

CPI = Consumer Price Index (inflation)

# **IFSL Equilibrium Balanced Portfolio**

Each month we provide factsheets for the IFSL Equilibrium funds which give details of the holdings as at the end of the month, together with market commentary.

In addition to this, each quarter we provide more detailed analysis of the holdings, focusing on what has been performing well and what has been underperforming.

## Key

A =	Alternatives
<i>,</i> , ,	

- C = Cash
- DR = Defined Returns

- EQ = Equities
- FI = Fixed Interest
- RA = Assets

# **Asset allocation changes**

The table below shows our current allocation compared to three months and 12 months ago, the changes are highlighted from dark green to dark red in terms of largest increase to largest decrease.

Asset	Current %	3 months ago %	3 month change %	12 months ago %	12 month change %
Cash	0.6	6.7	-6.1	1.1	-0.5
Fixed Interest	22.6	19.3	3.3	33.7	-11.1
Real Assets	16.8	15.3	1.5	11.2	5.6
Defined Returns	10.5	10.7	-0.2	11.9	-1.4
Alternatives	14.4	14.3	0.1	10.9	3.5
Equity	35.1	33.7	1.4	31.2	3.9

# **Recent fund changes**

The tables below show any significant changes we have made to the holdings in the portfolio over the quarter.

### **Significant increased positions**

Asset class	Fund	Current %	3 months ago %	3 month change %
FI	iShares Core UK Gilts ETF	5.09	1.98	3.12
FI	iShares \$ Treasury Bond 7-10yr Hedged ETF	2.55	-	2.55
А	Ruffer Diversified Return	2.38	-	2.38
FI	Waverton Sterling Bond	2.76	1.68	1.08
FI	Royal London Sterling Extra Yield Bond	2.02	0.98	1.05
EQ	Miton UK Multi Cap Income	4.35	3.30	1.04

### **Significant decreased positions**

Asset class	Fund	Current %	3 months ago %	3 month change %
FI	TwentyFour Dynamic Bond	2.46	4.47	-2.01
EQ	Baillie Gifford Japan	-	2.00	-2.00
А	Man GLG Absolute Value	-	1.38	-1.38
С	BlackRock US Treasury Liquidity	-	1.12	-1.12
А	BlackRock European Absolute Alpha	1.47	2.53	-1.06

Source: Equilibrium Investment Management LLP / Thomson Reuters Eikon. These figures are indicative. Note that contribution is not simply a function of average position x return since this does not take into account of sales and purchases made during the period. The column "12 month return" shows the return since the position was held, if that is less than a full 12 months. Contributions calculated before fees.



## **Contribution to return by sector**

The table below shows each of our asset classes and the equity regions we invest in. It breaks down the average exposure, the return for the asset class over the period we have been invested and the contribution to the overall portfolio return over three months and 12 months.

	3 months			12 months		
Asset	Average weight %	Asset class return %	Contribution to return %	Average weight %	Asset class return %	Contribution to return %
Cash	1.5	0.4	0.0	1.3	1.4	0.0
Fixed Interest	24.3	-5.2	-1.3	28.9	-11.3	-3.0
Real Assets	15.6	-3.1	-0.5	13.0	3.8	0.4
Defined Returns	10.7	-3.5	-0.3	11.7	6.8	0.8
Alternatives	14.0	-1.5	-0.2	13.2	1.4	0.1
Equity	34.0	-9.1	-3.1	31.9	-16.2	-5.4
<b>Overall Portfolio</b>			-5.9			-7.6

Asset class portfolio return and contribution to return calculations use daily positions and don't take into consideration charges, aggregated contribution to returns may not equal overall portfolio return.

	3 months			3 months 12 months			
Regional equity portfolio	Average weight %	Equity region return %	Contribution to return %	Average weight %	Equity region return %	Contribution to return %	
UK Equity	13.2	-8.3	-1.1	12.6	-14.6	-1.8	
Global Developed	14.0	-10.1	-1.4	13.2	-14.7	-1.9	
Global Emerging	5.5	-2.9	-0.1	5.5	-19.3	-1.1	
Private Equity	1.4	-28.8	-0.4	0.6	-39.4	-0.5	
Vol Trade	-	-	-	-	-	-	



## Top and bottom contributors to return

The tables below show the top and bottom five contributors to return over the past three and 12 months, it breaks down the average exposure, the return over the holding period and the contribution to the overall portfolio return.

