

4 July 2018

NOT FOR RELEASE, DISTRIBUTION OR PUBLICATION, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, IN OR TO INDIA, THE UNITED STATES, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA, JAPAN OR ANY MEMBER STATE OF THE EEA (OTHER THAN THE UNITED KINGDOM) OR ANY OTHER JURISDICTION IN WHICH THE PUBLICATION, DISTRIBUTION OR RELEASE OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE UNLAWFUL. PLEASE SEE THE SECTION ENTITLED “DISCLAIMER” TOWARDS THE END OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.

Ashoka India Equity Investment Trust plc
(the “Company” or “Ashoka India Equity Investment Trust”)

Successful fundraising of £46 million

Ashoka India Equity Investment Trust is pleased to announce that it has successfully raised gross proceeds of approximately £45.6 million pursuant to the first placing, offer for subscription and intermediaries offer (the “Issue”) of ordinary shares of £0.01 each (the “Ordinary Shares”) as described in the prospectus published by the Company on 19 June 2018 (the “Prospectus”). The net proceeds of the Issue are expected to be approximately £44.7 million.

Applications have been received under the Issue for 45,645,256 Ordinary Shares which will be issued at a price of £1.00 per Ordinary Share. Of these 30,702,111 million Ordinary Shares were issued under the placing, 6,954,900 million Ordinary Shares were issued under the offer for subscription and 7,988,245 million Ordinary Shares were issued under the intermediaries offer. All applications were met in full.

Ashoka India Equity Investment Trust is a high conviction, long-only investment trust, investing mainly in securities listed in India and listed securities of companies with a significant presence in India. The Company has adopted a benchmark agnostic approach and, once fully invested, it is expected to be invested in approximately 20 to 40 investments, limiting investment to only those companies that the Investment Manager considers to be high conviction opportunities.

Applications have been made for admission of the Ordinary Shares to the premium segment of the Official List of the UK Listing Authority and to trading on the premium segment of the London Stock Exchange plc's main market for listed securities. Admission is expected to occur at 8.00 a.m. on 6 July 2018. The Ordinary Shares will trade under the ticker AIE (ISIN: GB00BF50VS41).

Commenting on today's announcement, Andrew Watkins, Chairman of Ashoka India Equity Investment Trust, said:

“We are pleased to have successfully raised £46m, providing UK institutional and retail shareholders with access to this exciting opportunity in the Indian equities market. We are confident in the growth prospects of the Company and look forward to working with the highly experienced investment team to deliver positive long-term returns for shareholders.”

Peel Hunt LLP is acting as sole sponsor, placing agent and intermediaries offer adviser to the Company and, with effect from 6 July 2018, will be appointed the Company's broker.

Following the Initial Issue, the Company's issued share capital will comprise 45,645,256 Ordinary Shares and this is the total number of Ordinary Shares with voting rights in the Company. This figure

(45,645,256) should be used by shareholders as the denominator for the calculations by which they will determine if they are required to notify their interest in, or a change to their interest in, the Company under the Financial Conduct Authority's Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules.

The Company's LEI is 213800KX5ZS1NGAR2J89.

For further information please contact:

FTI Consulting (Financial PR)

Ed Berry, Tom Blackwell
Telephone: 0203 727 1051
edward.berry@fticonsulting.com
tom.blackwell@fticonsulting.com

Peel Hunt LLP

Luke Simpson, Helen Rennardson (Corporate Broking)
Mark Thompson, Chris Bunstead (Sales)
Kathy Boate (Intermediaries)
Telephone: 020 7418 8900

About Acorn Asset Management Ltd

The Investment Manager is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Commission (FSC) in Mauritius and holds a Category 1 Global Business licence, a CIS Manager License and an Investment Advisor (Unrestricted) License issued by the FSC.

About White Oak Capital Management Consultants LLP

The Investment Adviser is a boutique investment advisory firm in India, and is regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and registered as a Portfolio Manager under the SEBI (Portfolio Managers) Regulations, 1993 and as an Investment Adviser under the SEBI (Investment Advisers) Regulations, 2013.

The wider White Oak group, including the Investment Manager and the Investment Adviser, as at 31 May 2018 had total assets under management of approximately US\$464 million.

Disclaimer

This announcement does not constitute a prospectus and investors must subscribe for or purchase any shares referred to in this announcement only on the basis of information contained in the Prospectus published by the Company (and in any supplementary prospectus) and not in reliance on this announcement. Copies of the Prospectus may, subject to any applicable law, be obtained from the registered office of the Company, and at the National Storage Mechanism at <http://www.morningstar.co.uk/NSM> and on the Company's website. This announcement does not constitute, and may not be construed as, an offer to sell or an invitation to purchase investments of any description or a recommendation regarding the issue or the provision of investment advice by any party. No information set out in this announcement is intended to form the basis of any contract of sale, investment decision or any decision to purchase shares in the Company.

The information contained in this announcement is given at the date of its publication (unless otherwise marked) and is subject to updating, revision and amendment when the Prospectus is published.

Peel Hunt, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, is acting for the Company only in connection with the matters described in this announcement and is not acting for or advising any other person, or treating any other person as its client, in relation thereto and will not be responsible for providing the regulatory protection afforded to clients of Peel Hunt or advice to any other person in relation to the matters contained herein.

