

September 2023

VT PEF Global Multi-Asset Fund (VT PEF GMAF)

Key Facts

Fund launch date:	25/09/17
Fund type:	UCITS
Fund managers:	Andrew Craig & Roderick Collins
Fund size	£9.4m
IA sector:	IA Flexible Investment
Base currency:	GBP
Valuation point: (Daily dealing)	12:00 midday London time
Accounting dates:	Final – 31/12 Interim – 30/06
UCITS:	Yes
SIPP & ISA eligible:	Yes
7-day Fund liquidity:	100%
Minimum Investment:	A Class – £100

Performance Analysis Since 25/09/17

Annualised rate of return	-0.3%
Best month	3.6% (Jun '19)
Worst month	-3.2% (Feb '20)
Average month	-0.02%
% Positive months	51%

Monthly Performance (% return)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2017	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.5*	1.6	-0.8	0.4	0.7
2018	1.2	-1.5	-1.9	0.4	0.1	-0.7	0.2	-0.4	-0.5	-1.8	-0.4	-1.3	-6.4
2019	0.9	-1.1	1.2	0.8	0.2	3.6	3.0	-1.3	-0.2	-2.2	0.2	-0.6	4.4
2020	-1.3	-3.2	-1.9	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.4	0.3	-1.1	3.1	1.3	-1.2
2021	-1.0	-0.6	1.3	2.2	0.5	1.7	-0.3	1.5	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	0.9	5.2
2022	-1.7	-0.2	1.6	0.5	-1.0	-1.5	0.6	0.2	-1.4	-0.1	0.5	-0.2	-2.9
2023	0.9	-2.0	1.0	0.1	-0.9	-0.6	0.2	-0.7	0.8				-1.2

*September 2017 was only a partial month, as the fund was launched on the 25th September 2017. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Source: Valu-Trac Investment Management Limited

Notes

- (1) A class accumulation shares, net of fees priced at midday UK time, net dividends reinvested. Source: Valu-Trac Investment Management Ltd.
- (2) MSCI World Index in Sterling, net dividends reinvested, priced at close of business US time, source: MSCI Inc. The MSCI World Index is a generic portfolio of global equities across all sectors and, as such, is a fair comparison given the Fund is also global and sector agnostic.
- (3) iBoxx GBP Gilts Index, source: Refinitiv.
- (4) UK Pound Sterling Overnight Index SONIA, source: Refinitiv.
- (5) A (retail) class AMC 0.9% / I (institutional) class AMC 0.7%. (I-class for sums over £1m or at manager's discretion).
- (6) This figure will reduce if the fund increases in size: £30,000 of fixed costs over £10m = 0.30% but only 0.03% over £100m, for example.
- (7) The fund normally only buys and sells positions once a month to keep trading costs as low as possible.

The investment objective of the Fund is to provide capital growth over the medium to long term. The Fund will aim to meet its objectives by employing two primary investment techniques:

1. True diversification which may include exposure to equities, fixed income, commodities, real estate and infrastructure in different jurisdictions throughout the world, primarily using Exchange Traded Funds.
2. Formula-based trend following.

Performance (% return)

	Sept 2023	2023 YTD	*Since incep.	Q4/21 - Q3/22	Q4/20 - Q3/21	Q4/19 - Q3/20	Q4/18 - Q3/19	Q4/17 - Q3/18
VT PEF GMAF ⁽¹⁾	0.8	-1.2	-1.8	-2.8	8.4	-6.8	3.4	-1.8
Global Equities ⁽²⁾	-0.7	9.5	75.6	-2.9	23.5	5.2	7.8	14.4
UK Bonds ⁽³⁾	-1.0	-4.5	-18.9	-24.8	-7.1	3.7	14.2	0.6
Cash ⁽⁴⁾	0.3	2.3	4.4	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.6

Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. *Date of inception of the fund was 25/09/17 and the initial investment in the fund was made on this date.

Charges

Entry & exit charges:	0.00%
Performance charges:	0.00%
Annual Management Charge (AMC):	0.9/0.7% ⁽⁵⁾
Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF):	1.24/1.04% ⁽⁶⁾
Estimated trading costs:	0.012% ⁽⁷⁾

Codes

ISIN:	GB00BDZZSM84
SEDOL:	BDZZSM8
MEXID:	WLJKH
CITICODE:	O42K
Bloomberg Ticker:	VTGMAAG
Lipper:	LP68439582

Monthly Commentary (September 2023)

During September 2023 the GMAF increased by 0.8% while global equities fell 0.7% and UK bonds were down 1.0%. Our monthly signals saw us sell out of UK and emerging equities, emerging market bonds and global infrastructure, and buy back into our commodities basket for the first time since last year. This left the fund around 20% invested with the rest in cash or equivalents.

