# WISE INVESTMENT LIMITED DEFENSIVE

# Pershing

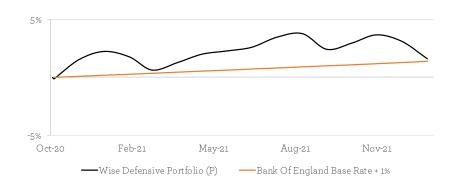


all data as at 31st January 2022

## PORTFOLIO OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY

The Wise Defensive Model Portfolio is designed for clients who are looking for capital growth 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	Launch
Wise Defensive Portfolio (P)	-1.4%	-1.3%	-1.8%	-0.2%	1.6%
Bank Of England Base Rate + 1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.6%	1.1%	1.4%

# DISCRETE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

	31/01/2021
	31/01/2022
Wise Defensive Portfolio (P)	5.3%
MSCI PIMFA Balanced	10.5%



## PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT



# ROBERT BLINKHORN

# Head of Investment Management

Robert joined Wise Investment in July 2017 and has 18 years' experience in managing private

client multi asset class portfolios. His main responsibility is the selection of suitable investments for portfolios and ensuring our investment service meets your requirements. Robert is a member of the CFA Society of the UK and has successfully passed the examinations for all three levels of the Chartered Financial Analyst qualification.

# Key Portfolio Details

Launch Date	29th October 2020	
Holdings	9	
Historic Yield¹	0.8%	
Yield Target	n/a	
Volatility <sup>2</sup>	3.1%	
Benchmark	BoE Base Rate + 1.0%	
$Model OCF^3$	0.3%	
Service Charge <sup>4</sup>	1.7%	

## Contact Details

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#### MONTHLY COMMENTARY

In January, global equities declined by over 4% in sterling terms. The UK equity market was largely unique in that it managed to deliver a slight positive return for the month. Differentials in performance can be largely explained by market structure. Technology Service companies, which the UK listed market has very little exposure to relative to other major markets such as the US, were some of the biggest decliners. Technology businesses have seen a boost to demand in recent years as social distancing altered people's behaviour and we relied on technology more than ever. Internet based platforms and software have become more entwined in our daily lives as we sought to navigate our way through an abruptly introduced new reality in early 2020. Of course, this change in behaviour wasn't lost on investors who have reflected this enhanced integration and revenue generation into the share prices of Technology businesses. However, in our view, these prices have been pushed to levels that have implausible expectations so a correction at some point was not unexpected.

As we move to a world where the Covid virus is less of a threat through mutation and vaccine deployment, where central banks begin discussing the withdrawal of accommodative policies and where geo-political tensions are escalating (with a related impact on energy prices), there has been a boost for some of the lagging sectors of late (which had also been trading - and to some extent still do trade - at relatively attractive levels) such as oil ASSET RISK companies, which have responded positively to a high oil price, and large banks which benefit from rising interest rates. Again, the UK equity market tends to have a more constructive exposure to these sectors than other major global equity markets helping it outperform other indices for the first month of 2022.

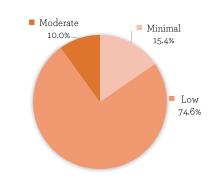
Listed UK property was weaker, underperforming broader UK equities whilst physical property, in aggregate, delivered low positive returns. Looking forward, the prospects for central office and retail assets looks challenged whilst distribution warehouses have experienced the same rally (and potential reversion) as the Technology sector as it is keyed into the same dynamic. Rising interest rates will also bite into revenues (although the sector is far less leveraged today than it was prior to the Great Financial Crisis).

Fixed interest sold off with yields up around 30 basis points (0.3%) across the UK Gilt yield curve. This sent the UK Gilt market almost 4% lower. Index linked Gilts were not immune from the fall but resurging inflation expectations helped offset some of the loss. Corporate bonds were also under pressure with the move in yields. The excess yield on corporate versus government bonds has widened from recent lows but remains tight relative to historic levels. The Defensive model portfolio was lower by -1.4% in January. This was behind the benchmark, the Bank of England Base Rate + 1%, which returned 0.1%. UK Government Gilts were the primary driver of negative returns in the portfolio as interest rates across the curve moved higher. This was deepened by the holding in the BNY Mellon Real Return fund where equity and corporate bond exposure also delivered weak returns.

The sell-off in equities has taken some of the excess valuation out of the asset class but prices still generally sit higher than we would describe as good (or even fair) value. Therefore, we will need to see further declines (or substantial improvements in fundamentals) before adding to the equity position. Commercial property poses risks and again, valuations do not seem to reflect this fully in our view. Gilt yields have sold off aggressively and this may be an opportunity to begin increasing the interest rate sensitivity of portfolios. However, in a reversal of quantitative easing and a rising rate environment we are conscious that there is a significant headwind to positive returns from fixed interest investments. On the other hand, we are conscious that by not being invested, this risks potentially missing short term positive returns, particularly after declines. This can have a significant impact on long term wealth creation. With that challenge in mind we have been focussing on themed strategies which we believe may add value through reducing volatility or benefitting from long term structural demand such as infrastructure and specialist mining funds and hope to introduce these into the portfolios opportunistically as and when appropriate.

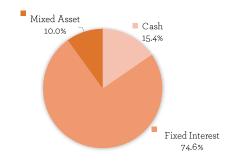
#### HOLDINGS

Name	Weight	OCF
Premier Miton UK Money Market	14.9%	0.18%
L&G All Stocks Gilt Index Trust	14.9%	0.15%
L&G All Stocks Index Linked Gilt Index Trust	5.0%	0.15%
Royal London Short Duration Gilts	14.9%	0.22%
L&G Short Dated Sterling Corporate Bond	14.9%	0.14%
M&G UK Inflation Linked Corporate Bond	10.0%	0.43%
TwentyFour Absolute Return Credit	14.9%	0.35%
BNY Mellon Real Return	10.0%	0.79%
Cash	0.5%	0.0%



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

## ASSET ALLOCATION



#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

