BNY Mellon Investment Funds ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT





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Carole Judd Independent Chair of BNY Mellon Fund Managers Ltd Board of Directors

Dear investors,

Welcome to our latest Assessment of Value (AoV) report, covering 46 of our funds over the year ending 30 June 2023. These are part of our fund range, the BNY Mellon Investment Funds (BNY MIF).

As we conclude our fourth year with the AoV process, we have taken time to reflect on the progress we have made thus far. As the board governing these funds, we are pleased with the evolution our analysis has undertaken and know that it will continue to evolve over time. We believe continually looking forward, flexibility and adjusting to the world around us is crucial.

It is fair to say this report covers a period of global economic and political volatility. This was particularly notable in the UK where **inflation** was persistent – hitting a 41-year-high in October 2022 at 11.1%, before cooling slightly to 7.9% by the end of our review period (30 June 2023).¹

The Bank of England continued raising interest rates. The 13th consecutive hike led the UK to its highest rate level in 15 years, hitting 5% by 22 June 2023.² The UK wasn't alone. The US raised rates seven times during this review period, reaching 5.25% by June 2023.³

- 1. Office for National Statistics, Inflation and price indices, September 2023.
- 2. The Bank of England, Monetary Policy, 22 June 2023.
- 3. Forbes, Federal Funds Rate History 1990 to 2023, October 2023.

Undoubtedly, these events had a material impact on investments. We took this market context into consideration when reviewing the performance elements of our funds. See page 5: "Backdrop: A historic time", where we go into further detail about the markets conditions our managers faced over the past year.

YOUR VOICE

Investment performance is just one element we examine as part of this report. To get closer to what you see as adding value, this year we refined our annual client survey to specifically seek feedback on your view of 'value'. We are pleased to see 83% of those who participated in the expanded survey were satisfied with BNY Mellon Investment Management (BNY Mellon IM) – up from the previous year. Furthermore, 85% were satisfied with our communications (such as this report). We want to make sure we continue in this vein. This year we have added more visual summaries of our assessment process on BNY Mellon IM's consumer website. Go to www.bnymellonim.com.

As a board, we find feedback essential in assessing value and whether you, our investors, believe you are receiving the



appropriate service. We understand the importance of constructively challenging where improvements can still be made. We plan to interrogate the survey results and identify further areas for improvement.

STRIVING FOR VALUE

We had a number of new members join the board over the course of the past 12 months. All are dedicated to questioning and challenging the presence of value. In our analysis of the 46 funds covered here, the board's directors continuously questioned what value means to our investors – pushing each other to consider more.

There are many ways to interpret value. This is why the UK regulator, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) outlined seven distinct areas for assessing it as part of this annual review. See our board's perspectives on page 12.

Aside from the obvious answer of overall **returns** – we feel value should also relate to clear communication, sound reasoning and accessible information. The FCA's new Consumer Duty regulations has rightfully made the provision of clear and timely information and investor support a priority. Ultimately our goal in producing this report is to empower you. We want to provide you with our insights, analysis and crucially our results and actions in the creation of value. We have broken this report down with an overview of our approach and methodology. However, if you want to skip ahead to a specific fund, we have a key guide to each on its own dedicated page.

We welcome any comments or feedback you may have so we can improve future reports (email: <u>clientservices@bnymellon.com</u>).

Yours faithfully,

Carole

Carole Judd

Independent Chair of BNY Mellon Fund Managers Ltd Board of Directors

Backdrop to the review period

Global inflation and rising interest rates, three UK prime ministers, a new King, Europe-wide labour strikes, the ongoing war in Ukraine and a mini-banking crunch in the US. Investment markets were not devoid of opportunity, but it was a rocky 12 months to end of June 2023.

Fixed interest – the debt of companies and governments – fell as interest rates started to climb. A wary atmosphere appeared to spread in markets. This was made worse in the autumn of 2022. UK Prime Minister Liz Truss and her chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng's "mini-budget" sparked dramatic moves in UK government debt and sterling. It is unusual to see such large falls in **government bonds**. The Bank of England was forced to intervene to stabilise the market.

Persistent inflation and a fear of a **recession** was also growing in the US and across Europe. This all had profound implications for **equity markets**. There was a resurgence of interest in **value stocks** – companies that appear to be priced lower than their intrinsic value. Many such companies are considered more mature and less exciting than say, growth areas like technology. However, such companies tend to be solid and focus on rewarding shareholders through **dividends**.

The start of 2023 began optimistically enough with many investment experts forecasting good returns in various markets. And then ripples of unease rose from the collapse of US financial, Silicon Valley Bank. Then European firm Credit Suisse was "rescued" in an emergency deal with UBS. The impact of this led to a heightened focus on the financial sector in general towards the end of the review period. The board notes the performance impact from direct exposure to the affected **financials** was transitory. While a few of the funds in the BNY Mellon Investment Funds range were exposed to the financials sector, the lasting effects were also minimal.

While this paints a challenging 12-month period, there were areas of opportunity for **active managers**. The renewed interest in value stocks and dividends shifted investment focus. And growth stories still captured attention – particularly the buzz around artificial intelligence and technology. Global equity markets, including the UK, Europe and and US, showed positive returns over the full 12 months covered by our assessment review period.

Market backdrop - performance of major equity and bond indices over 12 months to 30 June 2023

	% Growth GBP
Equities Market	Value
MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan NR Index	-3.71
MSCI EM (Emerging Markets) NR Index	-2.80
MSCI Europe ex UK NR Index	19.00
MSCI North America NR Index	13.09
MSCI United Kingdom NR Index	8.12
MSCI World NR Index	13.21

	% Growth GBP
Bond Market	Value
ICE BofA Global Corporate TR Index	-2.65
ICE BofA Global Government TR Index	-7.62
ICE BofA Global High Yield TR Index	4.78
JP Morgan EMBI Global Diversified TR Index	2.58
JPM CEMBI Broad Diversified TR Index	0.94

Source: Lipper IM.

Closed-ended fund change

In seeking to add value and boost performance opportunities over this time frame, some investment managers turned to **alternative asset classes** – such as infrastructure.

To do so, some of our managers invest in what are called **closed-ended funds**. These funds trade much like any other **shares** of a company (equities) and can invest in a broad range of assets, like wind farms. It is not a new practice for some of the BNY Mellon Investment Funds range (BNY MIF) to invest in these funds.

Much like any other investment our funds make, the cost of investing in closed-ended funds was always reflected in overall performance. These are not new charges. However, over this review period the cost of any closedended exposure was made more explicitly clear. This followed industry guidance. The impact is now visible in the **ongoing charge figure (OCF)** of those funds that invest in them.

Meet the Board

"How do you define value in the context of this assessment?"



Carole Judd Independent Board Chair

Carole has over 30 years' experience in asset management and investment consulting.

Value can be subjective. This is why communication and feedback from investors is so important. We view it as ongoing conversation and assessment – not just a single output or result at a set period in time.



Sarah Cox Executive Director

Sarah is head of UK fund governance, operations and client services at BNY Mellon Investment Management EMEA and is chief executive officer for the board.

Being a trusted partner for our investors, providing good outcomes by delivering returns along with a great customer experience.



Marc Saluzzi Independent Director

Marc, retired from PwC Luxembourg since 2015, more than 35 years in the asset and management industry both the US and Luxembourg.



Kira Nickerson Executive Director

Kira is the consulting managing editor at BNY Mellon, with more than 22 years' experience writing for professional and retail investors.

66 Providing our clients with what they need, when they need it and in a way that is clearly understandable.



Gerald Rehn Group Non-Executive Director

Gerald is the head of Investment Management EMEA and oversees the group's distribution functions.He has over 23 years' experience of working in the financial services industry.

• Value is the total client experience and financial outcome received in exchange for the total fees paid.



Caylie Stallard Executive Director

Caylie, who has worked in financial services for over 16 years, is head of product development & management EMEA for BNY Mellon Investment Management.

This report is our way of informing you of how we have been meeting the expectations we set. We recognise each investor is unique and may place more importance on one aspect or outcome over another.



Sandeep Sumal Group Non-Executive Director

Sandeep is the director of governance at BNY Mellon Investment Management with over 20 years' experience in the financial services industry.

66 Ensuring the products we provide meet the criteria that you should expect when you invest with us.





How to read this report

If you have 🕖 minutes – focus on the results of your specific fund. Turn to your fund page (listed below) where you can find performance stats and an overall rating summary.

BNY Mellon 50/50 Global Equity Fund page 29 **BNY Mellon Global Infrastructure Income Fund** page 43 BNY Mellon Asian Income Fund page 30 BNY Mellon Global Multi-Strategy Fund page 44 BNY Mellon Asian Opportunities Fund page 31 **BNY Mellon Global Opportunities Fund** page 45 BNY Mellon Emerging Income Fund page 32 BNY Mellon Index Linked Gilt Fund page 46 BNY Mellon Equity Income Booster Fund page 33 BNY Mellon Inflation-Linked Corporate Bond Fund page 47 BNY Mellon Equity Income Fund page 34 BNY Mellon International Bond Fund page 48 BNY Mellon FutureLegacy 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 Fund page 35 BNY Mellon Long Gilt Fund page 49 BNY Mellon Global Absolute Return Fund page 36 BNY Mellon Long-Term Global Equity Fund page 50 BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Fund page 37 BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Balanced Fund page 51 BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Income Fund page 38 BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Diversified Return Fund page 52 **BNY Mellon Global Emerging Markets Opportunities Fund** BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Global Balanced Fund page 53 page 39 BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Growth Fund page 54 BNY Mellon Global Equity Fund page 40 BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Income Fund page 55 BNY Mellon Global High Yield Bond Fund page 41 BNY Mellon Real Return Fund page 56 BNY Mellon Global Income Fund page 42

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If you have 🕕 minutes – for more context you might want to refresh yourself on the 2022 results and the actions taken since last year's report. You can find this on page 8.

If you have **U** minutes – to understand our assessment methodology, find an in-depth explanation on this and the seven criteria we use to rate our funds in 'our methodology' and 'our process' sections on pages <u>12-13</u>.

If you have UU minutes – alongside reading about our methodology, and your fund's 2022 and 2023 results, this report can provide you with an in-depth analysis of our overall findings. On pages <u>15-18</u> in 'our analysis' section, we provide insight into our findings across all seven criteria covering all funds.

Last year - our 2022 ratings and actions

In 2022, we examined 41 funds in the BNY Mellon Investment Funds' range – 34 of which had sufficient track record to be rated. This covered the 12 months to 30 June 2022.

In analysing the funds, we followed the seven-factor criteria as outlined by the UK regulator, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

22 were rated green by the board, showing good value for money.

9 were rated **amber**, showing some value for money.

3 were rated **red**, showing poor value for money.

Here we summarise our 2022 findings and the actions taken since our last report.

