

# VT AJ Bell Balanced Q4 2019 Report

## Commentary

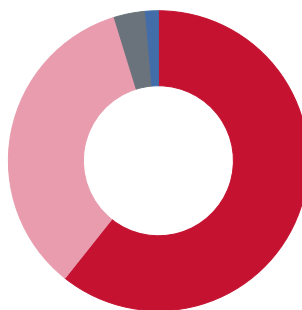
Q4 saw the Balanced fund post a total return of 2.0%. This is a slightly more modest gain compared to AJ Bell funds higher up the risk spectrum – but to be expected given the Balanced fund's holdings in bonds. Riskier assets, such as shares, had the best of the quarter, as investor confidence in the prospects for global growth returned.

For UK-based investors, the big news of the quarter was the 12 December general election, which returned Boris Johnson's Conservatives with a significant majority. Investors into the UK took this to be a positive outcome, as it brought clarity to a Parliament until then led by a minority government and riven with division and entrenchment. Indeed, the Balanced fund, which has significant exposure to UK stocks, did benefit from the pop we saw post-election.

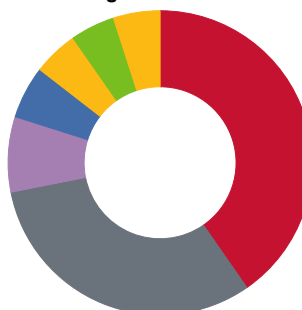
One result of the UK's clearer political situation was a stronger pound. This somewhat dampened the fund's gains from international share and bond holdings when converted back into sterling.

On the plus side, our ongoing tactical stance to own shorter-dated UK government bonds helped the fund, insulating it from the worst of the falls suffered by longer-dated UK government bonds over the quarter. The Balanced fund also has share holdings in sectors including Global Technology and Healthcare. Both of these showed solid gains over the quarter.

### Asset Breakdown



### Shares Regional Breakdown



### Shares Sector Breakdown



### Bond Maturity Breakdown



## Trailing Returns (%)

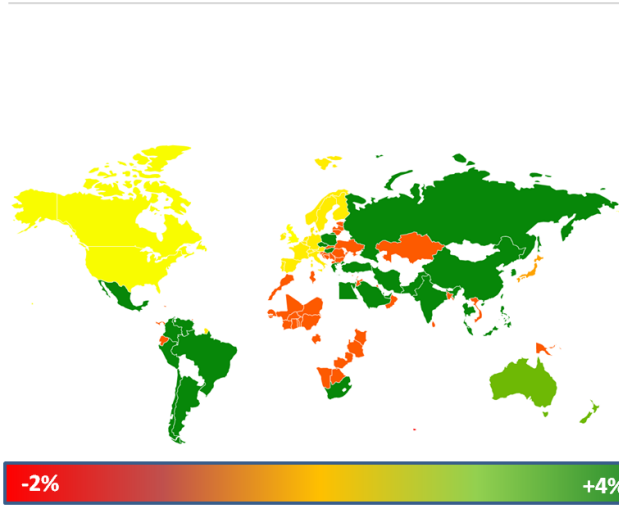
Last Quarter	2.0
Year to Date	16.6
1 Year	16.6

## Historic Performance



—VT AJ Bell Passive Balanced I Acc —IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares

## Q4 Stock Market Performance



## Top 10 Holdings

	Weight %
iShares Core FTSE 100 ETF GBP Dist	14.8
iShares Core £ Corp Bond ETF GBP Dist	13.8
iShares Global HY Corp Bd ETF GBP H Dist	7.9
Xtrackers MSCI USA Health Care ETF 1D	6.9
Vanguard S&P 500 UCITS ETF	6.9
iShares S&P 500 Info Tech Sect ETF\$Acc	5.0
Vanguard USD EmMktsGovBd UCITS ETF	5.0
Xtrackers MSCI USA Consumer Stp ETF 1D	5.0
iShares Core MSCI Pac ex-Jpn ETF USD Acc	4.9
Lyxor Core MSCI Japan (DR) ETF	4.8

## Fund Snapshot

ISIN	GB00BYW8RX12
IA Sector	Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares
Inception Date	18/04/2017
Ongoing Charge	0.35
Fund Size - £ mill	97.34
12 Month Yield (Reinvested)	2.05

Note: The value of your investments can go down as well as up and you may get back less than you originally invested. We don't offer advice, so it's important you understand the risks, if you're unsure please consult a suitably qualified financial adviser. Past performance is not a guide to future performance and some investments need to be held for the long term.