

# Balanced

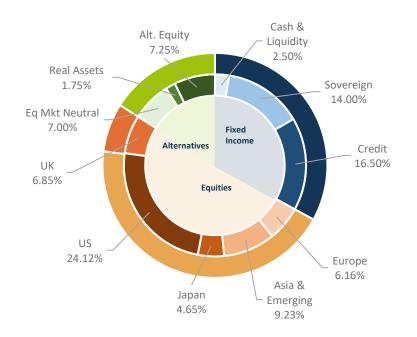
#### FUND FACTSHEET | SEPTEMBER 2023

#### Objective

To deliver capital growth in excess of the Consumer Prices Index over the recommended minimum time horizon of 7+ years.

The fund will seek to achieve its objective by investing at least 70% in collective investment vehicles, a roughly equal proportion of which will be allocated to defensive assets (such as fixed interest and cash) and growth assets (such as equities).

#### Asset Allocation



#### Recent Changes (Previous 3 months)

Ð	Purchased None.
	Increased iShares Core UK Gilts ETF.
9	Sold VT Gravis Clean Energy Income.
C	<b>Reduced</b> M&G UK Inflation Linked Corporate Bond, Tritax Eurobox, Syncona, Gresham House Energy Storage, BlackRock European Absolute Alpha, Protea Eco Advisers ESG Absolute Return & Royal London Short Duration High Yield
$\odot$	We sold our VT Gravis Clean Energy Income position and reduced our position sizes in several of our alternative assets in order to increase our position in the iShares UK Gilts ETF, to further increase our sensitivity to interest rates.

#### Holdings

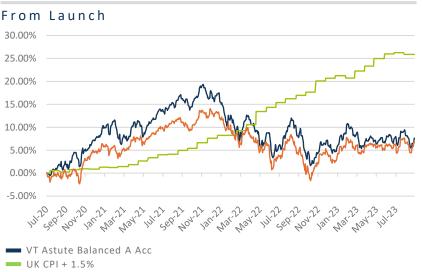
Fixe	d Income & Cash	33.0%			
Cash &	Cash				
Liquidity	Blackrock Sterling Liquid Env. Aware Fund				
	iShares USD Treasury Bond ETF				
Sovereign	iShares Core UK Gilts ETF				
	M&G UK Inflation Linked Corporate Bond				
	L&G ESG GBP Corporate Bond ETF				
	Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond				
Credit	BlueBay Financial Capital Bond				
	Robeco QI Global Multi-Factor Credit				
	Royal London Short Duration High Yield				
	Ninety One EM Blended Debt				
	Equity	51.0%			
	JPMorgan UK Equity Core	01.070			
UK Equity	ES R&M UK Recovery				
OKEquity	Abrdn UK Mid-Cap Equity				
	ES R&M European				
	LF Miton European Opportunities				
	Allianz China A-Shares				
	Polar Emerging Markets Stars				
	iShares MSCI EM SRI ETF				
	Jupiter Japan Income				
Int.	M&G Japan Smaller Companies				
Equity	Baillie Gifford American				
	SPDR <sup>®</sup> MSCI USA Small Cap Value	ETE			
	Granahan US SMID Select				
		Undrod			
	Federated Hermes US SMID Equit	y neugeu			
	L&G US Equity M&G Global Listed Infrastructure				
Thematic Equity	Regnan Sustainable Water and W	acto			
1 /	Alternatives	<b>16.0%</b>			
	Blackrock European Absolute Alph				
Eq. Mkt Neutral	Protea Eco Advisers ESG Absolute				
	Gresham House Energy Storage	neturn			
Real Assets	Tritax EuroBox				
Direct	Aberdeen Standard European Log	istics			
		131103			
Alt.	Syncona				

All data is valid to the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 and collated by Astute Investment Management. Asset allocation data reflect the underlying holdings using the latest available data from Morningstar Direct. Please note, data may not add up to 100% due to rounding. Source: Morningstar Direct.



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#### Performance



Morningstar UK Moderate Target Allocation

#### Cumulative & Discrete Performance

	1 Year	Launch	2022	2021	2020*
VT Astute Balanced	-1.45	7.64	-10.71	8.71	7.91
Benchmark	7.65	25.89	11.49	6.86	1.29
Comparator	1.26	6.70	-9.26	8.00	4.63

Performance is net of ongoing charges. \*Data from the 20th of July 2020 (Fund launch).

#### Commentary

In August, markets became more volatile as macroeconomic data and property market data in China showed signs of weakness, as well as an increase in sovereign bond yields, all of which troubled investors. This meant global stocks sold off with developed markets outperforming emerging markets. Fixed income markets failed to absorb equity losses, with global bonds also falling in August as sovereign yields rose - Yields on the 10-year US Treasury increased by 16 basis points (bps), to 4.1%. In the US, incoming economic data remained solid in August and on the inflation front, headline CPI increased slightly in July to 3.2% due to higher food and energy prices, while core CPI decelerated slightly to 4.7% from 4.8% in June. Market pricing suggests the Fed could deliver one final hike before year-end, followed by four or five rate cuts in 2024. In the UK, the Bank of England hiked its policy rate by 25bps at the start of August, bringing Bank Rate to 5.25%. The BoE highlighted its intention to hold rates at restrictive levels for some time. UK headline CPI eased in line with expectations to 6.8% in July, down from 7.9% in June. Looking forward, weakness in China will likely weigh on the global economy given its contribution; and even though inflation pressures have begun to relax, risks remain which is apparent in central banks maintaining restrictive polices for the time being.

#### **Contact Information**



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### VT Astute

## Balanced

#### ESG Rating



Fund Size	£ 242.29m			
Benchmark	CPI + 1.5%			
Comparator	Morningstar UK Moderate Target Allocation			
Manager	Astute Investment Management			
ACD	Valu Trac			
Fund Type	OEIC (UCITS)			
Launch Date	20 <sup>th</sup> July 2020			
OCF	0.86%			
Total No. Holdings	38			
Dealing Frequency	Daily			
ISIN	GB00BKWGB574			
SEDOL	BKWGB57			

#### Fund Management Team



Risks

Scott Osborne PhD CFA Chief Investment Officer



Toby Hulse DipPFS IMC **Investment Analyst** 

Investments can fall as well as rise and you may get back less than your original investment. Changes in markets, currency exchange rates or interest rates may have adverse effects on the value of your investments. Past performance is never a guide to future performance.