#### Top five contributors over three months

Asset class	Asset	Average weight %	Current weight %	Holding return %	Contribution to return %
А	Foresight Sustainable Forestry	1.1	1.4	11.5	0.1
FI	iShares \$ Treasury Bond 7-10yr ETF	2.1	1.5	3.9	0.1
А	Carmignac Long-Short European Equities	2.5	2.5	3.0	0.1
EQ	Allianz China A-Shares	1.4	1.4	9.4	0.1
EQ	HSBC MSCI China ETF	0.1	0.9	5.1	0.0

## Bottom five contributors over three months

Asset class	Asset	Average weight %	Current weight %	Holding return %	Contribution to return %
EQ	Miton UK Value Opportunities	4.0	4.1	-11.3	-0.5
EQ	Miton European Opportunities	2.0	2.0	-16.6	-0.3
EQ	Baillie Gifford American	1.0	1.1	-32.4	-0.3
FI	iShares Core UK Gilts ETF	3.7	5.1	-7.7	-0.3
FI	TwentyFour Dynamic Bond	4.0	2.5	-7.3	-0.3

#### Top five contributors over 12 months

Asset class	Asset	Average weight %	Current weight %	Holding return %	Contribution to return %
А	Legg Mason Clearbridge Global Infrastructure	2.8	4.7	16.4	0.4
DR	JPM FTSE Defined return Sep18	2.6	2.5	9.7	0.2
А	Foresight UK Infrastructure Income	2.7	4.6	6.3	0.2
А	Carmignac Long-Short European Equities	2.5	2.5	6.8	0.2
А	Lazard Global Listed Infrastructure	1.1	0.0	8.2	0.2

### Bottom five contributors over 12 months

Asset class	Asset	Average weight %	Current weight %	Holding return %	Contribution to return %
EQ	Miton UK Value Opportunities	4.0	4.1	-21.7	-0.9
EQ	Baillie Gifford American	1.2	1.1	-55.1	-0.7
FI	Muzinich Asia Credit Opportunities	2.4	1.7	-20.7	-0.6
FI	Allianz Strategic Bond	4.0	2.0	-15.3	-0.6
EQ	Octopus UK Micro Cap Growth	1.4	2.1	-27.5	-0.5

## **Portfolio commentary**

Based on the news headlines you would think there is very little good news around at present!

Rising inflation, weakening economic data, interest rate increases and geopolitical conflict are weighing on consumer and business confidence. Against this backdrop it has indeed been a difficult time for investors as the slowdown in consumption and the higher interest rate environment is evaluated and factored into market prices. However, generally speaking corporate earnings and margins remain robust. For example, on average there was a 6.6% increase in first quarter earnings for S&P 500 Index companies and forward profit guidance remaining stable. This leaves equities looking better value in our view, as earnings increase but prices have fallen.

This volatility has provided opportunity. For example, in fixed interest it has allowed us to increase US Treasury



and Gilt exposure at more attractive levels as yields have increased.

Our holding of US Treasuries was our 4th best contributor during the most recent quarter. Government bonds rallied during the second half of June as markets discounted a slower tightening cycle and signs that inflation may have peaked or is near to the peak.

The volatility also allowed us to add to equities at lows. One of our top contributors to returns in 2022 has been a FTSE 100 tracker fund which we only held for a short while, having bought on a dip and sold on a rally.

Over the last year the biggest change to asset allocation has been the increase in "real assets" such as infrastructure, property and forestry at the expense of fixed interest. This has had a positive effect on returns, and over 12 months three of our best performing assets have been the infrastructure funds.

These benefit from predictable and stable inflation-linked cash flows that have benefitted from the rising inflation environment and the structural tailwind of renewable energy amid surging commodity prices.

The theme of inflation linked cash flows is also a key driver of the Foresight Sustainable Forestry holding with this our highest contributor over the quarter and 3rd highest over 12 months. Market volatility has also allowed us to increase exposure to property with Tritax Big Box and Segro both increased over the quarter. These focus on industrial property which is an asset class which has shown strong growth, even as the share price of the funds has fallen. This means they now trade on big discounts to their true worth.

The biggest detractors of performance have been the cyclicallyexposed equity holdings, and some fixed interest funds. In particular, the Miton UK Value and Miton European Opportunities funds have suffered due to their small and mid-sized cap company bias, with this part of the market underperforming large caps during recent times.

One of our best performing fund over the past quarter was the Carmignac Long Short European Equity Fund, highlighting the benefits of a flexible fund with the ability to go short in the current market.

Looking forward, we think most of the major asset classes now look much better value than a few months ago, generally trading at much more attractive valuations. Whilst volatility might continue for some time, we think the long term potential returns therefore look very positive.

## Performance

#### **Rolling total returns**

	3 months	6 months	1 year	3 years	5 years
Fund	-5.92%	-9.22%	-7.56%	6.71%	-
CPI	3.16%	4.95%	8.54%	11.96%	-

## **Further reading**

For holdings and market commentary as at the end of the month, please see our **latest monthly factsheets**. Attribution analysis is for indication only.

## **Risk information**

All data is from 30 June 2022 and provided by Equilibrium Investment Management LLP unless otherwise stated. The views expressed herein should not be taken as statements of fact or relied upon when making investment decisions.

Past performance is never a guide to future performance. Investments may (will) fall as well as rise and you may not get back your original investment. Changes in currency exchange rates or interest rates may have an adverse effect on the value of your investments.

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