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With Profits Growth Fund

Quarterly Review Q1 2025

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we are all about you



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W I N N E R

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Market Review and Outlook

Market Review and Outlook

US politics, has, undeniably, dominated investment markets in the first quarter of the year, as global investors scramble to keep up with the speed of news coming out of the White House, and the impact this is having on global governments and economies.

Following President Trump's inauguration in January, the world is now digesting a second helping of a 'Trump-style' presidency. However, unlike his first term in office (2017 to 2021), this time, the President holds more of the cards with full control of the US government. Within a few days of his new presidency, he began signing dozens of executive orders and has continued with his plan to implement those 'infamous' trade tariffs on countries worldwide (not just the US's closest trading partners) and including the European Union.

We have said numerous times in our updates, that investment markets hate uncertainty more than anything, and this has never been more apparent than right now. In this 'new world' of heightened 'US protectionism', in just three short months, America has become less of an ally for developed nations –as it looks to remove the 'perceived' reliance on the US by the European Union. This was evident in January, when President Trump urged Nato's European members to spend 5% of their GDP on defence. In addition, the British Government also announced in

February it would be increasing its defence spending. Both of which pushed up the valuations of defence stocks - which was beneficial for those of our funds invested in companies in this sector, such as BAE Systems.

The implications of President Trump's changes in policy doesn't mean that the US stock market has gone unscathed - quite the opposite. In early March, US stocks lost \$4 trillion in value, as investors worried about an economic downturn following the President's indecisions over trade tariffs for the country's major trading partners (such as Canada, Mexico and China). This all made for a weaker US stock market - with both European and UK investment markets fairing much better than their US counterparts. This is the opposite of last year where US markets had strongly outperformed, and our Fund Managers felt they had simply become too expensive.

It is that 'lesser reliance' on the US (mentioned earlier) that may just spur the European Union to invest in its own economy more so in the future. If anything, it has promoted a feeling of more solidarity amongst European member states (and the UK). Certainly, our exposure to European companies has been helpful in the first quarter, along with retaining many of our UK holdings.

We've reported previously we were underweight in US technology stocks as we'd cautioned that valuations were too high. The recent softening of the US market is a stark warning that things can change quickly when investment markets get rattled.

We continue buying more fixed income investments for our funds (corporate bonds and government bonds) as we remain optimistic that these markets can return to producing positive returns in the years ahead, as interest rates eventually come down. Whilst some of our funds have done better than their benchmarks, overall returns for the quarter have been disappointing, following the market falls in March - which is not exclusive to Wesleyan.

Until investors get further clarity on trade tariffs and what it means for individual countries, the markets will be unable to predict how this will affect global growth and in turn, global inflation. So, we can expect a lot more volatility going forward, but this can also bring opportunities for long-term investors such as ourselves.

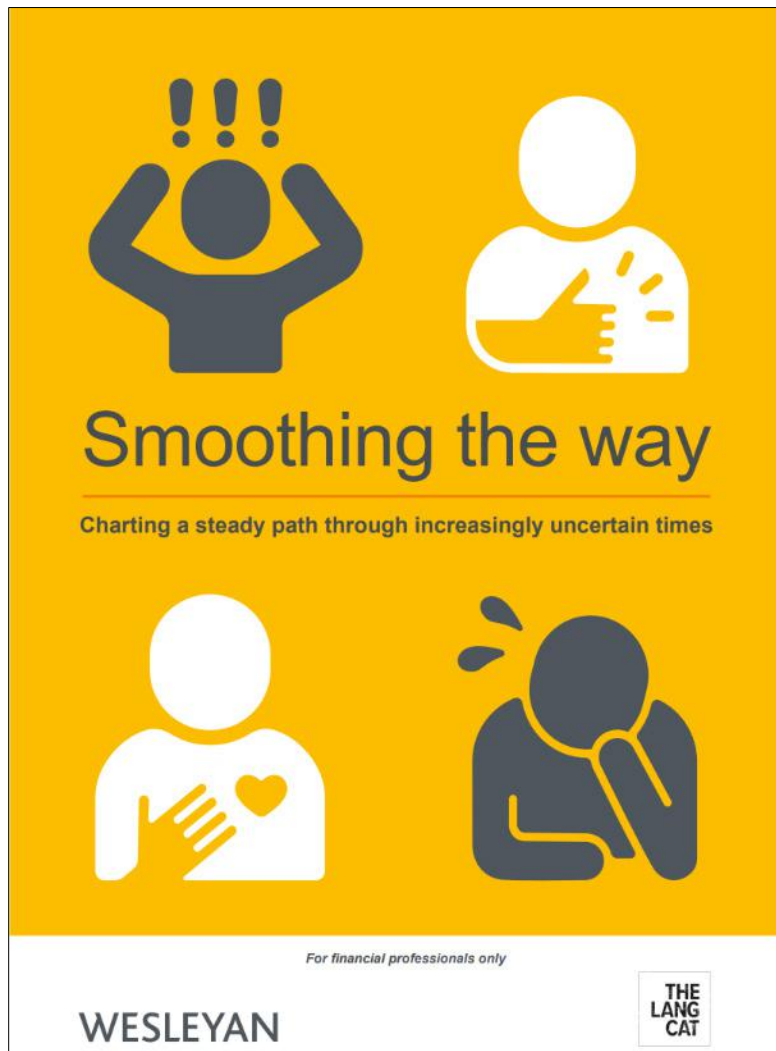
Spotlight on...

