

# Avon Pension Fund Performance Report

Quarter ending 30 September 2023





# Contents

Summary	3
Pension Fund performance	3
Asset summary	4
Overview of assets	5
Strategic asset allocation	7
Performance attribution	8
Responsible investment	10
Risk and return summary	11
Brunel portfolio performance - 3 year	11
egacy manager performance - 3 year	13
Portfolio overview	14
CIO commentary	17
Portfolios	19
isted markets	19
Private markets	27
Property	36
Glossary	37



Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

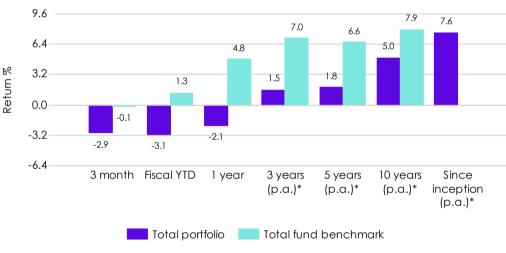
Portfolios

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **Pension Fund performance**

## Performance (annualised)



Source: State Street Global Services \*per annum. Net of all fees.

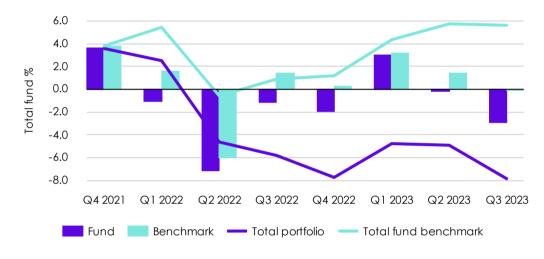
## Key events

Quarter 3 saw a decided change in tone and outlook. Although interest rates are no longer rising rapidly, the expectation is that they will now remain at higher levels for longer. This weighed on both global equity and bond markets. The dollar was strong and energy prices pushed higher. Sterling continued to languish.

The total portfolio dropped 2.9% during the quarter, whilst the benchmark fell 0.1%. Over the last year, the fund has fallen 2.1% vs benchmark growth of 4.8%.

Brunel's portfolios were mixed during the quarter, with a number rising in absolute terms, whilst others fell. Unhedged portfolios tended to benefit from weaker Sterling.

### **Quarterly performance**



Source: State Street Global Services, Net of all fees.

## Quarter ending 30 September 2023



Summary

Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

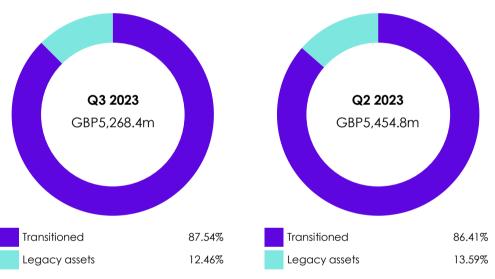
**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

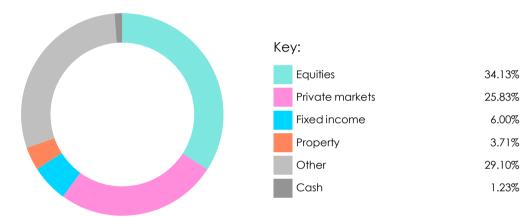
# **Asset summary**

### **Assets transitioned to Brunel**



Source: State Street Global Services. Net of all fees.

### Asset allocation breakdown



Source: State Street Global Services. Net of all fees. Data includes legacy assets

### Quarter ending 30 September 2023



Summary

Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Overview of assets

### **Detailed asset allocation**

Equities	£1,797.91m	34.13%
Global High Alpha Equities	£617.90m	11.73%
PAB Passive Global Equities	£614.07m	11.66%
Global Sustainable Equities	£565.17m	10.73%
Legacy Assets	£0.77m	0.01%
Fixed income	£316.21m	6.00%
Multi-Asset Credit	£316.21m	6.00%

Private markets (incl. property)	£1,556.17m	29.54%
Secured Income Cycle 1	£308.65m	5.86%
UK Property	£182.58m	3.47%
Private Debt Cycle 2	£154.27m	2.93%
Secured Income Cycle 3	£132.20m	2.51%
Infrastructure Cycle 1	£107.50m	2.04%
Secured Income Cycle 2	£105.81m	2.01%
Infrastructure (Renewables) Cycle 2	£60.04m	1.14%
Private Debt Cycle 3	£26.48m	0.50%
Infrastructure Cycle 3	£7.80m	0.15%
Legacy Assets	£470.85m	8.94%

Other	£1,533.28m	29.10%
Blackrock Risk Management	£1,066.12m	20.24%
Diversifying Returns Fund	£346.91m	6.58%
Legacy Assets	£120.25m	2.28%

Cash not included



## Quarter ending 30 September 2023



Summary

overview of assets Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Overview of assets

## Top 10 Equity Holdings at Pension Fund

ISIN	Security Name	Sector	Sub-sector	Country	Market Value (£)	% of Pension fund	ESG Score
US5949181045	MICROSOFT CORP	Information Technology	Systems Software	UNITED STATES	86,046,648.34	1.63%	15.06
US0231351067	AMAZON.COM INC	Consumer Discretionary	Broadline Retail	UNITED STATES	61,643,723.17	1.17%	30.61
US88160R1014	TESLA INC	Consumer Discretionary	Automobile Manufacturers	UNITED STATES	44,712,000.59	0.85%	25.23
US02079K3059	ALPHABET INC-CL A	Communication Services	Interactive Media &	UNITED STATES	43,626,853.60	0.83%	24.04
US0378331005	APPLE INC	Information Technology	Technology Hardware	UNITED STATES	40,737,737.91	0.77%	17.22
US57636Q1040	MASTERCARD INC - A	Financials	Transaction & Payment	UNITED STATES	37,759,852.01	0.72%	17.07
DK0062498333	NOVO NORDISK A/S-B	Health Care	Pharmaceuticals	DENMARK	33,629,114.25	0.64%	23.06
US91324P1021	UNITEDHEALTH GROUP INC	Health Care	Managed Health Care	UNITED STATES	27,871,544.52	0.53%	15.30
US67066G1040	NVIDIA CORP	Information Technology	Semiconductors	UNITED STATES	25,566,791.78	0.49%	13.59
NL0010273215	ASML HOLDING NV	Information Technology	Semiconductor Materials &	NETHERLANDS	18,355,323.71	0.35%	9.63

Table excludes cash and legacy assets. This is an estimated aggregate position using Brunel Portfolios.



Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

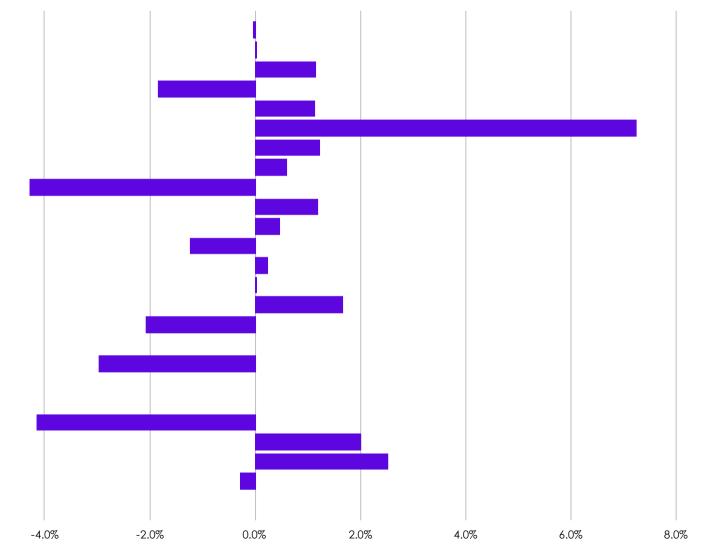
**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Strategic asset allocation









Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Performance attribution

## Pension fund performance attribution - to quarter end

	End market value £'000	Actual % allocation at end of quarter	Strategic asset allocation (%)	Difference (%)	Fund return (%): 3 months	Contribution to return: 3 month
Avon Total ex Curr Hedging	5,266,000	100.0%	100.00%	-0.0%	-2.3%	-2.3%
Avon Transition Brunel	5	0.0%	-	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%
Blackrock Corporate Bond Strategy	165,443	3.1%	2.00%	1.1%	1.1%	0.0%
Blackrock Equity Option Strategy	-96,943	-1.8%	-	-1.8%	3.7%	0.1%
Blackrock ETF	59,927	1.1%	-	1.1%	-1.1%	-0.0%
Blackrock LDI Strategy	1,012,770	19.2%	12.00%	7.2%	-7.5%	-1.5%
Cash	64,792	1.2%	-	1.2%	1.7%	0.0%
Diversified Returns	346,912	6.6%	6.00%	0.6%	2.1%	0.1%
Global Sustainable Equity	565,170	10.7%	15.00%	-4.3%	-4.1%	-0.4%
IFM Infrastructure	325,290	6.2%	5.00%	1.2%	3.3%	0.2%
JP Morgan Fund of Hedge Funds	24,174	0.5%	-	0.5%	8.2%	0.0%
Partners ex Cash	132,819	2.5%	3.75%	-1.2%	-3.8%	-0.1%
Schroder - Property	12,738	0.2%	-	0.2%	-0.1%	-0.0%
Multi-Asset Credit	316,209	6.0%	6.00%	0.0%	1.9%	0.1%
PAB Passive Global Equities	614,073	11.7%	10.00%	1.7%	0.2%	0.0%
Private Debt Cycle 2	154,272	2.9%	5.00%	-2.1%	N/M	N/M





Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Performance attribution

## Pension fund performance attribution - to quarter end

	End market value £'000	Actual % allocation at end of quarter	Strategic asset allocation (%)	Difference (%)	Fund return (%): 3 months	Contribution to return: 3 month
Private Debt Cycle 3	26,485	0.5%	0.50%	-	N/M	N/M
Infrastructure Cycle 1	107,496	2.0%	5.00%	-3.0%	N/M	N/M
Infrastructure (Renewables) Cycle 2	60,038	1.1%	1.14%	-	N/M	N/M
Infrastructure Cycle 3	7,799	0.1%	0.15%	-	N/M	N/M
Secured Income Cycle 1	308,645	5.9%	10.00%	-4.1%	N/M	N/M
Secured Income Cycle 2	105,805	2.0%	-	2.0%	N/M	N/M
Secured Income Cycle 3	132,202	2.5%	-	2.5%	N/M	N/M
UK Property	182,581	3.5%	3.75%	-0.3%	N/M	N/M
Blackrock Risk Management	1,066,120	20.2%	20.24%	-	-10.2%	-2.2%

Private Markets 3 month performance is not material.

Classification: Public





Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

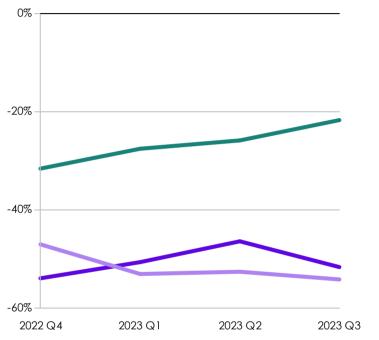
Disclaimer

## Stewardship and climate metrics

Portfolio	WA	CI	Total Ext Expos		Extractive Industries (VOH) <sup>2</sup>		
	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	
Global High Alpha Equities	84	79	1.2	1.4	2.9	2.9	
MSCI World*	157	163	3.1	3.8	8.4	9.2	
Global Sustainable Equities	138	149	1.6	1.9	5.0	5.2	
MSCI ACWI*	186	191	3.1	3.8	8.3	9.2	
PAB Passive Global Equities	76	76	0.6	0.7	3.2	3.4	
FTSE Dev World TR UKPD*	160	167	3.0	3.7	8.6	9.5	

<sup>\*</sup>Benchmark. 1 Extractive revenue exposure as share (%) of total revenue. 2 Value of holdings (VOH)

# Weighted Average Carbon Intensity relative to benchmark





## Stewardship reporting links

#### **Engagement records**

www.brunelpensionpartnership.org/stewardship/engagement-records/

### **Holdings records**

www.brunelpensionpartnership.org/stewardship/holdings-records/

### Voting records

www.brunelpensionpartnership.org/stewardship/voting-records/

<sup>-</sup> companies who derive revenues from extractives. Source: Trucost



Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Risk and return summary

## Brunel portfolio performance - 3 year

	Annualised return	Risk (standard deviation)	Benchmark return	Benchmark standard deviation
Global High Alpha Equities	8.3%	13.7%	10.7%	12.4%
Global Sustainable Equities	3.9%	14.7%	9.5%	11.7%
Diversifying Returns Fund	3.0%	4.4%	4.6%	0.6%
Infrastructure Cycle 1	6.4%	5.1%	6.6%	2.1%
Secured Income Cycle 1	-0.1%	5.3%	6.6%	2.1%

Since portfolio inception



Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Risk and return summary

## Legacy manager performance - 3 year

	Annualised return	Risk (standard deviation)	Benchmark return	Benchmark standard deviation
Avon Total ex Curr Hedging	1.7%	6.6%	7.0%	6.4%
Avon Total ex Hedging ex LDI	2.2%	5.4%	7.0%	6.4%
Blackrock Equity Option Strategy	265.2%	-	-	-
Blackrock ETF	2.8%	8.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Cash	2.9%	2.5%	1.5%	0.5%
General Cash	2.7%	-	-	-
IFM Infrastructure	11.9%	5.5%	6.7%	0.5%
JP Morgan Fund of Hedge Funds	8.8%	9.6%	5.7%	0.5%
Partners ex Cash	-4.0%	6.4%	8.4%	1.0%
Record Currency	109.8%	-	-	-
Record Equitisation	11.6%	12.4%	12.8%	12.4%
Schroder - Property	4.3%	5.8%	3.2%	10.8%
Schroder Equity	-23.1%	34.5%	9.5%	11.7%
TT International - UK Equities	1.4%	4.4%	11.8%	12.7%

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12



Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Risk and return summary

## Legacy manager performance - 3 year

	Annualised return	Risk (standard deviation)	Benchmark return	Benchmark standard deviation	
Avon Pension Fund	1.5%	7.3%	7.0%	6.4%	



## Quarter ending 30 September 2023



Summary

Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **Portfolio overview**

Portfolio	Benchmark	Outperformance target	AUM (GBPm)	Perf. 3 month	Excess 3 month	Perf. 1 year	Excess 1 year	Perf. 3 year	Excess 3 year	Perf. SII*	Excess SII*	Initial investment
Equities (34.11%)			1,797.14									
Global High Alpha Equities	MSCI World	+2-3%	617.90	-0.6%	-1.2%	13.6%	1.5%	8.3%	-2.4%	11.3%	1.5%	15 Nov 2019
Global Sustainable Equities	MSCI ACWI	+2%	565.17	-4.1%	-4.9%	3.6%	-7.4%	3.9%	-5.5%	3.9%	-5.5%	30 Sep 2020
PAB Passive Global Equities	FTSE Dev World PAB	Match	614.07	0.2%	-	14.9%	-0.1%	-	-	3.2%	-0.1%	29 Oct 2021
Fixed income (6.00%)			316.21									
Multi-Asset Credit	SONIA +4%	0% to +1.0%	316.21	1.9%	-0.3%	10.6%	2.5%	-	-	-0.5%	-6.7%	02 Jun 2021
Private markets (incl. property)	(20.60%)		1,085.32									
Private Debt Cycle 2	SONIA	+4%	154.27	N/M	N/M	11.0%	2.9%	-	-	13.8%	7.3%	17 Sep 2021
Private Debt Cycle 3	SONIA	+4%	26.48	N/M	N/M	-	-	-	-	9.1%	2.5%	20 Dec 2022
Infrastructure Cycle 1	СЫ	+4%	107.50	N/M	N/M	1.6%	-5.0%	7.1%	0.6%	7.2%	2.7%	02 Jan 2019
Infrastructure (Renewables) Cycle 2	CPI	+4%	60.04	N/M	N/M	7.4%	0.8%	-	-	9.1%	2.5%	12 Oct 2020
Infrastructure Cycle 3	n/a - absolute return target	net 8% IRR	7.80	N/M	N/M	-	-	-	-	-7.3%	-14.0%	13 Oct 2022
Secured Income Cycle 1	CPI	+2%	308.64	N/M	N/M	-13.3%	-19.9%	-1.4%	-7.9%	-1.3%	-5.8%	15 Jan 2019
Secured Income Cycle 2	CPI	+2%	105.80	N/M	N/M	-11.8%	-18.4%	-	-	-1.6%	-9.2%	01 Mar 2021
Secured Income Cycle 3	СРІ	+2%	132.20	N/M	N/M	-	-	-	-	-	-0.5%	01 Jun 2023
UK Property	MSCI/AREF UK	+0.5%	182.58	N/M	N/M	-15.3%	-1.4%	-	-	3.2%	1.4%	04 Jan 2021

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## Quarter ending 30 September 2023



Summary

Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Portfolio overview

Portfolio	Benchmark	Outperformance target		Perf. 3 month	Excess 3 month	Perf. 1 year	Excess 1 year	Perf. 3 year	Excess 3 year	Perf. SII*	Excess SII*	Initial investment
Other (6.58%)			346.91									
Diversifying Returns Fund	SONIA +3%	0% to +2.0%	346.91	2.1%	0.1%	4.2%	-2.9%	3.0%	-1.6%	2.3%	-2.1%	27 Jul 2020
Total Brunel assets (excl. cash)	(67.30%)		3,545.58									

<sup>\*</sup>Since initial investment
Table above excludes Blackrock Risk Management
Private Markets 3 month performance is not material.



Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Portfolio overview

## Legacy assets

Portfolio	AUM (GBPm)	Perf. 3 month	Excess 3 month	Perf. 1 year	Excess 1 year	Perf. 3 year	Excess 3 year	Perf. SII*	Excess SII*	Initial investment
Equities (0.01%)			0.77				·			
TT International - UK Equities	0.31	1.3%	-0.6%	-1.2%	-15.0%	1.4%	-10.4%	4.0%	-0.9%	01 Jul 2007
Schroder Equity	0.46	1.7%	0.9%	-59.2%	-70.2%	-23.1%	-32.5%	0.9%	-9.5%	01 Apr 2011
Private markets (incl. property) (8.94%)			470.85							
Schroder - Property	12.74	-0.1%	0.6%	5.0%	18.9%	4.3%	1.1%	7.8%	1.9%	01 Jan 2009
IFM Infrastructure	325.29	3.3%	0.8%	11.4%	2.2%	11.9%	5.1%	11.9%	6.4%	01 Apr 2016
Partners ex Cash	132.82	-3.8%	-7.1%	-17.3%	-29.8%	-4.0%	-12.4%	3.9%	-3.9%	01 Sep 2009
Other (3.51%)			185.04							
Record Currency	2.37	-76.5%	-76.5%	-52.1%	-52.1%	109.8%	109.8%	-	-	01 Mar 2016
JP Morgan Fund of Hedge Funds	24.17	8.2%	6.0%	0.2%	-8.0%	8.8%	3.1%	8.2%	3.8%	01 Jul 2015
Record Equitisation	33.77	2.1%	0.1%	12.2%	-2.0%	11.6%	-1.2%	5.4%	-0.5%	01 Apr 2012
Avon Transition Brunel	0.00	1.1%	1.1%	-83.1%	-83.1%	-	-	-67.0%	-	01 Jan 2022
Blackrock ETF	59.93	-1.1%	-1.1%	0.9%	0.9%	2.8%	2.8%	4.0%	4.0%	08 Mar 2019
Cash	64.79	1.7%	0.4%	1.9%	-2.0%	2.9%	1.4%	2.9%	1.9%	01 Dec 2017
Total legacy assets (excl. cash) (12.46%)	656.66									

\*Since initial investment

**Brunel Pension Partnership**Forging better futures

Classification: Public



## Quarter ending 30 September 2023



Summary

Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **Chief Investment Officer commentary**

Quarter three saw a decided change in tone and outlook. At the margin, as you can see on the chart below, this was enough to drive both global equities and global bonds lower. The only respite for UK investors was the weakness of the pound, which meant any unhedged global exposure benefited from a much in demand US dollar which pushed the greenback higher. Commodities and energy prices in particular enjoyed a buoyant quarter, with Brent crude oil up over 25%. This was predominantly driven by production cuts in Saudi Arabia and Russia limiting short-term supply, and doing so when the global economy is still more resilient than expected to interest rate rises introduced by central banks around the world. This was a significant headwind for our active equity franchise.

Emerging markets did not escape the general equity market malaise, but it was the weakness in the Chinese stock market in particular that dragged the broader benchmark down, as resurgent concerns around Chinese property companies – and their ability to repay debt – set a negative tone.

Whilst inflation over the period moderated, the continued resilience of the US economy led market participants and, indeed, Federal Reserve members to lower their conviction that the hitherto expected rate cuts of 2024 would materialise. This change in opinion seems eminently rational as it appeared incongruous that the Federal Reserve could engineer a soft landing, avoid a recession, and yet still see the need for rates to be cut. This change in heart was most obviously seen in what is called the "dot plot", which maps out the interest rate forecasts of individual Federal Reserve members. This means that the prevailing wisdom of the markets today is that rates will be higher for longer and it was this opinion, along with concerns about an increasing supply-demand imbalance, that drove bond yields up (prices down), particularly at the long end. The exception to this global trend was in the UK, where the government bond market – which had previously been hit the hardest – showed signs of relative stability.

A secondary but much more muted consequence of this repricing of interest rate expectations was that Growth stocks underperformed Value stocks. The performance of the so-called 'Magnificent Seven' stocks was also much more moderate. Their performance was mixed in aggregate, and collectively they marginally underperformed the broader benchmark.

There has also been a creeping but marked change in view around the efficacy of previous episodes of quantitative easing, with market participants, academics and policy makers beginning to view the scale of quantitative easing as a policy error - albeit with hindsight. This raises the bar for its use in the future and so goes some way towards removing the so-called 'Fed put', whereby the FED bails out investors and companies by buying government securities to increase the domestic money supply and spur economic activity.

In private equity and private debt, deal flow has tentatively begun to pick up, thanks to the increased certainty in interest rate movements. However, capital-raising remains difficult, with many GP's extending fundraising periods. We are also increasingly seeing that new deals are typically funded with a larger portion of equity, owing to increased cost of debt funding. In addition, whist the IPO market has shown sporadic signs of reopening, it nevertheless remains subdued. Likewise, global property transactions are down some 57% according to CBRE, despite property funds continuing to be plagued by redemptions.

At the time of writing (just past quarter-end), there has been a rapid deterioration in the situation in Israel-Palestine and the Gaza Strip, which has left both the immediate and long-term future in the region highly uncertain. The humanitarian consequences look grave indeed and, whilst the financial impact today looks limited, it has certainly added to the concerns faced by global investors.

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Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

# **Chief Investment Officer commentary**

### Index Performance Q3 2023



Source: State Street





Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Global High Alpha Equities

#### Launch date

6 December 2019

#### Investment strategy & key drivers

High conviction, unconstrained global equity portfolio

#### Liquidity

Managed

#### **Benchmark**

MSCI World

#### **Outperformance target**

+2-3%

#### Total fund value

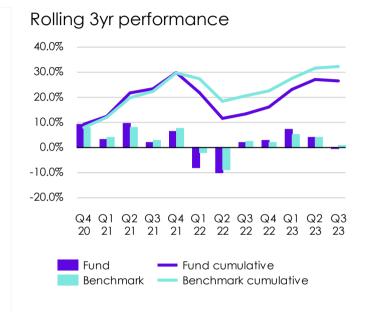
£3.942m

#### Risk profile

High

#### Avon's Holdina:

GBP618m



### Performance to quarter end

Performance	3 month	1 year	3 year*	Since inception*
Fund	-0.6	13.6	8.4	11.9
Benchmark	0.7	12.1	10.7	10.4
Excess	-1.2	1.5	-2.3	1.5

Source: State Street Global Services \*per annum. Net of all fees.

### Performance commentary

Global developed equities (as proxied by the MSCI World index) returned 0.7% in GBP terms over the quarter. This was the weakest quarterly performance since the second quarter of 2022, as markets reflected fears that interest rates would need to be higher for longer to achieve inflation targets. Among the most impacted were some of the large Growth and Tech names that have driven performance over recent quarters. Value outperformed Growth whilst Quality was neutral against the broad MSCI World index.

The portfolio returned -0.6% during the period, underperforming the benchmark by 1.2%.

Sector attribution showed a small negative impact from allocation which was largely a result of the underweight to the Energy sector, the strongest-performing sector due to oil prices rising as inventories fell and production cuts were announced. The larger negative impact on relative performance came from stock selection, which was weakest in the IT, Healthcare and Financials sectors. The largest single detractor to relative returns over the quarter was Adyen (online payments platform), which fell 39% on the day it reported slower-than-expected revenue growth in its digital customer base in the US. This strong market reaction to companies unable to meet relatively high earnings expectations is an ongoing theme, as earnings come under pressure even while expectations remain high.

Performance among the underlying managers varied considerably, grouped according to their investment style. Those managers with a Value focus outperformed (Harris and

RLAM) whilst the two more Growth-focused managers (BG and AB) underperformed. Fiera, which has a Quality focus, also underperformed, impacted by an underweight to Energy and the underperformance of luxury giants LVMH and Richemont. The latter were both examples of companies being penalised for reporting quarterly results below consensus estimates.

From inception to quarter-end, the portfolio outperformed the benchmark by 1.5% p.a





Overview of assets

Strateaic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

**Portfolio** overview

**CIO** commentary

Glossary

**Disclaimer** 

## **Global High Alpha Equities**

## Top 5 holdings

	Weight %	B'mark weight %	Client value (GBP)*
MICROSOFT CORP	5.66	4.06	34,986,760
AMAZON.COM INC	3.67	2.13	22,660,990
ALPHABET INC	2.86	2.73	17,665,000
MASTERCARD INC	2.76	0.62	17,081,955
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP INC	2.34	0.87	14,479,195

<sup>\*</sup>Estimated client value

## Top 5 active overweights

	Weight %	Benchmark weight %
MASTERCARD INC	2.76	0.62
TAIWAN SEMICONDUCTOR	1.61	-
MICROSOFT CORP	5.66	4.06
AMAZON.COM INC	3.67	2.13
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP INC	2.34	0.87

## Top 5 active underweights

	Weight %	Benchmark weight %
APPLE INC	0.88	4.92
META PLATFORMS INC	-	1.23
EXXON MOBIL CORP	-	0.89
BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY INC	-	0.85
JPMORGAN CHASE & CO	-	0.79

### Largest contributors to ESG risk

	ESG risk score*		
	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	
AMAZON.COM INC	30.53	30.61	
MICROSOFT CORP	15.32	15.06	
ALPHABET INC-CL A	24.50	24.04	
MASTERCARD INC - A	17.07	17.07	
NESTLE SA-REG	27.29	27.25	

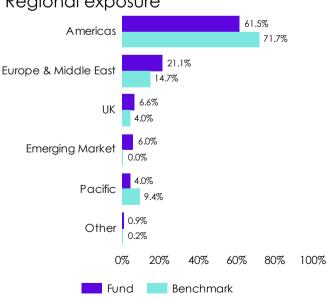
\*Source: Sustainanalytics. The table is ordered by negative overall ESG impact on the portfolio, with the most impactful at the top, ESG Risk Score reference: 0-10 is Negligible, 10-20 is Low, 20-30 is Medium, 30-40 is High, 40+ is Severe.

