures has historically engaged with thousands of potential investment opportunities each year and go on to invest in only around 1% of these. This means they can be highly selective and pick only those they believe offer the most potential.

#### 2. Scale

The Octopus Ventures team started deploying its first VCT in 2008 and has since scaled to manage more than £1.6 billion¹. Octopus Ventures can back companies through multiple funding rounds. This is hugely valuable and attractive for entrepreneurs looking for a partner who can support their long-term growth ambitions.

### 3. Nurturing success

Practical support, guidance and specialist knowledge are all things an early-stage company needs to accelerate its growth.

The investment team is supported by a dedicated People and Talent team. They offer direct support, expertise and access to programmes and platforms to help the investee company management teams scale their businesses. This offers a competitive advantage when Octopus Ventures is looking to secure the chance to invest in the best smaller companies in the market.



Our reputation, scale, and network attract numerous exciting investment opportunities, often with entrepreneurs approaching us directly.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1.</sup> Octopus Ventures, 30 September 2024.

# The investment process

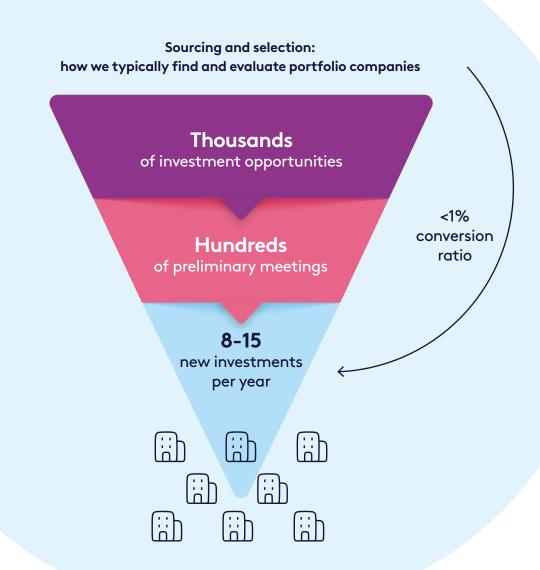
Companies are evaluated based on a selection of the following criteria:

- Talented and ambitious team
- Big market opportunity
- Innovative technology
- Rapid pace of growth
- Alignment with one of the three investment themes

# Co-investing with other Octopus Venture Funds

There are times when investments may be made alongside an investment from one of our other Octopus Ventures managed funds. Through this co-investment, the Future Generations VCT could be able to access investment opportunities that may not have been possible without being part of the larger investment with other Octopus funds. More on this can be found in the conflicts of interest section on page 25.

Please note: this example is illustrative.



# How a VCT operates over time

### **A maturing VCT**

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Future Generations VCT is a young but maturing VCT. Here we explain how a portfolio of early-stage companies can behave over time.

When a VCT is launched, the early years typically see the value of the VCT dip because the portfolio is made up of companies at the very beginning of their growth journey. Company failures tend to occur more often in the initial phase, while the growth from successful companies requires more time to come through.

So as a portfolio of early-stage companies begins to mature and scale, and the VCT has holdings in companies at different stages of growth, the value of the VCT can grow and generate long-term returns.

This is the journey we would expect with a young VCT and it is the picture that has emerged for Future Generations VCT so far.

The VCT has faced some company failures but is now beginning to show signs of success in others. It has, in fact, already made two successful exits (one full, one partial).

### The benefit of the five-year holding period

Investing in the third year of a VCT's investment journey means when you reach your minimum five-year holding period, the VCT will be eight years old. By year three, the VCT should have navigated some of its early company failures, and some of its portfolio companies are beginning to show promising signs of growth.

Here's why investing in the third year could present an attractive opportunity:

### 1. Less exposure to "day one" investments

The VCT is entering a new phase. It has a portfolio of more than 35 companies at a range of stages in their lifecycle, and we're looking to grow this further. While these companies are all still early stage, the exposure to untested ventures makes up only part of the portfolio.

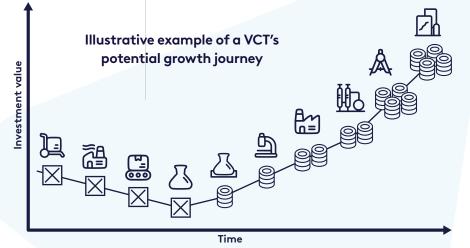
### 2. Potential for growth

Some of the longest held portfolio companies within the VCT are beginning to reach key milestones, such as scaling operations, or attracting further rounds of funding. This can create a stronger foundation for growth.

