For financial advisers only

WS Aegon Risk-Managed funds-quarterly investment report

Quarter four 2025

Contents

The information contained in this report is correct as at 31 December 2025. It shouldn't be taken as a recommendation or advice. This communication is for financial advisers only. It mustn't be distributed to or relied on by customers or any other persons.

There's no guarantee that fund objectives will be met. The value of an investment may go down as well as up and investors may get back less than they invest.

Five year anniversary of the WS Aegon Risk-Managed funds

Lorna Blyth, Managing Director, Investment Proposition

We're proud to mark the five-year anniversary of our Risk-Managed Portfolios and the strong performance they've delivered for nearly 17,000 investors. From a global pandemic and inflationary shocks to shifting monetary policy, the portfolios have shown resilience and adaptability. That performance is a testament to the strength of our investment process and the expertise of our Portfolio Management team.

As Aegon's flagship multi-asset proposition, we're excited about what lies ahead and we remain committed to supporting advisers in helping clients achieve their long-term financial goals.

Anthony McDonald, Head of Portfolio Management

Since the launch of the Aegon Risk-Managed Portfolios in July 2020, financial markets have experienced an extraordinary period of disruption and transformation. From a global pandemic and surging inflation to widespread US tariffs and geopolitical tensions, the landscape has been anything but stable.

Throughout this time, we've worked hard to steer the portfolios through these complex and uncertain conditions, while remaining true to our long-term, valuation-based investment philosophy.

As we mark this milestone, it's a timely opportunity to reflect on the key factors that have influenced performance across the Risk-Managed Portfolios.

Over the five years to the end of July 2025, the funds have delivered similar performance to their benchmarks, while demonstrating resilience during the most significant market downturns. The team's philosophy of focusing on reducing exposure to overvalued assets has helped limit losses when inflated valuations corrected.

About the Risk-Managed funds

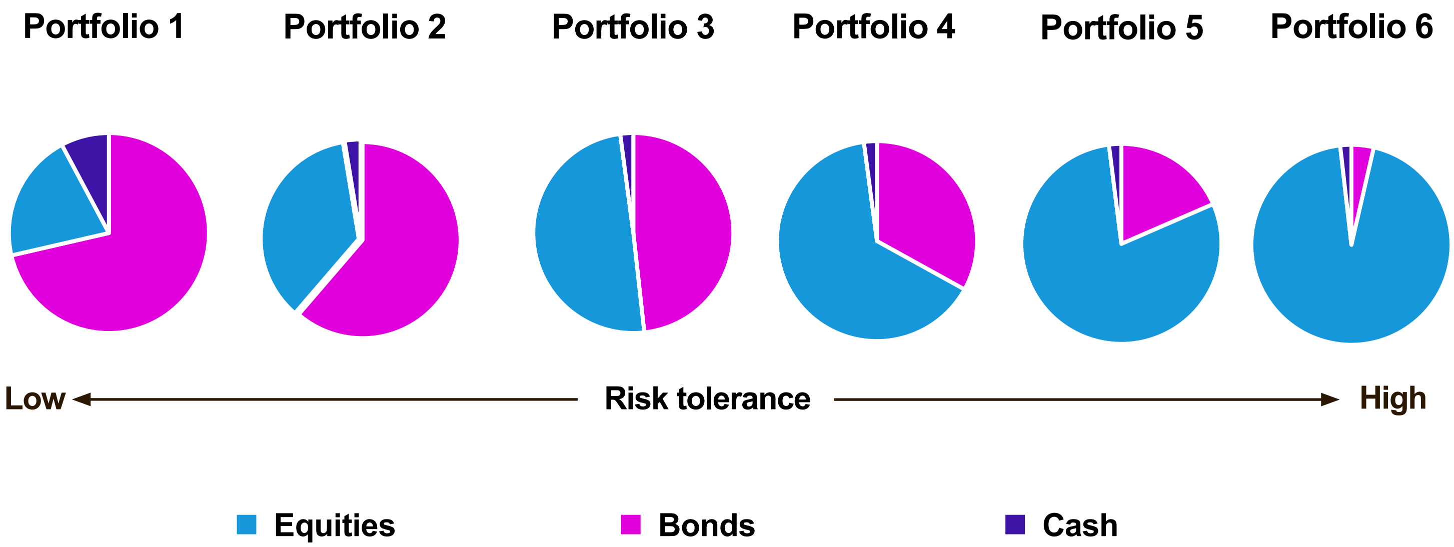
The funds in more detail – Risk-Managed Portfolios

There are six funds in the Risk-Managed Portfolio range. Each one targets a different level of risk, with the names of each fund corresponding to their relative risk level.

The funds in the range are designed to be straightforward, highly diversified, all-in-one investments, designed to address different risk/return tolerances and desired outcomes.

The portfolios all aim to achieve capital growth (an increase in value of the fund) after all costs and charges have been taken, over any 5-year period whilst aiming to keep within their stated investment risk levels (on a scale of 1-6, where 1 is the lowest and 6 is the highest). There's no guarantee that the objective or risk level will be met. The value of investments may go down as well as up and investors may get back less than they invest.

The Risk-Managed Portfolios risk levels of 1 - 6 shouldn't be compared to other Aegon fund ranges or risk scales, or those of other providers, which may measure risk in different ways.



The asset allocations shown for each fund cover quarter four 2025 and are illustrative only.

Risk mapping

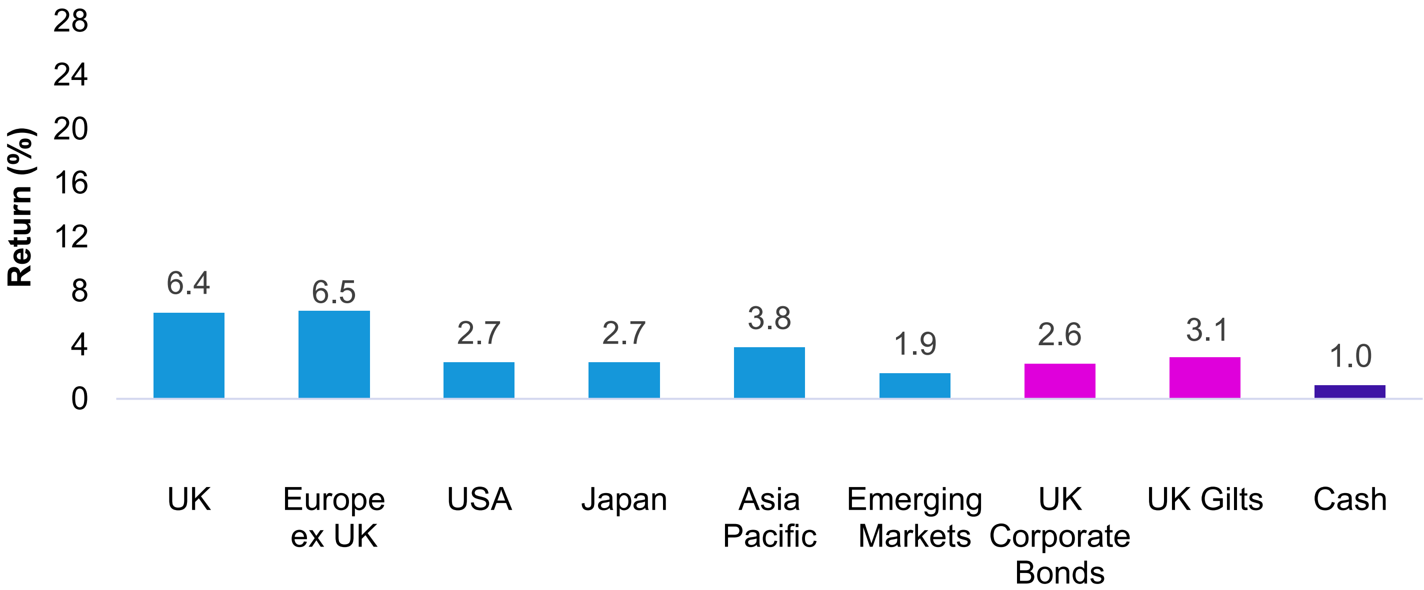
We've worked with a number of profiling providers to map the Risk-Managed Portfolios to their risk rating scales. [This tool outlines the risk ratings that have been assigned to each fund by their relevant model](#).