NEW REPORT: Smoothing the way

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Spotlight on... NEW REPORT: Smoothing the way



Wesleyan, in partnership with the lang cat have launched a new white paper that investigates Smoothed funds and their relevance in today's uncertain times.

The report looks into whether a new generation of Smoothed funds can help advisers to manage volatility for clients and comply with industry regulation.

'**Smoothing the way**', has been compiled with insights gathered from a poll of over 150 advisers and a roundtable discussion with leading industry figures.

Download the report here
and earn 45 minutes CPD

Spotlight on... NEW REPORT: Smoothing the way

The white paper reveals that Smoothed funds are helping advisers to manage volatility and comply with regulation but suggests providers must do more to address historic perceptions if smoothing is to be used to its full potential.



Rich Mayor,
Senior Analyst at the Lang Cat, added:

"Our research among advisers found there's a definite 'marmite' trend going on in the profession when it comes to smoothed funds.

"While a good portion of financial planners appreciate their uses for clients, there are many who feel like they don't know what's going on behind the scenes; there's a persistent perception that smoothed funds are opaque and expensive. There's some appetite for them in the advice profession, but they have to properly challenge these often long-held views on smoothed funds. Those now being added to platforms are different to those of the past. There's been a concerted effort on improving transparency and lowering fees, as well as adaptations to run within or alongside existing CIPs on platform.

"The main reason for using them are the same as they've always been – to protect from the anxiety of market volatility – and the choppy markets we've seen already this year have been a proving ground to show how they've evolved."



James Tothill,
Investment Specialist at Wesleyan, added:

"The applications of smoothed funds are evolving all the time. From a regulatory perspective, the FCA's ongoing focus on suitability means advisers must consider all the products at their disposal, including smoothed funds, to meet their clients' specific needs, whatever stage they are at in their financial journey.

"Smoothed funds have also traditionally been viewed as an off-platform option for advisers. A new generation of 'platform-native' options is changing this, allowing advisers to integrate funds into existing portfolios and manage funds without holding periods or unpredictable price movements.

"Wesleyan's smoothed With Profits Growth Fund was the first of its kind on an independent adviser platform. We're now on three and will continue to expand in the years ahead to make on-platform smoothed funds more readily available to more advisers."

