# **Balanced ESG Portfolio**

29th February 2024



INTELLIGENT INTUITIVE INVESTING

## **Investment Objective**

The Rivers ESG Balanced Portfolio targets long term capital growth in real terms and after fees. The portfolio invests only in solutions which pass strict criteria of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) requirements. The portfolio will be moderately exposed to global equity market cycles. The typical investor seeks capital growth from their investment and is able to accept a moderate level of risk for the potential of higher returns.

# **Market Comment**

February was a strong month for international equities. Despite being underweight the mega-cap technology stocks in the United States, which continue to lead positive sentiment, the portfolio benefited. A recovery in Chinese, and growth in European, equities boosted Enhancer returns. With interest rates unchanged the return on cash remains above 5%. This supported Anchor asset returns and offset losses from longer duration Anchor assets which suffered from Central Banks reducing expectations of rate cuts. Within Diversifiers commodities gained despite a difficult period for gold miners continuing. Insurance and Macro both saw gains and remain positive diversifiers to both equity and fixed income exposure. With risk-free rates remaining elevated, and valuations for risk assets continuing to look extended the under-weight tactical allocation remains appropriate.

Performance (%) <sup>1</sup>	<b>1</b> m	3m	YTD	1yr	3yr	5yr
Rivers ESG Balanced	1.85	5.0	0.6	3.2	5.3	29.6
IA Mixed 20-60% Shares	0.52	3.9	0.1	4.6	4.2	15.9
IA Flexible Investment	1.70	5.7	1.7	6.0	9.8	29.7

Quarterly	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
2017	-	0.8%	0.9%	2.6%	4.3%
2018	-2.7%	2.8%	1.5%	-4.6%	-3.2%
2019	5.8%	4.3%	2.6%	0.3%	13.4%
2020	-8.8%	11.4%	2.5%	4.7%	9.1%
2021	-0.8%	3.5%	0.9%	2.3%	6.1%
2022	-3.8%	-7.0%	-2.2%	3.0%	-9.9%
2023	2.2%	-1.0%	-1.1%	5.5%	5.6%

### **Rivers Asset Classification System:**

"Anchors": investments selected for low market correlation, low risk and capital preservation core characteristics. Significant allocation in low risk portfolios.

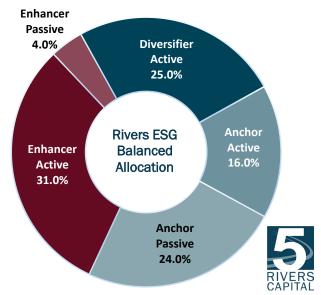
**"Enhancers"**: selected to increase portfolio long term return but exposed to equity risk. Allocation likely to increase with risk tolerance as returns become more volatile.

"Diversifiers": selected for low correlation to traditional market equity and fixed income risk. Diversifiers are essential for efficiency in all but the lowest and highest risk portfolios.

For a more detailed explanation please contact Rivers Capital Management

Model Characteristics	Target	Current
Annualised Return <sup>1</sup>	5.2-6.7%	4.5%
Portfolio Volatility <sup>2</sup>	<9.0%	8.3%
Maximum Loss <sup>3</sup>	<10.0%	-11.2%
Ongoing charge of underlying <sup>4</sup>	<0.75%	0.57%
Number of holdings	<25	15
Last rebalance date	-	Dec-23
Current expected portfolio yield <sup>5</sup>	-	2.61%
Classified 'Passive' investments <sup>6</sup>	40%	28.0%
Since Inception Total Return	30-Jun-17	36.0%

Allocation	Strategic	Current	Tactical
Anchors	27.0%	40.0%	13.0%
Enhancers	55.0%	35.0%	-20.0%
Diversifiers	18.0%	25.0%	7.0%



Top 10 Holdings		
Royal London - Short Term Money Mkt Y Acc	Anchor Passive	14.0%
iShares - UK Gilts All Stocks Index (UK) D Acc	Anchor Passive	8.0%
EdenTree - Responsible and Sust Bond B	Anchor Active	8.0%
Aegon - Absolute Return Bond C Acc	Anchor Active	8.0%
Ninety One - Global Environment I	Enhancer Active	8.0%
Royal London - Sustainable Div Trust C Acc	Diversifier Active	8.0%
CT - Responsible Global Equity 2 Acc	Enhancer Active	6.0%
Rathbone - Ethical Bond Inst Acc	Enhancer Active	6.0%
Guinness - Sustainable Energy Y	Diversifier Active	6.0%
Robeco - SAM Sust Water Equities G EUR	Diversifier Active	6.0%

### Notes:

- 1. The performance data shown is indicative only. Rivers Capital Management attempts to replicate accurately the performance of the underlying portfolio using composite fund data but performances will likely differ from individual accounts due to inflows and timing issues. The performance is net of a 0.25% Rivers Capital Management fee and annualised since inception (March 31st 2017).
- 2. Volatility is calculated as the annualised average weekly standard deviation of return since inception (March 31st 2017).
- 3. The maximum loss is calculated as the total loss from the highest previous month end portfolio value. Intra month or daily data may exceed this.
- 4. The ongoing charge is based on the current portfolio weightings using the latest available OCF data of each fund.
- 5. The yield is the average yield as published by each fund and not guaranteed.
- 6. Rivers investment committee determines a Passive allocation target (20-60%) dependant on the perceived market opportunity.
- 7. Relative risk level determined between 1 and 7 within the tactical constraints of all models with a level 4 considered tactically neutral.

# Please contact Rivers directly on 020 3383 0180 or by emailing info@riverscm.com

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