# ALL WEATHER

QUARTER FOUR | TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY THREE

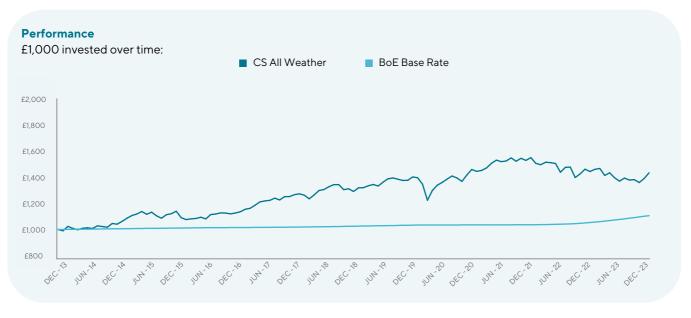


A welcome finish to 2023 after a fairly turbulent year during which the market grappled with changing inflation and interest rate expectations. The year ended on a positive note following the release of some softer inflation data, as well as the Federal Reserve's 'dot plot' projections (estimates from Federal Open Market Committee members on the path of future interest rates), which showed three interest rate cuts for 2024 versus the two previously predicted. Markets perceived this as confirmation that we had reached the peak in interest rates and that interest rate cuts were imminent, which drove a rally across the majority of asset classes.

US stocks were particular beneficiaries of the softer US inflation data and the Federal Reserve's US interest rate projections, which lifted some US stock indices to all time highs. As a result, the JPM US Research Enhanced Index Equity and Dodge & Cox US Stock were some of the strongest performers over the quarter as a result.

With interest rate and inflation expectations dropping, as well as the real rate of interest (interest rate minus inflation), gold had a strong quarter. The emergence of the conflict in the Middle East also supported gold pricing due to perceived 'safe haven' properties. As such, exposure to both physical gold, as well as to gold miners, supported portfolio performance. Greencoat UK Wind and Urban Logistics were also notable performers over the quarter. Interest rate sensitive sectors and assets saw strong recovery due to the marked drop in yields, which benefitted alternative income strategies, such as these infrastructure trusts and real estate investment trusts.

While the outlook remains somewhat uncertain, we feel the portfolios are well positioned for the current environment, with suitable defensive properties to provide stability, as well as growth assets to participate in upside. A nimble, 'all weather', approach remains key to continue capitalising on opportunities that present themselves.



Source: Reuters Eikon, CS Managers Ltd and Bank of England. Data as at 31/12/2023



ALL WEATHER QUARTERLY REVIEW

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| Total Return | CS All Weather | Bank Of England Base Rate |
|--------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| 3 Months     | 3.60%          | 1.28%                     |
| 1 Year       | -0.68%         | 4.64%                     |
| 3 Years      | -1.70%         | 6.26%                     |
| 5 Years      | 10.51%         | 7.31%                     |
| Inception    | 81.45%         | 12.05%                    |

## **Asset Allocation**

| Top 10 Holdings                        | %    | Sector       |
|--|------|--------------|
| UK(GOVT OF) IDX/LKD SNR 22/03/2024     | 9.7% | Fixed Income |
| JPM US Research Enchanced Equity Index | 8.1% | Equities     |
| Dodge & Cox US Stock Fund              | 7.5% | Equities     |
| BH Macro                               | 4.6% | Other Assets |
| Schroder Strategic Credit              | 4.3% | Fixed Income |
| Fundsmith Equity                       | 4.2% | Equities     |
| iShares USD TIPS 0-5 years             | 4.1% | Fixed Income |
| Wisdomtree Physical Gold               | 4.1% | Other Assets |
| Lightman European                      | 3.9% | Equities     |
| Artemis UK Select                      | 3.6% | Equities     |

#### Source: CS Managers Ltd and Bank of England as at 31/12/23

Performance numbers are indicative. Performance from 31 Dec 2009 - 30 Sept 2018 is of The Thesis Charlotte Square Allweather Fund. From the 30 Sept 2018 to 31 March 2022, performance is shown of the CS Investment Managers All Weather strategy, net of underlying fund costs, management fee of 0.75% + VAT, and other ancillary and dealing costs. From 31 March 2022, performance figures are drawn from a composite group of non-constrained discretionary portfolios managed by CS Investment Managers under an All Weather investment strategy. These figures have been calculated net of fees and dealing costs and adjusted for contributions and withdrawals. Please note that the performance of individual portfolios may vary due to factors such as the portfolio size, stock selection and timing of investment transactions.

### CONTACT

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### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

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