### 3. The potential for profitable exits

In a typical venture capital cycle, exits can often take four to seven years or more to secure. Investing in a VCT before many of these exits offers the potential to benefit from NAV growth and potential tax-free dividends payable during this period as a result of them.

Octopus Future Generations VCT is a high-risk investment. It is important to understand that smaller companies can struggle and many will not be successful. The value of your investment can fall as well as rise, and you may not get back the full amount you invest. You can read more about the risks on page 24.



# Responsible investment

Octopus Future Generations VCT is a catalyst for positive, meaningful change. All of our attention is focused on the things that bring us closer to achieving our mission: backing the people, ideas and industries that will change the world.

Our three-step responsible investment process creates the change we want to see in the world:



### Mission

We target sectors that are striving to make the world a better place.

We're making investments in companies that are helping to build a more sustainable planet, empower people to create a fairer and more equitable society or revitalise healthcare.

Our internal process gives us oversight over the sustainability outcomes that we're contributing to and how they're being managed.

### **Materiality**

We consider environmental, social and governance risks through our Responsible Investment Tool that we integrate within our investment process. This identifies sustainability issues (including climate risks) that could impact the performance of an investment and helps us manage these risks.

Our internal due diligence process enables us to identify and monitor sustainability issues that could impact the financial performance of the portfolio.

### Responsibility

We think a company's values and culture are the best indicators of future growth.

Our portfolio companies complete an Engagement Tool within the investment process and then annually. It helps us understand whether the company considers their wider stakeholders (community, customers, people, planet and governance) within decision-making and provides tools and guidance to help them become more responsible businesses.

# Supporting companies and assessing long-term impact

After we invest...

### We support a company throughout the life of our investment

We know that managing a successful VCT is about more than just making good investments. We also understand the value we can bring to our portfolio companies through our experience and our network of experienced entrepreneurs and specialist partners. Our team nurtures portfolio companies to help them reach their full potential.

Often, we appoint someone to the board of a portfolio company. While that person isn't involved in the day-to-day running of the company, this allows us to play a role in its development and support the management team with its growth plans and navigation of emerging risks.

### Measuring performance

We work with management teams to set and maintain appropriate standards of conduct towards people and the planet.

We also monitor a company's financial performance and measure its progress against social and environmental goals.

### Reporting on the VCT

We will provide bi-annual progress updates to investors on the three investment themes throughout the duration of their investment.

At a portfolio level, this will include:

- % and value of investments within each investment theme.
- % of investee companies to put in place a
   Diversity and Inclusion Policy and an AntiHarassment/Discrimination Policy within 90 days
   of initial investment.
- % of companies with which we have engaged about their greenhouse gas emissions.



# Success stories from Octopus Future Generations VCT

We're delighted to have already delivered profitable exits from the VCT's portfolio

## cobee

#### **Initial FG investment: October 2022**

Cobee, founded in 2019, is an innovative employee benefits platform that simplifies the management and distribution of benefits for employers and employees alike. By consolidating benefits schemes into a single platform, Cobee automates administrative tasks for HR departments while providing employees with real-time insights and flexibility through a unified card for managing their benefits.

In November 2024, Cobee was acquired by Pluxee, a global leader in employee benefits and engagement operating in 31 countries with over 5,000 employees. Pluxee is uniquely positioned to support Cobee's continued growth. Cobee's founders were enthusiastic about the deal, citing Pluxee's strategic alignment and potential to accelerate international expansion.



#### Initial FG investment: November 2022

Neat, an embedded insurance platform that enables merchants to offer tailored insurance bundles to their customers at competitive rates, announced the completion of its €50 million Series A funding round in September 2024. As part of the fundraise, Octopus sold a portion of its shares and is excited to also maintain a holding in the company and support its growth journey.

Neat offers over 40 products in more than ten industries. With over 1,500 distribution partners, Neat has sold more than one million insurance products.



Investing in small, VCT-qualifying companies is high risk and many will go on to fail. Past performance is not an indication of future results.

1.5x<sup>1</sup>
combined return (including contingent deferred proceeds)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1.</sup> Based on cost of shares sold only

## New share offer

Octopus Future Generations VCT is open for investment through a new share offer of an initial £5 million.