Fund name	Issues identified in 2022	Action taken
BNY MELLON EQUITY INCOME FUND Amber overall	This Fund was rated red for performance, having missed its five-year target on a capital growth basis. However, the board noted that the fund did achieve income greater than its benchmark over the review period.	In the interest of its investors, the board decided to merge the Fund into the Newton-managed BNY Mellon UK Income Fund. Shareholders voted in favour of the merger and this took place on 7 October 2023.
BNY MELLON GLOBAL ABSOLUTE RETURN FUND Amber overall	The Fund missed all three of its performance targets. This included its target of achieving a positive return. However, the board noted the Fund narrowly missed meeting this goal.	We reviewed how the objective and policy of the Fund were described. The updates, which took place on 14 August 2023, clarified the Fund's investment strategy. We believe this provides a more accurate reflection of the how it is managed and should enable greater clarity for investors.
BNY MELLON GLOBAL DYNAMIC BOND FUND Amber overall	The Fund failed to meet its stated objectives. Specifically, its performance objective to achieve a positive return on a rolling three-year basis.	We monitored the Fund over the past year and continue to do so. Bonds are typically slow to recover, meaning it may take some time for the Fund to recover sufficiently from a difficult 2022 period to meet its five-year objective. We are heartened to see that over the past year, and in an ongoing difficult market, the Fund has improved.

Fund name	
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BNY MELLON GLOBAL DYNAMIC Bond income fund

BNY MELLON GLOBAL EQUITY FUND

BNY MELLON GLOBAL HIGH YIELD

Amber overall

Amber overall

BOND FUND

Amber overall

Issues identified in 2022

The board found the retail share class (the B shares) were more expensive than comparable funds. This additional cost was not offset by better performance. While the B shares received a red rating, the other share classes were amber or green based on cost – resulting in an overall amber for the Fund as a whole. Performance for all share classes was also amber. Although the Fund has achieved income, it posted a negative return over five, three and one year.

Performance for all share classes was rated amber

also marginally underperformed its benchmark, the

MSCI All Countries World index, over five, three and

as the Fund failed to meet its stated objective. It

Action taken

We monitored the Fund over the past year, consulting with the investment manager on its performance. The Fund's performance has since improved. We also took action on costs. We lowered the **annual management charge (AMC)** on several share classes, particularly the B and W share classes.

This was on the board's watch list to ensure it is closely monitored. The board notes its performance improved and in this year's report has been rated green.

The Fund was – and continues to be – on the board's watch list for close monitoring. A new head of **fixed income** at Newton, the Fund's investment manager, joined at the end of the 2023 review period. The board will be furthering discussions on ways the Fund's performance can be improved.

BNY MELLON GLOBAL MULTI-STRATEGY FUND Red overall



Performance for all share classes was rated amber as the Fund underperformed its benchmark over five, three and one year to 30 June 2022.

one year to 30 June 2022.

This Fund was rated red due to ongoing performance issues on both an absolute and **relative** basis. Specifically, it failed to meet its objective to achieve capital growth. It produced net negative returns over five, three and one year to 30 June 2022. Discussions with the investment manager continued and its investment process was reviewed. This year has seen an improvement in performance, but it remains one we are closely monitoring. This involves being part of our quarterly performance management committee's regular discussions, singling it out for regular assessment.

BNY MELLON GLOBAL Opportunities fund

Amber overall

Issues identified in 2022

Although the Fund met its goal of achieving capital growth over five years, it underperformed it on a relative basis. Over five, three and one year the Fund lagged the index against which its performance is compared. As such the board marked the Fund amber for performance for the second consecutive year. Furthermore the board highlighted concern over additional expenses in the Fund rising during last year's review period.

Action taken

The influence of its **active management** approach was interrogated and the Fund remains on the board's watch list for improvement. At the end of the current review period (June 2023), the management team on the **portfolio** changed.

BNY MELLON SUSTAINABLE European opportunities fund

The board rated the Fund amber as it failed to meet its performance objective target over five years. In 2022 the mandate of the Fund had changed to one focused on **sustainable investments**. The timing of this switch, corresponding with an uptick in assets excluded from investment in the new mandate was taken into consideration. The management team has now changed.

Amber overall

BNY MELLON SUSTAINABLE UK Opportunities fund

Red overall



The board stated the Fund had suffered underperformance and delivered poor value. The board took into consideration the Fund's investment objective was updated, making it a sustainable portfolio in 2021. However, the performance remained unsatisfactory, and the board concluded this was not a result solely due to the more restrictive mandate. The Fund's switch to a sustainable mandate corresponding with an uptick in assets excluded from investment was taken into consideration. While performance has improved, it remains on the board's watch list.

Fund name

BNY MELLON UK EQUITY FUND

Amber overall

Issues identified in 2022

The Fund's long-term performance slightly lagged its benchmark over five years, after fees. However at the time of review, its shorter-term performance was of concern and thus it received an amber rating.

Action taken

The Fund was closely monitored over the review period. Its short-term performance has markedly improved. However, its longer-term numbers means it remains part of our quarterly performance management committee's regular discussions, singling it out for regular assessment.

The board was concerned over the Fund's struggle with performance issues. The Fund lagged its index over the medium and short-term. Furthermore, the board noted concern over costs being too high. This was in line with the evaluation that B shares were slightly more expensive versus its peers, likewise the W share class was above average.

The Fund has continued to struggle performance-wise. This led to dialogue with the manager and extra scrutiny last year which saw some improvement. Its performance over the past year was good but its long-term numbers remain disappointing. We note costs have improved over the past year but more work is still required. This Fund remains under review.

BNY MELLON US Opportunities fund

Red overall



2023 Methodology

In this Assessment of Value report, we examined 46 funds with accounting end dates up to and including 30 June 2023.

Our assessment follows the seven-factor criteria outlined by the UK regulator, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). We used a variety of internal data to examine the individual funds within each of these areas. This data included that provided by external, independent consultants.

Further details on the seven criteria:

	FCA Definition	Our assessment
Performance	The performance of the scheme, ¹ after deduction of all payments out of scheme property ² as set out in the prospectus. Performance should be considered over an appropriate timescale having regard to the scheme's investment objectives, policy and strategy.	We assessed the performance of each share class against its stated objective. Funds – and their individual share classes – may have different objectives over specified time frames. For instance, one may have a stated goal over three years, another over 12 months. For funds with an income objective we take its yield into consideration. For funds which undergo significant change over the review period – such as a change in its objective – we take this into consideration on a case-by-case basis.
Quality of Service	The range and quality of services provided to shareholders.	We assessed the quality of the service provided to holders of our funds. Our analysis considered services provided to the fund by third parties, as well as the services investors received from BNY Mellon Investment Management.
Comparable market rates	In relation to each service, the market rate for any comparable service provided: a) by the Authorised Fund Manager (AFM); or b) to the AFM or on its behalf, including by a person to which any aspect of the scheme's management has been delegated.	We assessed the fees paid by the investors in the funds against similar competitor products.
AFM (Authorised Fund Manager) Costs – General	In relation to each charge, the cost of providing the service to which the charge relates, and when money is paid directly to associates or external parties, the cost is the amount paid to that person.	We assessed the individual costs for services provided in the fund. These included the payment to the trustee , depositary , and investment manager among others. We also considered the profitability of the funds.
Comparable Services	In relation to each separate charge, the AFM's charges and those of its associates for comparable services provided to clients, including for institutional mandates of a comparable size and having similar investment objectives and policies.	We assessed the costs of the share classes of the fund, when compared to a negotiated fee share class, or a broadly similar mandate only available to institutional investors .
Economies of Scale	Whether the AFM is able to achieve savings and benefits from economies of scale, relating to the direct and indirect costs of managing the scheme property and taking into account the value of the scheme property and whether it has grown or contracted in size as a result of the sale and redemption of units.	We assessed whether any savings achieved by the fund increasing in size were passed on to the underlying investors. If a fund decreased in size, we assessed whether the costs disproportionately increased.
Classes of Units/Shares	Whether it is appropriate for unitholders to hold units in classes subject to higher charges than those applying to other classes of the same scheme with substantially similar rights.	We examined whether the investors of the fund were in the appropriate share class. If there were many share classes for one fund, it was assessed whether all of the share classes were still fit for purpose and required.

1. Scheme is what we would call the fund.

2. Scheme property is what we would call the underlying investments held by the fund.



Our Assessment of Value review process

A complex review process using multiple sets of data, across seven criteria analysed on a fund-by-fund basis, the board of BNY Mellon Fund Managers Ltd has honed its methodology since the Assessment of Value was introduced in 2020. Here is a simplified flow chart outlining our process.



Client complaints log

Investment Management Oversight Committee summary Prospectus for trustee fees Transaction charges Audit benchmarking Financial reports for the funds

Client holding and fee database

Performance: Lipper IM

FITZ Partners Board Reporting & Investment Advisory Fee Benchmarking Report

MJ Hudson Amaces CMS Fund Accounting Report & CMS **Custody and Treasury Report**

NatWest Trustee and Depository Services, Custody Benchmarking Report, Custodian Oversight Pack & Quarterly Report



Investment Management

www.bnymellonim.com

UK websites

Our 2023 findings

For this assessment of value period, ending 30 June 2023, the board has rated 25 out of the 36 eligible funds in the BNY MIF range as green.

THREE funds out of the **36** were rated **red**. These funds will now undergo a range of remediation to tackle the problems identified by this assessment. For some, change already occurred at the end of the review period (June 2023). The board will assess the impact of these over the next year.

- BNY Mellon Global High Yield Bond Fund
- BNY Mellon Global Multi-Strategy Fund
- BNY Mellon US Opportunities Fund

Of the 36, **EIGHT** funds were given an overall **amber** rating. Many of these ratings were due to concerns regarding failure to meet some of its stated performance objectives. Cost inequities identified last year have been lessened as part of ongoing actions, such as migrating investors to cheaper share classes.

- BNY Mellon Equity Income Fund
- BNY Mellon Global Absolute Return Fund
- BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Fund
- BNY Mellon Real Return Fund

- BNY Mellon Sustainable European Opportunities Fund
- BNY Mellon Sustainable Real Return Fund
- BNY Mellon Sustainable UK Opportunities Fund
- BNY Mellon UK Equity Fund

There were 👖 funds in the range that we were unable to assess fully. These funds are relatively new. As such performance versus their individual objectives was not possible to assess. They rated green on all other metrics.

- BNY Mellon FutureLegacy 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 Funds
- BNY Mellon Global Infrastructure Income Fund
- BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Dynamic Bond Fund

- BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Emerging Markets Fund
- BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund
- BNY Mellon US Equity Income Fund

OURANALYSIS What, how and why?





Our analysis



WHAT, HOW AND WHY?

In this section we explain what we analysed, how this was done, and the conclusions we reached. For further detail on any individual fund and, where applicable, the steps we intend to take to redress any problems identified, please go to the individual fund pages in this report.

PERFORMANCE

We continue to hone our analysis – and tolerance – with respect to performance deviations. If a fund loses value year-after-year, yet beats the index is it adding value? The answer isn't one we feel can be tackled with a one-size-fits all approach.

We don't believe performance is simply about the absolute amount of money gained or lost over a small window of time. Instead, this assessment looks at whether the fund performed as expected. Did it meet its objective(s)? And if it didn't, why not? Was the underperformance persistent? Has its active management added value and to what extent?

Performance consistency, particularly in line with a fund's objectives, is a mainstay of our analysis. Failing to meet the fund's stated objective is given strict consideration, no matter the prevailing market environment, particularly when considering longer term numbers. In some cases, a fund may have fallen steeply, along with others in its peer group. However, we don't believe performing in line with others is a rationale for missing a stated objective – rather, perhaps most of the sector failed to add value.

