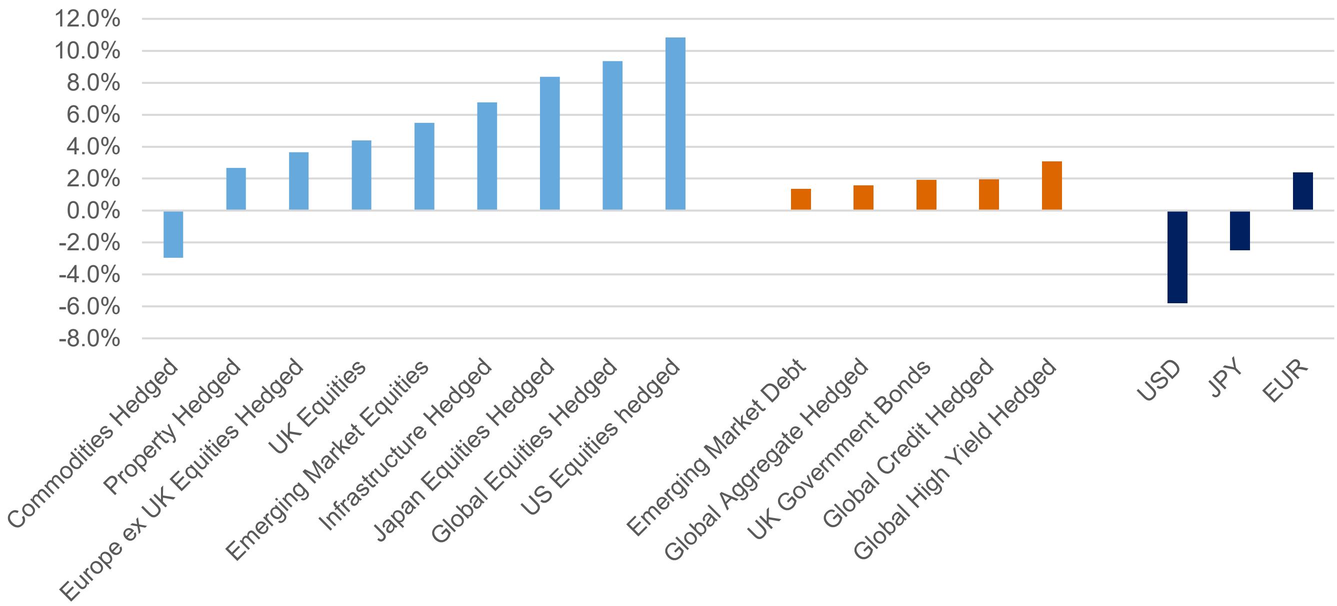
JGC - WPP Performance Summary Q2 2025

Global Market Commentary

The MSCI World Net Index increased by 11.5% (USD) in a volatile but ultimately positive quarter for global equities as fears over aggressive US tariffs receded. All markets recorded gains, most in double-digits, rebounding from weakness in April. Canada and Asia Pacific led while the UK lagged. After reaching a new record high mid-June the global index dropped following Israel's military strikes on Iran. However, sentiment lifted following a US-brokered ceasefire, sending equities higher. Oil prices were volatile, soaring on fears of supply disruptions in the Middle East but fell back on the fragile truce. Amid the market nervousness gold reached a new high. The European Central Bank (ECB) cut rates by 25 basis points (bps) in April, and again in June when it indicated it was approaching the end of its rate-cutting cycle. The Federal Reserve (Fed) left interest rates unchanged while the Bank of England (BoE) cut its main rate in May by 25 bps to 4.25% but left rates unchanged in June.

In the UK, gilts were impacted by the US Treasury sell-off, amid growing doubts over the safe haven status of US assets. Long-term borrowing costs jumped with the yield on 30-year gilts rising to levels last seen in the late 1990s. Markets remained volatile as the belligerence between the US and China continued. Later, the yield on 10-year gilts yields dipped following the weaker-than-expected inflation data. Bond prices were further supported by the Debt Management Office's decision to reduce the issuance of new long-dated bond sales. In May the BoE reduced interest rates by 25 bps in a 5:4 majority vote. The yield on 10-year gilts rose following the bank's decision and on news of a new trade deal between the US and UK. Slowing wage growth and a rise in unemployment reinforced expectations that the BoE will continue its monetary easing path. Although preliminary data showed the economy expanded by 0.7% QoQ in the first quarter, GDP contracted 0.3% in April, down more than expected, driven by reduced services output and lower exports to the US. This, and other underwhelming economic data, sent gilt yields lower and strengthened expectations of further rate cuts by the BoE. Although the bank left rates unchanged in June, it indicated a possible cut as early as August given signs of weakness in the jobs market. Over the period the yield on benchmark 10-year gilts fell 19 bps to 4.49%.

