# Castlefield B.E.S.T. Income Fund Factsheet - September 2016



THE THOUGHTFUL INVESTOR

## Fund Information

**Fund Manager** Simon Holman



ACD Castlefield Fund Partners Limited Launch Date 2nd May 2006 *Current strategy since 8<sup>th</sup> July 2012* Fund Size £18.9m Sector IA UK Equity Income Typical Number of Holdings 35 - 45 Historic Yield 4.23% Ratings Morningstar - 5 Globes Sustainability Rating

## Share Class Information

Share Class	lass General Institutional		Charity	
Min. Investment	£500	£250,000	£500	
Initial Charge	0%	0%	0%	
Investment Adviser Fee	1.0%	0.75%	0.75%	
Ongoing Charge	1.54%	1.29%	1.29%	
Payment Dates	Quarterly	Quarterly	Quarterly	
ISA Eligible	Yes	Yes	Yes	
ISIN	GB00B13NP853	GB00B13NPH48	GB00B13ND00	
CITI CODE	ET12	ET14	ET85	
BLOOMBERG	CASMEGI:LN	CASMEII:LN	CASMECI:LN	

## Fund Objective and Strategy

The Fund aims to achieve a relatively high level of current income, coupled with income growth & capital growth over the long term. The fund adopts a unique investment process designed to consider factors beyond traditional business and financial criteria, as outlined in the fund's name:

B usiness & Financial

**S**ocial

Environmental & Ecological Transparency & Governance

The fund uses detailed filters across key areas of concern to decide which stocks and sectors are excluded from investment. We then use the B.E.S.T criteria to help find positive themes to support. The remaining names are assessed to select a portfolio capable of generating an appropriate level of income.



## Active Share Calculation\*

75.81%

## **Cumulative Performance (%)**

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years
B.E.S.T.	3.20	3.74	6.68	4.36	20.28	55.73
Sector	2.82	5.81	9.53	8.10	22.34	67.53
Quartile	2	4	4	4	3	4

## **Discrete Performance (%)**

	2016 YTD	2015	2014	2013	2012
B.E.S.T.	1. <b>72</b>	7.32	5.98	18.94	10.90
Sector	5.93	4.93	2.83	24.83	13.50
Quartile	4	2	1	4	3

Source: Financial Express, as at 31/08/2016

#### Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

Investment in the fund carries the risk of potential loss of capital. \*Active Share calculation measures how much the portfolio holdings differ to the benchmark (UK Equity Income). i.e. A portfolio identical to benchmark would have a 0% active share.

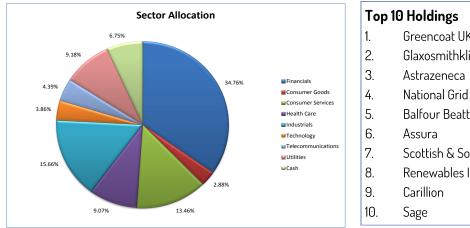
## **Fund Commentary**

August saw something of a reversal in the make-up of the UK market performance as sectors more closely aligned to the domestic economy saw a recovery from their post-referendum weakness, all against the backdrop of a market making gains on the month. The retailing sector was one such area, with the likes of Debenhams and N Brown seeing their shares gain by over 8% and 17% respectively. As it has become apparent that the UK economy has not suffered a sudden shock akin to that as the global financial crisis unfolded in 2008, investors have re-assessed the implications for sales and profit trends with the outcome being that such stocks looked to have been sold off more than the fundamentals justified. This is not to say that all is well in the UK economy; it remains the case that it will be several months before any meaningful change in trends can be discerned, but even if consumers do rein in some of their discretionary expenditure in due course, a number of shares had seemingly priced in a worst-case scenario that has now been avoided. The mechanism for withdrawing from the EU remains still to be invoked and if indeed "Brexit means Brexit" (a ghastly phrase that causes shudders every time it is uttered), it could even be 2020 before it becomes a reality. The net result of moves in the month was that the fund benefitted from the recovery in more domestically-focused sectors to produce a welcome return ahead of the sector average.

Last month we highlighted that a new investment had been made in RPS Group, the environmental consultancy. Activity in August was limited to a further purchase of RPS shares following the publication of its interim results which confirmed operational trends to be continuing as we had expected. With that waypoint now behind us, we increased our stake up to our desired level.

Elsewhere, corporate governance is an important part of our investment team's mandate and in recent months, we have had much internal debate about how to enhance our stewardship capabilities. With that in mind, we are close to formally publishing our voting policy so that our stance will be publicly available. One of the key areas we have worked on is addressing our stance on remuneration policies, where we intend to be strict in sanctioning executive packages we feel to be unjustifiably excessive and where the compensation for executives and ordinary employees is out of balance.

Finally, we are including for the first time a calculation of the B.E.S.T Income Fund's "Active Share". Whilst this metric continues to see debate as to its usefulness, we nonetheless felt that we would publish it if it helps investors or external parties to assess the fund.



Top 10 Holdings				
1.	Greencoat UK Wind	4.64%		
2.	Glaxosmithkline	4.56%		
3.	Astrazeneca	4.50%		
4.	National Grid	4.38%		
5.	Balfour Beatty	3.44%		
6.	Assura	3.32%		
7.	Scottish & Southern Energy Plc	3.31%		
8.	Renewables Infrastructure	3.29%		
9.	Carillion	3.15%		
10.	Sage	2.96%		

## Fund Manager

#### Simon Holman, Partner, MA Hons, MSc, CFA,

Simon Holman is a graduate of Spanish from Edinburgh University and has also completed a Post-graduate Masters qualification in Investment Analysis at Stirling University. He spent several years as an equity analyst and then fund manager at Aegon Asset Management (now known as Kames Capital) before returning home to Cheshire to join Castlefield. Simon combines an investment role (that includes being the lead manager of the Castlefield B.E.S.T Income Fund as well as the co-manager of the Castlefield Managed Multi Asset fund) with analysing developments in the ethical investment world. Simon is also a charter holder (Chartered Financial Analyst) of the CFA Institute and has over 10 years industry experience.

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## Important Information

This document provides information about the Castlefield B.E.S.T Income Fund. Castlefield Fund Partners Limited (CFP) is the authorised corporate director (ACD) of the Fund and Castlefield Investment Partners LLP (CIP) is the appointed Investment Adviser. Both CFP and CIP are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. This document does not constitute or form part of, and should not be construed as, an initiation to buy or sell units and neither this document nor anything contained or referred to in it shall form the basis of, or be relied on in connection with, any offer or commitment whatsoever. The value of units and the income generated from them can fall as well as rise and are no guaranteed; investors may not get back the amount originally subscribed. Equity investments should always be considered as long term. Investors should not purchase the Fund referred to in this document except on the basis of information contained in the Fund's prospectus. We recommend that investors who are not professional investors should contact their professional adviser. The Fund's Prospectus and Key Investor Information Document (KIID) are available from www.castlefield.com or direct from Castlefield.

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