

# MONTHLY FACTSHEET 31 DECEMBER 2017

### INVESTMENT STRATEGY

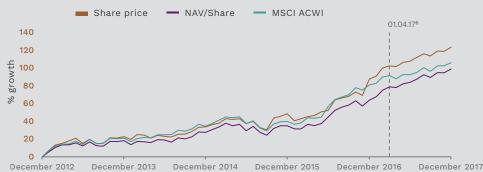
The equity portfolio brings together an alliance of best-in-class<sup>2</sup> equity managers and their best ideas – all at a competitive cost. It provides access to eight managers from around the world each investing only in their top stock selections. Most of these managers are not otherwise available to individual UK investors. The equity portfolio target is to outperform the MSCI All Country World Index by 2% per year after costs over rolling three year periods. Alliance Trust has a progressive dividend policy and has increased its dividend every year for 50 years.

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

Alliance Trust is an investment company with investment trust status. The Trust's objective is to generate a real return for our shareholders over the medium to long term by a combination of capital growth and a rising dividend. The Trust has no fixed asset allocation benchmark, although it mainly invests in global equities, but can use a range of asset classes throughout the world to achieve its objective. The Trust aims to be a core holding for investors seeking to increase the value of their investments over the long term.

### INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

#### ABSOLUTE PERFORMANCE (TOTAL RETURN IN STERLING)



CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE (%)

To 31 December 2017	Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since 01.04.17 <sup>6</sup>
Total shareholder return	2.2	19.2	19.2	67.2	123.6	10.5
NAV total return	2.2	20.5	20.5	54.7	97.5	10.4
Equity portfolio return	1.4	18.0	18.0	54.4	101.0	9.8
MSCI ACWI total return	1.7	13.8	13.8	53.0	106.1	7.6

#### DISCRETE PERFORMANCE (%)

From To	31-Dec-16 31-Dec-17	31-Dec-15 31-Dec-16	31-Dec-14 31-Dec-15	31-Dec-13 31-Dec-14	31-Dec-12 31-Dec-13
Total shareholder return	19.2	26.4	11.0	9.0	22.7
NAV total return	20.5	21.4	5.8	7.9	18.3
Equity portfolio return	18.0	23.3	6.1	7.2	21.4
MSCI ACWI total return	13.8	29.4	3.8	11.2	21.1

### KEY STATISTICS

Share Price	746.5p
Net Asset Value <sup>1</sup> (NAV) per Share	784.3p
Premium (Discount)	(4.8%)

### KEY FACTS

Market	00 504 014
Capitalisation	£2,594.8M
Total Assets <sup>3</sup>	£2,976.6M
Net Assets <sup>3</sup>	£2,743.6M
Gearing⁴	8.5%
Net Yield⁵	1.8%
Year End	31 December
Incorporated	21 April 1888
Dividend Paid	Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec
Shares in Issue	347,592,136
Buybacks	519,000 shares
in December	at a cost of
	£3.8M (0.15% of the issued
	share capital)
TIDM	ATST
ISIN	GB00B11V7W98
AIC Sector	Global
Next AGM	April 2018



Alliance Trust has been awarded the AIC's Dividend Hero award and is proud to have increased its dividend every year for 50 years.

## CHARGES

Targeted Ongoing Charges Ratio (OCR)	Less than 0.65%
OCR Year to 31 Dec 2016	0.43%

Please remember, past performance is not a guide to future performance, and the value of shares and the income from them can rise and fall, so investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Net Asset Value ("NAV") performance is not the same as share price performance and investors may not realise returns the same as NAV performance.

Notes: All data is provided as at 31 December 2017 unless otherwise stated. All figures may be subject to rounding errors. Sources: Investment Performance data is provided by BNY Mellon Performance & Risk Analytics Europe Limited, Morningstar and MSCI Inc; Key Statistics, Key Facts and Charges data is provided by BNYM Fund Services (Ireland) Limited. NAV Total Return is net of management fees. In order to report the long-term record of the equity portfolio, the returns of the portfolio prior to its restructure early in April 2017 have been combined with the returns to date of the current portfolio. Equity portfolio return is the return achieved by the eight equity managers and so includes the effect of any of their cash holdings (gross of their fees). Returns are quoted net of withholding taxes (some of which are potentially recovered at a later date) and therefore potentially underestimate the managers' relative performance. Total NAV returns are after all manager fees (including WTW's fees) and allow for any tax reclaims when they are achieved.

- 1. NAV includes income with debt at fair value.
- Assets valued with debt at par.
- 5. Annual dividend per share divided by share price.
- 2. As rated by Willis Towers Watson.
- 4. Total borrowings at par divided by net assets.
- 6. Performance since Willis Towers Watson assumed responsibility for management of the portfolio.

