

Introduction

Solar Income & Growth (“the Company”) owns and operates over 2,500 rooftop solar systems throughout the UK. The existing assets were installed between 2011 and 2018, and are all accredited under the Feed-in Tariff (“FiT”) scheme. FiT solar systems receive RPI-linked, government-backed payments for the electricity generated. FiT contracts are valid for up to 25 years providing the Company with long term guaranteed income.

Recent activity & outlook

In Q4 2020, the Company returned £0.0125 by way of dividends, and the share price fell from £1.12 to £1.05, primarily due to adverse changes in long-term and near-term inflation expectations. The Company will continue to seek new commercial rooftop solar opportunities to build and/or acquire. In addition, the Company is exploring opportunities in energy storage (battery) projects, both standalone and co-located with solar systems.

KEY FACTS

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

Gross Asset Value
£41.7m

Income Share Price
£1.05

Growth Share Price
£1.05

Target Total Return
4-5% per annum

Target Dividend (Income Shares)
4% per annum

Fees
1.0% of NAV (per annum)

Liquidity
Quarterly (subject to liquidity)

Manager
Armstrong Capital Management
 (“Armstrong”)

Valuers
Amberside Valuations (“Amberside”)

Auditors
Lubbock Fine

Commenced Trading
2014

RETURNS

Solar Income & Growth is a UK-focused solar energy generation company offering investors access to UK solar and other energy projects, with a target annual income of 4% and a target total annual return of 4-5%. Returns are not guaranteed. Capital at risk.

ABOUT ARMSTRONG

Armstrong is an experienced London-based asset manager focused on the impact investment sector in the UK. Armstrong has funded and managed over 350MWp of UK solar since 2013.

SOLAR INCOME & GROWTH CURRENT PORTFOLIO

ASSET TYPE	kWp	INSTALLATIONS
Commercial	4,925	45
Social Housing	2,214	701
Domestic	5,871	1,841

The credibility of Solar Income & Growth is underpinned by the following factors...

INSTITUTIONAL BACKING

In 2015, Legal & General Investment Management (“LGIM”) invested £29.5 million into the Company through the issuance of secured RPI-linked loan notes listed on the London Stock Exchange.

LGIM is one of the largest asset managers in the UK with over £1 trillion under management. The Company has a 100% record of meeting the covenants for the LGIM debt, indicative of the strong governance under Armstrong’s management.

STRONG GOVERNANCE

The Company has external representation from independent directors with relevant expertise, such as Paul Beynon who was previously head of UK power trading at RWE, and Barry Green who was former CFO of Man Group and a partner at KPMG.

The board of the Company provides management oversight and is required to approve all material activities of the business, including acquisitions and disposals.

GOVERNMENT-BACKED INCOME STREAMS

The Company derives over 90% of its income from FiT payments. The FiT payments increase annually with RPI and are backed by the government.

The Company has very limited exposure to merchant power prices making its revenues highly predictable. This also means that the Company is less exposed to any volatility in global events.

APPROACH TO VALUATION

- The Company is independently valued annually by Amberside Valuations. Amberside is a specialist valuer of infrastructure assets, such as solar and wind.
- Amberside applies benchmarked discount rates against listed solar funds and comparable market transactions to evaluate the value of the Company’s solar portfolio. In addition, Amberside reviews the assumptions used in the valuation model against standard industry practice.

“We believe solar assets to be significantly lower risk than general infrastructure assets as solar has lower operational risk and costs.”

Amberside Valuations

GROWING VALUE IN THE PORTFOLIO

The assumptions used in the valuation modelling are conservative and do not factor in potential value uplifts in the existing portfolio. There is scope to enhance value, for example:

- Extending the planning permission and lease length of solar plants
- Combining solar plants with battery technology and other flexible energy generation systems
- Optimising performance over time through high quality asset management
- Reducing costs, for example by renegotiating maintenance contracts, as the portfolio grows in scale

The Company’s assertion is that these elements could represent achievable improvements in future value for shareholders in the Company.

The key investment considerations for the investors are summarised below. The investor guide of Solar Income & Growth should be referred to for finer details of the investment including the relevant risks.

