

### Pendal Multi-Asset Target Return Fund

Multi-Asset Strategies

ARSN: 623 987 968

January 2020

#### About the Fund

The Pendal Multi-Asset Target Return Fund (**Fund**) is an actively managed multi-asset class portfolio that invests in Australian and international shares, Australian and international listed property securities, Australian and international fixed interest, cash and alternative investments.

#### Investment Return Objective

The Fund aims to provide a return (before fees, costs and taxes) of Australian CPI<sup>^</sup> plus 5% per annum over rolling five year periods. The suggested investment timeframe is 5 years or more.

The Fund benchmark is the Australian Consumer Price Index.

#### Description of Fund

The Fund is designed for investors who are seeking a return that exceeds inflation, diversification across a broad range of asset classes and are prepared to accept some variability of returns.

The Fund aims to generate its returns by investing in shares, listed property securities, fixed interest and alternative investments, both in Australia and globally. To gain its exposure to these asset classes the Fund may invest in shares, bonds, derivatives, unit trusts, exchange traded funds, and listed investment companies/trusts. The Fund will not invest in illiquid assets such as direct property or direct infrastructure.

The Fund's asset allocation is dynamically managed by Pendal, based on an assessment of market valuations, the market/economic cycle and technical indicators. Pendal also seeks to add value and/or reduce risk by employing other strategies such as tactical trades that seek to take advantage of shorter term market dislocations and relative value strategies that focus on mispricing between similar types of financial assets.

#### Investment Team

The Fund is managed by Michael Blayney who has more than 21 year's industry experience and leads the multi asset investments team at Pendal. The team has a diverse skill set; combining a range of global and domestic market experience and drawing on the resources of Pendal's other specialist teams.

#### Risks

An investment in the Fund involves risk, including:

- **Market risk** - The risk associated with factors that can influence the direction and volatility of an overall market, as opposed to security-specific risks. These factors can affect one country or a number of countries.
- **International investments risk** – The risk arising from political and economic uncertainties, interest rate movements and differences in regulatory supervision associated with international investments.
- **Currency risk** - Currency exchange rate fluctuation risk arising from investing across multiple countries.
- **Credit risk** - The risk of an issuing entity defaulting on its obligation to pay interest/principal when due.
- **Liquidity risk** - The risk that an asset may not be converted to cash in a timely manner.
- **Derivative risk** - The risk that the Fund makes substantial losses or has volatile returns through the use of derivatives.
- **Counterparty risk** - The risk of another party to a transaction failing to meet its obligations.

Please read the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement (**PDS**) for a detailed explanation of each of these risks.

#### Performance

(%)	Total Returns		Benchmark
	(post-fee)	(pre-fee)	Return
1 month	-1.03	-0.96	0.15
3 months	-0.25	-0.06	0.61
6 months	0.04	0.43	1.20
1 year (pa)	2.38	3.18	2.22
Since Inception (pa)	1.91	2.72	2.01

#### Asset Allocation (as at 31 January 2020)

Australian shares	1.3%
International shares	16.7%
Australian and International property securities	2.0%
Fixed interest	24.0%
Alternative investments	6.1%
Cash	49.9%

#### Investment Guidelines

Asset allocation ranges (%)	Ranges	
	Min	Max
Australian shares	0	30
International shares	0	50
Australian and International property securities	0	20
Fixed interest	0	100
Alternative investments	0	30
Cash	0	100

#### Other Information

Fund size (as at 31 Jan 2020)	\$124 million
Date of inception	April 2018
Minimum investment	\$25,000
Buy-sell spread <sup>1</sup>	0.24% (0.12%/0.12%)
Distribution frequency	Quarterly
APIR code	PDL3383AU

<sup>1</sup> The buy-sell spread represents transaction costs incurred whenever you invest or withdraw funds, and may vary from time to time without notice.

