


Aviva Investors UK Equity Fund A GBP Inc

GB0032493834

Morningstar Analyst Rating
 **Bronze** 26 Jul 2016
 23:00, UTC-0500

Morningstar Category
 UK Large-Cap Blend Equity

Category Index
 FTSE AllSh TR GBP

Total Assets
 269.52
 Mil GBP

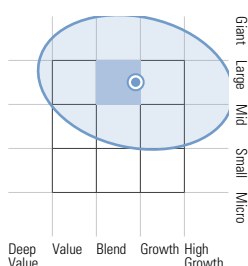
Current Yield %
 1.80

Inception Date
 28/02/03

Domicile/Currency
 GBR/GBP

Morningstar Rating
 ★★ ★★






Equity Style Map

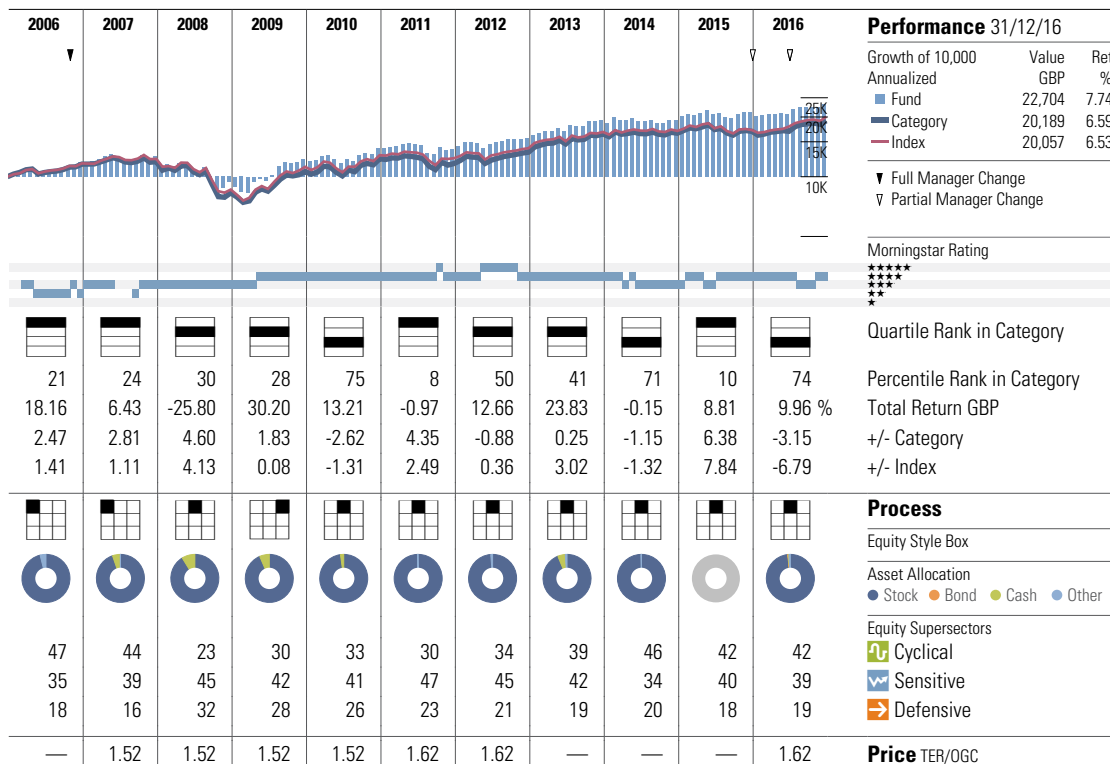


People

Chris Murphy 10/06
 Trevor Green 06/16
 Total Named Managers 2

Morningstar Pillars

Process  Positive
 Performance  Positive
 People  Neutral
 Parent  Neutral
 Price  Neutral



Analyst View

Peter Brunt, CFA, Senior Analyst

A fine core UK equity offering whose genuinely long-term outlook has provided steady outperformance.

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Morningstar Analyst Rating

Morningstar evaluates mutual funds based on five key pillars, which its analysts believe lead to funds that are more likely to outperform over the long term on a risk-adjusted basis.

Analyst Rating Spectrum

 Gold  Silver  Bronze Neutral Negative

The Morningstar Analyst Rating for Funds is a forward-looking analysis of a fund. Morningstar has identified five key areas crucial to predicting the future success of a fund: People, Parent, Process, Performance, and Price. The pillars are used in determining the Morningstar Analyst Rating for a fund. Morningstar Analyst Ratings are assigned on a five-tier scale running from Gold to Negative. The top three ratings, Gold, Silver, and Bronze, all indicate that our analysts think highly of a fund; the difference between them corresponds to differences in the level of analyst conviction in a fund's ability to outperform its benchmark and peers through time, within the context of the level of risk taken over the long term (defined as a full market cycle or at least five years). Neutral represents funds in which our analysts don't have a strong positive or negative conviction over the long term (defined as a full market cycle or at least five years) and Negative represents funds that possess at least one flaw that our analysts believe is likely to significantly hamper future performance over the long term (defined as a full market cycle or at least five years). Past performance of a security may or may not be sustained in future and is no indication of future performance. For detailed information about the Morningstar Analyst Rating for Funds, please visit <http://global.morningstar.com/managerdisclosures>

26 Jul, 2016 | While Aviva's equities desk continues to experience higher levels of change than we would like to see, we still believe this fund to be a solid choice for investors seeking a core mandate in the UK large-cap equity space.

