# AEW UK REIT plc Quarterly Investor Report – October 2016

# **Fund Highlights**

- Independent valuation of direct property portfolio increased to £125.88 million
- Tap issues raised £5.99 million before costs and expenses
- · Asset management activity continues to add value across the portfolio
- Dividend of 2p declared for the guarter showing a yield of 8.2%\*

\*against the share price as at 29 November 2016

### Who we are

AEW UK REIT plc (the "Company") is a Real Estate Investment Trust established in May 2015. The Company is listed on the premium listing segment of the Official List of the UK Listing Authority and the shares are traded on the Main Market of the London Stock Exchange.

The assets of the Company are managed by AEW UK Investment Management LLP ("AEW UK"). The AEW UK Management Team is an experienced team with an average of 17 years working together and managing funds and separate accounts totalling over £1bn. The Team has a strong track record and brings an institutional asset management approach to more active value add assets.

Alex Short, Portfolio Manager commented, "We have now seen two valuation dates since the referendum result in June and are encouraged by how the value of the portfolio has stabilised and also by its resilience to market uncertainty. Since July our valuers have removed their caveat reflecting a lack of post-Brexit transactional evidence from our valuations and have also applied a modest level of post-Brexit capital growth.

# Investment Strategy

The Company exploits what it believes to be the compelling relative value opportunities offered by pricing inefficiencies in smaller commercial properties let on shorter occupational leases in strong commercial locations. The Company intends to supplement this core strategy with active asset management initiatives to improve the quality of income streams and maximise value.

Trading in the Company's shares has also been stable over the last quarter with a consistent premium being maintained which has allowed us to raise £6m in new equity from tap issues. The net proceeds of the share issues, and debt facility up to 20% loan to GAV, are under offer on new acquisitions in the industrial sector.

Across the portfolio we continue to see the occupier market remaining active, with robust levels of tenant demand. As a result, 34% of the portfolio's current vacancy is now under offer and, once completed, these lettings will reduce the current portfolio vacancy from 8.70% of ERV to under 7%. In locations where this occupier demand is coupled with a shortage of good quality supply, we are seeing rental value uplift which gives confidence in the portfolio and has been accretive to value. The investment market has seen a healthy level of activity since the end of the summer and we can see a strong pipeline of opportunities suitable for the future growth of the company. Defensive downside protection remains a focus of our stock selection process with a focus on investment values that are underwritten by replacement cost, vacant possession as well as alternative use values and are therefore less exposed to capital erosion."

# Asset Management Updates

#### Cranbourne House, Basingstoke

In return for receiving consent to assign the lease to parent company HFC Prestige Manufacturing Limited, Wella Holdings Limited contracted to remove its 2017 break clause giving the Company two years of additional income to 2019, at £410,000 p.a, plus a 6 months rental guarantee. The tenant



is now also carrying out refurbishment works to the building, further demonstrating its commitment to the location.

#### 11-15 Fargate, Sheffield

The Company has completed the leasehold disposal of vacant upper parts above the prime retail units for a price of £710,000, against an assumed acquisition value of £250,000. The vacant upper parts were held at nil cost to the Company due to a 12 month guarantee from the vendor of the property covering rent, rates and service charge. The retained retail units fronting the prime pedestrianised pitch of Fargate provide good potential for rental value growth going forward due to a higher rental level that has recently been documented in new lettings on the pitch directly opposite.

#### Odeon Cinema, Southend

We have obtained a 6% uplift of £30,000 per annum for the outstanding 2012 rent review from £505,000 to £535,000, backdated to 29 September 2012. Negotiations have commenced on the 2017 rent review.

#### Valley Retail Park, Belfast

A 15 year lease was completed with national retailer Smyths Toys at units 5 & 6 Valley Retail Park producing additional income of  $\pounds$ 200,000 p.a. As a result of this letting the scheme is now fully let and, due to asset management initiatives completed over the past 12 months, is showing a weighted average unexpired



lease term to breaks of 10 years, as compared to 3 years at acquisition. The value of the asset has increased by over 40% since acquisition in September 2015.

