

# QuotedData

BY MARTEN & Cº

INTERNATIONAL

# **GCP Infrastructure**

Investment companies | Update | 5 August 2025

# Substantive progress

Since interest rates began to rise to tackle inflation, GCP Infrastructure (GCP) has, like many similar investment companies, been trading at a wide discount. The board and the investment adviser have been working to tackle this through a policy of capital recycling. This aims to free up £150m to materially reduce the drawn balance on the revolving credit facility (RCF), return at least £50m to shareholders, and rebalance the portfolio to improve its risk adjusted returns. As outlined in this report, buybacks have increased, the discount is narrowing, the RCF has been reduced to just £10m, and the portfolio's sensitivity to electricity prices has been cut significantly.

#### Public-sector-backed, long-term cashflows

GCP aims to provide shareholders with sustained, long-term distributions and to preserve capital by generating exposure primarily to UK infrastructure debt or similar assets with predictable long-term cashflows.

12 months ended	Share price TR (%)	NAV total return (%)	Earnings <sup>1</sup> per  share (pence)	Adjusted <sup>2</sup> EPS (pence)	Dividend per share (pence)
30/09/2020	(2.0)	(0.2)	(0.08)	7.65	7.6
30/09/2021	(7.9)	7.2	7.08	7.90	7.0
30/09/2022	3.8	15.7	15.88	8.30	7.0
30/09/2023	(25.2)	3.6	3.50	8.58	7.0
30/09/2024	28.2	4.6	2.25	7.09	7.0

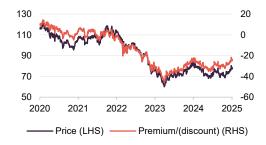
Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co. Note 1) EPS figures taken from 30 September each year. Note 2) Adjusted earnings per share removes the impact of unrealised movements in fair value through profit and loss

Sector	Infrastructure
Ticker	GCP LN
Base currency	GBP
Price	78.0p
NAV	102.1p
Premium/(discount)	(23.6%)
Yield	9.0%

Note: 1) Last published NAV as at 30 June 2025

#### Share price and discount

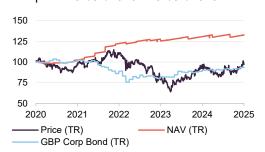
#### Time period 31/07/2020 to 04/08/2025



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

#### Performance over five years

#### Time period 31/07/2020 to 31/07/2025



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

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Domicile	Jersey
Inception date	22 July 2010
Manager	Philip Kent
Market cap	657.4m
Shares outstanding (exc. treasury shares)	842.783m
Daily vol. (1-yr. avg.)	1.343m shares
Net gearing	1.2%
Click for our most recen note	t C
Click for an updated GC factsheet	
Click for GCP's peer gro analysis	up 😘



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# Company profile

Regular, sustainable, longterm income

GCP had driven down the RCF balance to £41m by the end of March...

...but with an influx of money from the settlement of a claim, GCP's net debt is now about £10m

GCP Infrastructure Investments Limited (GCP) is a Jersey-incorporated, closed-ended investment company whose shares are traded on the main market of the London Stock Exchange. GCP aims to generate a regular, sustainable, long-term income while preserving investors' capital. The company's income is derived from loaning money predominantly at fixed rates to entities which derive their revenue – or a substantial portion of it – from UK public-sector-backed cashflows. Where applicable, it secures an element of inflation protection.

In practice, GCP is diversified across a range of different infrastructure subsectors, although with an increased allocation towards renewable energy infrastructure over the last few years. It has exposure to renewable energy projects (where revenue is partly subsidy and partly linked to sales of power), PFI/PPP-type assets (whose revenue is predominantly based on the availability of the asset), and specialist supported social housing (where local authorities are renting specially-adapted residential accommodation for tenants with special needs).

The board is targeting a full-year dividend of 7.0p per share for the financial year ended 30 September 2025. At the half-year mark, the trust had declared dividends totalling 3.5p per share.

As stated on the front page, GCP is working on a £150m capital cycling programme as part of its efforts to tackle its discount. Money freed up is being used to reduce GCP's leverage. Drawings on the revolving credit facility (RCF) totalled £43m at end June 2025, down from £57m at end September 2024.