### Carbon metrics

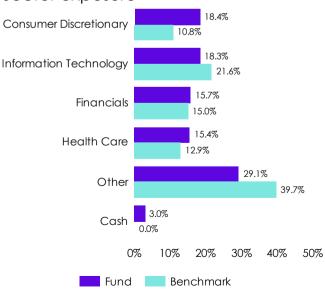
Portfolio	WACI		Total Extractive Exposure¹		Extractive Industries (VOH) <sup>2</sup>	
	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q2	2023 Q3
Global High Alpha	84	79	1.24	1.39	2.89	2.92
MSCI World*	157	163	3.07	3.81	8.36	9.24

\*Benchmark. 1 Extractive revenue exposure as share (%) of total revenue. 2 Value of holdings (VOH) - companies who derive revenues from extractives. Source: Trucost

## Regional exposure



### Sector exposure



**Brunel Pension Partnership** 

Classification: Public 20 Forging better futures





Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Global Sustainable Equities

#### Launch date

20 October 2020

#### Investment strategy & key drivers

Global equity exposure concentrating on ESG factors

#### Liquidity

Managed

#### **Benchmark**

MSCI ACWI

#### **Outperformance target**

+2%

#### Total fund value

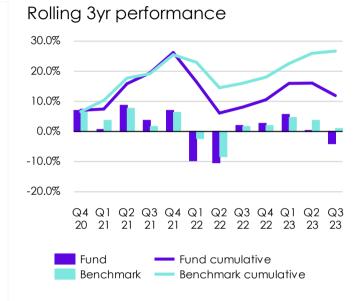
£3.213m

#### Risk profile

High

#### Avon's Holdina:

GBP565m



### Performance to quarter end

Performance	3 month	1 year	3 year*	Since inception*
Fund	-4.1	3.6	-	3.3
Benchmark	0.7	11.0	-	8.9
Excess	-4.9	-7.4	-	-5.6

Source: State Street Global Services \*per annum. Net of all fees.

## Performance commentary

The fund returned -4.1% over the quarter on a net basis, a relative underperformance of 4.9% against the MSCI ACWI benchmark. Over the 1-year period, the fund had returned 3.6% on a net basis, underperforming the MSCI ACWI by 7.4%, much of which came in the quarter covered here. Whilst disappointing, we note that all sustainable strategies struggled to outperform the benchmark this quarter. At the time of writing, performance data for 52 managers was available on our database - only 7 had outperformed the benchmark, and they had increased exposure to the Energy sector or the Financials sector. Outside of these top 7 managers, with their obvious Value-orientated exposure, the average sustainable manager underperformed by 4.1% gross. Two of the sub-managers underperformed by ~-2.7%, whilst two others underperformed inline with peers.

Unfortunately, Ownership have a concentrated Growth bias that underperformed by -8%, giving back all their outperformance in the first 6 months of 2023.

This quarter saw market sentiment shift to favour more Value-orientated, defensive strategies. The oil price increased as Saudi Arabia and Russia cut back on production. Moreover, a more hawkish FED meeting in September confirmed rates were likely to stay higher for longer and the market ultimately discounted an imminent rate cut - which again favoured defensive stocks. This market environment favoured stocks with high ESG risks. The top decile of high-risk companies returned 6.6% against -1.7% for low-risk stocks.

We have undertaken a lot of work with the managers to understand the fundamental quality of the businesses we are invested in. We look at metrics such as low leverage but also the quality of the debt, such as interest coverage ratios and what future financing looks like. Do the companies continue to operate with stable margins which should ensure growth over time and a secure income flow? Do the intrinsic valuations of these companies justify their current price? Most importantly, do these companies provide a net benefit to society and strive for a positive future, characteristics that will hopefully be rewarded over time?

However, the market has many participants, not all of which have a regard for the long-term outlook of a company, instead giving greater focus to short-term profits, such as the oil price.





Overview of assets

Strateaic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

**Portfolio** overview

**CIO** commentary

Glossary

**Disclaimer** 

## Global Sustainable Equities

## Top 5 holdings

	Weight %	B'mark weight %	Client value (GBP)*
MASTERCARD INC	2.82	0.55	15,912,066
MICROSOFT CORP	2.60	3.63	14,677,114
ANSYS INC	2.14	0.04	12,100,393
VISA INC	2.03	0.61	11,465,482
INTUITINC	2.01	0.24	11,376,241

<sup>\*</sup>Estimated client value

## Top 5 active overweights

	Weight %	Benchmark weight %
MASTERCARD INC	2.82	0.55
ANSYS INC	2.14	0.04
INTUITINC	2.01	0.24
SYNOPSYSINC	1.87	0.11
WORKDAY INC	1.52	0.07

## Top 5 active underweights

	Weight %	Benchmark weight %
APPLE INC	-	4.40
ALPHABET INC	1.07	2.44
TESLA INC	-	1.15
META PLATFORMS INC	-	1.10
MICROSOFT CORP	2.60	3.63

### Largest contributors to ESG risk

	ESG risk	score*	
	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	
MASTERCARD INC - A	17.07	17.07	
MICROSOFT CORP	15.32	15.06	
INTUITINC	16.41	17.95	
FORTIVE CORP	34.76	34.76	
ANSYS INC	15.53	15.89	

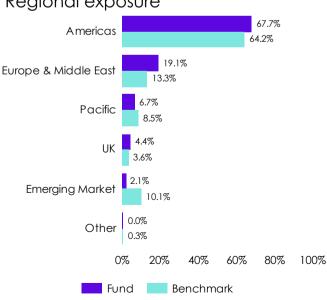
\*Source: Sustainanalytics. The table is ordered by negative overall ESG impact on the portfolio, with the most impactful at the top, ESG Risk Score reference: 0-10 is Negligible, 10-20 is Low, 20-30 is Medium, 30-40 is High, 40+ is Severe.

### Carbon metrics

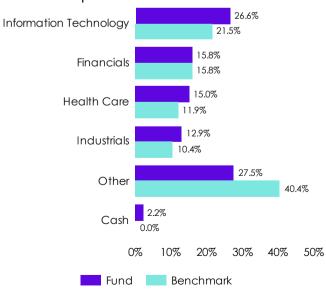
Portfolio	WACI		Total Extractive Exposure <sup>1</sup>		Extractive Industries (VOH) <sup>2</sup>	
	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q2	2023 Q3
Global Sustainable	138	149	1.55	1.90	4.99	5.25
MSCI ACWI*	186 191		3.07	3.81	8.33	9.16

\*Benchmark. 1 Extractive revenue exposure as share (%) of total revenue. 2 Value of holdings (VOH) - companies who derive revenues from extractives. Source: Trucost

## Regional exposure



### Sector exposure



**Brunel Pension Partnership** 

Classification: Public 22 Forging better futures





Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

Portfolios

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **Diversifying Returns Fund**

#### Launch date 12 August 2020

#### Investment strategy & key drivers

Strategy utilising currencies, credit, rates and equities

#### Liquidity

Managed

#### **Benchmark**

SONIA +3%

#### Outperformance target

0% to +2.0%

#### Total fund value

£1,047m

#### Risk profile

Moderate

#### Avon's Holdina:

GBP347m



### Performance to quarter end

Performance	3 month	1 year	3 year*	Since inception*
Fund	2.0	4.2	3.0	2.5
Benchmark	2.0	7.1	4.7	4.6
Excess	-	-3.0	-1.6	-2.1

Source: State Street Global Services

\*per annum. Net of all fees.

## Performance commentary

The Diversifying Returns Fund returned 2.0% over the third quarter of 2023. The benchmark return was also 2.0%.

The sterling hedged 50/50 equity/bond index we monitor returned -2.2% over the quarter. Whilst the fund fell behind the cash-plus benchmark (which remains hard to beat in an environment where interest rates have risen aggressively) the fund has again demonstrated an ability to provide returns that are differentiated from traditional asset classes.

Fulcrum generated a positive return of 1.2% over the quarter. In the asset allocation bucket, positive returns from commodities were not enough to offset losses from equities and bonds. The alternative premia and relative value strategies did provide positive returns. Notably, the fund

benefited from being long 2-year gilts, as rate expectations shifted.

