

# Private & Public Pensions Summit Achieving Diversified Long-Term Performance for UK Pensions

November 2020

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Approved for institutional investors in the UK(Professional Investors only)



### **Poll questions**

A. What is your expected return target for your multi-asset fund

- CPI + 1%
- CPI + 2%
- CPI + 3%
- CPI+4%

#### B. What is the objective of your multi-asset fund?

- 1. return
- 2. drawdown protection
- 3. diversification
- 4. liquidity sleeve
- 5. liquid market exposure

# What asset classes or risk premia do you need for implementing a robust multi asset portfolio?





# What asset classes or risk premia do you need for implementing a robust multi asset portfolio?





#### Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance.

The return may go down as well as up due to changes in rates of exchange between currencies. This graph shows the long-only efficient frontiers over the period 30.11.2002 to 30.4.2020 using end-ofmonth data. We consider two universes: the Vescore universe (black), and an enhanced universe (black & gray). MSR denotes the «maximum Sharpe ratio portfolio» and MVP the «minimum variance portfolio». No costs are considered in this analysis. Thus, the returns of less liquid asset classes are overstated. Including their real implementation costs would even strengthen Vescore's approach to focus on only five asset classes. Source: Bloomberg, Vontobel Asset Management.

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# Where do models help and what are their advantages/ challenges versus discretionary approaches?





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The return may go down as well as up due to changes in rates of exchange between currencies. Source: Vontobel Asset Management, as of 31.7.2020.

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# Where do models help and what are their advantages/ challenges versus discretionary approaches?

#### Example: Attribution of the tactical equity position in the GLOCAP model portfolio



Model portfolio with equity quota management in the range of -50% to 50%, based on a neutral position. Source: Vontobel Asset Management, data: 31.1.1998–31.7.2020.

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# **PPPS Conference Reference Slides**



#### About us – Vescore Systematic Multi Asset is Vescore's core business



## EUR 18 bn / £16bn in Active Beta Strategy

We mainly serve the needs of institutional investors based on a robust, modular investment platform.

#### Long, proven track records

Vescore was established in 1998 at the University of St. Gallen and the Vontobel Fund II - Vescore Active Beta was launched in 2002.

#### ~30 Experts

Vescore is the quantitative investment team of Vontobel Asset Management and responsible for the proprietary systematic investment strategies.

#### Innovation through proximity to research We are pioneers in the management of risk premia



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#### How we think?

Our Beliefs	<ul> <li>Innovation through proximity to research</li> <li>Risk premia are the most sustainable sources of return</li> <li>Active management creates added value</li> </ul>
Our Guiding Principles	<ul> <li>Investment decisions motivated by economic theory and fully transparent</li> <li>Our investment activities are focused exclusively on quantitative methods</li> <li>The liquidity of an instrument is most important</li> <li>Risk management is an integral part of our investment process</li> </ul>



# What your core beliefs for successfully managing multi asset portfolios?



- "Alpha" can vary in the short term
- Diversification across different risk premia that complement each other over time
- Risk management must be an integral part of the investment process

# What are the learnings of the Covid crisis for multi asset solutions?

#### Correlations between US equities and government bonds vary over time



The chart shows the correlation between US government bonds (represented by 10-year US treasury constant maturity bonds) and US equities (represented by the S&P Composite) for twelve decades between 1.1900-1.2020 based on monthly returns. Source: Vontobel Asset Management, http://www.econ.yale.edu/~shiller/data.htm.

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### Vontobel in the UK

#### Institutional Clients:

- Working with UK pension schemes since 2008
- We have managed over £2 billion on behalf of more than 45 UK pension schemes



2020	UK Pensions Awards – Equity Manager of the Year
	UK Pensions Awards – DB Multi-Asset Manager of the Year
	• Pensions Expert PIPAs – Multi-Asset (inc. DGF) Manager of the Year
	Pensions Age Awards – Equities Manager of the Year
	CAMRADATA Awards – MSFI - Absolute Return (EUR)
2019	Pensions Age Awards – Equities Manager of the Year
	CAMRADATA Awards – Chinese Equity
	Pensions Expert PIPAs – Active Global Equity Manager of the Year
	• European Pensions Awards – Equities Manager of the Year
	Professional Pensions Investment Awards – Emerging Market Equity