Asset class performance – Quarter to Date (June 2025)



Benchmarks : Global equity hedged (MSCI World ACWI), UK equity (FTSE All Share), US equity hedged (Russell 1000 Net GBPH), Europe ex UK equity (MSCI Europe ex UK Equity Net GBPH), Japan equity (TOPIX Net GBPH), Emerging equity (MSCI Emerging Markets Net), Global HY bonds (BofAML Global High Yield 2% Constrained Index), EMD LC (JP Morgan GBI-EM Global Diversified Index), Global credit hedged (Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Credit Index), Global aggregate hedged (Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Bond Index GBPH), UK Government Bonds (ICEBofAML UK Gilts All Stocks (GB), Property hedged (FTSEEPRA Nareit Dev Re GBP)

This document is prepared for officers of the WPP based on performance from Northern Trust. Inception dates are based on the starting NAV for the sub-fund. Inception dates (and therefore performance) may differ from the investment manager, who typically takes over following a transition period.

WPP Sub-fund Summary (Gross):

WPP Gross Performance	Q2 2025			1 Year			3 Year			Since Inception			Inception Date
	Sub Fund	Bench-mark	Excess	Sub Fund	Bench-mark	Excess	Sub Fund	Bench-mark	Excess	Sub Fund	Bench-mark	Excess	
Global Growth Equity Fund	5.0	5.1	**-0.1**	6.8	5.4	**1.4**	10.2	12.1	**-1.9**	9.9	11.1	**-1.2**	31/01/2019
Global Opportunities Equity Fund	3.7	5.1	**-1.4**	8.6	7.2	**1.4**	12.9	12.7	**0.2**	12.2	11.4	**0.8**	31/01/2019
Sustainable Active Equity Fund	3.7	5.1	**-1,4**	3.4	7.2	**-3.8**	-	-	**-**	9.5	14.4	**-4.9**	23/06/2023
Emerging Markets Equity Fund	7.8	5.9	**1.9**	10.0	7.9	**2.1**	6.6	7.0	**-0.4**	1.6	2.6	**-1.0**	20/10/2021
UK Opportunities Equity Fund	6.9	4.4	**2.5**	11.4	11.2	**0.2**	12.7	10.7	**2.0**	6.4	6.6	**-0.2**	23/09/2019
Global Government Bond Fund	1.6	1.4	**0.2**	5.7	5.2	**0.5**	2.1	1.6	**0.5**	-0.7	-1.5	**0.8**	30/07/2020
Global Credit Fund	1.9	1.9	**0.0**	6.7	6.8	**-0.1**	3.9	3.9	**0.0**	-0.4	-0.4	**0.0**	27/07/2020
Multi Asset Credit Fund	2.5	2.1	**0.4**	8.6	9.0	**-0.4**	8.0	8.6	**-0.6**	3.9	6.9	**-3.0**	27/07/2020
Absolute Return Bond Strategy Fund*	1.3	1.6	**-0.3**	7.0	7.0	**0.0**	6.5	6.6	**-0.1**	4.4	5.0	**-0.6**	30/09/2020
Sterling Credit Fund	2.9	2.9	**0.0**	5.8	6.0	**-0.2**	3.8	3.1	**0.7**	-0.3	-0.6	**0.3**	27/07/2020

WPP Sub-fund Summary (Net):

