# WISE INVESTMENT LIMITED - DEFENSIVE Pershing



# MONTHLY FACTSHEET

all data as at 31st January 2024

## PORTFOLIO OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY

The Wise Defensive Model Portfolio is designed for clients who are looking for a total return in line with Bank of England Base rate + 1% over a 5 to 10 year period with lower volatility than could be expected from full exposure to the stock market. We aim to achieve this by investing in a select and focussed list of funds (unit trusts, investment trusts and OEICs), with diversification across geography, asset class and investment style. These funds invest in real assets, such as company shares (listed both in the UK and overseas), property, fixed interest and cash. The Portfolio is selected with no more than 40% invested in 'medium' risk assets, such as shares and property. The balance of at least 60% is held in assets defined as 'moderate', 'low' or 'minimal' risk, which are mainly comprised of fixed interest (UK government and higher quality company debt) and cash. No exposure will be allocated to higher risk assets. We therefore consider the portfolio to be suitable for those willing to adopt a defensive risk profile.

# PERFORMANCE SINCE LAUNCH (using month-end data)



#### **CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE**

	1m	3m	6m	1yr	3yr	Launch
Wise Defensive Portfolio (P)	0.3%	4.4%	4.9%	4.8%	1.4%	3.2%
Bank Of England Base Rate + 1%	0.6%	1.5%	3.1%	5.9%	10.0%	10.3%

# DISCRETE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

	31/01/2023	31/01/2022	31/01/2021	
	31/01/2024	31/01/2023	31/01/2022	
Wise Defensive Portfolio (P)	4.8%	-3.1%	-0.2%	
Bank Of England Base Rate + 1%	5.9%	2.7%	1.1%	

## PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

WILLIAM GEFFEN
Head of Investment
Management

William joined Wise Investment in November 2023 and has 4 years' experience in managing equity funds. His main responsibility is the selection of suitable investments for portfolios and ensuring our investment service meets your requirements.

William successfully passed all three level of the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) exams gaining the qualification in 2021.

# Key Portfolio Details

Launch Date	29th October 2020
Holdings	7
Historic Yield¹	4.4%
Volatility <sup>2</sup>	5.3%
Benchmark	BoE Base Rate + 1.0%
Model OCF <sup>3</sup>	0.3%
Service Charge <sup>4</sup>	1.6%

# Contact Details

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Website: <u>www.wiseinvestment.co.uk</u>

All data used on this factsheet is supplied by Financial Express. Rounding may result in charts and tables not adding up to 100% in displayed data. Performance is based on total returns on a bid-to-bid basis, net of UK dividend tax credits and is calculated referencing a model portfolio. Actual portfolio statistics may differ because of investment performance, cash movements, transaction costs and the timing of sales and purchases within the portfolio. Quoted performance does not include fees levied by Wise Investments Ltd or any fees from custodial services. Service fees will apply. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. This document should not be construed as an investment recommendation.

- 1 The Historic Yield is the weighted average yield of the model based on the model's current constituents
- 2. The Model OCF calculates the annual charges levied by the underlying fund holdings according to the model portfolio weights.
- 3 The Service Fee incorporates the model OCF, the standard non-tiered annual fees levied by Wise Investments Limited and custodian fees, of which this is the highest possible fee. Further details of these charges are disclosed to clients investing in the model portfolios.





#### MONTHLY COMMENTARY

January saw a solid start to the year of 2024 off the back of a strong year in 2023.

Global equities returned 1.31% (in sterling) largely driven by the world's largest market, the US, returning 1.64%, off the back of gathering optimism around the health of the US economy and enthusiasm for the handful of megacap tech companies that have driven US stock returns over the past year. Another notably strong geography in January was Japan which returned 4.73% despite yen slipping 3.45% vs sterling. This caps of a strong 1 year rolling performance for Japan (second only to the USA) and comes as a result of improving sentiment around Japanese corporate governance with the Tokyo exchange cracking down on poor stakeholder practices. Japanese equities have traded at a substantial discount for a long time due to the perceived poor capital discipline, often resulting in many companies trading below their net asset value or even below their net cash/working capital. The recent changes have begun to close this gap and have led to Japanese equity indices hitting (long overdue) highs not seen for 30+ years.

Elsewhere Europe returned a modest 0.35% and the UK lagged, returning -1.33%. Asia ex-Japan performed poorly returning -5.35% with the wider emerging markets buckets similarly returning -4.35%, both dragged down by worsening sentiment over Chinese equites, where despite the impressive economic performance, the Hang Seng index is back to levels it was 20 years ago. There is to believe a turnaround is near, with clear signals from the CCP that it wants to help reestablish a better investment ecosystem, along with a potential positive economic catalyst with the RISK ALLOCATION auspicious year of the dragon just about to begin. While emerging markets pose an appetising opportunity to adventurous investors to invest in a beaten down market, this must be done with caution and careful discretion.

In fixed income, yields rose slightly as the US federal reserve dampened expectations of a March rate cut due to continued economic strength and inflation not yet fully back to desired levels for a meaningful period of time. Other central banks like the UK's BOE indicated similarly although driven more so by elevated inflation rather than economic strength.

The rise in yields led to better performance from short-dated cash equivalents, which returned 0.41% and high yield bonds (being less rate-sensitive) which returned 0.73%. Inflation Linked Gilts performed worst, returning -5.24%, followed by standard Gilts returning -2.27% and corporate bonds returning -0.87%.

Real estate also suffered a degree due to rising rates with the more sensitive listed liquid index returning -2.2% and the less sensitive (less frequently priced!) direct property index returning -0.36%.

The defensive model returned 0.27% marginally behind the 0.55% return for the benchmark (BoE Base rate +1%). This return was propelled by exposure to a strong return from the short-dated bond funds as well as a small exposure to global equities, however the small exposure to property in the CT Property Fund, as well as the M&G inflation linked fund, did detract from performance.

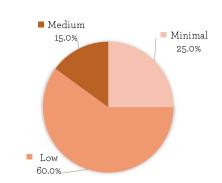
We haven't made any significant changes to the defensive model portfolio this month. We maintain our overweight to low duration bonds and securities, preferring to take on modest credit risk where prudent to boost return while looking to avoid the volatility that comes from holding longer dated bonds due to their relatively poor yield.

We also retain a small position in the CT property fund, as we continue to see value in this down beaten asset class as shown by the depressed prices in commercial properties and large net asset value discounts in listed real estate trusts.

We have undergone various changes to model portfolios recently with the change in Head of IM role in November, with a new focus on addressing markets on a more global basis, rather than the disproportionate focus on the UK within our PIMFA benchmarks. Additionally, we are now utilising more low fee passive index funds in order to better capture global equity exposure while also reducing underlying fees paid by clients. Both these changes, we hope will help boost long term returns and client outcomes. Most of these changes were implemented in late November and early December.

#### **HOLDINGS**

Name	Weight	OCF
Premier Miton UK Money Market	24.5%	0.16%
L&G Short Dated Sterling Corporate	15.0%	0.14%
M&G UK Inflation Linked Corporate	15.0%	0.43%
TwentyFour Absolute Return Credit	30.0%	0.36%
Fidelity Index World	10.0%	0.12%
CT Property Growth & Income	5.0%	1.03%
Cash	0.5%	0.00%



For Asset Risk Category definitions see the Wise Investment Risk Appendix, supplied to investors in the model portfolios.

# ASSET ALLOCATION



#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

transaction costs. The charges can vary, Prices of funds and the income from them may fall as well as rise and investors may not get back