Download the report here
and earn 45 minutes CPD

Fund Performance

Returns Performance - Past 6 months

Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterling

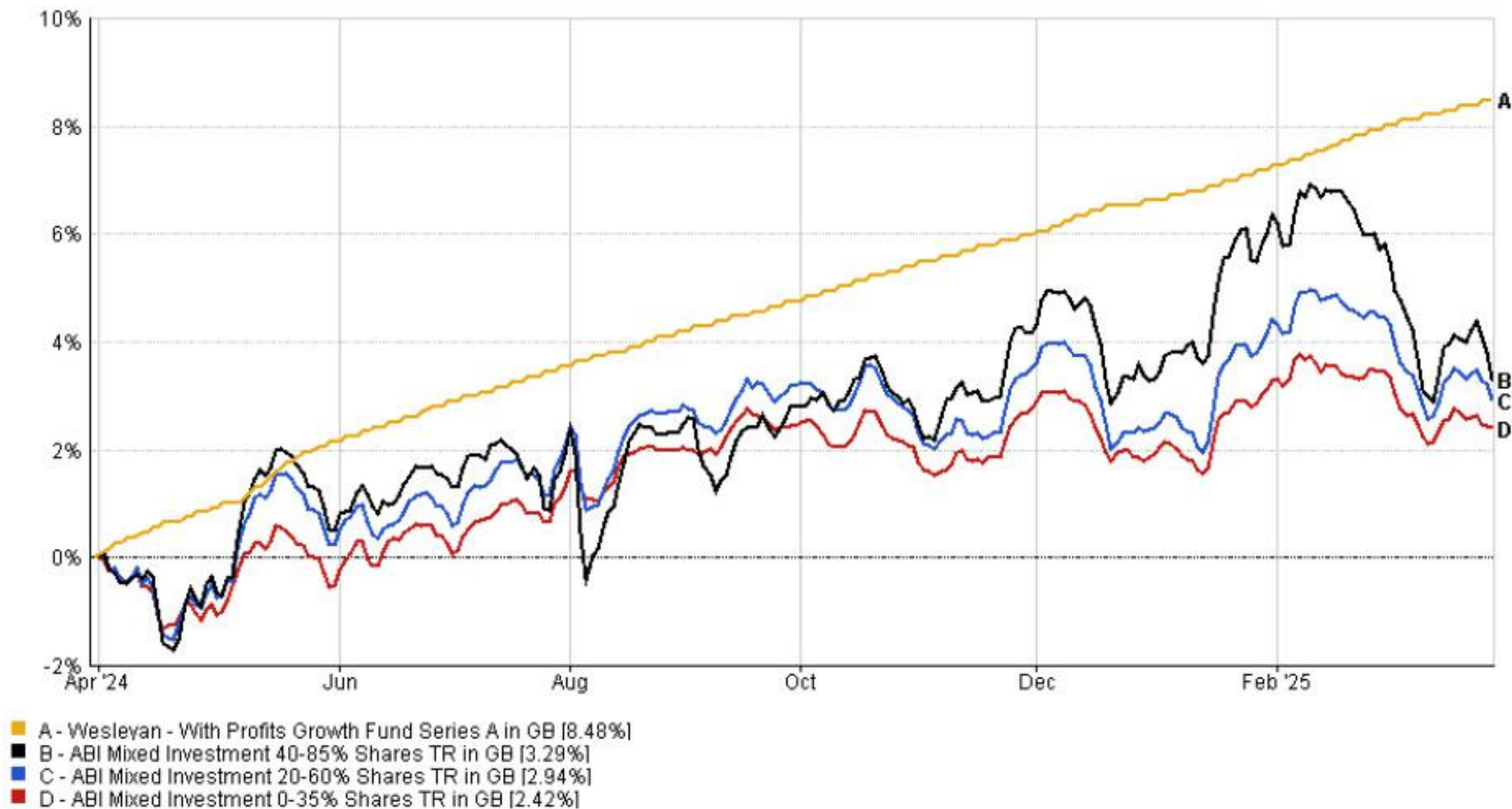


01/10/2024 - 31/03/2025 Data from FE fundinfo2025

*Wesleyan With Profits Growth Fund Series A performance is based upon the movement of the daily unit price and is shown as the net total return in GBP. It includes a representative 0.65% Annual Management Charge (AMC) and 0.09% other ongoing cost totalling 0.74% per annum. The performance does not consider other costs such as advice charges. These additional charges may impact overall performance of the fund. **ABI Mixed Investment 40-85%, 20-60% and 0-35% performance is shown bid to bid, Total Return GBP. Not all the funds in the ABI sector are net of charges.

Returns Performance - Past Year

Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterling



29/03/2024 - 31/03/2025 Data from FE fundinfo2025

*Wesleyan With Profits Growth Fund Series A performance is based upon the movement of the daily unit price and is shown as the net total return in GBP. It includes a representative 0.65% Annual Management Charge (AMC) and 0.09% other ongoing cost totalling 0.74% per annum. The performance does not consider other costs such as advice charges. These additional charges may impact overall performance of the fund. **ABI Mixed Investment 40-85%, 20-60% and 0-35% performance is shown bid to bid, Total Return GBP. Not all the funds in the ABI sector are net of charges.