JPM was up 2.3% for the quarter. The equity Value signal made the largest positive contribution to returns. Positive returns were also generated by the equity Quality and fixed income trend signals, the latter maintaining short exposure to duration as rates continued to rise. The largest negative contribution to return over the quarter came from the equity trend signal, which was positioned long following strong returns from equites over the first half of the year.

Lombard Odier returned of 0.9%, despite equities and bonds providing negative returns on a sterling-hedged basis. Exposure to commodities and commodity carry generated positive returns. The largest negative contribution to return

did come from sovereign bonds, though the trend overlay lowered this exposure, reducing the size of the loss.

UBS returned 2.4% over the three-month period. The largest positive contribution to returns came from long exposure to the Norwegian kroner and Columbian peso, which both tend to be pro-cyclical and do well when energy prices rise, as was the case over the quarter. There was also a 25bps rate increase by the Norges Bank. The largest negative contributions to returns came from short positions in the New Zealand dollar and Chinese renminbi. Both currencies strengthened following stronger-than-expected Chinese data releases. The New Zealand dollar also strengthened because of positive domestic growth figures.





Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

Portfolios

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **Multi-Asset Credit**

## Launch date

7 July 2021

#### Investment strategy & key drivers

Exposure to higher yield bonds with moderate credit risk

#### Liquidity

Managed

#### **Benchmark**

SONIA +4%

#### Outperformance target

0% to +1.0%

#### Total fund value

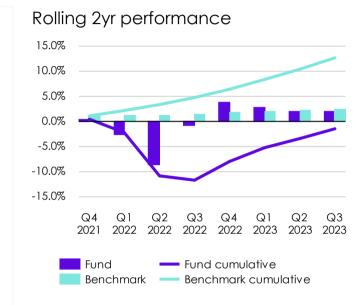
£2.745m

#### Risk profile

Moderate

#### Avon's Holdina:

GBP316m



### Performance to quarter end

Performance	3 month	1 year	3 year*	Since inception*
Fund	1.9	10.6	-	-0.7
Benchmark	2.3	8.2	-	6.2
Excess	-0.3	2.4	-	-6.9

Source: State Street Global Services \*per annum. Net of all fees.

## Performance commentary

Sub-investment grade credit produced a positive return last quarter, despite continued volatility in treasury markets. As mentioned in the CIO Commentary, a higher for longer mentality coupled with an increasing supply imbalance in longer dated treasuries resulted in rising yields. This resulted in heavy price pressure on longer dated issues. Shorter dated issues came through the quarter relatively unscathed.

The US yield curve steepened drastically due to pressures on the long end. The US 10yr yield rose to 4.57%, an increase of +76bps on the quarter. The US 2yr remained relatively stable, rising to 5.04%, a rise of +17bps. Spreads remained quite stable throughout the period.

Returns were mixed at an asset class level. Rate sensitive asset classes once again suffered because of rising yields. Global

High Yield bonds - proxied by Bloomberg Global High Yield Index - were flat on the quarter. Whereas the longer duration areas such as Investment Grade, proxied by Bloomberg Global Corporates, fell by -2.3% in local terms. Floating rate assets held up well. Leveraged Loans, approximated by Morningstar LSTA US Leveraged Loan Index, rose by +2.5% in local terms.

The portfolio returned +1.9% over the quarter, which was marginally behind the primary benchmark (SONIA +4%) and +0.3% ahead of the secondary composite benchmark, comprised of 50% Bloomberg Global High Yield and 50% Morningstar LSTA US Leveraged Loan Index. Neuberger Berman, CQS and Oaktree returned +1.3%, +3.1% and +2.7% respectively. Neuberger Berman lagged due to their rate

sensitive allocation to Investment Grade Corporates. Neuberger remain happy to hold investment grade as it offers attractive risk adjusted returns in higher rate environments.

Since inception performance is now -0.7%, which lags the primary benchmark by -6.9%. The composite benchmark has returned approximately -0.1% over the same period.

All three managers maintain a cautiously optimistic outlook. All-in yields remain over 9% for the Multi-Asset Credit portfolio with a duration of 2.6 years. Investors should remain cautious of the higher for longer narrative, given the potential default pressure it could exert on stressed credits with floating rate liabilities. Our managers have been heavily focussed on the quality of floating rate issuers, leaving them well positioned to undercut market default rates.





£2.356m Risk profile

Avon's Holding:

GBP614m

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Overview of assets

Strateaic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

**Portfolio** overview

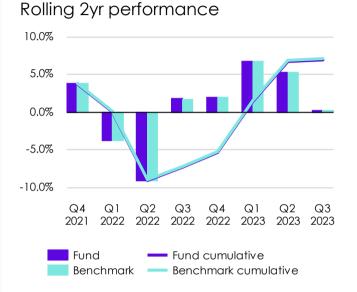
**CIO** commentary

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **PAB Passive Global Equities**

## Launch date 1 November 2021 Investment strategy & key drivers Passive global equity exposure aligned to Paris Agreement climate aoals Liquidity High **Benchmark** FTSE Dev World PAB **Outperformance target** Match Total fund value



### Performance to quarter end

Performance	3 month	1 year	3 year*	Since inception*
Fund	0.2	14.9	-	3.2
Benchmark	0.2	15.0	-	3.2
Excess	-	-0.1	-	-0.1

Source: State Street Global Services \*per annum. Net of all fees.

### Performance commentary

The FTSE Developed Paris Aligned index (PAB) returned 0.2% over Q3 2023. The PAB Passive Global Equities product closely replicated the performance of the benchmark over this period. The product underperformed the market capitalisation parent benchmark which returned 0.7%.

This underperformance can be attributed to PAB having less exposure to the Energy sector which is expected given the decarbonisation objectives of the product. A higher allocation to the Consumer Discretionary sector, which underperformed the broader market, also contributed to underperformance relative to the market cap benchmark.

The PAB did gain a positive contribution to returns, relative to the market cap benchmark, through a higher allocation to Alphabet because of a strong positive tilt score on scope 3

emissions, green revenues and TPI management quality. The company's share price benefitted from profits beating analyst expectations, strong growth in its cloud division and positive reaction to news that its AI chat bot was being rolled out across Europe and Brazil. A higher allocation to Novo Nordisk, which scores well on both scope 1 and 2 emissions. scope 3 emissions and TPI management quality, also contributed positively as momentum behind the Wegovy weight loss drug continued.

At portfolio level, the PAB index has greater exposure to the Consumer Discretionary and Health Care sectors and less exposure to the Energy, Consumer Staples and Financials sectors than the market cap index. The PAB also has a higher

level of exposure to the US and companies at the top end of the market cap spectrum.

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Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

Portfolios

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **PAB Passive Global Equities**

## Top 5 holdings

	Weight	Client value (GBP)*
TESLA INC	6.61	40,593,842
ALPHABET INC	6.13	37,646,968
MICROSOFT CORP	5.92	36,382,776
APPLE INC	5.75	35,327,123
AMAZON.COM INC	5.38	33,010,042

<sup>\*</sup>Estimated client value

### Largest contributors to ESG risk

	ESG risk score*					
	Q2 2023	Q3 2023				
TESLA INC	27.25	25.23				
AMAZON.COM INC	30.53	30.61				
APPLE INC	16.43	17.22				
MICROSOFT CORP	15.32	15.06				
ALPHABET INC-CL A	24.50	24.04				

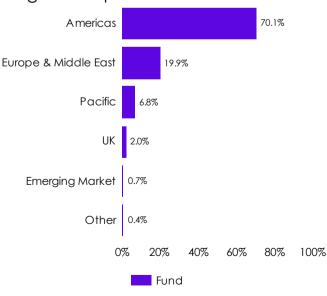
<sup>\*</sup>Source: Sustainanalytics. The table is ordered by negative overall ESG impact on the portfolio, with the most impactful at the top. ESG Risk Score reference: 0-10 is Negligible, 10-20 is Low, 20-30 is Medium, 30-40 is High, 40+ is Severe.

