# Jupiter Merlin Income Portfolio



## Value Statement for year ending 31 March 2023

## The outcomes for Jupiter Merlin Conservative Portfolio - by individual unit class:

I - Unit Class
★★★
Has consistently demonstrated strong value
J - Unit Class
★★★
Has consistently demonstrated strong value

L - Unit Class
★★★
Has demonstrated value

## Your guide to the ratings for each individual unit class:

 $\star\star\star\star$  Has consistently demonstrated strong value  $\star\star$  Has demonstrated value, although not consistently

★★★ Has demonstrated value ★ Has not demonstrated value

#### What have we concluded?

The Board has concluded that this fund has consistently demonstrated strong value for investors in the I and J unit classes with the L unit class demonstrating value. The fund has achieved a level of returns consistent with its investment objective and we believe it is well placed to continue to deliver strong investment performance going forward. Jupiter regularly reviews all aspects of the products and services which it provides, to continuously improve its offering to investors and will report on any such initiatives in future Value Assessments.

## The Assessment of Value for your Fund

For more information about this report, and how we have evaluated each component of value click: <u>here</u>

## **Investment Objective**

To provide income together with the prospect of capital growth to provide a return, net of fees, that is higher than the IA Mixed Investment 20%-60% Shares Sector average over the long term (at least five years).

#### **Fund Performance**

All unit classes have provided a higher level of return, net of fees, than the fund's benchmark, at the time of assessment, and have therefore met the investment objective.

The fund has grown investors' capital and provided a consistently strong source of income over the five years to 31 March 2023 – investing globally across a range of equities (stocks), bonds (loans to companies and/or governments) and commodities (e.g. Gold).

While markets have swung between favouring 'growth' and 'value' equity styles, fund outperformance has been delivered through deliberately maintaining an exposure to both 'styles' –avoiding the traps inherent in chasing market momentum. 2022/3 witnessed brutal volatility in bond markets, offering little shelter.

However, the fund's allocation to bonds remained split between experienced managers who were well equipped to weather the storm. The period encompassed the effects of two external, global shocks, one being the aftermath of the pandemic, the other an international conflict whose epicenter is Ukraine. With lower volatility than the peer group average, the fund's outperformance relative to the sector in

challenging markets over the past 12 months, suggests this steady-as-we-go approach has been appropriate.

We are confident that the fund is well placed to continue to successfully build a long-term track record. The Board fulfils an oversight role with regular investment updates provided by the senior management team, and we look forward to providing a further update in our next value statement.

#### Find out more about this fund by: clicking here.

#### **Quality of Service**

The services we provide to manage, operate, and administer the fund were evaluated as part of the 2023 Value Assessment, and have demonstrated a high quality of service over the period of review.

#### Costs of the Authorised Fund Manager (AFM)

We have evaluated the costs borne by the AFM for providing services to the fund and concluded that these are fair and reasonable in respect of providing investment, operational and administrative services.

#### **Economies of Scale**

We have found that the majority of costs within Jupiter, specific to the management of investors' assets, vary with the level of assets held in a particular fund and do not indicate economies of scale attributable to individual funds. However, it is possible that economies of scale may be realised by the Group within the fixed costs it incurs. We have reviewed, for each fund, the amount of these fixed costs, the level of assets, and how these have increased or decreased during the year to identify if any economies were realised by the firm. The outcome of this year's assessment does not

currently indicate economies of scale attributable to individual products that can be shared with investors.

#### **Comparable Market Rates**

We analysed the extent to which the fund has comparable market rates when compared with an appropriate peer group and concluded that the fees for the I and J unit classes were moderately high and are judged to be, on balance, appropriate. The fees for the L unit class were found to be in the high end, when compared against its peers, but were judged to be, on balance, appropriate. This is in the context of our value and service proposition as an active, high-conviction investment manager and the opportunities we seek to provide for our investors.

#### **Comparable Services**

Our conclusion was that fees charged to the fund are comparable and consistent with the fees charged to other Jupiter Group investors for comparable services. As such, we consider the fees appropriate in the overall context of the services we provide to the fund.

#### Class of Units or Shares

Having assessed the classes of units available in the fund, we have concluded that investors currently can and do access the fund through the most appropriate unit class available to them.

Should you have any questions or require further information about the contents of this document, please call our Customer Services team on 0800 561 4000 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Monday to Friday excluding public holidays in England. For your protection, we'll ask for your unitholder number so please have this to hand when you call. Please note that calls are recorded for your security and may be used for monitoring purposes. You can obtain further information about your Jupiter investments using our online valuation service at <a href="https://www.jupiteram.com">www.jupiteram.com</a>

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