For those funds aiming to achieve an income, we take its yield into consideration. Occasionally the objective or the way a fund is managed will change (typically following a vote by shareholders). For such funds it is difficult to judge them based on their old objectives. We review these on a case-by-case basis. On the individual fund pages, we include a chart of the fund's performance on a net basis.

Actions on the board's checklist:

- Compared performance against stated investment objectives
 - For income funds prioritised yield versus the market and competitive peers.
 - Funds with capital growth objectives and total returns were prioritised.
- Examined performance on absolute basis and versus its benchmark or peers
 - On gross basis (before fees) and net (after fees).
 - Did active management provide notable benefits?
 - Was underperformance a function of manager style?
 - Performance consistency.
- Considered market style, backdrop. How influential were world events on performance?

Findings:

This year, there were **six** funds rated **amber** for performance and **seven** rated **red**; a further 10 had insufficient track records for analysis. The rest were rated **green** on this metric.

The past few years have seen turbulent markets for many asset classes. While some funds continue to be rated red for performance, their short-term numbers were encouraging to the board.

Amber:

- BNY Mellon Global Income Fund
- BNY Mellon Global Opportunities Fund
- BNY Mellon Real Return Fund
- BNY Mellon Sustainable European Opportunities Fund
- BNY Mellon Sustainable Real Return Fund
- BNY Mellon Sustainable UK Opportunities Fund

Red:

- BNY Mellon Equity Income Fund
- BNY Mellon Global Absolute Return Fund
- BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Fund
- BNY Mellon Global High Yield Bond Fund
- BNY Mellon Global Multi-Strategy Fund
- BNY Mellon UK Equity Fund
- BNY Mellon US Opportunities Fund

Of the funds rated red for performance, **three** were rated red overall. The performance of these were considered to require greater remedial action to resolve. *Go to the individual fund pages for overall ratings and actions to be taken*.

QUALITY OF SERVICE

As the board governing these funds, we are ultimately responsible for the service provided to them and to investors within them. The majority of the services examined in this measurement – including marketing and communications – are shared resources. For instance, all these funds use the same third-party service providers such as: **fund accountants, transfer agents (TA), auditors,** and **custodians**.

Investment management is the main service that differs between the funds. In this assessment, the funds are managed by either Newton Investment Management, Insight Investment or Walter Scott.

Actions on the board's checklist:

- Collected and reviewed data on services shared by all funds.
- We considered a number of measures for each investment manager, including risk and compliance track records, results of internal audits, engagement and responsiveness.

Where available, reviewed and considered third party research in order to gauge the opinion of external analysts and the perception of our funds in the wider investment community.

Findings:

We rated all eligible funds green on this assessment. We looked at more fund specific data on service – meaning the availability and responsiveness of our managers. We also assessed the response time to complaints received. For the second year running, complaints have fallen. Additionally response time to complaints has also improved. More than 97% were answered within the appropriate time frame. During the year under review, we noticed some issues affecting the responsiveness of our TA to investors phone calls. Once identified, these issues were immediately remediated, and all key performance indicators are now back to green.

Although we did not identify any cause for concern, we believe there are always areas that can be improved upon. In light of new Consumer Duty regulations, we are refining how we communicate. We are examining where we can simplify our processes to make our communications simpler and easier for all to use.

COMPARABLE MARKET RATES

We assessed the fees paid by the investors in the funds against similar competitor products. To arrive at an overall fund decision, we assigned a percentage to each share class as to what proportion it made up of the whole. Meaning if a retail share class was responsible for 90% of the assets under management, and it was assessed as green – a green rating was given to the entire fund on this metric, even if other share classes were rated amber or red.

Actions on the board's checklist:

- Scrutinised the ongoing charge figure (OCF) of each fund in the BNY MIF range against competitor funds and their offerings.
- Calculated the actual fee paid by investors rather than the stated fee to take into account any discounts or rebates.

Findings:

All funds bar two were rated green on this metric. Two funds were amber-rated: BNY Mellon US Opportunities Fund and the BNY Mellon Equity Income Booster Fund. Both were found to be marginally out of line with peers.

COSTS – GENERAL

This criterion covers everything that makes up the annual management charge on each fund.

Actions on the board's checklist:

- Assessed all component parts of the AMC, including transaction costs, admin and additional expenses (such as trustee fees).
- Used external and internal data to review fees paid to the managers of our funds. Are they in line with industry standards?
- Scrutinised the cost to investors against the relative profitability of each fund.

Findings:

In general, and on the basis of our research, we were satisfied with the fees being paid. All have rated as green on this metric. Our analysis suggests the charges are appropriate for the costs involved.

COMPARABLE SERVICES

We have a duty to make sure our funds are fair, versus other similar products.

Over this review period we made a concerted effort to demonstrate investors in funds without a directly comparable bespoke, segregated mandate- are getting a fair deal.

Actions on the board's checklist:

Checked if similar mandates our managers run are priced differently. Examined pricing on the X classes and equivalent segregated mandates.

Compared the charge of our most accessible share class (W) with other share classes available in each fund and against comparable peers.

Put into context the discount available for scale to ensure any differences are justifiable.

Findings:

We rated all eligible funds green on this assessment.

ECONOMIES OF SCALE

At a superficial level, 'economies of scale' translates to – the larger a fund is, the more able it should be to spread costs, pass on the benefit or reinvest that saving on behalf of investors. There are many ways to achieve scale. As such there are a number of areas where levels of economies of scale can be generated.

When looking at each cost individually, some did not explicitly contribute to better economies of scale but neither did they hinder our ability to achieve it in other places.

Actions on the board's checklist:

- Examined the size of each fund relative to the costs charged to different clients across our funds.
- Investigated the cost-effectiveness of each fund.
- Considered whether bigger or smaller fund size resulted in any corresponding changes to fees paid.

Findings:

We rated all the funds in this category as green. Our analysis did not reveal any uneven economies of scale. Where possible any savings were passed through to investors. For example, the costs for depository services fall as funds get larger.

Additionally, our practice of capping expenses on smaller funds benefits those investors.

CLASSES OF UNITS/SHARE

This criterion is all about examining the different ways investors can hold an individual fund. Some funds have several different classes – some for retail, some for institutional. The difference between them is often based on the amounts invested. For instance, an institutional investor may have large lump sums while a retail investor may be drip feeding smaller amounts. There are correspondingly different costs as a result.

Actions on the board's checklist:

- Reviewed all share classes across all funds and evaluate if they are needed.
- Compared the costs Are there any discrepancies of note between share classes in the same fund? Have costs changed during the review period? If yes, why?

Findings:

We determined that overall, all funds were rated green on this metric.



What's in a share class?

Like most investment funds, ours have multiple share classes. This is because there are different types of investors – retail, intermediary and institutional and varying ways to invest.

For instance, you may invest in **accumulation** or income shares (this is normally seen in share class names as "Acc" or "Inc"). Typically, if you're looking to grow your **capital** you may re-invest your income and as such you are likely to invest in accumulation shares. With income shares you're looking to take a stream of income in the form of distributions (interest or dividends).

Each fund in this report offers different share classes. Below sets out who each share class is intended for. Here's our share classes and how we define them.

Share class type (accumulation or income):	Share class is intended for:
Sterling Shares Sterling A Shares Euro Shares USD Shares	Retail and institutional investors.
B Shares	a) Retail investors in the United Kingdom who are directly investing without having received professional advice in relation to their investment; b) Retail investors in the United Kingdom who have received professional advice in relation to their investment; and c) Investors who have an account with InvestorZone , a non advised website which provides registered shareholders online access to manage their accounts.
Institutional Shares Institutional Shares 1 Institutional Shares Euro Institutional Shares USD	Institutional investors.
Institutional Shares W Institutional Shares W EUR Institutional Shares W USD	 a) Institutional investors who meet the minimum initial investment level and minimum holding; and b) Entities designated by the authorised corporate director (ACD) as providing platform services, and which have platform arrangements (or an equivalent) with the ACD or its associates, and which are investing on behalf of underlying investors rather than on their own behalf. There are no specific minimum initial investment to minimum account maintenance or other qualifications established from time to time by the ACD.
U Shares U1 Shares	Institutional investors who are acting for themselves or in a fiduciary, custodial or other similar capacity.
T Shares	Financial intermediaries (including entities designated as platforms by the ACD) in respect of transactions undertaken on behalf of their clients which arise from discretionary portfolio management and/or investment advice services. Holdings in these Shares will be subject to minimum initial investment, holding requirements, minimum account maintenance or other qualifications established from time to time by the ACD.
F Shares	Investors who are clients of the ACD or their associates and may be subject to minimum account maintenance or other qualifications established from time to time by the ACD or their associates.

Share class type (accumulation or income):	Share class is intended for:
X Shares	Institutional investors who have agreed specific terms of business with the ACD or its associates within The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation Group, and in respect of which the Directors deem it appropriate for such investor to invest in the share class.
Newton Institutional Shares 1 Newton Institutional Shares 2 Newton Institutional Shares 3 Newton Institutional Shares 4 Newton Institutional Shares 5 Newton Institutional Shares 6	Institutional investors that have been introduced to the Company by Newton.
Newton Institutional L Shares 1	London LGPS CIV Ltd or such nominee as it may appoint.
Newton X Shares 1 Newton X Shares	Institutional investors who have agreed specific terms of business with the ACD, or Newton, and in respect of which the Directors deem it appropriate for such investor to invest in the share class.

Our 2023 results and summary table

For this assessment of value period there were 46 funds for consideration, although 10 had insufficient track records. This means just 36 were given full ratings in this year's assessment. Of the 36, 25 were rated green – just under 70% of the BNY MIF range. THREE funds were rated red. These funds will now undergo a range of remediation to tackle the problems identified by this assessment. For some, change already occurred at the end of the review period (June 2023). The board will assess the impact of these over the next year.

Of the 36 eligible funds, Elim funds were given an overall amber rating. This was due in the main to concerns regarding failure to meet performance objectives. Cost inequities identified last year have been lessened as part of ongoing actions, such as migrating investors to cheaper share classes.

FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level	Year	Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	Overall rating
	2021		•						
BNY Mellon 50/50 Global Equity Fund	2022		•		•			•	
	2023	•	•	•	•			•	
	2021		•		٠		٠	•	٠
BNY Mellon Asian Income Fund	2022	٠		•				•	
	2023	•	•	•	•		•	•	
	2021		•	•	٠		٠	•	٠
BNY Mellon Asian Opportunities Fund	2022		•		•			•	
	2023	•	•	•	•		•	•	
	2021				•			•	
BNY Mellon Emerging Income Fund	2022	•	•					•	
	2023	•	•		•		•	•	
BNY Mellon Equity Income Booster Fund	2021			•					
	2022	•	•		•			•	
	2023	•	•	•	•				•

KEY • Provided good value to investors over the assessment period

- Provided some value to investors over the assessment period
- Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring

 Insufficient track record or not applicable



FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level	Year	Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	Overall rating
	2021	•		•					•
BNY Mellon Equity Income Fund	2022			•					•
	2023	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
BNY Mellon FutureLegacy 3 Fund	2023		٠	٠	٠	٠	•	٠	
BNY Mellon FutureLegacy 4 Fund	2023			•			•	•	
BNY Mellon FutureLegacy 5 Fund	2023		•	•		٠	•	•	
BNY Mellon FutureLegacy 6 Fund	2023		٠	٠	٠	٠	•	•	
BNY Mellon FutureLegacy 7 Fund	2023			•			•		
	2021	•		•			•		•
BNY Mellon Global Absolute Return Fund	2022			•			•		•
	2023	•	•	•			•	•	•
	2021			٠			•		٠
BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Fund	2022	•		•			•		•
	2023	•	•	•			•	•	•
	2021			•			•		٠
BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Income Fund	2022	•		•					•
	2023			•			•		•
	2021								
BNY Mellon Global Emerging Markets Opportunities Fund	2022								•
	2023	•	•	•			•	•	•

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FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level	Year	Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	Overall rating
	2021						٠	٠	
BNY Mellon Global Equity Fund	2022	•	٠	٠	٠			٠	•
	2023	•	٠	•			•	•	
	2021	•	٠	٠		•	•	٠	•
BNY Mellon Global High Yield Bond Fund	2022	•	٠	٠		•	٠	٠	•
	2023	•	٠	•			•	•	
	2021	٠	٠	٠	٠	•	•	٠	٠
BNY Mellon Global Income Fund	2022	٠	٠	٠			٠	٠	•
	2023	•	٠	•			•	•	
	2021	٠	٠	٠		٠	٠	٠	٠
BNY Mellon Global Infrastructure Income Fund	2022		٠	٠					
	2023		•	•			•	•	
	2021	•	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	•
BNY Mellon Global Multi-Strategy Fund	2022	•						•	•
	2023	•	٠	•	•	٠	•	•	•
	2021	•					•	٠	•
BNY Mellon Global Opportunities Fund	2022	•		•			•	•	•
	2023	•	٠				•	٠	
	2021			•			•	٠	
BNY Mellon Index-Linked Gilt Fund	2022	•		•			•	•	
	2023	•					•	•	

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 - Insufficient track record or not applicable



FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level	Year	Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	Overall rating
	2021		٠				•		
BNY Mellon Inflation-Linked Corporate Bond Fund	2022		٠	٠	•		•		•
	2023	•	٠		•		•	•	
	2021		٠	٠					•
BNY Mellon International Bond Fund	2022	•	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	•
	2023	•	٠	•	•		•	•	
	2021	٠	٠	•	•		•		•
BNY Mellon Long Gilt Fund	2022	•			•			•	•
	2023	•			•		•	•	
	2021	•							
BNY Mellon Long-Term Global Equity Fund	2022	•			•		•		•
	2023	•			•	•	•	•	•
	2021				•	٠	•		٠
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Balanced Fund	2022	•			•		•		•
	2023	•			•	•	•	•	•
	2021								٠
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Diversified Return Fund	2022	•			•		•		•
	2023	•	٠	٠	•	•	•	•	•
	2021								
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Global Balanced Fund	2022								•
	2023	•	•	•					•

KEY • Provided good value to investors over the assessment period

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- Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring

 Insufficient track record or not applicable



FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level	Year	Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	Overall rating
	2021						•		
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Growth Fund	2022		•				•		
	2023	•	•		•		•	•	•
	2021	٠		٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Income Fund	2022	•	•	٠					
	2023	٠	•	•			•		
	2021	٠	•	٠		•	•	•	٠
BNY Mellon Real Return Fund	2022	٠	•	٠			٠		
	2023	•	•	•			•	٠	•
	2021	•	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	•
BNY Mellon Sustainable European Opportunities Fund	2022	•							•
	2023	•	•	•			•	•	•
	2021		٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	
BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Dynamic Bond Fund	2022		•						
	2023		•	•	•	•	•	•	
DNV Mallan Sustainable Clabel Emerging Markets Fund	2022						•		
BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Emerging Markets Fund	2023		•				•		
	2021		•				•		
BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Equity Fund	2022		•				•		
	2023			•			•		•

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- Insufficient track record or not applicable



FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level	Year	Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	Overall rating
	2021								
BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund	2022			٠			•	•	
	2023						•	•	
	2021		٠	٠					
BNY Mellon Sustainable Real Return Fund	2022	٠						•	•
	2023	•			•	•	•	•	•
	2021	•					•	٠	
BNY Mellon Sustainable Sterling Bond Fund	2022	•					•	•	•
	2023	•		٠	•	•	•	•	•
	2021						•	٠	٠
BNY Mellon Sustainable UK Opportunities Fund	2022	•					•	•	•
	2023	•		٠	•	•	•	•	•
	2021								
BNY Mellon UK Equity Fund	2022	•							•
	2023	•		•	•	•	•	•	•
	2021	•							
BNY Mellon UK Income Fund	2022	٠							•
	2023	٠	•	•	•		•	•	•
BNY Mellon US Equity Income Fund	2021							٠	
	2022								
	2023						•		

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 Insufficient track record or not applicable



FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level	Year	Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	Overall rating
	2021	•	٠	•	•				•
BNY Mellon US Opportunities Fund	2022	٠	•	•	•				•
	2023	•	•	•	•		•	•	
	2022	•	•		•	٠	٠		
Responsible Horizons Strategic Bond Fund	2023	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	2021	•	٠		•				
Responsible Horizons UK Corporate Bond Fund	2022	•			•			•	
	2023	•			•	•	•	•	

KEY • Provided good value to investors over the assessment period

• Provided some value to investors over the assessment period

 Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring

 Insufficient track record or not applicable



OUR FUNDS





29 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon 50/50 Global Equity Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve **capital growth** and **income** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

£42.6m

(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon 50/50 Global Equity Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon 50/50 Global Equity Newton Inst 2 Acc 🛛 📕 BNY Mellon 50/50 Global Equity Comparative Index

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Newton Institutional **Shares** 2 (**Accumulation**) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against a composite **index**, comprising 50% FTSE All-Share TR Index,16.67%. FTSE World North America TR Index,16.67% FTSE Europe ex UK TR Index and 16.67% FTSE Asia Pacific TR Index, as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset classes, sectors** and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the investment **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we have concluded this Fund is demonstrating good value overall. Overall rating Performance



31 OCTOBER 2023

BNY Mellon Asian Income Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve **income** together with **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Asian Income Fund

Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon Asian Income Inst W Acc 🛛 📗 FTSE Asia Pacific ex Japan TR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the W **Shares** (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the FTSE Asia Pacific ex-Japan TR Index as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because the Investment Manager utilises it when measuring the Fund's income **yield**.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.



Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we have

concluded this Fund is demonstrating value overall.



BNY Mellon Asian Opportunities Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve capital growth over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

£90.9m (as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Asian Opportunities Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon Asian Opportunities Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 FTSE Asia Pacific ex Japan TR GBP

Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the W **Shares** (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the FTSE Asia Pacific ex Japan TR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class**, **sectors** and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Overall ratingsPerformanceImage: ConstanceQuality of ServiceImage: ConstanceEconomies of scaleImage: Comparable servicesComparable servicesImage: Comparable market ratesComparable market ratesImage: Comparable market rates

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we have

concluded this Fund is demonstrating good value overall.

31 OCTOBER 2023



BNY Mellon Emerging Income Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve **income** together with **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Emerging Income Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon Emerging Income Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 MSCI EM (Emerging Markets) NR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the MSCI **Emerging Markets** NR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because the Investment Manager utilises it when measuring the Fund's income **yield**.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we have concluded this Fund is demonstrating good value overall. As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its yield to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	\square
Economies of scale	4J
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	(interest
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



BNY Mellon Equity Income Booster Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to provide **income** together with the potential for **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Equity Income Booster Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon Equity Income Booster Inst W Acc FTSE All-Share TR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the FTSE All-Share TR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it is representative of the UK **equity market**.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we have concluded this Fund is demonstrating good value overall. The **yield** on the Fund was substantially higher than the market: 6.1% versus 3.7%. We did have concerns over its costs, which were largely a result of the way it was managed.

However, following a decision by the manager to exit equity management, the Fund was merged with the Newton-managed BNY Mellon UK Income Fund in October 2023. Consequently, this Fund is no longer open to investors.



31 OCTOBER 2023

34-ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Equity Income Fund

OBJECTIVE

To provide **income** together with long term **capital growth** (5 years or more). The fund targets a **dividend yield** in excess of the yield of the FTSE All-**Share Index** on an annual basis as at the fund's financial year end. There is no guarantee that the fund will achieve its objective over this, or any other, period.

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we concluded this Fund is demonstrating some value to investors overall. The Fund was rated red for performance, having missed its five-year target on a capital growth basis relative to its comparator benchmark. It's yield 4.3% was slightly above that of the market, at 3.7%.

However, following a decision by the manager to exit equity management, the Fund was merged with the Newton-managed BNY Mellon UK Income Fund in October 2023. Consequently, this Fund is no longer open to investors.



BNY Mellon Equity Income Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon Equity Income Inst W Acc FTSE All-Share TR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the B Shares (Accumulation) calculated as total return, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the FTSE All-Share TR Index as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it is representative of the UK **equity market**.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

31 OCTOBER 2023

BNY Mellon FutureLegacy Funds 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

OBJECTIVE

To achieve **capital growth** and potential for **income** over the long term (5 years or more) while being managed to a pre-defined level of risk. The fund will aim to maintain a **risk profile** classification of 3/4/5/6/7 from a scale of 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest) which is assessed against the risk ratings scale provided by an external third-party risk rating agency. These funds launched in February 2023. As such they have no significant performance track records for the board to assess properly.

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM) FUTURELEGACY FUND 3

£20.1m (as of 30 June 2023)

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM) FUTURELEGACY FUND 4

£20.1m (as of 30 June 2023)

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM) FUTURELEGACY FUND 5



ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM) FUTURELEGACY FUND 6

£20.0m (as of 30 June 2023)

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM) FUTURELEGACY FUND 7

£20.0m (as of 30 June 2023)

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	$\mathbf{\nabla}$
Economies of scale	
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	ALL ALL
Costs	
Comparable market rates	

36 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Global Absolute Return Fund

OBJECTIVE

To deliver positive returns on an annual basis. The Fund aims to deliver cash (**SONIA** (90-day compounded)) before fees on an annual basis and cash (SONIA (90-day compounded)) +4% pa before fees on a rolling annualised five year basis (meaning a period of five years, no matter which day you start on). However, a positive return is not guaranteed and a **capital loss** may occur.

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



BNY Mellon Global Absolute Return Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



This Fund has been given an overall amber rating, with a red rating for performance. The board was disappointed with its performance in last year's assessment period (to 30 June 2022). Since then, and through the current review period to 30 June 2023, the board has met with the investment managers several times to discuss remedial actions.

As a result, how we describe the Fund's investment process was amended to more accurately reflect the way it is managed. Performance has improved, although it is too early to judge. Its outcome will be carefully monitored going forward.

