



# Fund Review

Hawksmoor Fund Managers

MI Hawksmoor Distribution Fund

May 2024



For professional advisers only

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# Defaqto Fund Reviews

This document is designed to provide the reader with a quantitative overview of the fund reviewed. The review then goes on to examine information of a more qualitative nature, which has been obtained through an interview process with the fund manager/s.

The qualitative information covers specific areas including the fund manager's philosophy, their people, and the processes they employ. Additional information is also provided on their research capability, the resources they have at their disposal and how they manage risk. All of this information goes towards creating this comprehensive Fund Review.

## Defaqto Ratings

Ratings to help advisers and their clients make better informed decisions

The Defaqto experts have created a range of ratings to help advisers find the best product or proposition for their clients.



Show at a glance how a fund or fund family performs in comparison to the rest of the market.



Demonstrate the comprehensiveness of products across a range of areas, from pensions to DFMs.



An overall assessment of service – by advisers for advisers.

## Suitability ratings to support compliant advice

Defaqto have created a set of ten Risk Profiles, and four Income Risk Profiles with corresponding ratings to which funds are mapped using a robust process. This helps advisers to evidence suitability for their clients in both the accumulation and decumulation phase:



# Fund Review

Hawksmoor Fund Managers  
MI Hawksmoor Distribution Fund  
Fraser Donaldson Investment Consultant



## Executive summary



The fund managers are Ben Conway, Daniel Lockyer and Ben Mackie, and are assisted by Dan Cartridge.

Hawksmoor are active managers, focusing on the long term. They do not invest to a benchmark. Where they can, accepting potential short term volatility, they will invest in smaller funds as they believe this helps develop stronger relationships with the fund managers, aiding their own due diligence. They also invest in Investment Trusts where appropriate, targeting themes, not available elsewhere

Hawksmoor operates a collegiate approach to investment, with all members operating a generalist approach to fund analysis. The team undertake more

than 500 manager meetings a year. Notes and conclusions are all peer reviewed amongst the whole team.

Hawksmoor views risk to the investor as the risk of permanent loss of capital. They do not believe in assessing risk by correlation to a benchmark or a statistical measure of volatility, rather they assess how volatility may change in the future.

Oversight of the fund is provided by the compliance team, the funds' Authorised Corporate Director (Maitland) and the funds' Depositary and Custodian, Northern Trust.

## Investment objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to provide income with the prospect of capital growth. The Fund's portfolio will consist primarily of a diversified range of open and closed ended funds. The portfolio will be actively managed, with the Investment Manager seeking to take advantage of inefficiencies in the pricing of closed ended funds and significant movements in financial markets.

## About Hawksmoor Fund Managers

Hawksmoor have offices in Exeter, London, Taunton, Bath, and Worcester.

The Hurst Point Group (a subsidiary of The Carlyle Group, which has upwards of \$382bn of AUM), completed the purchase of Hawksmoor in March 2021.

Hawksmoor now have an AUM of £2.7bn of which £439m is managed by the Hawksmoor Fund Managers team (as at end April 2024). They see the backing of the Hurst Point Group as central to their ability to evolve further.

There continues to be some staff ownership, with shares rolled over into those of the Hurst Point Group.



# Quantitative review



The quantitative data that appears over the following pages has been generated by Defaqto using a combination of third-party and proprietary data sources and data provided by the asset manager. The information reflects the availability of data as at the dates highlighted.

All information reflects the investment solution specified in the information and classification table below.

## Fund information and classification

Launch Date	05 March 2014	ISIN <sup>1</sup>	GB00BJ4GVL48
Fund Manager	Daniel Lockyer, Ben Conway,	IA sector	Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares
Domicile	GBR	Morningstar category <sup>2</sup>	GBP Allocation 60-80% Equity
Assets	Active	Diamond Rating Type	Multi-Asset Income
Investment Style	Return Focused	Diamond Rating	-
Type	OEIC		

<sup>1</sup>This is the shareclass used for the quantitative data and analysis over the following pages