In its latest NAV announcement, GCP revealed that it had reached a settlement agreement in respect of the contractual claim relating to the accreditation of a portfolio of solar projects under the Renewables Obligation scheme. This issue has been ongoing for an extended period – it was referenced in our January 2021 note, for example.

GCP had accrued an amount in the NAV for the anticipated settlement, and so this did not have much impact on the NAV. However, following receipt of the money, GCP's net debt has fallen to about £10m, equivalent to gearing of 1.2%.

GCP also intends to return at least £50m of capital to shareholders. Its recent share buyback activity is shown on page 12.



# **Market backdrop**

Markets are predicting a cut in UK base rates in August, but persistent inflation and low/negative growth numbers are weighing on sentiment

UK economic growth numbers have been weak, with a fall in GDP reported for May, following on from another monthly contraction in April. In such an environment, the predictable income provided by GCP could be perceived as relatively stable.

The Bank of England cut its base rate to 4.25% in May 2025, but inflation figures have been coming in higher than expected, with UK CPI running at 3.6% and RPI (which is still used to inflate renewable energy subsidies) coming in at 4.4% in June. Another interest rate cut has been signalled as possible for August, but until inflation is looking better-controlled, more aggressive rate-cutting seems unlikely.

10-year gilt yields, which arguably have a bigger influence on the rating of funds such as GCP than short-term rates, have been fairly flat this year. A number of commentators are concerned about levels of UK government debt, which may be contributing to movements in long-term bond yields.

Figure 1: UK 10-year gilt yield

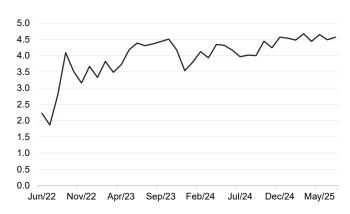
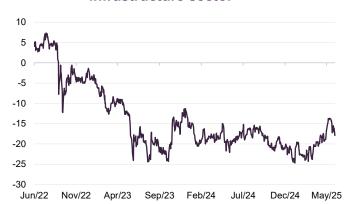


Figure 2: Median premium/(discount) on AIC infrastructure sector



Source: Bloomberg

BBGI bid underscored the attractive valuations on offer in the infrastructure sector

Plenty for GCP to do if it returns to making investments, but the discount will be fixed first Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

As illustrated in Figure 2, discounts on infrastructure trusts have narrowed from lows. One contributing factor to this may have been the bid for BBGI Global Infrastructure (a portfolio of equity stakes in PFI/PPP-type infrastructure projects) at a premium to its NAV. GCP still has about 27% of its portfolio exposed to debt funding for PPP/PFI projects.

Talk is growing that a cash-constrained UK government will re-examine PFI-type structures to fund much-needed infrastructure investment in areas such as schools, hospitals, and prisons. This could open up new opportunities for GCP, should it resume making new investments. The GCP board has been quite clear that it will not consider doing do so until the discount has narrowed to a point where returns on new investments are higher than the return on investing in the existing portfolio through buybacks.

While decisions are pending regarding the future of PFI, GCP has identified the considerable opportunity in financing the transition to Net Zero. The UK government's latest auction round for CfD finance for renewables projects – AR7 –



is underway. In this auction round, more capital has been allocated, and fixed-price energy deals are available at higher prices and for longer periods.

The government's review into electricity markets decided against adopting zonal pricing for electricity. The decision has been welcomed by most investors in generation assets, but it does mean that additional investment will be needed in energy storage and in grid infrastructure.

#### **Portfolio**

As of 30 June 2025, there were 48 investments in GCP's portfolio (down from 50 when we last published). The average annualised portfolio yield was 7.9% (up from 7.8%), and the portfolio had a weighted average life of 11 years.

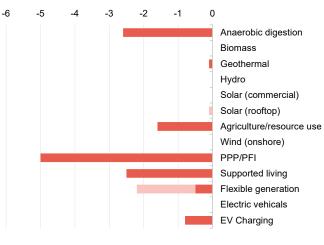
#### Recent investment activity

No new loans were made over H1 25, as the adviser was focused on GCP's capital recycling programme. GCP does have commitments to advance loans to existing borrowers, however, and these totalled £13m over the first half of GCP's financial year (H1 25), the six-month period ended 31 March 2025.

