THIS CIRCULAR IS SENT TO YOU AS A SHAREHOLDER IN WISDOMTREE UK QUALITY DIVIDEND GROWTH UCITS ETF

ISIN: IE0003UH9270

IT IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. IF YOU ARE IN ANY DOUBT AS TO THE ACTION TO BE TAKEN, YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONSULT YOUR STOCKBROKER, BANK MANAGER, SOLICITOR OR ATTORNEY OR OTHER PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR.

If you have transferred your holding in WisdomTree UK Quality Dividend Growth UCITS ETF, please send this document and the accompanying proxy form to the stockbroker, bank manager, or other agent through whom the transfer was effected for transmission to the transferee.

Unless otherwise indicated, all defined terms in this Circular shall have the same meaning as described in the Prospectus for the ICAV dated 27 May 2024 (the **Prospectus**).

# WisdomTree Issuer ICAV (the ICAV)

(an open-ended umbrella fund with segregated liability between sub-funds)

#### **PROPOSED MERGER**

OF

WisdomTree UK Equity Income UCITS ETF (the Merging Fund, a sub-fund of the ICAV)

INTO

WisdomTree UK Quality Dividend Growth UCITS ETF (the Receiving Fund, another sub-fund of the ICAV)

Dated: 13 September 2024

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**Explanatory Letter from the ICAV** 

## **KEY DATES FOR THE MERGER**

Date of Meeting 11 October 2024

Date of dispatch of notification of outcome of Meeting 14 October 2024

Latest time for submitting redemption requests prior to the Merger 2:00 pm on 22 October 2024

Effective Date 25 October 2024

The merger is subject to the approval of Shareholders in the Merging Fund. Save where otherwise mentioned, times referred to above are to Irish time.

**DEFINITIONS** 

**Administrator** the administrator to the ICAV, as defined in the Prospectus;

Auditor Deloitte Ireland LLP, or any successor auditor duly appointed to the ICAV;

**Business Day** a day on which commercial banks are generally open for business in London;

Central Bank the Central Bank of Ireland or any successor regulatory authority with responsibility

for authorising and supervising the ICAV and the Receiving Fund;

Central Bank UCITS Regulations the Central Bank (Supervision and Enforcement) Act 2013 (Section 48(1))

(Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) Regulations 2019 (S.I. No. 230 of 2019) and related guidance issued by the Central Bank as amended,

supplemented or replaced from time to time;

**Circular** the circular to be issued to Shareholders in relation to the Merger;

**Depositary** the depositary to the ICAV, as defined in the Prospectus;

**Directors** the directors of the ICAV;

Effective Date 25 October 2024;

**Instrument of Incorporation** the Instrument of Incorporation of the ICAV as amended from time to time;

Manager WisdomTree Management Limited, the UCITS management company of the ICAV;

Meeting the extraordinary general meeting of the Merging Fund to be held on 11 October 2024

at 10am;

Merger the proposed merger of the Merging Fund with the Receiving Fund as more

particularly described in the Circular;

Merger Dealing Deadline the last time to submit redemption requests of Receiving Fund Shares prior to the

Merger is the Business Day before the Effective Date;

Merging Fund WisdomTree UK Equity Income UCITS ETF, a sub-fund of the ICAV;

**Merging Fund Shares** shares held in the Merging Fund;

**Prospectus** the prospectus of the ICAV dated 27 May 2024;

Receiving Fund WisdomTree UK Quality Dividend Growth UCITS ETF, another sub-fund of the

ICAV;

Regulations European Communities (Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable

Securities) Regulations 2011 as amended by the European Union (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) (Amendment) Regulations 2016;

**Shareholder(s)** a holder of Merging Fund Shares and/or Shares, as the context requires;

**Shares** shares in the Receiving Fund to be issued under the Merger in exchange for their

holding of Merging Fund Shares;

## Supplement

the supplement for the Receiving Fund dated 27 May 2024; and

**UCITS** 

an undertaking for collective investment in transferable securities authorised pursuant to the Regulations.

#### **Proposed Merger of**

#### WisdomTree UK Equity Income UCITS ETF, a sub-fund of the ICAV

#### with

#### WisdomTree UK Quality Dividend Growth UCITS ETF, another sub-fund of the ICAV

Dear Shareholder

We are writing to you as a Shareholder in WisdomTree UK Quality Dividend Growth UCITS ETF (the Receiving Fund).

