



**STIRLING HOUSE
FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Quarterly Update

HC Stirling House Balanced Fund

31st December 2019

Investment Objective

To provide a balance of income and capital growth over the medium to long term.

Investment Policy

The Fund will seek to achieve its investment objective by gaining exposure generally to money market instruments, fixed interest securities, cash and near cash, with some exposure to global equities.

The Fund may also invest directly or indirectly in other transferable securities and collective investment schemes which may have exposure to alternatives such as commodities, loans, hedge funds, private equity and property.

The Fund may make use of derivatives for efficient portfolio management.

Fund Performance can also be viewed online at www.TrustNet.com

Search: HC Stirling House Balanced

This factsheet has been issued by Stirling House Financial Services Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority under the firm reference 413234.

Notes

For further details before making an investment please ask your Financial Adviser for the full Prospectus or KIID, or contact Host Capital Limited directly, or visit www.hostcapital.com website.

* Under normal circumstances this charge will be waived, contact Stirling House Financial Services Ltd for further clarification.

**This figure was calculated as of 30/06/2019 for the A ACC share class and includes the annual management fees and the fund administration charges.

Performance Commentary

Equity markets posted record highs at the close of the year buoyed by a 'phase one' deal between the US and China. Elsewhere, the UK and the EU agreed a new Brexit deal and sterling rose on the back of a significant Tory majority in December's election. All told, geopolitical uncertainty seems to be diminishing and macroeconomic data points to a stabilisation of global growth.

Umicore was among the largest contributors to returns in the fourth quarter following the announcement of a multi-year supply agreement with battery makers, LG Chem and Samsung SDI, for their material to be used in electric vehicles (EV). These agreements are another indication of the superior quality that Umicore offers,

allowing it to benefit from increased EV penetration globally.

In contrast, CME, the world's largest exchange in hedging and derivative products, detracted from performance during a period of unusually low market volatility, although there was not much to dislike in their third quarter earnings report.

Within transactions, the fund's remaining shares in 3M were sold ahead of disappointing third quarter results and a challenging outlook statement. The proceeds were reinvested in Accenture plc, one of the leading organizations providing IT consulting and outsourcing services.

Source: Sarasin & Partners LLP, 31 December 2019

Fund Facts

Fund Structure	NURS (Non-UCITS Retail Fund)
Fund Launch Date	18 February 2013
Fund Currency	GBP
Registered for Sale	Authorised in the UK by the FCA
Initial Charges*	5%
Ongoing Charge**	1.61%
Fund Dealing	Daily
Cut-Off Point	12 noon on a Dealing Day
Pricing Frequency	Daily
Target Return Benchmark	RPI + 3%
IMA Sector	Unclassified Sector

Launch Price	£1.00	Inc Class	£1.00
Minimum Investment	£5,000		£5,000
Annual Management Fee	0.70%		0.70%

Codes	Acc Class	Inc Class
SEDOL	B99R167	B99R178
ISIN	GB00B99R1674	GB00B99R1781

Investment Manager

Sarasin & Partners LLP is a London-based asset management group that manages investments on behalf of charities, institutions, intermediaries, pension funds and private clients, from the UK and around the world. The group employs 217 people and manages approximately £14.7 billion*.

Sarasin & Partners is known both as a market leader in thematic investment and for long-term income and dividend management across multi-asset and equity mandates. Consistent with a longer-term approach is a commitment to “stewardship” principles, embedding environmental, social and governance considerations into the investment process.

Sarasin & Partners is 55% owned by Bank J. Safra Sarasin Ltd and 45% owned by its London-based partners.

J. Safra Sarasin Group is one of the largest private banking groups in Switzerland. As at the end of December 2018 it managed total client assets of approximately £132 billion and employed around 2,151 staff.

*Source: Sarasin & Partners LLP, 31 December 2019

Stirling House

Stirling House Financial Services Limited was established in 2003 as an independently owned firm specialising in the provision of face-to-face financial advice.

We have a proven track record in providing investment advice and with our close partnership with Sarasin have the ability to offer bespoke fund management solutions.

Our funds have been specifically designed to be managed within predefined risk constraints whilst giving investors exposure to a range of investments managed globally. This provides you with all the economies of scale and gives you access to professional fund management and expertise, allowing us to offer our Clients the opportunity of aiming to obtain consistent, superior investment performance over the long term.

The Stirling House Funds are collective investment schemes authorised and regulated in the UK by the Financial Conduct Authority. This provides the reassurance that these Funds are being managed to the highest standards as one would expect as a Client of Stirling House.

Fund Outlook *from Sarasin & Partners*

US-China tensions seem to be diminishing following the Phase 1 trade deal, if this de-escalation of the trade war continues then it is supportive for market sentiment. Trump will have a plan to boost the US economy ahead of presidential elections in 2020 and China has the wherewithal for further policy stimulus to support its economy.

In Europe and the UK, consumer spending remains healthy and continues to fuel growth, supported by rising real wages and a tight labour market. Manufacturing, having been a drag on global growth seems to be picking up. Finally, central banks have shown that they are prepared to support the global economy against the backdrop of stubborn inflation and mediocre macroeconomic data and, although a pause on further stimulus looks likely, a return to tightening policy seems improbable.

Moreover, an appreciation of the limited scope for monetary stimulus has caused governments to re-examine the fiscal toolkit as a means for stimulating growth in 2020.

We continue to appreciate and monitor the risks to global growth. Geopolitical uncertainty is diminishing, and, whilst we wait to add to our favourite, long-term thematic equity ideas at more attractive valuation levels, a stabilizing economic backdrop is supportive for asset prices. Equities remain our preferred asset class, particularly in the context of bond yields at near all-time low.



