



# **Vanguard Asset Management, Ltd.**

MIFIDPRU Public Disclosure  
31 December 2024

# Contents

- 1. Introduction .....2
- 2. Risk management objectives and policies .....3
- 3. Governance arrangements .....9
- 4. Own funds .....15
- 5. Own funds requirements .....18
- 6. Remuneration policy and practices .....21
- 7. Investment policy .....25
- Glossary .....26
- Important Information .....27

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. Purpose

### 1.1.1. Vanguard background

VGI is the ultimate parent company of the Vanguard UK Group. VGI is a US SEC-registered investment adviser and one of the world's leading investment management firms with over \$10 trillion in global AUM and more than 50 million clients worldwide.

Since its establishment in 1975, VGI has been committed to the provision of a high-quality service to its clients with a unique mutual ownership structure which aligns its interests with those of its investors. As a result, investors benefit from Vanguard's commitment to putting their interests first. Vanguard's structure underpins its core purpose, which is to take a stand for all investors, treat them fairly and give them the best chance for investment success.

VAM is a wholly owned subsidiary of VAS, the parent entity of the Vanguard UK Group. VAM is designated as a MIFIDPRU investment firm under IFPR (it is a Non-SNI MIFIDPRU Investment Firm) and is regulated by the FCA. VAM performs a range of activities which include portfolio management and the operation of the UK personal investor platform.

### 1.1.2. Disclosure overview

The IFPR came into force on 1 January 2022 and applies to investment firms which are authorised in accordance with the provisions of the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive ("MiFID").

The disclosures within this document (the "Disclosures") are prepared for VAM on a standalone entity basis (VAM is the only entity in scope firm for the MIFIDPRU public disclosure rules).

## 1.2. Basis of Disclosures

These Disclosures have been made in accordance with the requirements of section 8 of MIFIDPRU 8. The Disclosures include VAM's risk management objectives and policies, governance arrangements, own funds and own funds requirements, remuneration policy and practices and investment policy.

VAM has an accounting reference date of 31 December, and the Disclosures are published annually in line with the publication of VAM's audited financial statements (or more frequently in the event of material changes).

The Disclosures are subject to internal review, challenge and approval prior to publication. The Disclosures are not required to be subject to an independent external audit. The Disclosures are published on the VAM corporate website at the following location:

<https://fund-docs.vanguard.com/>

## 2. RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

### 2.1. Overview

Vanguard puts considerable focus and resources on assessing and managing risks across the Vanguard Group. Senior management view risk management as being central to formulating and executing strategy to achieve business objectives, for ensuring good outcomes for clients, safeguarding the interests of staff, and meeting legal and regulatory obligations.

The Boards of the legal entities are ultimately responsible for managing risks effectively. This responsibility is discharged by the Boards via the governance structure in place, the approval and operation of the Enterprise Risk Management Framework (“ERMF”) including the Risk Appetite Framework and corresponding risk limits.

The ERMF is the key guidance document which establishes a clear and consistent approach to identification, assessment, mitigation and monitoring & reporting on risks to business objectives. It also articulates roles and responsibilities with regards to risk management. This enables the Vanguard UK Group to meet its commitment to proactively manage risk.

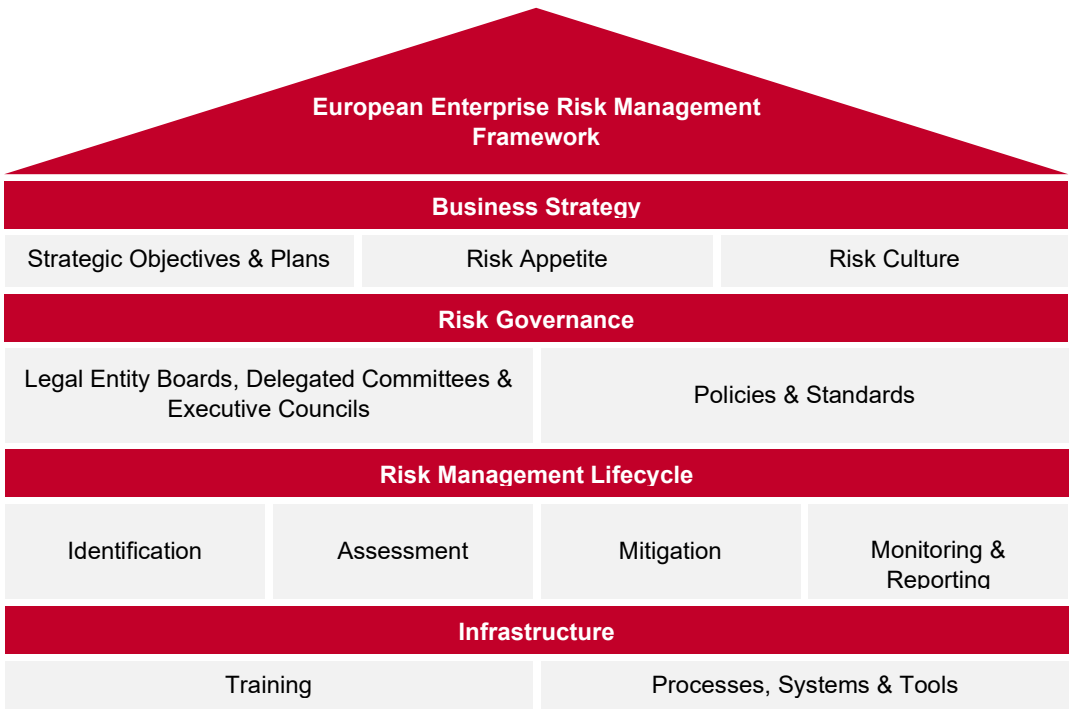
The ERMF is reviewed annually and is approved by the Board of each regulated legal entity in the Vanguard UK Group and is also subject to periodic Internal Audit review.

### 2.2. Enterprise Risk Management Framework

The ERMF applies to all Vanguard UK Group legal entities and is designed to ensure the consideration of risk in key business activities and decision making. The ERMF is designed to ensure that the overall operating model supports the effective management of risk within the guardrails as set out within the Boards’ Risk Appetite statement. Formal governance structures support executive and regional board risk awareness and risk management oversight through dedicated Risk and Compliance Councils and Committees.

The key components of the ERMF are shown in figure 1:

Figure 1: ERM Framework



### **2.2.1. Business Strategy**

The European Boards are responsible for setting business strategy. Strategy is set at the regional (European) level with each legal entity Board responsible for the specific components applicable to that entity and for cascading to the relevant local businesses across Europe to implement. The strategy determines the types and levels of risks that the business faces and is willing to accept in order to achieve its business objectives.

