

Portfolio Update

16 FEBRUARY 2024



PORTFOLIO CHANGE AND RATIONALE

Equity and bond markets have benefitted greatly from the policy stance pivot by the US Federal Reserve since late last year. Amidst the goldilocks environment of cooling inflation and better than expected growth, we have continued to note that the stickier elements of inflation have actually been stable at a level well above the Fed's target of 2%. While markets embraced the goldilocks environment of disinflation amongst still robust growth, they had also recently been questioning the ability of the Fed to actually cut rates as fast as was anticipated. With very strong January labour market data and a pickup in our US Growth Barometer, it appears that the economy has withstood 5% interest rates rather well and is certainly not one that is in need of five interest rate cuts this year.

January's higher than expected CPI reading adds further pressure to the forecast pace of rate cuts. Given how asset markets had swung so far towards this view, we think there is ample room to swing back the other way. As such, we are today reducing the overweight portfolio exposure to the interest rate sensitive infrastructure sector via the holding in ClearBridge. For now, the proceeds will be held in cash as we look to re-allocate the proceeds into growth assets better equipped to deal with a potential higher for longer interest rate environment.

In addition, given the markets recent strong performance we will also be re-balancing portfolios where floating weights have drifted for some managers, predominantly equities.

PORTFOLIO CHANGES

Fund C	Change	Dynamic	DS30	DS50	DS70	DS90	DS100	DS100+
ClearBridge RARE Infrastructure Income Fund - Hedged		-2.0%	-2.0%	-2.0%	-2.0%	-2.0%		
Cash		2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%		

ASSET CLASS POSITIONING

Following the changes, the portfolios are now neutral Infrastructure.

Australian Equities	Strong Underweight		Underweight		Neutral		Overweight		Strong Overweight	
	0		0		•		0		0	
Global Equities	\circ				0		\circ		0	
Property	0		0		0				0	
Infrastructure	0		\circ				\circ		0	
Global Alpha	\circ				0		\circ		0	
Government Bonds	\circ				0		0		0	
Corporate Debt	0		0		0				0	
Cash	0		0		0				0	
Total Growth vs Defensive	0				0		0		0	

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