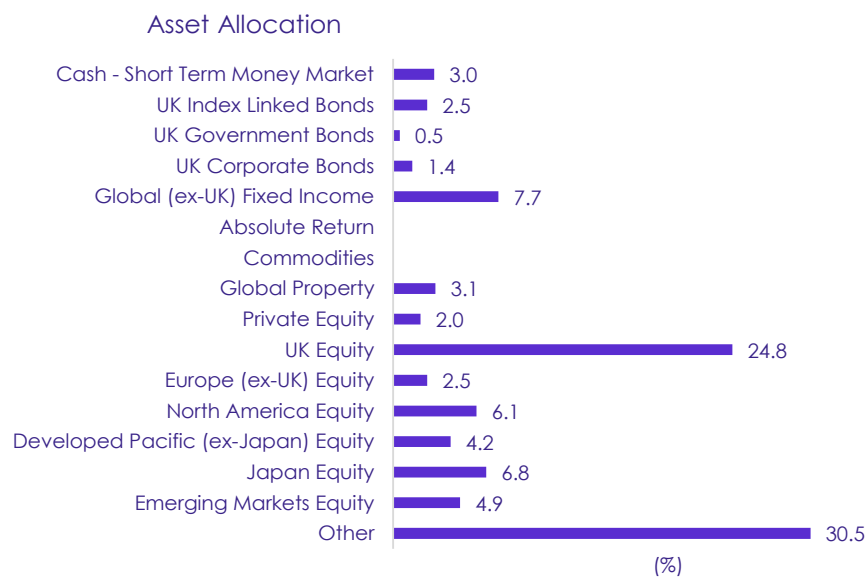
<sup>2</sup>The Morningstar Category is used in all comparative analysis, over the following pages.

## Fund size and fees

AUM	£143M
Performance Date	30 April 2024
OCF Estimated	1.93%
OCF Actual	1.50%
Transaction Fee Actual	0.06%
Performance Fee (Yes/No)	No
Performance Fee Actual	n/a

Source: Morningstar, end 30 April 2024

## Asset allocation



Source: Morningstar, 4 May 2024

## Note

This asset allocation chart is drawn using the 16 asset classes (including 'other') that we use in Defaqto Engage.

This may differ slightly from the asset allocation described by the asset manager, due to various asset class roll-up and mapping variances.

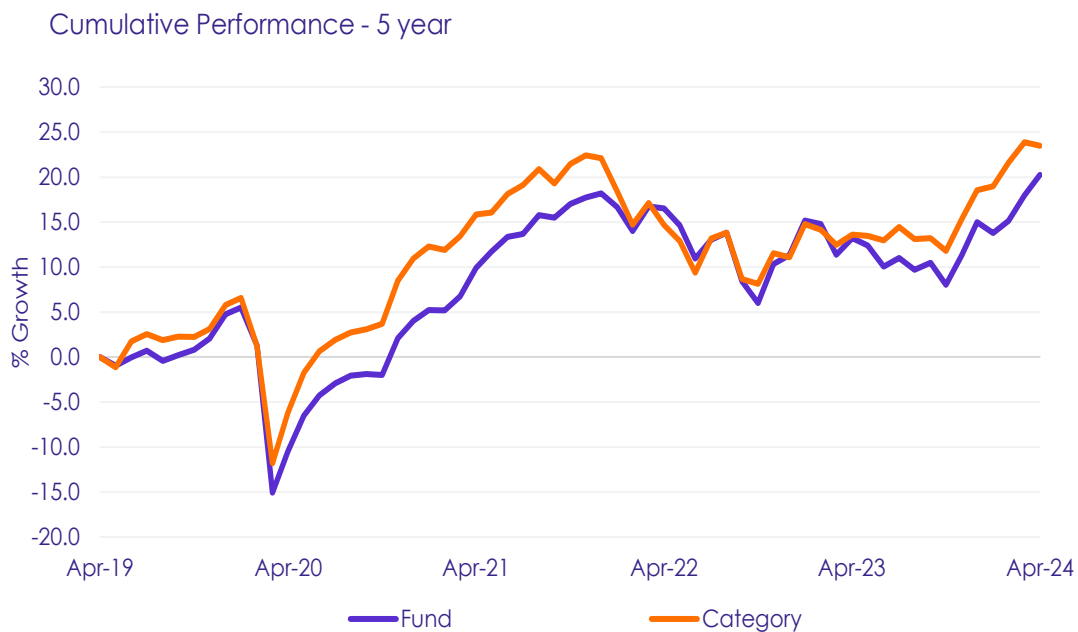
## Top 10 holdings

Total Number of Equity Holdings	-
Total Number of Bond Holdings	-
Assets in Top 10 Holdings (%)	39.6%