WPP Net Performance	Q2 2025			1 Year			3 Year			Since Inception			Inception Date
	Sub Fund	Bench-mark	Excess	Sub Fund	Bench-mark	Excess	Sub Fund	Bench-mark	Excess	Sub Fund	Bench-mark	Excess	
Global Growth Equity Fund	4.9	5.1	**-0.2**	6.5	5.4	**1.1**	9.9	12.1	**-2.2**	9.5	11.1	**-0.6**	31/01/2019
Global Opportunities Equity Fund	3.6	5.1	**-1.5**	8.3	7.2	**1.1**	12.6	12.7	**-0.1**	11.9	11.4	**0.5**	31/01/2019
Sustainable Active Equity Fund	3.6	5.1	**-1.5**	3.0	7.2	**-4.2**	-	-	**-**	9.1	14.4	**-5.3**	23/06/2023
Emerging Markets Equity Fund	7.8	5.9	**1.9**	9.5	7.9	**1.6**	6.2	7.0	**-0.8**	1.2	2.6	**-1.4**	20/10/2021
UK Opportunities Equity Fund	6.8	4.4	**2.4**	11.1	11.2	**-0.1**	12.3	10.7	**1.6**	6.0	6.6	**-0.6**	23/09/2019
Global Government Bond Fund	1.5	1.4	**0.1**	5.5	5.2	**0.3**	1.9	1.6	**0.3**	-1.0	-1.5	**0.5**	30/07/2020
Global Credit Fund	1.8	1.9	**-0.1**	6.6	6.8	**-0.2**	3.8	3.9	**-0.1**	-0.6	-0.4	**-0.2**	27/07/2020
Multi Asset Credit Fund	2.4	2.1	**0.3**	8.2	9.0	**-0.8**	7.7	8.6	**-0.9**	3.5	6.9	**-3.4**	27/07/2020
Absolute Return Bond Strategy Fund*	1.2	1.6	**-0.4**	6.6	7.0	**-0.4**	6.1	6.6	**-0.5**	4.0	5.0	**-1.0**	30/09/2020
Sterling Credit Fund	2.9	2.9	**0.0**	5.7	6.0	**-0.3**	3.7	3.1	**0.6**	-0.4	-0.6	**0.2**	27/07/2020

Note: Inception date is based starting NAV for the sub-fund. This inception date (and therefore actual performance) may differ from the investment manager, who typically takes over following a transition period.

*** Russell Investments return figures as Russell Investments reconcile discrepancies with NT**

Global Growth Equity Fund:

The sub-fund has an expected outperformance of **2.0%** in excess of the sub-fund benchmark gross of fees, over the longer term.

	Q2 2025	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception
Gross	5.0	6.8	10.2	9.3	9.9
Net	4.9	6.5	9.9	8.9	9.5
MSCI AC World Index Net*	5.1	5.4	12.1	10.9	11.1
Excess returns (gross)	-0.1	1.4	-1.9	-1.6	-1.2
Excess returns (Net)	-0.2	1.1	-2.2	-2.0	-1.6

Inception Date: 18th November 2024
Source: Northern Trust as of 30 June 2025
Benchmark: MSCI AC World Net Total Return Index GBP
***Figures include a performance holiday in November 2024 around the transition of the Fund.**

Please note that Russell Investments took over the Global Growth Equity Fund mandate on 18 November 2024.
Inception date is based starting NAV for the sub-fund. This inception date (and therefore performance) may differ from the investment manager, who typically takes over following a transition period.

Overall Fund Commentary
The Fund registered positive absolute returns over the second quarter but finished behind the benchmark on a relative basis. In the market environment, the Fund's tilt to small caps and value exposure were headwinds. In terms of sectors, underweight exposure to and stock selection within health care was the main detractor, in particular the overweight to UnitedHealth. Overweights to Bristol-Myers Squibb and Baxter International were also unhelpful. In consumer discretionary overweights to AutoZone and LVMH detracted. Underweight exposure to information technology was ineffective. This included underweights to Nvidia and Broadcom although an underweight to Apple and overweights to TSMC and Oracle contributed positively, mitigated some of the impact. An underweight to energy, the worst-performing sector, and stock selection were rewarded (underweight Exxon Mobil). Exposure to utilities was also effective. Elsewhere, stock selection within communication services (underweight Tencent) and industrials (overweight AeroVironment) contributed positively. Baillie Gifford was the best-performing manager, rewarded for its growth tilt and selection within information technology. Pzena was the worst-performer. Its value focus and tilt to small caps did not benefit in the market environment. Also, its stock selection within information technology was ineffective, notably zero exposure to Nvidia and Microsoft.

