

# MONTHLY FACTSHEET

## **31 JANUARY 2018**

# KEY STATISTICS

Share Price Net Asset Value<sup>1</sup> (NAV) per Share Premium

(Discount)

Market

752.0p

795.7p

(5.5%)

### INVESTMENT STRATEGY

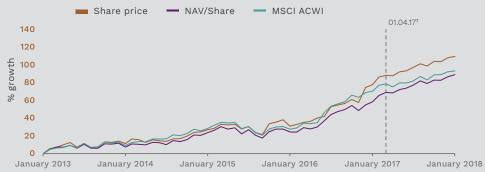
The equity portfolio brings together an alliance of best-in-class<sup>2</sup> equity managers and their best ideas - all at a competitive cost. It provides access to eight managers from around the world each investing only in their top stock selections. Most of these managers are not otherwise available 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 January 2018	Month	YTD		3 Years	5 Years	Since 01.04.17 <sup>7</sup>
Total shareholder return	0.7	0.7	17.9	65.0	109.6	11.3
NAV total return	1.3	1.3	19.3	52.8	89.0	11.8
Equity portfolio return	1.4	1.4	17.3	52.8	90.4	11.3
MSCI ACWI total return	0.5	0.5	13.4	50.4	93.1	8.2

## DISCRETE PERFORMANCE (%)

From To	31-Jan-17 31-Jan-18	31-Jan-16 31-Jan-17	31-Jan-15 31-Jan-16	31-Jan-14 31-Jan-15	31-Jan-13 31-Jan-14
Total shareholder return	17.9	35.8	3.0	14.1	11.3
NAV total return	19.3	27.5	0.5	15.1	7.4
Equity portfolio return	17.3	28.3	1.5	14.5	8.8
MSCI ACWI total return	13.4	33.7	-0.8	17.5	9.3

# KEY FACTS

Total Assets<sup>3</sup> Net Assets<sup>3</sup> Gross Gearing4 Net Gearing⁵ Net Yield<sup>6</sup> Year End Incorporated Dividend Paid

Shares in Issue Buybacks in January

AIC Sector **Next AGM** 

£2,613.1M £3.012.1M £2,778.9M 8.4% 4.7% 1.7% 31 December 21 April 1888 Mar, Jun, Sep.

Dec 347,492,156 100,000 shares at a cost of £0.8M (0.03% of the issued share capital)

**ATST** GB00B11V7W98 Global 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) OCR Year

to 31 Dec 2016

Less than 0.65%

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 January 2018 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.

- NAV includes income with debt at fair value.
- Total borrowings at par divided by net assets. 6. Annual dividend per share divided by share price.
- As rated by Willis Towers Watson
- 3. Assets valued with debt at par. Total borrowings at par minus total cash and equivalents, divided by net assets
- Performance since Willis Towers Watson assumed responsibility for management of the portfolio.

# TOP 20 HOLDINGS

Name	£m	%
Alphabet	61.5	2.2
Comcast	47.9	1.7
Microsoft	46.5	1.7
Charter		
Communications	44.2	1.6
UnitedHealth		
Group	36.9	1.3
Baidu - ADR	35.5	1.3
Airbus	33.1	1.2
Oracle	33.0	1.2
Western Union	32.3	1.2
Page Group	29.5	1.1
Amazon	29.4	1.1
Ryanair	29.1	1.1
Tencent	28.0	1.0
HDFC Bank	27.3	1.0
AIA	26.6	1.0
Anglo American	26.4	1.0
Novo-Nordisk	26.3	1.0
Anthem	26.1	0.9
Visa	24.2	0.9
Samsung Electronics	24.1	0.9

Top 10 holdings 14.5%

**Top 20 holdings 24.4%** 

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

Alliance Trust PLC 8 West Marketgait Dundee DD1 1QN Tel +44 (0)1382 321010

Email investor@alliancetrust.co.uk

Web www.alliancetrust.co.uk

## SIGN UP

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

## INVESTMENT COMMENTARY

Over January, the Trust's total shareholder return, NAV total return and equity portfolio return were 0.7%, 1.3% and 1.4% respectively, outperforming the MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) which returned 0.5% over the same period.

Since 1 April 2017\*, the Trust's equity portfolio has outperformed the MSCI ACWI by 3.1% with underlying managers' stock selection decisions continuing to be the most significant driver of this relative outperformance. Our target allocations remain unchanged, and we have utilised proceeds from the Trust's sale of shares in Liontrust to top-up those managers who were underweight their target allocations. As a result of the Liontrust sale, a greater proportion of the Trust's assets are now invested in the equity portfolio.

During January, Aetna has dropped out of the top 20 holdings of the portfolio due to one of the underlying managers reducing their exposure to the stock. This stock has been replaced in the top 20 holdings by Page Group.

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

## **EOUITY MANAGERS** % OF EQUITY PORTFOLIO MANAGED



<u> (vrical</u>

**Andrew Wellington** 

15%



**Hugh Sergeant 9%** 





Rajiv Jain<sup>8</sup> 16%

Ben Whitmore 9%



Veritas -Asset Management

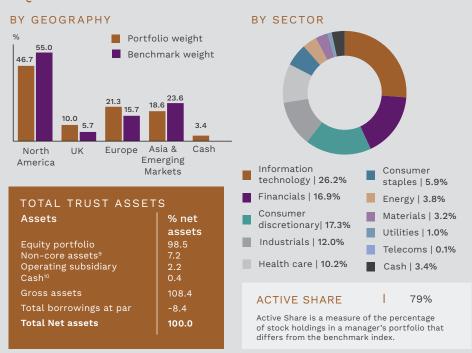
Pierre Py, Greg Herr 13%

George Fraise, Gordon Marchand. Rob Rohn 14%

**Andy Headley 14%** 

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

# 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 January 2018 unless otherwise stated.

Share investment
Alliance Trust invests primarily in equities and aims to generate capital growth and a progressively rising dividend from its portfolio of investments. Alliance Trust currently conducts its affairs so that its 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.

Issued by Towers Watson Investment Management Limited. Towers Watson Investment Management Limited, registered office Watson House, London Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 9PQ is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, firm reference number 446740.

Notes: All data is provided as at 31 January 2018 unless otherwise stated. All figures may be subject to rounding errors. Sources: Top 20 Holdings, % of Equity Portfolio Managed and Total Trust Assets data is provided by BNYM Fund Services (Ireland) Limited; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by BNYM Fund Services (Ireland) Limited and MSCI Inc.

- Manages both a global equity and an emerging markets equity portfolio.
- Includes private equity, mineral rights, funds and other non-operating subsidiaries.

  Cash quoted is centrally held cash and equivalents. The equity portfolio may also hold cash as a result of trading by the underlying managers as shown in the sector table above.