In assessing it, the board was encouraged by the fact that the Fund's majority shareholder, an institutional investor, continues to add money to the **portfolio**.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	$\mathbf{\nabla}$
Economies of scale	
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	Careford and
Costs	
Comparable market rates	

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional Shares W (Accumulation) calculated as total return, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance before fees against SONIA 3 month compounded on an annual basis (the "12 month **Benchmark**") and SONIA 3 month compounded +4% per annum on a rolling annualised five year basis (the "5 year Benchmark") as target benchmarks. SONIA is the average interbank interest rate at which a large number of banks on the London money market are prepared to lend one another unsecured funds denominated in British pounds sterling. The Fund will use the 12 month Benchmark as a target for the Fund's performance to match or exceed over a rolling 12 month period as it is representative of cash; and the 5 year Benchmark as a target for its performance to match or exceed over a rolling annualised 5 year basis as it is consistent with the risk taken in the Fund.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies as disclosed in the Prospectus.



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37 – Assessment of Value Report

BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Fund

OBJECTIVE

To maximise the **total return**, comprising **income** and **capital growth**. The fund is managed to seek a minimum return of cash (**SONIA** (30day compounded)) +2% per annum over five years before fees. In doing so, it aims to achieve a positive return on a rolling three-year basis (meaning a period of three years, no matter which day you start on). However, a positive return is not guaranteed and a **capital loss** may occur.

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)





SONIA 1 Month Compounded SONIA 1 Month Compounded + 2%

Following analysis on all seven metrics, the board has determined the BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Fund is offering some value to investors.

The amber overall rating was a consequence of its red performance rating, having failed to meet its stated objectives. Last year it was also given an amber score for performance. The board noted it can take some time for a recovery in **bond** markets to feed through to the longer-term aim in the Fund's objective.

According to the investment manager, 2022 was one of the worst bond markets on record, offering **fixed income** investors few places to hide. He notes his performance was particularly affected by having too much invested in **high yield bonds** (the risker end of **corporate bonds**) in 2022. In hindsight, this call proved too early and it hindered returns. Select **government bond** holdings also detracted from performance during the period covered.



The board will continue to monitor the Fund's performance, assessing it regularly. It will also meet with the new manager of the BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Fund, who joined Newton as head of fixed income at the end of the current review period.

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (**Accumulation**) calculated as total return, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance before fees against SONIA 1 month compounded +2% per annum over five years as a target **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). SONIA is the average interbank interest rate at which a large number of banks on the London money market are prepared to lend one another unsecured funds denominated in British pounds sterling. The Fund will use the Benchmark as a target for the Fund's performance to match or exceed because it is representative of sterling cash and the Fund's investment objective is to seek a minimum return of sterling cash +2% per annum. The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies as disclosed in the Prospectus.

38 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Income Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve income over the medium term (3-5 years).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

£53.5m (as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Income Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we have concluded this Fund is demonstrating positive value overall. As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its yield to that of its benchmark.

We compared the income the fund earned over one, three and five years with other funds in the Investment Association (an industry trade body) £ Strategic **Bond** sector – which also seek to generate income. Over all periods, the Fund's level of income generation was typical of income-focused funds. As such, we found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.



BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Income Inst W Inc

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Income) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will not measure its performance against a **benchmark** because it is not possible to state a comparator that will be relevant at all times. Instead, the **authorised corporate director (ACD)** invites investors to consider the Fund's **yield** versus other **fixed income** investment products that seek to generate income.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus.



39-ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Global Emerging Markets Opportunities Fund

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we have

concluded this Fund is demonstrating good value overall.

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve capital growth over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

259.0m (as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Global Emerging Markets Opportunities Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon Glbl Em Mkts Opportunities Inst W Acc MSCI EM (Emerging Markets) NR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the MSCI **Emerging Markets** NR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class, sectors** and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.



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40 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Global Equity Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve capital growth over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

£1,122.2m (as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Global Equity Fund

Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon Global Equity Inst W Acc MSCI AC World NR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the MSCI AC World NR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class**, **sectors** and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the investment **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviated from the Benchmark.

This Fund is rated green on all metrics.

Over the 12 months to 30 June 2023, the objective for long-term capital growth was met and the Fund demonstrated lower **volatility** than its benchmark. The board is satisfied the Fund is demonstrating value across all areas of assessment.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	$\mathbf{\nabla}$
Economies of scale	
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	Contract of
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



41-ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Global High Yield Bond Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve income over the medium term (3-5 years).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

£76.7m (as of 30 June 2023)





[📕] BNY Mellon Global High Yield Bond Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 ICE BofA Glo HY ex Bnk Cp&Jr Sub TR GBPH

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the ICE Bank of America **Global High Yield** ex Bank Capital & Junior Subordinated (100% Hedged into sterling) TR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class, credit** quality, **sectors** and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the investment **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Over the latest review period the BNY Mellon Global High Yield Bond Fund has been assessed as offering poor value. This was predominantly due to ongoing performance issues. Performance for all share classes was rated red as the Fund underperformed over the 12-months to end of June 2023. This is the second consecutive year the board has been dissatisfied with its performance.

According to the manager, some of the **underperformance** was because of its defensive positioning in late 2022 and throughout 2023.

While all other metrics were ultimately rated green, the board did interrogate the cost components of the Fund carefully given its underperformance.

The Fund has been placed on the board's watch list. A meeting with the new head of **fixed income** at Newton has been requested to discuss remedial actions regarding its performance.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	\square
Economies of scale	
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	Careford and
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



42-ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Global Income Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve **income** over an annual period together with **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Global Income Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon Global Income Inst W Acc FTSE World TR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the FTSE World TR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because the Investment Manager utilises it when measuring the Fund's income **yield**.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the investment **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, the board concluded this Fund is demonstrating good value overall.

However, the Fund was given an amber rating for performance. While its total returns versus its benchmark were disappointing, the Fund has a strict yield criteria. According to the manager, this meant it was unable to invest in certain companies that are part of the index against which it is compared. For example, select areas of technology, which performed strongly over the review period.

As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its yield to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.

The board will monitor its performance over the next review period.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	\square
Economies of scale	4]]
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	ALL ALL
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



43-ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Global Infrastructure Income Fund

This Fund is unrated as it does not yet have sufficient track

record to judge versus its five-year performance objective.

The Fund has underperformed its benchmark in the period

metrics the Fund was rated positively.

since launch but its **yield** is comfortably ahead. On all other

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve income and **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Global Infrastructure Income Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon Global Infra Income Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 S&P Global Infrastructure NR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the S&P Global Infrastructure NR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it represents a traditional **equity** infrastructure universe of companies.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. The **portfolio** holdings of the Fund will not be limited to components of the Benchmark and the Investment Manager will use its discretion to invest outside the Benchmark in pursuit of the Fund's investment objective.





44 – ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Global Multi-Strategy Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve capital growth.

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

(as of 30 June 2023)

3

BNY Mellon Global Multi-Strategy Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023

The board has guestioned the value on offer from the BNY Mellon Global Multi-Strategy Fund, rating it red overall. This is the second year the Fund has received a red rating for performance and the third consecutive year it disappointed. All other metrics for the Fund are rated green.

Performance has improved recently, although longer-term returns fail to meet the Fund's objectives on both an absolute and relative basis. While the board is prepared to take more direct remedial action if necessary, it was noted the recent strengthening in returns warrants a watch-and-see approach. The Fund remains under review.





[📕] BNY Mellon Global Multi-Strategy Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 IA Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares NR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the B Shares (Accumulation) calculated as total return, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the UK Investment Association Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares NR Sector average as a comparator benchmark (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of funds with levels of equity and bond exposure similar to those of the Fund.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies as disclosed in the Prospectus.



45 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Global Opportunities Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve capital growth over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

£55.9m (as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Global Opportunities Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon Global Opportunities Inst W Acc MSCI AC World NR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the MSCI AC World NR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class, sectors** and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the investment **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we concluded this Fund is demonstrating value overall. Although the Fund has achieved long-term capital growth the board questioned the value of its **active management** given how close to the benchmark its returns have been.

However, the board concluded value was present. The benchmark-like returns were after fees and over the review period, with lower **volatility**.

The Fund has a new manager with whom the board will meet to discuss its performance.





46 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Index-Linked Gilt Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve **income** together with the potential for **capital growth** over the medium term (3-5 years).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



BNY Mellon Index Linked Gilt Fund

Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon Index Linked Gilt Inst Acc 🛛 📕 FTSE Actuaries UK Idx-Lnk Gilts Over 5Y TR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional (Accumulation) calculated as total return, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the FTSE Actuaries UK **Index-Linked Gilts** Over 5 Years TR Index as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class, credit** quality, **sectors** and geographical area in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we concluded the BNY Mellon Index-Linked Gilt Fund is demonstrating good value.

We rated the Fund as green overall for performance, after a close look at the figures as well as the prevailing market conditions. At first glance the Fund's net performance over the longer term appeared disappointing relative to its benchmark. However, this was due to fact the Fund is priced at a different time to the index's **valuation**. On a like-for-like basis, the Fund has outperformed over those periods to the end of 30 June 2023. The board is satisfied the Fund has performed in line with its objectives.

As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its **yield** to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	$\mathbf{\nabla}$
Economies of scale	
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	Level .
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



47-ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Inflation-Linked Corporate Bond Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to generate **income** and **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



BNY Mellon Inflation-Linked Corporate Bond Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon Inflation-Linked Corp Bond Inst W Acc IA £ Strategic Bond NR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the B **Shares** (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the UK Investment Association Sterling Strategic Bond NR Sector average as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator as, although not representative of **inflation-linked corporate bond** funds specifically, it represents a broad range of sterling-denominated **bond** funds that invest in corporate bonds, **government bonds** and **derivatives**.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we have concluded this Fund is demonstrating value overall. As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its **yield** to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.

The board chose not to rate Fund on the comparable market rates metric this year. This is because it only has one other competitor fund that could be considered a peer. The board believes that is not a good measurement for comparison. Work will be done over the next review period to find a better peer group with which to assess the Fund on this metric.





48 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT

BNY Mellon International Bond Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve **income** and **capital growth** over the medium term (3-5 years).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon International Bond Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon International Bond Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 JP Morgan Global GBI Unhedged TR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the JP Morgan Global GBI Unhedged TR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class, credit** quality, **sectors** and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we have concluded this Fund is demonstrating good value overall. As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its **yield** to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	\square
Economies of scale	4]]
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	ALL ALL
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



49 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Long Gilt Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve **income** together with the potential for **capital growth** over the medium term (3-5 years).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Long Gilt Fund

Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon Long Gilt Inst Acc FTSE Actuaries UK Conven Gilts Over 15 Y TR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional **Gilts** Over 15 Years **Index** (the "**Benchmark**"). The Fund will use the benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class, credit** quality, **sectors** and geographical area in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the majority of the Fund's holdings are expected to be constituents of, and have similar **weightings** to, the Benchmark, the investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we have concluded this Fund is demonstrating value overall. As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its **yield** to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	\square
Economies of scale	
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	AL.
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



50 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Long-Term Global Equity Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve capital growth over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

£1,797.5m (as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Long-Term Global Equity Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon Long-Term Global Equity Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 MSCI World NR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the MSCI World NR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the **Benchmark** as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class, sectors** and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the investment **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we concluded the BNY Mellon Long-Term Global Equity Fund offers good value.

The Fund's Institutional share class was identified as requiring remediation in last year's review. While rated green this year, migration of investors in this share class to more suitable and cheaper share classes continues.





