# WISE INVESTMENT LIMITED DEFENSIVE

# Pershing



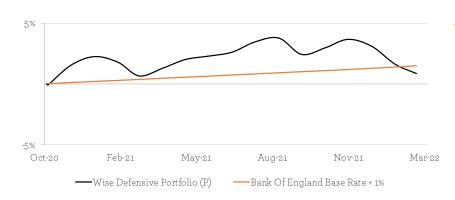
#### MONTHLY FACTSHEET

all data as at 31st March 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)	-0.6%	-2.7%	-2.1%	-1.0%	0.3%
Bank Of England Base Rate + 1%	0.1%	0.4%	0.6%	1.2%	1.7%

# DISCRETE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

	31/03/2021
	31/03/2022
Wise Defensive Portfolio (P)	2.6%
MSCI PIMFA Balanced	7.8%

## 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>	3.0%
Benchmark	BoE Base Rate + 1.0%
$Model OCF^3$	0.3%
Service Charge <sup>4</sup>	1.7%

#### Contact Details

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Website: www.wiseinvestment.co.uk

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

In March, global equities rose by almost 4.5% in sterling terms. US equity markets led returns with a strong dollar adding to performance in our domestic currency. In terms of sectors, Energy and Mining companies continued to perform well as commodity prices remained strong under both demand and restricted supply. Similarly, Consumer Goods companies continued their downward trend as inflation impacts input costs for companies and investors shy away from interest rate sensitive equities. UK commercial property was higher in both the physical and listed spaces with listed companies leading the gains between the two. Although overall prices of both listed and physical property are ahead of their levels pre-Covid there remains a divide in terms of performance, particularly between town and city centre retail and out of town retail warehouses and distribution centres with the latter seeing continued interest. Finally, fixed interest was generally weaker in March as interest rates continued to creep higher.

Equity markets have recovered from a weak beginning to 2022 when a combination of soaring inflation and the threat that was followed up by action from Russia in invading Ukraine dampened enthusiasm for risk. In addition, Covid was having an impact on economic activity, particularly in China where a 'zero-Covid' policy has been adopted leading to severe responses to limited outbreaks. However, there has been a significant difference in the performance of underlying regions over the first quarter. The UK equity market which has around 20% exposure to Energy and Mining companies has been well supported in this environment whereas European equity markets with less commodity exposure and with greater economic ties to Russia have struggled. Looking forward, the UK equity market continues to offer relatively attractive value in our opinion (although less so in an absolute sense) where pricing hasn't drifted too far from fundamentals. Conversely, European equity markets, although they have been weaker, continue to trade at an excessive price versus fundamentals, in our view. Therefore, we would anticipate weaker returns from European equities (at least relative to the UK equity market). In Asia, cash flow, dividend and earnings growth has remained muted and equity markets even more so with weak pricing since the middle of 2021. This has been largely driven by China which is actively curbing the breadth and extent of economic activity in specific sectors such as construction, technology and education to head off economic bubbles and dilute concentrations of economic power. Despite the optical value, continued activism by the political elite in China may continue to drag on valuations.

Bond yields were higher, particularly at the shorter end of maturities although the negative impact of rising yields on returns was felt most in longer dated issues. Yields have been rising since the summer of 2020 as the gravest concerns over the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic dissipated and were replaced by inflation fears and central bank policy on normalising interest rates through increasing overnight rates and ceasing (indeed reversing) quantitative easing. In the UK, overnight rate expectations are expected to plateau at around 1.25% rising another 0.5% from their current level. This, and the unwinding of central bank bond purchases appears to be priced in by the UK Gilt market but is dependent on the speed at which the Bank of England resets interest rates and reduces its balance sheet.

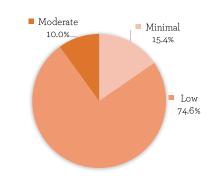
In the Defensive model portfolio returns were lower by -0.6% in March. This was behind the ASSET ALLOCATION benchmark, the Bank of England Base Rate + 1%, which returned 0.1%. UK Government Gilts were the primary driver of negative returns in the portfolio as interest rates moved higher. This also affected corporate bonds despite a more positive attitude towards risk during the month. The strategy maintains a largely low interest rate sensitivity through its underlying holdings in fixed interest to maintain a defensive position during this period of rising interest rates.

The year has begun with some volatile asset performance in response to economic disruption caused in the aftermath of Covid and exacerbated by Russia's military offensive in Ukraine. Equity markets have staged a recovery as Russia's initial objective appears to have floundered. However, recent events have highlighted a more divided world and regardless of any withdrawal by Russia wheels have been set in motion to unpick economic relationships and are unlikely to stop. This will come at a cost as goods, services and raw materials are obtained from what are considered to be more secure sources limiting potential supply. As we have noted many times before, we think asset prices trade at a premium to reasonable value based on their underlying fundamentals and therefore maintain a diversified portfolio that we expect to have moderated volatility compared to the benchmark. We look forward to deploying capital more aggressively as and when opportunity presents itself.

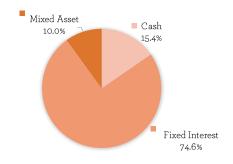
#### HOLDINGS

Name	Weight	OCF
Premier Miton UK Money Market	14.9%	0.16%
L&G All Stocks Gilt Index Trust	14.9%	0.15%
L&G All Stocks Index Linked Gilt Index Trus	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%

#### **ASSET RISK**



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



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