Risk ratings are intended as a guide and should not form the sole basis for advice to invest in a portfolio.

Market Review – quarter four 2025

Most global equity markets rose over the fourth quarter of 2025. **European** equities led performance as business surveys indicated an improving economic backdrop, closely followed by **UK** equities, completing a year of double-digit gains for UK investors. **Asia Pacific** equities were positive, supported by gains in the tech-heavy markets of South Korea and Taiwan. **US** equities and **Japanese** equities were positive but underperformed during a period of political uncertainty for both regions. **Emerging Markets** equities had a positive return over Q4 but did not keep up with other regions, in part due to underperformance from China.

Fixed Income was positive over the quarter. **UK government bonds** (gilts) performed well over the period against a backdrop of rising unemployment and falling interest rates. **UK corporate bonds** were also positive, reflecting gains made from riskier assets. **Cash** returns were positive.



Investment Index

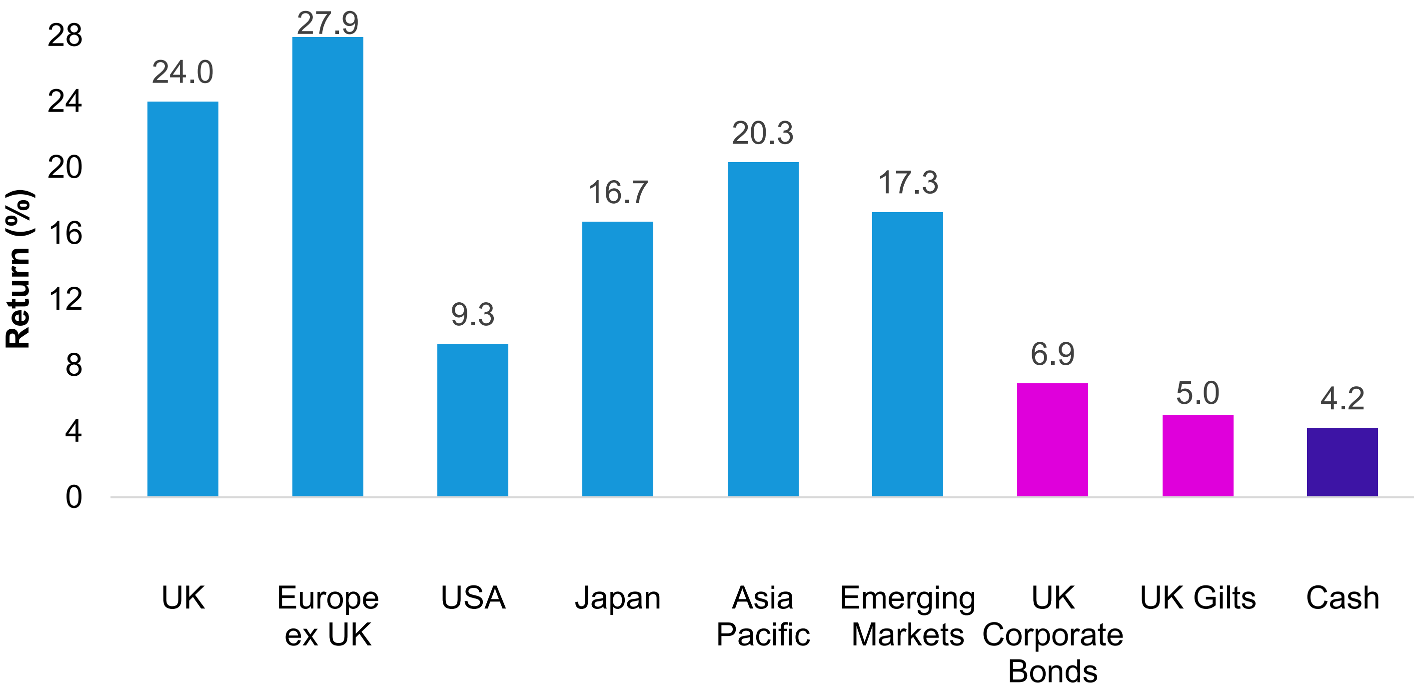
- UK equities - FTSE All Share TR in GBP
- Europe ex UK equities - FTSE World Europe ex UK GTR in GBP
- US equities - S&P 500 TR in GBP
- Japanese equities - TSE TOPIX TR in GBP
- Asia Pacific equities - FTSE Asia Pacific ex Japan GTR in GBP
- Emerging Markets equities - FTSE Emerging GTR in GBP
- UK Corporate Bonds - IBOXX UK Sterling Non-Gilts All Maturities TR in GBP
- UK Gilts - FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks TR in GBP
- Cash - SONIA

Source: FE fundinfo, produced by Aegon. Charts compiled using total return indices to 31 December 2025. Figures in sterling so include the effect of currency fluctuations. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance.

Major market performance over 12 months

All major equity regions posted strong returns over the year in sterling terms, though performance was uneven. Artificial Intelligence (AI) optimism was a theme throughout the year, particularly in China, where companies benefiting from AI performed strongly. This cast doubt about whether US technology firms could maintain their leadership in the sector. **European** equities led performance, followed by **UK** equities as investors sought to diversify their exposure beyond the **US** amid the announcement of new tariff measures. **Asia Pacific, Emerging Markets** and **Japan** regions performed positively despite anxiety surrounding US trade policy since April.

Fixed Income continued to deliver positive returns over the period, with **UK corporate bonds** performing positively, in keeping with gains made from riskier assets. **Government bonds** were lower in the UK and globally, though still had a positive performance over the year. **Cash** performed positively over the period.



Investment Index

- UK equities - FTSE All Share TR in GBP
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- Japanese equities - TSE TOPIX TR in GBP
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- Emerging Markets equities - FTSE Emerging GTR in GBP
- UK Corporate Bonds - IBOXX UK Sterling Non-Gilts All Maturities TR in GBP
- UK Gilts - FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts All Stocks TR in GBP
- Cash - SONIA

Source: FE fundinfo, produced by Aegon. Charts compiled using total return indices to 31 December 2025. Figures in sterling so include the effect of currency fluctuations. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance.