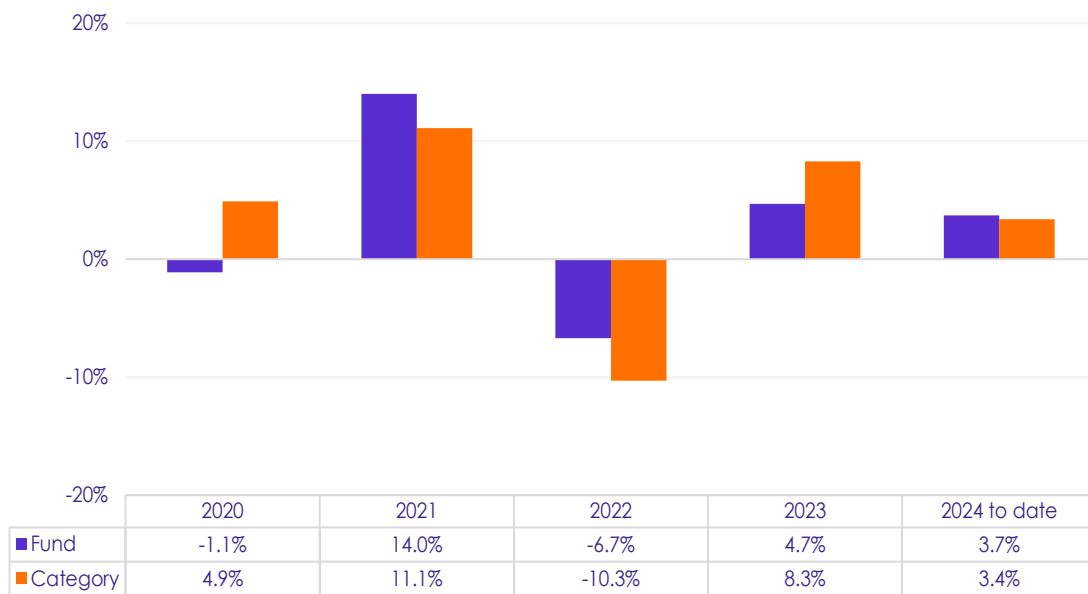
Name	Country	% of assets
Man GLG Income Professional Inc D	United Kingdom	8.5
WS Gresham House UK Mit Cap Inc F & Inc	United Kingdom	7.7
MAN FID INT MAN GLG INC G	United Kingdom	3.6
Aberforth UK Small Companies Inc	United Kingdom	3.1
Vt Dwng Sml & Mid-Cap Inc	United Kingdom	3.0
Artemis UK Select I Inc GBP	United Kingdom	2.9
Allianz Index-Linked Gilt E GBP Inc	United Kingdom	2.7
Oakley Capital Investments Ord	Bermuda	2.7
Arcus Jap-A Dis Gbp Unh I	Luxembourg	2.7
VT De Lisle America B GBP	United Kingdom	2.7