Global Opportunities Equity Fund:

The sub-fund has an expected outperformance of **2.0%** in excess of the sub-fund benchmark gross of fees, over the longer term.

	Q2 2025	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception
Gross	3.7	8.6	12.9	12.2	12.2
Net	3.6	8.3	12.6	11.9	11.9
MSCI AC World Index Net	5.1	7.2	12.7	11.3	11.4
Excess returns (gross)	-1.4	1.4	0.2	0.9	0.8
Excess returns (Net)	-1.5	1.1	-0.1	0.6	0.5

Inception Date: COB 31st January 2019
Source: Northern Trust as of 30 June 2025
Benchmark: MSCI AC World Net Total Return Index GBP

Inception date is based starting NAV for the sub-fund. This inception date (and therefore performance) may differ from the investment manager, who typically takes over following a transition period.

Overall Fund Commentary
The Fund registered a positive absolute return over the second quarter but finished behind the benchmark on a relative basis. In this environment, the Fund’s value exposure and tilt to small caps were headwinds in the period. In sectors, stock selection within industrials detracted, notably an off-benchmark position in MISUMI Group. Stock selection within consumer staples was also unrewarded (overweight Clorox Co). In information technology underweight exposure to the sector and stock selection was unhelpful, notably underweights to Nvidia and Broadcom, although an underweight to Apple and an overweight to TSMC were effective. The biggest positive contributor to performance was stock selection within financials where an overweight to Commerzbank and an underweight to Berkshire Hathaway were beneficial. Stock selection within communication services was also beneficial (overweight Meta). Elsewhere, underweight exposure to energy was positive, helped by underweights to Exxon Mobil and Chevron, as this was the worst-performing sector in the period. At the manager level, Morgan Stanley was the best performer, rewarded for its growth focus and exposure to communication services (overweight Spotify). In contrast, Nissay was the only manager to record losses. Its value focus did not benefit in the market environment, and it suffered from poor stock selection within industrials, notably an overweight to MISUMI Group.

Sustainable Active Equity Fund:

The sub-fund has an expected outperformance of **2.0%** in excess of the sub-fund benchmark gross of fees, over the longer term.

	Q2 2025	1 Year	Since Inception
Gross	3.7	3.4	9.5
Net	3.6	3.0	9.1
MSCI AC World Index Net	5.1	7.2	14.4
Excess returns (gross)	-1.4	-3.8	-4.9
Excess returns (Net)	-1.5	-4.2	-5.3

Inception Date: COB 23rd June 2023
Source: Northern Trust as of 30 June 2025
Benchmark: MSCI AC World Net Total Return Index GBP
Inception date is based starting NAV for the sub-fund. This inception date (and therefore performance) may differ from the investment manager, who typically takes over following a transition period.

Overall Fund Commentary
The Fund registered a positive absolute return over the second quarter but finished behind the benchmark on a relative basis. The Fund's factor positioning was unrewarded within this environment. The tilt towards small cap stocks, alongside positive exposure to value and an underweight to momentum, detracted from relative returns. Stock selection was positive on aggregate but was negative within the United States, with underweights to Nvidia, Broadcom and Meta notable detractors. At the sector level, stock selection was negative within industrials and consumer discretionary but was strong within information technology (underweight Apple) and financials (underweight Berkshire Hathaway). The strategic underweight to and effective selection within the energy sector was also rewarded. At the manager level, Sparinvest was the weakest-performing strategy. The large value bias and tilt towards small cap stocks was unrewarded. Neuberger Berman was the only manager to outperform this quarter, reversing some of its early-year underperformance, through its quality growth positioning.