#### Castlegate Business Park, Salisbury

The previous tenant Equinox, having served their break notice earlier this year, vacated the property in September. The property is now under offer for sale to an owner occupier at a price ahead of its October valuation with the sale due to complete before the year end.

#### Sandford House, Solihull

The portfolio's second largest tenant did not exercise its break option in 2017 and is now contracted to stay in occupation for a further 2 years until 2019. We are looking at various long term options for this central Solihull property including residential, retail or a second office building.



# Fund Facts

as at 31 October 2016

Portfolio Manager Alex Short

Investment Objective and Strategy The investment objective of the Company is to deliver an attractive total return to shareholders from investing predominantely in a portfolio of smaller commercial properties let on shorter occupational leases in strong commercial locations across the United Kingdom. The Company will undertake active asset management to improve the quality of income streams and maximise value.

Launch date: 12 May 2015

Fund structure: UK Real Estate Investment Trust

Year end: 30 April

Fund size (Net Asset Value): £118.05m

**Property valuation:** £135.21m (of which £9.33m is represented by AEW UK Core Property Fund)

Number of properties held: 27

Average lot size: £4.7m

Property portfolio net initial yield (% p.a.): 7.38%

Property portfolio reversionary yield: 8.53%

LTV: 19.6%

Average weighted unexpired lease term To break: 5.25 years To expiry: 6.48 years

\* As a % of ERV

Occupancy: 91.3%\*

Number of tenants: 73

Share price: 99.00 NAV per share: 95.47 Premium/(discount) to NAV: +3.69%

Shares in issue: 123.65m

Market capitalisation: £122.41m

Annual management charge 0.9% per annum of invested NAV

#### Dividends

The Company intends to pay dividends on a quarterly basis which are declared in February, May, August and November in each year and paid within one month of being declared.

The Company targets a dividend yield of between 8–9% per annum on the IPO issue price of 100p per share and targets a total annual return, over the medium term, in excess of 12% on the IPO issue price, net of all fees.<sup>1</sup>

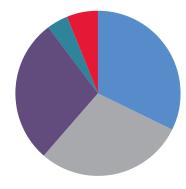
Dividends of 2.0 pence have been declared for the period from 1 August 2016 to 31 October 2016.

ISIN: GB00BWD24154

Broker: Fidante Capital

Ticker: AEWU

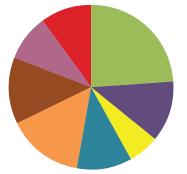
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#### Sector Weightings

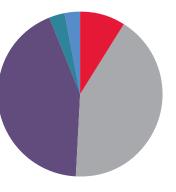
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Offices	32%
Industrial	29%
Retail	28%
Other	4%
AEW UK Core Property Fund	7%

Based upon Knight Frank valuation 31 October 2016. As a percentage of portfolio (excluding cash).



Portfolio Locations	
South East	24%
West Midlands	12%
East Midlands	6%
North West	11%
Yorkshire & Humber	15%
South West	13%
Northern Ireland	9%
Scotland	10%

As a percentage of portfolio (excluding cash and the AEW UK Core Property Fund).



# Tenant ExposureTop 20 Tenants – Risk of Business FailureGovernment Body9%Minimal risk42%Lower than average risk43%Greater than average risk3%Undeterminable risk3%

71% of Portfolio Income represented by Top 20 Tenants by income per annum. Source: www.dnb.co.uk. Based on D&B Risk Assessment Risk Indicator. "The D&B Rating provides a quick and clear indication of the credit-worthiness of an organisation, which helps you to identify profitable opportunities for growth, and risks that could affect bad debt and cashflow." Excluding the AEW UK Core Property Fund.