INHERITANCE TAX & CAPITAL GAINS TAX

Business Property Relief (BPR)

- 100% Inheritance Tax (IHT) relief is given on transfers of business assets which have been owned for at least two years and the business is trading.

Capital Gains Tax (CGT)

- Capital Gains within the annual allowance of £12,300 are tax free. Gains in excess of this are taxed at 10% for basic rate taxpayers. Any amount over the higher rate threshold will be taxed at 20%. CGT is not paid on death.

FEES

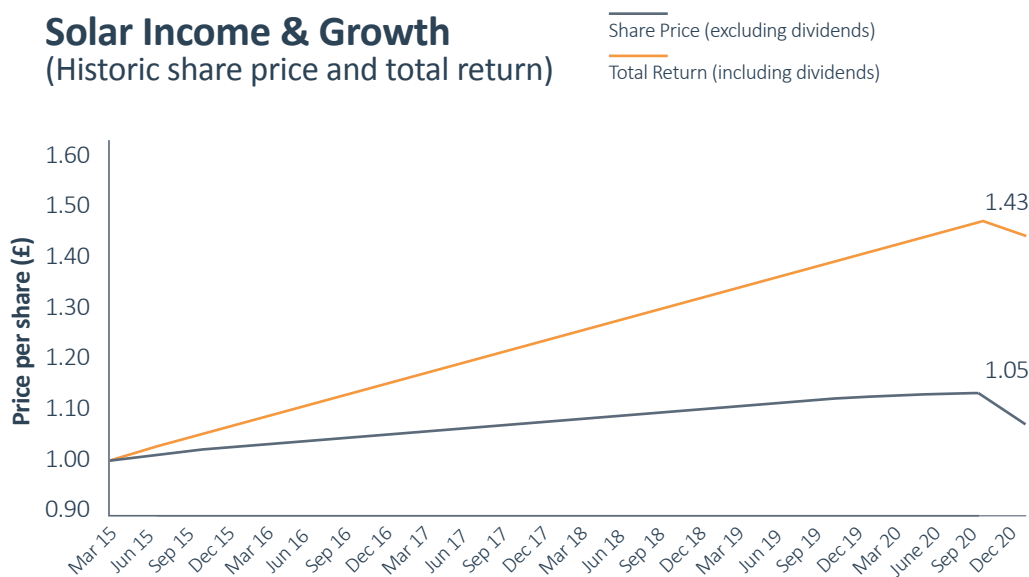
- Investors in the Company will be charged a 4% initial fee. The initial fee will be added to the subscription price and will cover all administration costs of the capital raise and stamp duty, where applicable.
- Armstrong will charge an annual management fee equivalent to 1.0% of the aggregate value of the Company's underlying solar businesses.
- Further details on fees are outlined in the fees section of the detailed investor guide.

LIQUIDITY

It is the intention that the Company will offer shareholders regular liquidity to allow shareholders to redeem their investment in full or in part. The Company will seek to facilitate liquidity on a quarterly basis, subject to the availability of funds to do so.

Since being established in 2014, shareholders have received returns in excess of the target return. The Company has returned a total of £1.43 (per £1.00 invested). The share price fell in 2020 as a result of adverse changes in long-term and near-term inflation expectations, driven primarily by Covid-19 but is forecast to rebound.

Solar Income & Growth (Historic share price and total return)



Indicative Post-Tax Asset Yield

Y 1-5	8.4%
Y 6-10	8.9%
Y 11-16	8.7%

- Stable returns modelled using inflation assumptions in line with government forecasts
- Operational costs in line with contracts and industry practises with a solar degradation rate of 0.5% assumed for all forecasts
- Past performance is not an indicator of future performance

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Your capital is at risk. Past performance and projected performance is not an indication of future performance. You may lose some, all or part of your original capital invested. Tax treatment depends on the individual circumstances of each investor and may be subject to change. The availability of tax reliefs depends on the company maintaining its qualifying status. Investments in smaller companies will normally involve greater risk or volatility than investments in larger, more established companies. Please refer to the Investor Guide and seek independent financial, legal and tax advice before investing.

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