Alpha Beta PARTNERS

Alpha Beta Portfolios
AB Sustainable Balanced

as at 31 Jan 2022

Investment Objectives

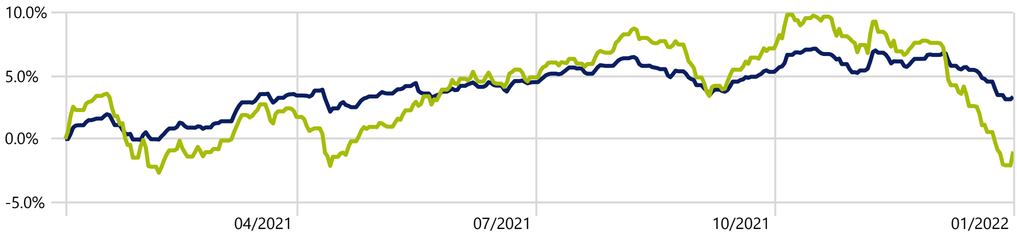
Our objective is to outperform RPI UK + 1% over the medium to long term, keeping within the prescribed volatility limits whilst investing in low cost ETFs or Index funds, physically invested and with a low tracking error.

To achieve the investment objective we deploy quantitative and qualitative techniques and extensive research that shape our macro economic views.

The AB Sustainable Balanced Portfolio invests a minimum core of 80% in funds that are sustainable and contribute positively to either the environment or society, and that provide solutions to global issues. The sustainable models are aligned to the core model's risk first asset allocation, utilising passive instruments, whilst remaining a cost-effective solution to responsible investing.

Investment Growth

Time Period: 01/02/2021 to 31/01/2022



AB Sustainable Balanced -1.0% IA Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares 3.3%

Snapshot

Base Currency	Pound Sterling
12 Mo Yield	1.44%
Ongoing Charge	0.55%
Management Fee (VAT where applicable)	0.25%
Portfolio Cost	0.80%

Trailing Returns

	3 Months	6 Months	YTD	1 Year
AB Sustainable Balanced	-7.62	-5.60	-8.00	-0.99
IA Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares	-1.87	-1.11	-3.11	3.34

The Portfolio launched on 1 March 2021. Performance data prior to this date is for illustration purposes only and is back tested performance using the asset allocation of the Portfolio at launch. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns.

Benchmark

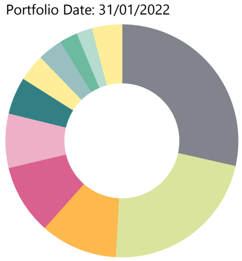
Comparator Benchmark	IA Mixed Investment 20-60%

Risk

	Std Dev	Sharpe Ratio
AB Sustainable Balanced	10.37	-0.33
IA Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares	4.84	0.19

Asset Allocation

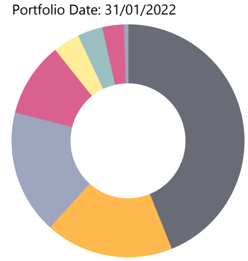
Portfolio Date: 31/01/2022



	%
Sterling Fixed Income	28.5
Global Equity Large Cap	22.4
UK Equity Large Cap	10.7
US Equity Large Cap Growth	9.7
Japan Equity	7.5
Infrastructure Sector Equity	5.2
Unclassified	3.8
Real Estate Sector Equity	3.5
Global Fixed Income	2.5
Asia Equity	2.2
Other	4.1
Total	**100.0**

Equity Regional Exposure

Portfolio Date: 31/01/2022



	%
North America	43.9
United Kingdom	17.8
Japan	17.2
Europe dev	10.3
Asia dev	3.7
Asia emrg	3.5
Australasia	3.0
Latin America	0.5
Europe emrg	0.0
Africa/Middle East	0.0

Top 10 Holdings

Portfolio Date: 31/01/2022

	Portfolio Weighting %
Baillie Gifford Global Stewardship B Acc	14.37%
Brown Advisory US Sust Gr GBP B Acc	9.71%
EdenTree Responsible & Sust Stlg B	8.06%
Rathbone Ethical Bond I Acc	8.04%
Stewart Inv Wldwd Sustnby B GBP Acc	8.00%
Vanguard Jpn Stk Idx £ Acc	7.53%
RLBF II Royal London Ethical Bond M Acc	7.44%
BMO Responsible UK Equity 2 Acc	6.61%
FP Foresight Global Rl Infras A GBP Acc	5.16%
Royal London Short Duration Gilts M Inc	5.00%
	79.92%

Manager's Commentary

The start of this year did bring some risk with it. From inflation to geopolitical risks, the US stock market was gripped with fear for a short period in January, with the major indices registering double digit declines from their all-time highs recorded in Q4 2021, before staging a partial recovery into month end.

The downward spiral started with the release of FOMC minutes on January 5th which added to the already hawkish tones emanating from Fed Chairman Powell following the FOMC meeting. The Fed, in their communications, have made "price stability" their only concern at this point. With the labour market running hot and labour market participation rate low, the Fed's primary concern is inflation getting entrenched in the pricing cycle. However, we also note that despite inflation sitting at elevated levels and likely to go higher, particularly at home in UK, we are beginning to observe indications of some pressures starting to ease. With US 5 and 10-year breakeven inflation indicators sitting around 2.8%, the market certainly expects a moderation in inflation looking further ahead. Indeed, we expect supply chain bottlenecks to ease significantly as we progress through the year, and base effects are likely to bring down the headline inflation figures beginning in quarter two this year.

The Fed Chair J Powell also clarified their position on the Quantitative Tightening and that the preferred route is to let the debt run to maturity. The Fed's hawkish tone took the stock market by surprise and that led to a quick re-rating growth stocks. The market also envisages some risk of monetary policy tightening into a slowing economy. The key now is the growth numbers for the rest of the year.

In the so-called emerging world, the People's Bank of China have now cut rates twice in consecutive months after GDP contracted sharply following the further lockdowns and hit to the property sector. We expect an upward rebound in growth and equity valuations as the economy reopens and a reopening China will also help to pull back inflationary pressure in the West. In Europe, Germany has also seen recession looming and with inflation pushing above 5% across the EU the ECB has had to adopt a slightly more cautious tone too, although it's more likely that liquidity will be tapered back first and rate rises are still likely someway off. The UK market has performed well, aided by better prospects for banks and mining stocks benefitting from commodity inflation globally.

The Technology, Healthcare and Clean Energy sectors were hit hard during the month. All three registering a double digit drop. The UK, European and Chinese equities fared relatively better than their US counterparts. Portfolios have been buffered by January volatility which is now ebbing away.

At a portfolio level, the Sustainable Balanced model has benefited from its sustainable Real Estate exposure, with its largest contributor being the FP Foresight Sustainable Real Estate Securities fund. This fund invests in global real estate which meets the fund's sustainable investment criteria. It only invests in companies that deliver a net social or environmental benefit, meet the principles of the UN Global Compact and meet at least one of four pre-defined UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Investment Team

Investment Managers	Alpha Beta SRI Investment Team

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Source: Morningstar Direct