### Carbon metrics

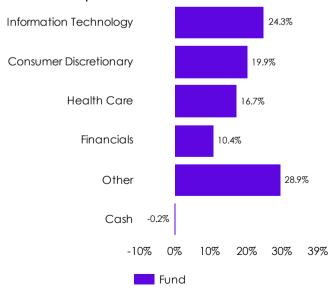
Portfolio	WACI		Total Extractive Exposure <sup>1</sup>		Extractive Industries (VOH) <sup>2</sup>	
	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q2	2023 Q3
PAB Passive Global	76	76	0.61	0.72	3.21	3.39
FTSE Dev World TR	160 167		2.99	3.67	8.64	9.52

<sup>\*</sup>Benchmark. ¹ Extractive revenue exposure as share (%) of total revenue. ² Value of holdings (VOH) - companies who derive revenues from extractives. Source: Trucost

## Regional exposure



### Sector exposure



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Overview of assets

Strateaic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

**Portfolio** overview

29.1%

21.3%

17.0%

15.6%

8.2%

8.8%

**CIO** commentary

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **Private Debt Cycle 2**

#### Investment objective

Global portfolio of senior direct loans, predominantly to PE-sponsored companies

#### **Benchmark**

SONIA

#### Outperformance target

+4%

#### Launch date

1 May 2020

#### Commitment to portfolio

£245.00m

The fund is denominated in GBP

### Commitment to Investment

£245.00m

#### **Amount Called**

£148.95m

#### % called to date

08.06

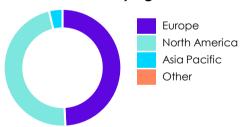
#### Number of underlying funds

#### Avon's Holding:

GBP154.27m

## Country

### Invested in underlying investments



Source: Aksia and underlying managers Country data is lagged by one quarter

## Sector 49.2% 47.1% 3.7%



Source: Aksia and underlying managers Sector data is lagged by one quarter

## Performance commentary

Deal Activity began to pick up as GPs acclimatised to the new environment. A contributing factor to this was increased certainty amongst buyers and sellers around the future of interest rate movements. Deals continued to take place albeit with a larger portion of equity (owing to lower levels of debt funding). Fundraising remained difficult and GPs continued to extend offer periods. Inflation began to come down but certain input costs continued to be high. Despite slight improvements in macroeconomic conditions, GPs continued to be inward-looking, focusing on the resilience of their portfolios. Debt manager watchlists began to grow as underlying companies competed with persistent inflation and high interest costs. There was continued pressure on interest coverage ratios (though not to be point of serious stress). Against this backdrop it was especially important to invest with managers who have operated through multiple cycles and show conservatism in their underwriting practices. Large restructuring/workout teams were also at a premium (with many managers actively looking to build such teams out).

The portfolio ended the quarter ~60% invested. Portfolio performance was positive (and showed improvement vs the prior quarter), reflecting the impact of higher interest rates. The portfolio had one position that required restructuring (a US dental services organization). This business struggled to recover from some Covid-related issues. The business required additional liquidity in the form of equity from the sponsor. The company's credit metrics are beginning to look stronger, since the equity injection.

## Portfolio summary

Market value (GBP millions)	1 Year MWR*	Since Inception MWR*	Inflows	Outflows	Net cash flow latest quarter	Value added latest quarter	TVPI	Contribution to return: 1 year	Contribution to return: since inception
154.3	11.0%	13.8%	13.476.474	4.216.210	9.260.264	6.443.230	1.15	0.2%	0.0%

\*Money weighted return. Net of all fees.

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Overview of assets

Strateaic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

**Portfolio** overview

**CIO** commentary

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **Private Debt Cycle 3**

#### Investment objective

Global portfolio of senior direct loans, predominantly to PE-sponsored companies

**Benchmark** 

SONIA

**Outperformance target** 

Launch date

1 April 2022

Commitment to portfolio

£170.00m

The fund is denominated in GBP

#### Commitment to Investment

£90.93m

**Amount Called** 

£26.12m

% called to date

28.72

Number of underlying funds

Avon's Holding:

GBP26.48m

Portfolio performance was flat vs the prior quarter (but remains positive) but we would note that investment measures are too young to be meaningful.

### Performance commentary

Deal activity began to pick up as GPs acclimatised to the new environment. A contributing factor was increased certainty amonast buyers and sellers around the future of interest rate movements. Deals continued to take place, albeit with a larger portion of equity (owing to lower levels of more expensive debt funding). Fundraising remained difficult as GPs continued to extend fundraising periods. Headline inflation began to come down. However, certain input costs continued to be high. Despite slight improvements in macroeconomic conditions. GPs continued to be inwardlooking, focusing on the resilience of their portfolios. Debt manager watchlists began to grow as underlying companies competed with persistent inflation and high interest costs. There was continued pressure on interest coverage ratios (though not to the point of serious stress). Against this backdrop, it was especially important to invest with managers who operated through multiple cycles and showed conservatism in their underwriting practices. Large restructuring/workout teams were also at a premium (with many managers actively looking to build such teams out).

### Portfolio summary

Market value (GBP millions)	1 Year MWR*	Since Inception MWR*	Inflows	Outflows	Net cash flow latest quarter	Value added latest quarter	TVPI	Contribution to return: 1 year	Contribution to return: since inception
26.5	-	9.1%	5,765,870	282,912	5,482,958	884,926	1.06	0.0%	0.0%

<sup>\*</sup>Money weighted return. Net of all fees.

**Brunel Pension Partnership** Forging better futures

Classification: Public



Overview of assets

Strateaic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

**Portfolio** overview

**CIO** commentary

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **Infrastructure Cycle 1**

#### Investment objective

Portfolio of predominantly European sustainable infrastructure assets

#### Benchmark

CPI

#### **Outperformance target**

+4%

#### Launch date

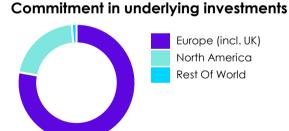
1 October 2018

#### Commitment to portfolio

£115.00m

The fund is denominated in GBP

## Country



Source: Stepstone Country data is lagged by one quarter

## Portfolio summary

### Commitment to Investment

£114.58m

#### **Amount Called**

£102.42m

#### % called to date

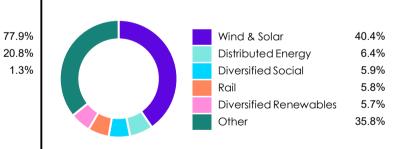
89.39

#### Number of underlying funds

#### Avon's Holding:

GBP107.50m

### Sector



Source: Stepstone Sector data is lagged by one quarter

## Performance commentary

Global economic growth was resilient over the first half of 2023. Weak manufacturing impacted economies more reliant on exports, and a period of further economic weakness is expected. Consumer demand has yet to see a decline thanks to low unemployment & higher wages. Inflation has started to fall but pressure from the interest rate environment is set to continue.

Renewable developers, specifically in offshore wind, reported increased challenges in Q3 2023 due to rising CAPEX and cost of capital.

While renewables in general have shown resilience, a US specific renewables fund in Cycle 1 has been experiencing difficulties compounded by key team departures in 2021 that forced a governance restructuring. Whilst disappointing, the outlook is brighter now than earlier in 2023. Negotiations and arbitrations with key stakeholders have helped to recoup certain costs and improve the cashflow outlook.

Overall, Brunel's exposure to Renewables is well diversified by geography, technology and revenue profile and the risks discussed continue to be monitored.

As at the end of Q3 2023, Cycle 1 Infrastructure remained ~93% committed with overall deployment increasing to ~84%.

Project Anemoi, the final Tactical investment in Cycle 1, into an operating offshore wind farm in Scotland, was closed at the start of Q4 2023, thus completing Cycle 1. Focus is shifting to portfolio performance and monitoring. benchmarking metrics for Cycle 1 infrastructure are positive.

Market value (GBP millions)	1 Year MWR*	Since Inception MWR*	Inflows	Outflows	Net cash flow latest quarter	Value added latest quarter	TVPI	Contribution to return: 1 year	Contribution to return: since inception
107.5	1.6%	7.2%	1,510,443	709,051	801,392	3,921,340	1.17	0.0%	0.0%

\*Money weighted return. Net of all fees.

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Overview of assets

Strateaic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

**Portfolio** overview

**CIO** commentary

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Infrastructure (Renewables) Cycle 2

### Investment objective

Global portfolio of renewable energy and associated infrastructure assets

#### Benchmark

CPI

#### **Outperformance target**

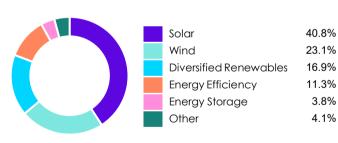
+4%

#### Launch date

1 May 2020

£120.00m

The fund is denominated in GBP

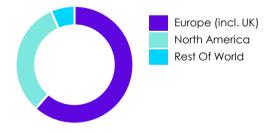


Source: Stepstone

#### Commitment to portfolio

### Country

## Commitment in underlying investments



Source: Stepstone Country data is lagged by one quarter

### Commitment to Investment

£120.00m

#### **Amount Called**

£57.96m

#### % called to date

48.30

#### Number of underlying funds

61.5%

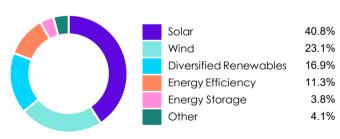
32.0%

6.5%

#### Avon's Holding:

GBP60.04m

#### Sector



Sector data is lagged by one quarter

## Performance commentary

Global economic growth was resilient over the first half of 2023, albeit a still relatively weak performance. With poor manufacturing data impacting those economies more reliant on exports, expectations are still for a period of further economic weakness across H2 2023 and into 2024. Consumer demand has yet to see a fall in activity, primarily driven by low unemployment rates, wage inflation and post pandemic financial support. Inflation rates have started to fall but pressure from the higher interest rate environment is set to continue, with rates likely to be higher for longer, leaving businesses and consumers likely to further tighten their expenditure to cover higher debt servicing costs.

Renewable developers, specifically in offshore wind, reported increased challenges in Q3 2023 due to rising CAPEX and cost of capital thus impacting projects which had locked in PPA or government revenue contracts at prices now no longer financially viable.

