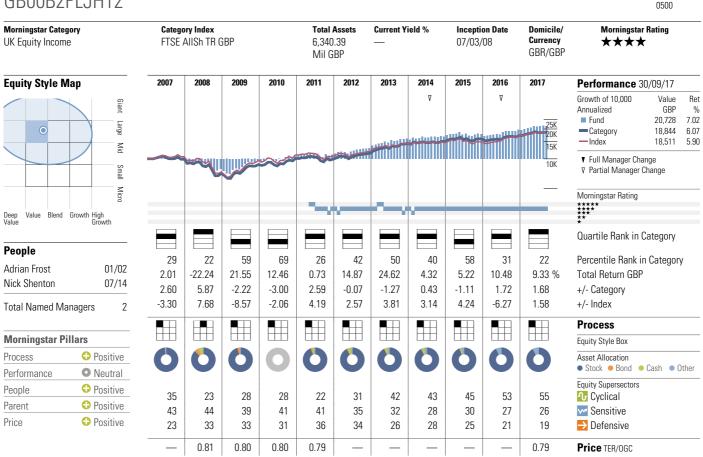
Artemis Income Fund I Acc GB00B2PLJH12



Analyst View

Peter Brunt, CFA, Senior Analyst

Despite losing a key team member in 2016, we continue to have a positive opinion on this fund.

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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	
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👽 Gold	💱 Silver	💱 Bronze	Neutral	Negativ
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19 Jun, 2017 | For investors seeking core exposure to UK equities with an above-market dividend yield and growing income stream, we still find this a solid product.

This was one of our highest-conviction funds for many years, thanks to a highly experienced management team consistently applying a sensible, tried-and-tested approach. The experienced Adrian Frost took the reins of the fund back in 2002 and was joined by comanager Adrian Gosden in 2003. Gosden arrived with experience managing UK equity-income mandates at Société Générale. While Frost has always been the senior team member (and maintained veto power accordingly), over time Gosden gained more influence on the portfolio; together they formed a formidable partnership. This was enhanced by Nick Shenton's arrival; he joined as a third comanager in 2014.

Gosden left the group at the end of June 2016, thereby marking a meaningful change to the team. In a signal of continuity, Frost committed to at least three more years on the fund, and the group is still on the lookout for an experienced manager as a replacement. While we welcome the intentions to restore resources, we note that this in itself can prove a timely process and it will take time for whoever joins to bed down in a new environment.

The fund is managed as a core mandate and, with its considerable size, does not have the flexibility to invest significantly down the cap scale, unlike many peers. While this has proved somewhat of a headwind in peer-relative performance terms (with the exception of 2016), it does not explain the entire trend of lacklustre returns over recent years. Returns have been less impressive even when compared with funds with a similar market-cap profile. That said, performance has remained robust against the FTSE All Share benchmark, while volatility is also lower than both the category average and the benchmark over most time periods.

While they are yet to have found his replacement, we believe that Frost and Shenton have coped well without Gosden. We believe that they remain a complementary partnership that can add value over the long term. This, combined with what we believe to be a competitive price tag, sees the fund retain a Morningstar Analyst Rating of Bronze.

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19 Jun 2017 20:00, UTC-

Morningstar Analyst Rating

🔄 Bronze

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Morningstar Analyst Rating

	2015	2016	2017	
🐯 Gold				
Silver				
🐺 Bronze				
Neutral				
Negative				
Not Ratable				

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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.

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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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Page 3 of 3