51-ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT RNV Mellon Multi-Asset Ralar

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Balanced Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve a balance between **income** and **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Balanced Fund





📕 BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Balanced Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares NR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (**Accumulation**) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the UK Investment Association Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares NR Sector average as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of funds with levels of **equity** and **bond** exposure similar to those of the Fund.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies as disclosed in the Prospectus.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we concluded this Fund is demonstrating good value overall.



52 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Diversified Return Fund

OBJECTIVE

To achieve long-term **capital growth** over a period of at least 5 years from a **portfolio diversified** across a range of **assets**. The fund is managed to seek a return in excess of cash (**SONIA** (30-day compounded)) +3% per annum over five years before fees. In doing so, it aims to achieve a positive return on a rolling three-year basis (meaning a period of three years, no matter which day you start on). However, a positive return is not guaranteed and a **capital loss** may occur.

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



8

31 OCTOBER 2023

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Diversified Return Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



SONIA 1 Month Compounded SONIA 1 Month Compounded + 3%

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance before fees against SONIA 1 month compounded + 3% per annum over five years as a target **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). SONIA is the average interbank interest rate at which a large number of banks on the London money market are prepared to lend one another unsecured funds denominated in British pounds sterling. The Fund will use the Benchmark as a target for the Fund's performance to match or exceed because it is representative of sterling cash and the Fund's investment objective is to seek a return in excess of sterling cash +3% per annum.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies as disclosed in the Prospectus.

The BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Diversified Return Fund was given a green rating overall and on all metrics was seen as offering good value.



53 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Global Balanced Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve **income** and **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Global Balanced Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Glbl Bal Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Global Balanced Comparative Index

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional W Shares (Accumulation) calculated as total return, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against a composite **index**, comprising 37.5% FTSE All-Share TR Index, 37.5% FTSE World ex UK TR Index, 20% FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional **Gilts** All **Stocks** TR Index and 5% 7-Day Compounded SONIA, as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset classes, sectors** and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we concluded the BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Global Balanced Fund is demonstrating value overall.

As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its **yield** to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.

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54 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Growth Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve **capital growth** and **income** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

31 OCTOBER 2023

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Growth Fund



BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Growth Inst W Acc IA Flexible Investment NR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (**Accumulation**) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the UK Investment Association Flexible Investment NR Sector average as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of funds with the same flexibility, in terms of **equity** and **bond** exposure, as the Fund.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies as disclosed in the Prospectus.

Overall ratingsPerformanceImage: Comparable market ratesQuality of ServiceImage: Comparable market ratesComparable market ratesImage: Comparable market ratesComparable market ratesImage: Comparable market rates

We found the BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Growth Fund to be

demonstrating value across all seven of the assessment criteria.



55 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Income Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve **income** together with the potential for **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Income Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Income Inst W Acc 🛛 MSCI AC World NR: ICE BofA Global Broad Market GBPHdg (60:40)

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against a composite **index**, comprising 60% MSCI AC World NR Index and 40% ICE Bank of America Global Broad Market GBP Hedged TR Index, as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because the Investment Manager utilises this index when measuring the Fund's income **yield**.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we concluded this Fund is demonstrating value overall.

As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its yield to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	\square
Economies of scale	4JA
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	ALL ALL
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



56 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Real Return Fund

OBJECTIVE

To achieve a rate of return in sterling terms that is equal to or above a minimum return from cash (**SONIA** (30-day compounded)) + 4% per annum over five years before fees. In doing so, it aims to achieve a positive return on a rolling three-year basis (meaning a period of three years, no matter which day you start on). However, **capital** is in fact at risk and there is no guarantee that this will be achieved over that, or any, time period.

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

£3,373.4m (as of 30 June 2023)



SONIA 1 Month Compounded SONIA 1 Month Compounded + 4%

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (**Accumulation**) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance before fees against SONIA 1-month compounded + 4% per annum over five years as a target **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). SONIA is the average interbank rate at which a large number of banks on the London money market are prepared to lend to one another unsecured funds denominated in British pounds sterling. The Fund will use the Benchmark as a target for the Fund's performance to match or exceed because, in typical market conditions, it represents a target that will be equal to or greater than UK **inflation** rates over the same period and is commensurate with the Investment Manager's approach.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies as disclosed in the Prospectus.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we concluded the BNY Mellon Real Return Fund is demonstrating some value.

The Fund was given an amber overall score due to its amber rating for performance. It has consistently failed to meet one of its performance objectives, cash plus 4%. Over the long-term the Fund has been successful in achieving positive returns on a rolling three-year basis (meaning a period of three years, no matter which day you start on).

The board acknowledges the investment period was a difficult one and rising interest rates made the cash plus 4% target even harder to achieve. However, this objective has been difficult to reach even when rates were much lower.

According to the Fund's managers, performance was hurt over this past year by their cautious stance. For example, the managers invested in a form of protection meant to protect

returns if markets fall. However, as the market moved higher, the cost of this "protection" weighed on the Fund. Another factor impacting returns was the Fund's limited exposure to **equities** (the shares of companies), which meant participation in the market rally was limited.

While the board acknowledges the challenging market backdrop, by consistently missing one of its stated objectives, investors are not receiving returns in line with their expectations. The board intends to discuss with its managers the ongoing reality of meeting the cash plus 4% objective and whether it remains appropriate. The BNY Mellon Real Return Fund is also now on the board's performance watch list.



57 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT

BNY Mellon Sustainable European Opportunities Fund

OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve **income** and **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



BNY Mellon Sustainable European Opportunities Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon Sustainable European Opp Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 FTSE World Europe ex UK TR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the FTSE World Europe ex UK TR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class, sectors** and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the investment **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

We found the BNY Mellon Sustainable European Opportunities Fund to be demonstrating some value, with work to be done with respect to performance.

In 2021 the Fund underwent a change in its investment strategy, adopting a **sustainable** mandate. This means there are some companies and areas of the market which are now excluded from investment. For example, the managers noted that over the past year they avoided select luxury **stocks** that performed well such as one leading brand in this area which sells products that use exotic animal skins.

As the Fund has new managers, who need time to address the longer-term **underperformance**, the board will be monitoring progress closely moving forward.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	\square
Economies of scale	
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	(interest
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



58 – ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT

BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Dynamic Bond Fund

for us to grade its performance or overall ranking.

OBJECTIVE

To achieve **income** and **capital growth** over the medium term (3-5 years). The fund is managed to seek a minimum return of cash (SONIA (30-day compounded)) +2% per annum over five years before fees. In doing so, it aims to achieve a positive return on a rolling three-year basis (meaning a period of three years, no matter which day you start on). However, a positive return is not guaranteed and a capital loss may occur.

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Dynamic Bond Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon Sust Glb Dynamic Bd Inst W Acc

SONIA 1 Month Compounded SONIA 1 Month Compounded + 2%

(Please note, this fund launched on 30 January 2020 and therefore did not have a five-year track record as of 30 June 2023.)

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional Shares W (Accumulation) calculated as total return, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the SONIA 1 Month Compounded as a comparator benchmark (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the asset class, sectors and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the investment weightings in the portfolio are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark. SONIA is the average interbank interest rate at which a large number of banks on the London money market are prepared to lend one another unsecured funds denominated in British pounds sterling. The Fund will use the Benchmark as a target for the Fund's performance to match or exceed because it is representative of sterling cash and the Fund's investment objective is to seek a minimum return of sterling cash +2% per annum.

The BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Dynamic Bond Fund was launched in January 2020. As such, its history is not sufficient **Overall ratings** Performance ∇ **Quality of Service** 4]} Economies of scale Classes of units/shares



Comparable market rates

59 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT

BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Emerging Markets Fund

OBJECTIVE

This fund aims to achieve capital growth over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

£8.7m (as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Emerging Markets Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon Sustainable Glbl Em Mkts Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 MSCI EM (Emerging Markets) NR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the MSCI **Emerging Markets** NR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class, sectors** and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the investment **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

The BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Emerging Markets Fund was launched in December 2021. As its performance objective has a five-year target, its history is not sufficient for us to grade it completely or give an overall rating for the Fund. However, we did determine it was green on all other factors.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	\square
Economies of scale	4]]
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	A.
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



60 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Equity Fund

OBJECTIVE

This fund aims to achieve **capital growth** and **income** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

£71.1m

(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Equity Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Equity Inst W Acc MSCI AC World NR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the MSCI AC World NR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class, sectors** and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the investment **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

The BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Equity Fund was launched in January 2018, making this its first year for assessment. We have rated it green on all metrics.





61 – ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT

BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund

The BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund was

launched in July 2019. As its performance objective has a

five-year target, its history is not sufficient for us to grade

it properly. However, we did determine it was green on all

other factors.

OBJECTIVE

This fund aims to achieve **income** together with the potential for **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon Sustainable Glb Eq Income Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 FTSE World TR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the FTSE World TR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because the Investment Manager utilises this when measuring the Fund's income **yield**.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the investment **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.



62 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT

BNY Mellon Sustainable Real Return Fund

OBJECTIVE

To achieve a rate of return in sterling terms that is equal to or above the return from cash (**SONIA** (30-day compounded)) + 4% per annum over five years before fees. In doing so, it aims to achieve a positive return on a rolling three-year basis (meaning a period of three years, no matter which day you start on). However, **capital** is in fact at risk and there is no guarantee that this will be achieved over that, or any, time period.

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

£382,4m (as of 30 June 2023)



1 year % 3 years annualised % 5 years annualised %
BNY Mellon Sustainable Real Return Inst W Acc

SONIA 1 Month Compounded SONIA 1 Month Compounded + 4%

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance before fees against SONIA 1 Month Compounded + 4% per annum over five years as a target **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). SONIA is the average interbank interest rate at which a large number of banks on the London money market are prepared to lend one another unsecured funds denominated in British pounds sterling. The Fund will use the Benchmark as a target for the Fund's performance to match or exceed because, in typical market conditions, it represents a target that will be equal to or greater than UK **inflation** rates over the same period and is commensurate with the Investment Manager's approach.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies as disclosed in the Prospectus.

The BNY Mellon Sustainable Real Return Fund received an amber score both overall and for its performance over the period. While the Fund has consistently achieved a positive return on a rolling three-year basis, it has repeatedly failed to meet its "cash plus" target.

According to the managers a detriment to its short-term performance (over the past year) was its overly **defensive** stance. Investments aligned to the **sustainable** growth theme also came under pressure over the past year having been the darlings of the market post-Covid, they said.

The board acknowledges the investment period was a difficult one and rising interest rates made this target harder to achieve. However, this objective has been difficult to reach even when rates were much lower. By missing this stated objective, the board believes investors in the Fund are not receiving returns in line with their expectations.



The board intends to discuss with its managers the future likelihood of achieving the cash plus 4% objective and whether it remains appropriate. The BNY Mellon Sustainable Real Return Fund is also now on the board's performance watch list.

63 – ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT

BNY Mellon Sustainable Sterling Bond Fund

OBJECTIVE

This fund aims to achieve income and capital growth over the medium term (3-5 years).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



31 OCTOBER 2023

(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon Sustainable Sterling Bond Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



📕 BNY Mellon Sustainable Sterling Bond Inst W Acc 🛛 📕 BNY Mellon Sustainable Sterling Bond Comparative Index

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional Shares W (Accumulation) calculated as total return, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against a composite index, comprising 1/3 ICE Bank of America Sterling NonGilt TR Index, 1/3 ICE Bank of America Global High Yield Constrained TR Index (hedged to Sterling) and 1/3 ICE Bank of America UK Gilts All-Stocks TR Index, as a comparator benchmark (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the asset classes, credit quality, sectors and geographical areas in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their weightings in the portfolio are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

We determined the BNY Mellon Sustainable Sterling Bond Fund is demonstrating good value overall.