Key events in the major markets over quarter four

In the **UK**, data released over the quarter showed UK economic growth had slowed to 0.1% over Q3 2025, compared to the previous quarter of 0.2% growth. Consumer price inflation (CPI) fell to 3.2% in the 12 months to November, from 3.6% in the previous month. The unemployment rate increased to 5.1% in the three months to October, following a four-year high in the previous quarter. The Bank of England (BoE) met twice over Q4 in November and December, voting to reduce interest rates from 4% to 3.75% in December.

In the **US**, data was released showing that the economy grew at an annual rate of 4.3% over the period, the strongest performance for the region since Q3 2023. The preferred measure of inflation for the Federal Reserve (the central bank), the Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) Index, fell to 2.8% in September according to data released in Q4, above the Federal Reserve target of 2%. Unemployment rose to 4.6% in November, marking a four-year high. The quarter was dominated by the US government shutdown from 1 October to 12 November, the first in nearly seven years and the longest ever in the country's history.

In **Europe**, data released over the period showed the economy had grown by 0.3% over Q3 2025, an increase on the previous quarter. Inflation in the Euro area held at 2.1% in November, the same figure as data released in October. The European Central Bank (ECB) met twice during the quarter in October and December but didn't announce any interest rate cuts, with the last cut taking place in June 2025. Germany, Europe's largest economy, reported no growth over the period.

In **Japan,** the release of Q3 2025 data over the period showed growth had increased to an annualised rate of 1.1%. The Bank of Japan opted to raise interest rates to 0.75% in December to increase the prospect of achieving their 2% inflation target. Inflation eased to 2.9% for the 12 months to November. The governing LDP coalition elected Sanae Takaichi as their leader making her Japan's first female prime minister.

The **Asia Pacific** region had a positive quarter with South Korea as strongest performing market, partly driven by corporate governance reforms introduced by President Lee and the global AI rally. AI also benefited the Taiwanese market, with the region ending on a record high. The Australian market had a negative quarter amid concerns that the central bank may need to raise interest rates following an increase in inflation.

In **Emerging Markets,** Poland was one of the top performing markets as their economy continued to grow and inflation declined. India had a strong quarter and a strong year, overtaking Japan to become the fourth largest economy in the world. China was down over the quarter with rising fears about the state of the economy following slowing factory and services output, falling fixed investment and weakening retail sales.

In **Fixed Income**, government bond yields varied slightly in the UK and the US, with UK yields falling as the unemployment rate increased and the Autumn Budget was well received by the markets. In contrast, US yields ended the quarter broadly unchanged from their starting levels. Falling gilt yields supported a strong performance in UK government bonds, and high-yield corporate bonds outperformed investment-grade credit, benefitting from improved risk sentiment. When bond yields rise, prices tend to fall and vice versa.

Source: Aegon UK Portfolio Management team, January 2026

Fund range asset allocation

Our investment positioning relative to benchmark

Below is a highlight of our relative investment positioning across global equities, bonds and cash, as of 31 December 2025.

The positioning of the funds is relative to their benchmarks. For each fund, the indices in the composite benchmark have been selected because they are representative of the types of assets each fund can invest in.

The benchmark weightings have been selected, taking into account the target-risk level of each fund and indicate the typical level of exposure needed to achieve that.

Overall positioning

Asset class	Large underweight	Underweight	Neutral	Overweight	Large overweight
Global Equity Overall			✓		
UK				✓	
US		✓			
Europe ex UK			✓		
Japan				✓	
Emerging markets			✓		
Asia Pacific ex Japan			✓		
Bonds Overall			✓		
UK government bonds				✓	
UK investment grade bonds		✓			
Overseas bonds		✓			
Cash Overall			✓		

Source: Aegon UK, Portfolio Management Team. The table above shows the broad positioning of the fund range as a whole relative to the composite benchmarks. At any given time, one or more funds may be positioned differently for fund-specific reasons. This chart uses a five-point scale ranging from "large underweight" in a security compared to the underlying benchmark to a "large overweight" in a security compared to the underlying benchmark. The value of an investment may go down as well as up and investors may get back less than originally invested.

Asset class commentary

Global equity

Global equities rose over the quarter, completing a year of double-digit gains for UK investors. Despite the longest-ever US government shutdown stretching to mid-November, investor sentiment was supported by subsequent signs of renewed economic momentum in the US and further interest rate cuts from a range of global central banks. Key factors appear to remain positive for equities, notably the global backdrop of supportive monetary and fiscal policy, and apparently healthy levels of economic activity in key countries. However, valuations are increasingly unappealing, led by an expensive US market that is trading at levels previously associated with bubbles, at a time when mediocre Chinese economic growth and deteriorating labour markets in the US and UK suggest some underlying fragilities. This leads to a neutral stance on global equities with a preference for cheaper markets such as Japan and UK mid-caps.