### **2.2.2. Risk Governance and Approach to Mitigating Risks**

The Board discharges its responsibilities in relation to Enterprise Risk Management by delegating authority to its Board Committees and Councils, as set out in Section 3, Governance Arrangements.

Vanguard's European Chief Risk Officer is a member of the European Leadership Team ("ELT") and is responsible for overseeing the Global Risk and Security ("GR&S") function across Europe, which enables our strategy; protects clients, staff, and company interests; and stewards a risk-smart culture. Another primary responsibility of the GR&S function is to protect clients, the market and the firm from existing threats and vulnerabilities which have the potential to cause material harm.

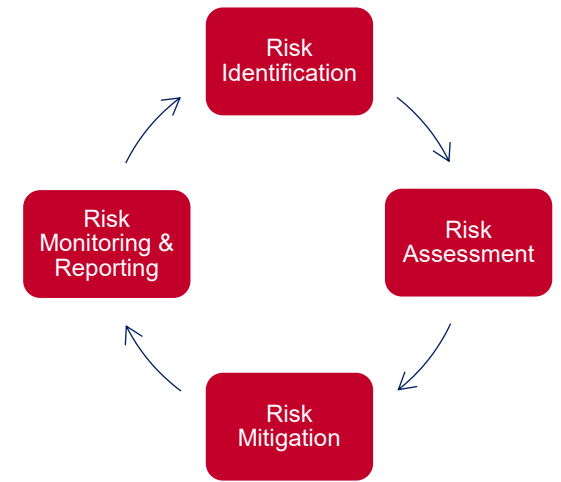
Vanguard employs a three lines of defence model which supports the mitigation of risk. The first line of defence protecting clients, markets and the firm is the business itself. Since the business owns both their risks and controls, business leaders and staff have the ongoing responsibility of validating that controls are working and managing risks associated with their operations.

Responsibilities at the business level are supplemented by the second line of defence, which comprises internal subject matter experts, including GR&S, the Office of the General Council and Compliance, which, among other things establish enterprise-wide policies and procedures and advise on matters within their expertise.

Vanguard's Internal Audit function is the third line of defence, serving as a broad, independent, and objective function with direct accountability to the board of directors. Internal Audit provides an independent assessment of internal control design and effectiveness across the organisation, and highlights improvement opportunities to the business leadership teams.

### 2.2.3. Risk Management Lifecycle

The risk management lifecycle (see diagram below) is a continuous, interlocking process and a fundamental component of the ERMF which provides the mechanism by which the Boards of the legal entities gain assurance of the strength and maturity of the control environment.



**Risk Identification:** The possibility that events will occur which affect Vanguard's ability to achieve its business objectives.

**Risk Assessment:** The steps taken to assess risks, including the likelihood and impacts of the risk given the controls in place.

**Risk Mitigation:** The actions taken by management to respond to residual risk exposures outside of risk appetite.

**Risk Monitoring and Reporting:** The process of tracking risks to continually identify, assess, and manage risks, and Vanguard's ability to monitor and report on these risks.

## 2.3. Vanguard's Risk Profile

### 2.3.1. Vanguard European Risk Universe

Vanguard Europe seeks to address a broad spectrum of risk, and has established clear standards for identifying, assessing, and managing/mitigating risks, as well as counselling on controls across the Group. Specifically, Vanguard Europe focuses on eight primary domains of risk:



**Financial** risks relate to the organisation's ability to manage its financial resources efficiently and responsibly.

Vanguard UK Group and VAM solo regularly assesses their balance sheets and monitors the environment to ensure a sound financial position that a) enables Vanguard UK Group and VAM solo to operate effectively and b) efficiently mitigates business and operational risk, whilst ensuring that Vanguard UK Group and VAM solo can meet their obligations as they fall due.

Own Funds (MIFIDPRU 4) and Liquidity (MIFIDPRU 6) are monitored as part of the financial risk assessment. The Own Funds Requirement ('OFR') and the Liquid Asset Threshold Requirement ('LATR') determine the minimum level of financial resources requirement by MIFIDPRU Investment Firms, as set out in section 5. Where appropriate, Vanguard maintains additional financial resources to mitigate material potential harms which could impact clients, the firm or the wider market as determined through the ICARA process, see sections 5.5.1 to 5.5.3.

**Operational** risks relate to breakdowns/deficiencies in resiliency preparedness, or process effectiveness or efficiency. The management of operational risk is an integral component of Vanguard's ERMF and involves

a range of policies and procedures implemented by all three lines of defence to enhance controls and minimise potential material harm.

**Regulatory** relates to the risk of fines or enforcement actions from regulators, resulting from breaches of compliance with existing laws, regulations and/or risk management requirements, or Vanguard's inability to influence proposed regulatory activities.

**Reputational** relates to the risk of a potentially tarnished reputation and/or the loss of confidence and trust from our clients/members, community, and broader stakeholders, due to a lack of sound risk management culture or crew misconduct.

**Extended Enterprise** refers to potential disruption to operations, caused by a failure to identify, measure and mitigate risks at key third-party organisations (e.g. contractors, third- or fourth-party suppliers, internal outsourcing arrangements, etc), or a failure to manage such relationships.

Vanguard Europe has a robust program in place to identify, select and continually monitor third-party service providers and business partners to ensure they maintain and demonstrate strong strategic and cultural alignment. Vanguard Europe has defined a global third-party risk management framework, risk-based requirements, and roles and responsibilities for managing and providing oversight to third-party engagements. Risk metrics and reporting provide a means to monitor adherence to Vanguard Europe's risk-based standards and are tailored based on third-party criticality.

**Strategic** refers to management's ability to make appropriate business decisions to prepare for and react to the broader economic, competitive, and regulatory environment. These risks typically manifest themselves over longer durations which threaten the viability of Vanguard Europe's business or impede strategic momentum.

**Technology** relates to potential failures of technology assets to provide what is needed to perform daily business functions, such as system defects, inadequate decision-making supporting IT infrastructure, or illegal or unauthorised use of internal systems.

**Investment** encompass market, credit, and liquidity risks which investment managers incur in their pursuit of returns on behalf of clients. Vanguard Europe does not operate proprietary trading.

As an investment management company, mitigating undue risk whilst achieving superior long-term returns is central to prudent portfolio oversight on behalf of clients. Vanguard Europe has an established Investment Management and Financial Risk ("IMFR") team which is a critical member of GR&S and is responsible for analysing and monitoring investment risk across the UK and Irish Funds. Importantly, IMFR operates independently of the investment management team and reports directly to Vanguard Europe's Chief Risk Officer.

