# Facts

#### SUMMARY OF APPROACH

Alliance Trust aims to be a core equity holding for investors that delivers a real return over the long term through a combination of capital growth and a rising dividend. The Company invests primarily in global equities across a wide range of industries and sectors to achieve its objective.

The Company's investment manager, Willis Towers Watson, has appointed a number of stock pickers with different

styles, who each ignore the benchmark and only buy a small number of stocks in which they have strong conviction. Investors therefore get the benefit of both highly focused stock picking to increase potential outperformance versus the benchmark and manager diversification to reduce risk and volatility. The Company's diversified but highly active multi-manager portfolio is competitively priced.

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



#### CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE (%)

To 28 February 2021	5 Years	Since 01.04.17⁵	3 Years	1 Year	YTD	Month
Total shareholder return	94.1	37.1	25.5	19.3	-2.8	0.9
NAV total return	88.5	39.7	27.6	18.5	1.3	3.4
MSCI ACWI total return <sup>4</sup>	93.9	40.8	32.2	19.0	-0.4	0.5

The NAV total return reflects the impact of owning investments other than global equities prior to 30 June 2019, which had a drag on the return. Between 1 April 2017 and 28 February 2021, the performance of the equity portfolio before fees (a good approximation of the NAV total return after costs had these legacy investments not been included), was 42.5% versus the return on the MSCI ACWI Index<sup>4</sup> of 40.8%

#### **DISCRETE PERFORMANCE (%)**

From -	29-Feb-20			28-Feb-17	
То	28-Feb-21	29-Feb-20	28-Feb-19	28-Feb-18	28-Feb-17
Total shareholder return	19.3	3.6	1.6	10.5	40.1
NAV total return	18.5	6.6	1.0	11.7	32.3
MSCI ACWI total return <sup>4</sup>	19.0	8.2	2.7	7.3	36.7

For an explanation of how we measure performance, please refer to our website.

#### **Risk warnings**

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. 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 in line with NAV performance. Exchange rate changes may cause the value of overseas investments to go down as well as up and can impact on both the level of income received and capital value of your investment. 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 an investment trust's assets will result in a magnified movement, in the same direction, of that NAV. This may mean that you could get back less than you invested or nothing at all.

Notes: All data is provided as at 28 February 2021 unless otherwise stated. All figures may be subject to rounding errors. Sources: Investment Performance data is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon Performance & Risk Analytics Europe Limited, Morningstar and MSCI Inc; Key Statistics, Key Facts and Charges data is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd. NAV and NAV total return is based on NAV including income with debt at fair value, after all manager fees (including Willis Towers Watson's fees) and allows for any tax reclaims when they are achieved. The NAV total return shown in factsheets up to May 2018 was based on NAV excluding income with debt valued at par

 Total borrowings at par value divided by net assets.
 Factsheet reissued to restate the net gearing level which was incorrectly reported with total borrowings calculated at fair value rather than calculated as stated as total borrowings at par value minus total cash and equivalents, divided by net assets with debt at par

3. Annual dividend per share divided by share price.

KEY STATISTICS

Share Price	876.0p
Net Asset Value (NAV) per Share	945.5p
Premium (Discount)	(7.3%)

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#### **KEY FACTS**

Capitalisation	£2,791.9M
	£3,354.6M
	£3,013.3M
	10.0%
	5.9%
	1.6%
	31 December
Incorporated	21 April 1888
Dividend Paid	Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec
	318,712,681
Buybacks in February	2,060,000 shares at a
	cost of £18.7M
	(0.65% of the issued share
	capital
	ATST
	GB00B11V7W98
	Global
	April 2021



## CHARGES

Targeted Ongoing Charges Ratio (OCR) <sup>6</sup>	0.65% OR Less
OCR Year to 31 Dec 2020 <sup>7</sup>	0.64%

- MSCI All Country World Index Net Dividends Reinvested.
  1 April 2017 was the date that Willis Towers Watson was appointed investment manager.
- 6. The OCR target of 0.65% is based on NAV reported as at 31 December 2017. 7. The OCR for year to 31 December 2020 was calculated in line with the industry

standard using the average of net asset values at each NAV calculation date.

