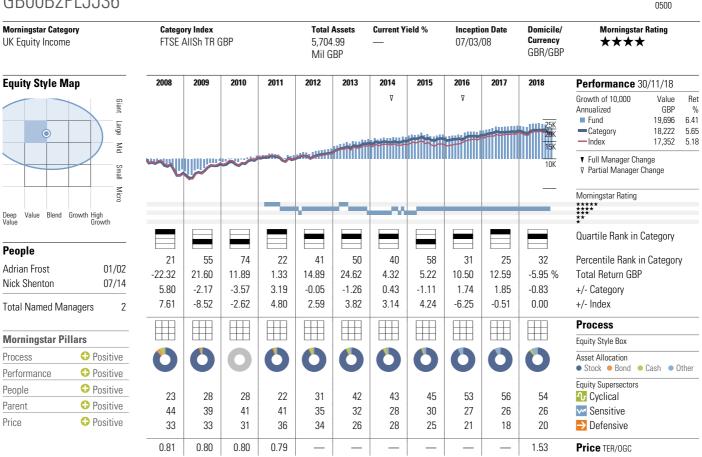
Artemis Income Fund I Inc GB00B2PLJJ36



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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Analyst	Rating	Spectrum	

👽 Gold	🐺 Silver	🐺 Bronze	Neutral	Negative
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25 Jun, 2018 | 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.

The fund benefits from a highly experienced management team that, despite some recent turnover, has consistently applied a sensible, tried-and-tested approach. The experienced Adrian Frost took the reins of the fund in 2002 and was joined by comanager Adrian Gosden in 2003. While Frost has always been the lead manager (maintaining veto power), over time Gosden gained more influence on the portfolio; together they formed a strong 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, since when Frost and Shenton have operated well as a duo, with Shenton maturing into the role of co-fund manager nicely. He continues to take on more responsibility and is clearly having a greater influence on the portfolio. After a long search, the pair hired Andy Marsh as a third comanager in February 2018. Marsh joined from Polar Capital, where he worked on a pan-European long/short equities strategy for over a decade. He brings with him considerable experience, although much of this is in European equities--it will take time for him to adapt to UK equity income investing.

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. This has proved somewhat of a headwind in peer-relative performance terms. After a prolonged period of lacklustre returns, it is pleasing to see peer-relative returns improve through 2017 and 2018 to the end of May. Outperformance has been driven by strong stock selection, which we believe in part reflects improved team dynamics. Overall, 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 it will be key to see how Marsh fits in to the team and the new dynamic with three comanagers, we believe that progress made with regards to succession planning (Frost seems committed for the next few years, but has made clear his intention to step back in due course) is promising. This, combined with a competitive price tag, sees the fund retain a Morningstar Analyst Rating of Bronze.

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25 Jun 2018 13:00, UTC-

Morningstar Analyst Rating

🔄 Bronze

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Morningstar Analyst Rating

	2016	2017	2018	
😽 Gold				
Silver 😨				
🐺 Bronze				
Neutral				
Negative				
Not Ratable				

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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

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Negative

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Page 3 of 3