### 2.3.2. Other Risks

**Group Risks** arise from relationships (financial and non-financial) with other entities within the same group. These risks may impact the financial position or operational effectiveness of individual entities within the group or the whole group (e.g. reputational contagion).

**Concentration Risks (MIFIDPRU 5)** span multiple risk categories and comprise the risk of exposures to groups of counterparties, where the likelihood of materialisation is driven by common factors (sector, economy, geography, location, instrument type). Vanguard Europe's risk program is forward looking, not only seeking to manage day-to-day risks, but also to address those linked to not acting through diversification across the business.



### 2.3.3. Potential for Harm Associated with Vanguard's Strategy

Vanguard has a long history of thoughtfully managing risk and protecting clients, dating to the founding of Vanguard's first fund, Vanguard Wellington Fund, in 1929. Unlike its highly leveraged, stock-laden peers, Vanguard Wellington Fund adhered to a balanced approach, diversifying its assets among blue-chip stocks and high-quality bonds. This prudent strategy helped the fund successfully weather the 1929 stock market crash and ensuing bear market.

Today, Vanguard puts considerable focus and resources into assessing and managing risks across the firm. The nature of risks which Vanguard faces and the potential harms which might arise from Vanguard's pursuit of its strategic objectives are fundamentally different from those assumed by banks or other credit institutions. The Vanguard UK Group do not undertake any proprietary trading on their own balance sheets. Moreover, client assets are held in segregated accounts with third party custodians. Discretionary incentives are aligned with client outcomes and based on the Vanguard Group performance. The largest risks taken are operational. Therefore, the potential harm which could be caused by Vanguard's pursuit of strategic objectives is considered relatively low to moderate in comparison to other financial institutions.

Vanguard's risk profile can be distinguished further from other asset managers as follows:

- Vanguard's unique ownership structure and ethos helps avoid conflicts of interest experienced by many other asset managers whereby mutual fund directors are serving two masters, namely the fund management company shareholders and the interests of clients;
- The reduction in costs for Vanguard clients is of significant importance. Seeking to align its low-cost ethos with its culture and unique ownership structure enables behaviours which are centred on client outcomes and providing a sustainable risk adjusted return, which the Vanguard UK Group believes is not prevalent in other asset managers;
- The Vanguard UK Group is not exposed to asset retention risk should one or more of its fund managers leave the organisation. This is due to the continual rotation of staff and the absence of a "star" fund manager culture;
- The Vanguard UK Group's portfolios are exclusively long-only, unleveraged, and funded by client money and/or the US parent company, which sometimes provides "seed" money to launch funds domiciled in the UK. Vanguard UK Group's portfolio teams are not "profit centres" and their remuneration is not derived or based on the amount of AUM;
- The Vanguard UK Group's range of index funds track market indices. As such, there is no incentive for fund manager risk – i.e. managers who might deviate from a fund's core objectives in pursuit of outperformance; and
- The Vanguard UK Group does not have a business model or culture that encourages risk-taking beyond boundaries defined in the European Risk Appetite Framework or in the Vanguard UK Group's remuneration policy.

## 3. GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

### 3.1. Governance

The Board of VAM considers that robust governance arrangements support effective decision-making and help ensure that the business runs smoothly and that material risks are identified, managed, monitored and reported on.

The Board is collectively responsible for the long-term sustainable success of VAM. The Board reviews, constructively challenges and approves the strategy set by management. The Board oversees the achievement of VAM's long-term strategy and provides direction to the business, within a framework of prudent and effective controls which enables risks to be assessed and managed and ensures compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. The Board reviews and approves VAM's Risk Appetite, and challenges the identification, evaluation, prioritisation, monitoring, and management of risks.

To discharge its responsibilities, the Board generally meets five times per year but will meet more frequently if required.

The Board has delegated to the Managing Director, Europe responsibility for managing the day-to-day affairs of VAM in accordance with corporate policies and the Board approved risk appetite. The responsibilities delegated to the Managing Director - Europe include:

- Planning, organising and directing the operations of VAM and providing executive leadership to the organisation;
- Developing business plans and strategies for consideration by the Board and, to the extent approved by the Board, implementing these plans and strategies;
- Providing leadership, direction and goals to VAM and establishing the desired business culture;
- Overseeing the development, implementation and maintenance of appropriate systems and controls to ensure that VAM's operations and business are within the parameters and framework set by the Board from time to time and meet VAM's statutory and regulatory obligations.

The Managing Director, Europe has established the ELT, comprising heads of businesses and functions, as an advisory council to assist in the performance of his duties. Management information and comprehensive reporting is provided regularly by the Managing Director - Europe and members of the ELT to enable the Board to fulfil its statutory and regulatory responsibilities.

### 3.2. VAM Board Composition and Directorship

As of 31 December 2024, the Board comprised non-executive directors ("NEDs") and executive directors ("EDs"). The Board considers its composition and effectiveness annually and makes any necessary changes as required from time to time.

A review of the composition and balance of skills, experience and competence on the Board is carried out by the Nominations Committee of VAM upon the appointment of a new Director. The Nominations Committee has determined that appointed Directors:

- are of sufficiently good repute;
- possess sufficient knowledge, skills and experience to perform their duties;
- possess adequate collective knowledge, skills and experience to understand VAM's activities, including the main risks;
- reflect an adequately broad range of experience;

- can commit sufficient time to perform their functions in VAM; and
- act with honesty, integrity and independence of mind to effectively assess and challenge the decisions of the ELT where necessary and to effectively oversee and monitor management decision-making.

The boards of VAM and VIUK (the ACD / manager of the UK Funds) do not have directors in common to minimise the potential for conflict of interests between the ACD and VAM as the investment management and distribution service provider to the ACD / manager.

In compliance with SYSC 4.3A.5 and SYSC 4.3A.6, the directors of VAM do not hold more directorships than is appropriate for a firm of VAM's nature, scale and complexity. In determining the composition of its Board, VAM has considered its obligation to ensure that directors do not hold more than one of the following combinations of directorship in any organisation at the same time: (a) one executive directorship with two non-executive directorships; and (b) four non-executive directorships.

VAM has also considered, as per MIFIDPRU 8.3.2 R, that (a) directorships in organisations which do not pursue predominantly commercial objectives shall not count and (b) executive or non-executive directorships held within the Vanguard Group count as a single directorship.

In light of the composition of the Board, as of 29 June 2023, no modification or waiver of SYSC 4.3A.6R(1) (a) or (b) was sought from the FCA in order to allow a member of the management body to hold additional directorships.