While renewables in general have shown resilience, an investment in the 2R portfolio focusing on developing large offshore wind projects has been particularly impacted by these issues which have been further exacerbated by construction challenges.

A very mild 2023 has negatively impacted many operating renewable businesses as a result of low production rates causing lower than anticipated revenues versus budget. The lower production rates were somewhat netted off by higher power prices. Brunel's exposure to Renewables is well

## Portfolio summary

Market value (GBP millions)	1 Year MWR*	Since Inception MWR*	Inflows	Outflows	Net cash flow latest quarter	Value added latest quarter	TVPI	Contribution to return: 1 year	Contribution to return: since inception
60.0	7.4%	9.1%	1,259,198	313,562	945,636	666,289	1.13	0.1%	0.0%

\*Money weighted return. Net of all fees.

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Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

Portfolios

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Infrastructure (Renewables) Cycle 2

diversified by geography, technology and revenue profile and the risks discussed continue to be monitored.

As at the end of Q3 and not including the recently approved deal, Cycle 2R is  $\sim 80\%$  committed and  $\sim 48\%$  invested across 6 primary funds and 10 Tacticals. If all approved investments were to be signed and closed, one more Primary allocation will be required to complete the Cycle 2 Renewables' portfolio construction.

As reported to clients in Q3 2023, an approved commitment to a final primary fund has been put on pause and a new search has begun. On a more positive note, the primary commitment into Q-Energy V and a co-investment into Silicon Ranch Corporation have now been finalised. Q-Energy aims to form a diverse portfolio of platform businesses across renewable energy and energy transition in select market segments across Europe. The Tactical investment into Silicon Ranch Corporation is a co-investment into a fully integrated US solar company. A UK solar opportunity and an infrastructure debt co-investment deal in onshore wind & solar in the Nordics has been approved by Brunel and is in final stages of StepStone DD. Together the two investments complete the Tactical allocation for Cycle 2R.



Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

Portfolios

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **Infrastructure Cycle 3**

#### Investment objective

Global portfolio of infrastructure assets, mainly focussed on climate solutions, energy transition and efficiency

#### **Benchmark**

n/a - absolute return target

#### **Outperformance target**

net 8% IRR

#### Launch date

1 April 2022

#### Commitment to portfolio

£55.00m

The fund is denominated in GBP

#### **Commitment to Investment**

£55.00m

#### **Amount Called**

£8.26m

#### % called to date

15.02

#### Number of underlying funds

1

#### Avon's Holding:

GBP7.80m

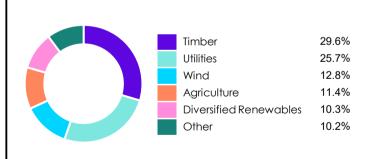
### Country

### Commitment in underlying investments



Source: Stepstone Country data is lagged by one quarter

## Sector



Source: Stepstone Sector data is lagged by one quarter

## Performance commentary

Global economic growth was resilient over the first half of 2023. Weak manufacturing impacted economies more reliant on exports, and a period of further economic weakness is expected. Consumer demand has yet to see a decline thanks to low unemployment & higher wages. Inflation has started to fall but pressure from the interest rate environment is set to continue.

Renewable developers, specifically in offshore wind, reported increased challenges in Q3 2023 due to rising CAPEX and cost of capital. A very mild 2023 has negatively impacted many operating renewable businesses. The lower production rates were somewhat netted off by higher power prices. Brunel's exposure to Renewables is well diversified by aeography, technology and revenue profile.

As at the end of Q3, Cycle 3 is ~35% committed and ~16% invested. During Q3, two primary commitments, ICG Infra Equity Fund II and CIP Fund V, have been closed, providing European mid-market exposure and traditional renewable energy exposure across diversified technologies and geographies respectively.

Activity continues at a good pace and post Quarter end the portfolio is ~43% committed including deals subject to final StepStone due diligence. In Q3 2023 a European Natural Capital Primary Fund was approved in addition to two Tacticals: A GP-led secondary opportunity and a Coinvestment in a midwestern telecommunications infrastructure platform focusing on Fibre to the Home.

## Portfolio summary

Market value (GBP millions)	1 Year MWR*	Since Inception MWR*	Inflows	Outflows	Net cash flow latest quarter	Value added latest quarter	TVPI	Contribution to return: 1 year	Contribution to return: since inception
7.8	_	-7.3%	504.422	35.866	468.556	-125.205	0.94	-0.0%	-0.0%

\*Money weighted return. Net of all fees.

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Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **Secured Income Cycle 1**

#### Investment objective

Portfolio of long-dated income streams, a majority of which are UK inflation-linked

#### **Benchmark**

CPI

**Outperformance target** 

+2%

Launch date

1 October 2018

Commitment to portfolio

£345.00m

The fund is denominated in GBP

**Commitment to Investment** 

£345.00m

**Amount Called** 

£344.71m

% called to date

99.92

Number of underlying funds

3

Avon's Holding:

GBP308.64m

behind with its sales programme, having only paid back 35% of its redemption queue. Further sales are expected.

Greencoat Renewable Income (GRI) has continued to draw down investor commitments in Q3. These recent calls have funded further investment into Solar II, the solar PV fund managed by Greencoat, and purchased a stake in the London Array offshore wind farm. The London Array is located in the Thames Estuary 12 miles from the Kent and Essex coasts. The Array consists of 175 wind turbines with a total capacity of 630MW and benefits from Renewable Obligation Certificates (ROCs).

### Performance commentary

The two long lease property funds held in the portfolio have been impacted by rising interest rates, resulting in valuation declines. Despite economic uncertainty, both funds are confident about their tenant credit ratings, though they are monitoring the situation closely. Rent collection is back up to pre-pandemic levels. M&G Secured Property Income Fund (SPIF) has 100% occupancy, and ASI Long Lease Property (LLP) has only one void in the portfolio (1.9% vacancy), which they are in the process of leasing. Neither fund is leveraged.

Both long lease property funds received large redemption requests after June 2022 (close to 20% of NAV). M&G Secured Property Income Fund (SPIF) made good progress towards clearing their redemption queue, having paid down approximately 77% of the requests as at August. The fund has completed on £860m of disposals of assets, including recent sales of a large office asset in London and a small asset in Derby, both at premiums to book value. Abrah Long Lease has been selling selective assets strategically but is further

### Portfolio summary

Market value (GBP millions)	1 Year MWR*	Since Inception MWR*	Inflows	Outflows	Net cash flow latest quarter	Value added latest quarter	TVPI	Contribution to return: 1 year	Contribution to return: since inception
308.6	-13.3%	-1.3%	26,285	2,939,563	-2,913,278	-8,275,030	0.98	-0.9%	-0.0%

<sup>\*</sup>Money weighted return. Net of all fees.

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33



Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

## Secured Income Cycle 2

#### Investment objective

Portfolio of long-dated income streams, a majority of which are UK inflation-linked

#### **Benchmark**

CPI

**Outperformance target** 

+2%

Launch date

1 May 2020

Commitment to portfolio

£120.00m

The fund is denominated in GBP

#### **Commitment to Investment**

£120.00m

**Amount Called** 

£120.00m

% called to date

100.00

Number of underlying funds

3

Avon's Holding:

GBP105.80m

behind with its sales programme, having only paid back 35% of its redemption queue. Further sales are expected.

Greencoat Renewable Income (GRI) has continued to draw down investor commitments in Q3. These recent calls have funded further investment into Solar II, the solar PV fund managed by Greencoat, and purchased a stake in the London Array offshore wind farm. The London Array is located in the Thames Estuary 12 miles from the Kent and Essex coasts. The Array consists of 175 wind turbines with a total capacity of 630MW and benefits from Renewable Obligation Certificates (ROCs).

### Performance commentary

The two long lease property funds held in the portfolio have been impacted by rising interest rates, resulting in valuation declines. Despite economic uncertainty, managers on both funds are confident about their tenant credit ratings, though they are monitoring the situation closely. Rent collection is back up to pre-pandemic levels. M&G Secured Property Income Fund (SPIF) has 100% occupancy, and ASI Long Lease Property (LLP) has only one void in the portfolio (1.9% vacancy), which they are in the process of leasing. Neither fund is leveraged.

Both long lease property funds received large redemption requests after June 2022 (close to 20% of NAV). M&G Secured Property Income Fund (SPIF) made good progress towards clearing their redemption queue, having paid down approximately 77% of the requests as at August. The fund has completed on £860m of disposals of assets, including recent sales of a large office asset in London and a small asset in Derby, both at premiums to book value. Abrah Long Lease has been selling selective assets strategically but is further

### Portfolio summary

Market value (GBP millions)	1 Year MWR*	Since Inception MWR*	Inflows	Outflows	Net cash flow latest quarter	Value added latest quarter	TVPI	Contribution to return: 1 year	Contribution to return: since inception
105.8	-11.8%	-1.6%	99,005	2,694,876	-2,595,870	-1,571,600	0.95	-0.3%	-0.0%

<sup>\*</sup>Money weighted return. Net of all fees.