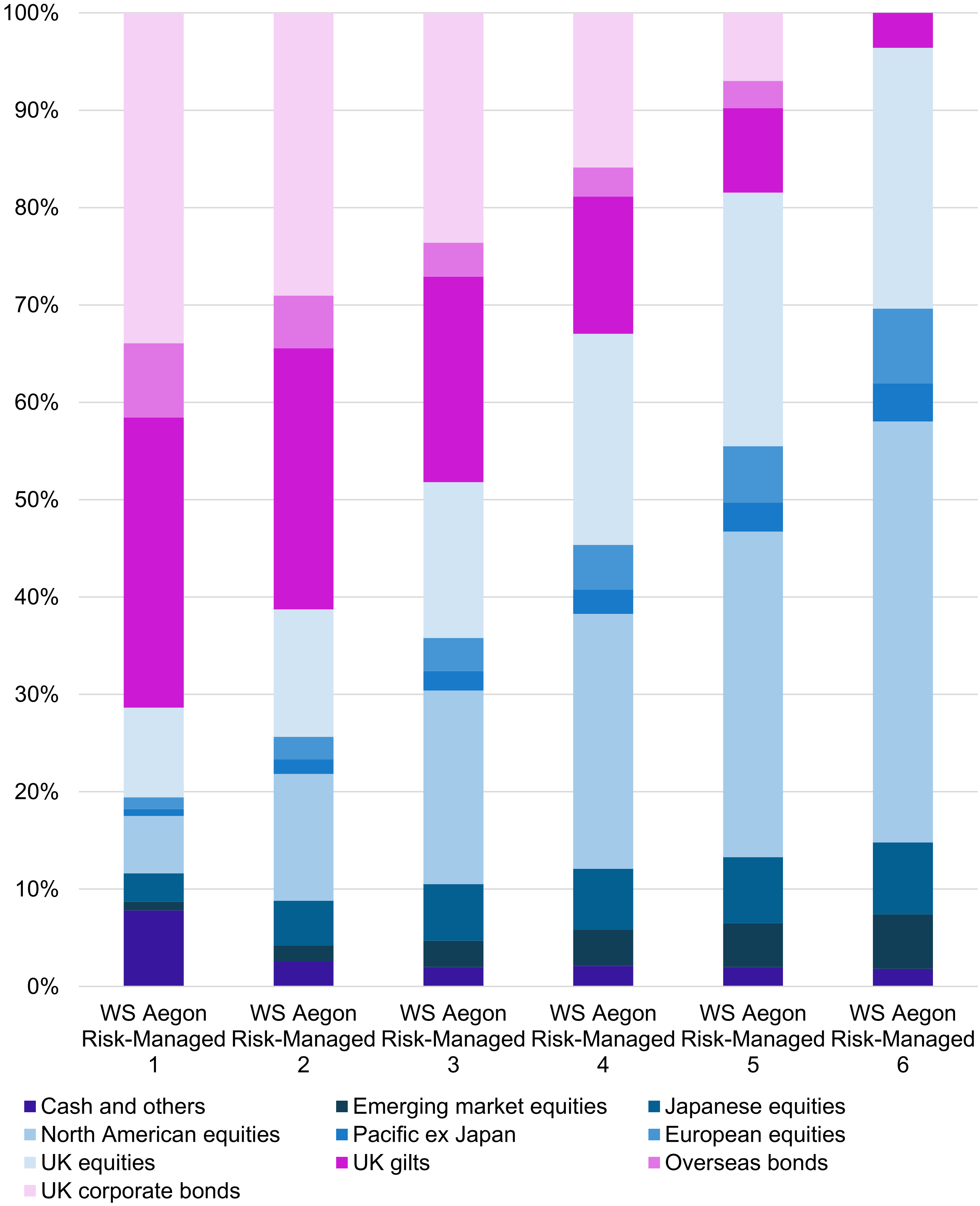
Bonds & Cash

The global environment remained broadly one of falling interest rates, with the Bank of England and US Federal Reserve cutting borrowing costs during the quarter. Japan was a notable exception, as the Bank of Japan hiked rates to 0.75%, the highest level since 1995. UK government bonds (gilts) notably outperformed global government bonds over the period, benefiting from further signs of labour market weakness and a November Budget that was seen to mitigate the risk of immediate political crisis. With UK inflation falling at the end of 2025 and ongoing signs of economic fragility, gilt yields over 4% continue to appear attractive and the market remains a key portfolio overweight. Corporate bond positions continue to be gradually reduced for valuation reasons.

Source: Aegon UK, Portfolio Management Team. January 2026.

Asset allocation of the Risk-Managed Portfolios

The chart below shows the asset allocations of the six Risk-Managed Portfolios as at 31 December 2025.



Source: FE fundinfo produced by Aegon

WS Aegon Risk-Managed 1 fund

The fund aims to achieve capital growth (an increase in value of the fund) after all costs and charges have been taken, over any 5-year period whilst aiming to keep investment risk at risk level 1 on a scale of 1-6, where 1 is the lowest and 6 is the highest. For more information on the fund and the risks associated with it please view the individual fund factsheet. Fund launched on 7 July 2020.

Fund performance vs benchmark

Fund	3 months (%)	Year to date (%)	1 year (%)	3 years (% a year)	Since inception (% a year)	5 years (% a year)
WS Aegon Risk-Managed 1	3.0	8.0	8.0	5.9	1.3	1.0
Benchmark	2.8	8.1	8.1	6.2	1.2	0.9

Source: FE fundinfo. Produced by Aegon. Figures in £s, bid-to-bid basis, net of charges, with gross income reinvested to 31 December 2025. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance. The value of an investment may go down as well as up and isn't guaranteed. Investors may get back less than they invest.

This fund is measured against a composite benchmark of the following indices and weights: 8% MSCI UK All Cap Index / 13% MSCI All Countries World Index ex UK/ 24% Bloomberg Sterling Gilts Index / 35% Bloomberg Sterling Non-Gilts Index / 12% JP Morgan Global Government Bond ex UK Index GBP Hedged / 8% SONIA Lending Rate GBP Index. Please note, these changed on 9 January 2023 and composite benchmark performance prior to this date reflects the earlier weights.

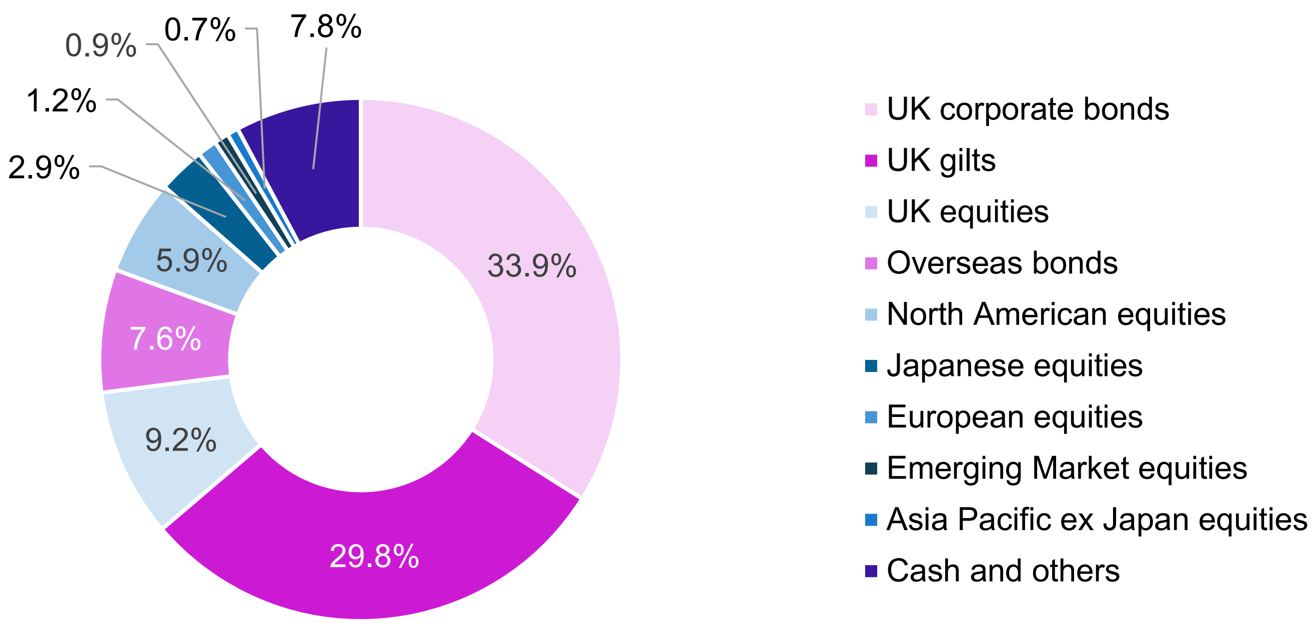
WS Aegon Risk-Managed 1 fund

Fund commentary, quarter four 2025

The WS Aegon Risk-Managed 1 fund performance was positive over the quarter and ahead of the benchmark. The fund holds a relatively large allocation to bonds as they're typically a relatively stable investment over the longer term. During the quarter, both equities and fixed income delivered positive returns. A position in UK gilts added to performance. Within equities, an overweight in Japan also contributed to performance whilst within fixed income a preference for UK gilts over their overseas counterparts made a positive contribution.

The fund maintained an approximately neutral position overall in equities throughout the quarter and continued to favour fixed income over cash. Within fixed income, the fund continues to favour the UK within the government bond mix and maintains a preference for shorter-dated corporate bonds. Within equities, the fund remains underweight in the US, where valuations appear unappealing, and overweight in Japan. In the UK the fund displays a preference for mid-cap equities.

Asset allocation, at end of December 2025



Source: FE fundinfo produced by Aegon

The figures may not add up to exactly 100% due to rounding.