Composition of the VAM Board as of 1 May 2025:

Name of Director	Title	Other Directorships
Christopher McIsaac	Chair Non-Executive Director	<u>Vanguard</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vanguard Asset Management, Ltd.</li> </ul> <u>External</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saint Joseph's University Board of Trustees</li> <li>The Franklin Institute Board of Trustees</li> </ul>
Kathleen Bock	Non-Executive Director	<u>Vanguard</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vanguard Asset Management, Ltd.</li> <li>Vanguard Investments Canada Inc.</li> <li>VIGM S.A. de C.V., Asesor en Inversiones Independiente</li> </ul> <u>External</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investment Funds Institute of Canada</li> <li>The Canadian ETF Association</li> </ul>
Jonathan Cleborne	Executive Director	<u>Vanguard</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vanguard Asset Management, Ltd.</li> <li>Vanguard Group Europe GmbH</li> <li>Vanguard Group (Ireland) Limited</li> <li>Vanguard Investment Series plc</li> <li>Vanguard Funds plc</li> </ul> <u>External</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Investment Association</li> <li>University of Virginia College Foundation Europe Regional Board</li> </ul>
Lamiece Abdalla	Executive Director	<u>Vanguard</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vanguard Asset Management, Ltd.</li> <li>Vanguard Pension Trustee UK, Ltd.</li> </ul> <u>External</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
Blair Fanning	Executive Director	<u>Vanguard</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vanguard Asset Management, Ltd.</li> <li>Vanguard Asset Services, Ltd.</li> <li>Vanguard UK Nominees Ltd</li> <li>Vanguard Pension Trustee UK Ltd</li> <li>Vanguard Group Europe GmbH</li> </ul> <u>External</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

### 3.3. Board Succession Plan and Diversity Policy

The Board succession plan and Board diversity policy shall be reviewed periodically and the next review is expected to take place on 26 June 2025.

#### 3.3.1. Board Succession Plan

The purpose of the Board succession plan is to provide clarity with respect to the criteria to be considered by the Board in evaluating the composition of the Board and the procedures to be followed in the event of a vacancy arising on the Board. The Board succession plan sets out:

- The formal requirements in relation to Board composition
- The obligations on Directors
- The annual review of Board composition
- The process on resignation / retirement / replacement of a NED, and ED, a Chair or an independent non-executive director (“INED”)
- The procedure to fill temporary vacancies
- Term limits

#### 3.3.2. Board Diversity Policy

The Board Diversity Policy sets out VAM’s approach to diversity on the Board. The Board recognises the benefits of having a diverse Board and is committed to achieving the most appropriate blend and balance of diversity. The objective is to ensure that the Board is diversified with an appropriate mix as regards age, gender, ethnic and educational/socio-economic/professional backgrounds, while achieving compliance by all individuals with regulatory requirements and an overall composition with the requisite experience and skills.

The Board, supported by its Nominations Committee, ultimately aspires to maintain women / men parity on the Board, with a commitment to have no less than 33% women representation on the Board. The Board also supports and monitors management’s actions to increase the proportion of senior leadership roles held by women, people from ethnic minority backgrounds and other under-represented groups.

### 3.4. Committees

The Board has delegated certain activities to its Committees (as detailed below) to help ensure that VAM is managed efficiently and effectively and that risks are identified and overseen with regards to governance and oversight. The Board still retains overall responsibility for the delegated activities and receives appropriate management information and reports to enable its Directors to discharge their responsibilities, including reports and/or minutes from all committees established by the Board.

As a Non-Small and Non-Interconnected MIFIDPRU Investment Firm, VAM is required to establish the following Board Committees, comprising a mix of non-executive and executive directors:

- Nominations Committee
- Risk and Compliance Committee
- Remuneration Committee

In addition, given its nature, size and complexity, VAM also maintains an Audit Committee.

### **3.4.1. Risk and Compliance Committee**

VAM is required by MIFIDPRU 7.3.1R to establish a risk committee. In compliance with its regulatory obligations, the VAM Board has established a Risk and Compliance Committee (“RCC”) with delegated authority to review and discuss significant risk and compliance priorities and oversees risk and compliance issues impacting VAM. At least 50% of the members of the RCC are NEDs.

In addition, the RCC supports the VAM Board with the following: (a) identifying the risks relating to the activities of VAM and overseeing the management of those risks within any risk tolerance, (b) monitoring the effectiveness of the policies, procedures, arrangements, processes, and mechanisms in relation to VAM’s ERMF and (c) reviewing and taking on responsibility for the ICARA Process on behalf of the Vanguard UK Group. The RCC meets and reports to the VAM Board on a quarterly basis.

### **3.4.2. Remuneration Committee**

The Remuneration Committee is a committee of the VAM Board with delegated authority. At least 50% of the members of the Remuneration Committee are NEDs. The Remuneration Committee considers matters relating to the framework and policies underpinning VAM’s remuneration practices.

### **3.4.3. Nominations Committee**

The Nominations Committee is a committee of the VAM Board with delegated authority. At least 50% of the members of the Nominations Committee are NEDs. The Nominations Committee consider matters relating to appointments to the VAM Board and committees.

### **3.4.4. Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee is a committee of the VAM Board with delegated authority. At least 50% of the members of the Audit Committee are NEDs. The Audit Committee has responsibility for providing oversight of VAM’s financial reporting process, the audit process and the system of internal controls and serving as a focal point for communication between the external auditors, Internal Audit and members of senior management in relation to such matters.

## **3.5. Additional information on the internal governance of VAM**

In addition to the above, the internal governance arrangements set out below enable the VAM Board to define, oversee and remain accountable for the implementation of governance arrangements that ensure effective and prudent management of VAM, including the segregation of duties in the organisation and the prevention of conflicts of interest, in a manner that promotes the integrity of the market and the interests of clients.

### **3.5.1. Consumer Duty Champion**

As part of the Consumer Duty regulation which came into force on 31 July 2023, VAM has appointed a Consumer Duty champion, a member of the Board who is expected to ensure that the Consumer Duty is being regularly discussed in a meaningful way. The primary role of the champion is to support the Chair and Managing Director, Europe in raising the Consumer Duty regularly in all relevant discussions, as well as challenging the Board on how it is embedding Consumer Duty and focusing on consumer outcomes.

### **3.5.2. Whistleblowers' Champion**

The Audit Committee chair is appointed as whistleblowers' champion with responsibility for ensuring and overseeing the integrity, independence and effectiveness of policies and procedures on whistleblowing.

### **3.5.3. The ELT**

The ELT acts as an advisory council to the Managing Director, Europe in the day-to-day management of the business and comprises the Managing Director, Europe and other senior managers from various departments including Distribution, Product, Marketing, Office of the General Counsel (which comprises Government Relations, Legal, Compliance and Investment Stewardship), Investment Management Group, HR, Risk and Finance.