Returns Performance - Past 3 Years

Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterling



31/03/2022 - 31/03/2025 Data from FE fundinfo2025

*Wesleyan With Profits Growth Fund Series A performance is based upon the movement of the daily unit price and is shown as the net total return in GBP. It includes a representative 0.65% Annual Management Charge (AMC) and 0.09% other ongoing cost totalling 0.74% per annum. The performance does not consider other costs such as advice charges. These additional charges may impact overall performance of the fund. **ABI Mixed Investment 40-85%, 20-60% and 0-35% performance is shown bid to bid, Total Return GBP. Not all the funds in the ABI sector are net of charges.

Returns Performance - Past 7 Years

Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterling



30/03/2018 - 31/03/2025 Data from FE fundinfo2025

*Wesleyan With Profits Growth Fund Series A performance is based upon the movement of the daily unit price and is shown as the net total return in GBP. It includes a representative 0.65% Annual Management Charge (AMC) and 0.09% other ongoing cost totalling 0.74% per annum. The performance does not consider other costs such as advice charges. These additional charges may impact overall performance of the fund. **ABI Mixed Investment 40-85%, 20-60% and 0-35% performance is shown bid to bid, Total Return GBP. Not all the funds in the ABI sector are net of charges.

Returns Performance - Past 10 Years

Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterling

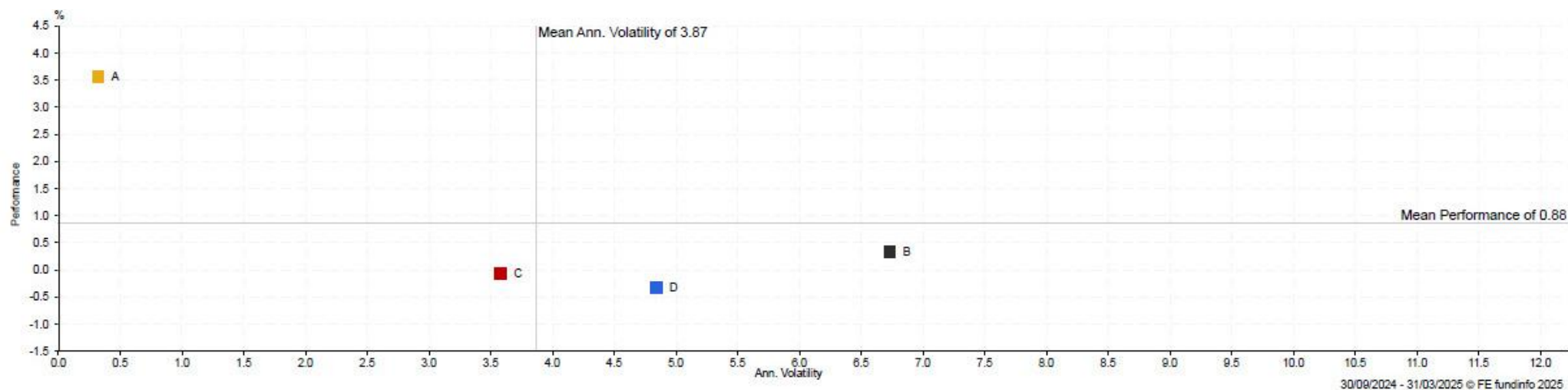


31/03/2015 - 31/03/2025 Data from FE fundinfo2025

*Wesleyan With Profits Growth Fund Series A performance is based upon the movement of the daily unit price and is shown as the net total return in GBP. It includes a representative 0.65% Annual Management Charge (AMC) and 0.09% other ongoing cost totalling 0.74% per annum. The performance does not consider other costs such as advice charges. These additional charges may impact overall performance of the fund. **ABI Mixed Investment 40-85%, 20-60% and 0-35% performance is shown bid to bid, Total Return GBP. Not all the funds in the ABI sector are net of charges.