#### TOP 20 HOLDINGS

Name	£m	%
Alphabet	53.9	2.0
Comcast	42.2	1.6
Charter		
Communications	41.4	1.5
Microsoft	39.5	1.5
UnitedHealth		
Group	36.2	1.4
Baidu - ADR	35.5	1.3
Oracle	31.8	1.2
Anglo American	31.0	1.2
Western Union	30.2	1.1
Airbus	30.1	1.1
AIA	28.0	1.0
HDFC Bank	26.9	1.0
Samsung		
Electronics	26.8	1.0
Novo – Nordisk	26.7	1.0
Ryanair	26.7	1.0
Tencent	26.3	1.0
Amazon	24.9	0.9
Aetna	24.8	0.9
Anthem	24.1	0.9
Visa	23.4	0.9
Top 10 holdings 12 00	4	

Top 10 holdings 13.9%

#### Top 20 holdings 23.5%

The 20 largest stock positions across the eight equity managers, given as a percentage of the total assets managed by those managers (including their cash holdings).

A full breakdown of the Trust's portfolio can be viewed at: www.alliancetrust.co.uk

### CONTACT

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### SIGN UP

If you wish to sign up to the Alliance Trust factsheet, please visit www.alliancetrust.co.uk/signup

### INVESTMENT COMMENTARY

Over December, the Trust's total shareholder return, NAV total return and equity portfolio return were 2.2%, 2.2% and 1.4% respectively. Total shareholder and NAV returns have outperformed the MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) which returned 1.7% over the same period.

Since 1 April 2017\*, the Trust's equity portfolio has outperformed the MSCI ACWI by 2.2%; underlying managers' stock selection decisions continue to be the most significant driver of this relative outperformance. We maintain our outlook of increased volatility and dispersion in global equity markets and our belief that this will provide valuable opportunities for the talented stock pickers managing the Trust's equity portfolio. We have not made any changes to our target manager allocations, although the weightings have changed slightly largely due to market movements over the month.

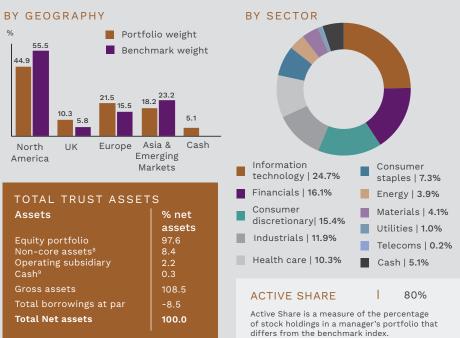
During December, the portfolio's exposure to Britvic and CVS Caremark have dropped out of the top 20 holdings of the portfolio. This was due to one of the underlying managers reducing their exposure to both stocks. Visa and HDFC have replaced these stocks in the top 20 holdings, through strong relative performance of both.

\* Date Willis Towers Watson assumed responsibility for management of the portfolio

#### EQUITY MANAGERS % OF EQUITY PORTFOLIO MANAGED UPITER RIVER AND MERCANTILE BLACK CREEK Asset Management Bill Kanko 10% Hugh Sergeant 9% Ben Whitmore 10% Rajiv Jain<sup>7</sup> 15% Veritas SGA <u>/vrical</u> -Asset Management George Fraise, Andy Headley 14% Andrew Wellington Pierre Py, Greg Herr Gordon Marchand. 15% 13% Rob Rohn 14%

Note: "JUPITER" and JUPITER are the trade marks of Jupiter Investment Management Group Ltd and registered in the UK and as Community Trade Marks and else

## EQUITY PORTFOLIO ALLOCATION



Please remember past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. The value of your investment, and any income from it, may decrease as well as increase and you may not get back the amount you invest. Exchange rate changes may cause the value of overseas investments to go down as well as up. Investment trusts may borrow to finance further investment (gearing). The use of gearing is likely to lead to volatility in the NAV, meaning that a relatively small movement, down or up, in the value of a trust's assets will result in a magnified movement, in the same direction, of that NAV. This may mean that you could get back nothing at all.

#### Important information

Alliance Trust is an investment company with investment trust status. The views, information and data in this publication should not be deemed as a financial promotion or recommendation. Alliance Trust is not authorised to give financial advice. For security and compliance monitoring purposes, telephone calls may be recorded. All data in this document is as at 31 December 2017 unless otherwise stated.

#### Share investment

Snare investment
Alliance Trust investment
Alliance Trust investment is shares can be recommended by independent Financial Advisers (IFAs) to ordinary retail investors in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) rules in relation to non-mainstream investment products and intends to continue to do so for the foreseeable future. The shares are excluded from the FCA's restrictions which apply to non-mainstream investment products because they are shares in an investment trust. The shares in the Trust may also be suitable for institutional investors who seek a combination of capital and income return. Private investors should consider consulting an independent Financial Adviser who specialises in advising on the acquisition of shares and other securities before acquiring shares. Investors should be capable of evaluating the risks and merits of such an investment and should have sufficient resources to bear any loss that may result.

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- Manages both a global equity and an emerging markets equity portfolio.
- Includes private equity, mineral rights, funds, Liontrust Asset Management plc shares and other non-operating subsidiaries. Cash quoted is centrally held cash. The equity portfolio may also hold cash as a result of trading by the underlying managers. 9.