Ascension

ASCENSION KNOWLEDGE INTENSIVE EIS FUND

Consumer Duty & Fair Value Assessment

The UK Seed Fund

— ascension.vc

87 Tax Efficient Review
Ascension EIS Score

7th VC sifted Top 50
Top 50 Best Performing Investors

7th CBINSIGHTS
Top 50 UK Venture Investors

Beauhurst
Top 10 most active London VCs over past decade

UKBAA ANGEL INVESTMENT AWARDS 2022 WINNER
Seed VC of the year

One of the most active impact VCs in Europe

Beauhurst
UKs most active impact investor

Ascension KI EIS Fund Consumer Duty and Fair Value Assesment October 2025

Product	Ascension Knowledge Intensive EIS Fund is an HMRC Approved Knowledge-Intensive Enterprise Investment Scheme ("EIS") fund. The Product is an unauthorised Alternative Investment Fund ("AIF") and consists of a collection of parallel discretionary managed portfolios. This product places capital at risk, and an investor could lose the entirety of the invested amount.
Purpose of the fair value assessment	Assessing the value of the Ascension Knowledge Intensive EIS Fund for retail customers.
Overview of the product under assessment	The Fund has a fixed closing date and invests in a portfolio of approximately 10-12 UK-based, R&D-intensive technology companies for each investor, with capital typically deployed over a twelve-month period. A key feature is the approved fund structure, which provides a single EIS5 certificate to investors, simplifying tax administration. The Fund focuses on the late-seed stage, which can offer attractive returns due to lower entry valuations. It provides an opportunity for retail investors to invest in an EIS Fund that co-invests alongside institutional VCs, but with the benefits of KI EIS tax reliefs. The Fund is run by an experienced team of entrepreneurs and investment professionals.
Product name and type	**Ascension Knowledge Intensive EIS Fund.**

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Target market and retail customers	The Fund is for retail customers seeking long-term investments while also seeking tax advantages, and for Professional Clients. Investors should understand the specific risks of investing in Knowledge-Intensive companies, including longer commercialisation pathways and technology risk. The target market includes retail clients who are: • Certified high net worth investors. • Certified sophisticated investors. • Self-certified sophisticated investors or certified restricted investors. • Investors who have been advised by qualified investment advisors. • Investors who understand the risk of investing in early-stage, unquoted companies. Clients who should not invest: • Investors without sufficient knowledge and experience. • Investors who need quick access to capital. • Investors seeking capital preservation without risking losses. • Investors with a low risk tolerance.
Potential vulnerabilities of retail customers in the target market	• Clients may have limited investment knowledge or be risk-averse. • The product can be attractive to individuals later in life, and age-related health vulnerabilities may exist. • Distributors should consider the illiquid nature of the product when assessing suitability.
Limitations of the product	• Investors must be able to bear the total loss of their investment. • A minimum holding period of 3 years is required to access EIS tax benefits. • This is an illiquid, long-term investment with a target holding period of 3-10 years; investors must accept that exit timelines will vary.

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Nature of the product, including expected benefits and quality	The product provides access to a portfolio of early-stage, R&D-intensive UK technology companies and is managed by a team with an established track record. Key benefits include: • **Generous Tax Reliefs:** The fund is structured to allow investors to claim EIS tax reliefs, including up to 30% income tax relief, tax-free capital growth, loss relief, and 100% inheritance tax relief after two years. • **Simplified Tax Administration:** As an HMRC Approved Fund, investors receive a single EIS5 certificate, allowing them to claim tax relief on their entire subscription for the tax year in which the fund closes. • **Higher Investment Allowance:** The Knowledge-Intensive focus allows investors to potentially double their annual EIS investment limit from £1 million to £2 million.
Limitations of the product	• Investors must be able to bear the total loss of their investment. • A minimum holding period of 3 years is required to maintain EIS tax benefits. • This is an illiquid, long-term investment with a target holding period of 3-10 years; investors must accept that exit timelines will vary. • Investing in Knowledge-Intensive companies carries specific risks, including that the core technology may fail to develop or that such companies may require longer and more capital-intensive pathways to commercialisation.
Non-financial benefits	• Dedicated customer support. • Quarterly valuation updates. • Biannual portfolio company updates. • Investor events and co-investment opportunities.

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Fees and Charges	• **Minimum investment amount:** £25,000. • **Upfront Investment Fee:** A one-off fee of 5% of the subscription amount is paid by the investor upon subscription. • **Deferred Annual Management Fee:** A fee of 1% p.a. (+VAT) is charged. For years 1-5, this is calculated on the total subscription. From year 6 to 10, it is calculated on the cost of investments remaining in the portfolio (subject to a minimum of 0.5% of the initial subscription). No management fees are charged after year 10. • **Performance Fee:** A tiered fee is charged on distributed proceeds only after investors have received significant returns: • **20%** of returns above **£1.30** for every £1.00 subscribed. • **30%** of returns above **£2.30** for every £1.00 subscribed. • **Other Fees:** A **2.5%** fee applies to follow-on investments and a **0.25%** transaction fee is deducted from exit distributions. The Manager may also charge investee companies a fee of up to 5%, which is not paid by the investor.
Fair Value Assessment	• **Evaluation:** Yes. The Manager believes that the Ascension Knowledge Intensive EIS Fund offers fair value for investors. This is justified by the transparent fee structure, the 10-year cap on management fees, and the market-leading performance fee hurdles that ensure strong alignment between the Manager and its investors. • **Review Schedule:** The value assessment will be reviewed annually. • **Triggers for Earlier Review:** Significant market changes, regulatory updates, or changes in tax legislation may trigger an earlier review.

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