A central feature of 2023 has been a sell-off in global bond markets. At the end of September, 10 year US Treasury yields had risen to 4.6%. The UK experience has been similar. (As a reminder – rising bond yields imply falling bond prices). Interestingly the yield curve (i.e. bond yields for different maturities) is flat. The US federal funds rate is at 5.33% and the thirty year bond yield is around 5%. The US restrictive monetary policy (of high interest rates) has been designed to curb inflation which has now dropped to 3.7 percent year on year, but while the Federal Reserve Board is in command of short term interest rates it cannot control the (longer

Buy Position Trades

+ Alternatives / Commodities (Basket)

duration) bond market, which is described as being in the hands of “bond vigilantes” (“the market”).

Bond market participants are reacting to the fiscal profligacy which has carried government debts close to or even beyond 100% of GDP in many economies. The unwinding of post financial crisis and pandemic quantitative easing is increasing the supply of bonds into the market overall - weighing on prices. Investors may also fear that ballooning budget deficits can only be financed by yet more inflationary money printing. A combination of fiscal laxity and monetary austerity has provoked this fixed income sell-off, a situation which is challenging for financial markets overall.

Against this backdrop and with US equities still not too far off all-time highs fuelled by the “magnificent 7” stocks and the AI theme in particular, it is perhaps comforting that the fund is so defensively positioned for the time being and able to earn higher interest rates on our cash balances too in the meantime as we highlighted last month.

Sell Position Trades

- Equity / Developed Large (UK)
- Equity / Emerging Large (EM World I)
- Equity / Emerging Large (EM World II)
- Fixed Income / Emerging (EM Gov \$)
- Alternatives / Infrastructure (Global)

Platform Availability

Aegon	Ascentric	FNZ	Hargreaves Lansdown	Pershing	Transact
AJ Bell	Aviva	Fusion	Novia Financial	Standard Life - Elevate	
Alliance Trust	Embark	Interactive Investor	Nucleus	Standard Life - Wrap	

Key Risks

- Counterparty risk: The Fund can conclude various transactions with contractual partners. If a contractual partner becomes insolvent, it can no longer or can only partly settle unpaid debts owed to the Fund.
a wide selection of Exchange Traded Funds which themselves own many hundreds of underlying assets.
 - Market Risk: External factors can cause an entire asset class to decline in value which would result in a decrease in the value of investments. The Fund aims to mitigate this risk by investing in all major asset classes in many geographic regions and owning assets which are often negatively correlated.
 - Concentration Risk: The Fund seeks to minimise concentration risk by owning
a wide selection of Exchange Traded Funds which themselves own many hundreds of underlying assets.
 - Liquidity Risk: adverse market conditions may affect the ability to sell certain assets when necessary. The Fund invests nearly exclusively in large, liquid ETFs so liquidity risk should be significantly lower than in a more conventional actively managed fund investing in single assets.
- For full details of the Fund's risks, please see the [prospectus](#) which may be obtained from the Fund's [website](#).

Links and further reading

[Application Form](#)

[Prospectus](#)

[Fund Overview](#)

[KIID](#)

Important Information

Plain English Finance Limited has used all reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this communication at the date of publication. An English language Prospectus for the VT PEF Global Multi-Asset Fund (the “Fund”) and the Fund's Key Investor Information Document is available on request and via <https://www.plainenglishfinance.co.uk/funds>. Investors should read the Prospectus in conjunction with the Key Investor Information Document and the relevant application form before purchasing shares in the Fund.

Full details of each of the risks and aims for the fund can be found in the Prospectus and the Key Investor Information Document. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. The value of investments and any income from them may fall as well as rise, and the return may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations. You may not get back the amount of your original investment. Plain English Finance Ltd. does not make any recommendations regarding the suitability of this product for you and the information provided should not be considered as investment or other advice or a recommendation to buy, sell or hold a particular investment. If you are in any doubt about the information in this brochure or our website please consult your financial or other professional adviser.

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