# VT Astute Conservative

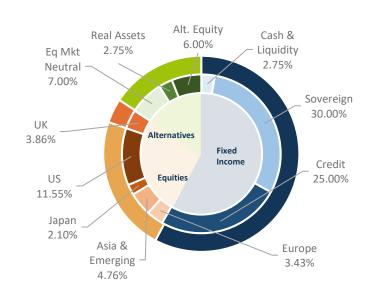
### FUND FACTSHEET | JUNE 2024

### Objective

To deliver total returns in line with the Consumer Prices Index over the recommended minimum time horizon of 5+ years.

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

### Asset Allocation



### Recent Changes (Previous 3 months)



**Purchased** iShares \$ Treasury Bond 20yr+, UK Gilt 4.375% 31/07/2054, Lazard US Small Cap Equity, iShares S&P 500 Equal Weight, Invesco S&P 500 GBP Hedged.



Increased Man GLG Dynamic Income, JPM UK Equity Core ETF, Regnan Sustainable Water and Waste.



**Sold** JPM UK Equity Core, Federated Hermes US SMID Equity, iShares Core S&P 500 GBP Hedged



Reduced Robeco Global Multi-Factor Credits, iShares Core UK Gilts, M&G Global Listed Infrastructure, L&G US Equity



Reduced Robeco to add to Man GLG Dynamic Income. Reduced iShares Core UK Gilts to add in a direct Gilt to lock in high nominal coupons. Added 20yr+Treasuries to increase duration. We switched JPM UK Equity Core into the cheaper ETF product. Sold M&G Global Listed Infrastructure to increase Regnan Water and Waste. L&G Russell 2000 US Small was sold in favour of Lazard US Small Equity. Hermes was sold in favor of S&P 500 Equal Weight. Core US exposure switches to save on costs.

### Holdings

Fixed	Income & Cash	57.75%			
Cash &	Cash				
Liquidity	Blackrock Sterling Liquid Env. Av	vare Fund			
Sovereign	iShares Core UK Gilts ETF				
	UK Gilt 4.250% 12/07/2040				
	UK Gilt 4.375% 31/07/2054				
	iShares USD Treasury Bond 20yr+ ETF				
	iShares USD Treasury Bond ETF				
Credit	M&G UK Inflation Linked Corporate Bond				
	L&G ESG GBP Corporate Bond ETF				
	Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond				
	BlueBay Financial Capital Bond				
	Nomura Corporate Hybrid Bond Fund				
	Man GLG Dynamic Income				
	Robeco QI Global Multi-Factor Credit				
	Royal London Short Duration High Yield				
	Equity	26.50%			
UK Equity	ES R&M UK Recovery Fund				
	JPMorgan UK Equity Core				
	Abrdn UK Mid-Cap Equity				
Int. Equity	ES R&M European				
	LF Miton European Opportunities				
	Comgest Growth Europe Ex. UK				
	iShares MSCI EM SRI ETF				
	Polar Emerging Markets Stars				
	Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity				
	Jupiter Japan Income				
	Invesco S&P 500 ETF GBP Hedged				
	iShares S&P 500 Equal Weight ETF				
	Lazard US Small Cap Equity				
	L&G US Equity				
Thematic Equity	M&G Global Listed Infrastructure	е			
	Regnan Sustainable Water and V	Vaste			
Α	lternatives	15.75%			
Eq. Mkt Neutral	Blackrock European Absolute Al	oha			
	Gresham House Energy Storage				
Real	LondonMetric Property PLC				
Assets Direct	Starwood European Real Estate Finance				
	Tritax EuroBox				
	Aberdeen Standard European Logistics				
Alt. Equity	Structured Products				



## VT Astute Conservative

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VT Astute Conservative A Acc

UK CPI

Morningstar UK Moderately Cautious Target Allocation

### Cumulative & Discrete Performance

	1 Year	Launch	2023	2022	2021	2020*
VT Astute Conservative	6.13	9.47	6.42	-7.21	5.74	4.06
Benchmark	1.65	22.90	3.99	10.53	5.39	0.53
Comparator	7.67	4.20	7.73	-11.07	3.70	3.05

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

### Commentary

Yields rallied towards the end of May as the prospect of US rate cuts was extensively talked down by policymakers. Forthcoming economic data releases could alter this "higher for longer" narrative if consumer activity slows or inflation continues to soften as we expect but for now, the economy seems to be in robust shape with no obvious signs of an impending recession. Trump's conviction in his New York trial generated many headlines, but whether it has a material impact on his election campaign remains to be seen. In Europe, recent inflation data came in slightly hotter than expected, raising significant doubts over any subsequent rate cuts given inflation remains well above the 2% inflation target, despite the commitment from the ECB to cut at their June meeting. In the UK, electioneering began after Sunak called for a snap election despite recent polling results. Both parties seem to be leaning towards soft fiscal policies with the Conservatives promising tax cuts, while Labour plans to increase spending. However, current fiscal constraints may limit these promises, posing ongoing risks of a repeat of the mini banking crisis in 2022. As we push into the second half of the year, the elections and policies from the Government and Central Banks will likely continue to heavily influence markets, with geopolitics adding an element of tail risk concerns despite the small probability.

### ESG Rating



### **Fund Details**

Fund Size £98.19m Benchmark CPI

Comparator Morningstar UK Moderately
Cautious Target Allocation
Manager Astute Investment Management

ACD Valu Trac
Fund Type OEIC (UCITS)
Launch Date 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020
OCF 0.76%
Total No. Holdings 40
Dealing Frequency Daily

ISIN GB00BKWGB467
SEDOL BKWGB46

### Fund Management Team



**Scott Osborne** PhD CFA Chief Investment Officer



**Nathan Chan** CFA Senior Investment Analyst

### Risks

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.

### **Contact Information**



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