### Reasons to invest

Octopus Future Generations VCT looks to invest in exciting early-stage companies that are aiming to build a sustainable planet, empower people or revitalise healthcare.

We believe businesses that understand what it means to make the world a better place have the potential to deliver some of the best returns to investors over the coming decades.

The VCT will support the companies on their growth journeys. We make an initial investment when backing a company and are prepared to provide additional funding as it achieves agreed milestones. When the timing is appropriate, the VCT will attempt to exit its investment by selling its holdings.

### **Dividend policy**

VCTs typically return profits to investors by paying dividends. The size and frequency of these dividends will depend on the performance of the VCT and aren't guaranteed.

The long-term objective is for Octopus Future Generations VCT to pay an annual dividend of 5% of its Net Asset Value (NAV).

### **Applying for shares**

Before making an application, it's important that you read the Octopus Future Generations VCT prospectus and Key Information Document (KID), available at **octopusinvestments.com/fgvct**. As with any investment, there are risks to consider before you decide to invest. Please read about the key risks on **page 24** and in the prospectus.

We recommend you talk to a financial adviser about whether this investment is right for you. If you proceed, apply at **apply.octopusinvestments.com/futuregenvct**. We'll let you know we've received your application and if we need any further information. Please note that the minimum investment is £3,000.



# Lifecycle of your VCT investment

Your investment journey (Note: the process may vary slightly if you are investing via a platform)

### 1. Making your initial investment

After you've read the prospectus and Key Information Document (KID) — available at **octopusinvestments.com/fgvct** — you can complete an application form by applying online. We'll let you know when we've processed it and if we need any more information from you.

### 2. Issuing your shares

Once we've received your funds, we will allot your VCT shares at the next available date. These dates are usually listed on our website. This process can take several months, but we always aim for shares to be allotted in the same tax year as the application was made. When complete, we'll email you to let you know your shares are allotted, and you can check the value of your shares using our online portal.

### 3. Your share and income tax certificates

The administration of your shareholding in the VCT will be looked after by a company called Computershare, which is the VCT's registrar. Computershare will send you your share and income tax certificates, usually within 21 working days of your shares being allotted. In addition, we'll also provide you with a guide to claiming tax relief. Please note, if you lose your share or tax certificate there is likely to be a cost to replace them.

### 4. Keeping you updated

We'll email you to let you know that the interim and annual reports from the VCT are available. The reports will include updates from the VCT's board and from Octopus. Computershare will contact you to let you know about VCT matters that you are entitled to vote on, such as raising more money into the VCT. We also have an online portal where you can view all the information about your investment: octopusinvestments.com/login.

### 5. Receiving dividends

The long-term target is to pay an annual dividend of 5% of the NAV.

Once the VCT begins paying dividends, you can choose to have them paid directly into your bank account or re-invested into the VCT. If you choose the latter, you will then receive an additional share and income tax certificate, which will allow you to claim additional income tax relief from HMRC. When any dividends are paid, you will be sent a dividend confirmation.

### 6. Selling your VCT shares

Because natural demand for VCT shares on the secondary market is limited, Octopus Future Generations VCT offers a share buyback facility for investors, provided that there are funds available. This facility allows existing Octopus Future Generations VCT investors to sell their shares back to the VCT at a small discount to the NAV. The intention of the board is to buy back shares at a discount no greater than 5% of the NAV (but doesn't expect to do so prior to 2026). Share buybacks are conducted at the board's discretion; therefore, there can be no guarantees that shares will always be sold on request.

Please remember that VCT shares need to be held for the minimum five-year holding period in order to retain the upfront income tax benefits. Due to regulations governing public companies, there can be specific times of the year when a buyback is restricted — for example, when the VCT is preparing its annual and half-yearly reports and accounts.



Please remember, VCT shares must be held for a minimum of five years in order to retain the 30% upfront income tax relief.

If you'd like more information, please give us a call on **0800 316 2295** or visit octopusinvestments.com/your-vct-options to find out more.

## **Risks**

### Understanding the key risks

We want to make sure you understand the key risks associated with this investment before making a decision. If you have any questions about the key risks mentioned here, we recommend you talk to a professional financial adviser.

Any decision to invest in Octopus Future Generations VCT should be made on the basis of information contained in the prospectus and Key Information Document (KID). This is available at octopusinvestments.com/fgvct.

# Your capital is at risk and you could lose money

Investing in a VCT is high risk. The value of an investment, and any income from it, can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the full amount that you invested.

