

LF Ruffer Diversified Return Fund

Positive absolute returns with low volatility



C class November 2021 Issue 3

During November, the fund's C accumulation shares fell from 102.69p to 101.35p. This compared with a return on the UK Bank Rate of 0.0%.

In an action-packed November, perhaps the most meaningful moment came on its final afternoon. In his testimony to the Senate Banking Committee, the Chair of the Federal Reserve, Jerome Powell, admitted that inflation will linger and that it was 'time to retire the word transitory'. This marks the end of the back-and-forth narrative that has dominated the investment debate for the past six months. It also provided a rubber-stamp to a shift that was already underway. Short-dated interest rate markets had already begun to price in an end to limitless central bank accommodation.

This shift is a material change and marks the beginning of a new market dynamic. We have moved from a question of whether inflation is transitory to whether central banks have the willingness and the ability to bring this lingering, sticky inflation back down. If the necessary willingness exists, then we are entering a much more difficult backdrop for markets. The tailwind of gargantuan liquidity injections, which have powered them higher, will now become a headwind.

Alongside liquidity, risk assets have clearly also benefitted from improving economic fundamentals. The Atlanta Fed GDP Nowcast estimates that real GDP for Q4 in the US will be above 8%. Coupled with inflation potentially annualising at 6% for the quarter, this gives US quarterly nominal GDP of close to 14%. These powerful economic fundamentals put pressure on officials to dial down stimulus.

The combination of strong economic fundamentals and a need to tackle inflation will see central banks try to slow price rises through tighter financial conditions. This makes equity and credit markets as vulnerable as they have been since the market falls of March 2020. We have been preparing for this eventuality. At the end of October, we increased our allocation to the credit protection strategies that worked so well in Q1 2020.

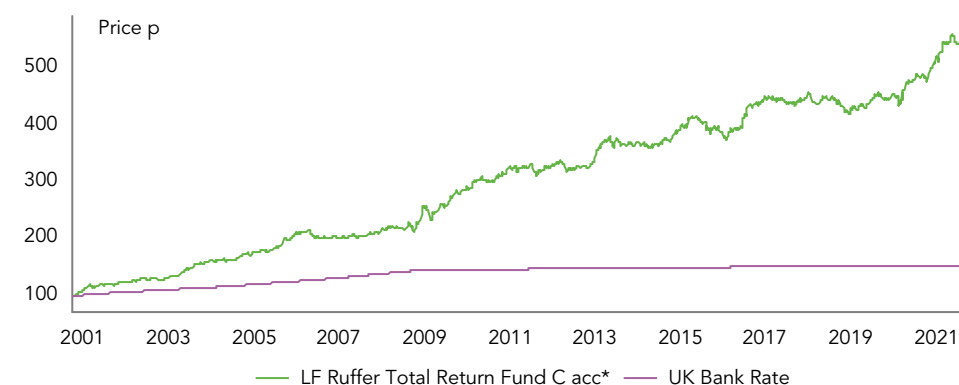
On top of this, we added to equity option protection and deliberately pared back the fund's equity weight to just under 40%. If inflation does not react as central banks hope and they have to go harder with their liquidity withdrawal, we are confident we have the protections in place to withstand the likely equity market tantrum.

The bigger question is perhaps whether inflation will be able to be brought back to target or is the genie well and truly out the bottle. For this eventuality, the longest-dated inflation linked bonds remain primed. We upped our weighting to the longest-dated issues in the UK to 15% and added to the new 2073 index-linked bond. It is noteworthy that these bonds rose just under 10% during the month. The knee-jerk reaction to the omicron variant was disinflationary. We are not so sure. The pandemic experience tells us that the inflationary disruption to supply outweighs the deflationary hit to demand. Mr Powell and his colleagues will be well aware of this.

Investment objective

To seek to achieve positive returns in all market conditions over any 12 month period, after all costs and charges have been taken. Underlying this objective is a fundamental philosophy of capital preservation. Capital invested is at risk and there is no guarantee that a positive return will be delivered over any one or a number of 12 month periods.

Performance based on LF Ruffer Total Return Fund* since launch on 29 Sep 2000



*All figures refer to simulated past performance based on the actual performance of the LF Ruffer Total Return Fund and include reinvested income.

C accumulation shares*	Performance %	Share price as at 30 November 2021	p
November 2021	-1.4	C accumulation	101.35
Year to date	8.6	C income	101.49
1 year	10.6		
3 years	29.8		
5 years	26.1		
10 years	69.2		

12 month performance to September %	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
LF Ruffer Total Return Fund C acc*	0.3	1.6	1.7	7.3	12.6
UK Bank Rate	0.2	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.1

Ruffer performance is shown after deduction of all fees and management charges, and on the basis of income being reinvested. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of the shares and the income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the full amount originally invested. The value of overseas investments will be influenced by the rate of exchange.

Source: Ruffer LLP. Current UK regulations require that any information provided on past performance must be based on, and show complete 12 month periods, starting after the first complete calendar quarter. Therefore the performance charts and other relevant performance data will be provided after 30 September 2022. As such, the performance chart is that of the existing fund, LF Ruffer Total Return Fund, whereas the share price laid out above is of LF Ruffer Diversified Return Fund. Ruffer performance is shown in GBP after deduction of all fees and management charges, and on the basis of income being reinvested. Calendar quarter data has been used up to the latest quarter end and monthly data thereafter.