WS Aegon Risk-Managed 2 fund

The fund aims to provide capital growth in excess of its benchmark (net of fees) over a rolling five-year period whilst keeping investment risk at risk level 2 on a scale of 1-5, where 1 is the lowest and 5 is the highest. There is no guarantee that the objective will be met. The value of this investment may go down as well as up and investors may get back less than they invest. Fund launched on 7 July 2020.

Fund performance vs benchmark

Fund	3 months (%)	Year to date (%)	1 year (%)	3 years (% a year)	Since inception (% a year)	5 years (% a year)
WS Aegon Risk-Managed 2	3.4	9.1	9.1	7.2	3.1	2.7
Benchmark	3.1	9.6	9.6	8.0	3.3	2.8

Source: FE fundinfo. Produced by Aegon. Figures in £s, bid-to-bid basis, net of charges, with gross income reinvested to 31 December 2025. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance. The value of an investment may go down as well as up and isn't guaranteed. Investors may get back less than they invest.

This fund is currently measured against a composite benchmark of the following indices and weights: 11% MSCI UK All Cap Index / 25% MSCI All Countries World Index ex UK / 21% Bloomberg Sterling Gilts Index / 30% Bloomberg Sterling Non-Gilts Index / 10% JP Morgan Global Government Bond ex UK Index GBP Hedged / 3% SONIA Lending Rate GBP Index. Please note these changed on the 9 January 2023 and composite benchmark performance prior to this date reflects the earlier weights.

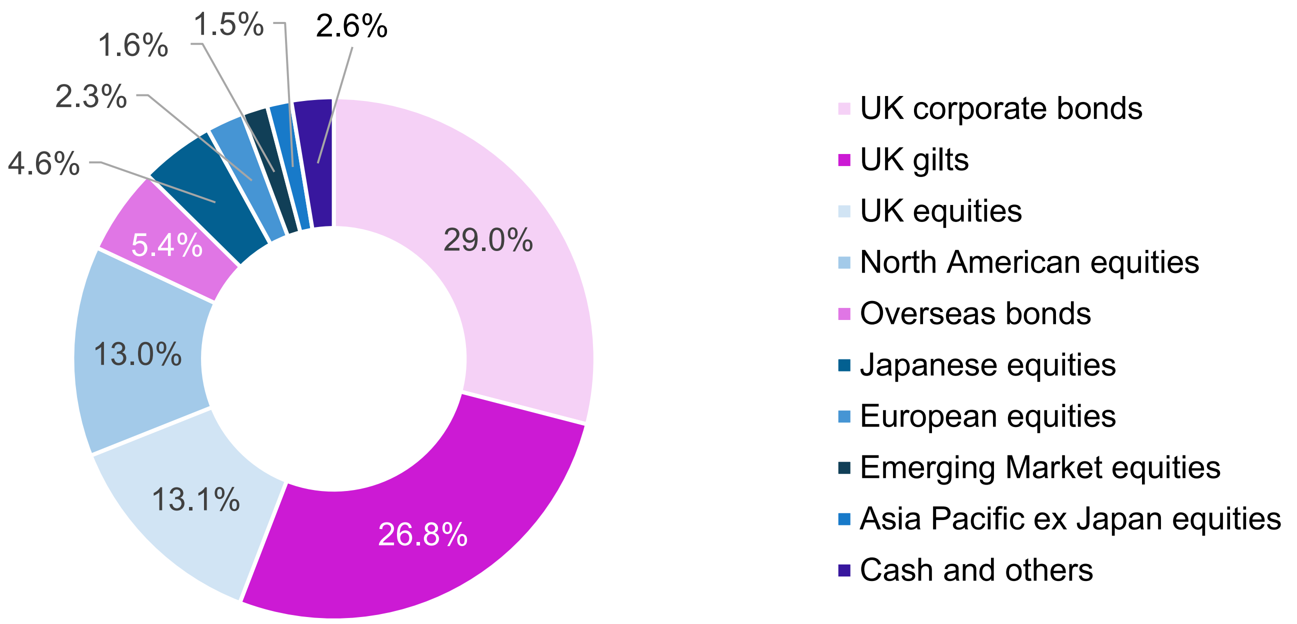
WS Aegon Risk-Managed 2 fund

Fund commentary, quarter four 2025

The WS Aegon Risk-Managed 2 fund performance was positive over the quarter and ahead of the benchmark. During the quarter, both equities and fixed income delivered positive returns. A position in UK gilts added to performance. Within equities, an overweight in Japan also contributed to performance whilst within fixed income a preference for UK gilts over their overseas counterparts made a positive contribution.

The fund maintained an approximately neutral position overall in equities throughout the quarter and continued to favour fixed income over cash. Within fixed income, the fund continues to favour the UK within the government bond mix and maintains a preference for shorter-dated corporate bonds. Within equities, the fund remains underweight in the US, where valuations appear unappealing, and overweight in Japan. In the UK the fund displays a preference for mid-cap equities.

Asset allocation, at end of December 2025



Source: FE fundinfo produced by Aegon

The figures may not add up to exactly 100% due to rounding.

WS Aegon Risk-Managed 3 fund

The fund aims to provide capital growth in excess of its benchmark (net of fees) over a rolling five-year period whilst keeping investment risk at risk level 3 on a scale of 1-5, where 1 is the lowest and 5 is the highest. There is no guarantee that the objective will be met. The value of this investment may go down as well as up and investors may get back less than they invest. Fund launched on 7 July 2020.

Fund performance vs benchmark

Fund	3 months (%)	Year to date (%)	1 year (%)	3 years (% a year)	Since inception (% a year)	5 years (% a year)
WS Aegon Risk-Managed 3	3.6	10.7	10.7	8.9	5.1	4.6
Benchmark	3.3	11.1	11.1	9.7	5.3	4.8

Source: FE fundinfo. Produced by Aegon. Figures in £s, bid-to-bid basis, net of charges, with gross income reinvested to 31 December 2025. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance. The value of an investment may go down as well as up and isn't guaranteed. Investors may get back less than they invest.

This fund is currently measured against a composite benchmark of the following indices and weights: 14% MSCI UK All Cap Index / 36% MSCI All Countries World Index ex UK / 16.5% Bloomberg Sterling Gilts Index / 24.5% Bloomberg Sterling Non-Gilts Index / 8% JP Morgan Global Government Bond ex UK Index GBP Hedged / 1% SONIA Lending Rate GBP Index. Please note these changed on the 9 January 2023 and composite benchmark performance prior to this date reflects the earlier weights.