Five councils with terms of reference have been created to support the ELT in discharging its responsibilities and fulfilling its role towards the VAM Board.

The ELT, and the councils supporting it (see below for further details), do not have delegated authority from the Board but are a key component of the overall risk control and governance framework of the firm. They ensure proper focus and oversight on key areas of operational and regulatory risk.

In relation to VAM, the following councils are overseen by, and serve in an advisory capacity to the ELT.

#### **3.5.3.1. European Operating Council ("EOC")**

The EOC oversees the day-to-day management of key operational matters of the business including third party outsourcing, client assets, complaints, financial crime and regulatory change.

#### **3.5.3.2. European Risk and Compliance Council ("ERCC")**

The role of the ERCC is to facilitate executive management of risk and compliance issues across the Vanguard European business, promote debate and discussion and facilitate escalation of issues to relevant Vanguard European Boards and Committees.

#### **3.5.3.3. European Conflicts Council ("ECC")**

The ECC is chaired by the Head of the Office of the General Counsel, Europe and oversees the identification, assessment and management of conflicts across Vanguard's European business.

#### **3.5.3.4. Advice Investment Policy Council ("AIPC")**

The AIPC is chaired by the Managing Director, Europe and is responsible for oversight, approval and ongoing review of the advice and investment methodology and the client / investment outcomes of VAM's retail and intermediated advice offerings and investment solutions in the UK and Europe.

#### **3.5.3.5. ESG Management Oversight Council ("ESG - MOC")**

The ESG-MOC is responsible for providing oversight of environmental, social and governance ("ESG") risks and strategy in relation to Vanguard Europe that may impact Vanguard and its investment products and services.

## 4. OWN FUNDS

The following own funds disclosures are in accordance with MIFIDPRU 8.4 and MIFIDPRU 8 Annex 1.

### 4.1. Composition of regulatory own funds

At 31 December 2024, VAM's own funds comprised solely of Common Equity Tier 1 ("CET1") capital. CET1 consists of share capital and retained earnings. Under MIFIDPRU, current year profits are only eligible for inclusion in capital resources once audited (and have been included for the year ended 31 December 2024, given the completion of the 2024 VAM audit at the time of publication of these Disclosures).

**Table OF1** below discloses the full composition of VAM's own funds. Amounts in table OF1 are stated in GBP thousands.

Item	Amount (GBP thousands)	Source based on reference numbers / letters of the balance sheet in the audited financial statements
<b>1 Own funds</b>	170,978	Total equity
<b>2 Tier 1 capital</b>	170,978	Total equity
<b>3 Common equity tier 1 capital</b>	170,978	Total equity
4 Fully paid-up capital instruments	-	Share capital and share premium
5 Share premium	79,915	Share capital and share premium
6 Retained earnings	91,063	Retained earnings
7 Accumulated other comprehensive income	-	
8 Other reserves	-	
9 Adjustments to CET1 due to prudential filters	-	
10 Other funds	-	
11 (-) Total deductions from common equity tier 1	-	
19 CET1: Other capital elements, deductions, and adjustments	-	
<b>20 Additional tier 1 capital</b>	-	
21 Fully paid up, directly issued capital instruments	-	
22 Share premium	-	
23 (-) Total deductions from additional tier 1	-	
24 Additional Tier 1: Other capital elements, deductions, and adjustments	-	
<b>25 Tier 2 capital</b>	-	
26 Fully paid up, directly issued capital instruments	-	
27 Share premium	-	
28 (-) Total deductions from tier 2	-	
29 Tier 2: Other capital elements, deductions, and adjustments	-	



## 4.2. Own funds: reconciliation of regulatory own funds to balance sheet in the audited financial statements

Table OF2 provides a reconciliation of regulatory own funds to the balance sheet as per VAM's audited financial statements as at 31 December 2024. As VAM has the same accounting and regulatory scope of consolidation, disclosure is only required under column A (column B has therefore been left blank).

**Table OF2:** Reconciliation of regulatory own funds to the balance sheet in the audited financial statements (amounts stated in GBP thousands).

	Column A Balance sheet per audited financial statements As at 31 December 2024 (GBP thousands)	Column B Under regulatory scope of consolidation As at 31 December 2024	Cross reference to template OF1
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**Assets** - Breakdown by asset classes according to the balance sheet in the audited financial statements

### Non-current assets

1	Deferred tax asset	2,145
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### Current assets

2	Trade and other receivables	43,634
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3	Prepayments	1,007
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4	Cash and cash equivalents	145,900
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<b>Total assets</b>		<b>192,686</b>
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**Liabilities** - Breakdown by liability classes according to the balance sheet in the audited financial statements

### Current liabilities

1	Trade and other payables	19,930
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2	Income tax payable	1,778
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<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>21,708</b>
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### Shareholder Equity

1	Share capital and share premium	79,915	5 Share premium
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2	Retained earnings	91,063	6 Retained earnings
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<b>Total Shareholder equity</b>		<b>170,978</b>	
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## 4.3. Own funds: main features of instruments issued by VAM

Table OF3 illustrates the main features of the CET1 instruments issued by VAM as at 31 December 2024. 100% of the share capital of VAM is owned by VAS (its immediate parent company). VAS is a UK registered company.

No dividends were paid by VAM in 2024 (2023: £nil). 100% of VAM's shareholder's equity is recognised as regulatory own funds.

**Table OF3:** Main features of CET1 capital issued by VAM

Issuer	VAM	VAM	VAM	VAM	VAM	VAM
Public or private placement	Private	Private	Private	Private	Private	Private
Instrument type	Ordinary share capital	Ordinary share capital	Ordinary share capital	Ordinary share capital	Ordinary share capital	Ordinary share capital
Amount recognised in regulatory capital (GBP thousands)	1	4,999,999	8,000,000	915,000	43,000,000	23,000,000
Nominal amount of instrument (GBP whole number)	1	1	1	N/A	1	1
Issue price (GBP whole number)	1	4,999,999	8,000,000	915,000	43,000,000	23,000,000
Redemption price	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Accounting classification	Equity	Equity	Equity	Equity	Equity	Equity
Original date of issuance	31 December 2010	31 December 2010	9 October 2015	27 March 2019	16 December 2021	29 June 2022
Perpetual or dated	Perpetual	Perpetual	Perpetual	Perpetual	Perpetual	Perpetual
Maturity date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Issuer call subject to prior supervisory approval	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Optional call date, contingent call dates and redemption amount	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsequent call dates, if applicable	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Coupons / dividends	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fixed or floating dividend / coupon	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Coupon rate and any related index	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Existence of a dividend stopper	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Convertible or non-convertible	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Write-down features	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Link to the terms and conditions of the instrument	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## 5. OWN FUNDS REQUIREMENTS

### 5.1. Calculation of the own funds requirement

VAM, as a MIFIDPRU investment firm, must at all times maintain own funds that are at least equal to its own funds requirement ("OFR"). As set out in MIFIDPRU 4.3.2R, the OFR is calculated as the higher of:

- a) Permanent minimum capital requirement ("PMCR");
- b) FOR; and
- c) K-factor requirement ("KFR").

