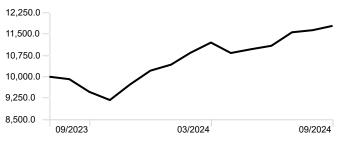


The portfolio returned 6.31%^ in the September quarter. Both our global equity exposure and the direct Australian equity ESG portfolio contributed positively to performance over the period. The portfolio's emerging markets exposure also added value.

### Growth of \$10,000

Time Period: Since Inception to 30/09/2024



### **Performance Review**

Inception date: 1/08/2023

### Portfolio objective

To provide returns over the medium to long term, with moderate to high volatility, consistent with a portfolio focusing on growth-oriented assets. The portfolio aims to provide exposure to predominantly sustainable investment strategies and outperform the benchmark over a rolling 7-year period.

## Portfolio strategy

The portfolio typically invests in a diversified investment mix of predominantly sustainable investment strategies with exposure to growth investments of around 100% such as Australian shares, international shares, property, infrastructure and alternatives over the long term. These allocations will be actively managed within the allowable ranges depending on market conditions.

#### Main market highlights

Global share markets made good gains in the September quarter. Much of the gains continued to be driven by central bank activity; notably in the US, where the Federal Reserve (Fed) lowered its benchmark fed funds rate by 0.50% to a target range of between 4.75% and 5.00%. Whilst the rate cut itself had been widely anticipated, the size of the move had been the subject of much debate in the lead up to the meeting as the Bank's focus shifted from taming inflation to protecting the labour market and the country's economic expansion. Speaking after the meeting, Chairman Jerome Powell said the decision to cut rates by 0.50% didn't imply that the inflation fight was over, but rather that officials had growing confidence it was time for a recalibration of the Bank's policy stance. He also noted that the larger-than-normal move shouldn't be interpreted as the beginning of a more aggressive rate cutting cycle. Regardless, the bigger move added to optimism the US economy can achieve a 'soft landing', whereby the Fed tames inflation without triggering an economic downturn. The Australian share market performed well over the period, helped by a positive lead from its global peers, a series of mostly positive earnings results and strong gains across the 'Big Four' banks and major miners, which together comprise a large part of the index.

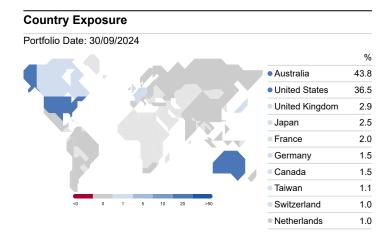
### Long-term investing: Positioning for 5 years and beyond

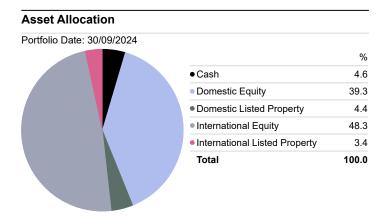
The portfolio has a long-term asset allocation of 98% to growth assets. Growth asset valuations have increased year to date but are below pre-pandemic levels. Long-term, forward-looking return expectations for US shares and high-yield debt have moderated. The economic outlook creates uncertainty in the near term, however in the long term, growth assets are still preferred due to superior returns relative to defensive assets.

Defensive assets such as fixed income and cash have an allocation of 2% in the portfolio. A tilt toward credit further enhances the long-term return potential, but also increases the risk of losses. Credit spreads have narrowed and are near their long-term averages. Government bonds are cheap across some markets and are now offering much higher yields than at the beginning of 2022.

Strategically, the portfolio has positions in cheaper and higher momentum securities per our research.







