

Cautious Lifestyle (ARC)

Fund information

Fund provider	Aegon/Scottish Equitable plc
Fund launch date	26 Jul 2013
Benchmark	ABI Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares
Fund charge*	0.21%
Aegon fund size	£448.70m
ABI sector	ABI Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares
Fund type	Pension
ISIN	GB00B3MHS835
SEDOL	B3MHS83
Aegon mnemonic	ZNM
CitiCode	00JG

*This is on top of any product or adviser charge you pay and includes a fixed management fee plus expenses that vary with the day to day costs of running the fund. Expenses can include costs paid by Aegon to third parties. The fund charges may differ for Retiree (RR) or Aegon One Retirement (AOR).

About fund performance

Investors should always consider performance in relation to the objective of the fund and over periods of at least five years. If a fund has risen in value, it doesn't mean it is meeting its objective – especially if the fund is aiming to outperform a particular benchmark or meet a risk target. The same applies if the fund has fallen in value.

Our risk rating



Below-average risk

Below average risk funds will generally see some change in day-to-day value, both up and down, and these changes will typically be larger than those of a cash deposit. They may hold a broad range of investment types, including equities (shares), but a significant proportion may also be invested in investments that aim to provide a reliable source of income (like government and corporate bonds) and, with that, greater stability than would typically be available from equities. They try to provide better long-term growth prospects than a cash deposit, but are lower risk than funds investing largely in equities.

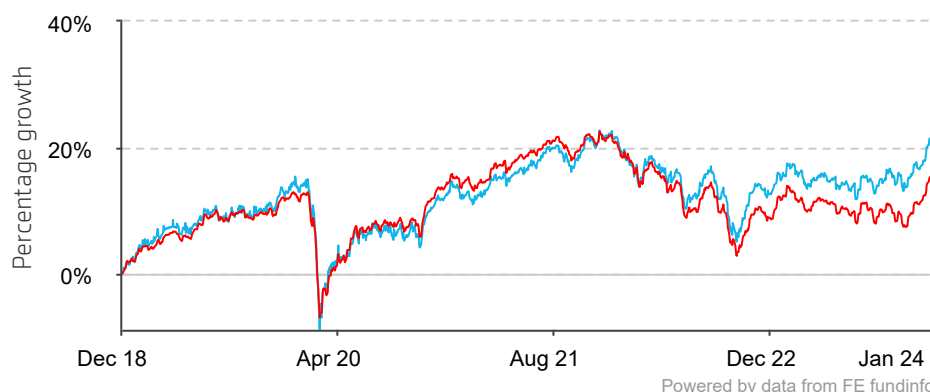
Fund objective

The fund uses a two-stage investment process called lifestyling. It aims to perform better than its benchmark in the early years (the growth stage) and give you more certainty about the amount of pension you can buy via an annuity when you retire (the lifestyle stage). During the growth stage, the fund aims to provide long-term capital growth by investing in a portfolio of global equities (shares) which typically deliver a yield higher than that generally available from investment in global equities. It also invests in global fixed interest securities (bonds) and in derivatives. The lifestyle stage starts six years before the start of your target retirement year and recognises that your priorities may change as retirement approaches. It assumes you'll buy an annuity, to provide yourself with an income for life (or a specified number of years), when you retire. We'll progressively start switching your investment into our Long Gilt fund, with the aim of giving you more certainty about the level of annuity you'll be able to buy when you retire. We'll also move some of your pension pot into our Cash fund two years before your target retirement year to cater for your tax-free cash entitlement. You can choose how much of your cash entitlement you want to take, but our process assumes you'll take the maximum which, based on current legislation, is 25% of your pension pot.

Fund performance

The following graph and tables show the performance of the fund over various time periods compared to the fund's benchmark (if there is one). All performance information is as at 31 Dec 2023 unless otherwise stated.

In the graph, performance is shown since launch if the fund is less than five years old.



■ Cautious Lifestyle (ARC)
■ ABI Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares


	1yr	3yrs	5yrs	10yrs
Fund	7.9%	2.7%	4.0%	4.1%
Benchmark	6.6%	0.5%	3.0%	3.2%
Sector quartile	2	1	2	1

	Dec 22 to Dec 23	Dec 21 to Dec 22	Dec 20 to Dec 21	Dec 19 to Dec 20	Dec 18 to Dec 19
Fund	7.9%	-7.6%	8.6%	0.2%	12.2%
Benchmark	6.6%	-10.8%	6.7%	2.4%	11.5%
Sector quartile	2	1	2	3	2

Source: FE fundinfo. The performance information has been calculated in pounds on a bid-to-bid basis and is net of charges with gross income reinvested. Performance for periods over a year is annualised (% per year). Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance. The value of an investment can fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed. Investors could get back less than they invested.