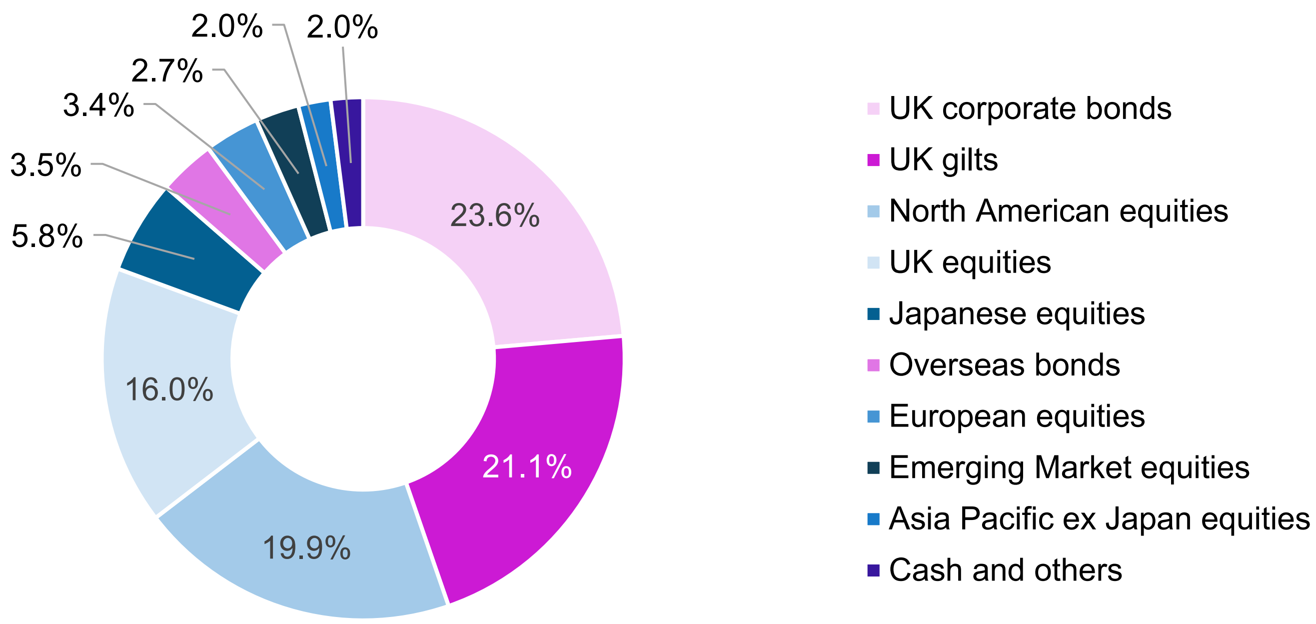
WS Aegon Risk-Managed 3 fund

Fund commentary, quarter four 2025

The WS Aegon Risk-Managed 3 fund performance was positive over the quarter and ahead of the benchmark. During the quarter, both equities and fixed income delivered positive returns. A position in UK gilts added to performance. Within equities, an overweight in Japan also contributed to performance whilst within fixed income a preference for UK gilts over their overseas counterparts made a positive contribution.

The fund maintained an approximately neutral position overall in equities throughout the quarter and continued to favour fixed income over cash. Within fixed income, the fund continues to favour the UK within the government bond mix and maintains a preference for shorter-dated corporate bonds. Within equities, the fund remains underweight in the US, where valuations appear unappealing, and overweight in Japan. In the UK the fund displays a preference for mid-cap equities.

Asset allocation, at end of December 2025



Source: FE fundinfo produced by Aegon

The figures may not add up to exactly 100% due to rounding.

WS Aegon Risk-Managed 4 fund

The fund aims to provide capital growth in excess of its benchmark (net of fees) over a rolling five-year period whilst keeping investment risk at risk level 4 on a scale of 1-5, where 1 is the lowest and 5 is the highest. There is no guarantee that the objective will be met. The value of this investment may go down as well as up and investors may get back less than they invest. Fund launched on 7 July 2020.

Fund performance vs benchmark

Fund	3 months (%)	Year to date (%)	1 year (%)	3 years (% a year)	Since inception (% a year)	5 years (% a year)
WS Aegon Risk-Managed 4	3.9	12.4	12.4	10.7	7.3	6.6
Benchmark	3.6	12.8	12.8	11.5	7.4	6.8

Source: FE fundinfo. Produced by Aegon. Figures in £s, bid-to-bid basis, net of charges, with gross income reinvested to 31 December 2025. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance. The value of an investment may go down as well as up and isn't guaranteed. Investors may get back less than they invest.

This fund is measured against a composite benchmark of the following indices and weights: 19% MSCI UK All Cap Index / 46% MSCI All Countries World Index ex UK/ 11% Bloomberg Sterling Gilts Index / 17% Bloomberg Sterling Non-Gilts Index / 7% JP Morgan Global Government Bond ex UK Index GBP Hedged. Please note, these changed on 9 January 2023 and composite benchmark performance prior to this date reflects the earlier weights.

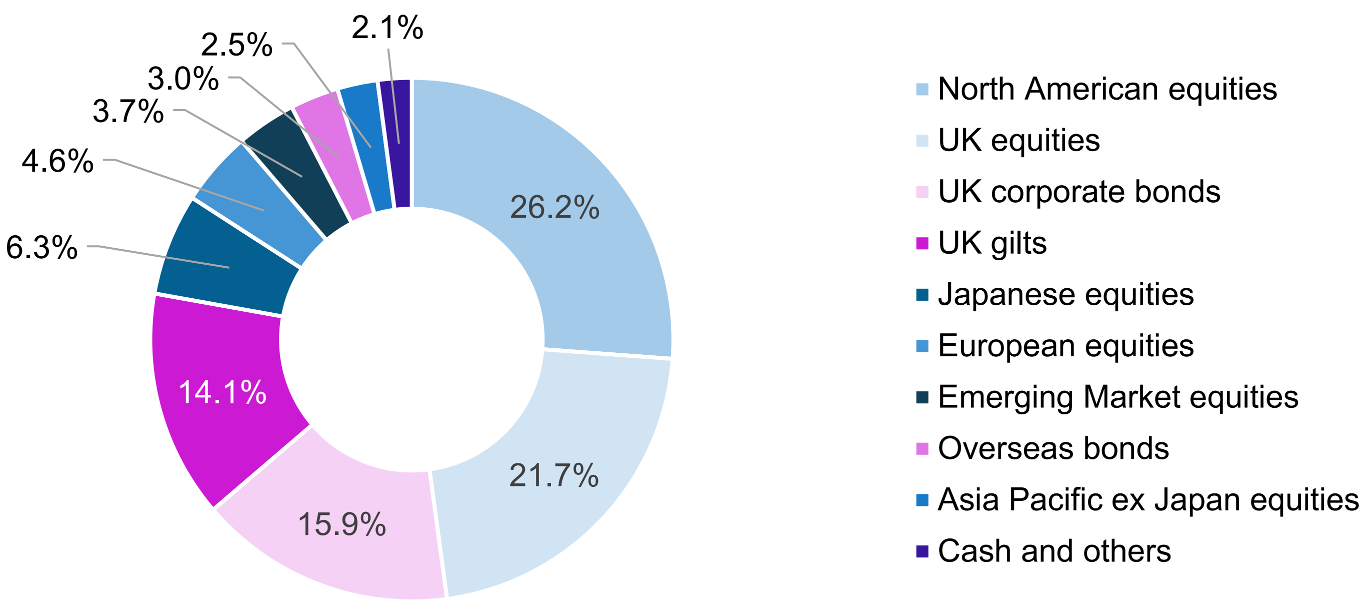
WS Aegon Risk-Managed 4 fund

Fund commentary, quarter four 2025

The WS Aegon Risk-Managed 4 fund performance was positive over the quarter and ahead of the benchmark. During the quarter, both equities and fixed income delivered positive returns. A position in UK gilts added to performance. Within equities, an overweight in Japan also contributed to performance whilst within fixed income a preference for UK gilts over their overseas counterparts made a positive contribution.

