

VPC Specialty Lending Investments PLC (the "Company")

Audit and Valuation Committee Terms of Reference

(approved 12 November 2024)

Definitions:

Reference to the "**Committee**" shall mean the Audit and Valuation Committee. Reference to the "**Board**" shall mean the Board of Directors of the Company.

Reference to the "**Manager**" shall mean the Company's investment manager.

1. MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 The Committee shall be made up of the independent directors of the Board.
- 1.2 The Board shall appoint the Committee Chair who shall be an independent non-executive director. In the absence of the Committee Chair and/or an appointed deputy, the remaining members present shall elect one of themselves to chair the meeting. The chair of the Company shall not be appointed as the Committee Chair at any time.
- 1.3 All members of the Committee shall be independent non-executive directors and at least one member of the Committee shall have recent and relevant financial experience ideally with a professional qualification from one of the professional accountancy bodies. The Committee as a whole shall have competence relevant to the sector(s) within which the Company operates.
- 1.4 Only members of the Committee have the right to attend and vote at Committee meetings. The Committee may ask senior representatives of the Manager to attend meetings, either regularly or by invitation.
- 1.5 The Committee may invite a representative of the external auditor and the Manager's operational control function to attend meetings. The Committee shall have at least one meeting or part thereof, with the external auditor without the Manager being present.
- 1.6 Other non-members may be invited to attend all or part of any Committee meetings as and when appropriate and necessary.

2. VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

- 2.1 Each member of the Committee shall have one vote which may be cast on matters considered at the meeting.
- 2.2 If a matter that is considered by the Committee as one where a member, either directly or indirectly, has a personal interest, that member shall not be permitted to vote at the meeting or count within the quorum.
- 2.3 Invitees to all or part of any Committee meetings shall not have the right to vote.

3. SECRETARY

- 3.1 The Company Secretary or its nominee shall act as the Secretary of the Committee. ").
- 3.2 All members shall have access to the services and advice of the Secretary who will support the Committee Chair in planning the Committee's work, drawing up meeting agendas, maintenance of minutes, drafting of material about its activities for the annual report, collection and distribution of information.

4. QUORUM

- 4.1 The quorum necessary for the transaction of business shall be two Committee members, including whenever possible, at least one member with recent and relevant financial experience. A duly convened meeting of the Committee at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers and discretions vested in or exercisable by the Committee.

5. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

- 5.1 The Committee shall meet at least twice a year at appropriate times in the financial reporting and audit cycle and otherwise as required.
- 5.2 Outside of the formal meeting programme, the Committee Chair will maintain dialogue with key individuals involved in the Company's governance, including the chair of the Company and the external audit lead partner.

6. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

- 6.1 Meetings of the Committee shall be convened by the Company Secretary at the request of any of its members or at the request of the external auditors.
- 6.2 Unless otherwise agreed, notice of each meeting confirming the venue, time and date together with an agenda of items to be discussed, shall be forwarded to each member of the Committee, any other person required to attend and all other members of the Board, no later than five working days before the date of the meeting. Supporting papers shall be sent to Committee members and to other attendees as appropriate, at the same time.

7. MINUTES

- 7.1 The Company Secretary shall minute the proceedings and decisions of all meetings of the Committee, including recording the names of those present and in attendance.
- 7.2 The Company Secretary shall also ascertain, at the beginning of each meeting, the existence of any conflicts of interest and minute them accordingly.
- 7.3 Draft minutes of Committee meetings shall be circulated promptly to all members of the Committee.

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 8.1 The Committee Chair shall attend the Annual General Meeting to answer shareholder questions on the Committee's activities.

9. DUTIES

- 9.1 The Committee should carry out the duties below for the Company, major subsidiary undertakings (if any) and the group as a whole (if a group is in existence), as appropriate.

a. Financial Reporting

- i. The Committee shall monitor the integrity of the financial statements of the Company, including its annual and half-yearly reports, any management statements, and any other formal announcement relating to its financial performance, reviewing significant financial reporting issues and judgments which they contain, having regard to matters communicated to it by the external auditor.
- ii. In particular, the Committee shall review and challenge where necessary the Company's financial statements taking into account:
- the consistency of, and any changes to, accounting policies both on a year on year basis and across the Company or group (if a group is in existence);
 - decisions requiring a major element of judgement;
 - the methods used to account for significant or unusual transactions where different approaches are possible;
 - whether the Company has followed appropriate accounting standards and made appropriate estimates and judgements, taking into account the views of the external auditor;
 - the clarity and completeness of disclosure in the Company's financial reports and the context in which statements are made;
 - significant adjustments resulting from the audit;