### **Sector Allocation** Portfolio Date: 30/09/2024 Basic Materials 9.9 Consumer Cyclical 8.6 Financial Services 19 9 Real Estate 10.6 Consumer Defensive 3.9 Healthcare 11.5 Utilities 4.2 Communication Services 4.3

Energy

Total

Industrials

Technology

### Main portfolio highlights

The direct Australian equity ESG portfolio outperformed its benchmark, benefiting from structural underweights to the energy and utilities sectors. Both sectors underperformed the broader market over the period. In contrast, stock selection detracted from overall returns, albeit modestly. This included underweights to sleep device maker ResMed and QBE Insurance. Partly offsetting these positions were our holdings in Brambles and electronics retailer JB Hi-Fi. A small underweight to property trusts also weighed on performance.

Mirova's Global Sustainable Equity No.2 Fund underperformed its benchmark, driven in part by stock selection within the healthcare space; notably a sizable overweight to Danish pharmaceutical company Novo Nordisk A/S. Stock selection amongst industrials also weighed on returns, including an overweight to Danish wind turbine company Vestas Wind Systems A/S.

The Russell Investments Low Carbon Global Shares Fund narrowly outperformed its benchmark, benefiting from a structural underweight to the energy space and its exclusion of companies involved in defence contracting; notably nil holdings in plane makers Airbus SE and Boeing. In contrast, the Fund's exclusion of tobacco companies weighed on returns, including nil holdings in Philip Morris International and British American Tobacco.

The Impax Sustainable Leaders strategy outperformed its benchmark, driven by an overweight to industrials and stock selection within the healthcare sector. This included overweights to US laboratory technology provider Agilent Technologies and French laboratory testing company Eurofins Scientific SE.

In July, we reduced the portfolio's allocation to Australian real estate investment trusts (A-REITs) in favour of global real estate investment trusts (G-REITs). G-REITs have not only underperformed A-REITs but also the broader global equity market. As a result, we believe G-REITs offer better value. G-REITs also provide greater diversification benefits, with the global listed property market comprising more than 300 constituents compared to just 33 in Australia.

1.0

11.6

14.5

100.0



Detailed Asset Allocation	
Portfolio Date: 30/09/2024	
	Portfolic Weighting %
Russell Invmts Low Carbon Glb Shrs AUDH	16.04
Mirova Global Sustainable Equity Fund	11.46
Russell Invmts Low Carbon Glb Shrs A	8.92
Ausbil Active Sustainable Equity	7.33
Impax Sustainable Leaders Fund A	7.22
Perpetual ESG Australia Share	6.04
Alphinity Sustainable Share	5.89
First Sentier Responsible Listed Infras	4.19
Russell Intl Property Secs Hedged A	4.13
Vanguard Australian Property Secs ETF	3.50
iShares Core Cash ETF	0.96
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	2.05
CSL Ltd	1.48
Westpac Banking Corp	1.45
National Australia Bank Ltd	1.35
ANZ Group Holdings Ltd	1.32
Wesfarmers Ltd	1.21
Rio Tinto Ltd	1.04
Telstra Group Ltd	0.95
Fortescue Ltd	0.90
Brambles Ltd	0.83
Macquarie Group Ltd	0.82
Goodman Group	0.73
Woolworths Group Ltd	0.72
James Hardie Industries PLC ADR	0.66
BlueScope Steel Ltd	0.63
Transurban Group	0.60
JB Hi Fi Ltd	0.58
WiseTech Global Ltd	0.57
Amcor PLC	0.53
Northern Star Resources Ltd	0.51
QBE Insurance Group Ltd	0.49
Coles Group Ltd	0.48
Ramsay Health Care Ltd	0.47
Atlas Arteria Ltd	0.46
Suncorp Group Ltd	0.43
Cochlear Ltd	0.42
Pilbara Minerals Ltd	0.37
Xero Ltd	0.36
Iluka Resources Ltd	0.35
Medibank Pvt Ltd	0.32

Allocations may not equal 100% due to rounding. In order to manage a fund/portfolio to its investment objectives, Russell Investments retains the discretion to change the underlying investments at any time, without notice to investors. Please refer to the relevant Product Disclosure Statement for more information.



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