1825 Portfolio 3

Commentary second quarter 2020

1825 Financial Planning from Standard Life

This summary provides market commentary from our investment experts, and details any changes made to Portfolio 3 during the second quarter of 2020. The commentary is intended to give you a general overview of the market, and does not constitute advice.

In brief:

- Global shares continued to rise in May and June as businesses in Western countries began to reopen.
- Investor optimism was tempered by fears of a potential second wave of infections.
- Capital values fell across all UK property sectors with retail, leisure and hotels suffering the most.

Market

Global equities rallied in the second quarter as the announcement of massive central bank and government stimulus packages to combat the coronavirus epidemic reinvigorated risk appetite. After selling off steeply in March amid global economic shutdowns, stock markets around the world surged in April. The US Federal Reserve committed to unlimited purchases of government and corporate debt. It also slashed interest rates to near zero in March. This helped to support shares. Global shares continued to rise in May and June as businesses in Western countries began to reopen and hopes of a rapid economic recovery took hold. Investor optimism was tempered by fears of a potential second wave of infections and warnings that the road back to normality would be a long one.

Core government bond yields were largely flat over the quarter. Substantial fiscal stimulus and central-bank intervention propped up markets. As the coronavirus pandemic started to recede in many countries, and many major economies began to reopen, demand for riskier assets returned. This led to a fall in demand for government bonds in early June. However, fears of a second wave of infections anchored yields at relatively low levels thereafter. The UK, on the other hand, saw a drop in yields to record lows and a rise in prices. Global corporate bonds recovered sharply over the quarter, spurred on by increasingly supportive fiscal and central-bank policy. In particular, the Federal Reserve's expanded bond-purchasing programme, which included the buying of corporate bond exchange-traded funds, buoyed US corporate debt.

The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic dominated UK property in the second quarter. Capital values fell across all sectors as uncertainty rose and investor sentiment weakened. Retail, leisure and hotels suffered the most, as enforced closures saw many businesses grind to a halt. In many cases, landlords have also struggled with rent collection as financially distressed businesses have failed to pay rent. Retail rent collection is widely expected to be worse than the previous quarter, with retailers now having protection against forfeiture until the end of September.

Activity

We review the Strategic Asset Allocation (SAA) for each of the 1825 Portfolios every quarter with the aim of ensuring that we continue to meet investors' long-term interests. At the most recent review, we made no changes to the SAA model.

During the second quarter of 2020, we made the following Tactical Asset Allocation (TAA) changes:

- Decreased our cash position
- Decreased our overweight position in UK equities
- Established an overweight position in Europe ex UK equity
- Further increased our overweight position in Global High Yield
- Reduced to neutral, our overweight position in Japanese equities

In terms of the underlying funds, we purchased Jupiter UK Special Situations, Artemis US Select, Hermes US Small and Mid equities and Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index. We sold Merian North American equity and Vanguard US equity Index.

1825 Portfolio 3 Asset class breakdown

Growth Assets 75%

- UK Equities
- US Equities
- European Equities
- Japan Equities
- Asia Pacific Equities
- Emerging Market Equities
- Global High Yield Bonds
- Emerging Market Local Curr Bonds
- UK Real Estate
- Global REITs
- Diversifying Growth Assets

Defensive Assets 25%

- Cash & Money Markets
- Short Dated Global Index Linked Bonds
- Sterling Corporate Bonds
- Short Dated Sterling Corporate Bonds
- Global Corporate Bonds
- Short Dated Global Corporate Bonds
- Diversifying Defensive Assets

Outlook

Within global equities, market action indicates that investors are taking the view that there will be a V-shaped economic recovery. A typical pattern seen during recovery phases is unfolding: strong gains for equities, the US dollar weakening and the US starting to underperform other regions. Investors will continue to react to newsflow. They are likely to receive data supporting a recovery well. Any setback will lead to another leg down in the markets.

Political and economic factors will continue to dominate fixed income markets. The US elections are looming, and tensions between China and the rest of the world are escalating. Central banks and governments have mitigated the effects of the pandemic on financial markets. However, there will not be a sustained recovery until the virus is contained, allowing the easing of lockdown measures. Market uncertainty should continue to be favourable for government bonds. Meanwhile, US Federal Reserve purchases of investment-grade credit will continue to provide some support for corporate bonds.

