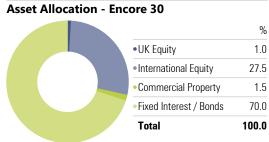


### Risk Profile Description

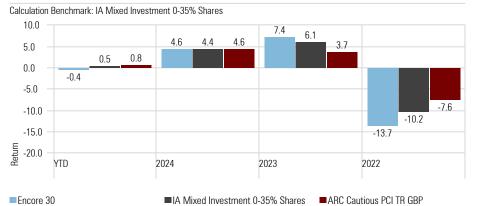
This portfolio is likely to contain lower, medium and higher risk investments, including cash, government bonds, UK corporate bonds and other higher-income types of global bonds as well as UK commercial property. It will also be expected to contain some higher-risk investments such as shares, but held mainly in UK and other developed markets, and a small amount in other higher-risk investments such as shares in emerging markets.



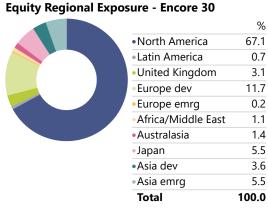
# Yield 2.83% OCF 0.10% Transaction Charge 0.04% Investment Management Fee 0.10% + VAT Rebalance Quarterly Benchmarks IA Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares ARC Cautious PCI TR GBP

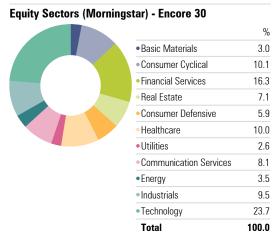


## **Calendar Year Returns**



Display Benchmark 1: IA Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares Display Benchmark 2: ARC Cautious PCI TR GBP					
Encore 30 Performance Metrics	Portfolio	Benchmark (IA)	Benchmark (ARC)		
Max Drawdown	-16.16	-10.98	-6.97		
Best Month %	4.41	3.52	2.24		
Worst Month %	-5.94	-4.60	-3.55		
Best Quarter	6.91	5.69	3.26		
Worst Quarter %	-7.06	-6.06	-4.70		





### **Portfolio Comments**

Q1 proved to be turbulent one for growth assets. The winners were European, large-cap UK and value equities. In comparison, Japanese, US and growth equities lost ground. Defensive assets responded positively to the economic and political uncertainly.

Markets had been confident that US exceptionalism would drive the continued outperformance from US stocks. However, Trump's move towards his 'America First' policies and in particularly the so called 'Trump Tariffs' have created uncertainty. As a result, tariff-related activity has impacted equity markets, leading to concerns around the next round of tariffs due in early Q2.

In response, Fitch lowered its forecast for global GDP growth. The US economy looks to be decelerating into the spring, towards a 1-2% range from the 2-3% seen recently. This is not surprising against a backdrop of a fall in confidence, job cuts and cost cutting from DOGE (Department of Government Efficiency) activity and worries about future inflation.

The Federal Reserve left interest rates on hold, but did leave future rate cuts on the table, which implied that the US central bank is more concerned about the downside risks to growth than the upside risks to inflation.

The news on rates was more positive in Europe as interest rates were cut twice, with further cuts expected, as it seeks to bolster economic growth, counter the threat of US tariffs and plans to boost European military spending.

In the UK, following a fall in the fiscal outlook, the UK Chancellor was pushed to announce new spending cuts of £8.4 billion to observe the government's fiscal rules.

Despite a poor quarter for US equities, in the longer term a premium for US shares will probably depend on whether there is still evidence of US exceptionalism.

As the fiscal response was much more powerful than many were anticipating in Europe, this helped growth assets in the region, whilst the UK also made headway on the back of some better-than-expected corporate results.

Overall, Emerging Market equities outperformed developed markets, with Chinese and Korean equities both performing strongly. Value stocks outperformed their growth equivalents, while smaller companies struggled as increasing trade uncertainty drove concerns around both stronger inflation and weaker growth.

Value was the outstanding performing factor over the first part of this year, and this reflected in the returns from the major equity markets discussed above. The current economic uncertainty equally impacted both the Small-Cap and Growth factors and lost ground over the quarter.

More defensive assets were in demand, and commodities were boosted by the rise in the price of gold, a traditional 'safe haven' asset.

Investors moved into more a 'risk off' phase and this benefitted global bonds. A weaker US dollar proved supportive of emerging market debt, whilst the US 10-year Treasury yield ended the quarter 0.36% lower when compared to the start of this year.

It has been a volatile start to the year and that looks set to continue. A key reminder in situations like these is that diversification is key. Whenever we see an increase in growth asset volatility, we should also remember its time in the market that's important, not 'market timing'. Investing is for the long-term and ultimately remains one of the key engines to meet our clients' financial goals.

# Encore 30 - Holdings

Holdings	Equity Style Box	Portfolic Weighting %
Vanguard Glb Corp Bd ldx Ins Pl £ H Acc		23.80
Fidelity Index Global Govt Bd S Acc		23.10
iShares Ovrs Govt Bd ldx (UK) D Acc £Hdg		23.10
Fidelity Index US P Acc	Ħ	6.32
HSBC American Index C Acc		6.32
Vanguard U.S. Eq ldx Ins PI £ Acc		6.32
Fidelity Index Europe ex UK P Acc		3.44
Vanguard Em Mkts Stk ldx Ins PI £ Acc		3.00
Fidelity Index Japan P Acc		1.58
L&G Global Real Estate Div Index C Acc	<b>=</b>	1.50
Fidelity Index UK P Acc		0.96
Vanguard Pac exJpn Stk ldx Ins Pl £ Acc		0.57

# Benchmark Disclaimers

The IA (Investment Association) sector is used as the comparator. This is considered appropriate for investors to use when comparing performance as the sector is made up of funds with a similar asset allocation as defined by the IA. The sector is not constructed as an index, therefore as funds enter or leave, the sector composition can change, but it is considered that the sector remains a useful and relevant comparator for investors to assess performance within a relevant peer group.

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# **Morningstar Style Box - Encore 30**

Portfolio Date: 31/03/2025

Value	Blend	Growth
Large		
Mid		
Small		

Morningstar Equity Style Box™

%
45.9
33.4
17.3
2.8
0.6

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