

# Charity Multi-Asset Fund

31 March 2026

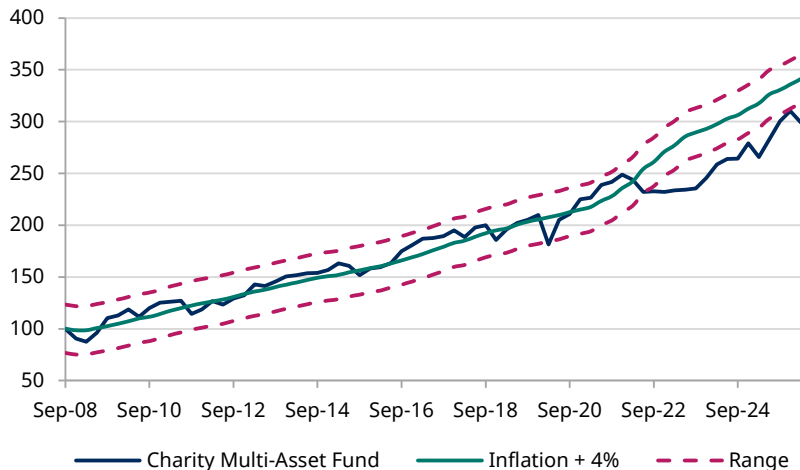
## Investment Objective

The SUTL Cazenove Charity Multi-Asset Fund aims to provide income and capital growth in excess of the Consumer Price Index + 4% per annum (net of fees) over rolling ten-year periods by investing in equity and equity related securities, fixed and floating rate securities and alternative assets worldwide. This cannot be guaranteed and your capital is at risk.

## Fund Characteristics

The SUTL Cazenove Charity Multi-Asset Fund allows all sizes of charity access to our multi-asset approach. The Fund seeks to generate sustainable returns over the long-term by blending a diversified range of assets, managers and strategies. Over the long-term the Fund aims to deliver a total return of CPI +4%. The distribution share class has a total return target distribution of 4% per annum, paid quarterly. The Fund is also forecast to demonstrate reduced volatility compared with equity markets and is based on the Cazenove Charities Unconstrained Strategy.

## Long Term Performance



Range: Upper and lower boundaries represent two standard deviations of the strategy from the central return expectation (Inflation +4%).

Source: Datastream/Lipper, in GBP, net income reinvested, 30 September 2008 to 31 March 2026. Net of fees. Z Share Class, 0.65% p.a. until the 15th June 2018, 0.5% p.a. thereafter. Inflation data to 31 March 2026. RPI to 30 June 2018, CPI thereafter.

## Fund Team



**Tom Montagu-Pollock**



**Adam Spring**

## Key Information

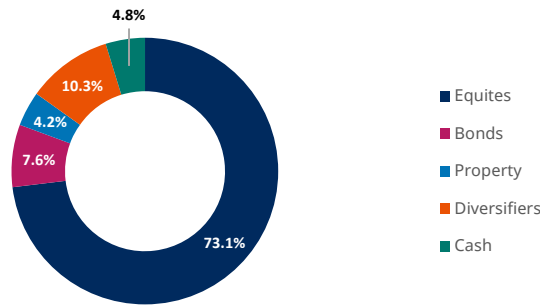
Fund size	£873m
Fund manager	Tom Montagu-Pollock
Units available	Distribution & Accumulation
Valuation and dealing	Daily 12:00
Minimum investment	£10,000
Target distribution	4% (smoothed over the previous 3 years)
Distribution dates	31st Aug, 30th Nov, 28th Feb, 31st May
Estimated Ongoing charges figure	0.65%
SEDOL number	BF783Y6 BF783Z7

On 15 June 2018 the fund converted to a Charity Authorised Investment Fund (CAIF) structure, the performance shown has been obtained predominantly under the old Common Investment Fund (CIF) structure. The objective and strategy remain the same. Please see the revised Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF) fee excluding VAT.

