

Investment Objectives

The AB SRI Defensive Model Portfolio will seek to deliver long-term capital growth by blending collective strategies and employing our proprietary rating and risk profiling systems.

The equity allocation of the portfolio will be managed within our self imposed parameter of 0% - 35% and in line with a Alpha Beta Risk Profile of 3 - 5.

The AB SRI Defensive Portfolio only invests in funds that are sustainable and contribute positively to either the environment or society. The model selects investments that provide solutions to global issues such as climate change, biodiversity, water shortage, urbanisation, health and well-being, and social inclusion. The United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals are utilised to inform analysis and research on these themes, and the holdings in the model.

Snapshot

Base Currency	Pound Sterling
12 Mo Yield	1.96%
Ongoing Charge	0.72%
Management Fee (VAT where applicable)	0.25%
Portfolio Cost	0.97%

Benchmark

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

Risk

	Sharpe Ratio	Std Dev
AB SRI Defensive	0.29	3.27
IA Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares	0.18	2.63

Top 10 Holdings

Portfolio Date: 31/12/2021

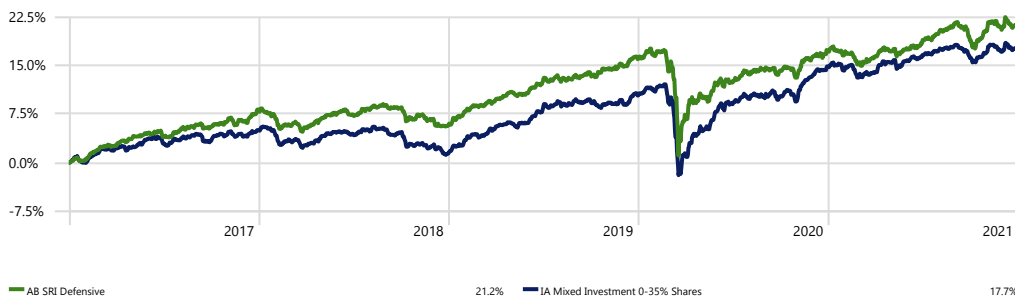
Portfolio	Weighting %
RLBF II Royal London Ethical Bond M Inc	14.87%
EdenTree Responsible & Sust Shrt Dtd B	12.15%
Climate Assets Fund B GBP Inc	10.14%
Rathbone Ethical Bond I Inc	9.94%
EdenTree Responsible & Sust Stlg B	9.94%
Sarasin Responsible Corporate Bond P Acc	9.91%
Brown Advisory US Sust Gr GBP B Inc	9.19%
Impax Asian Environmental Markets IRL X	5.02%
CASH	4.49%
BMO Responsible UK Income 2 Inc	4.08%
	89.74%

Investment Team

Investment Manager	Alpha Beta SRI Investment Team
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Investment Growth

Time Period: 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2021



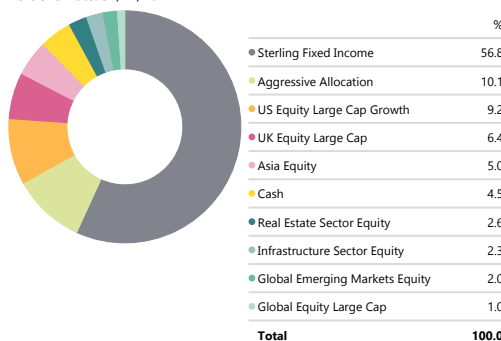
Trailing Returns

Data Point: Return

	3 Months	6 Months	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years
AB SRI Defensive	1.54	2.38	3.45	3.45	14.59	21.18
IA Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares	1.03	1.17	2.57	2.57	16.04	17.70

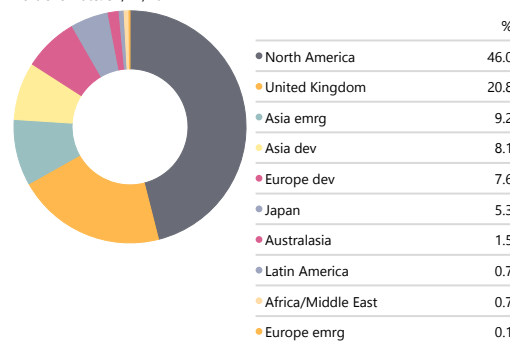
Asset Allocation

Portfolio Date: 31/12/2021



Equity Regional Exposure

Portfolio Date: 31/12/2021



Manager's Commentary

Our favoured markets ended the year at an all-time high, delivering further seasonal cheer to investors, and particularly those in Alpha Beta portfolios.

The final quarter of 2021 was an interesting one, littered with event and political risks, as forecast in our Q3 Quarterly Update. In the United States the "debt ceiling" issue and monetary policy clarity were resolved whilst the Biden Administration's spending package was not passed. Our anticipation of returning inflation stood out against more tranquil investment industry mood music last year and our forecast of inflation trending "higher for longer" was proven accurate and will remain so into 2022. Globally we see deflationary pressures coming through later in 2022 but it is unlikely central bank 2% inflation targets will be met in absolute terms in the short term. For now, in the US and particularly the UK, wages pressures are still feeding into inflation expectations and pose the biggest threat to an orderly decline in headline inflation rates, which should peak over the next four months or so.

Whilst the latest US CPI inflation figure is a whopping 6.8%, the bond market reaction remains muted. The US treasury yield curve remains in flattening mode and there was no material shift during the quarter. It seems for now at least that the market either believes 1) the Federal Reserve's projections will be delivered and inflation will ebb away, or 2) the central bank's tightening interest rates into slower economic growth ahead represent policy error and may trigger the next recession. It will, however, be interesting to see the impact on longer yields as QE is fully unwound and central banks become net sellers. Given the sharply negative real yields on offer, the scope must remain for longer yields to rise, perhaps 50-100 basis points, over the next 12 months, from current levels.

The Federal Reserve meeting during December set a clear course for higher rates in 2022 but an ongoing commitment to support markets if conditions turn weaker. This central bank strategy is likely to be adopted more widely. Forward visibility is helpful to equity investors, at least for now and the central banks are providing ample time before embarking upon a policy tightening journey. This is to ensure an orderly transition into a post Covid era, as we have been cautioning through the year. Our in-house proprietary technical indicators pointed to a positive change in momentum since the Omicron emergence at the end of November and suggest some further upside in US equities is achievable in the near term. We marginally increased our US equity exposure in late December.

We expect equities to perform strongly in the first quarter with earnings momentum from 2021 still likely to provide a supportive tail wind. We remain cautiously risk-on as the markets navigate this transition.

At portfolio level, the SRI Defensive model has continued to benefit from its US equity exposure, as its highest contributor was once again, the Brown Advisory US Sustainable Growth Fund. One of the fund's biggest holdings is Verisk. Verisk is a leading data analytics provider helping customers protect people, property, and financial assets worldwide. Verisk help government and nongovernment organisations identify vulnerabilities in critical infrastructure, understand potential social and economic impacts, and inform risk transfer and mitigation strategies to strengthen emergency management programs. They assess building codes and grade communities on adoption and enforcement, which are proven ways to help reduce financial losses, and the social impact of natural disasters on communities.

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