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Future Directions Moderately Conservative

Quarterly Investment Option Update

31 March 2021

Aim and Strategy

To provide moderate returns over the medium term through a diversified portfolio of assets such as fixed interest, shares, property and alternative assets. The portfolio aims to achieve a rate of return above inflation after costs over a 3 to 5-year period and to provide a total return, after costs and before tax, higher than the return from the relevant benchmarks of the underlying investments. The portfolio also aims to exceed the Chant West Multi-Manager Survey (Balanced Growth) Median(competitor universe) on a pre-tax basis.

Investment Option Performance

To view the latest investment performances for each product, please visit www.amp.com.au/performance

Investment Option Overview

Investment category	Multi-Sector
Suggested minimum investment timeframe	4 years
Relative risk rating	Medium to High
Investment style	Active
Manager style	Multi-manager

Asset Allocation	Benchmark (%)
International shares	19
Australian Fixed Interest	17
Australian Shares	17
International Fixed Interest	13
Cash	10
Growth Alternatives	9
Unlisted Property and Infrastructure	6
Defensive Alternatives	5
Listed Property and Infrastructure	4
Actual Allocation	%
International Shares	20.47
Australian Shares	18.25
Listed Property and Infrastructure	5.21
Unlisted Property and Infrastructure	6.02
Growth Alternatives	5.45
International Fixed Interest	16.27
Australian Fixed Interest	11.47

Defensive Alternatives

Cash

Fund Performance

The Fund commenced 2021 on a positive note, delivering a fourth consecutive quarter of positive performance. Growth assets continued to be the key driver of performance as broad-based optimism drove the share market higher, while more defensive assets weakened. Overall, the Fund outperformed the benchmark and comfortably exceeded its CPI objective over the period.

In general, investors reacted positively to the execution of a US\$1.9 trillion US economic stimulus bill, the American Rescue Plan Act, as well as the strong progress of the vaccine rollout in the US and UK. It is expected that with the further economic support and continued inoculation effort, global economies should be able to sustainably reopen and realise strong economic growth throughout 2021. This backdrop saw share markets rally, and bond markets fall. Overall, the S&P/ASX 200 index ended the quarter up 4.3% and the MSCI World ex Australia index closed up 6.2% (in local currency terms), largely driven by sharp gains in value stocks and commodities. Global bonds returned -2.5% (on an Australian dollar hedged basis), as yields rose. Unlisted assets and alternatives gained as investors reacted to positive sentiment.

Relative to the benchmark, the Fund performed well over the quarter. Active share exposures were a key driver of outperformance, with value strategies performing strongly. Alternatives also generated positive returns boosting outperformance. Additionally, the active decision to hold underweight allocations to both Australian and international bonds provided uplift, as they underperformed relative to other asset classes.

Market Review

Share markets were volatile over the March quarter overall as uncertainty increased around the potential effect of upward pressure on bond rates, evidenced toward the tail-end of the quarter, nascent inflationary pressures, and how central banks will react in the current environment. There were also some concerns over the pace of vaccine rollout in some countries, supply bottlenecks, and the general pace of economic recovery. However, countering this, global share markets saw some support in the period from improving visibility developing around these areas. Despite this, technology stocks continue to exhibit some risk-on / risk-off vacillation around potentially excessive valuations and the ongoing rotation bias from growth into value.

In the US, the US\$1.9 trillion support programme was passed in an attempt to provide further stimulus to the economy and make good an initial election promise to reduce some economic inequality. Markets are hoping the programme will be able to stimulate activity without stoking inflation. The passing of the bill has imparted some confidence to the new administration and Joe Biden gave his first press conference, albeit somewhat later than expected, with optimism.

Outlook

Looking ahead, we remain cautiously optimistic for the remainder of 2021. As the COVID-19 vaccine rollout continues to gain pace globally and the hospitalisation rate continues to trend downward, economic growth is projected to boom as economies ramp up their re-opening efforts. Against this backdrop, we look favourably on shares relative to bonds. However, the sharp 'V-shaped' recovery has left markets somewhat susceptible to a correction. Maintaining an active, well-diversified asset exposure should help mitigate losses should this scenario arise. We continue to hold tilts into cash, shares and credit assets, at the expense of domestic and international government bonds, as we expect them to benefit in this environment. Option protection also continues to be implemented to help mitigate losses should share markets selloff.

Availability

Product Name	APIR
AMP Flexible Super - Retirement	AMP1358AU*
AMP Flexible Super - Super	AMP1487AU*
CustomSuper	AMP0660AU
Flexible Lifetime - Allocated Pension	AMP0607AU*
Flexible Lifetime - Investments (Series 1)	AMP0689AU**
Flexible Lifetime - Investments (Series 2)	AMP1422AU**
Flexible Lifetime - Super	AMP0660AU*
Flexible Lifetime - Term Pension	AMP0930AU*
SignatureSuper	AMP0804AU
SignatureSuper - Allocated Pension	AMP1160AU
SignatureSuper Select	AMP0804AU

^{*}Closed to new investors

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^{**}Closed to new and existing investors