The purpose of this Circular is to describe the proposal to merge WisdomTree UK Equity Income UCITS ETF (the **Merging Fund**) with the Receiving Fund.

To be effective, the proposals require Shareholders of the Merging Fund to pass a special resolution in accordance with the Instrument of Incorporation. No action is required by you as a Shareholder in the Receiving Fund.

#### 1. Background to and Rationale for the Proposed Merger

The investment objective of the Merging Fund is to track the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of WisdomTree UK Equity Income Index, an index that measures the performance of UK securities (the **Investment Objective**).

As an alternative to the potential closure of the Merging Fund, the Directors wish to present the Merger to the Shareholders as an opportunity to retain exposure to a portfolio with a similar investment objective.

Since the Merging Fund's inception in 2015, the Merging Fund has failed to gather sufficient assets and an improvement is not expected in the short to medium term.

The Receiving Fund, by leaning on the track record of the 'Quality Dividend Growth' family, is expected to have higher chances for future success.

Therefore, it is no longer viable to maintain the Merging Fund and a decision has been made to seek a merger with the Receiving Fund.

The Directors of the ICAV believe that the proposed Merger provides investors of the Merging Funds with a viable alternative.

#### 2. The Proposed Merger and the impact on Shareholders

## (a) Type of merger

The type of merger proposed is that set out in sub-section (a) of the definition of Merger in Part 1, section 3(1) of the Regulations, being a merger whereby one or more UCITS or sub-funds thereof (merging UCITS), on being dissolved without going into liquidation, transfer all of their assets and liabilities in exchange for the issue to their shareholders of Shares in the receiving UCITS.

## (b) Transfer of assets and liabilities

The proposed Merger will involve the delivery and/or transfer of all of the assets and liabilities of the Merging Fund to the Receiving Fund in exchange for the issue of Shares in the Receiving Fund to Shareholders of the

Merging Fund on the Effective Date. The portfolio of investments of the Merging Fund will be sold down before the Effective Date and, as a result, only cash will remain in the Merging Fund and be transferred to the Receiving Fund at the Effective Date.

#### (c) Accrued Income

Any income of the Merging Fund accrued but not yet paid out by the Merging Fund as at the Effective Date will form part of the assets transferred to the Receiving Fund and will be treated as part of the Net Asset Value of the Receiving Fund.

#### (d) Impact on Shareholding and Shareholder Rights, Issue of Shares and Exchange Ratio

As at the Effective Date, Shareholders of the Merging Fund Shares will receive Shares in the relevant class of the Receiving Fund as set out in the table below.

Merging Fund Shares	Receiving Fund Shares
WisdomTree UK Equity Income UCITS ETF	WisdomTree UK Quality Dividend Growth UCITS ETF
IE00BYPGTJ26	IE0003UH9270

Under the terms of the Merger, Shareholders in the Merging Fund will become Shareholders in the Receiving Fund and the total value of their holding will correspond to the total value of shares of the Merging Fund as of the last Net Asset Value calculated for the Merging Fund. As the value of the Shares which a Shareholder will receive in the Receiving Fund will be equal to the value of a Shareholder's holding of Merging Fund Shares immediately prior to the Effective Time, the exact number of Shares to be issued in exchange for Merging Fund Shares will not be known until the Effective Date.

No cash payment will be made to Shareholders under the Merger.

## (e) Rights of Shareholders

The dealing arrangements for the Merging Fund and the Receiving Fund are the same in that both funds have the same dealing deadlines and dealing days. The base currencies are the same, with the Merging Fund and the Receiving Fund denominated in Sterling.

## (f) Valuation

The valuation methodology which applies to the Merging Fund is the same as that which applies to the Receiving Fund.

## (g) Impact on performance, investment policy or risk profile

The Merger is not expected to negatively impact the performance experienced by Shareholders.

Investors in the Receiving Fund will experience no material change in the investment policy or risk profile.

It is not anticipated that there will be any re-balancing of the portfolio of assets of the Receiving Fund arising from the Merger.

## (h) Post Effective Date

If the resolution is passed, the Merger will be binding on all Shareholders on the register of members of the Merging Fund and Shareholders of the Receiving Fund on the Effective Date, and Shareholders of the Merging Fund will be issued Shares without any further action on their part, whether or not they voted in favour of the Merger or voted at all.