2018	<ul> <li>UK Pensions Awards – Emerging Markets Manager of the Year</li> <li>European Pensions Awards – Equities Manager of the Year</li> <li>Pensions Age Awards – Equities Manager of the Year</li> <li>Investment Europe – Fixed Income: Emerging Market Debt</li> <li>CAMRADATA Awards – Emerging Market Broad Bond Hard Currency</li> <li>CAMRADATA Awards – Asia ex Japan All Cap &amp; Large Cap</li> </ul>
2017	<ul> <li>UK Pensions Awards – Emerging Markets Manager of the Year</li> <li>European Pensions Awards – Equities Manager of the Year</li> <li>Pensions Age Awards – Equities Manager of the Year</li> <li>Investment Europe – Fixed Income: Emerging Market Debt</li> <li>CAMRADATA Awards – Emerging Market Broad Bond Hard Currency</li> <li>CAMRADATA Awards – Asia ex Japan All Cap &amp; Large Cap</li> </ul>
2016	• UK Pensions Awards – Equity Manager of the Year
2015	• European Pensions Awards – Equities Manager of the Year
2013	<ul> <li>UK Pensions Awards – Equity Manager of the Year</li> <li>Lipper Fund Awards – Vontobel Global Equity</li> <li>Pensions Expert PIPAs – Emerging Market Equity Manager</li> </ul>
2012	<ul> <li>Pensions Expert PIPAs – Active Global Equity Manager</li> <li>European Pensions Awards – Equities Manager of the Year</li> </ul>



#### **UK Team**

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# Vontobel Multi-Asset Investing Vescore Introduction & UK Fund Offering

Managing Multi-Asset portfolios for Institutional investors since 2002

Approved for institutional investors in the UK(Professional Investors only)

### Positioning **Our investment philosophy**

Our Beliefs	<ul> <li>Innovation through proximity to research</li> <li>Risk premia are the most sustainable sources of return</li> <li>Active management creates added value</li> </ul>
Our Guiding Principles	<ul> <li>Investment decisions motivated by economic theory and fully transparent</li> <li>Our investment activities are focused exclusively on quantitative methods</li> <li>Risk management is an integral part of our investment process</li> <li>We implement with the highest level of precision</li> <li>The liquidity of an instrument is most important</li> </ul>

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#### Positioning What risk premia qualify for us?



We select risk premia based on the following criteria:

- Positive excess return over the long run
- Diversification potential, i.e. the different factors have clearly different risk-return-profiles and complement each other over time
- Economic foundation and persistent academic evidence
- Liquidity, i.e., the factors can be captured with liquid instruments

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#### Vescore Multi-Asset Funds by expected return/risk appetite (Perf. in GBP) **Diversified capital growth with risk control**



#### The performance is shown for illustrative purposes only and is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance.

Performance data take no account of the commissions and costs charged when units are issued and redeemed. The return of the funds may go down as well as up due to changes in rates of exchange between currencies. Subject to change, without notice, only the current prospectus or comparable document of the fund is legally binding. From left to right, realized net returns refer to (1) Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta HN GBP, LU1936095113, from 21.1.2019 onwards, prior to that Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta AI EUR, LU1617166936, hedged in GBP; (2) Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta Opportunities HN GBP, LU2033388567, from 13.3.2020 onwards, prior to that Beta Opportunities UI I EUR, DE000A1JLRB6, hedged in GBP; (3) Vontobel Fund – Vescore Artificial Intelligence Multi Asset HN GB, LU1879232129; Cash: 3m Euribor. Hedging fees (0.12% p.a.) are included. Further information on the hedging methodology can be found at the end of this presentation and is available on request. Source: Vontobel Asset Management, as of 30.9.2020.

#### Vontobel Multi-Asset Funds (5% – 5.5% Vol.) Performance Snapshot: 2017 to 30 September 2020



Past performance is not a guide to current or future performance.

Net of fees. Own recalculation into GBP based on live track record shown until launch of GBP share class. See subsequent pages for full definition

Performance data does not take into account any commissions and costs charged when shares of the fund are issued and redeemed, if applicable.

The return of the fund may go down as well as up due to changes in rates of exchange between currencies. Source: Vontobel Asset Management, as of 30.09.2020

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#### Vontobel Multi-Asset Funds 5% - 5.5% Vol.