Source: Morningstar, 4 May 2024

# Performance

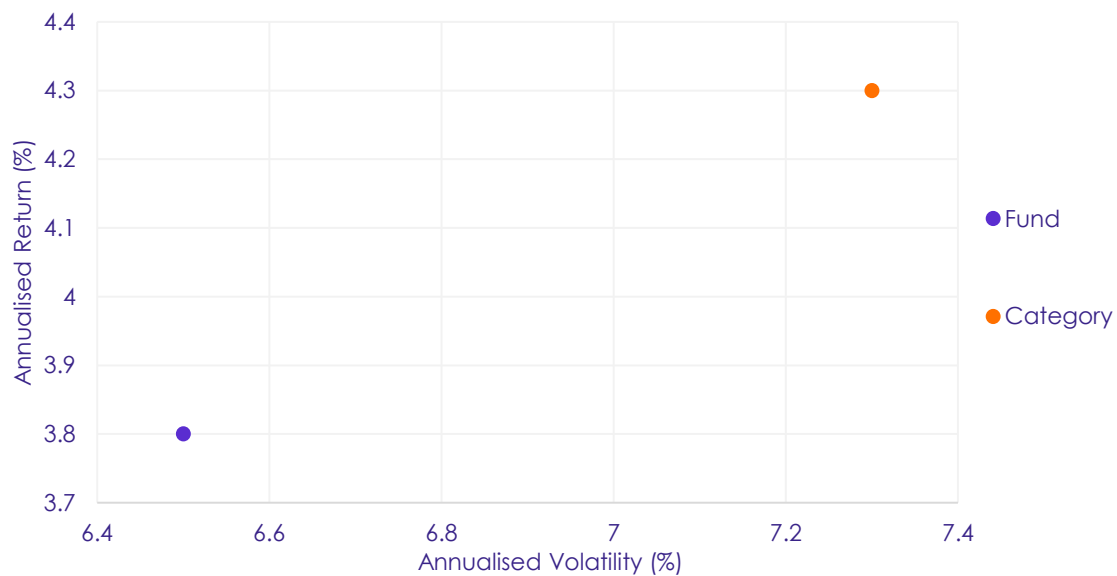


## Annual Performance



## Risk

Risk vs Return- 5 year



Source: Morningstar, end 30 April 2024

## Drawdown

Last 60 Months	
Max Drawdown	-24.3%
Positive Months	36
Negative Months	24
Worst Month	-15.3%

Source: Morningstar, end 30 April 2024

## Liquidity

Days to liquidate holdings	% of portfolio
1 day	72.5
2 – 5 days	10.3
6 – 10 days	5.1
11 - 20 days	5.2
20+ days	6.8

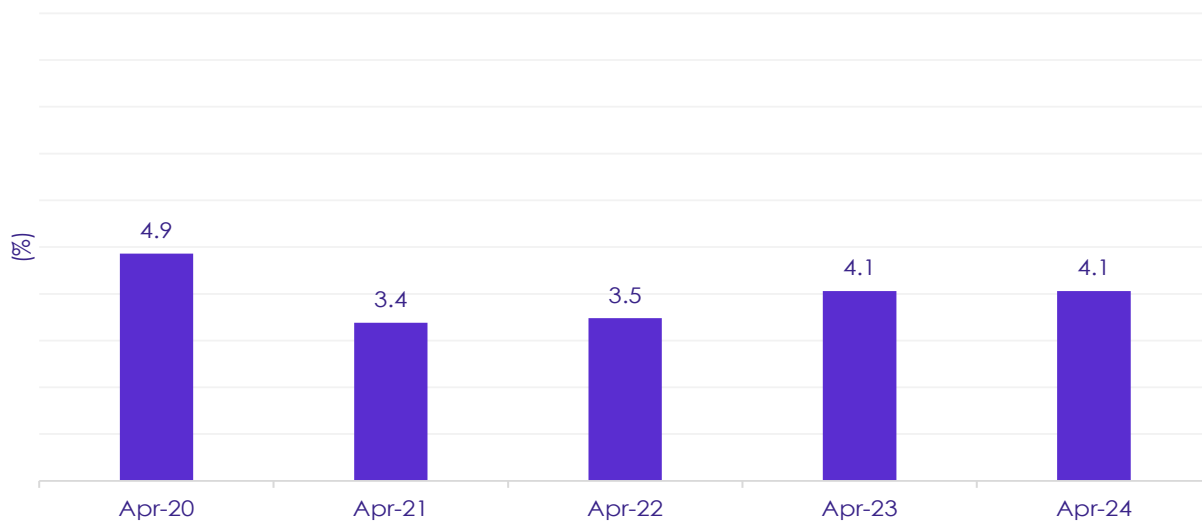
Source: Hawksmoor Fund Managers, end February 2024