### 5.2. Permanent minimum capital requirement

The PMCR for VAM (on a standalone entity basis) is determined by the investment services and activities that the firm undertakes. The PMCR of VAM is £150,000, as it meets the conditions set out in MIFIDPRU 4.4.3R.

### 5.3. Fixed overhead requirement

The purpose of the FOR is to ensure that firms hold a minimum amount of capital to support an orderly wind-down. Per MIFIDPRU 4.5.1R, the FOR is determined as one quarter of the firm's relevant expenditure of the preceding year (or projected fixed overheads if there is a material change to projected relevant expenditure in the year).

The fixed overhead expenses for VAM are determined based on the total relevant expenditure per International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") less deductions (if applicable) arising from discretionary costs and non-recurring expenses from non-ordinary activities.

At 31 December 2024, VAM's FOR was £46.6m (2023: £37.3m).

### 5.4. K-Factor requirement

The purpose of the K-Factor requirement is to align capital requirements to the level of risk posed by investment firms and the activities they undertake.

The K-Factor approach assesses certain harms that firms could pose to their clients and counterparties (Risk to Client), on the markets within which they operate (Risk to Market), and on themselves (Risk to Firm). Each category has specific K-Factor calculations where relevant to a firm.

The KFR is calculated based on regulatory defined coefficients applied to different base values according to the scale of each activity. Firms are required to apply the K-Factors which are relevant to their business. The following K-Factors are relevant to VAM:

- a) Assets under management (K-AUM)
- b) Client money held (K-CMH)
- c) Assets safeguarded (K-ASA)
- d) Client orders handled (K-COH)

Per table OFR1, the KFR was the highest OFR as at 31 December 2024. VAM held sufficient own funds throughout the year to cover the OFR.

**Table OFR1:** Calculation of VAM's own funds requirement

<b>Own funds requirement at 31 December 2024</b>	<b>Value (£'000)</b>
K-Factor requirement	
Σ K-AUM, K-CMH and K-ASA	70,762
K-COH	<u>851</u>
Total K-Factor Requirement	71,613
Fixed overhead requirement	46,596
Permanent minimum capital requirement	150

## **5.5. Assessing the adequacy of own funds in accordance with the overall financial adequacy rule (“OFAR”)**

The KFR and FOR as determined above, establish the regulatory minimum level of own funds which VAM is required to hold.

The OFAR (as set out in MIFIDPRU 7.4.7), requires that VAM must, at all times, hold own funds and liquid assets which are adequate, both to their amount and quality, to ensure that it is able to remain financially viable throughout the economic cycle, with the ability to address any material potential harm that may result from its ongoing activities, or so that it can be wound down in an orderly manner, minimising harm to consumers or to other market participants. This is assessed through VAM's ICARA Process.

### **5.5.1. ICARA**

VAM has established an ICARA Process which seeks to identify material harms which could result from the ongoing operation of the business, or from winding-down of the business, and to establish the amount of capital and liquid assets required to cover these potential harms.

VAM's risk management and control framework enables the identification, mitigation and monitoring of risks to the business and consideration of potential harms to clients, the firm and the wider financial markets.

The ICARA Process reflects VAM's risk management framework, incorporating assessment of its business model, planning and forecasting, stress and scenario testing, recovery planning and wind-down planning. The ICARA is operated on an ongoing basis and applies to the entire VAM business. VAM reviews the adequacy of its ICARA Process at least annually or following any material change in its business or operating model. The assessments are performed at a VAM level and on a group basis for the Vanguard UK Group.

The required amount of capital is determined using internally approved methodologies and is subject to approval by the VAM Board. Internal capital buffers are held in excess of the OFAR in line with VAM's corporate risk appetite.

### 5.5.2. Adequacy of own funds

Per table OFR1, at 31 December 2024, the OFR was determined by the KFR (i.e. the KFR sets the minimum regulatory own funds to be held by VAM).

The OFTR is the amount of own funds that a firm needs to hold at any given time to comply with the OFAR. This is determined as the higher of:

- a) The amount of own funds required to fund its ongoing business operations, taking into account potential periods of financial stress during the economic cycle; and
- b) The amount of own funds that a firm would need to hold to ensure that the firm can be wound down in an orderly manner.

At 31 December 2024, VAM held own funds in excess of its OFTR, which is determined by the level of own funds required to fund ongoing business operations.

### 5.5.3. Adequacy of liquid assets

VAM's regulatory liquid assets obligations are specified per MIFIDPRU 7.7. To comply with the OFAR, VAM must hold, at all times, the sum of the basic liquid assets requirement ("BLAR") and liquid assets threshold requirement ("LATR"). The LATR is calculated as the higher of:

- a) The additional amount of liquid assets that the firm requires to fund its ongoing business operations, taking into account potential periods of financial stress during the economic cycle, or
- b) The additional amount of liquid assets that a firm would need to hold when commencing its wind-down process to ensure that the firm could be wound down in an orderly manner.

At 31 December 2024, VAM held liquid assets in excess of its LATR, which is determined by the BLAR plus the additional amount of liquid assets required to complete the wind-down process.

### 5.5.4. Early warning indicators

VAM has established the levels of own funds and liquid assets that it considers, if breached, may indicate that there is a risk to its threshold requirements. Early warning indicators are used to monitor own funds or liquid assets, with appropriate VAM Board and FCA escalation processes established for each level of early warning indicator.

### 5.5.5. Stress and scenario testing

In line with MIFIDPRU 7.5.2 R (5), VAM has identified a series of severe but plausible scenarios which could impact VAM across the ICARA period. Stress and scenario testing considers the harm that VAM and its clients are exposed to and whether VAM has sufficient and appropriate recovery actions for relevant severe but plausible stresses.

### 5.5.6. Wind-down planning

Wind-down planning ("WDP") is undertaken to assess the financial and non-financial resources required to wind-down VAM in an orderly manner. This includes how the business would close or transfer its assets under management, reduce its staff and infrastructure, and to estimate the additional costs to mitigate the material potential harms on clients, counterparties and the market that could arise from winding-down. The potential harms arising from winding down the business and how they could be mitigated are documented in the VAM wind-down plan.

