# zeus

# Corporate Share Price

365p

 Market Cap
 £185m

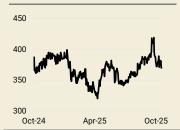
 Shares in Issue
 50.7m

 12m Trading Range
 310p to 420p

 Free Float
 59%

 Next Event
 1Q IMS

#### Price performance (p)



Source: FactSet

#### Financial forecasts

| YE, Jun (US\$'m)   | 2023A | 2024A | 2025A  | 2026E  |
|--------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| FuM opening        | 9,224 | 9,424 | 10,241 | 10,814 |
| Revenue (net fee)  | 65.5  | 66.2  | 69.8   | 73.2   |
| yoy growth (%)     | -15.4 | 1.1   | 5.4    | 4.9    |
| Pre profit share   | 38.5  | 39.3  | 42.9   | 43.5   |
| EBITDA             | 27.3  | 27.0  | 30.8   | 30.6   |
| Adj. PBT           | 27.0  | 27.1  | 30.8   | 30.3   |
| Adj. PAT           | 21.1  | 20.6  | 23.4   | 22.8   |
| Exchange rate #    | 1.27  | 1.26  | 1.28   | 1.30   |
| Adj EPS (p)        | 35.8  | 33.5  | 36.7   | 34.6   |
| DPS (p)            | 33.0  | 33.0  | 33.0   | 33.0   |
| Net cash (p)       | 45.1  | 52.8  | 51.5   | 51.5   |
| P/E                | 10.2  | 10.9  | 9.9    | 10.5   |
| EV/EBITDA          | 5.8   | 5.9   | 5.2    | 5.2    |
| Cash conversion    | 1.09  | 1.05  | 1.03   | 1.00   |
| FCF yield (%)      | 9.8   | 9.2   | 10.1   | 9.5    |
| Dividend yield (%) | 9.0   | 9.0   | 9.0    | 9.0    |

# average exchange rate used to convert US dollar profit to earnings in pence per share

Source: Audited accounts and Zeus estimates

City of London Investment Group is a broker client of Zeus

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# City of London Investment Group

CLIG LN - Financial Services

# 1Q IMS reveals FuM growth

CLIG's 1Q IMS confirms its funds under management grew to \$11.2bn, as most strategies beat benchmarks.

#### **Highlights**

- Funds under Management "FuM" on 30 September 2025 totalled \$11,256m: up 4.9% yoy and up 4.1% in last three months
- Market & investment performance added 8.0%, with 6 out of 10 strategies outperforming;
  - the underperformers represent 9% of FUM and average underperformance 67bps;
  - the average outperformance of 81% of FUM was 189bps
- Net outflows for the quarter totalled \$419m, with \$140m inflows and \$559m outflows
  - this guarter was "characterised by client rebalancing"

**Current trading and outlook:** New mandates included \$46m in the Emerging Markets strategy. Inflows of circa \$66m combined across the EM, International and Opportunistic Value strategies, while inflows of \$74m were recorded in the various Balanced and Fixed income strategies.

Persistent discount volatility and strong outperformance of the Group's strategies continue to be the focus of marketing efforts with allocators.

**Leadership Update**: As previously announced, CLIG's Chairman, Rian Dartnell, is "working closely with the Board to evaluate CEO candidates" and has "made considerable progress".

**Zeus view:** With Group FuM up 4% since year end, we conclude our revenue and profit forecast for 2026 is prudent. We see scope to increase revenue and profits, when net inflows reflect CLIG's investment track records.

We leave adj EPS and DPS forecasts, unchanged.

We are encouraged by CLIG's investment performance and by commentary about current market conditions. Performance and persistent discount volatility should impress asset allocators.

**Valuation:** With CLIG's strategies outperforming, shareholders should feel comfortable with expectations that the dividend can be maintained, even in the absence of net inflows.

We set an October 2026 target price based on a 7.6% dividend yield (i.e. 125% above the current yield on the FT All Share as well as being the average yield of peers: Brooks Macdonald 4.86%, Liontrust 6.64%, Premier Miton 10.34% and Polar Capital 8.61%), which would value CLIG at 434p a share: 19% upside from the current price of 365p.

# Disclosures in 1Q IMS

### **Quarterly Performance Summary**

City of London Investment Management (CLIM)

#### **Emerging Markets**

Emerging Markets equities outperformed global averages, led by a 20.7% USD return from China (MSCI China Index). CLIM's EM strategy significantly beat its benchmark, driven by strategic country allocations—overweights in Mexico and South Korea, underweights in India, and exposure to Vietnam. Chinese small-cap and tech holdings also contributed. South Korean governance reforms supported local holdings, while discount catalysts and volatility added value.

A robust pipeline of corporate events is expected to sustain long-term outperformance.