As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its yield to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	\square
Economies of scale	4J)
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	(ALA)
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



64 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon Sustainable UK Opportunities Fund

OBJECTIVE

This fund aims to achieve capital growth over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

£189.9m (as of 30 June 2023)

31 OCTOBER 2023

BNY Mellon Sustainable UK Opportunities Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon Sustainable UK Opportunities Inst W Acc FTSE All-Share TR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset** value. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the FTSE All-Share TR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class, sectors** and geographical area in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

In our assessment this year, we found the performance from the BNY Mellon Sustainable UK Opportunities Fund to be disappointing. Given it has been given green ratings on all metrics apart from performance, the board chose to give this Fund an overall amber score.

According to the managers over the past 12 months: "The Fund had no exposure to sectors such as energy, aerospace & defence, banks and mining. Companies within these sectors are either not suitable for a sustainable strategy or are generally low quality and/or thematically challenged. However, they performed particularly well last year against the backdrop of the war in Ukraine and rising inflation."

This Fund is on the board's watch list to see if its performance, within its new mandate, improves.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	\square
Economies of scale	4]]
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	ALL ALL
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



65 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon UK Equity Fund

OBJECTIVE

This fund aims to achieve **capital growth** and **income** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon UK Equity Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon UK Equity Inst W Acc FTSE All-Share TR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the B **Shares** (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the FTSE All-Share TR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the **asset class, sectors** and geographical area in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

In our assessment this year, we found the BNY Mellon UK Equity Fund to be showing some value. However, the Fund's long-term performance is a concern and as such was rated red on that metric.

Despite this being the second year for a red performance rating, we maintained an amber rating overall. We are encouraged by recent and significant improvement in performance. The Fund outperformed its benchmark by 2% over this review period. However, it will take some time for this to show in the longer investment period numbers (ie over five years).

The Fund remains on our watchlist and we will monitor it closely.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	\square
Economies of scale	4]]
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	ALL ALL
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



66 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon UK Income Fund

OBJECTIVE

This fund aims to achieve **income** over an annual period together with **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

31 OCTOBER 2023

BNY Mellon UK Income Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon UK Income Inst W Acc FTSE All-Share TR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the FTSE All-Share TR **Index** as a comparator **benchmark** (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because the Investment Manager utilises it when measuring the Fund's income **yield**.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

Following analysis across all areas of assessment, we concluded the BNY Mellon UK Income Fund is demonstrating value overall.

As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its yield to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.

	-
Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	\square
Economies of scale	4J
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	Carles Bar
Costs	
Comparable market rates	



67 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT

BNY Mellon US Equity Income Fund

OBJECTIVE

This fund aims to achieve **income** and **capital growth** over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



(as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon US Equity Income Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon US Equity Income Inst W Acc S&P 500 NR GBP

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional **Shares** W (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against S&P 500 NR Index (the "Benchmark").

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. However, as the Benchmark covers a significant proportion of the investable universe, the majority of the Fund's holdings will be constituents of the Benchmark but the **weightings** in the **portfolio** are not influenced by those of the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

The BNY Mellon US Equity Income Fund was launched in December 2018. As such, its five-year performance objective falls shy of the period needed for proper assessment.

As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its **yield** to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory. It was green on all other factors.



68 – ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT BNY Mellon US Opportunities Fund

OBJECTIVE

This fund aims to achieve capital growth over the long term (5 years or more).

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)

N 5m (as of 30 June 2023)

BNY Mellon US Opportunities Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



BNY Mellon US Opportunities Inst W Acc 🛛 🖉 Russell 3000 TR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the Institutional Shares W (Accumulation) calculated as total return, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the Russell 3000 TR Index as a comparator benchmark (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of the asset classes, sectors and geographical area in which the Fund predominantly invests.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their weightings in the portfolio are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark.

In our assessment this year, we found the BNY Mellon US Opportunities Fund to be showing poor value. For the second year in a row the Fund has been give a red rating due to its long-term numbers. Additionally, it was given an amber rating for comparable market rates.

Following a review and extra scrutiny of its performance throughout the year, the board was heartened to see a notable strengthening in that area. This can be seen in its returns over the past year versus its benchmark.

Remedial action and the Fund's future is under review.





69 – ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT

Responsible Horizons Strategic Bond Fund

OBJECTIVE

To generate a return through a combination of **income** and **capital returns**, while taking **environmental**, **social and governance (ESG)** factors into account.

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)



BNY Mellon Responsible Horizons Strategic Bond Fund Net performance ending 30 June 2023



Responsible Horizons Strategic Bond Inst W Acc II A £ Strategic Bond NR

Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the W **Shares** (Accumulation) calculated as **total return**, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on **net asset value**. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the UK Investment Association Sterling Strategic **Bond** Sector (the "**Benchmark**") after fees over any rolling three year period (meaning a period of three years, no matter which day you start on). The Fund will use Markit iBoxx GBP Collateralized & Corporate Index as a target for the purposes of monitoring the risk taken in the Fund and the UK Investment Association's Sterling Corporate Bond NR Sector average as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of similar Sterling denominated funds that invest in corporate bonds.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion to invest outside the Benchmarks, subject to the investment objective and policy as disclosed in the Prospectus.

The Responsible Horizons Strategic Bond Fund was rated as offering good value on all metrics.

As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its **yield** to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.

Although it only launched in August 2021, the Fund has no stated performance time frame in its objectives. The board felt its track record was sufficient for analysis and rated it green.







70 - ASSESSMENT OF VALUE REPORT Responsible Horizons UK Corporate Bond Fund

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Fund is to generate a return through a combination of **income** and **capital returns**, while taking **environmental**, **social and governance (ESG)** factors into account. The Fund targets the **outperformance** of the Markit iBoxx GBP Collateralized & Corporate **Index** after fees over any rolling three-year period (meaning a period of three years, no matter which day you start on). However, performance is not guaranteed and a **capital loss** may occur.

We found the Responsible Horizons UK Corporate Fund to be demonstrating value across all seven of the assessment criteria and was rated green for these and green overall.

As this Fund has an income objective, our analysis included comparison of its **yield** to that of its benchmark. We found the income generated over this review period to be satisfactory.

Overall ratings	
Performance	
Quality of Service	$\mathbf{\nabla}$
Economies of scale	
Classes of units/shares	
Comparable services	Contract of
Costs	
Comparable market rates	

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)







Source for all performance: Lipper IM as at 30 June 2023. Fund Performance for the B Shares (Accumulation) calculated as total return, including reinvested income net of UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures are in GBP terms. The impact of an initial charge (currently not applied) can be material on the performance of your investment. Further information is available upon request.

The Fund will measure its performance against the UK Investment Association's Sterling Corporate **Bond** NR Sector Average (the "**Benchmark**") after fees over any rolling three year period (meaning a period of three years, no matter which day you start on). The Fund will use Markit iBoxx GBP Collateralized & Corporate Index as a target for the purposes of monitoring the risk taken in the Fund and the UK Investment Association's Sterling Corporate Bond NR Sector average as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of similar Sterling denominated funds that invest in corporate bonds.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion to invest outside the Benchmarks, subject to the investment objective and policy as disclosed in the Prospectus.



OUR 2023 FULL SHARE CLASS RATINGS



Our 2023 full share class ratings

For this assessment of value period there were 46 funds for consideration, although 10 had insufficient track records. This means just 36 were given full ratings in this year's assessment. Of the 36, 25 were rated green – just under 70% of the BNY MIF range. Three funds were rated red. These funds will now undergo a range of remediation to tackle the problems identified by this assessment. For some, change already occurred at the end of the review period (June 2023). The board will assess the impact of these over the next year.

Of the 36 eligible funds, eight funds were given an overall amber rating. This was due in the main to concerns regarding failure to meet performance objectives. Cost inequities identified last year have been lessened as part of ongoing actions, such as migrating investors to cheaper share classes.

FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level		Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	2023 Overall rating
BNY Mellon 50/50 Global Equity Fund	NI 1								•
	NI 2								
BNY Mellon Asian Income Fund	В								•
	Euro								•
	Inst			•					•
	Inst Euro								•
	Inst USD			•					•
	W								•
	Х								•
	Sterling								•
	U								•
	USD								•
BNY Mellon Asian Opportunities Fund	В								
	Euro								•
	Inst	•		•	•				•
	W	•			•	•	•	•	•
	Sterling								•

KEY • Provided good value to investors over the assessment period

- Provided some value to investors over the assessment period
- Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring

 Insufficient track record or not applicable


FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level		Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	2023 Overall rating
	В					•			
BNY Mellon Emerging Income Fund	Inst			•					•
BNT Metton Emerging income Fund	W								•
	Sterling								
	В			•					•
BNY Mellon Equity Income Booster Fund	W			•					•
	Sterling			•					
	В	•							
BNY Mellon Equity Income Fund	W	•							
	Sterling								•
	В								
PNV Mollon Eutwol ogoov 2	F								
BNY Mellon FutureLegacy 3	W								
	WUSD								
	В								
DNV Mallon Futural agains (F								
BNY Mellon FutureLegacy 4	W								
	W USD								
	В								
	F								
BNY Mellon FutureLegacy 5	W				•				
	WUSD								
	В								
	F								
BNY Mellon FutureLegacy 6	W								
	WUSD								

- Provided some value to investors over the assessment period
- Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring



FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level		Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	2023 Overall rating
	В								
BNY Mellon FutureLegacy 7	F							s Classes of units/shares	
Bit Mettor uture Legacy /	W								
	W USD							Classes of units/shares	
	В	•							
BNY Mellon Global Absolute Return Fund	Inst	•							
BAT Metton diobat Absolute Return 1 and	W	•							
	Sterling								•
	В	•							
	Inst	•							
	W	•							
	NI 2	•						Classes of units/shares	
BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Fund	NI 3	•							
BNT Metton Global Dynamic Bond Fund	NI 6	•							
	Х	•							
	X 1	•							
	Sterling	•							
	U	•							•
	В			•					
	F								
BNY Mellon Global Dynamic Bond Income Fund	W								•
	NI 2				•		•		•
	Х								•

- Provided some value to investors over the assessment period
- Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring



FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level		Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	2023 Overall rating
	В								
	F								
BNY Mellon Global Emerging Markets Opportunities Fund	Inst			•					•
Bit Metton Global Emerging Markets Opportunities Fund	W								•
	Х								
	Sterling								
	В								•
	Euro								
	W								
BNY Mellon Global Equity Fund	NI 1								
	NI 2								
	NI 3								
	Sterling								
	В			•					
DNV Mallan Clabal Lligh Viold Dand Fund	W	•			•				•
BNY Mellon Global High Yield Bond Fund	Х	•			•				•
	Sterling	•			•				•
	В	•			•				
	Inst	•		•	•				
	W	•			•				
BNY Mellon Global Income Fund	NI 1	•			•				
	Х	•							
	Sterling	•			•				
	U	•		•	•	•			
DNV Mellen Olehel lefterstructure lesense Frank	F								
BNY Mellon Global Infrastructure Income Fund	W			•	•	•			