Total Returns	10 years (p.a.)	5 years (p.a.)	3 years (p.a.)	3 months	Mar 25 - Mar 26	Mar 24 - Mar 25	Mar 23 - Mar 24	Mar 22 - Mar 23	Mar 21 - Mar 22
<b>Fund</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>8.6%</b>	<b>-3.6%</b>	<b>12.5%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>10.8%</b>	<b>-4.1%</b>	<b>7.6%</b>
Inflation + 4%	7.8%	9.4%	7.2%	1.6%	7.4%	6.7%	7.4%	14.5%	11.3%

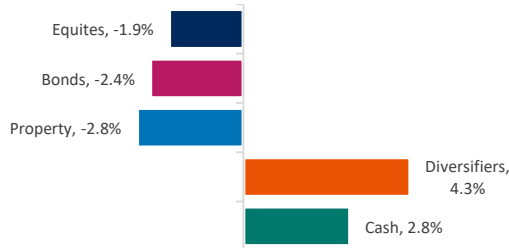
Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of an investment and the income from it may go down as well as up and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. There is no guarantee that the objective will be met.

## Asset Mix



The above asset allocation is based on holdings as at 31 March 2026.

## Active Positions



Shows asset allocation against the fund's long term strategy, with positive active positions reflecting a favourable view on the asset class and vice versa.

## Portfolio Commentary

After a robust 2025 and a largely positive first two months of 2026, global equities retrenched in March following the sudden escalation of hostilities in the Middle East.

Over January and February, markets extended last year's gains - the U.S. S&P 500 even notched fresh highs in January - buoyed by resilient global growth, moderating inflation, and the lagged effects of fiscal easing across many developed economies. The expectation of continued rate cuts following the appointment of Kevin Warsh as Federal Reserve chair also contributed to a stable backdrop. One notable indicator of underlying unease, however, was gold, which continued its sharp ascent and surpassed \$5,500 per troy ounce in late January.

Market dynamics shifted materially at the end of February following renewed US and Israeli strikes on Iran. As retaliation spilled across the region, threatening energy infrastructure and effectively closing the Strait of Hormuz, Brent crude surged from below \$73 to \$110 per barrel at the close of the quarter. Markets moved from pricing imminent rate cuts to a series of hikes - in the UK, markets briefly signalled three to four increases from the Bank of England. Year-to-date gains across many equity markets were erased.

Against this backdrop, the Fund returned -3.6% over the quarter, with the caveat that US equities surged in late-day trading, lifted by speculation about a potential de-escalation. Given this timing, the full impact of the move will not be reflected in month-end Fund pricing.

As you would expect during a period of dislocation, our diversifying and defensive assets earned their keep. The standout was the L&G Enhanced Commodity Fund, which rose 22% as energy and soft commodity prices spiked.

Within equity markets it was a quarter of two halves. January and February saw a continued rotation out of the large US technology names that had driven much of the market over recent years. Software stocks in particular came under pressure as investors began to question the extent to which AI could ultimately cannibalise parts of the industry.

On 28 February, US and Israeli strikes on Iran changed the backdrop materially, turning what had been a relatively orderly rotation into a far more volatile environment.

That energy shock was the single biggest headwind for the Fund. We entered the quarter with only a very small allocation to energy - a deliberate underweight reflecting our caution on long-term hydrocarbon demand.

Software was the other area of weakness. Microsoft fell 23% - its worst quarter since 2008 - as investors grew sceptical of returns on its large-scale AI infrastructure spending, and the OpenAI relationship began to be seen more as a source of friction than a clear advantage.

We take a different view. Azure, Microsoft's cloud computing business, grew 39% last quarter. The company is arguably more entrenched in enterprise computing than at any point in its history, and the shares now trade at their cheapest valuation in several years. In our view, the market is pricing in disruption to Microsoft's core franchise while under appreciating that it is also one of the largest beneficiaries of AI infrastructure demand.

On the positive side, Vertiv - which supplies power and cooling infrastructure for data centres - rose nearly 58%. GE Vernova, the energy equipment spin off from GE, also continued to re rate, with both benefiting from the enormous and increasingly visible demand for data centre power, which the energy crisis only made more visible.

We have continued to shift the technology allocation further toward the physical infrastructure underpinning AI - an area where we have held conviction for some time - and away from pure-play software, where the outlook has become harder to underwrite with confidence.

We have fully exited Salesforce and Intuit, and reduced other application-layer software exposures. We do not believe these businesses are terminally impaired, but the speed at which AI is developing - and the extent to which enterprise customers are already using AI alternatives as leverage in contract negotiations - makes it difficult to hold conviction on long-term value.