Chris Murphy has managed this core UK equities fund since 2006, using the same investment approach that he has applied over most of his investment career that spans more than two decades. He is a talented investor, and his genuinely long-term perspective has helped create a strong track record during his tenure on the fund. Relative to peers, Aviva's UK equities team has never been the best resourced, but this has not hindered Murphy in his investing. The group's broad investment desk has seen a fair amount of change over the past few years. The retirement of CEO David Lis led to Murphy's appointment as global head of equities in January 2016, seeing him responsible for the oversight of the UK, Europe, global, and emerging-markets & Asia-Pacific equity teams. There has also been some turnover within the UK equities team. Analyst Katherine Wade was at the group for only a year before leaving in June 2015. More recently, Simon Young, who joined as comanager on this fund in December 2015, left the group by mutual

consent in June 2016. Not only was Young an experienced manager but his presence gave an analytical boost and alleviated some of Murphy's client-facing responsibilities. There are no immediate plans to replace him. As a result, Murphy and Trevor Green are now the only two senior managers on the UK equities team, with support in the form of co-portfolio managers Charlotte Meyer and James Balfour (both with less than five years' experience) and a junior analyst. Green has now been named comanager of this fund, but Murphy remains the main decision-maker.

We have concerns over the level of change taking place at Aviva and will be monitoring how this will impact the fund given Murphy's new role. Our regard for him as an investor is unchanged, and we still see this fund as a competitive core offering within the category, hence it is assigned a Morningstar Analyst Rating of Bronze.

Morningstar Global Fund Report

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Morningstar Analyst Rating

	2015	2016	2017
 Gold			
 Silver			
 Bronze			
Neutral			
Negative			
Under Review			
Not Ratable			

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The date shown next to the Morningstar Analyst Rating is the date on which Morningstar Manager Research Analyst assigned or reaffirmed the current rating for the fund based on the analyst's latest review and research report for the fund.

The Five (5) Pillars

Morningstar has identified five key areas that we believe are crucial to predicting the future success of funds: People, Parent, Process, Performance, and Price. Each pillar is evaluated when assessing a fund as well as the interaction between the pillars, which we believe is crucial to understanding a fund's overall merit.

People

The overall quality of a fund's investment team is a significant key to its ability to deliver superior performance relative to its benchmark and/or peers. Evaluating a fund's investment team requires that analysts assess several relevant items including how key decisions are made.

Parent

We believe the parent organization is of utmost importance in evaluating funds. The fund's management set the tone for key elements of our evaluation, including capacity management, risk management, recruitment and retention of talent, and incentive pay. Beyond these operational areas, we prefer firms that have a culture of stewardship and put investors first to those that are too heavily weighted to salesmanship.

Process

We look for funds with a performance objective and investment process (for both security selection and portfolio construction) that is sensible, clearly defined, and repeatable. In addition, the portfolio should be constructed in a manner that is consistent with the investment process and performance objective.

Performance

We do not believe past performance is necessarily predictive of future results, and this factor accordingly receives a relatively small weighting in our evaluation process. In particular, we strive not to anchor on short-term performance. However, we do believe that the evaluation of long-term return and risk patterns is vital to determining if a fund is delivering to our expectations.

Price

To reflect actual investor experience, price is evaluated within the context of the relevant market or cross-border region—for example, the United States, Australia, Canada, or Europe. In recognition of differences in scale and distribution costs in various markets, the level at which a fund is penalised for high fees or rewarded for low fees can vary with region. In Europe, for example, funds are penalised if they land in the most expensive quintile of their Morningstar category and are rewarded if they land in the cheapest quintile. The assessment is made using annual expense ratios, but in the case of funds with performance fees, expenses are evaluated excluding any performance fees and then the structure of the performance fee is evaluated separately.

Morningstar Analyst Ratings

Morningstar Analyst Ratings are assigned on a five-tier scale running from Gold to Negative. The top three ratings, Gold, Silver, and Bronze, all indicate that our analysts think highly of a fund; the difference between them corresponds to differences in the level of analyst conviction in a fund's ability to outperform its benchmark and peers through time, within the context of the level of risk taken.

Gold

Represents funds that our analyst has the highest-conviction in for that given investment mandate. By giving a fund a Gold rating, we are expressing an expectation that it will outperform its relevant performance benchmark and/or peer group within the context of the level of risk taken over the long term (defined as a full market cycle or at least five years). To earn a Gold rating, a fund must distinguish itself across the five pillars that are the basis for our analysis.

Silver

Represents funds our analyst has high-conviction in, but not in all of the five pillars. With those fundamental strengths, we expect these funds will outperform their relevant performance benchmark and/or peer group within the context of the level of risk taken over the long term (defined as a full market cycle or at least five years).

Bronze

Represents funds that have advantages that clearly outweigh any disadvantages across the pillars, giving analyst the conviction to award them a positive rating. We expect these funds to beat their relevant performance benchmark and/or peer group within the context of the level of risk taken over a full market cycle (or at least five years).

Neutral

Represents funds in which our analysts don't have a strong positive or negative conviction. In our judgment, these funds are not likely to deliver standout returns, but they aren't likely to seriously underperform their relevant performance benchmark and/or peer group either.

Negative

Represents funds that possess at least one flaw that our analysts believe is likely to significantly hamper future performance, such as high fees or an unstable management team. Because of these faults, we believe these funds are inferior to most competitors and will likely underperform their relevant performance benchmark and/or peer group, within the context of the level of risk taken, over a full market cycle.

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Not Ratable

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