- the going concern assumption and the longer term viability statement;
 - all material information presented with the financial statements, such as the strategic report and the corporate governance statement (insofar as it relates to the audit and risk management); and
 - the manager's report, confirming that the Manager has conducted the affairs of the Company in compliance with the regulations applying to it.
- iii. Where the Committee is not satisfied with any aspect of the proposed financial reporting by the Company, it shall report its views to the Board.

b. **Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems**

- i. The Committee shall as appropriate given the nature of the Company:
- keep under review the adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's financial reporting and internal control policies and procedures with respect to the Company's record keeping, asset management and operations for the identification, assessment and reporting of principal and emerging risks;
 - review the statements to be included in the annual report concerning internal controls, prior to endorsement by the Board, and the policies and process for identifying and assessing business risks and the management of those risks by the Company;
 - ensuring that there is a procedure in place to identify emerging risks;
 - Where requested by the board, provide advice on how, taking into account the Company's position and principal risks, the Company's prospects have been assessed, over what period and why the period is regarded as appropriate. The Committee shall also advise on whether there is a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue in operation and meet its liabilities as they fall due over the said period, drawing attention to any qualifications or assumptions as necessary;
 - review the list of approved deposit takers and deposit limits;
 - review and approve statements explaining how assets have been invested with a view to spreading investment risk;
 - liaise with the Board and ensure that other statements regarding the Manager, including relevant details of its remuneration and appointment and its continued appointment, are included in the annual report;
 - ensure that the annual report includes:
 - the full text of the Company's published investment policy;
 - a detailed and meaningful analysis of the Company's investment portfolio; and
 - a summary of the valuation of the Company's portfolio made in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority's UK Listing Rules ("UKLR") published by the Financial Conduct Authority;
 - monitor adherence to best practice in corporate governance.

c. **Whistleblowing**

- i. The Committee will review the whistleblowing procedures of the Manager.

d. **Operational Control Function**

- i. The Committee shall review promptly all reports on the Company from the Manager's operational control function.
- ii. The Manager's Chief Operating Officer shall have the right of direct access to the Committee Chair .
- iii. The Committee shall consider the major findings of internal investigations and the Manager's response.
- iv. The Committee shall consider annually whether there is a need for an internal audit function and make a recommendation to the Board, and the reasons for the absence of such a function should be explained in the relevant section of the annual report.

e. **External audit**

- i. The Committee shall:

- conduct the selection process for new external auditors;
- consider and make recommendations to the Board, to be put to shareholders for approval at the Annual General Meeting, in relation to the appointment, reappointment and removal of the Company's external auditor and the provision of non-audit services by the Company's external auditor;
- review and approve the annual audit plan and ensure that it is consistent with the scope of the audit engagement having regard, amongst other matters, to the seniority, expertise and engagement of the audit team;
- meet regularly with the external auditor (including once at the planning stage before the audit and once after the audit at the reporting stage), and at least once a year, without the Manager being present, to discuss their remit and any issues arising from the audit with respect to accounting or internal control systems, and to ensure that the auditors' management letters and the Manager's responses are reviewed;
- review the findings of the audit with the external auditor. This shall include but not be limited to the following:
 - a discussion of any major issues which arose during the audit;
 - any accounting and audit judgements;
 - levels of errors identified during the audit; and
 - the effectiveness of the audit process;
- oversee the relationship with the external auditor including (but not limited to):
 - making recommendations for their remuneration, including both fees for audit or non-audit services and ensuring that the level of fees is appropriate to enable an effective and high quality audit to be conducted;
 - approval of their terms of engagement, including any engagement letter issued at the start of each audit and the scope of the audit;

- monitoring and assessing at least annually their independence and objectivity taking into account relevant UK law, professional and regulatory requirements and the relationship with the external auditor as a whole, including the provision of any non-audit services;
- satisfying itself that there are no relationships (such as family, employment, investment, financial or business) between the external auditor and the Company (other than in the ordinary course of business) which could adversely affect the auditor's independence and objectivity;
- monitoring the external auditor's compliance with relevant ethical and professional guidance on the rotation of audit partner, the level of fees paid by the Company compared to the overall fee income of the firm, office and partner and other related requirements; and
- assessing annually the qualifications, expertise and resources of the external auditor and the effectiveness of the audit process which shall include a report from the external auditor on their own internal quality procedures;
- The Committee shall keep under review the relationship with the external auditors including (but not limited to), discussions with the external auditors concerning such issues as compliance with accounting standards and any proposals which the external auditors have made, e.g. in respect of the Manager's internal auditing standards.
- The Committee shall also:
 - review any representation letter(s) requested by the external auditor before they are signed by the Board;
 - review the Board's response to the external auditor's findings and recommendations; and
 - develop and implement a policy on the supply of non-audit services by the external auditor, considering the impact this may have on independence, taking into account the FRC's Minimum Standard for Audit Committee's (the "Minimum Standard") and any relevant ethical guidance on the matter, and reporting to the Board on any improvement or action required.
- if an external auditor resigns, investigate the issues leading to this and decide the appropriate action to take ;
- ensure that at least once every ten years the audit services contract is put out to tender to enable the Committee to compare the quality and effectiveness of the services provided by the incumbent auditor with those of other audit firms, in respect of such tender oversee the selection process and ensure that all tendering firms have such access as is necessary to information and individuals during the duration of the tendering process; and ensure the audit tender is carried out in accordance with the Minimum Standard and that all members of the Committee are involved throughout the tender process.