The shares of the Company have not been, and will not be, registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933 (as amended) (the "Securities Act") or under the securities laws of any state or other jurisdiction of the United States, and may not be offered or sold into or within the United States, absent registration, except pursuant to an applicable exemption from, or in a transaction that is not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act and in compliance with the securities laws of any relevant state or other jurisdiction of the United States. Moreover, the shares of the Company have not been, nor will they be, registered under the applicable securities laws of India, Australia, Canada, the Republic of South Africa, Japan or any member state of the EEA (other than the United Kingdom). Further, the Company is not, and will not be, registered under the US Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. The shares of the Company will be offered outside of the United States pursuant to the provisions of Regulation S of the Securities Act. Subject to certain exceptions, the shares of the Company may not be offered or sold in India, the United States, Australia, Canada, the Republic of South Africa, Japan or any member state of the EEA (other than the United Kingdom or to professional investors in certain EEA member states for which marketing approval has been obtained) or to, or for the account or benefit of, any national, resident or citizen of India, the United States, Australia, Canada, the Republic of South Africa, Japan or any member state of the EEA (other than the United Kingdom or to professional investors in certain EEA member states for which marketing approval has been obtained). The Issue and any subsequent placing under the share issuance programme, and the distribution of this announcement, in other jurisdictions may be restricted by law and the persons into whose possession this announcement comes should inform themselves about, and observe, any such restrictions.

The value of shares and the income from them is not guaranteed and can fall as well as rise due to stock market and currency movements. When you sell your investment you may get back less than you originally invested. Figures refer to past performance and past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. Returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations.

This announcement may include statements that are, or may be deemed to be, "forward-looking statements". These forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, including the terms "believes", "estimates", "anticipates", "expects", "intends", "may", "will" or "should" or, in each case, their negative or other variations or comparable terminology. All statements other than statements of historical facts included in this announcement, including, without limitation, those regarding the Company's financial position, strategy, plans, proposed acquisitions and objectives, are forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties and, accordingly, the Company's actual future financial results and operational performance may differ materially from the results and performance expressed in, or implied by, the statements. These factors include but are not limited to those described in the Prospectus. These forward-looking statements speak only as at the date of this announcement and cannot be relied upon as a guide to future performance. The Company, the Investment Manager, the Investment Adviser and Peel Hunt expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking to update or revise any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect actual results or any change in the assumptions, conditions or circumstances on which any such statements are based unless required to do so by the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, the Prospectus

Rules of the Financial Conduct Authority, the EU Market Abuse Regulation or other applicable laws, regulations or rules.

None of the Company, the Investment Manager, the Investment Adviser or Peel Hunt, or any of their respective affiliates, accepts any responsibility or liability whatsoever for, or makes any representation or warranty, express or implied, as to this announcement, including the truth, accuracy or completeness of the information in this announcement (or whether any information has been omitted from the announcement) or any other information relating to the Company or associated companies, whether written, oral or in a visual or electronic form, and howsoever transmitted or made available or for any loss howsoever arising from any use of the announcement or its contents or otherwise arising in connection therewith. The Company, the Investment Manager, the Investment Adviser and Peel Hunt, and their respective affiliates, accordingly disclaim all and any liability whether arising in tort, contract or otherwise which they might otherwise have in respect of this announcement or its contents or otherwise arising in connection therewith.

Information to Distributors

Solely for the purposes of the product governance requirements contained within: (a) EU Directive 2014/65/EU on markets in financial instruments, as amended ("MiFID II"); (b) Articles 9 and 10 of Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2017/593 supplementing MiFID II; and (c) local implementing measures (together, the "MiFID II Product Governance Requirements"), and disclaiming all and any liability, whether arising in tort, contract or otherwise, which any "manufacturer" (for the purposes of the MiFID II Product Governance Requirements) may otherwise have with respect thereto, the ordinary shares which are the subject of the Issue (the "**Ordinary Shares**") have been subject to a product approval process, which has determined that such Ordinary Shares are: (i) compatible with an end target market of retail investors and investors who meet the criteria of professional clients and eligible counterparties, each as defined in MiFID II; and (ii) eligible for distribution through all distribution channels as are permitted by MiFID II (the "Target Market Assessment"). Notwithstanding the Target Market Assessment, Distributors should note that: the price of the Ordinary Shares may decline and investors could lose all or part of their investment; the Ordinary Shares offer no guaranteed income and no capital protection; and an investment in the Ordinary Shares is compatible only with investors who do not need a guaranteed income or fully predictable return profile, who are not looking for full capital protection or full repayment of the amount invested, who (either alone or in conjunction with an appropriate financial or other adviser) are capable of evaluating the merits and risks of such an investment and who have sufficient resources to be able to bear any losses that may result therefrom. The Target Market Assessment is without prejudice to the requirements of any contractual, legal or regulatory selling restrictions in relation to the Issue. Furthermore, it is noted that, notwithstanding the Target Market Assessment, Peel Hunt LLP will only procure investors who meet the criteria of professional clients and eligible counterparties.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Target Market Assessment does not constitute: (a) an assessment of suitability or appropriateness for the purposes of MiFID II; or (b) a recommendation to any investor or group of investors to invest in, or purchase, or take any other action whatsoever with respect to the Ordinary Shares.

Each distributor is responsible for undertaking its own target market assessment in respect of the Ordinary Shares and determining appropriate distribution channels.