The fund maintained an approximately neutral position overall in equities throughout the quarter and continued to favour fixed income over cash. Within fixed income, the fund continues to favour the UK within the government bond mix and maintains a preference for shorter-dated corporate bonds. Within equities, the fund remains underweight in the US, where valuations appear unappealing, and overweight in Japan. In the UK the fund displays a preference for mid-cap equities.

Asset allocation, at end of December 2025



Source: FE fundinfo produced by Aegon

The figures may not add up to exactly 100% due to rounding.

WS Aegon Risk-Managed 5 fund

The fund aims to provide capital growth in excess of its benchmark (net of fees) over a rolling five-year period whilst keeping investment risk at risk level 5 on a scale of 1-5, where 1 is the lowest and 5 is the highest. There is no guarantee that the objective will be met. The value of this investment may go down as well as up and investors may get back less than they invest. Fund launched on 7 July 2020.

Fund performance vs benchmark

Fund	3 months (%)	Year to date (%)	1 year (%)	3 years (% a year)	Since inception (% a year)	5 years (% a year)
WS Aegon Risk-Managed 5	4.1	14.1	14.1	12.6	9.4	8.7
Benchmark	3.8	14.4	14.4	13.2	9.7	9.0

Source: FE fundinfo. Produced by Aegon. Figures in £s, bid-to-bid basis, net of charges, with gross income reinvested to 31 December 2025. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance. The value of an investment may go down as well as up and isn't guaranteed. Investors may get back less than they invest.

This fund is measured against a composite benchmark of the following indices and weights: 23% MSCI UK All Cap Index / 57% MSCI All Countries World Index ex UK / 6% Bloomberg Sterling Gilts Index / 8% Bloomberg Sterling Non-Gilts Index / 6% JP Morgan Global Government Bond ex UK Index GBP Hedged. Please note, these changed on 9 January 2023 and composite benchmark performance prior to this date reflects the earlier weights.

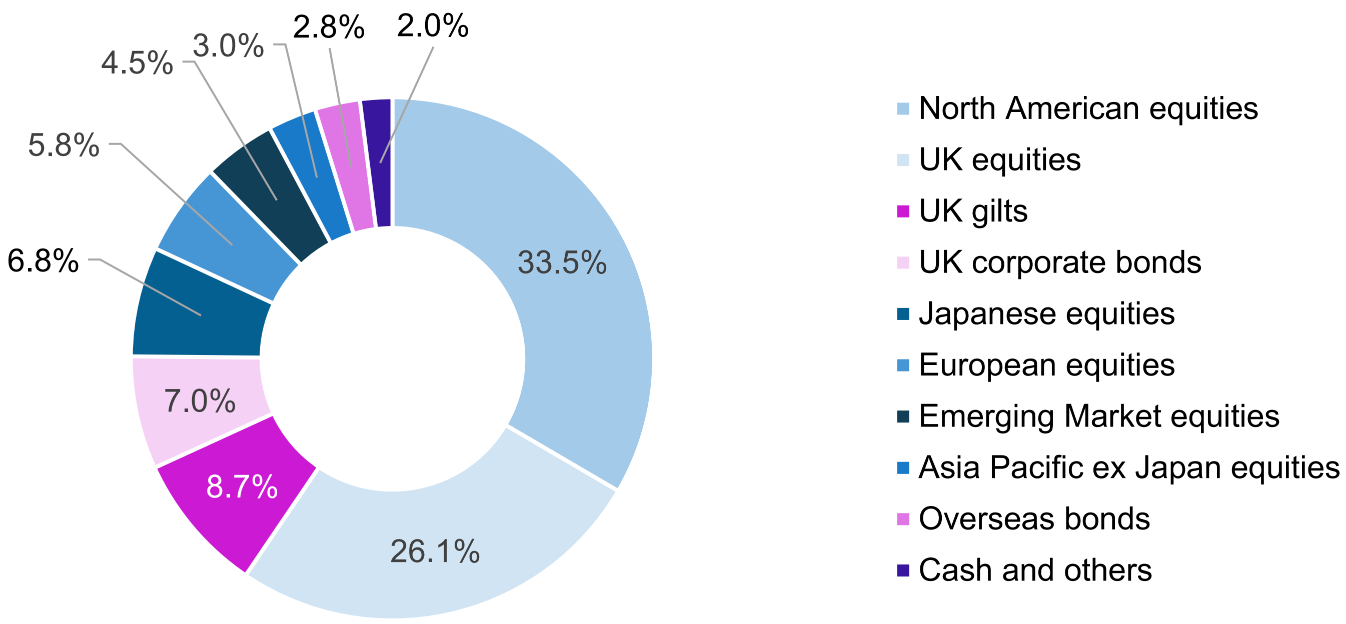
WS Aegon Risk-Managed 5 fund

Fund commentary, quarter four 2025

The WS Aegon Risk-Managed 5 fund performance was positive over the quarter and ahead of the benchmark. During the quarter, both equities and fixed income delivered positive returns. A position in UK gilts added to performance. Within equities, an overweight in Japan also contributed to performance whilst within fixed income a preference for UK gilts over their overseas counterparts made a positive contribution.

The fund maintained an approximately neutral position overall in equities throughout the quarter and continued to favour fixed income over cash. Within fixed income, the fund continues to favour the UK within the government bond mix and maintains a preference for shorter-dated corporate bonds. Within equities, the fund remains underweight in the US, where valuations appear unappealing, and overweight in Japan. In the UK the fund displays a preference for mid-cap equities.

Asset allocation, at end of December 2025



Source: FE fundinfo produced by Aegon

The figures may not add up to exactly 100% due to rounding.

WS Aegon Risk-Managed 6 fund

The fund aims to achieve capital growth (an increase in value of the fund) after all costs and charges have been taken, over any 5-year period whilst aiming to keep investment risk at risk level 6 on a scale of 1-6, where 1 is the lowest and 6 is the highest. For more information on the fund and the risks associated with it please view the individual fund factsheet. Fund launched on 7 July 2020.

Fund performance vs benchmark

Fund	3 months (%)	Year to date (%)	1 year (%)	3 years (% a year)	Since inception (% a year)	5 years (% a year)
WS Aegon Risk-Managed 6	4.4	15.4	15.4	14.6	11.7	10.8
Benchmark	3.9	15.6	15.6	15.1	12.1	11.2

Source: FE fundinfo. Produced by Aegon. Figures in £s, bid-to-bid basis, net of charges, with gross income reinvested to 31 December 2025. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance. The value of an investment may go down as well as up and isn't guaranteed. Investors may get back less than they invest.

This fund is measured against a composite benchmark of the following indices and weights: 24% MSCI UK All Cap Index / 71% MSCI All Countries World Index ex UK/ 5% JP Morgan Global Government Bond ex UK Index. Please note, these changed on 9 January 2023 and composite benchmark performance prior to this date reflects the earlier weights.

