

# General



The AGM will be held at 11:00 a.m. on 5 December 2023 in London at which the usual formal business will be proposed.

# Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the twenty-eighth Annual General Meeting of abrdn Asia Focus plc will be held at Wallacespace, 15 Artillery Lane, London, E1 7HA, at 11:00 a.m. on 5 December 2023 for the following purposes:

To consider and if thought fit, pass the following Resolutions of which Resolutions 1 to 10 will be proposed as Ordinary Resolutions and Resolutions 11 to 13 as Special Resolutions:

## Ordinary Business

1. To receive and adopt the Directors' Report and financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2023, together with the auditors' report thereon.
2. To approve the Directors' Remuneration Report for the year ended 31 July 2023 (other than the Directors' Remuneration Policy).
3. To approve the Directors' Remuneration Policy.
4. To approve the Company's Dividend Policy to pay four interim dividends per year.
5. To re-elect Ms C Black as a Director.
6. To re-elect Mr K Shanmuganathan as a Director.
7. To re-elect Mr L Cooper as a Director.
8. To re-elect Mr A Finn as a Director.
9. To re-appoint PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as auditors and to authorise the Directors to determine their remuneration.

## Special Business

10. THAT in substitution for all existing powers the Directors of the Company be generally and unconditionally authorised for the purposes of Section 551 of the Companies Act 2006 (the "Act"), to allot shares in the Company, and to grant rights ("Relevant Rights") to subscribe for, or to convert any security into, shares in the Company:  
  
(a) up to an aggregate nominal amount of £2,597,716; and  
  
(b) up to a further aggregate nominal amount of £2,597,716 in connection with an offer made by means of a negotiable document to (a) all holders of Ordinary shares of 5p each in the capital of the Company ("Ordinary shares") in proportion (as nearly as may be) to the respective numbers of such Ordinary shares held by them and (b) to holders of other equity securities required by the rights of those securities (but subject to such exclusions, limits or restrictions or other arrangements as the Directors of the Company may consider necessary or appropriate to deal with treasury shares, fractional entitlements, record dates or legal, regulatory or practical problems in or under the laws of any territory, or the requirements of any regulatory body or any stock exchange in any territory or otherwise howsoever); such authorisation to expire at the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting of the Company to be held in 2024 unless previously renewed, revoked or varied by the Company in general meeting, save that the Company may at any time before the expiry of this authorisation make an offer or enter into an agreement which would or might require shares to be allotted or relevant rights to be granted after the expiry of this authorisation and the Directors of the Company may allot shares or grant relevant rights in pursuance of any such offer or agreement as if the authorisation conferred hereby had not expired.
11. THAT subject to the passing of Resolution numbered 10 above and in substitution for all existing powers the Directors be empowered pursuant to Sections 570 and 573 of the Companies Act 2006 (the "Act") to allot equity securities (within the meaning of Section 560 (1), (2) and (3) of the Act) either pursuant to the authorisation under Section 551 of the Act as conferred by Resolution 10 above or by way of a sale of treasury shares, in each case for cash as if Section 561(1) of the Act did not apply to such allotment, provided that this power shall be limited to:

- i. The allotment of equity securities (otherwise than pursuant to sub-paragraph (b) below) up to an aggregate nominal amount of £779,314 which are, or are to be, wholly paid up in cash, at a price representing a premium to the net asset value per share at allotment, as determined by the Directors, and do not exceed up to 10% of the issued share capital (as at the date of the Annual General Meeting convened by this notice); and
- ii. the allotment of equity securities in connection with an offer to (a) all holders of Ordinary shares of 5p each in the capital of the Company in proportion (as nearly as may be) to the respective numbers of Ordinary shares held by them and (b) to holders of other equity securities as required by the rights of those securities (but subject in either case to such exclusions limits or restrictions or other arrangements as the Directors may consider necessary or appropriate to deal with treasury shares, fractional entitlements, record dates, legal, regulatory or practical problems in or under the laws of, or requirements of, any regulatory body or any stock exchange in any territory or otherwise howsoever) at a price representing a premium to the net asset value per share at allotment, as determined by the Directors; and

such power shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting of the Company to be held in 2024, but so that this power shall enable the Company to make offers or agreements before such expiry which would or might require equity securities to be allotted after such expiry and the Directors may do so as if such expiry had not occurred.

