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# BNY Mellon Global Real Return Fund (GBP)

## INVESTMENT MANAGER



Newton Investment Management: Newton aims to deliver outcomes for its clients across active equities, income, absolute return, multi-asset, thematic and sustainable strategies. Its capabilities are driven by its global investment research platform which harnesses a breadth of both fundamental and quantitative research.

## FUND RATINGS



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## PERFORMANCE BENCHMARK

The Fund will measure its performance against SONIA (30-day compounded) + 4% per annum (the "Cash Benchmark"). The Cash Benchmark is used as a target against which to measure the performance of the Fund over 5 years before fees.

SONIA (Sterling Overnight Index Average) is an interest rate benchmark. SONIA is based on actual transactions and reflects the average of the interest rates that banks pay to borrow sterling overnight from other financial institutions and other institutional investors.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus.

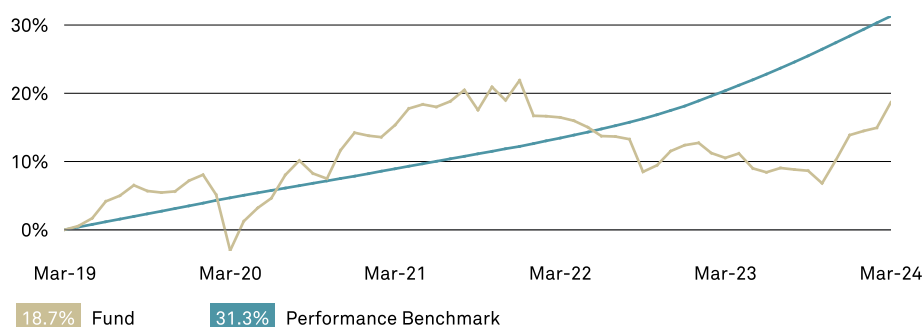
## PERFORMANCE DISCLOSURE

**Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of investments can fall. Investors may not get back the amount invested. Income from investments may vary and is not guaranteed. Please refer to the prospectus and the KID/KIID before making any investment decisions. Documents are available in English and an official language of the jurisdictions in which the Fund is registered for public sale. Go to [www.bnymellonim.com](http://www.bnymellonim.com). For a full list of risks applicable to this fund, please refer to the Prospectus or other offering documents.**

## QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Performance:** The Fund generated a positive return, net of fees, during the quarter.
- **Activity:** The return-seeking core ended the quarter broadly unaltered in terms of size.
- **Outlook & Strategy:** We believe a flexible, dynamic strategy should thrive in an environment of uncertainty.

## 5 YEAR CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE (%)



## PERFORMANCE SUMMARY (%)

					Annualised				
	1M	3M	YTD	1YR	2YR	3YR	5YR		
GBP W (Acc.)	3.24	4.22	4.22	7.37	0.95	0.95	3.48		
Performance Benchmark	0.76	2.27	2.27	9.07	7.57	6.41	5.59		

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Fund	3.18	0.88	3.78	2.04	-0.48	11.66	6.56	6.72	-7.80	1.32
Performance Benchmark	4.50	4.51	4.41	4.30	4.60	4.72	4.21	4.04	5.26	8.70

Source: Lipper as at 31 March 2024. Fund performance GBP W (Acc.) calculated as total return, based on net asset value, including charges, but excluding initial charge, income reinvested gross of tax, expressed in share class currency. The impact of the initial charge, which may be up to 5%, can be material on the performance of your investment. Performance figures including the initial charge are available upon request. **Returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations.**

The benchmark was updated on 01/11/2021, performance prior to the change is shown using the previous benchmark. The share class can be different to that of the base currency of the fund. For CHF it is SARON CHF, For EUR it is EURIBOR, For GBP it is GBP SONIA, For USD it is USD SOFR, For SGD it is SIBOR SGD.

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## PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY

Enthusiasm around artificial intelligence (AI) and the prospect of a soft economic landing in the US helped drive robust stock market gains over the first quarter of 2024.

### THE FUND'S PERFORMANCE WAS DRIVEN BY THE RETURN-SEEKING CORE

Although still driven by a relatively narrow subset of stocks, the rally broadened from the US to other markets. The strength in risk assets was also seen elsewhere, with high yield credit spreads tightening, oil prices rising and the gold price surging. It was, however, a weaker quarter for government bonds, mainly owing to upside surprises on inflation. On the currency front, the US dollar strengthened against major G10 currencies, helped by an absence of interest rate cuts.

The Fund delivered a solid outcome over the quarter, driven by the return-seeking core. Pleasing participation in the upside was provided by global equities, with a consistent positive contribution generated by technology stocks throughout the period. There was some broadening out of performance to other areas of the stock market but nevertheless the AI dynamic dominated the action.

Top performers included Nvidia, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC), Microsoft and ASML, all beneficiaries of AI optimism. Both Lonza and Eli Lilly also featured among the leaders, the former bouncing back as funding concerns around its biotech business were allayed, and the latter boosted by continuing robust growth in its GLP-1 drug franchise to treat obesity. Positive stock performance was enhanced by tactical upside exposure through a combination of futures and options, primarily on the S&P 500 Index.