### Active Beta Opportunities



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#### Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta Opportunities Fund **GBP-Hedged Performance** (based on EUR track record until 12.3.2020)





#### Net return in %

The performance is shown for illustrative purposes only and is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance. Own recalculation based on live Beta Opportunities UI I EUR track record shown until 12.3.2020. Recalculation includes hedging fees (0.12% p.a.). Further information on the hedging methodology can be found at the end of this presentation and is available on request. Live HN GBP record shown from 13.3.2020.

Performance data does not take into account any commissions and costs charged when shares of the fund are issued and redeemed, if applicable.

The return of the fund may go down as well as up due to changes in rates of exchange between currencies. Source: Vontobel Asset Management, as of 30.9.2020.



#### Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta Opportunities Fund **GBP-Hedged Performance** (net of fees, based on EUR track record until 12.3.2020)



#### Rolling 5-year p.a. return, rolled monthly, since inception Average - Since Inception: 3.91% p.a. Average - Last 5 years: N/A\*. 6% 5% 4% 3% 2% 1% 0% 01/2017 01/2018 01/2019 01/2020

The performance is shown for illustrative purposes only and is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance. Own recalculation based on live Beta Opportunities UI I EUR track record shown until 12.3.2020. Recalculation includes hedging fees (0.12% p.a.). Further information on the hedging methodology can be found at the end of this presentation and is available on request. Live HN GBP record shown from 13.3.2020.

Performance data does not take into account any commissions and costs charged when shares of the fund are issued and redeemed, if applicable.

The return of the fund may go down as well as up due to changes in rates of exchange between currencies. Source: Vontobel Asset Management, as of 30.9.2020.

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### Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta Opportunities Fund **GBP-Hedged Performance** (based on EUR track record until 12.3.2020)



The performance is shown for illustrative purposes only and is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance. Own recalculation based on live Beta Opportunities UI I EUR track record shown until 12.3.2020. Recalculation includes hedging fees (0.12% p.a.). Further information on the hedging methodology can be found at the end of this presentation and is available on request. Live HN GBP record shown from 13.3.2020.

Performance data does not take into account any commissions and costs charged when shares of the fund are issued and redeemed, if applicable.

The return of the fund may go down as well as up due to changes in rates of exchange between currencies. Source: Vontobel Asset Management, as of 30.9.2020.

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#### Vontobel Multi-Asset Funds 5% - 5.5% Vol.

### Active Beta



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#### Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta GBP-Hedged Performance

#### Indexed net performance in GBP (hedged)



The performance is shown for illustrative purposes only and is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance. Own recalculation based on live Al EUR track record shown until 20.1.2019. Recalculation includes hedging fees (0.12% p.a.). Further information on the hedging methodology can be found at the end of this presentation and is available on request. Live HN GBP record shown from 21.1.2019.

Performance data does not take into account any commissions and costs charged when shares of the fund are issued and redeemed, if applicable.

The return of the fund may go down as well as up due to changes in rates of exchange between currencies. Source: Vontobel Asset Management, as of 30.9.2020.

#### Net return in %



### Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta Fund **GBP-Hedged Performance** (based on EUR track record until 20.1.2019)





The performance is shown for illustrative purposes only and is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance. Own recalculation based on live AI EUR track record shown until 20.1.2019. Recalculation includes hedging fees (0.12% p.a.). Further information on the hedging methodology can be found at the end of this presentation and is available on request. Live HN GBP record shown from 21.1.2019.

Performance data does not take into account any commissions and costs charged when shares of the fund are issued and redeemed, if applicable.

The return of the fund may go down as well as up due to changes in rates of exchange between currencies. Source: Vontobel Asset Management, as of 30.9.2020.

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#### Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta Fund **GBP-Hedged Performance** (based on EUR track record until 20.1.2019)



Past performance is not a guide to current or future performance. Own recalculation based on live AI EUR track record shown until 20.1.2019. Recalculation includes hedging fees (0.12% p.a.). Further information on the hedging methodology is available on request. Live HN GBP record shown from 21.1.2019. Performance data does not take into account any commissions and costs charged when shares of the fund are issued and redeemed, if applicable.

The return of the fund may go down as well as up due to changes in rates of exchange between currencies. Source: Vontobel Asset Management, as of 30.9.2020.

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#### Vontobel Multi-Asset Funds 8% Vol.