In terms of money coming back from the portfolio, the two notable transactions were the sale of some rooftop solar assets for £6.8m in November 2024 (as referred to in the previous note) and the sale of interests in two onshore wind farms in January 2025.

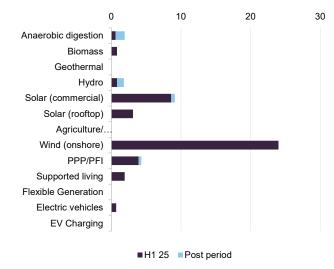
GCP had owned the windfarms since 2017. They generated an initial £16.5m plus £1.3m of contingent proceeds and £1.0m of realised tax benefits. Although the proceeds were lower than the valuation in GCP's end-September 2024 NAV, on average the company made a return of about 9.7% per annum on these assets.





■H1 25 ■Post period

Figure 4: Inflows (repayments) in £m



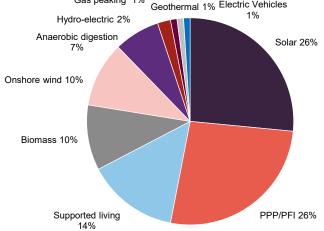
Source: Gravis Capital Partners Source: Gravis Capital Partners



The disposals have had some effect on the split of GCP's portfolio as shown in Figure 3, with the percentage exposure to onshore wind falling from 13% to 10% since we last published.

Split of the portfolio at 30 June 2025

Gas peaking 1% Geothermal 1% Electric Vehicles Hydro-electric 2%



Source: GCP Infrastructure Investments

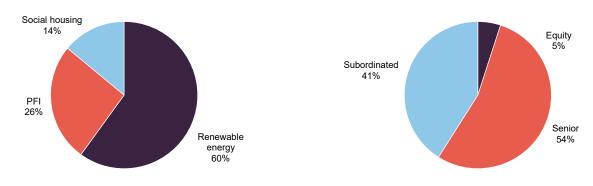
Figure 5:

In terms of the sector split shown in Figure 5, renewables have declined relative to the other two sectors (as the pie shrinks). The portfolio also has slightly more exposure to senior loans and less exposure to equity or equity-like positions.

The missing piece of the capital recycling programme is the disinvestment from GCP's social housing exposure. This is still anticipated.

Figure 6: Sector allocation at 30 June 2025





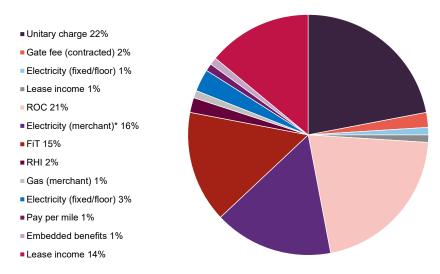
Source: GCP Infrastructure Investments

Source: GCP Infrastructure Investments

There is no significant change to the breakdown of GCP's sources of income.



Figure 8: GCP sources of income as at 31 March 2025



Source: GCP Infrastructure Investments

#### **Top 10 investments**

GCP's largest investments tend to be special purpose vehicles set up to fund specific groups of assets.

One new vehicle has entered the top 10 (GCP Rooftop Solar Finance), replacing GCP Programme Funding S3, which was financing a portfolio of anaerobic digestion plants. GCP adjusted the value of some of these plants as shown on page 11.

Figure 9: GCP's 10 largest investments as at 31 March 2025

	% of total assets 31/03/25	Cashflow type	Project type
Cardale PFI	13.4	Unitary charge	PFI/PPP (18 projects)
Gravis Solar 1	9.4	ROC/FiT	Commercial solar
GCP Programme Funding S14	5.7	ROC/RHI/Merchant	Biomass
GCP Bridge Holdings	5.1	ROC/PPA	PPE – Energy-from-waste / Energy efficiency
GCP Biomass 2	5.0	ROC/PPA	Biomass
GCP Programme Funding S10	4.9	Lease	Supported Living
GCP Social Housing 1 B	4.0	Lease	Supported living
Gravis Asset Holdings H	4.0	ROC/RHI	Onshore wind
GCP Green Energy 1	3.8	ROC/PPA	Commercial solar/onshore wind
GCP Rooftop Solar Finance	3.7	FiT	Rooftop solar
Source: GCP Infractructure Investment			

Source: GCP Infrastructure Investment

The list of revenue counterparties is not much changed since we last published. ENGIE Power Limited has entered the list replacing Total Gas and Energy Limited.