#### Management Costs<sup>2</sup>

Issuer fee <sup>3</sup>	0.78% pa
Estimated indirect costs <sup>4</sup>	0.04% pa

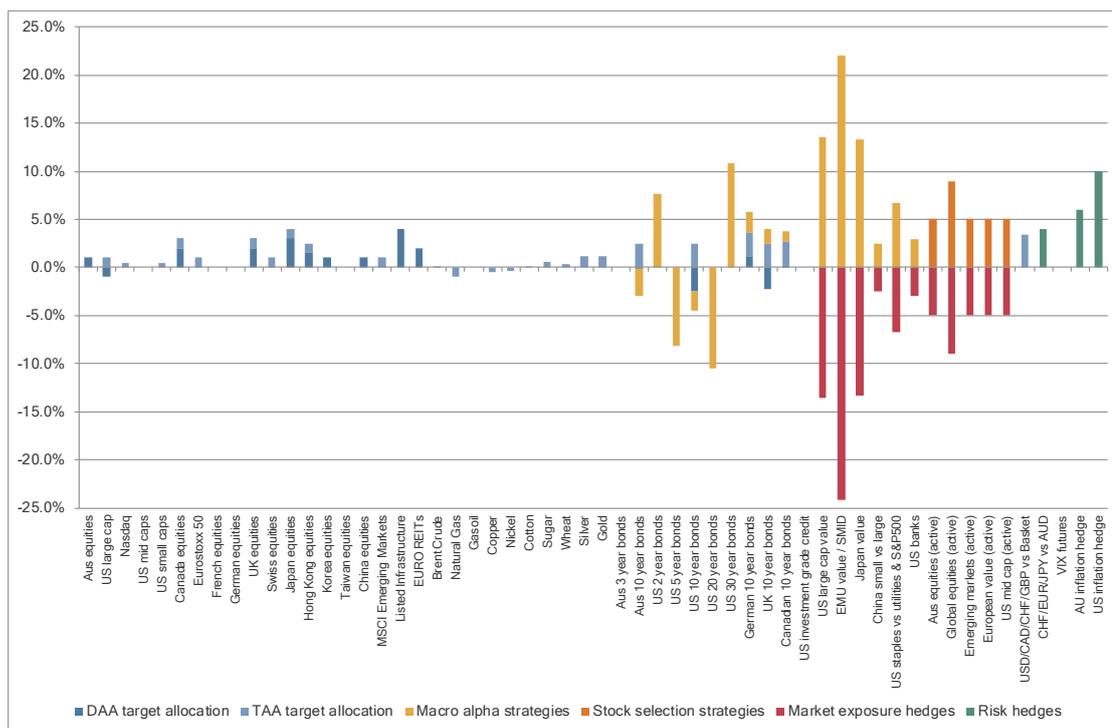
<sup>2</sup> You should refer to the latest Product Disclosure Statement for full details of fees and other costs you may be charged.

<sup>3</sup> This is the fee we charge for overseeing the operations of the Fund and managing the assets of the Fund. The Issuer fee is paid from the assets of the Fund and is reflected in the unit price of your investment.

<sup>4</sup> This is an estimate of the last financial year's indirect costs. These are reflected in the unit price of the Fund and are not charged to you as a fee or retained by us.

<sup>^</sup>Australian CPI or Australian Consumer Price Index means the All groups Consumer Price Index (CPI) as published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