EM Market Commentary

Most Emerging Markets recorded gains over the quarter. South Korea was the best-performing market followed by Greece and Taiwan. South Korea's main index, the Kospi, hit a three-and-a-half-year high in June as investors were encouraged by the government's efforts on trade talks after it established a special task force under the trade minister to expedite negotiations with the US. Investors also welcomed plans by the new leftwing government led by President Lee Jae-myung to implement corporate governance reforms with the aim of providing more protection for shareholders and raising low equity valuations. One of the stated goals is for the Kospi index to reach 5,000 during the president's 5-year term (3,072 as at 30 June). In addition, the government proposed increased spending to improve growth. Taiwan's equity market return benefitted from the new Taiwan dollar appreciating versus the US dollar. It also gained from its focus on technology, notably TSMC's dominance in semiconductors. At a technology show in Taiwan's capital, Taipei, Nvidia's CEO Jensen Huang outlined a new local base to be built in the city and reaffirmed his commitment to the country. Among the worst performers were China, Thailand and Saudi Arabia. In China, trade tensions with the US and a weak economy dampened demand for mainland-listed equities. Optimism that the government would introduce more stimulus measures to boost the economy and the country's financial markets faded with no new proposals. In Thailand growing political unrest and a lack of progress on trade talks with the US weighed on sentiment. The withdrawal of the coalition's second-largest party dealt a blow to Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra, who holds a slim parliamentary majority. Saudi Arabia's market was impacted by a prolonged period of lower oil prices.

EM Equity Fund:

The sub-fund has an expected outperformance of **2%** in excess of the sub-fund benchmark gross of fees, over the longer term.

	Q2 2025	1 Year	3 Year	Since Inception
Gross	7.8	10.0	6.6	1.6
Net	7.8	9.5	6.2	1.2
MSCI Emerging Market Index	5.9	7.9	7.0	2.6
Excess returns (gross)	1.9	2.1	-0.4	-1.0
Excess returns (Net)	1.9	1.6	-0.8	-1.4

Inception Date: COB 20th October 2021
Source: Northern Trust as of 30 June 2025
Benchmark: MSCI Emerging Markets Index Net
Inception date is based starting NAV for the sub-fund. This inception date (and therefore performance) may differ from the investment manager, who typically takes over following a transition period.

Overall Fund Commentary
The Fund outperformed the positive benchmark return. In the market environment, the Fund's tilt towards small capitalization stocks and positive growth exposure was rewarded. An overweight to and effective stock selection within South Korea was a primary driver of outperformance. This included exposure to numerous names such as SK Hynix, Korea Investment Holdings and Korea Electric Power Corporation. An underweight to and effective stock selection within India was rewarded. Positive country allocation also included the underweight to Saudi Arabia, although the underweight to Taiwan (underweight TSMC) detracted. Stock selection was also rewarded within Brazil and Saudi Arabia. Negative selection within China (JD.com, Great Wall Motor Company Limited) weighed on additional relative returns. Artisan was the leading manager this quarter, benefitting from significantly strong stock selection within South Korea (heavy industry name Doosan Enerbility Co) and Brazil (e-commerce name MercadoLibre). Oaktree was the only manager to underperform, returning some of its early-year outperformance. An overweight to China, underweight to Taiwan and negative selection within South Korea detracted.

UK Market Commentary

UK equities underperformed the global index and other markets. Industrials (Babcock) and telecoms were the best-performing sectors, while health care (AstraZeneca) and energy (BP) lagged, recording losses. Sentiment was boosted in May following reports of a trade deal between the US and UK, the first such agreement. A further deal was announced at the G7 Summit in June, which reduced US tariffs on cars (within a quota limit) and removed tariffs on aerospace goods. Chancellor Rachel Reeves announced a three-year spending review, prioritising investments in health, defence and infrastructure. Although preliminary data showed the economy expanded by 0.7% QoQ in the first quarter, GDP contracted 0.3% in April, down more than expected, driven by reduced services output and lower exports to the US. Both manufacturing and industrial production fell more than forecast in April. Additionally, unemployment hit a four-year high, growth in earnings slowed and weakening retail sales signalled a cooling economy. Inflation jumped in April to 3.5% YoY from 2.6%, before falling to 3.4% YoY in May. Core inflation matched forecasts in May at 3.5%, down from 3.8%. Meanwhile, May PMIs were revised higher, which pushed the composite to 50.3, entering expansionary territory. Preliminary PMIs for June were also positive with the composite and manufacturing PMIs above expectations and services in line with forecasts.

UK Opportunities Equity Fund:

The sub-fund has an expected outperformance of **2.0%** in excess of the sub-fund benchmark gross of fees, over the longer term.

