

31 October 2024

Life Fund

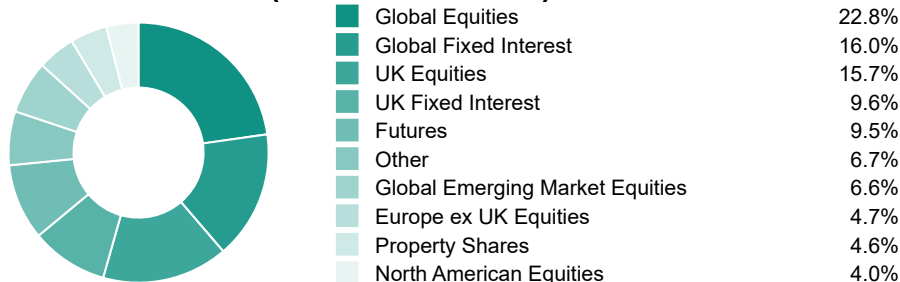
Scottish Widows Balanced Growth Life

Fund Aim

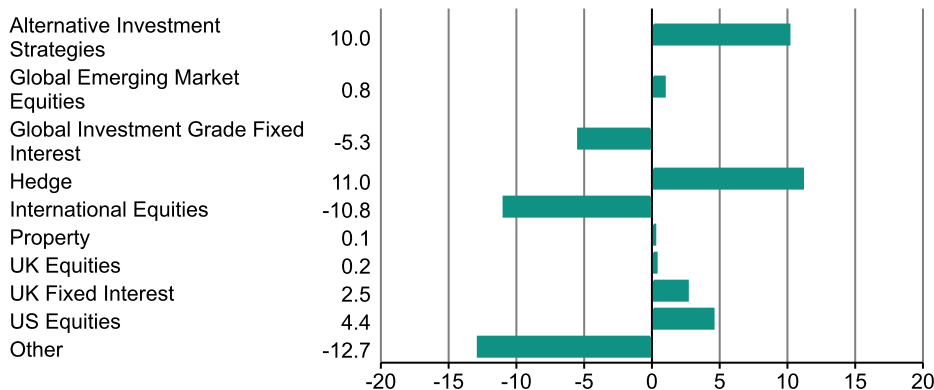
The aim of the Balanced Growth OEIC Fund that this Life fund invests into is: To provide long-term capital growth mainly through investment in collective investment schemes. The Fund aims to provide exposure to a combination of equities (which may include UK, overseas and emerging markets), bonds (this may include UK Government bonds, index-linked securities, other UK fixed interest securities, overseas bonds and high yield bonds) and property (which can be both in the UK and overseas). The Fund may also provide exposure to commodities and other alternative assets such as derivatives. In addition the Fund has the power to invest in other asset classes permitted by FCA rules.

'ESG Metrics'

Asset Allocation (as at 30/09/2024)



Asset Allocation Relative to Strategic Asset Allocation (as at 30/09/2024)



The composition of asset mix and asset allocation may change at any time and exclude cash unless otherwise stated

This document is provided for the purpose of information only. This factsheet is intended for individuals who are familiar with investment terminology. Please contact your financial adviser if you need an explanation of the terms used. This material should not be relied upon as sufficient information to support an investment decision. The portfolio data on this factsheet is updated on a quarterly basis.

Information Statement

Scottish Widows produce Environmental, Social and Governance themed fund metrics. Selected data can be found using the ESG metric link.

Basic Fund Information

Fund Launch Date	28/06/2010
Fund Size	£208.2
ISIN	-
MEX ID	-
SEDOL	-
Manager	Philip Chandler
Names	
Manager Since	28/02/2020

Top Ten Holdings

(as at 30/09/2024)

SCOTTISH WIDOWS GTAA 1 NPV	9.1%
BLK ACS CLIMATE TRANS WLD EQ X4	6.6%
SCOTTISH WIDOWS UNIT TRUST FUNDAMENTAL IDX GBL EQTY X PENS ACC	6.6%
SCHRODER INTERNATIONAL SELECT FD EMERGING MARKET BOND I GBP ACC HEDGED	5.1%
SW CORP BOND W ACC	5.0%
FTSE 100 INDEX DEC 24 (Z Z4)	4.6%
SW HBOS INVESTMENT FUND MANAGERS LTD UK PROPERTY FD INSTL IC	4.6%
BNY MELLON INVESTMENTS FUNDS I ACC NPV	4.4%
S&P500 EMINI DEC 24 (ESZ4)	4.1%
SCOTTISH WIDOWS UNIT TRUST MAN US EQUITY TRACKER X PENS ACC	4.0%
TOTAL	54.1%

Performance figures are in £ British Pound on a single pricing basis, with income (where applicable) reinvested net of UK tax and net of total annual fund charges. These figures do not include any initial charge or other product charge(s) that may be applicable.