## 6. REMUNERATION

### 6.1. Overview

The Vanguard Group's unique mutual structure aligns crew as custodians of the firm for fund shareholders. This structure and the Vanguard Group's culture and values set the stage for the Vanguard Group's global total rewards philosophy, which is based on the principle that "crew win when clients win" and aligns the crew's remuneration with Vanguard Group's business strategy and the investment experience of fund shareholders. VAM rewards crew with competitive remuneration, a commitment to career development, benefits that provide health and capital accumulation security, and a balanced work lifestyle. This total rewards philosophy offers remuneration that aligns with market practices and sound risk management, reinforces internal role relationships, and rewards individual and group contributions to overall success both annually and over the long term.

### 6.2. Policy and Governance

#### 6.2.1. Remuneration Policy

The Vanguard Europe remuneration policy (the "Policy"), which includes VAM, is consistent with Vanguard's total rewards philosophy and reinforces VAM's values, culture and expected behaviour.

The Policy is performance aligned, meaning that reward is based upon performance (further detail is set out below on how pay links to performance) and is also transparent and fair. The Policy also incentivises crew to do the right thing, supporting Vanguard's culture and values, and is risk-aligned: reward is designed to promote sound and effective risk management, enforced by a strong governance framework.

On at least an annual basis, the HR, Risk and Compliance functions will liaise to independently review the implementation of the Policy and will report to the relevant governance committees, including the VAM Remuneration Committee (see below). As part of this review, the Risk function will consider the effectiveness of the methods applied to review and, where appropriate make remuneration recommendations to reflect risk.

#### 6.2.2. Governance

The VAM Remuneration Committee oversees VAM's implementation of remuneration policies and practices, assisting the Board in ensuring that the framework underpinning these are aligned with the long-term purpose, business strategy and values of Vanguard and incentivises the right behaviours. This Committee's responsibilities include reviewing the identification of material risk takers ("MRTs"), considering the remuneration for crew to which the MIFIDPRU Remuneration Code applies and assessing the Policy and related structures.

The VAM Remuneration Committee is comprised of two NEDs and two EDs, with a NED chairing. The Committee usually meets twice annually, with ad hoc meetings scheduled, as required. Over the course of 2024, the VAM Remuneration Committee met three times.

The VAM Remuneration committee operates within the broader Vanguard Group global total rewards governance structure to ensure alignment across Vanguard's total rewards philosophy.

### 6.3. Material Risk Takers (“MRTs”)

VAM undertakes a thorough identification process for MRTs, confirmed through the VAM Remuneration Committee, in accordance with the MIFIDPRU Remuneration Code. Crew are identified (and notified) annually prior to the commencement of the relevant performance period.

In addition, a review of the identification of MRTs will be undertaken more frequently as necessary, including to take account of new company formations, appointments, promotions, changes in duties and departures.

The roles identified as MRTs under the MIFIDPRU Remuneration Code include (but are not limited to):

- Members of VAM’s leadership team
- Crew with managerial responsibilities for control functions, including risk, compliance, internal audit, prevention of money laundering, IT, information security and outsourcing of critical functions.
- Crew with investment management responsibility and fund managers.
- Crew with authority to approve or veto new products.

All identified MRTs are informed of their status and the associated implications.

### 6.4. Remuneration Structures

#### 6.4.1. Link Between Pay and Performance

VAM’s performance is measured against a combination of key financial and non-financial performance criteria, designed to discourage conflicts of interest, and to ensure that risk or compliance issues are appropriately reflected. VAM therefore ensures that remuneration is based on a combination of the assessment of the performance of:

- **The individual** - Each crew member is subject to an annual performance review, which takes into account performance against relevant crew competencies and business goals established at the beginning of a performance year.
- **The business unit** - Contribution of each business unit to the overall success of VAM’s year on year growth and execution of its strategy; and
- **The overall results of the firm** – Including among others, fund performance over multiple years, revenue, achievement of strategic objectives, management of risk, compliance and conduct; diversity and inclusion, and employee engagement metrics.

The performance assessment is part of a multi-year framework that ensures performance is based on longer-term performance and payment of remuneration is spread over a period that takes account of VAM’s business cycle and its business risks. For control functions, performance is assessed against the achievement of pre-determined objectives and is not determined by reference to the performance of the business areas which these functions support and oversee.

#### 6.4.2. Fixed

Fixed remuneration consists of base salary and any other non-performance related amounts VAM is committed to pay as a result of contractual obligations, market practice or applicable law. Positions across VAM are ranked in grade levels, with minimum and maximum annual base salary defined for each grade.

Base salary levels are set to properly reflect crew members' organisational roles and responsibilities, and professional experience. This ensures that VAM has crew with an appropriate balance between fixed and variable compensation, allowing a fully flexible approach to variable compensation, including the possibility that reduced or no variable compensation may be paid, where appropriate.



### 6.4.3. Variable

Variable compensation elements are designed to reward performance in excess of a crew member's organisational role, as well as to allow crew members to share in successful corporate performance. Crew may, depending on role, be eligible to participate in one of the following variable remuneration arrangements:

- Annual discretionary bonus;
- Bonus plans covering sales and investment management;
- Vanguard's discretionary long term incentive plans.

In addition, crew are eligible on a discretionary basis to participate in a variable compensation programme, such as the international partnership plan, operated by the Vanguard Group on a global basis and designed to link rewards to the overall performance of the Vanguard Group and its fund shareholders.

The payment of variable compensation to MRTs is subject to at 40% - 60% deferral over three to five years with at least 50% of variable payable in eligible instruments, in accordance with the requirements of the MIFIDPRU Remuneration Code.

### 6.4.4. Guaranteed Variable

Guaranteed variable compensation is only awarded in exceptional circumstances and, in line with regulatory requirements, limited to the first year of service and in the context of hiring new crew. VAM will only grant retention awards after a defined event or in restructurings, in wind-down or in the context of specific projects. VAM fully complies with the MIFIDPRU Remuneration Code in relation to guaranteed variable remuneration.

### 6.4.5. Severance Pay

Severance pay (other than for contractually mandated notice periods) will only be made at VAM's absolute discretion. Any payments related to early termination of an MRT's employment contract will reflect performance achieved over time and will be designed in a way which does not reward failure or misconduct.

## 6.5. Performance Adjustments

### 6.5.1. Risk Adjustment

Determination of variable remuneration pools include adjustments for all types of current and future risks and the cost of the capital and liquidity required. VAM determines at what level the adjustments should be applied (such as business unit, trading desk and/or individual level, as appropriate), which risks are relevant, and which risk adjustment techniques and measures are most appropriate. Consideration of all types of current and future risks includes both financial risks and non-financial risks.