	Q2 2025	1 Year	3 Year	5 Years	Since Inception
Gross	6.9	11.4	12.7	10.8	6.4
Net	6.8	11.1	12.3	10.4	6.0
FTSE All Share	4.4	11.2	10.7	10.8	6.6
Excess returns (gross)	2.5	0.2	2.0	0.0	-0.2
Excess returns (Net)	2.4	-0.1	1.6	-0.4	-0.6

Inception Date: COB 23rd September 2019
Source: Northern Trust as of 30 June 2025
Benchmark: FTSE All Share Index

Inception date is based starting NAV for the sub-fund. This inception date (and therefore performance) may differ from the investment manager, who typically takes over following a transition period.

Overall Fund Commentary

The Fund outperformed the positive benchmark return. The Fund's tilt towards small capitalisation stocks contributed to outperformance – a contrast to the previous quarter. Effective stock selection underpinned excess relative returns, particularly among stocks exhibiting higher quality and higher anticipated growth rates. Positioning and selection within the consumer discretionary (overweight) and health care (underweight) sectors were key drivers of performance. The overweight to Burberry Group and underweight to AstraZeneca were leading performers at the stock level. Stock selection within consumer staples (overweight Tesco) and financials (overweight AJ Bell) was positive. The underweight to energy – the weakest sector this quarter – was also rewarded (underweight Shell). At the manager level, Ninety One was the standout performer this quarter, significantly outperforming the benchmark through strong stock selection and sector allocation. Fidelity was the only manager to underperform; its tilt away from growth names was unrewarded while the underweight to and negative selection within the industrials sector drove negative relative returns.

Fixed Income Market Commentary

The Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index (USDH) increased by 1.6% over the quarter. Long yields increased or remained stable in most developed markets. The yield on benchmark 10-year US Treasuries was largely flat after rising on concerns over the budget deficit and the government's tax cutting and spending bill. Recovering risk appetite along with speculation over imminent Federal Reserve (Fed) rate cuts later diluted fiscal concerns. In the corporate sector, as risk assets rallied high yield credit outperformed investment grade. The US dollar depreciated against most currencies largely due to investor concerns over President Trump's trade policies and the country's ballooning debt. The European Central Bank (ECB) cut rates by 25 basis points (bps) in April and in June. The Fed left interest rates unchanged while the Bank of England (BoE) cut its main interest rate by 25 bps to 4.25% in May but left them unchanged in June.

Credit spreads narrowed over the quarter as riskier assets rallied following volatility in April. Rising market optimism was prompted by signs of progress in trade negotiations and a noticeably more conciliatory tone from President Trump. In this environment, high yield (HY) outperformed investment grade (IG) credit. US HY was the best performer with spreads narrowing by 57 bps to 290. This compares to global HY spreads which tightened by 46 bps to 332. European HY spreads were 31 bps narrower over the period, at 303. The pattern was similar in investment grade though spread tightening was more modest. US IG spreads narrowed by 10 bps to 79 whereas European IG spread tightening was 5 bps to 80. UK IG also narrowed by single digits (-7 bps to 83). As in the previous quarter, local currency emerging market debt (EMD), as measured by the JP Morgan GBI-EM Global Diversified Index, benefitted from weakness in the US dollar, ending the quarter 7.6% higher. This compares with hard currency EMD which increased by 3.1% as measured by the JPM EMBI Global Index.

Global Government Bond Fund:

The sub-fund has an expected outperformance of **0.70%** in excess of the sub-fund benchmark gross of fees, over the longer term.

	Q2 2025	1 Year	3 Year	Since Inception
Gross	1.6	5.7	2.1	-0.7
Net	1.5	5.5	1.9	-1.0
FTSE World Gvt Bond Index (GBP Hedged)	1.4	5.2	1.6	-1.5
Excess returns (gross)	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.8
Excess returns (Net)	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.5

Inception Date: COB 30th July 2020
Source: Northern Trust as of 30 June 2025
Benchmark: FTSE World Government Bond Index (GBP Hedged)

Inception date is based starting NAV for the sub-fund. This inception date (and therefore performance) may differ from the investment manager, who typically takes over following a transition period.

Overall Fund Commentary

The Global Government Bond Fund outperformed the benchmark this quarter. The Fund's overweight to rates in Mexico was a key positive contributor this period – similar to the first quarter. The underweight to 30-year issues in the eurozone suited the market environment. Small exposure to rates in Indonesia, South Africa and Colombia was also rewarded. Underweights to rates in the US and Japan weighed on additional outperformance this quarter.