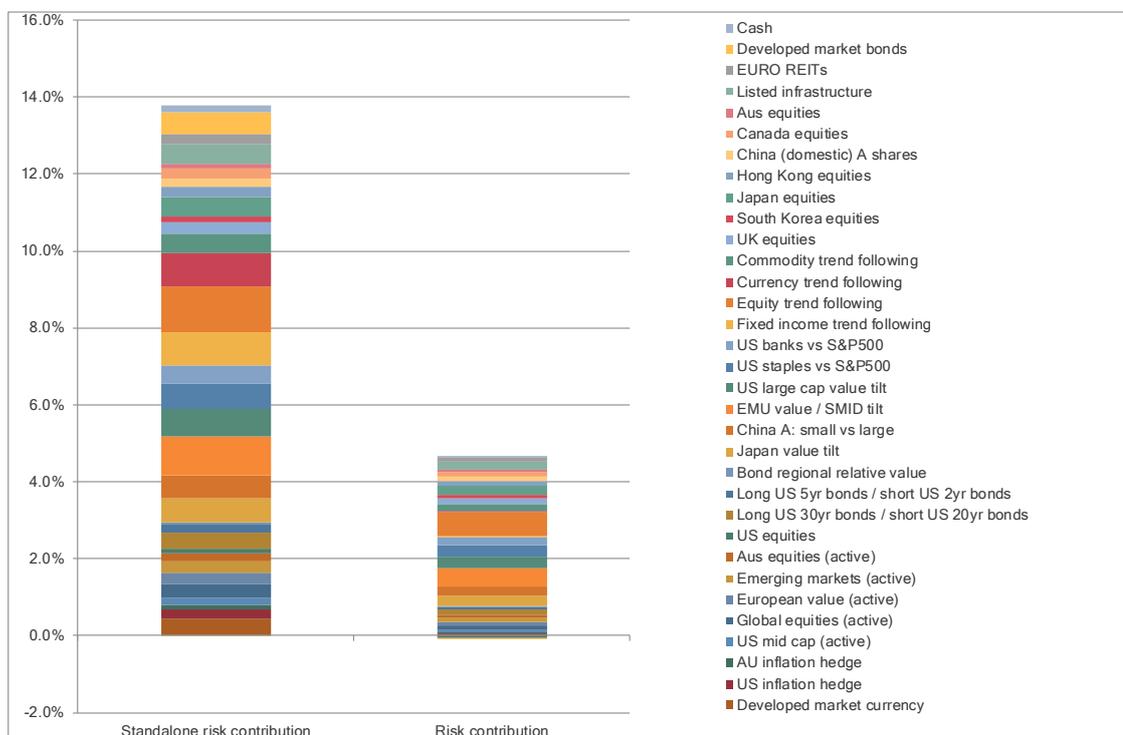
## Asset Allocation (as at 31 Jan 2020)



This chart above illustrates the target portfolio weights as at the date shown. Actual weightings may differ from these due to market movements, cash flows and other factors.

Bond futures effective exposure is shown on the basis of 10 year equivalents. i.e. In the above chart, the allocations from 'Aus 3 year bonds' through to 'US 20 year bonds' have been adjusted based on the ratio of the modified duration of the bond future in question to the modified duration of the 10 year bond future in that market. This is to ensure greater consistency in how the exposures from bond futures are shown in the chart across instruments with different maturities.

## Risk Allocation (as at 31 Jan 2020)



The risk allocations in the chart above are intended to provide an indication of both the total risk taken in respect of the portfolio at a point in time, and how this is divided up among the different positions held within the portfolio. The total of the "risk contribution" bar represents the expected (forward looking) standard deviation of annual returns for the portfolio, based on the target portfolio weights shown. The "standalone risk contribution" for each position shows the level of volatility when the position is considered in isolation; whereas the "risk contribution" for each position puts this into the context of a total portfolio, allowing for the benefits of diversification.

The risk allocations shown in the chart above are based on the target portfolio weights for the date shown, and use proprietary, forward looking, standard deviation and correlation assumptions for each position in the portfolio, which are based on a combination of historical market returns, finance theory and professional judgement.

The standalone risk contribution for each position is calculated by taking the expected standard deviation of returns for the exposure in question multiplied by its target weighting in the portfolio. It does not allow for diversification benefits from investing in multiple asset classes / positions – this is however allowed for in the risk contribution column.

The risk contribution from each position is calculated as the total expected portfolio standard deviation of returns multiplied by the proportionate contribution to this from the position in question, taking into account its weighting in the portfolio, its own expected standard deviation of returns and its correlation to every other position in the portfolio. This is presented by way of illustration only, and is not intended to provide any guarantee as to the future performance of any asset class or strategy.

## Fund manager's commentary

Over January, the Fund returned -1.03%, bringing the return over one year to 2.38% net of fees.

The portfolio's approach to investing combines active asset allocation, tactical risk hedging, and uncorrelated alpha in pursuit of its dual return and risk objectives. The active asset allocation approach combines a value-oriented approach to its asset allocation, seeking exposure to well-valued assets (dynamic asset allocation) with quantitative trend following strategies across equities, fixed income, commodities and currencies (tactical asset allocation).