### Age of portfolio companies

As this is a young VCT, the companies it invests in are more likely to be at the start of their investment journey. This is unlike more established VCTs that

often have a blend of young, maturing and mature companies, which can make them more susceptible to failure and might impact the VCT's performance.

### Investments in smaller companies can be volatile

Octopus Future Generations VCT will invest in smaller companies that are not listed on the main market of the London Stock Exchange. Investments in smaller companies can fall or rise in value much more sharply than shares in larger, more established companies. They also have a higher rate of failure.

### This is a long-term investment

You should be prepared to hold your shares for a minimum of five years. If you decide to sell your shares before then, you will be required to repay to HMRC any upfront income tax relief you've claimed.

### Past performance is no guide to the future

The past performance of Octopus Future Generations VCT is not a reliable indicator of future results. Nor should you rely on any forecasts made about future returns.

"Our goal is to be totally transparent with our investors and their advisers.

We want them to understand how our products work, how their money is being invested, and what the key investment risks are, before they reach any decision."

John Averill, Chief Risk Officer, Octopus Investments

# The VCT's qualifying status is not guaranteed

There is no guarantee Octopus Future Generations VCT will maintain its VCT status. If a VCT loses its qualifying status, tax advantages will be withdrawn from that point. Additionally, if a VCT loses its status within five years of your initial investment, you will be asked to repay any upfront income tax relief that you have already claimed.

### Tax rules can change

The VCT tax benefits we've described in this brochure are correct at the time of publication. However, rates of tax, tax benefits and tax allowances do change. In addition, the tax benefits available to you through this investment depend on your own personal circumstances.

To ensure that VCT money continues to support government policy objectives, HM Treasury can also change the definition of a VCT-qualifying investment in the future. This could impact the nature of new investments a VCT can make over time.

### Your shares may be difficult to sell

There isn't an active market for VCT shares in the way there is for most other listed companies' shares. This means that if you decide to sell your VCT shares, it may take time to find a buyer, or you may have to accept a price lower than the NAV of the investment.

## **Conflicts of interest**

Octopus builds strong relationships with many of the companies in which we invest, and we sometimes use different investment products to invest in the same companies. This can present 'conflicts of interest'.

Conflicts of interest are sometimes unavoidable. In the first instance, we look to prevent them, but if we can't, we'll take action to manage, or mitigate, any effects. For more information on some of the main conflicts, please see below, and refer to the Octopus Conflicts of Interest policy, which is available in the document library at octopusinvestments.com.

### Investing alongside other Octopus funds

Octopus Future Generations VCT may invest alongside other Octopus managed products or services. This could mean an investee company benefits from a diverse source of funding while partnering with Octopus, which in turn could make Octopus a more attractive investor for them to choose to work with. However, it could also result in potential conflicts of interests between different investor groups.

### The role of Octopus employees

We often appoint an Octopus representative on the Board of the companies in which we invest. This means we are able to closely monitor the investment we've made on behalf of Octopus Future Generations VCT investors. But this also means as company directors, those employees have obligations to all shareholders of the company, and not just Octopus investors.

### **Managing conflicts**

We have agreed policies and processes to make sure that conflicts of interests between different investor groups are managed fairly. For example:

- The Octopus Ventures Investment Committee
  makes sure investment decisions are in the best
  interests of investors, including how potential
  conflicts of interest are managed when they
  cannot be avoided, as well as being responsible
  for the allocation policy. The allocation policy sets
  out how the amount invested from each fund into
  each opportunity is decided and is implemented
  by the Octopus Ventures Allocation Committee.
- The Octopus Conflicts Committee is responsible for ensuring conflicts are handled appropriately and is independent of Octopus Ventures and Octopus Future Generations VCT.
- As Octopus Future Generations VCT is a publiclylisted company, it has its own board of directors, which is required to act independently and represent shareholders' best interests at all times. It is ultimately responsible for ensuring the investment objectives and policy of Octopus Future Generations VCT are carried out.

### When could conflicts of interest be harmful to investors?

An example of this could be when a company is sold. The company may be held by a number of different investment products across Octopus, so investors may be restricted in the timing of an exit and their interests are not fully aligned.

# Charges

Our charges are taken from the money you invest, so you don't have to send any additional payment for the services we provide. If there's anything about our charges that you don't understand, please call us on **0800 316 2295** and we'll be happy to talk them through.