### 6.5.2. Malus and Clawback

VAM applies malus (adjustment) clawback (recovery) provisions to variable remuneration in accordance with the MIFIDPRU Remuneration Code requirements. VAM applies a three-year clawback period from the vesting of any equity-based compensation awards, and from the payment of any cash award.

Malus may apply to MRT variable remuneration in the following circumstances:

- a. Where the MRT participated in or was responsible for conduct which resulted in significant losses to the firm or relevant business unit;
- b. Where the MRT failed to meet appropriate standards of fitness and propriety; and/or
- c. Where the MRT participated in or was responsible for conduct which resulted in a material failure



of risk management at the level of the firm or relevant business unit.

Clawback may apply to MRT variable remuneration in the following circumstances:

- Where the MRT participated in or was responsible for conduct which resulted in significant losses to the firm;
- Where the MRT failed to meet appropriate standards of fitness and propriety; and/or
- in cases of fraud or other conduct with intent or severe negligence by the MRT which lead to significant losses to the firm.

## 6.6. Quantitative Remuneration Disclosure

The table below sets out the total remuneration for crew, including MRTs, for the 2024 performance year.

	Senior Management	Other MRT	Other Staff	Total
Number of crew	21	12	1022	1055
<b>Total Remuneration</b>	11,067	7,817	125,568	144,453
<b>Total Fixed Remuneration</b>	4,830	2,642	87,761	95,234
<b>Total Variable Remuneration</b>	6,237	5,175	37,807	49,219
of which, awarded in cash	1,949	1,534	33,024	36,507
of which, awarded in non-cash	4,288	3,641	4,783	12,712

### Notes:

- The remuneration amounts above are presented on a gross basis.
- Senior Management are defined in this table as those holding Senior Management Functions for VAM.

### 6.6.1. Severance payments made to MRTs

There were no severance payments awarded to MRTs in the performance year.

### 6.6.2. Exemptions

In accordance with MIFIDPRU 8.6.8 (7), the requirements under MIFIDPRU 8.6.8 (5) (a) and (b) have not been included within this Disclosure to prevent the individual identification of an MRT or any information that could be associated with a particular MRT.

## 7. INVESTMENT POLICY

As stated in MIFIDPRU 8.7.1R of the FCA Handbook, a firm must complete template MIFIDPRU 8 Annex 2R:

- Only in respect of a company whose shares are admitted to trading on a regulated market;
- Only where the proportion of voting rights that the MIFIDPRU investment firm directly or indirectly holds in that company is greater than 5% of all voting rights attached to the shares issued by the company; and
- Only in respect of shares in that company to which voting rights are attached.

As at 31 December 2024, the funds managed by VAM do not in aggregate hold—either directly or indirectly—more than 5% of the voting rights of any individual security. VAM does not therefore exceed the MIFIDPRU threshold which requires disclosure of the aforementioned template.

# GLOSSARY

(Terms are included below if not fully defined elsewhere in the document)

“**ACD**” is Authorised Corporate Director;

“**AUM**” is Assets Under Management;

“**Board**” is the board of directors of each of VIUK, VAM, VAS, VUN and VPTUK and the governing body of VISG (as defined below), as appropriate;

“**FCA**” is the UK Financial Conduct Authority or any successor body or bodies;

“**FOR**” is the Fixed Overhead Requirement. This is an amount that is equal to one quarter of a firm’s relevant fixed expenditure;

“**ICARA**” is the Internal Capital Adequacy and Risk Assessment;

“**ICARA Process**” is the collective term for the internal systems and controls that a firm must operate to identify and manage potential material harms that may arise from the operation of its business, and to ensure that its operations can be wound down in an orderly manner;

“**IFPR**” is the UK Investment Firm Prudential Regime for MiFID investment firms regulated by the FCA;;

“**IFPRU**” is the FCA’s Prudential Sourcebook for Investment Firms;

“**Irish Funds**” means certain sub-funds of: (1) Vanguard Investment Series plc, (2) Vanguard Common Contractual Fund; (3) Vanguard Investments Common Contractual Fund; (4) Vanguard Investments II Common Contractual Fund; (5) Vanguard Investments III Common Contractual Fund and (6) Vanguard Funds plc, each an Ireland-domiciled fund;

“**K-ASA**” is the K-Factor requirement for Assets Safeguarded and Administered set out in MIFIDPRU 4.9;

“**K-AUM**” is the K-Factor requirement for Assets Under Management set out in MIFIDPRU 4.7;

“**K-CMH**” is the K-Factor requirement for Client Money Held set out in MIFIDPRU 4.8;

“**K-COH**” is the K-Factor requirement for Client Orders Handled set out in MIFIDPRU 4.10;

“**MiFID**” is Directive 2014/65/EU of 15 May 2014 on markets in financial instruments;

“**MIFIDPRU**” is the FCA’s Prudential Sourcebook for MiFID Investment Firms;

“**MIFIDPRU Remuneration Code**” is the remuneration code set out at SYSC 19G;

“**Minimum Own Funds Requirement**” is the minimum level of own funds required to meet the OFAR. This term is referred to as the ‘own funds requirement’ in MIFIDPRU 4;

“**Non-SNI MIFIDPRU Investment Firm**” is a MIFIDPRU investment firm that is “not a small and non-interconnected (SNI) MIFID investment firm” as defined in MIFIDPRU 1.2;

“**OFAR**” is the Overall Financial Adequacy Requirement as set out under MIFIDPRU 7.4.7 R;

**“OFTR”** is the Own Funds Threshold Requirement. This is the level of financial resources required to meet the OFAR;

**“Risk Appetite”** is the level of risk that the Boards are willing to take in pursuit of overall financial, solvency and business objectives;

**“SYSC”** is the FCA’s sourcebook of Senior Management Arrangements, Systems and Controls;

**“UK Funds”** means certain sub-funds of the AUTs and the ICVCs managed by VIUK, which are UK-domiciled funds;

**“VAM”** is Vanguard Asset Management, Ltd;

**“Vanguard Europe”** means the Vanguard UK Group, VGIL and Vanguard Group Europe, GmbH;

**“Vanguard Group”** or **“Vanguard”** means VGI and its subsidiaries;

**“Vanguard UK Group”** means VAS, VAM, VIUK, and VISG, which are prudentially consolidated for the purposes of IFPR;

**“VAS”** is Vanguard Asset Services, Ltd;

**“VGI”** is The Vanguard Group, Inc;

**“VGIL”** is Vanguard Group Ireland, Limited;

**“VISG”** means Vanguard Investments Switzerland, GmbH;

**“VIUK”** is Vanguard Investments UK, Limited.

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