Returns v. Volatility Performance - Past 6 months

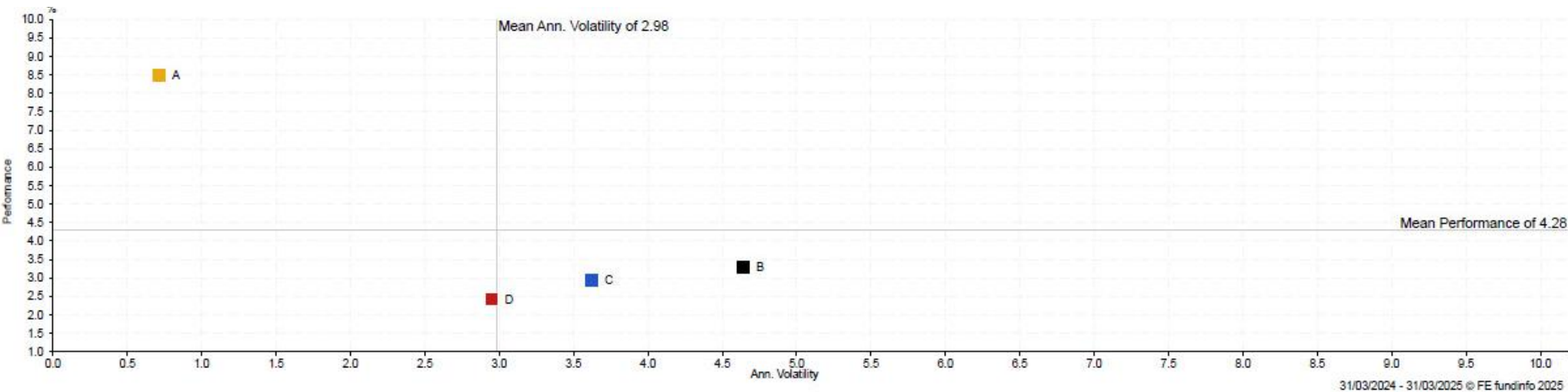
Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterling



Key	Name	Performance	Volatility
A	Wesleyan - With Profits Growth Fund Series A in GB	3.56	0.32
B	ABI Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares TR in GB	0.33	6.73
C	ABI Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares TR in GB	-0.07	3.58
D	ABI Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares TR in GB	-0.32	4.84

Returns v. Volatility Performance - Past Year

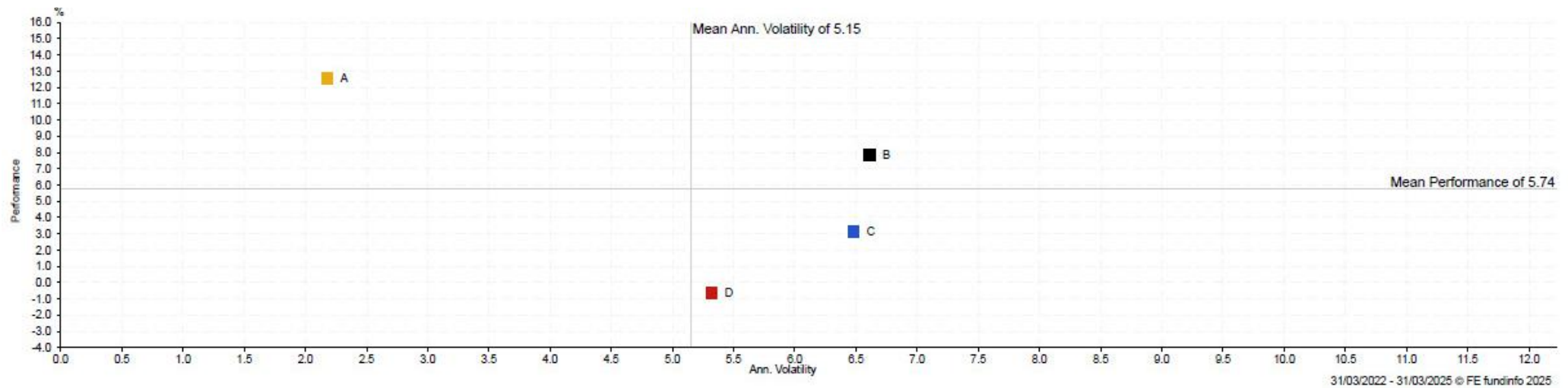
Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterling



Key	Name	Performance	Volatility
A	Wesleyan - With Profits Growth Fund Series A in GB	8.48	0.71
B	ABI Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares TR in GB	3.29	4.64
C	ABI Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares TR in GB	2.94	3.62
D	ABI Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares TR in GB	2.42	2.95

