

# Aberdeen Responsible UK Equity Fund

Interim short report for the six month period to 31 January 2014

## Investment objective and policy

The Fund seeks long term growth by investing in a diversified portfolio of UK companies. Equity selection will be undertaken on the basis of thorough fundamental company analysis but environment, social and governance criteria will also be taken into account. Where an investee company's practices are considered to be lacking or deficient with regard to these criteria, the manager will encourage the company to adopt more responsible practices.

## Cumulative performance (%)

	Period of report 31/07/2013 to 31/01/2014	5 Years 31/01/2009 to 31/01/2014	Since launch 09/05/2006 to 31/01/2014
Fund - A Accumulation	(4.04)	97.06	35.52
Benchmark <sup>A</sup>	1.09	100.91	46.86

## Annual discrete performance to 31 January

	31/01/2013 to 31/01/2014	31/01/2012 to 31/01/2013	31/01/2011 to 31/01/2012	31/01/2010 to 31/01/2011	31/01/2009 to 31/01/2010
% change	5.27	14.88	0.17	19.97	35.60

Source: Lipper, Total Return, NAV to NAV, UK Net income reinvested, £.

<sup>A</sup> FTSE All Share Index.

Figures are as at valuation point.

Please remember that past performance is not a guide to future returns. The price of shares and the revenue from them may fall as well as rise. Investors may not get back the amount originally invested.

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## Market review

UK equities rose amid increasing volatility in the six months under review, despite improvements in the domestic economy. Initially, sentiment was buoyant, boosted by better global macroeconomic conditions and loose monetary policy. Even the US Federal Reserve's (Fed) decision to taper quantitative easing was met with hope that America was recovering, which foreshadowed better earnings growth. Towards the period end, local equities were buffeted by familiar fears over a possible slowdown in China and its impact on emerging markets, while the Fed's move to cut asset purchases by US\$10 billion added further pressure. On the home front, economic growth continued to strengthen in tandem with healthier employment data, which appears set to fall below 7%, well ahead of the Bank of England's expectations. However, the central bank's pledge to keep policy accommodative helped underpin investor sentiment.

## Portfolio review

At the stock level, our holdings in Wood Group and Centrica proved costly. Wood Group detracted from performance following a muted trading update, particularly in its engineering division, due to project delays and weakness in Canada. Meanwhile, political rhetoric in the UK, as well as weaker-than-expected results in its US energy supply business, weighed heavily on the share price of Centrica in the quarter.

Conversely, we benefited from our holdings in Associated British Foods and The Sage Group. Associated British Foods reported better-than-expected results in its sugar business and Primark continued to grow strongly. In addition, The Sage Group's full-year numbers showed evidence that management's long-term growth strategy had gained traction, while good progress was also made in rolling out a subscription-based pricing model.

In portfolio activity, we took advantage of price weakness to increase our exposure to the global engineering solutions provider to energy and natural resources, Weir, and consumer group Unilever. Against this, we divested National Grid in light of better opportunities, given its low growth prospects. We also pared our holdings Melrose and Schroders following strong relative performance. In addition, we trimmed engineering consulting firm Amec, after its recent good share price performance and are cognisant of its aspiration to acquire complementary businesses.

## Outlook

We believe that earnings have the potential to recover and this should be supportive of UK equities, given the accommodative monetary policies of major central banks that have underpinned the macroeconomic environment. In the UK, the reliance on the housing market and higher consumer borrowings to boost GDP growth has to give way to rising wages and a rebalancing of the economy in order for the recovery to be more sustainable. Although valuations are now less appealing on an absolute basis, they remain attractive relative to other asset classes. Britain is home to many good quality companies with strong competitive positions, robust balance sheets and attractive long-term growth prospects. Despite the difficulty in predicting the vagaries of economic activity, we are nevertheless confident that our holdings can deliver attractive earnings growth over the longer term, based on our in-depth company analysis.

## Portfolio breakdown

Portfolio of investments	As at 31 January 2014%	As at 31 July 2013%
Oil & Gas	14.43	15.72
Basic Materials	9.95	9.32
Industrials	14.71	13.91
Consumer Goods	10.85	9.90
Health Care	7.52	6.88
Consumer Services	13.64	13.48
Telecommunications	3.35	3.07
Utilities	4.14	4.50
Financials	14.96	16.05
Technology	4.48	3.46
<b>Investment assets</b>	<b>98.03</b>	<b>96.29</b>
<b>Net other assets</b>	<b>1.97</b>	<b>3.71</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

## Fund facts

	Interim/annual accounting dates	Income payment dates
	31 January, 31 July	30 April, 31 October
	Ongoing charges figure % as at 31/01/2014	Ongoing charges figure % as at 31/07/2013
Share class A	1.58	1.65
Share class I	0.83	0.90
Share class Z	0.08	0.15

The ongoing charges figure is calculated in accordance with the guidelines issued by the European Securities and Markets Authority. It is the ratio of the total ongoing charges to the average net asset value over twelve months and includes the annual management charge, the other operating expenses and any synthetic element to incorporate the ongoing charges of any underlying collective investments.