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Underlying fund

Fund mgmt group	Aegon/Scottish Equitable plc
Fund name	Distribution Pn
Launch date	28 Jun 1996
Fund size	£622.78m as at 31 Dec 2023
Sedol code:	0780067
ISIN	GB0007800674
Crown rating	

Fund manager information

This fund is an Aegon Solution. This means it is a pre-built fund Aegon have created to offer whole investment strategies in a single fund with the aim of making investing easier. We reserve the right to add, remove and replace the underlying funds within this solution with the aim of making sure the fund continues to meet its aims and objectives. Sometimes we work with external fund managers and they select and manage the underlying funds on our behalf. The additional charges/expenses may change when underlying funds are replaced, added or removed from the portfolio or when weightings between the underlying funds are changed. Please note, there's no guarantee the fund will meet its objective.

Asset allocation as at 31 Dec 2023



UK Bonds	22.6%
UK Equity	22.6%
Global Bonds	22.4%
North America Equity	9.8%
Europe ex UK Equity	7.2%
Asia Pacific including Japan Equity	5.4%
Cash	16.8%
Other	-6.8%
Total	100.0%

Top holdings as at 31 Dec 2023

Holding	%
Astrazeneca Plc	2.3%
Microsoft Corporation	1.9%
Rio Tinto Plc	1.7%
Broadcom Inc.	1.6%
UK Tsy 2 3/4% 2024 2.75% 07/09/2024	1.4%
Shell Plc-new Shell Plc-new	1.3%
Bp Plc	1.2%
UNILEVER PLC	1.1%
Schneider Electric Se	1.1%
Eaton Corp. Plc	1.0%
Total	14.6%

Source of fund breakdown and holdings: Fund mgmt group

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Risks specific to this fund

There is no guarantee the fund will meet its objective. The value of an investment can fall as well as rise and investors could get back less than they originally invested. All funds carry a level of risk and the information below outlines the key risks for this fund.

Currency risk - this fund invests overseas so its value will go up and down in line with changes in currency exchange rates. This could be good for the fund or bad, particularly if exchange rates are volatile.

Third party risk - in the event that the underlying investments which the fund invests in suspend trading, Aegon may defer trading and/or payment to investors. The value ultimately payable will depend on the amount Aegon receives or expects to receive from the underlying investments.

Credit risk - this fund invests in bonds or other types of debt. Bonds are essentially loans to companies, governments or local authorities so there's a risk that these companies or government bodies may default on the loan. Bonds are rated in terms of quality, usually from AAA down to B and below. AAA is the highest quality and therefore the least likely to default and B or lower the most likely to default. Where we have it we show the credit quality of the loans held by this fund.

Derivative risk - this fund will use derivatives in a number of ways to achieve its objectives. Holdings may add up to over 100% because derivatives offer a way to gain exposure to the returns of a specified equity or bond market without having to directly own it. These negative figures are not shown within the top holdings section. Derivatives allow a manager to buy or sell an investment at a specified future date for a specified price. However, this means the fund could be exposed to additional risks if the market moves up when the manager expected it to go down or vice versa.

Interest rate risk - interest rate changes could affect the value of bond investments. Where long term interest rates rise, the value of bonds is likely to fall, and vice versa.

Lifestyle strategy risk - long gilts and long corporate bonds are used in lifestyle strategies because of their inverse relationship with annuity rates, not because they are 'safe' investments. When long bonds go down annuity rates generally go up and vice versa, meaning the size of annuity you can buy stays roughly the same whether bonds go up or down. But, this relationship isn't perfect and can fail, for example there can be a delay between changes in long bond values and annuity rates.

Post-retirement risk - if you don't buy an annuity on your retirement date, you'll remain invested 75% in long-dated bonds (government bonds only or a mix of government and corporate bonds) and 25% in cash until you tell us what you want to do. This mix isn't designed for long-term investing and returns may not keep pace with inflation, meaning the real value of your fund may fall.

Lifestyle performance information - this factsheet contains information and performance for the 'Growth stage' of the lifestyle fund. The information and performance for your fund will be different if you're within the 'Retirement target / lifestyle stage', which normally starts seven years before your selected retirement date.