### Three ways to invest

### 1. Through a financial adviser:

If they charge a one-off fee for the advice they provide, you can ask for this fee to be paid on your behalf before your money is invested into the VCT. Please note that funds paid to your adviser will not qualify for income tax relief.

### 2. Through an 'execution-only' intermediary:

They won't offer financial advice, but they will arrange the purchase of VCT shares for you. Intermediaries are eligible to receive an ongoing commission for facilitating the purchase. This commission is paid directly by Octopus and not a payment borne by the investor or the VCT.

### 3. Make a direct application yourself:

Although we are happy to arrange this, we always recommend that you talk to a financial adviser before deciding to invest. Investing through this channel may result in a higher product charge than the other channels.

Table of charges <sup>1</sup>		
Upfront charges	Initial fee	3%
Ongoing annual charges	Annual management charges	2%
	Non investment services	0.3%
Performance fees		20%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please see the prospectus for more information.

### How performance fees work

We want our investments to do what we say they will and we want to align ourselves with the long-term investment objectives of shareholders. A way in which we do this is by applying a performance fee on the gains made. In order for Octopus to receive this performance fee, we must meet three conditions.

Firstly, a performance fee cannot be paid until 1 July 2025. Secondly, the VCT's Total Return (NAV plus cumulative dividends paid) at the previous yearend must exceed 120p. Thirdly, shareholders must have received cumulative dividends of a minimum of 10p. If all of these conditions are met (none of which have yet occurred for Future Generations VCT), then 20% of the excess above the starting NAV per share of 97p will be paid to Octopus. It is important to note that Total Return will include 'realised' and 'unrealised' gains.

Realised gains are when an investee company is sold for more than the VCT invested in it, crystallising the VCT's profit.

Unrealised gains are when an investee company's value has increased, which increases the NAV of the VCT, but the company has not been sold, making it subject to movements up or down depending on the company valuation.

Each time the VCT calculates its NAV, it will include the accrued performance fee to date, meaning each time a new NAV is issued the performance fee will have already been factored in. This means that, when it comes to the VCT paying the performance fee, it won't have any impact on the NAV (value of the VCT or the value of your shares).

For full details on the performance fee and other fees please see the prospectus and Key Information Document (KID).



Octopus donates 10% of our annual management charge to **Octopus Giving**, our charitable foundation.

### How to invest

### **Apply online**

To invest, please fill in an online application. Go to **apply.octopusinvestments.com/futuregenvct** to get started.

### If you have a financial adviser

They can start the online application form for you. If your adviser has any questions, they can call us on **0800 316 2067** or visit

octopusinvestments.com/fgvct.

### If you are investing directly

If you have any questions, you can call our investor support team on **0800 316 2295**. Please remember that we can't offer investment or tax advice, but we'll be happy to talk you through the application process and help you with anything else we can.

### What if you change your mind?

Please let us know as soon as possible. You can't cancel your investment once it has been made, but if you contact us before your shares have been allotted, we will do our best to return your money to you.

After your shares have been allotted, you own shares in the VCT itself and you will need to sell the shares instead. See **page 23** for details of how to sell your shares.



If you're investing via a platform, we recommend you reach out to their customer support team for any assistance or queries regarding your investment.

### Once you've invested

After your application has been processed, we'll send you confirmation along with guidance on how to login to our online portal. Once your funds have been allotted (you can find allotment dates at octopusinvestments.com/fgvct), you'll then be able to see your portfolio value, account information, valuations and any other documents through the portal. You can also visit our FAQ hub at octopusinvestments.com/vct-faqs for more information.

# Giving us feedback and how to make a complaint

Outstanding customer service is at the heart of everything we do. But that doesn't mean we get it right every time. If you're not happy with the service we give you, we'll listen to your complaint and confirm it in writing, as well as outlining how we plan to resolve it.

Our complaints procedures follow the rules set out by the Financial Conduct Authority, responsible for regulating investment companies like Octopus, and the Financial Ombudsman Service, which has been set up to resolve disputes between consumers and companies.

If you want to make a complaint, email complaints@octopusinvestments.com, call 0800 316 2295 or write to us at: Octopus Investments Limited, 33 Holborn, London EC1N 2HT.

If we are unable to settle a complaint, it may be referred to the Financial Ombudsman Service. You can contact them at Exchange Tower, London E14 9SR. Further information on the service can be found at financial-ombudsman.org.uk.









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