In terms of managers, RBC underperformed this quarter with exposure to longer-dated rates in Japan being a key detractor this period. Colchester outperformed to extend its positive 2025-to-date performance. An overweight to rates in Mexico remained the primary driver of outperformance.

Global Credit Fund:

The sub-fund has an expected outperformance of **0.75%** in excess of the sub-fund benchmark gross of fees, over the longer term.

	Q2 2025	1 Year	3 Year	Since Inception
Gross	1.9	6.7	3.9	-0.4
Net	1.8	6.6	3.8	-0.6
Bloomberg Barclays Global Agg Credit Index (GBP Hedged)	1.9	6.8	3.9	-0.4
Excess returns (gross)	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0
Excess returns (Net)	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2

Inception Date: COB 27th July 2020
Source: Northern Trust as of 30 June 2025
Benchmark: Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Credit Index (GBP Hedged)
Inception date is based starting NAV for the sub-fund. This inception date (and therefore performance) may differ from the investment manager, who typically takes over following a transition period.

Overall Fund Commentary

The Fund was flat against the benchmark over the second quarter. The Fund's overweight exposure to US high yield credit (financials, industrials) contributed positively. However, this was offset by the negative impact from underweight exposure to US investment grade (financials, industrials). In European credit, an overweight to high yield industrials was helpful. Elsewhere, an underweight to Canadian investment grade (financials, industrials) detracted. Exposure to hard currency emerging market debt was ineffective due to underweights to investment grade in Asia, Latin America, Europe and the Middle East. An underweight to Spanish sovereign debt was also negative. Fund performance was negatively impacted by rates positioning, mainly US Treasuries.

Robeco was the best-performing manager, supported by overweights to European financials across both high yield and investment grade. Fidelity was the worst performer. While yield and credit contributed positively, currency effects detracted modestly. Sector-wise, quasi, agency, and tech & communications added value, whereas utilities and banking detracted. As in the previous quarter, the main drag on relative returns was the underweight to European investment grade. US specialist, MetLife ended the quarter broadly in line with the benchmark. The main positive contributor was overweight exposure to US high yield financials and industrials, while an underweight to investment grade industrials was ineffective. As a replacement to Western, Coolabah's Global Credit Strategy was added to the portfolio at the end of the quarter.

Multi Asset Credit Fund:

The sub-funds aims to achieve a total return (the combination of income and capital growth), the equivalent of the 3 Month **GBP SONIA + 4%,** over any five-year period, after all costs and charges have been taken.

	Q2 2025	1 Year	3 Year	Since Inception
Gross	2.5	8.6	8.0	3.9
Net	2.4	8.2	7.7	3.5
3 Month GBP SONIA + 4%	2.1	9.0	8.6	6.9
Excess returns (gross)	0.4	-0.4	-0.6	-3.0
Excess returns (Net)	0.3	-0.8	-0.9	-3.4
Strategic asset allocation benchmark	2.4	8.2	8.1	

Inception Date: COB 27th July 2020
Source: Northern Trust as of 30 June 2025

Inception date is based starting NAV for the sub-fund. This inception date (and therefore performance) may differ from the investment manager, who typically takes over following a transition period.

***EMD local currency exposure is not hedged in this SAA return.**

Overall Fund Commentary

The Fund recorded a positive return in the second quarter. The Fund's credit and rates positioning were positive while currency allocations detracted. In rates, exposure to US Treasuries and German bunds was rewarded. Allocations to UK gilts were also helpful. In credit, a key positive contributor was overweight exposure to bank loans, particularly 1-year loans. Overweight exposure to US and European high yield credit was also beneficial. In hard currency emerging market debt an overweight to Latin America was a notable contributor; overweights to Europe and the Middle East were also additive. Elsewhere, exposure to US securitised debt was effective due to overweights to agency credit risk transfers, non-agency commercial mortgage-backed securities and collateralised loan obligations.

All managers recorded positive absolute returns. On a relative basis, RBC UK (BlueBay) was the best-performing manager, significantly outperforming its benchmark. Voya and GLG also delivered above-benchmark return, with GLG's performance driven by tactical duration extensions in Brazil, Mexico, and the US. In contrast, high yield specialists Barings and ICG underperformed their respective benchmarks.

