Generation Life Protect Portfolio

Fact Sheet | 30 June 2024

Performance as at 30 June 2024[1]	1 Month (%)	3 Month (%)	6 Month (%)	1 year (%)	3 years (% p.a.)	5 years (% p.a.)	Since Inception (% p.a.)
Fund gross return (before fees & after tax)	1.21	-0.36	2.07	-	-	-	4.94
Fund 2.5% LifeBooster Return (after fees & after tax)	0.91	-1.28	0.21	-	-	-	1.32
Fund 5.0% LifeBooster Return (after fees & after tax)	0.69	-1.88	-1.00	-	-	-	-1.00
Retirement Living Index	0.29	0.88	1.75	-	-	-	2.89

Fund facts	
Sector	Diversified – real return
Inception date	17 July 2023
Fund code	LI28
Generation Life APIR code – 2.5%	ALL7251AU
Generation Life APIR code – 5.0%	ALL9168AU
Investment management cost[4]	0.77% p.a.
Buy/sell spread	0.15%/0.15%
Suggested minimum investment period	3 Years
Risk level	3 – Low to Medium

Investment objective

To outperform the benchmark by 2.5% p.a. over rolling 5-year periods.

The benchmark is the 5-year rolling annualised change of Self-Fund Retiree Living Cost Index (LCI). The LCI is published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Investment approach

The manager's approach to real return investing is to choose the portfolio that has the highest probability of achieving the required return objectiuve over the investment horizon with a focus on capital preservation.

The portfolio has been designed to meet the needs of LifeIncome investors. In actively managing the portfolio, the Investment Manager will tactically allocate investments across asset classes and geographic areas (including emerging markets) based on their potential to generate capital growth or reduce overall risk.

Market commentary

Equity markets moved higher in June and the MSCI World Index rose 2.4%, helped by the better performance of U.S. and Japanese markets as Europe lagged. Emerging markets outperformed 4.3%, supported by the artificial intelligence (AI) exposed markets in Taiwan and Korea, which are large weights in the index.

Economic data was weaker around the world in June, putting the 'soft' back into the soft landing and unwinding concerns that the US economy may run 'too hot' for inflation to fall. Some developed market central banks have now started their rate cutting cycle to support growth as inflation pressures fade, but the pace of policy easing will be more modest compared to expectations a few months ago. Australia is proving an exception to this view, as inflation is looking more stuck than sticky, creating a bias for further tightening.

Divergence in monetary policies and uncertainty in politics has been resulting in volatility for government bond markets for some time. With yields resetting over the last two years, this has meant bonds will serve a dual role in portfolios, income and diversification against growth shocks.

In Australia, the RBA held the cash rate steady at 4.35%. CPI for May accelerated at 4.0 y-o-y, in stark contrast to the global economy and triggering predictions of rate rises rather than falls. Unemployment fell to 4.0% with broad indicators such as vacancies, hours worked and employment intentions pointing towards a softening in the labour market and easing of wages pressures.

Portfolio commentary

The Protect portfolio performance has been 1.21% and 4.94% over one month and since inception respectively. This is 92bps higher and 205bps higher than the LCI over the same corresponding period. The biggest contributors to performance over the one-month period have been global bonds as well as global equities with the EM leading this gain. Over the longer term, a similar story with equities adding the greatest alpha.

Asset class insights include

Shares vs Fixed Income: close to neutral on risk assets

Overweight on risk assets in line with multi-asset team's Core decision. Fundamentals are strong due to an improvement in the economic cycle between mid-late cycle and China stabilizing. Although inflation remains sticky, we do not think this will cause policy to be over restrictive. Rate cuts are anticipated but appears to be delayed. Our quant models have turned on more risk, and this comes with stress indicators in markets moving to low levels.

Australian shares vs Global Shares

Overall the relative signals for Australia vs World are mixed but Terms of Trade for Australian commodities has bounced back sharply. Relative economic surprises at the margin does not favour Australia. Earnings outlook for Australia however, continues to improve. We have closed a small underweight position in Australia Equities and added back AUD exposure over the month by shorting JPY, given sticky inflation in Australia and RBA contemplating a rate hike.

Within global equities, regional allocations

The US maintains its growth leadership. Recent data further confirms the consensus view for a soft landing, with the labour market still tight and perhaps loosening but only slightly. Profit margins in the US continue to stabilize, with trailing and forward earnings picking up notably as earnings season progresses. The US market does not appear excessively expensive compared to historical numbers however needs to be monitored for potential risks from extended positioning.

