INVESTMENT QUORUM

The aim of this portfolio is to provide a growth and income total return strategy by investing through collective investment schemes. The portfolio invests principally through global equities, fixed-interest securities, property, alternatives, themes and targeted absolute return strategies.

The portfolio can also hold a percentage weighting in cash deposits for both liquidity and tactical reasons.

Top Sector Allocation

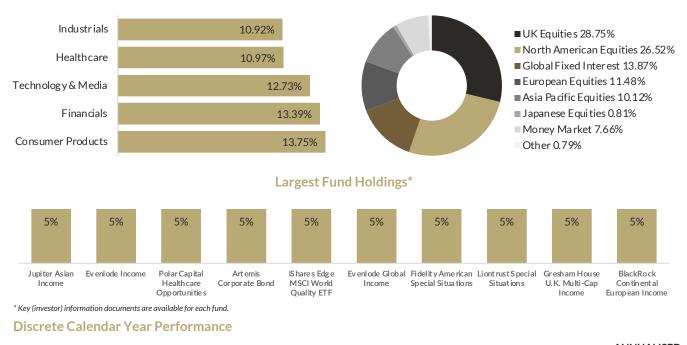
KEY INFORMATION

Currency: **GBP** Historical Yield: **2.68% p.a.** Total Fund Charges: **0.93% p.a.**

RISK & REWARD PROFILE

Asset Allocation





PERIOD	01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018	01/01/2019 to 31/12/2019	01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020	01/01/2021 to 31/12/2021	01/01/2022 to 31/12/2022	01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023	ANNUALISED RETURN (since Sep-07)
Growth & Income Strategy**	-5.45%	19.59%	5.59%	11.40%	-10.52%	6.82%	6.23%
ARC Sterling Steady Growth PCI (Benchmark)	-5.64%	15.00%	4.56%	10.24%	-10.23%	7.26%	4.48%

Cumulative Performance

PERIODS TO 31/12/2023	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	1 YEAR	3 YEARS	5 YEARS	10 YEARS	CUMULATIV E RETURN (since Sep-07)
Growth & Income Strategy**	5.93%	5.47%	6.82%	6.40%	34.37%	81.24%	167.48%
ARC Sterling Steady Growth PCI (Benchmark)	5.27%	5.02%	7.26%	6.14%	27.63%	57.34%	104.12%

** Performance figures take account of underlying fund charges but not IQ's and platform fees.

Please remember that past performance is not a guide to the future.

Strategy Commentary

Following a tricky October, global equity and fixed-income markets ended the year on a more buoyant note. US treasury yields dropped sharply as the Federal Reserve Bank's tone changed, with Chairman Jerome Powell indicating that rates would probably be cut faster than expected over the course of 2024. Equity markets reacted positively to this news: performances improved across most equity markets and down the market cap spectrum. This improvement was not limited to the Magnificent Seven US technology stocks - stocks which enjoyed a stellar year, particularly over the first three quarters. The top three performing funds through Q4 were Liontrust Global Dividend (+10.62%), Brown Advisory US Equity Growth (+9.77%) and Artemis Corporate Bond (+8.97%). Bond markets moved higher through the quarter as signs of slowing inflation in the US, the Eurozone and the UK elicited significantly more dovish comments from the central banks. This put substantial downward pressure on yields, which explains the strong performance of the Artemis portfolio. Should there be a recession in the UK, investment-grade corporates would be entering it with far stronger balance sheets than in previous downturns. Many companies have been sensible over the past few years as they refinanced, deleveraging and ensuring they had lower sensitivity to higherfor-longer rates. This, for us, partly explains why credit spreads have continued to narrow and the Artemis fund - which finished in the top quartile in its sector for the year - has performed so strongly.

The worst performing fund over the quarter was **iShares \$ High** Yield Corporate Bond ETF (+2.21%). Following a prolonged period of outperformance for the high yield bond market versus other areas of fixed income through 2022 and 2023, Q4 saw improved performance for treasuries and investmentgrade credit, even though high yield still delivered a positive return for investors. Part of the more muted performance for this ETF compared with other bond funds - such as Artemis Corporate Bond listed above - can be attributed to the dollar's weakness over the quarter. The US Dollar index dropped 4.38% over November and December. Acting as a significant headwind for an ETF investing in dollar assets, the high yield market continued to reward investors, as the US economy remained incredibly resilient throughout 2023. Although we believe defaults will increase as the lagging effect of rate rises takes its toll (companies need to refinance as their debt matures), we believe that the attractive yield on offer still more than compensates investors who are keen to gain exposure to what has been the top performing area of the US bond market over the last three years.

Powered by data from FE, data collected: 01/01/2024

This document is for information only and is not intended to constitute investment advice or promotion of this strategy. Errors & omissions excepted.

Investment Team

Peter Lowman Chief Investment Officer

Peter has served as IQ's CIO and Global Market Strategist since 2007. With over 50 years of investing



experience, he has delivered impressive returns on IQ clients' investments over the past 15 years. He oversees and manages every aspect of our investment process – from asset allocation to fund selection. His ability to navigate the intricate world of investment markets is underpinned by a blue-sky thinking approach and an ongoing commitment to innovation.

Nick Harrington Investment Analyst



Nick has been an Investment Analyst at IQ for 4 years. Nick is responsible for analysing North American and

Asian markets, evaluating investments to find the best opportunities for our clients. Nick holds the CFA UK Certificate in Investment Management and the CFA Certificate in ESG Investing.

Holly West Investment Analyst



Holly has been an Investment Analyst at IQ for 3 years. Holly is responsible for analysing UK and European markets,

evaluating investment to find the best opportunities for our clients. Holly holds the CFA UK Certificate in Investment Management and a diploma in Financial Planning.

Sophie Ajuda Investment Team Administrator

Sophie is the Investment Administrator for the team. Her daily responsibilities

include dealing, cash management, and meeting our clients' cash needs for income and withdrawals. She is committed to providing the highest level of service to our clients.