#### 3. Conditions applying to the Merger

The Merger is conditional upon: -

- (i) the passing of the resolution by Shareholders of the Merging Fund to approve the Merger (by way of a majority consisting of 75% or more of the total number of votes cast by Shareholders of the Merging Fund present in person or by proxy at the Meeting); and
- (ii) clearance and approval of the Merger by the Central Bank.

#### 4. Basis of the Merger

An EGM of Shareholders of the Merging Fund is being convened on 11 October 2024 at 10 am. The merger of the Merging Fund into the Receiving Fund may not take place without the approval of the Shareholders of the Merging Fund only. In order to be passed, the resolution requires the support of at least 75% of the total number of votes cast for and against it. If the resolution is passed, it will be binding on all Shareholders irrespective of how (or whether) they voted.

Shareholders in the Receiving Fund are not required to vote on the proposed Merger. Shareholders will be notified promptly of the outcome of the Meeting via the website <a href="https://www.wisdomtree.eu">www.wisdomtree.eu</a>.

Shareholders in the Receiving Fund who are not in favour of the Merger can exit their positions in the Receiving Fund by selling their Shares on the relevant stock exchange by the Merger Dealing Deadline, as specified on page 2 above.

Although there is no repurchase fee currently applied in relation to the Receiving Fund, the Regulations provide that Shareholders will have the right to request a repurchase of their Shares in the Receiving Fund without charge (other than those retained to cover disinvestment costs, if applicable) from the date of this Circular up to the latest time for requesting a repurchase of their Shares as set out on page 2 above.

In the event that Shareholders of the Merging Fund pass the requisite resolution, the proposed Merger will involve the delivery and/or transfer to the Depositary, to be held on behalf of the Receiving Fund, of all of the assets and liabilities of the Merging Fund in exchange for the issue of Shares to Shareholders of the Merging Fund.

As the value of the Shares which a Shareholder in the Merging Fund will receive in the Receiving Fund will be equal to the value of a Shareholder's holding of Merging Fund Shares immediately prior to the Effective Time, the exact number of Shares to be issued in exchange for Merging Fund Shares will not be known until the Effective Date.

There will be no initial charge in respect of the issue of Shares under the Merger.

#### 5. Expenses of the Merger

All legal, advisory and administrative costs and expenses including any foreign tax payable or incurred by the Merging Fund, which arise from or are incidental to the implementation of the Merger, will be borne by the Manager.

The current total expense ratio (**TER**) for the Receiving Fund Shares and the Merging Fund Shares are the same, as set out in the table below:

TER - Merging Fund Shares	TER - Receiving Fund Shares
0.29%	0.29%

All transaction costs (including costs associated with selling down the Merging Fund's portfolio) and other fees and

expenses incurred and otherwise arising in connection with realignment of the Merging Fund prior to the Merger will be borne by the Merging Fund.

## 6. Review by the Auditor

In accordance with regulation 59 of the Regulations, the Depositary has provided written verification of certain particulars of the merger to the Central Bank.

In accordance with regulation 60 of the Regulations, the Auditor, will validate the following:

- the criteria adopted for the valuation of the assets and, where applicable, the liabilities of the Merging Fund on the date for calculating the exchange ratio; and
- the calculation method of the exchange ratio as well as the actual exchange ratio as at the date for calculating that ratio.

Following the Effective Date, the Auditor, will prepare a report with details of its findings in relation to the above which will be available to Shareholders free of charge upon request to the Administrator. A copy of this report will also be available to the Central Bank.

## 7. Action to be Taken

As a Shareholder of the Receiving Fund, there are no actions required to be taken by you.

In summary therefore, in order to implement the Merger, the following actions must be completed on behalf of the ICAV:

- the receipt of all necessary regulatory or other approvals and clearances;
- the passing of the resolution by Shareholders to approve the Merger;
- · the implementation of the transfer of the assets and liabilities of the Merging Fund to the Receiving Fund; and
- the issue of Shares to Shareholders of the Merging Fund.

In the opinion of the Directors, the Merger is fair and reasonable and in the best interests of Shareholders as a whole.

Should you have any questions in relation to the above, please do not hesitate to contact WisdomTree UK Limited / WisdomTree Ireland Limited at europesupport@wisdomtree.com.

The Directors accept responsibility for the information contained in this circular.

We thank you for your continuing support of the ICAV.

Yours faithfully

Director

for and on behalf of

WisdomTree Issuer ICAV