# AEW UK Core Property Fund Investment

On 30 September 2016 the AEW UK Core Property Fund announced that it would be moving its single price mechanism from a bid basis back to an offer basis and removing its dilution adjustment of 5%. Both the move to offer pricing basis and the introduction of the dilution adjustment were put in place as a result of market uncertainty in the UK following the June EU referendum result. On 14 October 2016 the Company announced that it expected to amend its valuation methodology in respect of its holding in the AEW UK Core Property Fund from the value according to the fund's single swinging share price to a value based on the fund's NAV. The Directors, in consultation with the Company's professional advisers, expect that the change will provide a better reflection of fair value.

Approval has been given by the Board of Directors to sell down the Company's Core Fund holding at an appropriate time now that pricing has returned to offer. Although this holding was particularly accretive to performance during the ramp-up phase, with a more mature portfolio the holding is now less relevant to the Company's strategy and the intention will be to reinvest the proceeds from any sale as quickly as possible back into direct property holdings.

# **Research Personnel**

Alan Patterson has joined the AEW UK team as Research Consultant following former Head of Research Sam Martin's decision to return to his native New Zealand earlier in the year. Alan is a leading real estate researcher and land economist, having served as the Chairman of the IPF Research Steering Group until 2015. He has predominantly worked as a head of direct property research most recently in AXA Real Estate Investment Managers. Alan will provide a valuable input to the business on both macro-economic issues and expected property industry trends.

	Location	Sector	Value Band £m	WAULT to break/ expiry
Acquired properties to 31 October 2016*				
Eagle Road	Redditch	Industrial	0-2	11.8/11.8
NCRC	Swinton	Industrial	0-2	6.8/68
NCRC	Mossley	Industrial	0-2	6.8/6.8
NCRC	Milton Keynes	Industrial	0-2	6.8/6.8
Castle Business Park	Salisbury	Industrial	0-2	0/0
Cleaver House, Sarus Court	Runcorn	Industrial	0-2	1.4/4.4
Stoneferry Retail Park	Hull	Retail	2-4	5.3/5.3
710 Brightside Lane	Sheffield	Industrial	2-4	8.5/13.5
Vantage Point	Hemel Hempstead	Office	2-4	3.6/7.9
Sarus Court	Runcorn	Industrial	2-4	2.7/4.1
Brockhurst Crescent	Walsall	Industrial	2-4	5.4/5.4
Barbot Hall Industrial Estate	Rotherham	Industrial	2-4	2.2/2.2
Cranbourne House	Basingstoke	Industrial	2-4	3.2/3.2
Lea Green Industrial Estate	St Helens	Industrial	2-4	8.9/8.9
Sandford House	Solihull	Office	4-6	2.4/2.4
Fargate	Sheffield	Retail	4-6	4.6/7.5
Langthwaite Business Park	South Kirkby	Industrial	4-6	0.5/1.0
Odeon	Southend on Sea	Leisure	4-6	5.9/5.9
Oak Park	Droitwich	Industrial	4-6	6.0/6.0
Bank Hey Street	Blackpool	Retail	4-6	7.2/9.7
Barnstaple Retail Park	Barnstaple	Retail	6-8	7.4/7.4
Eastpoint Business Park	Oxford	Office	8-10	6.6/9.1
69–75 Above Bar Street	Southampton	Retail	8-10	4.7/4.7
40 Queen Square	Bristol	Office	8-10	3.4/5.3
Wheeler Gate	Nottingham	Office	8-10	3.6/4.3
Valley Retail Park	Belfast	Retail	10-12	10.0/12.6
225 Bath Street	Glasgow	Office	12-14	3.6/6.4
AEW UK Core Property Fund			8-10	4.4/5.5

\*Figures as at Knight Frank Valuation 31 October 2016.

For further information on each of our properties, please visit www.aewukreit.com.

# Contact information

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<sup>1</sup> Investors should note that the figures in relation to dividends and total returns set out in this document are for illustrative purposes only, are based on current market conditions and are not intended to be, and should not be taken as, a profit forecast or estimate. Actual returns cannot be predicted and may differ materially from these illustrative figures. There can be no assurance that they will be met or that any dividend or total return will be achieved. Target returns do not form part of the Company's investment objective or investment policy.

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