Absolute Return Bond Strategy Fund:

The sub-fund aims to achieve a total return (the combination of income and capital growth), the equivalent of the 3-month **GBP SONIA plus 2%,** over any five-year period, after all costs and charges have been taken.

	Q2 2025	1 Year	3 Year	Since Inception
Gross*	1.3	7.0	6.5	4.4
Net*	1.2	6.6	6.1	4.0
3 Month GBP SONIA + 2%	1.6	7.0	6.6	5.0
Excess returns (gross) *	-0.3	0.0	-0.1	-0.6
Excess returns (Net) *	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	-1.0

Inception Date: COB 30th September 2020
Source: Russell Investments as of 30 June 2025

Inception date is based starting NAV for the sub-fund. This inception date (and therefore performance) may differ from the investment manager, who typically takes over following a transition period.

Overall Fund Commentary

The Fund lagged behind target this quarter. Performance was supported by the recent addition of DNCA, which contributed positively, returning 1.67% since inception on April 23. DNCA's active regional duration positioning was a key driver of this outperformance.

Oaktree added 1.66% during the quarter, also meeting the return target. Credit markets produced strong returns during the second quarter, driven by both credit spread tightening and Treasury rate declines. By industry, Software/Services holdings contributed the most to quarterly absolute return, followed by REITs and Health Facilities. Pharmaceuticals holdings detracted. Aegon, the fund's ABS manager, returned 0.97% in the quarter. Performance benefited from the recovery in European ABS spreads following the post-"Liberation Day" rebound. After a muted primary market in early April, improved market sentiment in May led to tightening spreads and better issuance conditions. Strong investor demand, underpinned by elevated cash balances, absorbed the increase in supply. Wellington returned 0.66% over the quarter, underperforming the SONIA Overnight Rate Index by 43bps. The short UK and Euro area duration positions, combined with a steepening bias, detracted from performance. However, value was added through currency positioning—most notably an underweight in USD—and increased exposure to high yield credit, capitalizing on spread widening early in the quarter.

Sterling Credit Fund:

The sub-fund has an expected outperformance of **0.65%** in excess of the sub-fund benchmark net of fees, over the longer term.

	Q2 2025	1 Year	3 Year	Since Inception
Gross	2.9	5.8	3.8	-0.3
Net	2.9	5.7	3.7	-0.4
ICE Bank of America Merrill Lynch Euro-Sterling Index	2.9	6.0	3.1	-0.6
Excess returns (gross)	0.0	-0.2	0.7	0.3
Excess returns (Net)	0.0	-0.3	0.6	0.2

Inception Date: COB 27th July 2020
Source: Northern Trust as of 30 June 2025
Benchmark: ICE Bank of America Merrill Lynch Euro-Sterling Index.
Inception date is based starting NAV for the sub-fund. This inception date (and therefore performance) may differ from the investment manager, who typically takes over following a transition period.

Overall Fund Commentary

Term structure positioning contributed to returns with favourable positioning across US treasury yield curve adding value. Favourable positioning via quant model also enhanced returns. Credit positioning detracted from returns, but losses were largely offset by coupon income. Specifically, the underweight stance in consumer and telecommunications sector held back returns amid broad based spread tightening. Our structural underweight stance in quasi/supra names also weighed on returns. Holdings in Thames Water was the largest detractor from issuer standpoint as bonds underperformed due to a combination of financial distress, regulatory challenges, and investor concerns. In comparison, the overweight stance in banks such as BNP Paribas and Bank of America enhanced returns.

The Fund retains a relatively cautious stance in credit, given tight credit spreads and a challenging economic backdrop, alongside increased geopolitical uncertainty. While fundamentals remain intact, we prefer to be selective in specific parts of the market where we have more conviction. All-in yields remain attractive in sterling corporate bond markets, thus offering some cushion against underlying rates and credit volatility.

The second quarter saw rising geopolitical tensions, driven by US tariffs and Middle East developments. Recession fears spiked around the US Liberation Day tariff news but eased as a softer stance emerged. With central banks nearing the end of rate cuts, focus shifted to fiscal policy and debt sustainability, leading to steepening yield curves globally. Despite the uncertainty, credit markets remained resilient, supported by strong demand, high yields, and low net issuance, resulting in positive returns across sectors and regions.