In the list of project service providers, Veolia ES (UK) Limited, Urbaser, and Gloucester County Council have replaced Pentair, Atlantic Biogas, and Thyson.

Figure 10: Top 10 revenue counterparties

Firm	% of total portfolio
Ecotricity Limited	9.4
Npower Limited	7.3
Viridian Energy Supply	7.2
Statkraft Markets GmbH	5.9
Bespoke Supportive Tenancies Limited	5.1
Office of Gas and Electricity Markets	4.7
Smartestenergy Limited	4.5
Good Energy Limited	4.5
Gloucestershire County Council	4.2
ENGIE Power Limited	4.0
Source: GCP Infrastructure Investments	

Figure 11: Top 10 project service providers

Firm	% of total portfolio
WPO UK Services Limited	20
PSH Operations Limited	13
Solar Maintenance Services Limited	10
A Shade Greener Maintenance	9
Vestas Celtic Wind Technology Limited	8
Veolia ES (UK) Limited	5
Cobalt Energy Limited	5
Urbaser Limited	4
Gloucester County Council	4
2G Energy Limited	4
cource: GCP Infrastructure Investments	

#### **Sensitivities**

The investment adviser also provides a sensitivity analysis for its cash flows. Based on a total fair value for GCP's assets, a 0.5% increase in its discount rate would reduce the total fair value by approximately 3.0%. A 0.5% decrease in discount rates would add 3.2%.

Figure 12: NAV impact of change in forecast electricity prices

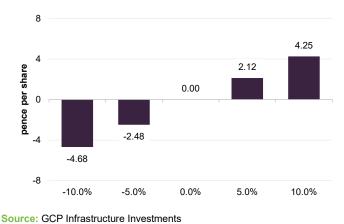
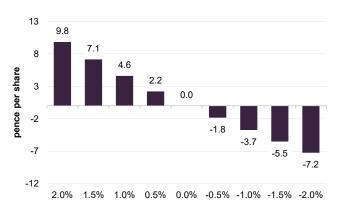


Figure 13: NAV impact associated with a movement in inflation



Source: GCP Infrastructure Investments

Clear evidence of reduced sensitivity to power prices

One of GCP's aims for its capital recycling efforts is to reduce the portfolio's sensitivity to fluctuations in power prices. Based on the numbers in Figure 10, it is achieving this. As at end March 205, a 10% fall in power price forecasts would take 4.68p off GCP's NAV. Back at the end of September 2025, before the rooftop solar and onshore windfarm sales, that figure was 9.11p.



Higher inflation has a positive impact for GCP. Recent inflation figures indicate movement in this direction. However, the quid pro quo for this tends to be higher for longer interest rates, which influence the discount rate. At end June 2025, the weighted average discount rate on the portfolio was 8.33%, marginally lower than the 8.36% number for end March. That just reflects principal and interest payments across the portfolio.

#### **Conservative assumptions**

Figure 14: Valuation assumptions as at 31 March 2025

	GCP's approach	Most conservative	Potential impact on GCP's NAV (pence)	Least conservative
Electricity prices	Futures (three years) and AFRY four quarter average long term. Electricity Generator Levy applied to 31 March 2028	AFRY Q1 2025 Low-Central	(2.57) 3.14	Aurora Q1 2025
Capture prices (wind, solar)	Asset-specific curve applied to each project	Higher capture prices	(0.29) 2.45	No capture prices
Asset lives	Lesser of planning, lease, and technical life (20 to 25 years)	Contractual limitations	2.63	Asset life of 40 years (solar) and 30 years (wind)
Indexation	OBR short term, 2.5% RPI and 2.0% CPI long term	2.5% RPI and 2% CPI long term	0.36	0.5% increase in inflation forecasts
Corporation tax	Long-term corporation tax assumption of 25%	Long-term corporation tax at 25%	0.63	Short-term corporate tax assumption of 25% then 19% thereafter

Source: GCP Infrastructure Investments

As in previous reports, a table is included showing the impact of GCP's valuation assumptions on its NAV. The range shows what would happen to the NAV were GCP to adopt the most conservative or least conservative assumptions of peers when calculating its NAV. Whilst the sensitivity to power prices has fallen, it is still an important consideration. GCP uses the average of the last four quarterly power price curves produced by AFRY.



