
OMNIS MANAGED
PORTFOLIO SERVICE



Toni Meadows,
Chief Investment Officer

Omnis Managed Portfolio Service

quarterly update for Cautious investors

Objective

The Service is designed for a cautious investor. This is someone with limited experience of investment products, who is likely to be more familiar with bank and building society accounts rather than other types of investments. In general terms, they will understand that investment products should be held for a minimum period of five years. They will have a preference for outcomes that have a degree of certainty although they will understand that in certain circumstances their investments could fall or rise.

The Service aims to improve total returns and actively manage short-term risks through increasing or decreasing the allocations to asset classes and individual funds. These allocations are determined by the Omnis Investment Team, which benefits from full transparency of the funds' underlying investments, and is controlled through a strict governance framework.

Market update

Plenty has happened since the Omnis Managed Portfolio Service portfolios launched in late April. In the US, the Trump administration remains largely unpredictable and, thus far, incapable of enacting meaningful policy change, while in the UK, Brexit continues to cast a long shadow of uncertainty over the economic and political outlook.

In Europe, the enthusiasm that greeted the election of reform-minded Emmanuel Macron has dissipated as his approval ratings have nosedived. And, across the developed world, central bankers have first talked up the need for tighter monetary policy before seeking to sooth the consequent concerns.

Yet, despite such turmoil, global equity markets have largely made serene progress with volatility – which can be viewed as a measure of perceived risk – at all-time lows. While certain aspects of this tranquillity appear unsettling, there are good reasons to support it. Hopes for large fiscal stimulus from the new government in the US have faded somewhat, but economic fundamentals remain robust and corporate earnings growth continues at a healthy pace.

Meanwhile, inflation does not seem likely to accelerate as low levels of headline unemployment in many developed markets hides under-employment and a lack of pricing power for labour. An improving economic growth outlook is positive for equities, while the absence of inflationary expectations is relatively benign for bonds.

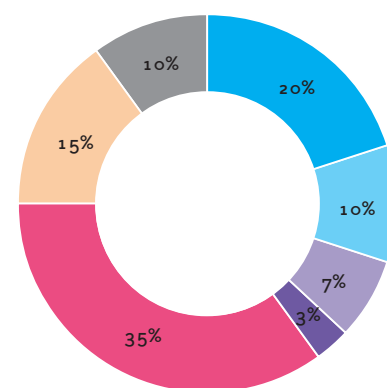
While a rapid acceleration of global growth appears unlikely, growth should nonetheless remain solid. Interest rates may rise – in the US at least – but not to the extent that the growth outlook is derailed.

The key risks to this outlook are political, though the populist surge that saw the UK vote for Brexit and Trump's victory in the US, may well have been halted with Macron's victory. Though his popularity in France has since waned, his election has nonetheless created a more secure outlook for the European Union and it seems unlikely that upcoming elections in Germany will challenge this.

The UK election result has led markets to increase the probability that the final Brexit settlement will be business friendly and may not include an end to freedom of movement. Whether this is the case remains to be seen, but a strong alliance between Germany and France and a fragile government here will result in a weakened hand for the UK in negotiations.

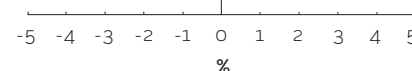
Strategic Asset Allocation

UK Equity	20%
US Equity	10%
Asia Pacific Equity	7%
European Equity	3%
Omnis Emerging Markets Equity	0%
Omnis UK Bonds	35%
Omnis Global Bonds	15%
Omnis Alternative Strategies	10%
Cash	0%



What is our latest position?

UK Equity	-1%
US Equity	-2%
Asia Pacific Equity	0%
European Equity	+2%
Emerging Markets Equity	+2%
UK Bonds	-5%
Global Bonds	+5%
Alternative Strategies	-5%
Cash	+4%



During June, we decided to rebalance the portfolio to maintain our desired asset allocation.

This resulted in taking some of the profits gained from funds that had performed the best since the launch of the portfolio, namely the Omnis UK Equity, Income & Growth, US Equity, European Equity, Asia Pacific Equity, Emerging Markets, and Global Bonds funds.