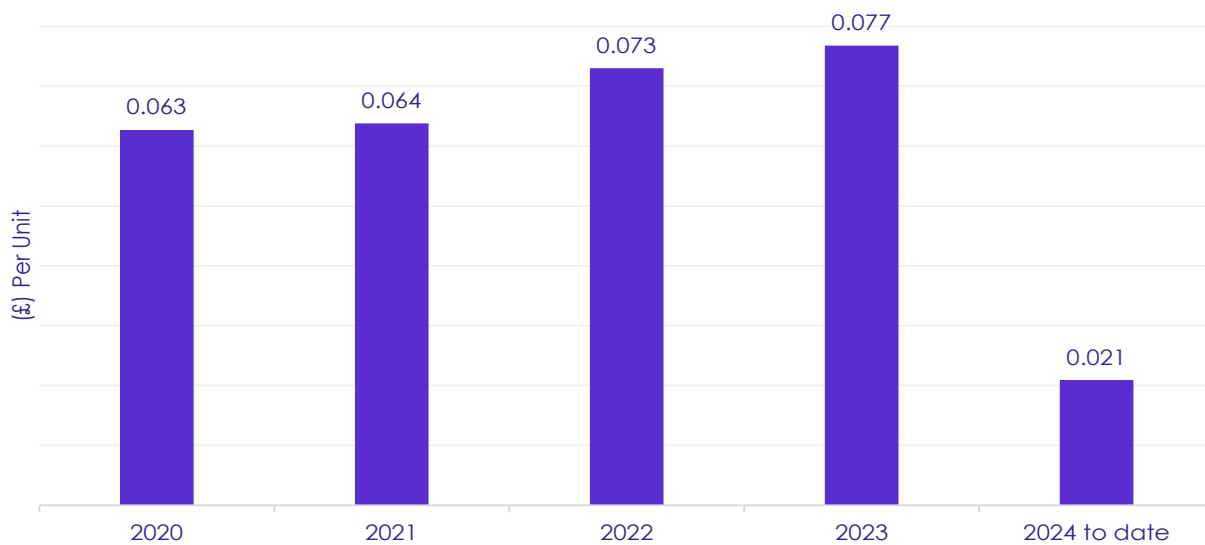
## Income and yield

Distribution Yield	4.1%
Distribution Frequency	Quarterly

Distribution Yield



Pre Tax Income



Source: Morningstar, end 30 April 2024



## Philosophy

The fundamental aim of Hawksmoor is to achieve client objectives rather than shooting for volatility and/or performance targets. This applies to all their funds. With this in mind, the driver of their due diligence is qualitative rather than quantitative.

In turn, this means that Hawksmoor has an unconstrained approach to asset allocation. The only constraints are those imposed by the Investment Association (IA) sector in which the fund sits and the rules governing UCITS funds. This flexibility is not viewed as an opportunity to increase risk, rather it is their belief that reliance on artificial limits can hinder the successful implementation of their portfolio construction risk controls.

Hawksmoor does not invest to a benchmark and they aim to remain fully invested at all times. They will stick to their long-term view and in doing so will accept short-term periods of higher volatility.

Hawksmoor are in favour of active management, they seek out smaller funds which they believe they can develop stronger relationships with, which chimes with their more qualitative approach. Because of their size, they are able to invest in smaller funds, getting the benefit of early growth and having some exposure to 'incubator'

## People

Ben Conway, Daniel Lockyer and Ben Mackie are the Senior managers for this fund.

Ben joined Hawksmoor in July 2010. He has worked on the Fund Management team since 2011 and has been a co-manager of the Vanbrugh, Distribution and Global Opportunities Funds since January 2014. In the Autumn of 2018, he was appointed a Director of Hawksmoor Investment Management Limited and is now Head of the Fund Management Team.

Daniel joined Hawksmoor in June 2009 as a Fund Manager and remains co-manager of the Vanbrugh, Distribution and Global Opportunities Funds.

Ben Mackie joined Hawksmoor in 2019 as a fund manager. Dan, an assistant fund manager joined Hawksmoor in 2016.