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Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

Portfolios

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **Secured Income Cycle 3**

#### Investment objective

Portfolio of long-dated income streams, a majority of which are UK inflation-linked

#### **Benchmark**

CPI

**Outperformance target** 

+2%

Launch date

1 April 2022

Commitment to portfolio

£240.00m

The fund is denominated in GBP

#### **Commitment to Investment**

£127.63m

**Amount Called** 

£127.63m

% called to date

100.00

Number of underlying funds

3

Avon's Holding:

GBP132.20m

behind with its sales programme, having only paid back 35% of its redemption queue. Further sales are expected.

There is approximately £19m to commit to the fund for Cycle 3, either via a primary subscription or via a further secondary market trade, should the opportunity arise. The allocation to Greencoat Renewable Income (GRI) is expected to be drawn down by the end of this year, given the fund's strong pipeline.

### Performance commentary

The two long lease property funds held in the portfolio have been impacted by rising interest rates, resulting in valuation write downs. Despite economic uncertainty, both funds are confident about their tenant credit ratings, though they are monitoring the situation closely. Rent collection is back up to pre-pandemic levels. M&G Secured Property Income Fund (SPIF) has 100% occupancy, and ASI Long Lease Property (LLP) has only one void in the portfolio (1.9% vacancy), which they are in the process of leasing. Neither fund is leveraged.

Both long lease property funds received large redemption requests after June 2022 (close to 20% of NAV). M&G Secured Property Income Fund (SPIF) made good progress towards clearing their redemption queue, having paid down approximately 77% of the requests as at August. The fund has completed on £860m of disposals of assets, including recent sales of a large office asset in London and a small asset in Derby, both at premiums to book value. Abrah Long Lease has been selling selective assets strategically but is further

### Portfolio summary

Market value (GBP millions)	1 Year MWR*	Since Inception MWR*	Inflows	Outflows	Net cash flow latest quarter	Value added latest quarter	TVPI	Contribution to return: 1 year	Contribution to return: since inception
132.2	-	-	20,639,391	837,679	19,801,712	-1,127,880	1.04	0.1%	0.0%

<sup>\*</sup>Money weighted return. Net of all fees.

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35





Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

CIO commentary

Portfolios

Glossary

Disclaimer

## **UK Property**

#### Investment strategy & key drivers

Portfolio of active UK property funds seeking capital & income returns

#### Liquidity

Illiquid

#### **Benchmark**

MSCI/AREF UK

#### **Outperformance target**

+0.5%

#### Commitment to portfolio

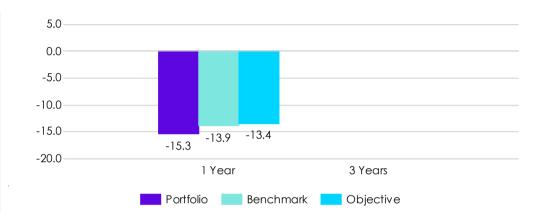
£210.0m

#### **Amount Called**

£174.1m

#### Number of portfolios

13



## Performance commentary

Investment volumes remained subdued over the last quarter, with 2023 investment levels expected to reach only half those of 2022 by end-December. Retail, office and industrial yields rose in August by around 10bps, responding to the macro backdrop of 'higher for longer' expectations for interest rates.

Surprisingly, office rental growth continued to rise in London and elsewhere, though the outlook for secondary offices remained poor, as corporates adapted to hybrid working and responded to low economic growth.

Speculative development in the industrial sector was at a peak, with a further 8m sq ft of new space set to reach

completion by end-December. Though industrial rental growth had slowed from an annual rate of 13.3% last August, the 6.8% rental growth figure continued to attract investors.

Residential and Healthcare remained the resilient sectors, with limited capital declines and the benefits of a structural tailwind, given the UK supply shortage in both sectors.

## Property holdings summary

Holding	Cost	Market value	Perf.	Perf.	Perf.	Perf.	Perf.	Inception
	(GBP millions)	(GBP millions)	3 month	FYTD	1 year	3 year	5 year	Date
Brunel UK Property	118.7	182.6	0.5%	0.9%	-15.3%	-	_	Jan 2021

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## Quarter ending 30 September 2023



Summary

Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

# **Glossary**

Term	Comment
absolute risk	Overall assessment of the volatility that an investment will have
ACS	Authorised Contractual Scheme - a collective investment arrangement that holds and manages assets on behalf of a number of investors
active risk/weight	A measure of the percentage of a holding that differs from the benchmark index; can relate to an equity, a sector or a country/region
amount called	In private investments, this reflects the actual investment amount that has been drawn down
amount committed	In private investments, this is the amount that a client has committed to an investment - it will be drawn down (called) during the investment period
annualised return	Returns are quoted on an annualised basis, net of fees
asset allocation	Performance driven by selecting specific country, sector positions or asset classes as applicable
basis points (BP)	A basis point is 0.01% - so 100bps is 1.0%. Often used for fund performance and management fees
СТВ	Climate Transition Benchmark - targets 30% lower carbon exposure from 2020 and then a 7% annual reduction
DLUHC	Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities; the government body with oversight of pooling
DPI	Distributed to Paid In; ratio of money distributed to Limited Partners by the Fund, relative to contributions. Used for private markets investments
duration	A measure of bond price sensitivity to changes in interest rates. A high duration suggests a bond's price will fall by relatively more if interest rates increase than a bond with a low duration

Term	Comment				
EBITDA margin	An EBITDA margin is a profitability ratio that measures how much in Earnings a company is generating Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation, and Amortization, as a percentage of revenue.				
ESG	ESG is an umbrella term to capture the various environmental, social and governance risks investors factor into their assessment of a company's sustainability profile. Brunel views assessing ESG factors as a central part of our fiduciary duty				
ESG Score	MSCI (Morgan Stanley Capital International) score based on its assessment of the ESG credentials of an underlying investment. If the portfolio score is below the index, the portfolio is assessed by MSCI to be investing in companies with a better ESG score				
extractive exposures VOH	Value of Holdings of invested companies which derive revenues from extractive industries				
GP or general partner	In Private Equity, the GP is usually the firm that manages the fund				
gross performance	Performance before deduction of fees				
Growth	Growth stocks typically exhibit faster long term growth prospects and are often valued at higher price multiples				
IRR	Internal Rate of Return - a return that takes account of actual money invested				
legacy assets	Client assets not managed via the Brunel Pension Partnership				
Low Volatility	Low Volatility is a strategy that attempts to minimise the return volatility.				
LP or limited partner	In private equity, an LP is usually a third party investor in the fund				
M&A	Mergers and acquisitions				



## Quarter ending 30 September 2023



Summary

Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

# Glossary

Term	Comment
Momentum	An investment strategy that aims to capitalize on the continuance of existing trends in the market
Money-weighted return	A performance measure that takes into account the timing and size of cash flows, including contributions and withdrawals.
MWR	Money weighted return - similar to an IRR - it reflects the actual investment return taking into account cashflows
NAV	Net asset value
net performance	Performance after deduction of all fees
PAB	Paris-Aligned Benchmark - targets a 50% lower carbon exposure from 2020 and then a 7% annual reduction
Quality	Quality stocks typically have a high Return on Equity, a very consistent profit outcome and exhibit higher and stable margins
relative risk	Relative volatility when compared with a benchmark
sector/stock selection	Performance driven by the selection of individual investments within a country or sector
since inception	Period since the portfolio was formed
since initial investment	Period since the client made its first investment in the fund
SONIA	Sterling Overnight Index Average - Overnight interbank interest rate - replacement for LIBOR
source of performance data	Source of performance data is provided net of fees by State Street Global Services unless otherwise indicated

Term	Comment
standard deviation	Standard deviation is a measure of volatility for an investment using historical data. Volatility is used as a measure of investment risk. A higher number may indicate a more volatile (or riskier) investment but should be taken in context with other measures of risk
time-weighted return	A performance measure that eliminates the impact of cash flows, focussing solely on the investment's rate of return over a specific time period. It does not account for the timing and size of contributions and withdrawals.
total extractive exposure	Revenue derived from extractive operations as a $\%$ of total corporate revenue
total return (TR)	Total Return - including price change and accumulated dividends
tracking error	A measure of relative volatility around a benchmark. A fund which differs greatly from the benchmark is likely to have a high tracking error
transitioned assets	Client assets that have been transferred to the Brunel Pension Partnership
TVPI	Total Value to Paid In; ratio of the current value of remaining investments within a fund, plus the total value of all distributions to date, relative to the total amount of capital paid in
Value	Value stocks typically have a low valuation when measured on a Price to Book or Price to earnings ratio
WACI	Weighted Average Carbon Intensity; measures the carbon intensity of businesses rather than total carbon emissions. It is expressed as tonnes of CO2 equivalent per million GBP of investment exposure
yield to worst	Lowest possible yield on a bond portfolio assuming no defaults



## Quarter ending 30 September 2023



Summary

Overview of assets

Strategic asset allocation

Performance attribution

Responsible investment

Risk and return

Portfolio overview

**CIO** commentary

**Portfolios** 

Glossary

Disclaimer

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