#### TOP 20 HOLDINGS

Name	£m	%
Alphabet	138.2	4.1
Microsoft	107.8	3.2
Amazon	100.8	3.0
Facebook	70.4	2.1
salesforce.com	65.9	2.0
Mastercard	62.6	1.9
Alibaba	62.2	1.9
Visa	61.9	1.8
Novo-Nordisk	55.3	1.6
UnitedHealth Group	50.6	1.5
Transdigm	44.7	1.3
Baidu - ADR	41.5	1.2
KKR	37.7	1.1
Vale	36.1	1.1
Convatec Group	34.6	1.0
Charter Communications	34.2	1.0
Fleetcor Technology	33.4	1.0
AstraZeneca	32.3	1.0
HDFC Bank	32.0	1.0
IHS Markit	31.3	0.9

#### Top 10 holdings 23.1%

Top 20 holdings 33.7%

The 20 largest stock positions, given as a percentage of the total assets.

A full breakdown of the portfolio can be viewed at: alliancetrust.co.uk

#### ACTIVE SHARE

Active Share is a measure of how actively a portfolio is managed; is the percentage of the portfolio that differs from its comparative index

77%

#### CONTACT

Alliance Trust PLC. River Court, 5 West Victoria Dock Road, Dundee DD1 3JT Tel +44 (0)1382 938320 Email investor@alliancetrust.co.uk Web alliancetrust.co.uk

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### Investment Commentary

For the month of February, the Company's Total Shareholder Return and NAV Total Return were 0.9% and 3.4% respectively, with the MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) benchmark returning 0.5%.

Over the month, the strong outperformance reflected improved returns from a wide range of stocks was led by Baidu, delivering an absolute return of 18.2%. The company announced its intention to enter into the electric vehicles market by forming a strategic partnership with Chinese automaker Zhejiang Geely Holding Group, with the aim of developing environmentally friendly self-driving vehicles. In contrast, Salesforce.com Inc was the primary detractor from performance over February as it's projected operating margins were weaker than expected following the acquisition of American software company Slack Technologies.

Within the Company's portfolio, a position was initiated in FTI Consulting, an independent global business advisory firm specialising in the mitigation of risk and dispute resolution. It is expected that negative economic effects from the global pandemic will lead to an increase in litigation and restructuring for companies, which in turn will increase the demand for FTI's advisory services. The position in BorgWarner, a leading automotive industry supplier, was eliminated following its share price and valuation appreciation, allowing for the Company to invest in more lucrative opportunities.

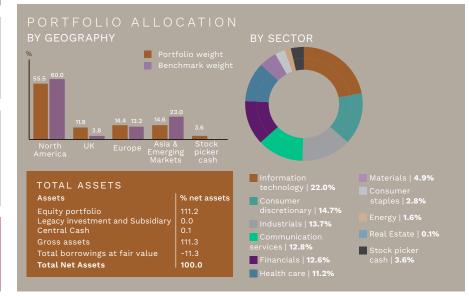
Over February, we liquidated the Lomas portfolio and spread the proceeds across the remaining Stock Pickers. We have maintained the gross gearing at the target level of 10%.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. The mention of any specific shares should not be taken as a recommendation to deal.

#### STOCK PICKERS % OF PORTFOLIO MANAGED



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 elsewhere.



#### Important Information

Alliance Trust is an investment company with investment trust status. 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 are excluded from the FCA's restrictions 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. 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.

The Alliance Trust Board has appointed Towers Watson Investment Management Limited (TWIM) as its Alternative Investment Fund Manager (AIFM). TWIM is part of Willis Towers Watson. 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 28 February 2021 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 The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Portfoli

8. GQG manages an emerging markets and a global equity mandate for the Company.