VT Astute Conservative

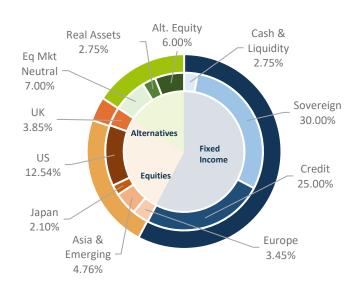
FUND FACTSHEET | JULY 2024

Objective

To deliver total returns in line with the Consumer Prices Index over the recommended minimum time horizon of 5+ years.

The fund will seek to achieve its objective by investing at least 70% in collective investment vehicles, a greater proportion of which will be allocated to defensive assets (such as fixed interest and cash) than to growth assets (such as equities).

Asset Allocation



Recent Changes (Previous 3 months)



Purchased iShares \$ Treasury Bond 20yr+, UK Gilt 4.375% 31/07/2054, Lazard US Small Cap Equity, iShares S&P 500 Equal Weight, Invesco S&P 500 GBP Hedged, Aegon Investment Grade Global Bond, M&G Japan Smaller Companies.



Increased JPM UK Equity Core ETF, Regnan Sustainable Water and Waste, Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity.



Sold JPM UK Equity Core, Federated Hermes US SMID Equity, iShares Core S&P 500 GBP Hedged, Robeco Global Multi-Factor Credits, Jupiter Japan Income.



Reduced Robeco Global Multi-Factor Credits, iShares Core UK Gilts, M&G Global Listed Infrastructure, L&G US Equity, M&G UK Inflation Linked Corporate Bond.

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Reduced iShares Core UK Gilts to add in a direct Gilt to lock in high nominal coupons. Reduced Robeco to add 20yr+ Treasuries to increase duration. We switched JPM UK Equity Core into the cheaper ETF product. Sold M&G Global Listed Infrastructure to increase Regnan Water and Waste. L&G Russell 2000 US Small was sold in favour of Lazard US Small Equity. Hermes was sold in favor of S&P 500 Equal Weight. Core US exposure switches to save on costs. Sold Jupiter Japan Income to increase Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity and M&G Japan Smaller Companies. We sold the remainder of Robeco and trimmed M&G UK Inflation Linked to introduce a new Core Global Investment Grade fund.

Holdings

Fixed	Income & Cash	57.75%			
Cash &	Cash				
Liquidity	Blackrock Sterling Liquid Env. Aw	are Fund			
Sovereign	iShares Core UK Gilts ETF				
	UK Gilt 4.250% 07/12/2040				
	UK Gilt 4.375% 31/07/2054				
	iShares USD Treasury Bond 20yr+ ETF				
	iShares USD Treasury Bond ETF				
Credit	M&G UK Inflation Linked Corporate Bond				
	L&G ESG GBP Corporate Bond ETF				
	Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond				
	BlueBay Financial Capital Bond				
	Nomura Corporate Hybrid Bond Fund				
	Man GLG Dynamic Income				
	Aegon Investment Grade Global Bond				
	Royal London Short Duration Hig	h Yield			
	Equity	26.50%			
	ES R&M UK Recovery Fund				
UK Equity	JPMorgan UK Equity Core				
	Abrdn UK Mid-Cap Equity				
Int. Equity	ES R&M European				
	LF Miton European Opportunities				
	Comgest Growth Europe Ex. UK				
	iShares MSCI EM SRI ETF				
	Polar Emerging Markets Stars				
	Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity				
	M&G Japan Smaller Companies				
	Invesco S&P 500 ETF GBP Hedge	d			
	iShares S&P 500 Equal Weight ETF				
	Lazard US Small Cap Equity				
	L&G US Equity				
Thematic Equity	M&G Global Listed Infrastructure	9			
	Regnan Sustainable Water and V	Vaste			
А	lternatives	15.75%			
Eq. Mkt Neutral	Blackrock European Absolute Alp	oha			
	Gresham House Energy Storage				
Real	LondonMetric Property PLC				
Assets Direct	Starwood European Real Estate Finance				
	Tritax EuroBox				
	Aberdeen Standard European Lo	gistics			
Alt. Equity	Structured Products				



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Performance



Cumulative & Discrete Performance

	1 Year	Launch	2023	2022	2021	2020*
VT Astute Conservative	8.54	11.64	6.42	-7.21	5.74	4.06
Benchmark	1.86	23.32	3.99	10.53	5.39	0.53
Comparator	8.22	5.22	7.73	-11.07	3.70	3.05

Performance is net of ongoing charges. *Data from the 20th of July 2020 (Fund launch).

Commentary

With no major developments, yields saw a minimal change in June, though a surge in the wellknown tech names did push some equity indices to new highs. Recent softer inflation prints were welcome news, but the likelihood of rate cuts remained broadly unchanged as Central Banks await further confirmation. The US election race remains somewhat close, but Trump likely gained a further edge due to Biden's weaker performance during the televised debate. In Europe, attention is on the first round of the French election given a victory for the National Rally party will likely introduce some market volatility. However, the key is that fiscal easing appears inevitable, which could support economic growth but will constrain the European Central Bank's path going forward. In Japan, the Yen continued to depreciate to new lows prompting discussions about potential intervention, though historically, such measures has only offered temporary relief. This adds pressure on the Bank of Japan leading up to their July meeting to adopt a more hawkish stance which could include an additional 25bps rate hike alongside the already announced significant reduction in government bond buying. Looking ahead, European markets will likely dominate the headlines in July as the French election unfolds but also given that the upcoming UK election appears to be Labours to lose.

ESG Rating





Fund Details

Fund Size £100.61m Benchmark CPI

Morningstar UK Moderately Comparator **Cautious Target Allocation** Manager Astute Investment Management

ACD Valu Trac OEIC (UCITS) **Fund Type** 20th July 2020 **Launch Date** 0.76% OCF 40 **Total No. Holdings Dealing Frequency** Daily

GB00BKWGB467 **SEDOL** BKWGB46

Fund Management Team



Scott Osborne PhD CFA Chief Investment Officer



Nathan Chan CFA Senior Investment Analyst

Risks

Investments can fall as well as rise and you may get back less than your original investment. Changes in markets, currency exchange rates or interest rates may have adverse effects on the value of your investments. Past performance is never a guide to future performance.

Contact Information



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