

Investment Objectives

Our objective is to outperform RPI UK + 1% over the medium to long term, keeping within the prescribed volatility limits whilst investing in low cost ETFs or Index funds for the core and active funds for the satellite positions.

To achieve the investment objective we deploy quantitative and qualitative techniques and extensive research that shape our macro economic and thematic views.

Investment Growth

Time Period: 01/01/2018 to 30/04/2022



Snapshot

Base Currency	Pound Sterling
12 Mo Yield	1.40%
Ongoing Charge	0.47%
Management Fee (VAT where applicable)	0.25%
Portfolio Cost	0.72%

Calendar Year Returns

	3Month	6Month	YTD	2021	2020	2019	Since Inception [01-01-2018]
AB Risk Rated Defensive	-0.25	-2.72	-3.79	5.40	6.31	11.66	18.67
IA Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares	-2.34	-4.18	-4.89	2.57	3.98	8.80	6.60

Launch date 28/01/2021. Past performance shown prior to this date is for illustration purposes only and shows performance of *AB Core Plus Cautious*.

Benchmark

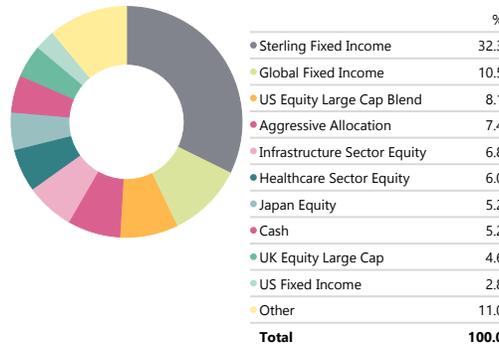
Benchmark	UK RPI+1%
Comparator Benchmark	IA Mixed Investment 0-35%

Risk

	Sharpe Ratio	Std Dev
AB Risk Rated Defensive	-1.00	5.44
IA Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares	-1.30	3.92

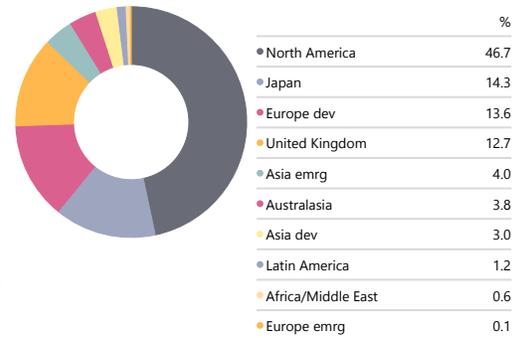
Asset Allocation

Portfolio Date: 30/04/2022



Equity Regional Exposure

Portfolio Date: 30/04/2022



Top 10 Holdings

Portfolio Date: 30/04/2022

	Portfolio Weighting %
Royal London Short Duration Gilts M Inc	19.82%
L&G Global Inflation Linked Bd Idx I Acc	7.45%
Optimal Multi Asset Balanced A GBP	7.39%
First Sentier Glb Lstd Infra B GBP Acc	6.79%
BlackRock Corporate Bond 1-10 Year D Acc	5.48%
Vanguard Jpn Stk Idx £ Acc	5.23%
CASH	5.19%
Vanguard U.S. Eq Idx £ Acc	5.16%
Schroder Global Healthcare Z Acc	5.04%
Vanguard FTSE UK All Shr Idx Unit Tr£Acc	4.59%
	72.14%

Manager's Commentary

The geopolitical risk emanating from Russia-Ukraine conflict continued to affect the market. The wider impact of this conflict can be felt across energy and agricultural commodity prices, ultimately finding its way to the inflation numbers.

With CPI inflation in the United States standing at 8.5%, created by the Covid-19 supply shock and exacerbated by mountains of central bank liquidity, the vampire-like effect of spiraling price rises across the board is a serious headwind to progress. A possible summer of discontent at home takes us back to images of the 1970s. Central banks face a tough challenge of slaying the inflation vampire whilst maneuvering delicately to avoid a recession. Raising rates multiple times and removing excess liquidity by a new tool called quantitative tightening will slow economic growth. However, economies are simultaneously slowing down quite naturally following the turbo charged recovery from the worst effects of the pandemic. So, the distinct possibility of central bank policy error must be calculated and factored into our forthcoming asset allocation decisions.

The Federal Reserve announced has raised FFR again in May's FOMC as expected. Interestingly, the accompanying Q&A session revealed the limitations of monetary policy in curbing the supply-side inflation. It is however, destroying the demand side of the equation. This leads us back to thinking if the fed is behind the curve again. Care should be taken not to raise rates aggressively as we progress through the year. There is scope for central bank policy error in this regard and we remain alert to early signals.

US 10-year treasury yields hit 3%, the highest level since 2018. The world's supply of negative yielding bonds has evaporated before our eyes as the bond bubble steadily deflates. Higher bond yields prove a disruptor for equity valuations, particularly for those levered firms and those whose stock prices have risen perhaps too high. Then there is a case of curve inversion – we have seen both the Treasury 10/2 and OIS 30/5 curve inverted – signaling tighter borrowing conditions for economic agents in the near term.

The technology and clean energy sectors were hardest hit during the ongoing correction. The global infrastructure sector posted strong performance and healthcare sector posted a slight deterioration. As expected, the ongoing correction is sentiment driven and has affected almost all sectors.

We believe now is time for some sensible housekeeping. There is still scope for equity bounce, of that we have little doubt, but the risk reward balance has shifted. We are now favoring changes to duration, cash and at the next upside failure we intend to take some of the equity exposure off. All portfolios remained inside their allocated risk corridors during the month.

Please contact:
Andrew Thompson or Geoff Brooks on 0208 059 0253
Alpha Beta Partners
Northgate House, Upper Borough Walls, Bath BA11RG



Disclaimer

This communication is from Alpha Beta Partners a trading name of AB Investment solutions Limited. Alpha Beta Partners Limited is registered in England no. 10963905. AB Investment Solutions Limited is registered in England no. 09138865. AB Investment Solutions is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. This material is directed only at persons in the UK and is not an offer or invitation to buy or sell securities. Opinions expressed, whether in general, on the performance of individual securities or in a wider context, represent the views of Alpha Beta Partners at the time of preparation. They are subject to change and should not be interpreted as investment advice. You should remember that the value of investments and the income derived therefrom may fall as well as rise and you may not get back your original investment. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. Further information is available on request, or on our website www.alphabetapartners.co.uk.

Investment Team

Investment Manager Asim Javed, CFA