Among the equity detractors, consumer goods conglomerate Reckitt was affected by litigation concerns associated with its US nutrition business, while HDFC faced fierce deposit competition, hindering its ability to grow its loan book. Also within financials, life insurer AIA suffered from negative sentiment around China-related assets, while renewable diesel company Neste was affected by a deterioration in supply and demand dynamics.

Elsewhere, alternatives displayed weakness amid softness in the carbon price, which was affected by a depressed gas price owing to a mild winter and weak industrial production in Germany. Renewables also detracted owing to narrowing spreads versus nominal bond yields and the need for enhanced regulatory cost disclosure.

The stabilising layer marginally detracted, primarily because of the cost associated with downside protection against a backdrop of rising equity markets. Government bonds were broadly flat, with a positive contribution from physical positions largely offset by bond futures exposure. Gold experienced a strong upswing in the last month of the quarter, favoured for its role as a hedge against the inflationary repercussions of monetary and fiscal largesse, as well as being supported by central bank demand.

## ACTIVITY REVIEW

The return-seeking core ended the quarter broadly unaltered in terms of size. A number of changes were made to the physical equity positions: we introduced a position in Apple following a fall in its share price, while we exited Estée Lauder owing to concerns around changing China consumption patterns and a less rosy 2024 trading outlook.

## WE SOLD NESTE AND DEPLOYED THE PROCEEDS INTO PHILLIPS 66, AMONG OTHER TRANSACTIONS

We initiated a new position in Pinterest, funded by harvesting profits in Nvidia and Amazon. The platform has scope to better monetise its user base and has recently established partnerships with Amazon and Google. We sold the position in Neste, given concerns relating to supply in the renewable diesel space and ongoing operational issues, and deployed the proceeds into high quality oil refiner Phillips 66 which has the potential to materially improve free cash flow in a tight market.

Within the stabilising layer, government bond duration ended the period higher, primarily through the purchase of two-year US Treasury futures, taking advantage of attractive yield levels.

## INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND OUTLOOK

The market consensus supports the view that the US Federal Reserve has engineered a perfect landing, with inflation gradually declining and global economic growth widening out to include Europe and Asia.

## SIGNIFICANT TAIL RISKS CANNOT BE IGNORED

Indeed, the predictive powers of the inverted government bond yield curve to signal a recession appear to have let the market down this time, as forecasts of an economic slowdown are quickly being dropped.

However, significant tail risks cannot be ignored. The potential for inflation to rise and a resulting increase in long rates could cause concern in areas such as real estate and lead to rising central bank interest rate expectations. This could ultimately culminate in a slowing economy as a longer period of higher rates gives rise to economic stress.

We believe a flexible, dynamic strategy should thrive in such an environment of uncertainty. In our view, embedding asymmetry of return by balancing participation in risk asset markets with an emphasis on capital preservation could help navigate a highly varied and unpredictable backdrop.

**TOTAL PORTFOLIO BREAKDOWN (%)**

<b>Return Seeking Assets</b>	66.0
Equities	43.5
Alternatives	11.5
EM Debt	7.5
Corporate Bonds	3.5
Synthetic Exposure	0.1
<b>Stabilising Assets &amp; Hedging Positions</b>	34.0
Government Bonds	8.7
Index Linked Bonds	4.2
Precious Metals	2.8
Risk Premia	1.9
Currency Hedging	0.2
Cash	16.2
<b>Bond Derivatives Exposure<sup>1</sup></b>	19.4
<b>Direct Equity Index Protection<sup>1</sup></b>	-1.1
<b>Synthetic Equity Market Exposure<sup>1</sup></b>	16.8
<b>Total Equity Exposure<sup>^</sup></b>	59.2
<b>Total Return Seeking assets<sup>^</sup></b>	81.8

<sup>1</sup>Delta adjusted<sup>^</sup>Net of direct equity index protection and synthetic equity market exposure**TOP 10 HOLDINGS (%)**

US 2yr Bond Futures	12.6
S&P 500 Futures	10.3
UK Gilt 0.25% 31/01/25	5.1
US Treasury 1.25% 15/04/28	4.2
Govt of Mexico 8.0% 07/11/2047	3.2
Russell 2000 Futures	2.9
Nikkei 225 Futures	2.7
US 10yr Bond Futures	2.7
Barclays Bank Plc 0.0% 17/01/2025	2.7
Barclays Bank Plc 0.0% 21/01/2025	2.7

**EQUITY SECTOR BREAKDOWN (%)**

Technology	10.4
Financials	7.1
Consumer Services	6.1
Health Care	6.0
Industrials	4.5
Energy	3.8
Consumer Goods	2.3
Basic Materials	1.9
Telecommunications	0.9
Utilities	0.6

**REGIONAL EQUITY ALLOCATION (%)**

North America	19.4
Europe ex UK	10.0
UK	8.5
Pacific ex Japan	1.4
Japan	0.4
Others	3.7