Past Performance



■ Scottish Widows Balanced Growth Life

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investment value and income from it may fall as well as rise, as a result of market and currency movements. You may not get back the amount originally invested.

Discrete Performance

	30/09/2023 - 30/09/2024	30/09/2022 - 30/09/2023	30/09/2021 - 30/09/2022	30/09/2020 - 30/09/2021	30/09/2019 - 30/09/2020
Scottish Widows Balanced Growth Life	10.6%	5.0%	-6.8%	13.3%	-6.1%

Information is shown as unavailable if prior to the launch of fund.

Cumulative Performance

	30/09/2024 - 31/10/2024	31/07/2024 - 31/10/2024	31/10/2023 - 31/10/2024	31/10/2021 - 31/10/2024	31/10/2019 - 31/10/2024
Scottish Widows Balanced Growth Life	-0.4%	1.6%	12.7%	7.3%	15.0%

Source: FE fundinfo as at 31/10/2024

Performance figures are in £ Sterling on a single pricing basis, with income (where applicable) reinvested net of UK tax and net of total annual fund charges. These figures do not include any initial charge or other product charge(s) that may be applicable.

Quarterly Fund Manager Review

Global equities were broadly higher in the third quarter, with emerging markets outperforming developed markets. Global government bonds achieved a varied performance in the quarter. The fund's overweight equities stance was consistent with our soft-landing view, focusing on US, European, and Japanese markets, approximately replicating the MSCI ACWI index. On the US side, improved S&P 500 earnings and lower inflation supported our increased allocations to the Nasdaq and S&P 500, meanwhile we reduced European equities exposure because of negative earnings expectations and political instability. A mid-July addition included an overweight Australian 10-year vs underweight Canadian 10-year government bond position, exploiting mean reversion opportunities amid different inflationary pressures and economic data in Australia and Canada. We believe markets have over-discounted these conditions and we see opportunity for a tactical reversal. Following the sharp repricing of short-term yields, we expected yields to move higher so the fund maintained an underweight position in US 5-year Treasuries. However, with inflation coming under control, bonds should once again start to be a valuable hedge against recession risks in the long term, regaining their attractiveness as growth diversifiers. A broad commodities trade was added in August as falling energy prices and growth concerns led to significant sell-offs. The BCOM index, skewed to precious metals, provided additional gold exposure, aligning with our positive outlook on gold. In currencies, the fund kept positions in the Mexican peso and Brazilian real against the US dollar and euro, benefiting from attractive carry trades amid solid fundamentals and soft-landing expectations. The US dollar view was downgraded, anticipating Federal Reserve rate cuts and a reduced probability of a "no landing" scenario. Additionally, a long Norwegian krone vs Swedish krona trade was profitable, correlating well with energy markets and yielding positive results over the quarter.

Philip Chandler 30/09/2024

The views, opinions and forecasts expressed in this document are those of the fund management house. Investment markets and conditions can change rapidly and as such the views expressed should not be taken as statements of fact, nor should reliance be placed on these views when making investment decisions.

- Investing in equities generally has the potential for higher capital growth over the longer term than investing in, say, fixed interest securities. However there might be considerable fluctuations in equity prices and there is a greater risk that you might not get all your money back.

- Exchange rate changes might cause the value of any overseas investments to go up or down.

- Property is a less liquid asset than other assets such as bonds or equities and values could be affected if properties need to be sold in a short timescale. Property valuation is generally a matter of judgement by an independent valuer rather than fact and values can go up or down.

- Some of the companies and governments who issue the bonds that the funds invest in might not be able to meet their payments, or their credit rating might fall. If they don't meet their payments, or their credit rating falls, the value of your investment might reduce. In addition, a proportion of the Fund can be invested in high yield bonds (a type of fixed interest security with a low rating from a credit agency), these can offer a higher income than bonds with a high credit rating but carry a higher risk of not being able to meet their payments.

- Fluctuations in interest rates are likely to affect the value of the bonds held by the funds. If longterm interest rates rise, the value of your shares is likely to fall and vice versa.