



AIM QUARTERLY REVIEW

As at 31 March 2026

In the first quarter of 2026, our AIM service returned -6.3%, compared to our peer group which returned -9.8%, representing an outperformance of 3.5%. The quarter began positively however, this positive momentum faded toward the end of the period as escalating conflict in Iran and broader geopolitical tensions introduced renewed uncertainty, leading to increased market volatility and a more cautious investor backdrop. Since the quarter end, we have seen something of a recovery both in absolute and relative terms and believe the quality of AIM companies is being recognised more for their inherent qualities rather than as a specialist tax break.

Cohort was one of the strongest contributors to performance during Q1 2026. Following softer sentiment at the end of 2025, the company rebounded strongly as investors gained confidence in its substantial order book and the outlook across its defence businesses. Continued momentum in global defence spending and improving visibility over earnings supported a significant recovery in the share price.

Hargreaves Services also contributed positively over the quarter. The company announced interim results ahead of market expectations combined with contract wins, land sales, and tender offer to return capital to shareholders.

Kitwave Group was another notable contributor following the announcement that the business would be acquired, which we subsequently sold ahead of the bid completing.

We saw Jet2, Craneware and Beeks Financial Cloud as the key detractors from performance over the period. Jet2 experienced some weakness as investors remained cautious around consumer spending

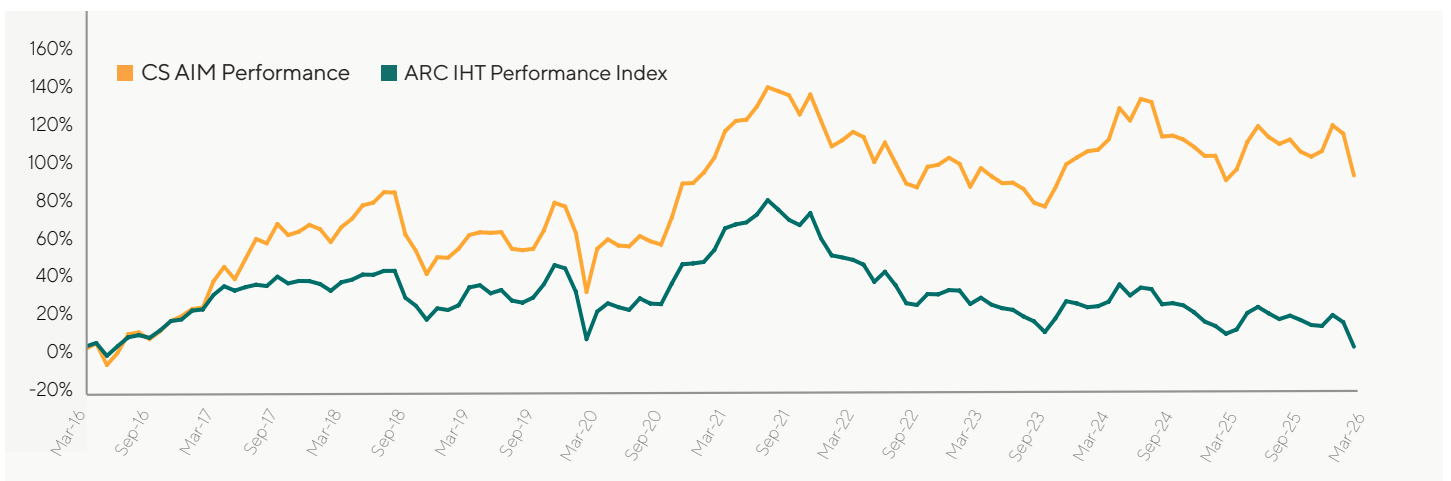
trends and travel demand despite resilient operational performance. Craneware was impacted by the global software company sell off, while Beeks Financial Cloud gave back some of its earlier gains during the period as the shares reacted negatively to a market update.

While the company announced encouraging contract wins, investor sentiment was impacted by uncertainty around the timing of these agreements and the associated revenue recognition.

During the quarter we initiated two new holdings within portfolios. We added Avingtrans, a specialist engineering business with strong positions in attractive end markets including Energy and Medical, and MHA, a professional services firm providing a broad range of audit, tax, and advisory services to businesses across the UK.

It is important to note that as we move into the new tax year, changes to the taxation of AIM investments mean that qualifying holdings held for two years are expected to receive 50% inheritance tax (IHT) relief. With the position on IHT now better defined, we believe there is a meaningful opportunity for strong long-term returns.

Charlotte Square Investment Managers AIM Discretionary Clients Performance Over 10 Years (net of fees)



Source: CS Managers Ltd and ARC Research as at 31/03/2026

	CHARLOTTE SQUARE DISCRETIONARY AIM CLIENTS	ARC IHT PORTFOLIO INDEX
Monthly volatility	5.2%	4.6%

TOTAL RETURN	CHARLOTTE SQUARE DISCRETIONARY AIM CLIENTS	ARC IHT PORTFOLIO INDEX
3 Months	-6.3%	-9.8%
1 Year	1.3%	-6.3%
3 Years	3.0%	-18.3%
5 Years	-4.9%	-33.8%
10 Years	93.5%	1.6%

Source: CS Managers Ltd and ARC Research as at 31/03/26

Asset Allocation

Top 10 Holdings	%	Sector	Overall Sector Breakdown
Filtronic Plc	7.8%	Information Technology	
Ramsdens Holdings	6.9%	Financials	
Sigmaroc Plc	6.9%	Materials	
Renew Holdings Plc	6.2%	Industrials	
Hargreaves Services	6.1%	Energy	
Volex Plc	5.3%	Industrials	
BTG Consulting	5.0%	Financials	
Jet2 Plc	4.7%	Industrials	
Diaceutics Plc	4.4%	Healthcare	
Niox	4.1%	Healthcare	

Source: CS Managers Ltd and ARC Research as at 31/03/2026

Performance from 31 March 2015 – 30 Sept 2022 is drawn from stylised aggregate portfolios constructed from the discretionary portfolios managed by Charlotte Square Investment Managers. The figures were calculated on a monthly basis, net of fees and other charges and adjusted for contributions and withdrawals. From 1 October 2022, performance figures are drawn from a composite group of non-constrained discretionary portfolios managed by Charlotte Square Investment Managers under an AIM investment strategy. These figures have been calculated net of fees and dealing costs and adjusted for contributions and withdrawals. Performance of individual portfolios may vary due to factors such as the portfolio size, stock selection and timing of investment transactions.

ARC IHT Portfolio Index is a Sterling denominated index compiled by ARC Research (ARC) to be used by investors and their advisers in assessing the performance of a discretionary portfolio within a specialist mandate designed to mitigate IHT liability through investment in stocks that are expected to qualify for Business Property Relief. The ARC IHT Portfolio Indices provide insight into the actual returns being generated by discretionary IHT portfolios, net of fees, based on thousands of Sterling denominated IHT portfolios submitted by participating investment managers. No model or synthetic data used only actual IHT portfolio performance numbers are included in the calculation of the ARC IHT Portfolio Indices.

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AIM Investments can be illiquid in nature and carry a higher degree of risk than other securities and are not, therefore, suitable for some investors. The AIM Portfolio should be regarded as a higher risk, long term investment managed on a discretionary basis. We would strongly recommend seeking independent tax and financial advice before taking any action.



The 2026 3D Award indicates Charlotte Square Investment Manager's engagement with ARC Research's Investment Manager Research Program and fulfillment of the due diligence criteria. It is not a rating or endorsement of suitability for specific clients but a validation of our commitment to transparency.