VT Downing Monthly Income Fund

Downing

June 2021 Commentary

In June, the fund was up 0.95% while the IA UK Equity Income Total Return Index was down 0.53%. Key contributors were CareTech (up 8.67%) and Strix (up 8.75%). Key detractors included K3 Capital (down 6.83%) and Alpha Financial Markets Consulting (down 4.31%).

<u>CareTech</u>, a social care and education services provider, announced strong results, with trading performance significantly ahead compared with the same period last year. The addition of Smartbox adds a new division enabling digital technology to extend CareTech's Care Pathway. They believe that digital adoption will play a significant role in enhancing the independence of its service users.

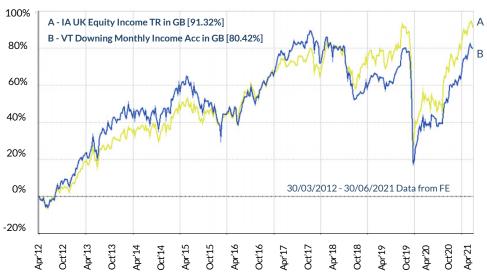
<u>Strix</u>, a designer and supplier of kettle safety controls, issued no news. We believe that it is a quality business that is diversifying into new areas such as water filtration and health and wellness appliances, and has targeted <u>doubling revenues</u> in the next five years.

K3 Capital, a professional services firm, issued a <u>trading update</u> and reported a strong performance, having successfully grown revenues and profits across all divisions. Despite this, the <u>shares</u> fell in the month after a strong run following recent acquisitions. We think the long term outlook remains positive.

Alpha Financial Markets Consulting, a specialist consultancy services provider, issued <u>full year results</u> and reported a strong financial performance. The group is optimistic about future prospects and believe that growth drivers for the business continue to add impetus to its performance, with AUM in the asset and wealth management industry expected to increase by over 30% by 2025.

Opinions expressed represent the views of the fund manager at the time of publication, are subject to change, and should not be interpreted as investment advice.

Performance



	Cumulative performance (%)				
	1m	6m	1y	Зу	5y
VT Downing Monthly Income Acc	0.95	13.23	30.81	1.10	28.81
IA UK Equity Income TR index	-0.53	12.14	25.48	5.72	33.78
Quartile ranking	1	2	1	3	3

	Discrete performance (%)				
	30/06/2020 -	30/06/2019 -	30/06/2018 -	30/06/2017 -	30/06/2016 -
	30/06/2021	30/06/2020	30/06/2019	30/06/2018	30/06/2017
VT Downing Monthly Income Acc	30.81	-15.34	-8.71	2.59	24.20
IA UK Equity Income TR index	25.48	-13.58	-2.51	6.04	19.34
Quartile ranking	1	3	4	4	1

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. Performance figures source: FE Analytics.

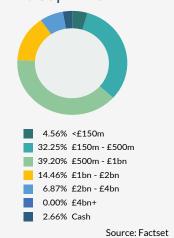


Fund Manager Josh McCathie

Josh McCathie joined Downing in 2018 as an analyst and took over as lead manager of the VT Downing Monthly Income Fund in April 2021. Prior to this, Josh had been working as co-manager dedicated to the VT Downing Monthly Income Fund for over two years.

Josh has over 7 years' experience in the industry. After studying Economics & Politics, he began his career at BRI Wealth Management focusing on UK equity research and portfolio management.

Market Cap Breakdown



Top 10 Holdings

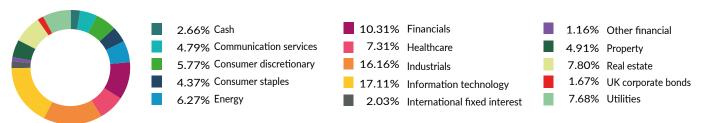
	% of fund
Strix Group plc	4.65
Volex plc	4.56
Watkin Jones plc	4.37
Caretech Holdings plc	4.15
Smart Metering Systems plc	3.99
Diversified Energy Company plc	3.75
Alpha Financial Markets Consulting plc	3.73
Lokn Store Group plc	3.44
Zegona Communications plc	2.93
Computacenter plc	2.85
Total	38.42

Source: Valu-Trac Investment Management Ltd

Portfolio summary

As at 30 June 2021

Sector breakdown



Source: Valu-Trac Investment Management Ltd

Key facts As at 30 June 2021

Fund Objective

To achieve a high level of income, together with long-term capital growth.

Launch date

14 June 2010

Conversion date

1 April 2012**

IMA sector

UK Equity Income

Currency

UK Sterling

Types of shares

Income & Accumulation

Fund size

(Income & Accumulation shares combined) £45.51m

Yield

3.4%***

Income paid

Monthly

Number of holdings

charged to capital****:

Prices as at 30 June 2021

Accumulation shares: 207.4701p Income shares: 122.6863p

Charges

Initial charge: 0% Annual Mgmt charge: 0.75% Ongoing charges

Minimum Investment

Lump sum: £1,000 Subsequently: £500 £100 Monthly savings:

SEDOL & ISIN numbers

Accumulation shares:

SEDOL B61JRG2 GB00B61JRG28 ISIN

Income shares:

SEDOL B625QM8 ISIN GB00B625QM82

Authorised Corporate Director

Valu-Trac act as ACD and manage the administration for the fund.

Valu-Trac Investment Management Ltd

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Investment Manager

Downing LLP was appointed Investment Manager to the fund on 1 June 2015. Following the change of ACD, the fund name was changed to MI Downing Monthly Income Fund from 31 March 2017. This was changed again from 30 November 2020 and is now VT Downing Monthly Income Fund.

Investment Committee

Judith MacKenzie: Non-Independent Member Donald Robertson: Independent Member Darrell O'Dea: Independent Member



0.87%



Income distribution

Period to	Income
31/07/2020	0.3500p
31/08/2020	0.3500p
30/09/2020	0.3500p
31/10/2020	0.3500p
30/11/2020	0.3500p
31/12/2020	0.3500p
31/01/2021	0.3500p
28/02/2021	0.3500p
31/03/2021	0.3430p
30/04/2021	0.3500p
31/05/2021	0.3500p
30/06/2021	0.3500p

Source: Valu-Trac Investment Management Ltd and Downing LLP

Platforms and wraps

Aegon

AJ Bell James Hay Novia All Funds Ascentric **Nucleus**

Old Mutual Wealth Aviva Canada Life International Raymond James Elevate Standard life Transact Fidelity (Inst) Fidelity (FFN) Zurich

Hargreaves Lansdown

"The conversion date refers to the date the investment objective and policy were changed.

The historic yield reflects distributions declared over the previous 12 months net of tax as a percentage of the share price, as at the first business day of the current month. The yield will vary and investors may be subject to tax on their distributions. Fund charges and expenses are charged to capital, effectively increasing the distribution(s) for the year by the amount of the charges and constraining capital performance by the same amount. "The ongoing charges figure is based on expenses and the

net asset value as at 31 December 2020. This figure may vary from year to year. It excludes portfolio transaction costs. The funds annual report for each financial year will include detail on the exact charges made.

www.downingmonthly.co.uk

Statistics correct as at 30/06/2021. Performance figures source: FE Analytics. Fund performance is based on accumulation shares, indices include net reinvested income, defagto, 2021. Performance figures are for the period from when the investment objective and policy were changed on 1 April 2012, so that the fund was primarily invested in equities. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. The value of the fund and the income from it may go down as well as up, so you may not get back the amount you invested. The tax treatment of the fund may change and such changes cannot be foreseen. Tax treatment depends on the individual circumstances of each investor.

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