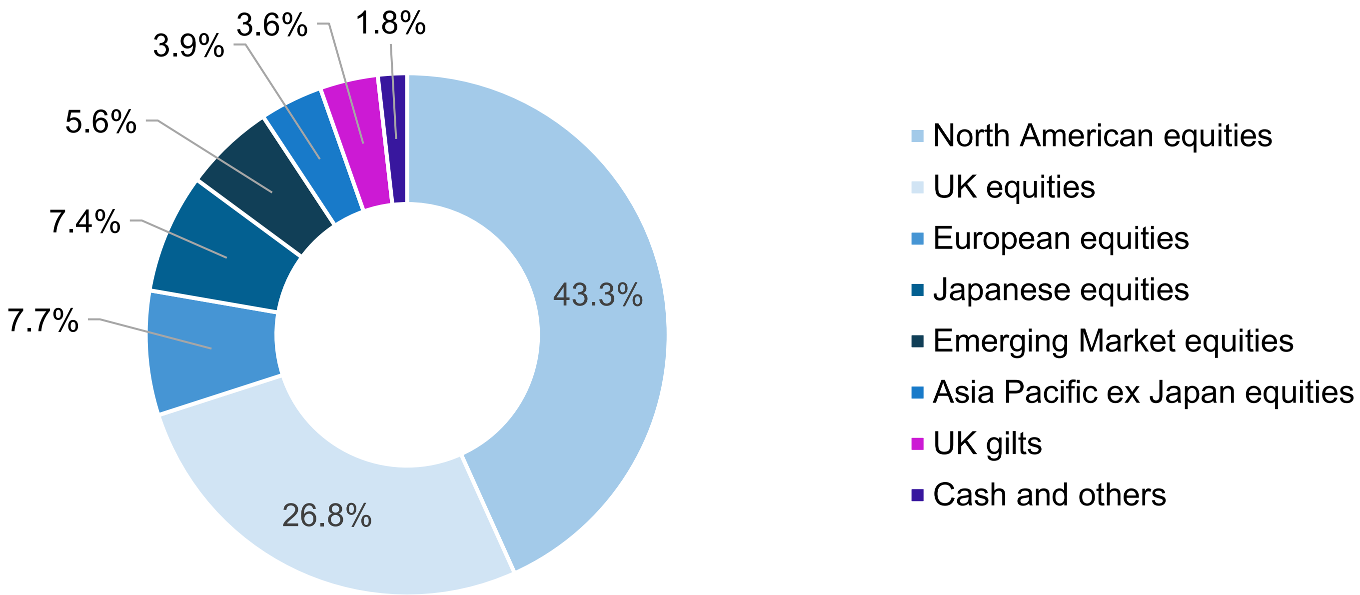
WS Aegon Risk-Managed 6 fund

Fund commentary, quarter four 2025

The WS Aegon Risk-Managed 6 fund performance was positive over the quarter and ahead of the benchmark. During the quarter, both equities and fixed income delivered positive returns. As the higher risk fund within the range, the fund holds a relatively large allocation to equities and consequently benefited from their positive performance over the period. A position in UK gilts added to performance. Within equities, an overweight in Japan also contributed to performance.

The fund maintained an approximately neutral position overall in equities throughout the quarter, albeit with a continued underweight in the US market where valuations appear unappealing. The main overweights are in Japan and the UK, where the preference is for mid-cap equities. Within fixed income, the main position is an off-benchmark allocation to long-dated gilts which are expected to benefit from a fragile UK economy, falling interest rates and an interlude of reduced political instability.

Asset allocation, at end of December 2025



Source: FE fundinfo produced by Aegon

The figures may not add up to exactly 100% due to rounding.

Meet the Portfolio Management team

Our portfolio team has significant multi-asset investment experience. The senior members of the team are listed below.

Anthony McDonald

Head of Portfolio Management

As Head of Portfolio Management, Anthony leads the company's multi-asset portfolio management capability.

He joined in 2018 from City Financial, where he worked on the group's multi-asset mandates and was responsible for launching and managing a range of risk-targeted multi-asset portfolios. Before joining City Financial in December 2013, he worked as a Senior Investment Research Analyst at Morningstar OBSR, where he had lead research responsibility for a number of sectors, in particular fixed income, and played a leadership role in the group's consulting business. In this capacity, he was responsible for managing model portfolios and guided fund lists. He began working in the investment industry in 2007 following several years in political research. Anthony graduated from Oxford University with a degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics in 2004. He holds the Investment Management Certificate.

Dan Matthews

Senior Investment Manager

Dan has over 14 years' experience in investment management, most recently holding Multi-Asset Portfolio Manager roles at Deuterium Investment Advisers and Jupiter Asset Management.

Dan previously worked at Hilltop Fund Management as a senior analyst focusing on quantitative hedge fund analysis and the development of absolute return portfolios.

Prior to that, Dan was with Signet Capital Management where he was instrumental in the founding of their alternative UCITS business. Dan holds a BSc in Management from Manchester Business School; qualified as a Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst (CAIA) and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Andrew Derbyshire

Investment Manager

As an Investment Manager in the Portfolio Management team, Andrew is responsible for asset allocation research and analysis, fund research and manager selection, and construction of our multi-asset portfolios. He is also responsible for the product development and lifecycle management of Aegon’s OEIC range.

Before joining the Portfolio Management team, Andrew spent seven years as a Senior Investment Analyst in the Investment Research team, conducting fund manager research and designing insured fund solutions. Prior to this, he had responsibilities for fund governance and analysis of Aegon’s insured investment proposition. Before joining Aegon in 2005, he was a Sell-Side Analyst for several years. Andrew has a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Management and is an Associate of the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment, holding the Investment Advice Diploma. He also holds the Investment Management Certificate.

Important information

The value of an investment can fall as well as rise and you could get back less than the amount invested. All funds carry a level of risk and the information below outlines some of the key risks for the WS Aegon Risk-Managed funds. For a full list of risks specific to each fund, please review the individual fund factsheets.

Risks specific to these funds

Currency risk

These funds invest overseas, so their value will go up and down in line with changes in currency exchange rates. This could be good for the funds or bad, particularly if exchange rates are volatile.

Credit risk

These funds can invest in funds that invest in bonds or other types of debt. Bonds are essentially loans to companies, governments or local authorities so there's a risk that these companies or government bodies may default on the loan. Bonds are rated in terms of quality, usually from AAA down to D which is the lowest. AAA is the highest quality and therefore the least likely to default and BB+ or lower (known as sub-investment grade bonds) the most likely to default.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate changes could affect the value of bond investments. Where long-term interest rates rise, the value of bonds is likely to fall, and vice versa.

Index tracking risk

These funds may invest in funds which seek to track the performance of their respective Benchmark Indices. There is no guarantee that they will achieve perfect tracking.

Securities lending risk

These funds can hold other funds that earn a fee from lending assets. Securities lending is a process used to generate additional returns for investors by lending to eligible financial institutions some of the shares and bonds a fund holds. To protect against failure to repay borrowed assets, the borrower must provide collateral to cover the loan. The borrower pays the lending fund a fee for borrowing the shares or bonds. At the end of the loan, the borrower pays the shares or bonds back in full. There is a risk that the borrower may fail to pay back the shares or bonds. To minimise this risk, the lending fund conducts securities lending only with select financially stable institutions, and it also holds insurance to cover any losses in the unlikely event that the loan isn't paid back.

Fund suspension risk

In the event that the underlying investments which the fund invests in suspend trading, the manager may defer trading and/or payment to investors. The value ultimately payable will depend on the amount the fund receives or expects to receive from the underlying investments.

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