#### MARKET COMMENTARY

Global equity markets rose for a fifth consecutive month in October, with the MSCI ACWI Index advancing 2.8%. Markets were optimistic in the lead up to the meeting between the presidents of both the US and China, set to cover a broad agenda including trade, tariffs, rare earths and potential pathways to end Moscow's war in Ukraine. The S&P 500 remained resilient, buoyed by the US Federal Reserve electing to cut interest rates and was mostly unphased by the US government shutdown. Meanwhile, strong earnings from technology companies and a surge in AI deal related activity saw the Nasdaq deliver a strong 4.7% gain.

Australian equities edged higher by 0.4%, however volatility remained steadfast. A surprise inflation uptick dampened market expectations for further rate cuts this year, despite September's unemployment figure rising to 4.5%. Although Australian REITs finished marginally higher by 0.4%, the rate sensitive sector saw a sell off late in the month driven by shifting monetary policy expectations. Emerging markets rose 4.2%, supported by improved sentiment around US-China trade tensions and continued strength in technology names, particularly semiconductor manufacturers benefiting from Al-driven growth.

Fixed income markets delivered positive returns in a volatile month amid renewed caution from Federal Reserve officials, with bonds rising 0.7%. Australian bonds gained 0.4% amid a narrowing window for further rate cuts. High yield credit was flat, while investment grade credit declined by 0.2% as spreads remained tight with sustained demand for yield.

Within commodities, oil declined 2.3% and gold rose 3.8%, despite gold's intra-month sell-off with markets questioning the sustainability of price increases. The Australian dollar declined 0.8% against the US dollar as markets priced in easing tensions between the US and China.

# PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY

The Drummond CFS Conservative Portfolio delivered 0.9% in October. This compares to a return of 0.7% for the FE AMI Moderate Index.

During the month, performance across Australian equity managers was mixed, with the small-cap manager outperforming mid to large-cap peers. International equity managers were generally stronger on a relative basis, supported by technology sector gains in both the US and emerging markets. Infrastructure also delivered solid gains amid rising Al-related capital investment, while bond and credit managers contributed positively across the board for the month.

In October, we switched some global real estate exposure to domestic real estate via the Pendal Property Securities Fund. Our overall real estate exposure from an asset class allocation perspective remains unchanged. In addition, we have increased the global equity exposure within the Dynamic Plus Fund in line with changes across the portfolio suite as we take a more positive view on Japanese equities.

#### PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

This portfolio has a neutral exposure to growth assets of 30% and is suitable for those investors seeking less volatile returns with a conservative risk tolerance.

# **KEY FACTS**

| Inception Date          | Apr-24                   |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Asset Class             | Global Multi Asset       |
| Style                   | Active                   |
| Typical Split           | 30% Growth / 70% Defense |
| Investment Horizon      | 3 years                  |
| Benchmark Index         | FE AMI Moderate          |
| Est. Total Cost Super   | 0.77% p.a.               |
| Est. Total Cost Pension | 0.77% p.a.               |

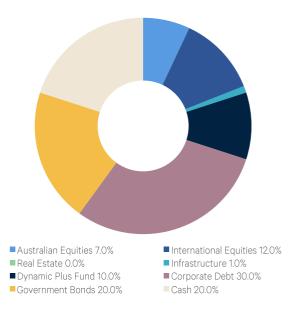
### TACTICAL TILTS\*

Australian Equities International Equities Real Estate Infrastructure Government Bonds Corporate Debt Cash

| Underweight |  |
|-------------|--|
| Overweight  |  |
|             |  |
| Overweight  |  |
| Underweight |  |
| Overweight  |  |
|             |  |

\*Look through asset class exposure including Dynamic Plus Fund

## CURRENT ASSET ALLOCATION

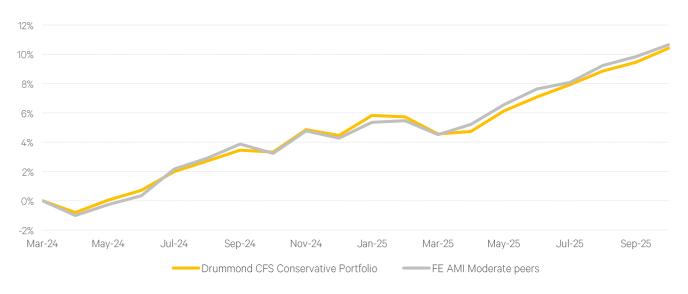


## PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE (Pension)

|                                     | 1m % | 3m % | 6m % | 1yr % | 3yr p.a. % | S.I% |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|------|-------|------------|------|
| Drummond CFS Conservative Portfolio | 0.9  | 2.3  | 5.4  | 6.9   |            | 6.6  |
| FE AMI Moderate                     | 0.7  | 2.4  | 5.2  | 7.2   |            | 6.7  |
| Difference                          | 0.2  | -0.1 | 0.2  | -0.3  |            | -0.1 |

Source: Drummond Capital Partners, Refinitiv, FE FundInfo. Inception Date is 10 April 2024.

### PERFORMANCE SINCE INCEPTION (Pension)



## PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS

| ASSET CLASS                                  | FUND MANAGER   | WEIGHT % |  |  |  |
|--|--|----------|--|--|--|
| DIVERSIFIED REAL RETURN                      |  | 10.0     |  |  |  |
|  | Drummond Dynamic Plus Fund                                 | 10.0     |  |  |  |
| AUSTRALIAN EQUITIES                          |  | 7.0      |  |  |  |
|  | Pendal Australian Share Fund                               | 4.0      |  |  |  |
|  | Solaris Australian Share Fund                              | 3.0      |  |  |  |
| INTERNATIONAL EQUITIES                       |  | 12.0     |  |  |  |
|  | Colonial First State Wholesale Index Global Share - Hedged | 8.0      |  |  |  |
|  | Fidelity Asia Fund   | 2.0      |  |  |  |
|  | Colonial First State Wholesale Index Global Share          | 1.0      |  |  |  |
|  | Acadian Global Equity                                      | 1.0      |  |  |  |
| INFRASTRUCTURE                               |  | 1.0      |  |  |  |
|  | ClearBridge RARE Infrastructure Value Fund                 | 1.0      |  |  |  |
| CASH   |  | 20.0     |  |  |  |
|  | CFS Enhanced Cash Fund                                     | 20.0     |  |  |  |
| GOVERNMENT BONDS                             |  | 20.0     |  |  |  |
|  | PIMCO Global Bond Fund                                     | 10.0     |  |  |  |
|  | Western Asset Wholesale Australian Bond                    | 10.0     |  |  |  |
| CORPORATE DEBT                               |  | 30.0     |  |  |  |
|  | Kapstream Wholesale Absolute Return Income Fund            | 10.0     |  |  |  |
|  | Perpetual Wholesale Diversified Income Fund                | 10.0     |  |  |  |
|  | Yarra Enhanced Income Fund                                 | 10.0     |  |  |  |
| TOTAL LOOK THROUGH EXPOSURE (inc. Plus Fund) |  |          |  |  |  |
|  | Growth Assets  | 31.5     |  |  |  |
|  | Defensive Assets   | 68.5     |  |  |  |

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

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