## BORDER TO COAST UK LISTED EQUITY ALPHA FUND

**ESG & CARBON REPORT** 

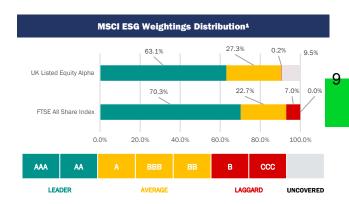




	End of Quarter Position <sup>1</sup>			Кеу		
	MSCI ESG Rating	Weighted ESG Score	vs. Benchmark		Fund has an equal or better Weighted ESG Score than the benchmark.	
UK Listed Equity Alpha	AAA 1	7.7 1			Fund has a Weighted ESG Score within 0.5 of the benchmark.	
FTSE All Share Index	AAA ¹	7.8 1			Fund has a Weighted ESG Score more than 0.5 below the benchmark.	



2022



Highest ESG Rated Issuers <sup>1</sup>			Lowest ESG Rated Issuers <sup>1</sup>				
	% Portfolio Weight	% Relative Weight	MSCI Rating		% Portfolio Weight	% Relative Weight	MSCI Rating
Diageo	3.4%	-0.2%	AAA ¹	Young & Co's Brewery	0.0%	+0.0%	<b>B</b> 1
Burberry Group	3.4%	+3.1%	AAA 1	FeverTree Drinks	2.1%	+2.1%	BB 1
Relx	2.4%	+0.5%	AAA 1	Lancashire Holdings	0.7%	+0.7%	BB 1
The Sage Group	1.9%	+1.6%	AAA 1	Team17 Group	0.2%	+0.2%	BB 1
Schroders	1.9%	+1.7%	AAA 1	Learning Technologies Group	0.2%	+0.2%	BB 1

## Quarterly ESG Commentary

- The position from an overall ESG scoring perspective continued to be relatively stable over the quarter, with the Fund retaining its overall AAA rating.
- The Fund remains broadly in line with the benchmark on a weighted ESG scoring basis, despite holding fewer companies categorised as 'Leaders'.

## Feature Stock: Young & Co's Brewery

Youngs & Co ('Youngs') is an unbranded pub operator focused on London and the South of England. The Company owns a sizeable proportion of its pubs freehold, and the customer base is generally affluent and between 30 and 55. The Company is conservatively run, with relatively low debt levels and growth has been supplemented by investment in the acquisition of single-site pubs or small groups that fit its business profile.

Youngs' B rating is a function of perceived weaker corporate governance reporting when compared to a more global peer group of larger companies. Better reporting by these companies on specific topics such as packaging and waste recovery make Youngs appear poorer on a relative basis. Youngs is a small, domestic company, and therefore ESG reporting is not expected to be as mature and comprehensive. Engagement has, however, been conducted on issues such as labour management and employee engagement and enhanced disclosure has been encouraged around environmental initiatives.

Although quoted on the London Stock Exchange, the company retains strong ties with the original founding family, who own c.20% of the share capital. The Company is therefore predisposed to scoring below average versus peers on governance issues.

**FUND** 

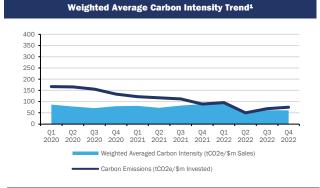
**ESG & CARBON REPORT** 





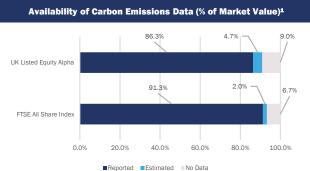
### Carbon Emissions and Intensity<sup>1</sup> 500 450 400 350 300 250 200 142.9 129.8 121.4 150 75.1 64.0 60.9 100 50 Carbon Emissions/\$m Carbon Intensity Weighted Average Carbon

2022



# ### UK Listed Equity Alpha Weight of Holdings Owning Fossil Fuel Reserves 14.5% 14.5% 14.5% 7.6% 7.6% 7.6% 14.5% 9.3% \*\*Thermal Coal\*\* \*\*Thermal

■UK Listed Equity Alpha ■FTSE All Share Index



Largest Contributors to Weighted Average Carbon Intensity $^{f 1}$						
	% Portfolio Weight	% Relative Weight	Contribution	CA100+	TPI Level	
Shell	2.3%	-4.9%	15.8% 1	Yes	4	
BP	2.8%	-0.9%	12.9% 1	Yes	4*	
Anglo American	1.9%	+0.2%	12.1% 1	Yes	4*	
EasyJet	0.6%	+0.5%	10.6% 1	No	3	
Rio Tinto	1.0%	-1.7%	9.1% 1	Yes	4	

## **Quarterly Carbon Commentary**

- · Carbon metrics were largely stable over the period and remain materially below the benchmark.
- BP, along with Shell remain the largest contributors to fossil fuel reserves and both companies are underweight positions relative to the benchmark.

## Feature Stock: BP

BP is a multinational integrated oil and gas company, operating through three key segments: Gas and Low Carbon Energy, Oil Production and Operations and Customers and Products.

Several years of industry under-investment has led to a tight oil and gas supply environment at a time when demand remains robust. It has therefore been unsurprising to see oil and gas prices rise quite dramatically, even before the war in Ukraine. Despite the strong energy price environment, sector valuations remain relatively depressed, making the Company attractive on a free cash flow basis.

Activities of energy companies generate significant emissions from a variety of sources. Scope 3 emissions are also key because they include emissions released in using a company's sold products. By 2050 or sooner, BP have a stated ambition to achieve net zero emissions across Scope 1, 2 and 3, emissions with a reduction in operational emissions of 50% (2019 levels) by 2050. This is to be achieved through the development of decarbonisation strategies as well as investment in low carbon solutions. As mentioned previously, however, demand for oil and gas remains robust and reduction in this demand alongside the development of alternatives will be key in meeting these targets.

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Issuers Not Covered <sup>1</sup>					
Reason	ESG (%)	Carbon (%)			
Company not covered	7.2%	6.7%			
Investment Trust/ Funds	2.3%	2.3%			

<sup>1</sup>Source: MSCI ESG Research 31/12/2022

## **Important Information**

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