



Monthly Commentary August 2025

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Market Update & Portfolio Positioning

“Trade optimism and strong earnings lifted equities, while bonds faced pressure from rising borrowing and inflation”



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July 2025 Review

Global markets were supported by positive developments last month. The US has made trade agreements with Japan, the EU, and Vietnam which bolstered investor confidence and lifted equity markets. Furthermore, roughly 80% of US companies exceeded Q2 earnings expectations. Emerging Markets also benefited from increased investor risk appetite.

Meanwhile, government policy and rising inflation created headwinds for bond markets. President Trump's budget legislation boosted sentiment but raised concerns over higher borrowing, putting pressure on long-dated government bonds. Inflation in the UK and US rose, increasing expectations of future taxes to support spending and reducing the appeal of government bonds.

BlackRock Portfolio Positioning

Global equities remain a focus for our portfolio, we therefore increased exposure to Europe, and Japan to reduce concentration risk while maintaining access to high-quality companies. We also added high yield corporate bonds which offered attractive yields supported by a strong corporate sector and helping the portfolios capture growth while managing risk.

Throgmorton Select Portfolios

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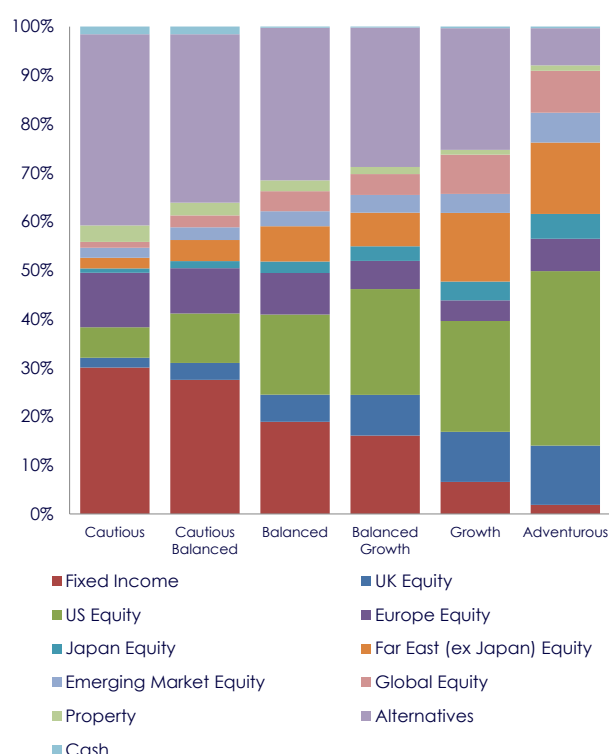
Dimensional

BlackRock

ATLANTIC HOUSE GROUP

Cornelian

Asset Allocation as at 31/07/2025



In fixed income and currency, we have reduced exposure to long-dated U.S. government bonds and the US Dollar due to rising borrowing costs and expected currency softening. Emerging market debt holdings have been increased, targeting countries with restrained government spending and appealing yields, supporting balanced income opportunities with controlled fiscal and credit risk.

Diversification and stability remain priorities. Gold holdings and broad regional diversification provide a buffer against market volatility and geopolitical tensions.

Cornelian Portfolio Positioning

Asia ex Japan and Emerging Markets led Sterling gains, supported by optimism over a potential US-China trade deal. International growth funds also performed well despite US Dollar weakness. Within our portfolio, UK equity holdings outperformed the index, delivering strong returns on solid fundamentals. Specialist credit funds and longer-dated gilts remained strong, with minimal impact from downward revisions to UK growth forecasts, offering attractive income and portfolio stability. We continue to monitor geopolitical developments and commodity price movements, including Middle East tensions that briefly affected oil.

All investment involves risk. It is important you understand that past performance is not a guarantee of future performance. The value of investments and any income derived from them may go down as well as up and you might not get back the full amount you invested.

Investment Performance and Volatility as at 31/07/2025

	5 Year Return % ¹	3 Year Return % ¹	1 Year Return % ¹	Volatility % ²
SP3 Cautious	23.65	19.84	5.18	3.24
SP4 Cautious Balanced	5.28	22.38	5.28	4.19
SP5 Balanced	36.00	25.25	5.65	5.39
SP6 Balanced Growth	41.78	27.97	5.72	6.51
SP7 Growth	52.05	32.28	5.96	8.16
SP8 Adventurous	62.44	34.77	6.15	9.74

Data source FE Analytics 31/07/2025. Figures are net of underlying fund costs, but gross of all other charges, such as discretionary management fees, platform custody charges, adviser charges & where applicable transaction costs. 1. Performance figures are representative of the current portfolio asset allocations. 2. Volatility figures calculated on a five year annualised basis.

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