LF Ruffer Diversified Return Fund as at 30 Nov 2021

Asset allocation



Asset allocation %

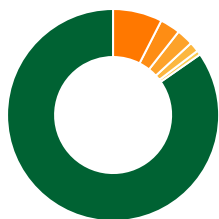
Index-linked gilts	15.7
Long-dated index-linked gilts	14.9
Cash	10.6
Non-UK index-linked	10.6
Gold and gold equities	7.6
Options	1.7

UK equities	14.8
Japan equities	8.8
North America equities	7.6
Europe equities	6.4
Other equities	1.3

Currency allocation %

Sterling	84.7
Gold	7.6
Yen	3.0
US dollar	1.5
Euro	0.5
Other	2.7

Currency allocation



10 largest equity holdings

Stock	% of fund
iShares Physical Gold	2.8
BP	2.5
Royal Dutch Shell	2.5
NatWest Group	1.8
Barclays	1.8
GlaxoSmithKline	1.6
Cigna	1.4
Kinross Gold	1.3
American Express	1.1
Berkshire Hathaway	1.0

5 largest bond holdings

Stock	% of fund
UK Treasury index-linked 1.875% 2022	7.0
UK Treasury index-linked 0.125% 2024	5.4
UK Treasury index-linked 0.125% 2065	5.3
UK Treasury index-linked 0.125% 2068	5.0
UK Treasury index-linked 0.125% 2026	3.3

Source: Ruffer LLP.
Pie chart totals may not equal 100 due to rounding.

The views expressed in this report are not intended as an offer or solicitation for the purchase or sale of any investment or financial instrument. The views reflect the views of Ruffer LLP at the date of this document and, whilst the opinions stated are honestly held, they are not guarantees and should not be relied upon and may be subject to change without notice.

The information contained in this document does not constitute investment advice and should not be used as the basis of any investment decision. References to specific securities are included for the purposes of illustration only and should not be construed as a recommendation to buy or sell these securities. Ruffer LLP has not considered the suitability of this fund against any specific investor's needs and/or risk tolerance. If you are in any doubt, please speak to your financial adviser.

The fund data displayed is designed only to provide summary information and the report does not explain the risks involved in investing in the fund. Any decision to invest must be based solely on the information contained in the Prospectus, Key Investor Information Document and the latest report and accounts.

The fund's prospectus and key investor information documents are provided in English and available on request or from ruffer.co.uk. Please note that LF Ruffer Managed Funds is a UK UCITS. The LF Ruffer Diversified Return Fund is not registered for distribution in any country other than the UK. In line with the Prospectus, it is possible that at any one time the LF Ruffer Diversified Return Fund may invest more than 35% of its assets in transferable securities issued or guaranteed by an EEA state, one or more local authorities, a third country or a public international body to which one or more EEA States belong. The only aforementioned securities where Ruffer would currently consider holding more than 35% would be UK or US government issued transferable securities.

Fund size **£109.4m**

Fund information

		%
Ongoing Charges Figure (capped)		1.13
Annual management charge		1.1
Yield (historic)		NA
Minimum investment		£1,000
Ex dividend dates		15 Mar, 15 Sep
Pay dates		15 May, 15 Nov
Dealing frequency		Daily
Valuation point		12:00
ISIN	Accumulation GB00BMWLQT53	Income GB00BMWLQS47
SEDOL	BMWLQT5	BMWLQS4
Investment manager	Ruffer LLP	
Auditors	Ernst & Young LLP	
Authorised Corporate Director	Link Fund Solutions	
Depository	The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Limited	
Structure	Sub-fund of LF Ruffer Managed Funds (OEIC) UK domiciled UCITS Eligible for ISAs	

Dealing line

0345 601 9610

Enquiries

Ruffer LLP
80 Victoria Street
London
SW1E 5JL

+44 (0)20 7963 8254
rif@ruffer.co.uk

www.ruffer.co.uk



Fund Managers

Duncan MacInnes

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR

Joined Ruffer in 2012. He graduated from Glasgow University School of Law in 2007 and spent four years working at Barclays in Glasgow, London and Singapore. He is a CFA charterholder and is co-manager of Ruffer Investment Company.



Ian Rees

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR

Joined Ruffer in 2012, after graduating from the University of Bath with an honours degree in economics. He spent 2017 in Ruffer's Hong Kong office working as an equity analyst covering emerging markets, and is a CFA charterholder.



Rachel Holdsworth

FUND SPECIALIST

Joined Ruffer in 2013 after graduating from Oxford University with a first class honours degree in biological sciences. She is a member of the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment.

Ruffer LLP

Ruffer LLP manages investments on a discretionary basis for private clients, trusts, charities and pension funds. As at 31 October 2021, assets managed by the Ruffer Group exceeded £23.6bn.

This financial promotion is issued by Ruffer LLP, 80 Victoria Street, London SW1E 5JL. Ruffer LLP is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. © Ruffer LLP 2021