

### Overview of the year

Having emerged from restrictions intended to minimise the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2022, the world entered a period of heightened geopolitical tensions. The two combined led to higher levels of inflation and, as a result, interest rates not seen for over a decade, albeit arguably more “normal”. Central bankers continue to try to walk a fine line in attempts to control inflation while not raising interest rates to a level which stifles economic growth. As our Investment Manager mentions in their report, the developed world in particular has been forced to move on from a period when the cost of capital was kept artificially low.

I said at the half-year stage that our Investment Manager was seeing a range of investment opportunities and over the year many of those opportunities bore fruit. Against a difficult economic and political background, it is pleasing to report a NAV total return<sup>1</sup> of 15.3%, which was both a strong absolute return and notably higher than our benchmark index.

### Comparator benchmark index

There is no benchmark index which closely matches our Investment Manager’s approach and investment philosophy. Nevertheless, we are aware that some (but by no means all) shareholders measure returns compared with an index. For the past several years our benchmark has been the MSCI AC World ex-US Index, reflecting the fact that when we adopted that benchmark AGT had no direct exposure to the USA and relatively little indirect exposure. Over the last few years our exposure to the USA, especially considering our underlying exposure, has increased. How we measure AVI’s performance has been a regular subject of discussion by the Board and we have now concluded that the MSCI AC World Index (that is, the version of the index including the USA) is the most appropriate comparator benchmark.

In making this change, it is important for shareholders to recognise that we are still unlikely, nor is the investment manager targeting, to have similar weightings in the Company’s portfolio to those in the index and that this change of benchmark will not affect in any way the approach to investing or the investments in the portfolio. I set out below our performance versus the new and previous comparator benchmarks. We will continue to report performance against both for historic reference. Having taken the considered decision to make this benchmark change, we expect this to remain our benchmark going forward.

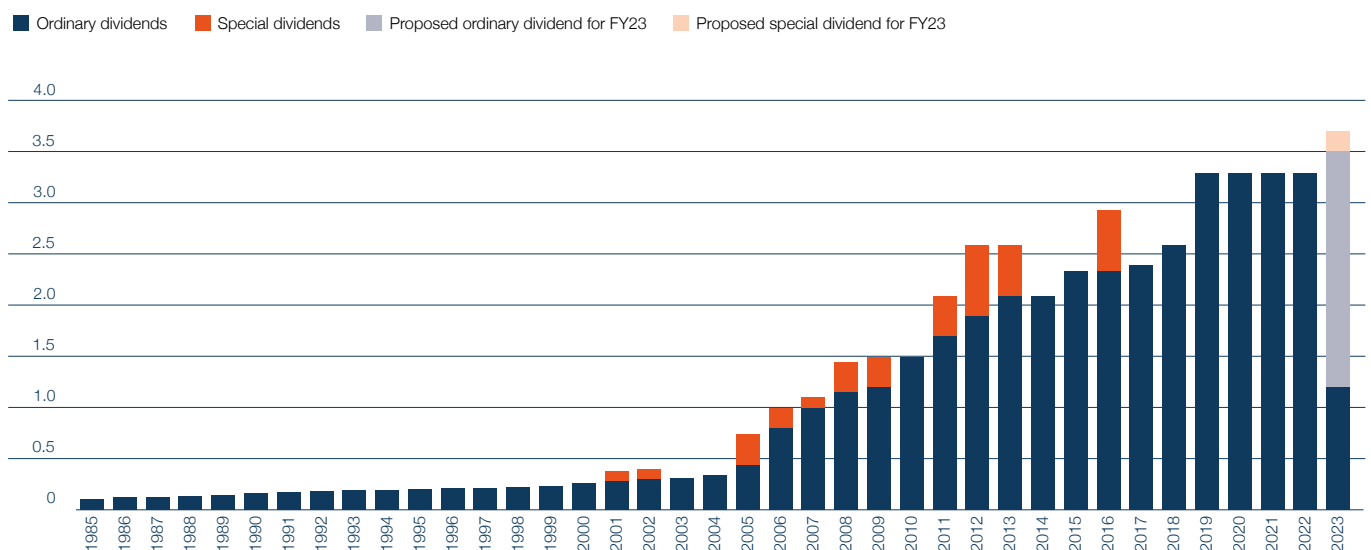
Total return (£)	1 year	5 years
AVI Global Trust NAV	+15.3%	+48.7%
MSCI AC World Index	+10.5%	+41.1%
MSCI AC World ex-US Index	+10.1%	+21.3%

### Revenue and dividend

Revenue earnings for the year under review were 4.19 pence per share. At the half year stage we paid an interim dividend of 1.2 pence per share, which was the same as last year. The proposed final dividend is 2.3 pence per share. This year’s income includes elements of revenue that the Directors consider to be one off and we have therefore decided to pay a special dividend of 0.2 pence per share. The one off increase in revenue includes refunds of previously charged taxes and interest on cash. The total ordinary dividend for the year will therefore be 3.5 pence per share, an increase of 6% compared with the previous year’s total of 3.3 pence and the total including the special dividend will be 3.7 pence. The Board recognises that a dividend which is steady and able to rise over time is attractive to many shareholders but, as we have consistently said, the portfolio is managed primarily for capital growth.

<sup>1</sup> See Glossary.

### Dividend track-record (£)\*



\* Restated for Share Split.