We remain overweight on Japan and increased our allocation to the region during the month as the relative value is strong and the structural story around corporate reforms persist. Earnings growth, sales growth and margins are all strong. Valuations are looking a bit rich and depreciation of Yen has been helpful. We continue to watch for any global growth slowdowns or Yen appreciation as both would cause negative impacts for earnings growth.

Our stance on China remains neutral give the structural headwinds and challenging macro backdrop. Overall EM Asia is experiencing negative credit growth, depressed consumer sentiment and continue housing price and transaction downturns. Earnings estimates on Chinese stocks have also fallen. We will closely watch policy development on this space to see if an overweight is warranted soon.

Within fixed income, duration vs. credit

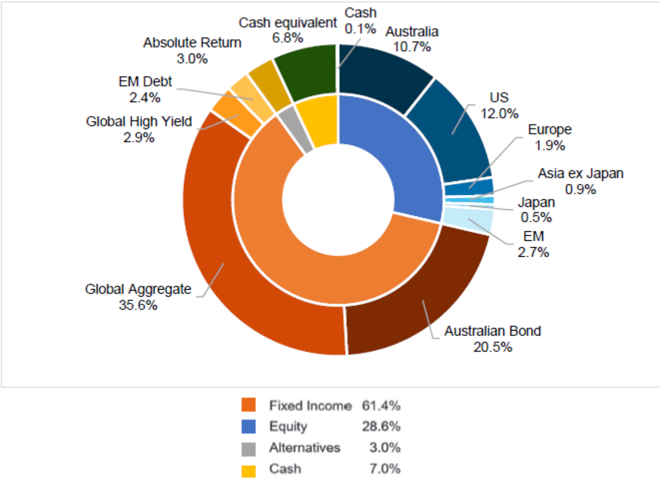
During June we took down the duration underweight on the margin and moved this close to a neutral duration relative to benchmark. Within the global aggregate, we are more positive on the Euro duration, as the relatively weaker European economy and larger chance of ECB cut earlier than FED.

We have added to the Australian bond exposure after yield picked up to an attractive 4.47% by the end of May on the back of sticky/hotter inflation. This has driven the 10Y Australian real yield to almost the highest in 10-year history.

Include alternatives in the asset mi

In a world with higher equity to bond correlations, we seek more diversifying assets such as absolute return strategies and it has been a strong driver of returns since inception.

Portfolio Positioning



Security Name	Portfolio weight
Global Short Duration Income Fund	13.9%
Vanguard Australian Government Bonds ETF	10.3%
iShares Core Composite Bond ETF	10.3%
Global Corporate Bond Fund USD	8.7%
Global Bond Fund USD	7.2%
Australian Equities Fund	6.9%
iShares Core Cash ETF	6.9%
Euro Bond Fund (Hedged)	6.1%
MSCI USA Quality	5.4%
Sustainable Research Enhanced US Equity	4.9%

Investor services		Adviser services	
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Investment guidelines

	Range
Defensive Assets	40-100%
Growth Assets	0-50%

About the investment manager

FIL Investment Management (Australia) Limited ("Fidelity") is part of parent company Fidelity International which was founded in 1969 as the international arm of Fidelity Investments (founded in Boston, US in 1946). Fidelity International became indepdent of the US firm in 1980, and now invests AUD$1,080m(as at 31 March 2023) on behalf of more than 2.8 million clients globally. Fidelity International remains ap private company – predominantly owned by management and members of the founding family.

About Generation Life

As the pioneer of Australia's first truly flexible investment bond, we have been at the forefront of providing innovative tax-effective investment solutions since 2004. As an innovation led business, we constantly strive to enhance our products and processes to optimise retirement incomes and after-tax investment performance for our investors. We are a leading specialist provider of investment linked annuities and investment bond solutions – with over $3.3 billion invested with us to date.

Generation Life is a regulated life insurance company and our parent company is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange. Our focus is to continue to provide Australians with market leading tax-effective investment solutions that provide a flexible investment alternative to meet both personal and financial goals.

Our investment solutions are designed to help you grow your wealth, meet your day-to-day investment needs and to help you plan for your future needs including the transfer of wealth to the next generation.

Notes

1. Investment management costs include investment manager's fees, estimated investment expense recoveries and other indirect investment costs as a percentage of the total average assets of the investment option based on latest available information, but excludes indirect transaction and operational costs.
2. Past performance is not an indicator of future performance.
3. The administration fee is deducted directly from the investment option before unit prices are declared.

Investor services

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