In addition, since the beginning of 2019, Richard Scott

funds.

Hawksmoor's size also allows them to invest in closed-end funds to a significant extent, where larger funds cannot. This gives them access to a wider range of asset classes including property, private equity and even areas such as ships and songs. In turn, this enables Hawksmoor to target their investments more accurately to the themes they believe in.

Given their fundamental aim, they not only look to diversify their portfolios but also build in a value margin of safety to their selections. The Team aim to seek good value investments that exhibit a margin of safety, but that does not necessarily preclude investments in high-growth areas.

Hawksmoor will not rule out fund capacity restraints should the size of their funds reach a level that compromises their philosophy.

who was a co-manager of both the Vanbrugh fund and the Distribution fund since launch, now works as an adviser to the Hawksmoor Fund Management team.

The Executive Board of Hawksmoor are Sarah Soar, Chief Executive. Leighton Dunkley, Chief Finance Officer and Jess De Alwis, Head of Compliance.



The fund management team from left to right: Ben Mackie, Ben Conway, Daniel Lockyer, Dan Cartridge

**Ben Mackie**, Senior Fund Manager, joined Hawksmoor in 2019 as a Fund Manager and has been a co-manager of the Vanbrugh, Distribution and Global Opportunities Funds since January 2023. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment.

**Ben Conway**, Head of Fund Management, joined Hawksmoor in July 2010. He has worked on the Fund Management team since 2011 and been a co-manager of the Vanbrugh, Distribution and Global Opportunities Funds since January 2014. Ben is now Head of the Fund Management Team.

**Daniel Lockyer**, Senior Fund Manager, he joined Hawksmoor in June 2009 as Fund Manager and remains co-manager of the Vanbrugh, Distribution and Global Opportunities Funds. Previously, he was Head of Investment Services at [iimig](#) and lead manager of the [iimig](#) Income Fund.

**Dan Cartridge**, Assistant Fund Manager, joined Hawksmoor in October 2016 and was promoted to Assistant Fund Manager in November 2018 in relation to the Vanbrugh, Distribution and Global Opportunities Funds. He has completed his Investment Management Certificate and has passed Level 1 of the CFA programme.

## Process

Hawksmoor operates a collegiate approach to investment. The fund management team is close-knit, with all members operating a generalist approach to fund analysis. Lines of communication between the team are permanently open and access to all research and meeting notes can be accessed by the team at any time in their internal library. Although a separate team, all notes and research produced by the discretionary team are also available.

Hawksmoor, where possible, and because of their size can include smaller funds (boutique, start-ups and closed-end funds), which gives them a larger pool of potential investments than many of their peers, and also enables them to target preferred themes more accurately.

Hawksmoor believes that supporting smaller funds leads to a much stronger relationship with the fund managers. This is important as the foundation of Hawksmoor's investment process is qualitative rather than quantitative. There are likely to be at least two due diligence meetings with a fund manager before a fund is considered for inclusion in the portfolio. Once selected, there would be at least one formal fund manager meeting a year and also likely one or more informal meetings/calls.

The analyst's due diligence notes and opinion, from fund manager meetings are a key input into the fund selection process. Overall, the team undertake some 500+ manager meetings each year.

Prospective funds are discussed amongst the whole team. The key questions being:

Is the fund needed to fulfil portfolio construction

requirements?