Turning to UK commercial real estate, we forecast a total return fall of -9.5% in 2020. This would be the second weakest total return in the 40-year history of MSCI data. Only 2008 surpassed the decline in capital values that we expect this year. The retail sector is likely to drive the size of the decline. Leisure and hotels are also bearing the full brunt of measures to contain the Covid-19 outbreak.

Performance

The portfolio delivered a positive return over Quarter 2. Our Strategic Asset Allocation added to performance, with key contributors being UK, US and European equities. Tactical asset allocation added to performance with our overweight in EM equities and underweight in short dated Index Linked Bonds the principal drivers of returns. Manager selection marginally added to performance as losses within Short Dated Global Corporate Bonds and US equities were offset by gains within UK equity and Absolute Return.

The comments above refer to the past. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance. As with any investment, the value of your portfolio can fall as well as rise – you may get back less than you pay in.

1825 Portfolio 3 breakdown	Q2 2020	Q1 2020	change
Holding	**Weights**	**Weights**	**+/-**
JPM UK Equity Core	9.93%	10.04%	-0.11%
L&G Emerging Markets Local Government Bond Index	6.80%	6.80%	0.00%
Fidelity Index US	6.27%	2.89%	3.38%
Aberdeen European Equity Enhanced Index	5.74%	5.53%	0.21%
Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index	4.96%	7.04%	-2.08%
Pimco GIS Global High Yield Bond	4.80%	4.30%	0.50%
Schroder Multi-Asset Total Return	4.50%	4.50%	0.00%
Janus Henderson UK Property	3.84%	3.84%	0.00%
First State Global REITS	3.70%	3.70%	0.00%
Robeco Global Credits	3.54%	3.54%	0.00%
TwentyFour Absolute Return Credit	3.00%	3.00%	0.00%
TM Fulcrum Diversified Absolute Return	3.00%	3.00%	0.00%
Jupiter UK Special Situations	2.98%	0.00%	2.98%
CF Morant Wright Nippon Yield	2.94%	3.24%	-0.30%
SLI UK Real Estate Feeder	2.56%	2.56%	0.00%
Artemis US Select	2.41%	0.00%	2.41%
PIMCO Global Investment Grade Credit	2.36%	2.36%	0.00%
Aberdeen Short Dated Global Index Linked Bond Tracker	2.10%	2.10%	0.00%
Artemis Global Emerging Markets	2.04%	2.94%	-0.90%
T. Rowe Price Funds OEIC Dynamic Global Bond	2.00%	2.00%	0.00%
Invesco Japanese Equity Advantage	1.96%	2.16%	-0.20%
Hermes Asia Ex Japan Equity Fund	1.85%	1.85%	0.00%
First State Asia Focus	1.85%	1.85%	0.00%
Robeco Global Credits - Short Maturity	1.80%	1.80%	0.00%
Royal London Short Duration Credit	1.55%	1.55%	0.00%
Vanguard Short Term Investment Grade Bond Index	1.55%	1.55%	0.00%
Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index	1.34%	0.00%	1.34%
Fidelity Institutional Sterling Corporate Bond	1.18%	1.18%	0.00%
TwentyFour Corporate Bond	1.17%	1.17%	0.00%
RWC Global Emerging Markets	1.07%	1.51%	-0.44%
Lazard European Smaller Companies	1.01%	0.97%	0.04%
Cash (£)	1.00%	1.00%	0.00%
LF Tellworth UK Smaller Companies	0.99%	1.51%	-0.52%
Fidelity UK Smaller Companies	0.99%	1.51%	-0.52%
Hermes US Small & Mid Equities	0.97%	0.00%	0.97%
Aberdeen Liquidity Fund	0.25%	0.25%	0.00%
Merian North American Equity	0.00%	3.38%	-3.38%
Vanguard US Equity Index	0.00%	3.38%	-3.38%
	100.00%	**100.00%**	

Each client portfolio is reviewed and rebalanced regularly where necessary. Fund selection and asset allocation are monitored on an ongoing basis, and will be changed as considered appropriate by the Portfolio Managers.

Charges

The ongoing charges figure quoted below includes the ASC discretionary investment management charge (0.25%) and fund level management charges. It does not include product and adviser specific charges – speak to your 1825 Financial Planner for full details.

Ongoing charges figure	**0.74%**

NOTE: the Portfolio holdings,asset class breakdowns, and ongoing charges, figure shown on this page are correct as at 30/06/2020. They will change from time to time. Source: Aberdeen Standard Capital.