#### **Listed Private Equities**

The Listed Private Equity strategy delivered a 13.7% return, with most holdings posting positive single-digit gains. Two corporate event announcements, including one from the largest holding, drove returns above 30% USD.

This strategy is attractive for investors seeking liquid private market exposure or managing J-Curve effects.

#### International Equity

International Equity rose 7.0%, slightly beating its benchmark. Gains came from overweight positions in China, Emerging Asia, and Japan, and underweights in Europe ex-UK. However, small-cap exposure in the UK and Europe ex-UK underperformed.

Discount volatility and upcoming corporate opportunities remain supportive to this strategy.

#### Opportunistic Value

The Opportunistic Value strategy rose 2.2% but lagged on a relative basis. Its bias toward alternative, event-driven situations with lower equity beta impacted relative performance amid strong equity markets.

Exhibit 1: Investment Management Performance for 1Q

| CLIM strategies            | Performance (%) | Benchmark<br>(%) | Difference<br>(bps) |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Emerging Markets           | 13.80           | 9.60             | +420                |
| International Equity       | 7.00            | 6.90             | +10                 |
| Opportunistic Value        | 2.20            | 4.10             | (190)               |
| Listed Private Equity      | 13.70           | 1.90             | +1180               |
| KIM strategies             | Performance (%) | Benchmark<br>(%) | Difference<br>(bps) |
| Growth Balanced            | 5.41            | 5.37             | +4                  |
| Conservative Balanced      | 4.28            | 4.21             | +7                  |
| Tax-Sensitive Fixed Income | 2.95            | 3.00             | (5)                 |
| Taxable Fixed Income       | 2.09            | 1.91             | +18                 |
| Cash Management            | 1.04            | 1.12             | (8)                 |
| Equities                   | 6.91            | 7.73             | (82)                |

Source: RNS



#### Karpus Investment Management (KIM)

#### Fixed Income Commentary

During the quarter, US Treasury and AAA municipal bond yields declined modestly. Municipal bond closed-end funds (CEFs) led performance, supported by NAV gains and narrowing discounts. Preferred securities and senior notes from CEFs and BDCs also contributed positively. Pre-acquisition SPACs underperformed due to shorter duration. Additional gains came from tender offers near NAV and CEF liquidations.

Over five years, KIM's Taxable and Tax-Sensitive Fixed Income strategies have outperformed their benchmarks by 6.24% and 3.49% annually, respectively.

#### **Equity Commentary**

US equities rose 8.16% and international equities 6.88% for the quarter. Equity CEFs slightly underperformed due to widening discounts and weaker NAV performance.

Exhibit 2: Movement in Funds under Management, by strategy

| \$m FUM                    | Jun-25 | Inflows | Outflows | Net Flows | Market & investment<br>performance | Sept-25E |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|----------|-----------|------------------------------------|----------|
| CLIM                       |        |         |          |           |                                    |          |
| Emerging Markets           | 3,674  | 50      | (247)    | (197)     | 476                                | 3,953    |
| International Equity       | 2,486  | 13      | (158     | (145)     | 160                                | 2,501    |
| Opportunistic Value        | 309    | 3       | (6)      | (3)       | 5                                  | 311      |
| Listed Private Equity      | 218    | -       | -        | -         | 27                                 | 245      |
| Other                      | 150    | -       | -        | -         | 34                                 | 184      |
| CLIM subtotal              | 6,837  | 66      | (411)    | (345)     | 702                                | 7,194    |
| KIM                        |        |         |          |           |                                    |          |
| Growth Balanced            | 1,419  | 25      | (63)     | (38)      | 72                                 | 1,453    |
| Conservative Balanced      | 1,143  | 11      | (29)     | (18)      | 51                                 | 1,176    |
| Tax-Sensitive Fixed Income | 528    | 22      | (13)     | 9         | 14                                 | 551      |
| Taxable Fixed Income       | 707    | 14      | (34)     | (20)      | 16                                 | 703      |
| Cash Management            | 101    | 2       | (8)      | (6)       | -                                  | 95       |
| Equities                   | 79     | -       | (1)      | (1)       | 6                                  | 84       |
| KIM subtotal               | 3,977  | 74      | (148)    | (74)      | 159                                | 4,062    |
| Group total                | 10,814 | 140     | (559)    | (419)     | 861                                | 11,256   |

Source: RNS

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## 100% 80% 60% 40%

Q2

■ Neutral ■ Negative

Recommendation distribution at 30 September 2025 Source: Zeus

Q1

■ Corporate

0%

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|----------------------------|----|
| Nomad & Joint Broker       | 24 |
| Broker                     | 12 |
| Joint Broker               | 27 |
| Financial Adviser & Broker | 3  |
| Financial Adviser          | 1  |
| Research client            | 8  |

At 30 September 2025 Source: Zeus

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