"Uncorrelated alpha" refers to strategies that seek to enhance returns without materially increasing the portfolio's overall exposure to equity or fixed income market risk. Alpha generation focuses on macro alpha (relative value) strategies that seek to exploit relative mis-pricings between similar classes of assets; and also incorporates stock selection alpha (currently predominantly fundamental stock picking strategies with the corresponding market exposure hedged out via futures).

### Active asset allocation – Dynamic (value oriented) & Tactical (trend following)

While Australian equities were up strongly over the month, global markets (the primary focus of the portfolio given its explicit diversification objective relative to Australian equities) were much more mixed. Exposure to Asian equities was negative for returns, with the outbreak of the Coronavirus particularly negative for equities in greater China. Overall, equities exposure via the dynamic and trend components of the investment process contributed negatively to returns over the month.

Exposure to fixed income had a positive impact on returns over the month. The trend following component of the process still favours bonds; however the dynamic (value oriented) component of the process partially offset this, resulting in fairly modest gains (+0.27%) that were not quite enough to offset the negative impact of equity exposure on portfolio returns (-0.44%).

Listed alternatives (infrastructure and property) added modest value over the month, while the trend following strategy in commodities also contributed positively, with the portfolio's exposure to gold benefiting from safe haven status as market uncertainty around the economic impact of the Coronavirus grew.

### Active asset allocation - Risk hedges

In our "risk hedges" sleeves we held a mixture of defensive foreign currency exposure (as the Australian dollar tends to fall in times of crisis, making this a good diversifier), and strategic inflation hedges ("break-even" inflation – which is the rate of inflation implied by market pricing of inflation linked bonds vs nominal bonds). Market expectations of inflation remain at incredibly low levels, with 5 year break-even inflation at 1.3% in Australia and 1.6% in the US. However a decrease in market inflation expectations in the US over the month meant that our exposure to break even inflation marginally detracted value. Exposure to foreign currencies added value as the Australian dollar fell over January given our significant economic links to China.

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## Macro alpha (relative value)

Value style stocks (stocks that trade on lower than market multiples on traditional valuation ratios such as price to earnings, price to book value, price to cash flow etc) underperformed significantly in January. Value stocks have underperformed considerably over the last few years, and we have been steadily increasing exposure to value stocks (with the corresponding broad market exposure hedged out) as relative valuations have progressively reached more extreme levels. Our positioning in value stocks was the single largest detractor from portfolio returns over the month, with equity relative value positions detracting -0.83% from portfolio returns.

We note that while there is a lot of market commentary around "winner takes all" leading to sustained outperformance by the large technology names, if we compare value stocks to the broader market (the framework we use for assessing value rather than "value vs growth" per se), value stocks have experienced solid growth in fundamental measures of their economic footprint such as earnings and cash flow generation over the last few years that only slightly trail the market as a whole – however the underperformance of the share prices of value stocks has been much larger, opening a wide valuation gap which we seek to take advantage of over a medium term (~3 year) horizon via exposure to baskets of value stocks across the US, Japan and Europe, with the corresponding market and currency exposure hedged out. While the short term underperformance is disappointing, our analysis is strongly supportive of this investment theme looking forward.

### Stock selection

Stock selection also had a slightly negative impact on returns over the month. The Global Emerging Market Opportunities strategy and new US Mid Cap strategies outperformed strongly, however this was offset by underperformance from the Concentrated Global Share, European Concentrated Value and Australian equities strategies.

### Overall Portfolio Strategy

Looking forward, we continue to hold modest equity exposure focused on the markets offering the most compelling value, no exposure to credit assets given relatively tight spreads, and a range of diversifying assets and "alpha" opportunities (relative value and active management within individual categories of equities). In particular, in response to stretched valuations across a number of traditional asset classes, and the compelling opportunity in value stocks mentioned in the previous paragraph, we maintain a significant exposure to these relative value positions. Overall we believe this positioning represents a sensible balance between return seeking and downside risk management, consistent with the portfolio's objectives.

**PENDAL**

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