The residual cash enabled us to buy additional units in the Omnis UK Bond and Alternative Strategies funds to ensure their percentage holding was in line with our view.

The global economy has, for the most part, been in a recovery phase for the past seven years, and various indicators point to a continuation of this. As a result, the portfolio is marginally overweight equities, which stand to benefit from the solid economic growth outlook.

We favour equities in Europe, where the recovery is only just beginning to gather pace, and the emerging markets, where valuations are appealing. Conversely, the portfolio is underweight UK equities as economic growth appears to be fading due to the burden of imported inflation after the fall in sterling.

Our US equities allocation is invested in the Omnis US Equity fund. At the end of the quarter, the investment management mandate for this fund was changed, with Omnis replacing The Boston Company (part of BNY Mellon Group) for Jeff Rottinghaus of T Rowe Price, who we believe will provide consistent returns whatever the market conditions. Your holding in the Omnis US Equity fund remains unchanged.

We have been wary of the potential for the dollar to weaken. While US equities have remained at elevated levels, we have benefited from our view on the currency. Allocations to bonds are neutral as we think that yields are likely to remain in a range.

Furthermore, it is still likely that bonds will act as a risk diversifier should we encounter a period of equity market volatility. Within our bond allocations, we are underweight UK bonds in favour of international bonds which can benefit from volatility in currency markets. The latter have held up better in recent market moves and this has helped performance.

Ongoing Charges Figure

The OCF provides a measure of the combined cost of investing in each of the individual Omnis funds that make up the portfolio but excludes the portfolio service charge of 0.25% (0.30% including VAT). The combined OCF is subject to change in line with the underlying composition of the portfolio.

0.68%

Who is managing your money?

	Omnis Income and Growth Fund managed by Woodford Investment Management	11%
	Omnis UK Equity Fund managed by Schroder Investment Management	8%
	Omnis US Equity Fund managed by T Rowe Price	8%
	Omnis Asia Pacific Equity Fund managed by Baillie Gifford & Co	7%
	Omnis European Equity Fund managed by Jupiter Asset Management	5%
	Omnis Emerging Markets Equity Fund managed by Jupiter Asset Management	2%
	Omnis UK Bond Fund managed by Columbia Threadneedle Investments	30%
	Omnis Global Bond Fund managed by Schroder Investment Management	20%
	Omnis Alternative Strategies managed by Octopus	5%
	Cash	4%

As well as reflecting our economic and market views, portfolio weightings must consider the styles, biases and strategies of the Omnis funds in which we invest. In general, economic and market factors are likely to have greater influence on portfolio performance than fund-specific factors, and this is mostly the case at present.

Nonetheless, some fund-specific opportunities have presented themselves. In the UK equity allocation, we favour the Omnis Income & Growth fund over the Omnis UK Equity fund, to gain exposure to domestically focused businesses rather than the large international companies in which the Omnis UK Equity fund is predominantly invested.

Elsewhere, our confidence in the valuation case for emerging market equities is reinforced by the strong stock selection discipline implemented by the fund manager. This decision has also added value in the first months of the service. Meanwhile, the European equities fund has outperformed the index in a rising market and so has justified our decision to be overweight.

The value of investments and any income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the original amount invested. Past performance is not a guide to future performance and should not be relied upon. Always seek professional advice before acting.

The Omnis Managed Portfolio Service is provided by Openwork Wealth Services Limited (OWSL), a member of the Openwork group of companies. Openwork Wealth Services Limited is registered in England and Wales under registration number 10266077.

The Omnis Managed Investments ICVC and the Omnis Portfolio Investments ICVC are authorised Investment Companies with Variable Capital. The authorised corporate director of the Omnis Managed Investments ICVC and the Omnis Portfolio Investments ICVC is Omnis Investments Limited, registered in England and Wales under registration number 06582314. Omnis Investments Limited does not offer investment advice nor make recommendations regarding investments. Potential investors are particularly advised to read the specific risks and charges applicable to the Funds which are contained in the Prospectus and Key Investor Information Documents (KIIDs).

Openwork Wealth Services Limited and Omnis Investments Limited are both authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, 25 North Colonnade, London E14 5HS and the Registered Office for both companies is: Washington House, Lydiard Fields, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN5 8UB.