12. THAT, the Company be generally and unconditionally authorised in accordance with Section 701 of the Companies Act 2006 (the "Act") to make market purchases (within the meaning of Section 693(4) of the Act) of Ordinary shares of 5p each in the capital of the Company ("Ordinary shares"), and to cancel or hold in treasury such shares provided that:

- i. the maximum number of Ordinary shares hereby authorised to be purchased is 14.99% of the Ordinary shares in issue as at the date of the passing of this Resolution 12;
- ii. the minimum price which may be paid for an Ordinary share is 5p;
- iii. the maximum price (exclusive of expenses) which may be paid for an Ordinary share shall not be more than the higher of (i) an amount equal to 5% above the average of the middle market quotations for an Ordinary share taken from the London Stock Exchange Daily Official List for the five business days immediately preceding the date on which the Ordinary share is contracted to be purchased; and (ii) the higher of the price of the last independent trade and the current highest independent bid on the trading venue where the purchase is carried out;
- iv. any purchase of shares will be made in the market for cash at prices below the prevailing net asset value per share (as determined by the Directors);
- v. the authority hereby conferred shall expire at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting of the Company to be held in 2024 unless such authority is renewed, revoked or varied prior to such time by the Company in general meeting; and
- vi. the Company may make a contract to purchase Ordinary shares under the authority hereby conferred prior to the expiry of such authority which will or may be executed wholly or partly after the expiration of such authority and may make a purchase of Ordinary shares pursuant to any such contract.

13. THAT a general meeting other than an Annual General Meeting may be called on not less than 14 days' notice.

**By order of the Board**  
**abrdn Holdings Limited**

Company Secretary  
 19 October 2023

**Registered Office**  
 280 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4AG

# Notice of Annual General Meeting

## Continued

### Notes

- i. In accordance with Section 311A of the Companies Act 2006, the contents of this Notice of Meeting, details of the total number of shares in respect of which members are entitled to exercise voting rights at the AGM and, if applicable, any members' statements, members' resolutions or members' matters of business received by the Company after the date of this notice will be available on the Company's website **asia-focus.co.uk**.
- ii. As a member, you are entitled to appoint a proxy or proxies to exercise all or any of your rights to attend, speak and vote at the Meeting. A proxy need not be a member of the Company. You may appoint more than one proxy provided each proxy is appointed to exercise rights attached to different shares. You may not appoint more than one proxy to exercise the rights attached to any one share. A form of proxy is enclosed.
- iii. To be valid, any form of proxy or other instrument of proxy and any power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which they are signed or a notarially certified copy of that power of attorney or authority should be sent to the Company's registrars so as to arrive not less than 48 hours before the time fixed for the meeting. The return of a completed form of proxy or other instrument of proxy will not prevent you attending the Meeting and voting in person if you wish to do so.
- iv. The right to vote at the meeting is determined by reference to the Company's Register of Members as at 6.30 p.m. on 1 December 2023 or, if this meeting is adjourned, at 6.30 p.m. on the day two business days prior to the adjourned meeting. Changes to the entries on that Register after that time shall be disregarded in determining the rights of any member to attend and vote at the meeting.
- v. As a member you have the right to put questions at the meeting relating to the business being dealt with at the meeting.
- vi. CREST members who wish to appoint a proxy or proxies by utilising the CREST electronic proxy appointment service may do so for the Meeting and any adjournment(s) thereof by utilising the procedures described in the CREST Manual. CREST Personal Members or other CREST sponsored members, and those CREST members who have appointed a voting service provider(s), should refer to their CREST sponsor or voting service provider(s), who will be able to take the appropriate action on their behalf.
- vii. In order for a proxy appointment made by means of CREST to be valid, the appropriate CREST message (a "CREST Proxy Instruction") must be properly authenticated in accordance with Euroclear UK & Ireland Limited's ("EUI") specifications and must contain the information required for such instructions, as described in the CREST Manual which can be viewed at [euroclear.com](http://euroclear.com). The message must be transmitted so as to be received by the issuer's agent (ID RA19) by the latest time(s) for receipt of proxy appointments specified in the notice of Meeting. For this purpose, the time of receipt will be taken to be the time (as determined by the timestamp applied to the message by the CREST Applications Host) from which the issuer's agent is able to retrieve the message by enquiry to CREST in the manner prescribed by CREST.
- viii. CREST members and, where applicable, their CREST sponsors or voting service providers should note that EUI does not make available special procedures in CREST for any particular messages. Normal system timings and limitations will therefore apply in relation to the input of CREST Proxy Instructions. It is the responsibility of the CREST member concerned to take (or, if the CREST member is a CREST personal member or sponsored member or has appointed a voting service provider(s), to procure that his CREST sponsor or voting service provider(s) take(s)) such action as shall be necessary to ensure that a message is transmitted by means of the CREST system by any particular time. In this connection, CREST members and, where applicable, their CREST sponsors or voting service providers are referred, in particular, to those sections of the CREST Manual concerning practical limitations of the CREST system and timings.
- ix. You may also submit your proxy votes via the internet. You can do so by visiting [www.sharevote.co.uk](http://www.sharevote.co.uk). You will require your voting ID, task ID and Shareholder Reference Number. This information can be found under your name on your form of proxy. Alternatively, shareholders who have already registered with Equiniti Registrars' online portfolio service, Shareview, can appoint their proxy electronically by logging on to their portfolio at [www.shareview.co.uk](http://www.shareview.co.uk) using their user ID and password. Once logged in, click "view" on the "My Investments" page. Click on the link to vote and follow the on screen instructions.
- x. The Company may treat as invalid a CREST Proxy Instruction in the circumstances set out in Regulation 35(5)(a) of the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001.