### **Artificial Intelligence**



#### Vontobel Fund – Vescore Artificial Intelligence Multi Asset HI GBP (hedged)



Indexed net performance in GBP (hedged)

Description	Vontobel Fund – Vescore Artificial Intelligence Multi Asset HI
Currency	GBP
Costs	TER: 1.00%
Inception	26.10.2018
Period	26.10.2018–30.9.2020

#### 25 21.7 20 15 9.7 10 7.4 5 2.0 0 -1.6 -1.9 -5 -10 -10.4-15 Q1 Q2 Q3 YTD 1 year 2019 Since inception p.a. 31.9.2019-Period 31.9.2020 Vontobel Fund – Vescore Artificial Intelligence Multi -1.64% Asset HI

#### Net return in %

Past performance and simulated performance are not reliable indicators of current or future performance.

Performance data does not take into account any commissions and costs charged when shares of the fund are issued and redeemed, if applicable. The return of the fund may go down as well as up due to changes in rates of exchange between currencies. Simulated performance includes management fees, transaction costs and hedging costs. Source: Vontobel Asset Management, as of 30.9.2020.



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#### Performance calculation methodology for hedged share classes

#### **Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta Opportunities**

Live HN GBP share class shown from 13.3.2020. GBP hedged Beta Opportunities UI I EUR share class shown until 12.3.2020. The methodology applied for the calculation of the hedged portfolio mimics the typical share class hedging methodology applied for our existing public funds. On a monthly basis, the NAV of the I EUR share class is currency hedged with a 1-month GBP/EUR forward. The notional of the forward is fixed once a month and not adjusted for market price effects. The total return performance (time weighted return) is calculated on a daily basis and adjusted for in- and outflows. Hedging fees (0.12% p.a.) are taken into account. The NAV corresponds to the official share price of the I EUR share class of the fund (net performance) whereas FX spot quotes and the FX forwards prices are observed on Bloomberg CMPN (Composite New York). Further information on the hedging methodology is available on request.

#### Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta

Live HN GBP share class shown from 21.1.2019. GBP hedged Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta Fund AI EUR share class shown until 20.1.2019. The methodology applied for the calculation of the hedged portfolio mimics the typical share class hedging methodology applied for our existing public funds. On a monthly basis, the NAV of the AI EUR share class is currency hedged with a 1-month GBP/EUR forward. The notional of the forward is fixed once a month and not adjusted for market price effects. The total return performance (time weighted return) is calculated on a daily basis and adjusted for in-and outflows. Hedging fees (0.12% p.a.) are taken into account. The NAV corresponds to the official share price of the AI EUR share class of the fund (net performance) whereas FX spot quotes and the FX forwards prices are observed on Bloomberg CMPN (Composite New York). Further information on the hedging methodology is available on request.



#### **Risks of Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta Opportunities**

- The credit quality of the securities that the sub-fund invests in can deteriorate. This means there is a risk that the issuer of the securities cannot meet its obligations. The value of this investment may fall if an issuer's credit rating is downgraded.
- The safekeeping of assets, in particular abroad, may involve a risk of loss resulting from insolvency, breaches of duty of care or improper conduct by the custodian or a sub-custodian.

- The use of derivatives can result in corresponding counterparty risks and generally creates leverage.
- The sub-fund may become a victim of fraud or other criminal acts. It may suffer losses as a result of misunderstandings or errors by employees of the capital management company or external third parties, or as a result of external events such as natural disasters.



#### **Risks of Vontobel Fund II – Vescore Active Beta**

- The fund can experience significant losses when an issuer or a counterparty is unable to fulfil its obligations or simply when its creditworthiness worsens.
- The use of derivatives can result in corresponding counterparty risks and generally creates leverage.

The listed risks reflect the current investment strategy of the fund as per the prospectus and not necessarily the current portfolio. Subject to change, without notice, only the current prospectus or comparable document of the fund is legally binding.



### **Risks of the Vontobel Fund – Vescore Artificial Intelligence Multi Asset**

- The credit quality of the securities that the sub-fund invests in can deteriorate. This means there is a risk that the issuer of the securities cannot meet its obligations. The value of this investment may fall if an issuer's credit rating is downgraded.
- Asset-backed and mortgage-backed securities, and their underlying receivables are often non-transparent. The sub-fund may also be subject to a higher credit and/or prepayment risk.
- Using derivatives creates significant leverage. The sub-fund is also subject to corresponding valuation risks and operational risks.
- The sub-fund invests in stocks issued by companies. The value of these stocks may be adversely affected by changes in the company, its industry or its economic environment. Stocks can lose value quickly and typically involve higher risks than bonds and money market instruments.

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