

Premier SSAS Non-Standard Investment Questionnaire

Introduction

Whilst the investment decisions under the terms of the Premier SSAS ultimately rest with the Member Trustees, Options SSAS Limited (“Options UK”) will need to assess the terms and risks associated with such investments. Options UK are not authorised to offer investment advice.

If having reviewed the investment, Options UK feel that the investment is unsuitable for whatever reason, this will be conveyed to our co-trustees in writing.

In the event that the Member Trustees unanimously insist on proceeding, Options UK reserve the right to:

- not be a party to the investment; and/or
- resign as Scheme Administrator; and/or
- resign as Professional Trustee.

It may still be possible for Options UK to act on a practioner basis subject to the circumstances.

Background

The structure of non-standard investments will generally be complex, high risk and un-regulated. Therefore, these investments are unlikely to qualify for any compensation by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme should they fail.

Non-standard investments often promise returns well in excess of standard regulated investments such as Unit Trusts, OEICs, Investment Trusts etc. Such investments are often promoted by unregulated introducers who will generally be paid significant commission for introducing new investors. Promotional materials may often appear slick and professional and the suggested returns can be enticing to tempt investment. However, the downside is that the risk of losing some or all of your original capital is significantly higher than for most regulated investments. The risks are not always clearly indicated or expressed and the structure of these investments can be very difficult to understand.

You only have to open the first few pages of the financial press to read about yet another failed investment firm or ‘opportunity’. One of the reasons why these investments are so risky is that their performance and returns are often directly linked to the success of an underlying factor such as property development, new business/product enterprise, environmental or green initiatives. This is not to say that all non-standard investments should be avoided or are doomed to failure. For experienced investors, with a clear understanding of the investment structure, risks involved and perhaps most importantly, who have a high capacity for loss and an appropriate appetite for risk, they can be suitable.

Non-Standard Investment Information

How did you find out about the investment?

FCA Authorised Financial Adviser

Cold call/ mailing

Family member/ friend/ acquaintance

Press advertisement

Other (please confirm)

Have you received advice in relation to this investment from a financial adviser authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)?

Name of Adviser:

Name of Adviser Firm:

Firm FCA Registration Number:

Have you received any personal incentive to invest?

If yes please provide details:

What is the expected term of the investment and can you exit early, if so are there any penalties?

Why do you believe this to be a prudent investment for the pension scheme in comparison to potentially safer and lower risk regulated investments?

About You

Please answer the following questions after referring to the definitions below.

Member trustee name	Sophisticated investor?	High net worth individual?

Sophisticated investor	High net worth individual
At least one of the following statements must apply:	At least one of the following statements must apply:
<p>a) You are a member of a network or syndicate of business angels and have been so for at least the last 6 months.</p> <p>b) You have made more than one investment in an unlisted company in the previous two years.</p> <p>c) You are working, or have worked in the previous two years in a professional capacity in the private equity sector, or in the provision of finance for small and medium enterprises.</p> <p>d) You are currently, or have been in the previous two years a director of a company with an annual turnover of at least £1 million.</p>	<p>a) You had during the last financial year an annual income of at least £100,000.</p> <p>b) You held throughout the last financial year net assets of at least £250,000. Net assets for these purposes does not include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The property which is your primary residence or any loan secured on that residence; • Any rights you hold under a qualifying contract of insurance within the meaning of the Financial Services and markets act 2000 (Regulated Activities) Order 2001; • Any benefits (in the form of pensions or otherwise) which are payable on the termination of your service or on your death or retirement and to which you are (or your dependants are) or may be entitled.

Documentation

To enable us to carry out as complete an assessment as possible, in addition to this questionnaire, please ensure that as much information is supplied as possible.

Investment Prospectus

Application Form

Key Features

Any other information deemed relevant to the application and our understanding of it

Non-Standard Investment Risks

Typical risks associated with this type of investment could be, but are not limited to, any of the following:

Equity/Capital: The risk that your capital at the end of an investment period is worth less than at the beginning or even that your entire capital investment will be lost.

Currency: A form of risk that arises from the change in price of one currency against another. Whenever investors or companies have assets or business operations across national borders, they face currency risk if their positions are not hedged.

Interest Rate: The risk that the return that is earned will vary depending upon movements in interest rates. This can have knock on effect triggering the crystallisation of other risks.

Liquidity: The risk that an asset cannot be sold at a given time to realise funds.

Counterparty or Default Risk: The risk that the counterparty to a contract i.e. the provider or their agents will not live up to their contractual obligations.

Regulatory: The risk that a change in laws and regulations will materially impact an investment, business, sector or market. A change in laws or regulations made by the government or a regulatory body can increase the costs of operating a business, reduce the attractiveness of investment and/or change the competitive landscape.

Income: The risk that the income stream paid by the investment will decrease in response to a drop in interest rates or investment performance.

Inflation: The risk arises from the decline in value of cash deposit due to inflation. It is measured in terms of purchasing power.

Shortfall: The amount by which a financial need, obligation or liability exceeds the amount of cash that is available. A shortfall can be temporary in nature, arising out of a unique set of circumstances or it can be persistent, in which case it may indicate poor financial management practices.

Trustee Declaration

I/We, being the Member Trustee(s) unanimously confirm that I/we:

Have a clear understanding of the investment.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Understand and accept the potentially higher risks associated with the investment.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Have read and understood all of the information and investment terms provided by the promoter, provider or adviser.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Understand that there is no guarantee that any claim from any party purporting to enhanced returns will actually materialise.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Have the capacity to absorb a total loss of the investment.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Understand that the provider may not be authorised or regulated by the FCA, the UK's primary regulator.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Understand that the investment is unlikely to be covered under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Understand that we may be unable to seek redress via the Financial Ombudsman Service or Pensions Ombudsman.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Understand that the investment may be illiquid and that it may not be possible to encash or sell it prior to the end of the term and that this may cause issues should transfers or benefits need to be paid.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Understand that the investment could result in significant delays or issues (including tax charges) in the payment of any death benefits.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Understand that periodic valuations may not be available possibly resulting in the investment being excluded from benefit calculations.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

I/We have considered this transaction in connection with my/our pension investments and confirm that I/We have not received any investment or financial advice from Options UK which has no responsibility for any risks, financial loss (however arising) or liquidity constraints arising from this investment instruction.

I/We understand that Options UK has the discretion to exclude itself as a party to this investment instruction, and shall not have any liability if it exercises this discretion.

I/We will indemnify and will keep Options UK indemnified in respect of any loss or liability or tax charges that may incur as a consequence of this transaction.

I/We confirm that I/we authorise and instruct Options UK to give effect to this.

Member Trustee Name: <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/> Signature: <input style="width: 100%; border: 1px dashed black;" type="text"/>	Member Trustee Name: <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/> Signature: <input style="width: 100%; border: 1px dashed black;" type="text"/>
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Date: Day Month Year



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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