- xi. Any person to whom this notice is sent who is a person nominated under Section 146 of the Companies Act 2006 to enjoy information rights (a "Nominated Person") may, under an agreement between them and the member by whom they were nominated, have a right to be appointed (or to have someone else appointed) as a proxy for the Meeting. If a Nominated Person has no such proxy appointment right or does not wish to exercise it, they may, under any such agreement, have a right to give instructions to the member as to the exercise of voting rights. Any person holding 3% of the total voting rights in the Company who appoints a person other than the Chair as his or her proxy(ies) will need to ensure that both he or she and such proxy(ies) comply with their respective disclosure obligations under the UK Disclosure and Transparency Rules.
- xii. The statement of the rights of members in relation to the appointment of proxies in paragraphs (ii) and (iii) above does not apply to Nominated Persons. The rights described in these paragraphs can only be exercised by members of the Company.
- xiii. As at close of business on 19 October 2023 (being the latest practicable date prior to publication of this document), the Company's issued share capital comprised 155,862,978 Ordinary shares of 5 pence each and there were a further 52,839,590 shares held in treasury. Each Ordinary share carries the right to one vote at a general meeting of the Company and therefore the total number of voting rights in the Company as at close of business on 19 October 2023 is 155,862,978. Treasury shares represent 25.1% of the total issued Ordinary share capital (inclusive of treasury shares).
- xiv. No Director has a service contract with the Company, however, copies of Directors' letters of appointment will be available for inspection for at least 15 minutes prior to the meeting and during the meeting.
- xv. Under Section 338 of the Companies Act 2006, members may require the Company to give, to members of the Company entitled to receive this Notice of Meeting, notice of a resolution which may properly be moved and is intended to be moved at the Meeting. Under Section 338A of that Act, members may request the Company to include in the business to be dealt with at the Meeting any matter (other than a proposed resolution) which may be properly included in the business.
- xvi. Members should note that it is possible that, pursuant to requests made by the members of the Company under Section 527 of the Companies Act 2006, the Company may be required to publish on a website a statement setting out any matter relating to: (i) the audit of the Company's Annual Report and financial statements (including the auditors' report and the conduct of the audit) that are to be laid out before the Meeting; or (ii) any circumstances connected with an auditor of the Company ceasing to hold office since the previous meeting at which the Annual Report and financial statements was laid in accordance with Section 437 of the Companies Act 2006. The Company may not require the members requesting any such website publication to pay its expenses in complying with Sections 527 or 528 of the Companies Act 2006. Where the Company is required to place a statement on a website under Section 527 of the Companies Act 2006, it must forward the statement to the Company's auditors not later than the time when it makes the statement available on the website. The business which may be dealt with at the Meeting includes any statement that the Company has been required under Section 527 of the Companies Act 2006 to publish on the website.
- xvii. Pursuant to Section 319A of the Companies Act 2006, the Company must cause to be answered at the AGM any question relating to the business being dealt with at the AGM which is put by a member attending the meeting, except in certain circumstances, including if it is undesirable in the interests of the Company or the good order of the meeting that the question be answered or if to do so would involve the disclosure of confidential information.
- xviii. You may not use any electronic address provided either in this Notice of Meeting or any related documents (including the Form of Proxy) to communicate with the Company for any purposes other than those expressly stated.
- xix. There are special arrangements for holders of shares through the abrdn Investment Plan for Children, abrdn Share Plan and abrdn Investment Trusts ISA ('Plan Participants'). These are explained in the separate 'Letter of Direction' which Plan Participants will have received with this Annual Reports.