## Distribution summary

	Total distribution (p) for the period to 31/01/2014	Total distribution (p) for the period to 31/01/2013
Share class A - Income	0.5100	0.5700
Share class A - Accumulation	0.5986	0.6581
Share class I - Income	0.9300	0.7400
Share class I - Accumulation	0.9507	0.7400
Share class Z - Income	2.1500	2.0500

Distributions in respect of the Fund come with a tax credit of 1/9th of the amount stated. UK higher rate taxpayers not holding through an ISA may have additional income tax to pay. Non taxpayers are not entitled to a refund of the 1/9th tax credit. Distributions received by corporate investors are subject to the corporate streaming rules.

## Performance summary

	Net asset value as at 31/01/2014 pence per share	Net asset value as at 31/07/2013 pence per share	Net asset value % change
Share class A - Income	115.65	120.47	(4.01)
Share class A - Accumulation	136.34	141.40	(3.58)
Share class I - Income	110.83	115.47	(4.01)
Share class I - Accumulation	114.26	118.05	(3.21)
Share class Z - Income	174.23	181.55	(4.01)

Net of tax and expenses.

## Performance record

Calendar year		Highest share price (p)	Lowest share price (p)
2009	Income A	88.67	54.87
2009	Accumulation A	96.55	58.65
2009	Income Z	134.12	82.53
2010	Income A	103.25	82.12
2010	Accumulation A	114.77	89.99
2010	Income Z	156.20	124.24
2011	Income A	107.26	87.09
2011	Accumulation A	119.75	98.52
2011	Income Z	162.42	131.41

Calendar year		Highest share price (p)	Lowest share price (p)
2012	Income A	106.41	93.81
2012	Accumulation A	122.85	106.84
2012 <sup>A</sup>	Income I	101.95	96.72
2012 <sup>A</sup>	Accumulation I	101.95	96.72
2012	Income Z	160.95	141.95
2013	Income A	123.57	107.19
2013	Accumulation A	144.75	123.76
2013	Income I	118.70	102.87
2013	Accumulation I	121.08	102.87
2013	Income Z	187.01	162.45
2014 <sup>B</sup>	Income A	122.90	115.46
2014 <sup>B</sup>	Accumulation A	144.24	135.52
2014 <sup>B</sup>	Income I	118.22	111.09
2014 <sup>B</sup>	Accumulation I	120.86	113.57
2014 <sup>B</sup>	Income Z	186.53	175.32

<sup>A</sup> Share class I launched on 1 October 2012.

<sup>B</sup> to 31 January 2014.

## Risk and reward profile

The Risk and Reward Indicator table demonstrates where the Fund ranks in terms of its potential risk and reward. The higher the rank the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money. It is based on past data, may change over time and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the Fund. The shaded area in the table below shows the Fund's ranking on the Risk and Reward Indicator.

Typically lower rewards, lower risk				Typically higher rewards, higher risk		
←				→		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Risk and reward indicator table as at 31 January 2014.

- This Fund is ranked at 6 because funds of this type have experienced high rises and falls in value in the past.
- Please note that even the lowest risk class can lose you money and that extreme market circumstances can mean you suffer severe losses in all cases.
- A full list of risks applicable to this Fund can be found in the Prospectus.
- The latest risk and reward profile can be found on the Key Investor Information Document (KIID) for this Fund which is available on our website at [www.aberdeen-asset.co.uk](http://www.aberdeen-asset.co.uk)

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## Other information

### Initial Charge

On 17 February 2014 the initial charge was removed from Aberdeen Responsible UK Equity Fund. This change reflects a movement in the UK funds' industry towards increased transparency of fund charges and associated costs.

### Literature and Fund information

Our website contains a wealth of information on our funds and investment approach, including Key Investor Information Documents (KIIDs) for all of the funds available for investment. We also publish Supplementary Information Documents (SIDs) which contain Application forms and additional information, such as Terms and Conditions.

You can invest online and access fund performance and pricing information.

Please visit:

[www.aberdeen-asset.co.uk](http://www.aberdeen-asset.co.uk)

[www.aberdeenukprices.com](http://www.aberdeenukprices.com)

Alternatively please contact our Customer Services Team on:

Tel: 0845 300 2890

Email: [customer.services@aberdeen-asset.com](mailto:customer.services@aberdeen-asset.com)

### Report and accounts

Copies of the annual and half-yearly long form report and accounts for this Fund are available free of charge on request to Aberdeen Fund Managers Limited.

Aberdeen Responsible UK Equity Fund is a sub-fund of Aberdeen Investment Funds ICVC, an open-ended investment company ('OEIC') authorised under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

Aberdeen Fund Managers Limited only provides information about its own products and will not give individual financial advice. If you are in any doubt about the suitability of a product to meet your financial needs, then you should seek the advice of a financial intermediary.

The information in this report is designed to enable shareholders to make an informed judgement on the activities of the Fund during the period it covers, and the results of those activities at the end of the period. The naming of specific shares or bonds is not a recommendation to deal in them. The views expressed are those of Aberdeen Fund Managers Limited and should not be construed as advice either to buy, retain, or sell a particular investment. Investment in the Fund should generally be viewed as a long-term investment.

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## Appointments

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