David Palmer
Fund Manager



SARASIN
& PARTNERS

Top 10 Key Holdings

UK TSY GILT 4.25% 07/03/36 GBP
 UK TSY GILT 2.75% 07/09/24 GBP
 UK TSY GILT 4.75% 07/12/30 GBP
 UK TSY GILT 3.25% 22/01/44 GBP

UK TSY GILT 4.75% 07/03/20 GBP
 UK TSY GILT 4.00% 07/03/22 GBP
 UK TSY GILT 3.75% 22/07/52 GBP
 FIDELITY INDEX JAPAN-P ACC

INVESCO PHYSICAL GOLD ETC
 SARASIN RESPONSIBLE CORPORATE
 BOND-I INC

Source: Sarasin & Partners LLP, 31 December 2019

Geographic Equity Allocation

The following chart shows how the investments in the fund are proportioned over various geographic regions:



United Kingdom 9.43% North America 44.83%
 Europe Ex-UK 23.58% Emerging Markets 10.05%
 Japan 4.98% Multi-Regional 3.03%
 Pacific Basin Ex-Japan 4.10%

Asset Allocation

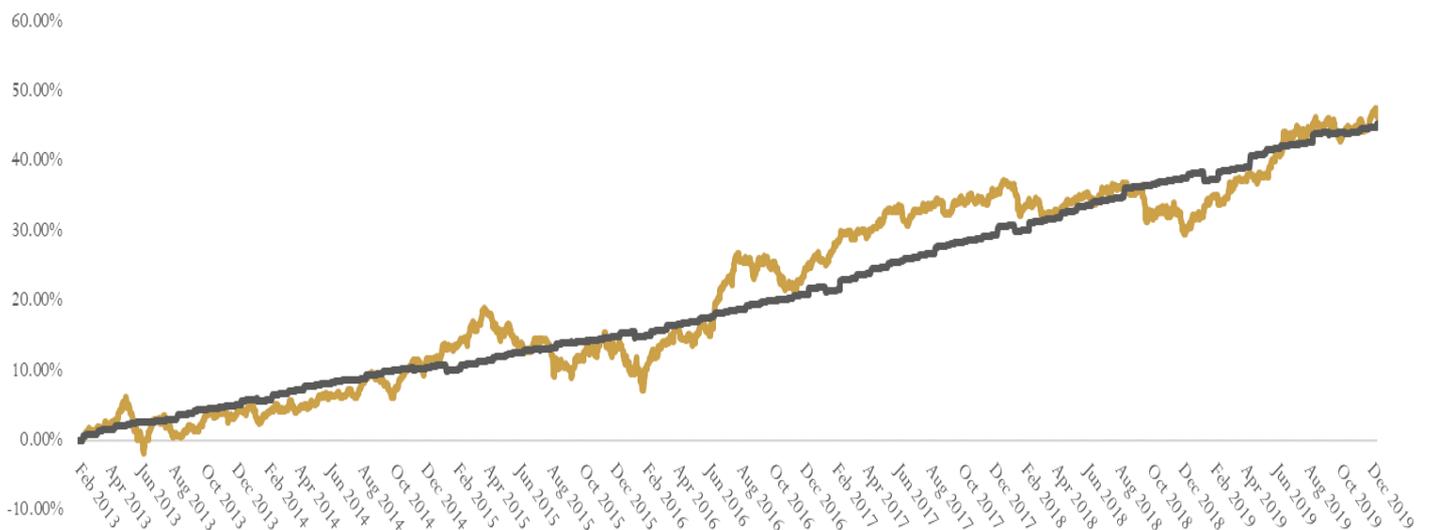
The following chart shows how the investments in the fund are proportioned over various asset classes:



Government 26.48% Corporation 17.45%
 Total Equity 42.83% Property 0.00%
 Total Alternative 3.97% Cash 9.27%

Source: Sarasin & Partners LLP, 31 December 2019

HC Stirling House Balanced Fund



– HC Stirling House Balanced – UK RPI +3%

Data from 18 Feb 2013 to 31 December 2019

Performance	01/01/2015 to 31/12/2015	01/01/2016 to 31/12/2016	01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017	01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018	01/01/2019 to 31/12/2019	19/02/2013 to 31/12/2019
HC Stirling House Balanced	1.87%	10.17%	8.37%	-4.01%	12.32%	46.47%
UK RPI +3.0%	4.24%	5.58%	7.24%	5.78%	5.27%	45.46%

Please remember that past performance is not a guide to future performance

Source: Morningstar, 31 December 2019

Fund Distributor / Sponsor

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Important Information

Past performance should not be seen as a guide to future performance. The value of the investments of the Fund and the income from them can fall as well as rise, it may be affected by exchange rate variations and you may not get back the amount originally invested. All details in this factsheet are provided for information purposes only and should not be misinterpreted as investment advice. This document is not an offer or recommendation to buy or sell shares in the fund. You should not act or rely on this document but should seek independent advice and verification in relation to its contents. Stirling House Financial Services Limited accepts no liability or responsibility whatsoever for any consequential loss of any kind arising out of the use of this document or any part of its contents.

The outlook expressed in this fact sheet represents the views of the Fund Manager at the time of preparation and are subject to change. They are not necessarily the views of Stirling House Financial Services Limited or of Host Capital Limited (FCA N° 429093). The asset allocations detailed within the factsheet are correct as at 31 December 2019 and are subject to change, whilst operating within the objectives of the Fund. The Fund Manager has the power to use derivatives but it is intended that these will only be used for the purpose of efficient portfolio management and not for investment purposes. Quoted yields are indicative, they do not take into account any fees or taxation and cannot be guaranteed.

This document does not explain all the risks involved in investing in the fund and therefore you should ensure that you read the Prospectus and the Key Investor Information Document (KIID) which contains further information including the applicable risk warnings.