- Provided some value to investors over the assessment period
- Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring



FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level		Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	2023 Overall rating
	В	•		•					
BNY Mellon Global Multi-Strategy Fund	Inst	•						ies Classes of units/shares	•
Divi metton diobat mutti-Strategy i unu	W	•							•
	Sterling	•						Classes of units/shares	
	В	•							
	W	•							•
BNY Mellon Global Opportunities Fund	NI 1	•						Classes of units/shares	
	Х	•							•
	Sterling	•	•						
	В								•
BNY Mellon Index Linked Gilt Fund	Inst			•					•
	NI 2								
	В								
	F							Classes of units/shares	
BNY Mellon Inflation-Linked Corporate Bond Fund	Inst	•							
	W	•							
	Sterling							Classes of units/shares	
	В			•					
	Euro	•							
DNV Mellon Internetional Dand Fund	Inst	•							
BNY Mellon International Bond Fund	W	•							
	NI 2	•							
	Sterling	•							

- Provided some value to investors over the assessment period
- Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring



FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level		Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	2023 Overall rating
	Inst			•					
BNY Mellon Long Gilt Fund	NI 2							Classes of units/shares	
Bit Metton Long ditt Fund	Х								•
	W								
	В								
	Inst			•					
	Inst 1								
BNY Mellon Long-Term Global Equity Fund	W								
	Sterling								
	U								
	Х								
	В	•							
	Inst							•	
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Balanced Fund	W								
	Sterling								
	Т							Classes of units/shares	
	В								
	NI 1								
DNV Maller Malti Assat Discusifiad Datum Essal	Sterling								
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Diversified Return Fund	Т								
	W								
	Х								
	NI 2								
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Global Balanced Fund	NI 3								
	W								

- Provided some value to investors over the assessment period
- Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring



FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level		Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	2023 Overall rating
	В								
	Inst								•
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Growth Fund	W			•				Classes of units/shares	•
BNT Metton Mutti-Asset Growth Fund	Х								•
	Sterling								•
	Т								
	В								•
	F								•
	Inst								•
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Income Fund	W							•	•
BNT Metton Mutti-Asset Income Fund	NI 2								•
	Х							• • •	•
	Sterling	•		•					•
	Т	•		•					•
	В	•		•					•
	Inst	•		•					
	W	•		•					
	NI L1	•		•	•				
	NI 1	•		•					
BNY Mellon Real Return Fund	NI 2	•		•	•				
	NI 3	•		•	•				
	Х	•		•	•				
	Sterling A	•		•	•				
	Sterling	•		•	•				
	U	•		•					

- Provided some value to investors over the assessment period
- Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring



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FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level		Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	2023 Overall rating
	В								•
DNV Mellen Sustainable European Oppertunities Fund	Euro	•		•				•	
BNY Mellon Sustainable European Opportunities Fund	W	•		•				•	
	Sterling	•							•
	W			•				•	
	NI 2			•					
	NI 3								
BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Dynamic Bond Fund	NI 4			•					
	NI 6								
	U								
	Х								
	F								
BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Emerging Markets Fund	W								
	WUSD								
BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Equity Fund	W								
	Х								
	F								
PNV Mollon Sustainable Clobal Equity Income Fund	W			•					
BNY Mellon Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund	WUSD			•					
	Х								

KEY • Provided good value to investors over the assessment period

- Provided some value to investors over the assessment period
- Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring



FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level		Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	2023 Overall rating
	В	•							•
	Inst	•		•					
	W	•							
	NI 1	•							
BNY Mellon Sustainable Real Return Fund	NI 2	•							
	NI 4	•							
	NI 5	•							
	Х	•							
	U	•							•
	W								
BNY Mellon Sustainable Sterling Bond Fund	NI 3								•
	Х								
	В	•							•
	Inst	•							
BNY Mellon Sustainable UK Opportunities Fund	W	•				•			
	NI 1	•				•			
	Sterling	•				•			•
	В	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
	Inst	•	•	•		•			
BNY Mellon UK Equity Fund	W	•		•		•			
	NI 3	•	•	•		•			
	Sterling	•	•	•		•			•

- Provided some value to investors over the assessment period
- Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring



FCA Assessment Criteria – Fund Level		Performance	Quality of service	Comparable market rates	AFM Costs – general	Comparable services	Economies of scale	Classes of units/shares	2023 Overall rating
	В								
	Inst								•
BNY Mellon UK Income Fund	W								•
BIT MERCITOR Income Fund	NI 2								•
	Х								•
	Sterling								
	F								
BNY Mellon US Equity Income Fund	W								
	U								
	В			•					
	Euro	•							•
BNY Mellon US Opportunities Fund	Inst	•		•	•				•
	W	•		•	•				•
	Sterling	•			•				•
	F	•			•				
Responsible Horizons Strategic Bond Fund	W	•			•				•
	U	•	•	•	•	•			•
	В	•	•	•	•	•		•	•
Despensible Herizone III Correcte Dend Fund	F	•	•	•	•	•			•
Responsible Horizons UK Corporate Bond Fund	W	•	•	•	•		•		•
	Sterling	•	•	•	•		•		•

- Provided some value to investors over the assessment period
- Has provided poor value over the assessment period and requires further action or monitoring



GLOSSARY





Glossary

Authorised Corporate Director (ACD)

Is responsible for the running of an investment fund. They have a duty to act in the best interests of the fund's investors, and ensure that the fund is well managed in line with regulations and with the investment objectives and policies set out in its prospectus.

Absolute Return

Aims to achieve a positive return over a set timeframe and in all market conditions, although this is never guaranteed.

Accumulation

Increasing the position size in one asset, increasing the number of assets owned/positions, or an overall increase in buying activity in an asset.

Active management

A process whereby an investment professional actively makes buy, hold and sell decisions and aims to outperform the overall market.

Annual management charge (AMC)

An ongoing fee paid to the management company for managing an investment, usually charged as a percentage of the investment.

Asset(s)

In this context, investments held in a portfolio, for example stocks, bonds, property and cash.

Asset class

A grouping of investments that exhibit similar characteristics and are subject to the same laws and regulations.

Benchmark

A baseline for comparison against which a fund can be measured.

Bond(s)

A loan of money by an investor to a company or government for a stated period of time in exchange for a fixed interest rate payment and the repayment of the initial amount at its conclusion.

Capital

Resources or money used or available for use in the production of more wealth.

Capital growth

When the current value of an investment is greater than the initial amount invested.

Capital loss

When an asset is sold for less than the price it was purchased for.

Capital returns

Payment, or gain, received from an investment.

Corporate bonds

A loan made to a company for a fixed period by an investor, for which they receive a defined return.

Credit(s)

In this context it is synonymous with corporate bonds, debt issued by companies.

Defensive

A stock or industry considered less sensitive to the wider economy.

Depositary

Is an entity that acts in a safekeeping and a fiduciary capacity for a fund, providing global custody services. A depositary acts as a custodian.

Derivatives

Financial contracts, set between two or more parties, that derive their value from an underlying asset, group of assets, or benchmark.

Diversified/Diversification/Diversifiers

Investing in a variety of companies or financial instruments, which typically perform differently from one another.

Dividend(s)

A sum paid regularly by a company to its investors as a reward for holding their shares.

Dividend yield(s)

Income received from an investment, expressed as a percentage based on the investment's costs, its current market value or its face value.

Emerging market(s)

Countries in the process of becoming developed economies.

Environmental, social and governance (ESG)

Elements or factors of responsible investment consisting of a set of standards through which a company's operations can be screened prior to investing.

Equity/Equities

Shares issued by a company, representing an ownership interest.

Financials

A sector made up of companies that provide financial services.

Fixed income

Broadly refers to those types of investment security that pay investors fixed interest or dividend payments until their maturity date.

Gilt(s)

Fixed income security issued by the UK government.

Global high yield

See high yield.

Government bonds

A loan of money by an investor to a government for a stated period of time in exchange for a (generally) fixed rate of interest and the repayment of the initial amount at its conclusion.

High yield

Fixed income securities with a low credit rating that are considered to be at higher risk of default than better quality securities but have the potential for higher rewards.

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Index/Indices

A portfolio of investments representing a particular market or a portion of it. For example: The FTSE 100 is an index of the shares of the 100 largest companies on the London Stock Exchange.

Index-linked Gilts

UK government bonds where both the value of the loan and the interest payments are adjusted in line with inflation.

Inflation/Inflationary

The rate of increase in the cost of living. Inflation is usually quoted as an annual percentage, comparing the average price this month with the same month a year earlier.

Multi-Asset

An investment containing more than one asset class, such as cash, equity or bond.

Net Asset Value

A fund's price per share calculated by taking the current value of its assets and subtracting its debts.

Ongoing charge figure (OCF)

The amount an investor will pay for the service provided by a fund. The OCF is made up of the manager's fees along with other costs, such as administration. It's meant to be used as a standardised method to compare the costs of funds.

Outperformance

To have a greater performance/return to a comparator.

Platform

Online service that enables investors and traders to place trades and monitor accounts through financial intermediaries.

Portfolio

A collection of investments.

Recession(ary)

A significant decline in economic activity spread across the economy, lasting more than a few months; some countries define it as negative economic growth for two consecutive quarters.

Relative

The return an asset achieves over a period of time compared to a benchmark.

Return(s)/returned

The gain or loss from an investment over a stated period of time – expressed in either percentage or cash terms.

Sectors

An area of the economy in which businesses share the same or related business activity, product, or service.

Share(s)

Also known as equity, is a security representing the ownership of a fraction of a company listed on the stock market.

SONIA (Sterling Overnight Index Average)

An index based on actual transactions and which reflects the average of the interest rates that banks pay to borrow sterling overnight from other financial institutions and other institutional investors.

Stock

Also known as equity, is a security that represents the ownership of a fraction of the issuing corporation.

Sustainable investing

Focuses on meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The concept of sustainability is composed of three pillars.

Total return(s)

The term for the gain or loss derived from an investment over a particular period. Total return includes income (in the form of interest or dividend payments) and capital gains.

Transfer Agent(s) (TA)

Also known as the registrar, they are the trusts or institutions that register and maintain detailed records of the transactions of investors.

Trustee

A trustee is a person or firm that holds and administers property or assets for the benefit of a third party.

Underperformance

Seeing greater losses in a down market and below-average gains in a rising market.

Value stocks

Well run companies that trade at a discount.

Valuation

A quantitative process of determining the fair value of an asset, investment, or firm.

Volatile/volatility

Large and/or frequent moves up or down in the price or value of an investment or market.

Weighting(s)

The exposure to a company, sector or market in a fund, usually expressed as a percentage – i.e the Fund had a 20% weighting to US companies.

Yield

Income received from investments, either expressed as a percentage of the investment's current market value, or dividends received by the holder.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This is not a financial promotion.

BNY Mellon Fund Managers Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. A member of the Investment Association. BNY Mellon Fund Managers Limited is registered in England No: 1998251. A subsidiary of BNY Mellon Investment Management EMEA Limited.

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Our phone lines are open Monday to Friday 8.30am until 5.30pm, UK time, excluding bank holidays. Telephone calls may be recorded for monitoring and training purposes.

