

# Sustainable Model Portfolio Service

In partnership with LGT Vestra

November 2021

# **EPIM Sustainable Defensive**



#### Top 10 holdings L&G Global Inflation Linked 9 90% Vontobel Sustainable Short Term Bond 9.60% 7 70% Vanguard US Govt Bond Index 7.70% Cash 7 40% Trojan Ethical 7 20% Rathbone Ethical Bond 6.90% Pictet Global Sustainable Credit 6.60% Stewart Investors Worldwide Sustainable 4.90% Morgan Stanley Global Sustain 4.60%

# Portfolio information

| Launch date              | 1 June 2020 |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Minimum cash holding     | 2%          |
| Annual management charge | 0.3%        |
| Total Cost of Investment | 0.56%       |

#### **Portfolio Objectives**

The primary objective of this portfolio is to preserve capital. The portfolio is diversified across a range of asset classes but with a low overall allocation to funds investing in equities (expected to be no greater than 40%) and other risk assets. Target Volatility: 2%-4.75%

## Sustainable philosophy

The ultimate goal of the portfolio is to support more inclusive social and economic development and more sustainable environmental and business practices, whilst generating strong and consistent investment returns. The portfolio will aim to achieve this by investing in a diversified range of funds which include themes such as renewable energy, financial inclusion, education, social housing, climate change action, sustainable waste management and renewable material production.



### Monthly investment update

As we prepare ourselves for the transition into the new year, the world is faced with a new strain of Covid-19, the Omicron variant. The variant has shown early signs of being more virulent than others, albeit symptomatically less severe. The emergence of Omicron came at a time when many countries were already struggling with a surge in infections, that we have grown to associate with colder months of the year. Initial reactions saw risk assets hit hard, and government bond markets rallied as investors seek protection in safe haven assets in fear of renewed social restrictions. European countries were quick to act, with Austria's restrictions first to make headlines, followed by a number of European countries introducing targeted measures to restrict the spread of the virus.

November also witnessed the 26th UN Climate Conference (COP). A number of the headline commitments made at COP may prove to be significant. Looking into the detail, over 100 countries, including Brazil, China and the USA committed to end deforestation by 2030, in a landmark agreement that encompasses 85% of the world's forests. More than 100 countries also signed up to limit methane emissions by 30% compared to 2020 levels but most surprising was the change in rhetoric from India, with commitments to reach net-zero by 2070. Following COP, the aggregate of commitments made aligns 89% of global GDP to net-zero, an increase of over 39% on 2020 figures.

The portfolio continues to be well positioned to navigate volatility, through favouring high quality companies exposed to structural drivers of growth over the medium term, benefiting from the extraordinary tailwinds that we are seeing gather momentum across the world.

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### **Performance**

25.00 20.00 15.00 10.00 5.00 0.00 01/05/2019 01/08/2019 01/11/2019 01/05/2020 01/08/2020 01/11/2020 01/05/2021 01/08/2021 -5.00 EP Defensive SMPS Defensive

| As at end of November 2021 |
|----------------------------|
| 1.02%                      |
| 0.39%                      |
| 4.70%                      |
| 5.96%                      |
| 20.72%                     |
| Target                     |
| 2 to 4.75%                 |
| 3 to 4.5%                  |
| -5.0%                      |
| Yield                      |
| 0.85%                      |
| 32%                        |
| 68%                        |
|                            |

As at end of November 2021

Source: Morningstar

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