In their place, we have added Samsung for its memory and semiconductor exposure, and added to Eaton and Schneider Electric, both well positioned for the electrification demands that data centres are creating. Hyperscaler capital expenditure is now estimated at around \$700 billion this year, with a plausible path toward \$1 trillion. Every major platform - Amazon, Microsoft, Meta - is now building or training proprietary AI models, which implies sustained demand for compute, memory, and power infrastructure. The supply chain bottlenecks in AI have evolved over the past two years - from compute, to memory, and now increasingly to power and energy - which underpins our conviction in names like GE Vernova, Vertiv, and Schneider Electric.

One selective exception on the software side: we have added to Moody's. Despite being caught up in the wider sell-off, its core credit ratings franchise is built on a unique and hard-to-replicate data advantage that we view as extremely difficult to disrupt.

Within energy, we have meaningfully reduced our underweight, initiating positions in Baker Hughes, the oilfield services and equipment group, and ConocoPhillips, one of the largest US exploration and production. Both should benefit from tighter energy markets: Baker Hughes is particularly well positioned if the conflict drives increased drilling activity and investment in energy infrastructure, while ConocoPhillips provides direct exposure to higher oil prices alongside strong capital discipline.

We have also added to healthcare, where earnings resilience, structural demand tailwinds, and lower economic sensitivity should provide attractive defensive characteristics.

Within fixed income, overblown inflation concerns and a steep yield curve in early March created a compelling entry point into currency-hedged Japanese government bonds, which should enhance portfolio resilience through greater geographic diversification. Lastly, we took advantage of a sharp 20% fall in the gold price to add to our holding in this diversifying asset, which we see as a likely beneficiary should a more protracted conflict scenario materialise.

Looking forward, the conflict in the Middle East has necessitated consideration of a much broader spectrum of potential market outcomes, which we have simplified into three scenarios. The associated probability of each is largely dictated by the duration of the conflict. As it passes the one-month mark, a "quick resolution" returning to something close to the late-February status quo now seems unlikely.

Our worst-case "protracted conflict" scenario assumes an extended closure of the Strait of Hormuz and the persistence of oil prices above the current \$110 per barrel. In such a scenario, we would expect inflation to become more entrenched, corporate margins to be squeezed, and consumer spending to decline. The resultant higher interest rates and lower growth would almost certainly be negative for markets.

The damage to Middle Eastern oil infrastructure and depletion of global reserves already seen pushes us towards our central "delayed resolution" scenario, in which oil prices are likely to remain elevated for some time even if a ceasefire materialises imminently. This results in a modest negative impact on global growth and a relatively short-lived rise in input-cost inflation. We believe this scenario is increasingly priced in and are encouraged by what appears to be a real desire to see an end to the conflict.

At moments like this, it is important to reiterate that portfolios are constructed with diversification and long-term objectives in mind. Geopolitical shocks can create short, sharp bouts of volatility, but a diversified mix of assets combined with a long-term investment horizon is designed to mitigate exactly this sort of uncertainty. Our focus remains on managing the portfolios through the current environment with vigilance, an evidence-based approach, and a long-term mindset.

*This document may include forward-looking statements that are based upon our current opinions, expectations and projections. We undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements. Any such information is not a guarantee of any future performance. There is no assurance that any forecast or projection will be realised.*

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## Risk considerations

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**Interest rate risk:** A rise in interest rates generally causes bond prices to fall, while a decline in the financial health of an issuer could cause the value of its bonds to fall or become worthless. A failure of a deposit institution or an issuer of a money market instrument could create losses. Equity prices fluctuate based on many factors including general, economic, industry or company news. **Currency risk:** The fund can be exposed to different currencies – foreign exchange rates could create losses. Underlying funds may use derivatives for leverage, which makes it more sensitive to certain market interest rate movements and may cause above-average volatility and risk of loss. **Derivative risk:** A derivative may not perform as expected, and may create losses greater than the cost of the derivative. The counterparty to a derivative or other contractual agreement or synthetic product could become unable to honour its commitments to the fund, potentially creating a partial or total loss for the fund. **Liquidity risk:** In difficult market conditions, an underlying fund may not be able to sell a security for full value or at all and could cause the fund to defer or suspend redemptions of its shares. **Emerging markets and frontiers risk:** Emerging markets, generally carry greater political, legal, counterparty and operational risk. **Operational risk:** Failures at service providers could lead to disruptions of fund operations or losses.

**For further information, please contact:**

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