Returns v. Volatility Performance - Past 3 Years

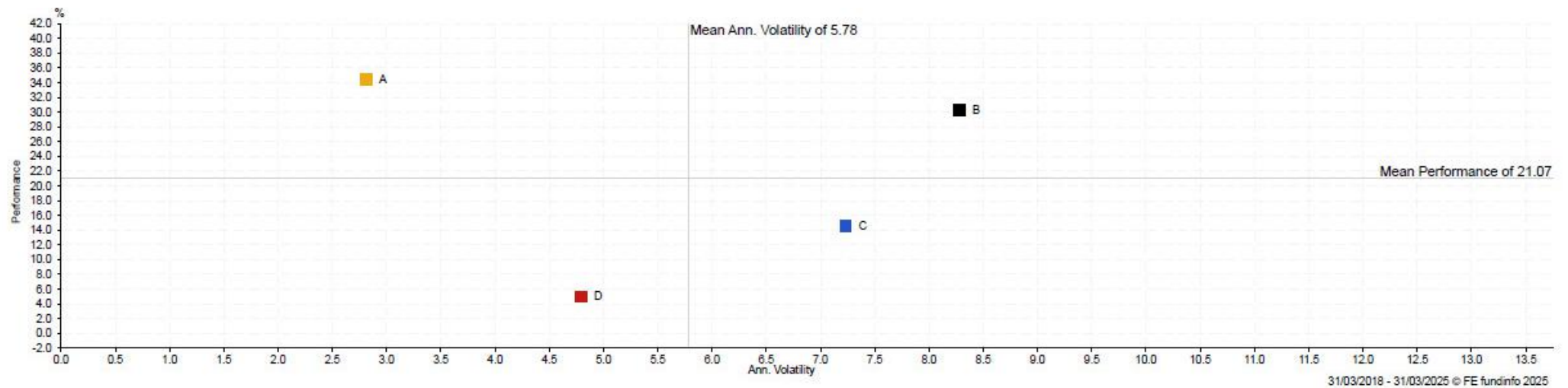
Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterling



Key	Name	Performance	Volatility
A	Wesleyan - With Profits Growth Fund Series A in GB	12.57	2.18
B	ABI Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares TR in GB	7.85	6.61
C	ABI Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares TR in GB	3.15	6.48
D	ABI Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares TR in GB	-0.62	5.32

Returns v. Volatility Performance - Past 7 Years

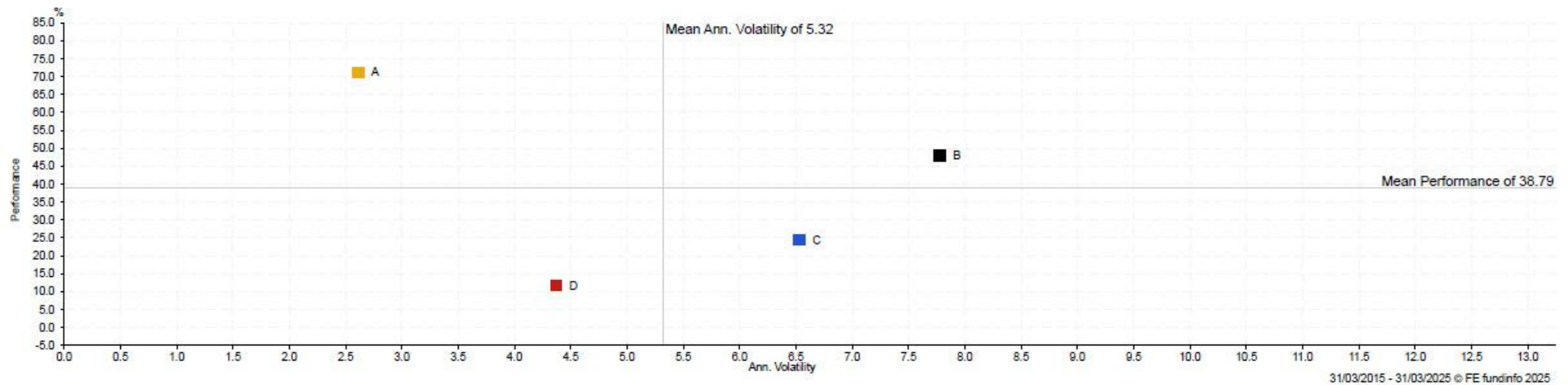
Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterling



Key	Name	Performance	Volatility
A	Wesleyan - With Profits Growth Fund Series A in GB	34.41	2.81
B	ABI Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares TR in GB	30.32	8.28
C	ABI Mixed Investment 20-80% Shares TR in GB	14.56	7.23
D	ABI Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares TR in GB	4.99	4.79