f. Valuations

- i. The Committee shall be responsible for recommending valuations of the Company's investments to the Board.
- ii. The Committee shall monitor the integrity of the recommended valuations made by the Manager. In particular, the Committee shall review and challenge where necessary:
 - the consistency of, and any changes to, valuation policies both on a year on year basis and across the Company or group (if a group is in existence); and
 - the methods used to account for significant or unusual valuations where different approaches are possible.

- iii. The Committee shall review the adequacy and security of the Company's arrangements for its contractors to raise concerns, in confidence, about possible wrongdoing in valuation reporting or other matters. The Committee shall ensure that these arrangements allow proportionate and independent investigation of such matters and appropriate follow up action.

10. REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

- 10.1 Where requested by the Board, the Committee shall review the content of the annual report and financial statements and advise the Board on whether, taken as a whole, it is fair, balanced and understandable and provides the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Company's position and performance, business model and strategy.
- 10.2 The Committee Chair shall report formally to the Board on its proceedings after each meeting on all matters within its duties and responsibilities. This report shall include:
 - a. the significant issues that it considered in relation to the financial statements and how these were addressed;
 - b. its assessment of the effectiveness of the external audit process and its recommendation on the appointment, reappointment or removal of the external auditor; and
 - c. any other issues on which the Board has requested the Committee's opinion.
- 10.3 The Committee shall make whatever recommendations to the Board it deems appropriate on any area within its remit where action or improvement is needed.
- 10.4 The Committee shall compile a report to shareholders on its activities to be included in the Company's annual report. The report should include an explanation of how the Committee has assessed the effectiveness of the external audit process and the approach taken to the appointment or re-appointment of the external auditor; the significant issues that the Committee considered in relation to the financial statements and how these issues were addressed, having regard to matters communicated to it by the external auditor; information on the length of tenure of the current audit firm, when a tender was last conducted and advance notice of any retendering plans and all other information requirements set out in the AIC Code of Corporate Governance (the "AIC Code").
- 10.5 The Committee or its Chair shall discuss formally with the Board, at least once a year, the relationship with the external auditors, and identify any matters in respect of which it considers that action or improvement is needed and make recommendations as to the steps to be taken.
- 10.6 In compiling the report referred to in 10.4, the Committee should exercise judgement in deciding which of the issues it considers in relation to the financial statements are significant, but should include at least those matters that have formed the Board's assessment of the viability statement and whether the Company is a going concern. The report to the shareholders need not repeat information disclosed elsewhere in the annual report and financial statements, but could provide cross-references to that information.

11. OTHER MATTERS

- 11.1 The Committee shall:
 - a. have access to sufficient resources in order to carry out its duties, including access to the Company secretary for assistance as required;
 - b. be provided with appropriate and timely training, both in the form of an induction programme for new members and on an ongoing basis for all members;
 - c. give due consideration to applicable laws and regulations including the requirements of the UKLR, the Prospectus Rules, the Disclosure and Transparency Rules, the

provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code and the Association of Investment Companies' Code of Corporate Governance as such apply to the Company from time to time;

- d. oversee any investigation of activities which are within its terms of reference; and
 - e. arrange for periodic reviews of its own performance and, at least annually, review its constitution and terms of reference to ensure it is operating at maximum effectiveness and recommend any changes it considers necessary to the Board for approval.
- 11.2 The Committee is responsible for ensuring that financial information used within the business or published is reliable.

12. AUTHORITY

- 12.1 The Committee is authorised to:
- a. seek any information it requires from the Manager and Secretary in order to perform its duties;
 - b. obtain, at the Company's expense, independent legal or other professional advice on any matter within its terms of reference;
 - c. to request that representatives of the Manager and Company Secretary be available to answer questions at meetings; and
 - d. have the right to publish, in the Company's annual report, details of any issues that cannot be resolved between the Committee and the Board.