#### **Performance**

Despite the many headwinds facing the company in recent years, GCP's NAV total return has remained positive and has held up fairly well, relative to the return from sterling corporate bonds as shown in Figure 16.

Figure 15: GCP NAV total return

140

130

120

110

100

90

Jun/20

Jun/21

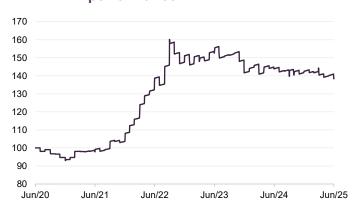
Jun/22

Jun/23

Jun/24

Jun/25

Figure 16: GCP NAV total return performance relative to sterling corporate bond performance



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

It is encouraging to see the impact of a narrower discount on GCP's share price returns, but there is hopefully even more to come.

Figure 17: Cumulative total return performance over periods ending 30 June 2025

	3 months (%)	6 months (%)	1 year (%)	3 years (%)	5 years (%)
GCP share price	5.3	8.6	0.3	(13.9)	(3.2)
GCP NAV	1.7	0.5	1.6	8.4	31.9
Sterling corporate bonds	3.1	3.5	5.6	8.7	(4.7)

Source: Morningstar, Bloomberg, Marten & Co

The next section looks at what has been driving GCP's NAV return since we last published.

The largest negative move relates to a change to the assumed life of a portfolio of gas-to-grid anaerobic digestion assets. GCP has an equity exposure to these assets after the borrower experienced operational difficulties.



#### Significant factors affecting NAV over H1 2025

Figure 18: Factors affecting the NAV over H1 25

Driver	Description	Impact (£m)	Impact (pence per share)
Inflation forecast	Inflation movements in the period	6.9	0.81
O&M budget update	Revised operating budget reflecting improved forecast cash flows	3.1	0.36
Other upward movements	Other upward movements across the portfolio	5.1	0.60
Asset specific revaluations	Revised long-term availability forecast for a gas-to-grid anaerobic digestion portfolio	(24.5)	(2.87)
Actual performance	Lower-than-forecast renewables generation	(12.7)	(1.49)
Discount rates	Higher discount rates	(3.5)	(0.41)
Other	Other, including the impact of hedging	(0.4)	(0.05)
Total		(26.0)	(3.05)

Source: GCP Infrastructure Investments

# Premium/(discount)

Over the past 12 months, GCP's shares have traded on an average discount of 29.1%, a high of 22.2%, and a low of 35.3%. As of publishing, the discount stood at 23.6%.

Figure 19: GCP discount over five years ending 30 June 2025



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co



As discussed in previous notes, GCP's discount widened over 2021 and 2022 as interest rates began to rise. The discount has narrowed somewhat since perhaps helped by share buybacks (as shown in Figure 20) and a capital recycling programme aimed at providing solid evidence of the validity of the NAV; improving the overall quality of the portfolio (in particular, reducing the sensitivity to power price fluctuations); and providing cash to both fund returns to investors and to reduce its floating rate debt. There is potential for the discount to narrow further.

As Figure 20 illustrates, in pursuit of the capital recycling programme, GCP has now bought back over 23.8m shares, worth about £18.8m,

-1,000,000
-2,000,000
-3,000,000
-4,000,000
-5,000,000
-6,000,000
-7,000,000
-8,000,000
-9,000,000
-9,000,000

Figure 20: GCP share buybacks over past year

Source: Marten & Co



### **Previous publications**

Readers interested in further information about GCP may wish to read our previous notes.

Figure 21: QuotedData's previously published notes on GCP

Title	Note type	Publication date
Stable income, uncertain times	Initiation	30 January 2020
Rebased dividend	Update	1 June 2020
Compelling yield	Annual overview	11 January 2021
Penalised for being conservative?	Update	1 July 2021
The future is brighter and greener	Annual overview	18 January 2022
Improving outlook and room to grow	Update	19 July 2022
Green is good	Annual overview	7 February 2023
Merger to unlock compelling value?	Update	17 August 2023
Don't look back in anger	Annual overview	30 January 2024
Crystallising unrealised value	Update	6 August 2024
Consolidate and capitalise	Annual overview	23 January 2025

Source: Marten & Co





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