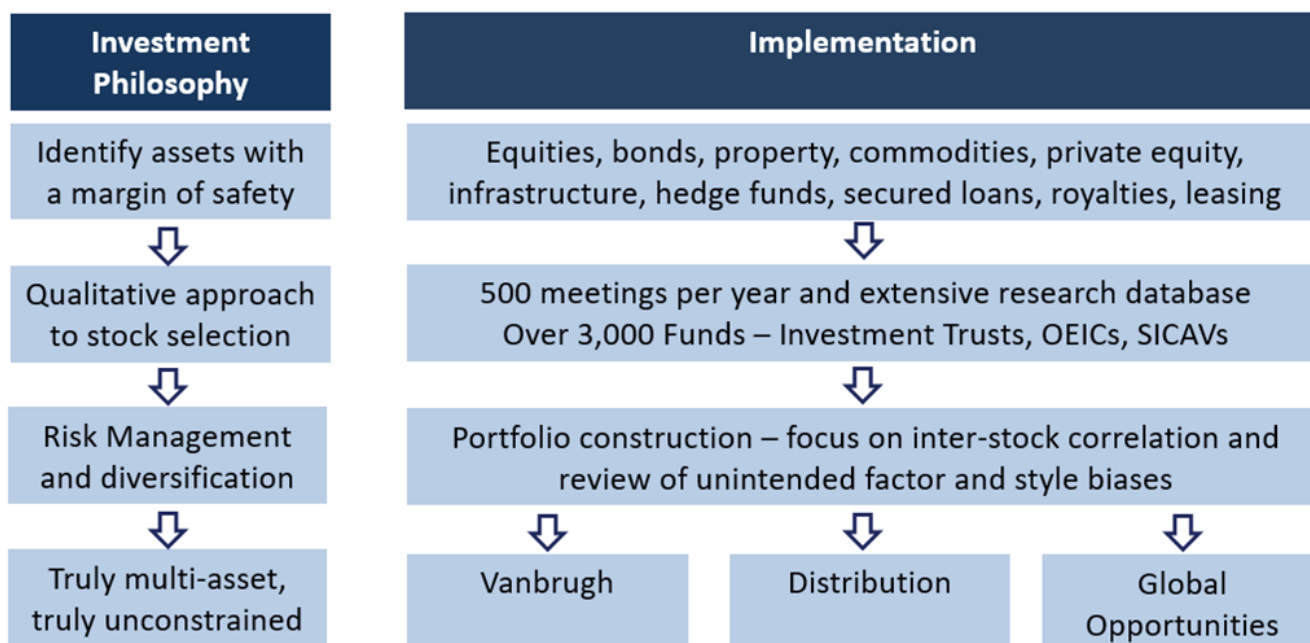
Is the fund better than what they have already got in the portfolio?

Is the fund (underlying holdings) exhibiting good value in terms of price, or for closed-end funds perhaps undervalued?

Do the fund managers operate a philosophy and process that chimes with their own?

Before a fund is included in a portfolio, at least two of the four fund managers have to agree to its inclusion. While there is perhaps less formality in terms of structure and meeting regularity, this approach is perhaps well suited to the close-knit nature of the team and their collegiate approach.

They would consider imposing fund capacity limits if size ever got in the way of their process and philosophy.



Source: Hawksmoor Fund Managers, end 15 February 2024

## Risk management

Hawksmoor does not believe in running risk models, suggesting that nothing works well enough. They do, however, run frequent compliance test tolerances to ensure that the portfolio is not too heavily weighted to one fund or theme and that sufficient diversification is maintained.

All prospective investment selections are peer-reviewed with at least two of the four fund managers having to agree on actions before any portfolio changes are made.

Portfolio construction ensures diversification in terms of asset distribution, despite the fund being unconstrained in terms of asset allocation.

Hawksmoor views risk to the investor as the risk of permanent loss of capital. With this in mind, they do not believe in assessing risk by correlation to a benchmark or a statistical measure of volatility.

Hawksmoor sees volatility as a backward-looking by-

product of performance and as such takes what they see as a common sense approach by assessing how volatility may change in the future, which means using a more qualitative approach.

The historic quantitative factors the team use include: the last 10 years' discrete volatility, the maximum drawdown and the fund's beta relative to a composite index of financial assets. The forward-looking qualitative factors used include: valuations, structural changes, correlation benefits within portfolios, style and mandate of the fund.

Internal oversight of the fund is provided by the compliance team. External oversight of the fund is provided by the funds' Authorised Corporate Director (Maitland Institutional Services Ltd) and the funds' Depositary and Custodian, Northern Trust.

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Maintaining the UK's largest financial product database, Defaqto uses proprietary research methodology to develop independent ratings, reviews, insights, and technology that raises industry standards, powers consumer choice, and helps the industry to meet evolving consumer needs.

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