Returns v. Volatility Performance - Past 10 Years

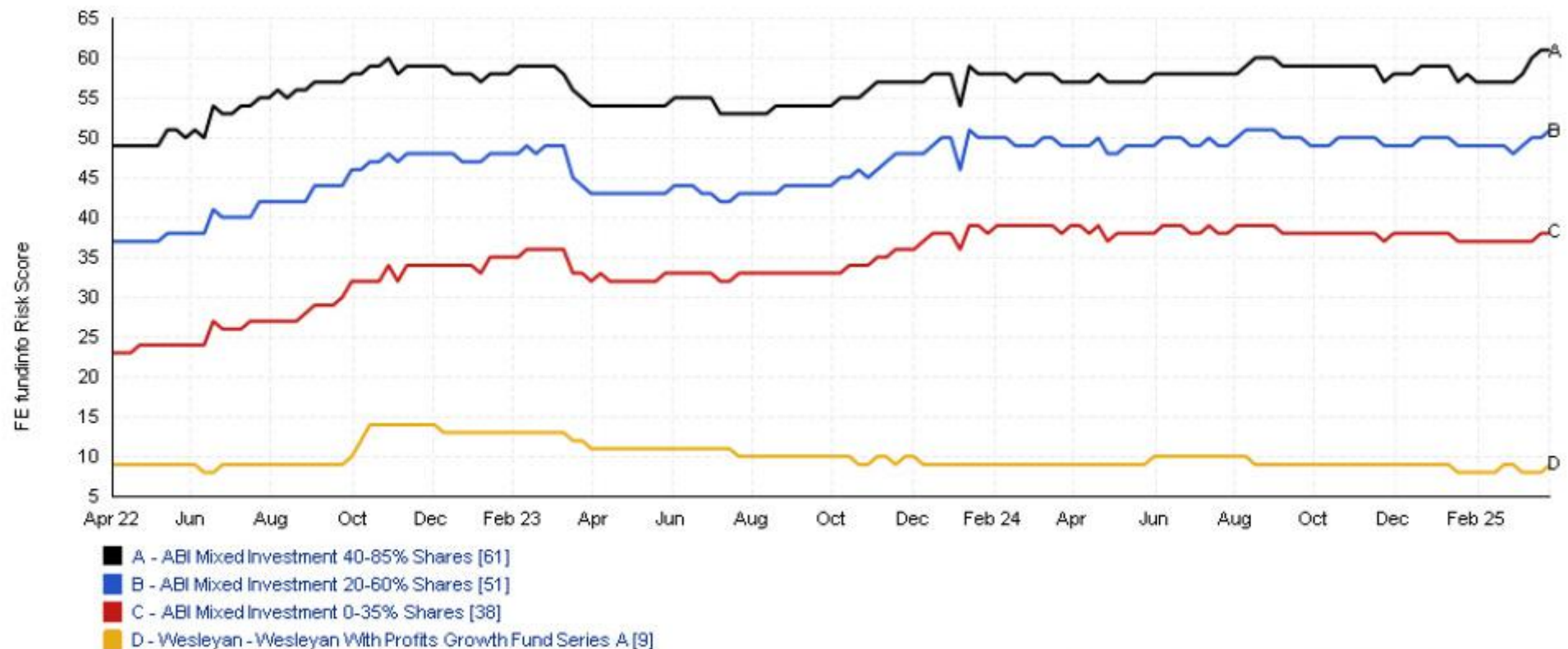
Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterling



Key	Name	Performance	Volatility
A	Wesleyan - With Profits Growth Fund Series A in GB	71.18	2.61
B	ABI Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares TR in GB	47.88	7.78
C	ABI Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares TR in GB	24.40	6.53
D	ABI Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares TR in GB	11.69	4.37

Historic Volatility Trend

Wesleyan's With Profits Growth Fund currently has an FE fundinfo score of 9 and it hasn't been above 14 in the last 3 years. This is significantly lower than the sector benchmark FE fundinfo scores, which can be seen on the chart below.



01/04/2022 - 28/03/2025 Powered by data from FE fundinfo

Please note that past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance and the value of your investment, and any income can go down as well as up, so you could get back less than you invested.

For more information or to discuss Wesleyan's With Profits Growth Fund with one of our team please get in touch:



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Wesleyan for intermediaries

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