**CURRENCY ALLOCATION (%)**

GBP	72.9
USD	16.4
CHF	0.2
EUR	-3.2
Others	13.7

**BOND PORTFOLIO BREAKDOWNS  
RATING BREAKDOWN**

Average Rating	A
Government Bonds	A
Investment Grade Bonds	BBB
High Yield Bonds	B

**DURATION (IN YEARS)**

Average Gross Bond Duration (Years)	6.2
Average Net Bond Duration (Years)*	5.5
Government Bonds	5.8
Investment Grade Bonds	3.9
High Yield Bonds	3.0

\*Duration including impact of hedging exposure using bond options and futures

Source: BNY Mellon Investment Management EMEA Limited

**NUMBER OF HOLDINGS**

No. of Holdings	22
Government Bonds	10
Investment Grade Bonds	6
High Yield Bonds	6

**YIELD (%)**

Average yield	5.8
Government Bonds	5.7
Investment Grade Bonds	5.7
High Yield Bonds	6.2

## KEY RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS FUND

- The Fund may invest in China interbank bond market through connection between the related Mainland and Hong Kong financial infrastructure institutions. These may be subject to regulatory changes, settlement risk and quota limitations. An operational constraint such as a suspension in trading could negatively affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.
- The Fund may invest in China A shares through Stock Connect programmes. These may be subject to regulatory changes and quota limitations. An operational constraint such as a suspension in trading could negatively affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.
- Where the Fund invests significantly in a single market, this may have a material impact on the value of the Fund.
- There is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its objectives.
- This Fund invests in international markets which means it is exposed to changes in currency rates which could affect the value of the Fund.
- Derivatives are highly sensitive to changes in the value of the asset from which their value is derived. A small movement in the value of the underlying asset can cause a large movement in the value of the derivative. This can increase the sizes of losses and gains, causing the value of your investment to fluctuate. When using derivatives, the Fund can lose significantly more than the amount it has invested in derivatives.
- Investments in bonds/money market securities are affected by interest rates and inflation trends which may negatively affect the value of the Fund.
- Bonds with a low credit rating or unrated bonds have a greater risk of default. These investments may negatively affect the value of the Fund.
- The issuer of a security held by the Fund may not pay income or repay capital to the Fund when due.
- Emerging Markets have additional risks due to less-developed market practices.
- Contingent Convertible Securities (CoCo's) convert from debt to equity when the issuer's capital drops below a pre-defined level. This may result in the security converting into equities at a discounted share price, the value of the security being written down, temporarily or permanently, and/or coupon payments ceasing or being deferred.
- The insolvency of any institutions providing services such as custody of assets or acting as a counterparty to derivatives or other contractual arrangements, may expose the Fund to financial loss.
- If this share class is denominated in a different currency from the base currency of the Fund. Changes in the exchange rate between the share class currency and the base currency may affect the value of your investment.
- A complete description of risk factors is set out in the Prospectus in the section entitled "Risk Factors".

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

To achieve a total return in excess of a cash benchmark over an investment horizon of 3-5 years. However, a positive return is not guaranteed and a capital loss may occur.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Total net assets (million)	£ 38.68
Performance Benchmark	SONIA (30-day compounded) + 4%
Lipper sector	Lipper Global - Mixed Asset GBP Flexible
Fund type	ICVC
Fund domicile	Ireland
Fund manager	Aron Pataki / Phil Shucksmith
Base currency	GBP
Currencies available	GBP
Fund launch	28 May 2012

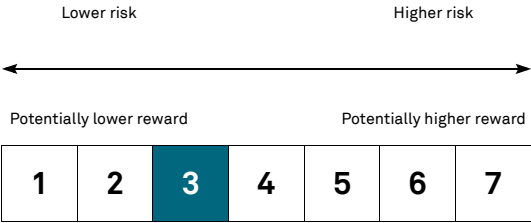
GBP W (ACC.) SHARE CLASS DETAILS

Inception date	04 Dec 2012
Min. initial investment	£ 15,000,000
Max. initial charge	5.00%
Annual mgmt charge	0.75%
ISIN	IE00B8YWCK14
Registered for sale in:	AT, BE, CH, CO, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GG, IE, IT, JE, LU, NL, NO, PE, PT, SE, SG, UY

DEALING

09:00 to 17:00 each business day  
Valuation point: 12:00 Dublin time  
Costs incurred when purchasing, holding, converting or selling any investment, will impact returns. Costs may increase or decrease as a result of currency and exchange rate fluctuations.  
For more details please read the KID document.

RISK AND REWARD PROFILE - GBP W (ACC.)



The summary risk indicator is a guide to the level of risk of this product compared to other products. It shows how likely it is that the product will lose money because of movements in the markets or because we are not able to pay you.  
We have classified this product as 3 out of 7, which is a medium-low risk class. This rates the potential losses from future performance at a medium low level, and poor market conditions are unlikely to impact the capacity of BNY Mellon Fund Management (Luxembourg) S.A. to pay you.

Source: BNY Mellon Investment Management EMEA Limited  
Any views and opinions are those of the investment manager, unless otherwise noted.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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