

AJ BELL RESPONSIBLE GROWTH FUND

# Client guide



Responsible investing made easy

Only available through professional intermediaries.  
Ask your financial adviser for more information.

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# A responsible choice

Deciding how to invest your wealth can be extremely difficult, particularly if you would like your portfolio to make a positive impact on the planet. To help you, AJ Bell has designed a Responsible Growth Fund. Managed by a professional team, this simple solution allows you to invest with the objective of achieving both long-term growth, and a wider social and environmental benefit.

## Who is the fund for?

We have designed the Responsible Growth Fund for investors who want to achieve long-term growth while ensuring that their money is focused on companies that are committed to sustainability and to making positive impact.

The Responsible Growth Fund is multi-asset, investing in funds that invest in a variety of asset classes. It is an 'adventurous' fund, primarily investing in shares (equivalent asset allocation to the AJ Bell Adventurous fund) and may be unsuitable for those looking for a low-risk investment.

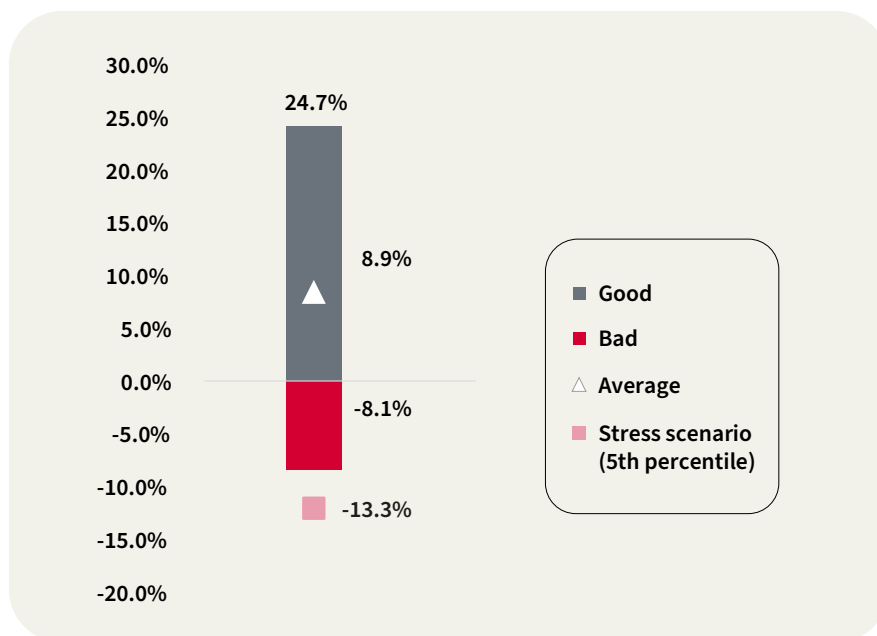
## How can I be sure that I'm investing responsibly?

At AJ Bell, we are aware of the dangers of 'greenwashing.' We use a multi-layered approach to ensure that your money really is invested responsibly. First a series of exclusions remove companies from controversial industries such as tobacco and armaments. Then, we apply a 'best-in-class' ranking system to the remaining companies, so that increased allocations are then given to those companies with higher environmental, social and governance credentials.

**i** | The value of your investments can go down as well as up and you may get back less than you originally invested and some investments need to be held for five or more

# What can I expect?

It is important for you to understand how the level of risk taken with the Responsible Growth Fund will translate into returns over time. We have put together the chart below to help you consider the range of outcomes that you could expect to see over time.



Data Correct as of January 2024

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The value of your investments is not guaranteed and can go down as well as up. It is key that you recognise how the fund could perform over time. We have used financial models to demonstrate the likely outcomes. As the output is based on statistical forecasts, the actual outcome and performance could be different from the scenarios above.

In a good year, you would see a return somewhere in the grey bar range, at, or above, the white triangle. In a bad year, your losses would be somewhere in the red bar. Occasionally, markets may perform exceptionally well or exceptionally badly. In these years, statistically 20 in 100 years, the actual return may sit outside the range of expectations indicated by the grey and red bars.

The longer you invest, the more predictable your returns become. That is because, over time, the good and the bad years tend to cancel each other out. Using our back-testing data, over the last five years, had you invested in our Responsible Growth Fund, you would have made the gains shown in the table below.

	AJ Bell Responsible Growth Fund
<b>Five-year back-tested performance<sup>(1)</sup></b>	2.52%
<b>Expected return</b>	8.89%
<b>Expected volatility</b>	12.6% - 14.7%

*(1) Five-year back-tested performance is the annualised return from 1 Jan 2019 - 31 Dec 2023. Returns are simulated using the fund's model portfolio as at 31 January 2024. When the ETF has not been trading for the full period, a representative index has been used.*

All returns are gross of fund ongoing charges figure (OCF), transaction and platform fees. The expected return and volatility figures are forward-looking and are based upon a minimum five-year time-horizon.

## Important information:

- Forecasted returns are based on AJ Bell's target weights for different asset classes in each fund. We then allow for the capital market assumptions of AJ Bell for the relevant indices for each asset class. If we believe certain asset classes are over or undervalued at any point in time, we may vary the asset allocation weightings accordingly.
- The expected return is the arithmetic mean return over a single holding period.
- There is a 10% chance of getting a return worse than the 'bad return'.
- There is a 10% chance of getting a return better than the 'good return'.
- Future returns are assured to be in line with market returns and conditions experienced over at least the last 15 years.
- Projected returns include estimated OCFs for the underlying products but do not include AJ Bell's AMC or platform charge.
- The projected returns shown may vary according to the tax treatment of your investment.
- If you pay tax on this investment, your returns may be lower. Tax depends on your personal circumstances and the rules can change at any time in the future.
- The data used in this illustration is valid as at 31 January 2024.



# Who will manage my money?

AJ Bell was established in 1995. We have grown to become one of the UK's largest investment platforms, with £76.2 billion of assets under administration and 484,000 customers. We succeed by providing award-winning investment products, backed up with a dedicated investment team, excellent service, and online functionality at a low cost. AJ Bell is a member of the London Stock Exchange.

AJ Bell Investments was launched in 2016. Our purpose is to design and manage a range of simple, transparent, low-cost investment solutions that deliver good customer outcomes. You can view our team [here](#).

## How much does it cost?

We firmly believe that high charges are one of the biggest threats to investment returns, and that's why we have worked so hard to keep charges for our range of funds as low as possible. We do this by ensuring that the underlying investments in the fund are selected using low-cost index-tracking strategies and keeping the fund's running costs as streamlined as we can.

With our cost guarantee, you will pay our low, fixed ongoing charges figure of 0.45% for the Responsible Growth Fund.

This approach is a highly efficient and effective way of investing, but importantly it also ensures that more of your hard-earned money is working for you, rather than being absorbed by expensive running costs.



# What happens then?

At AJ Bell we never forget whose money it is and how hard you worked to get it.

We are committed to making sure you and your adviser are kept up to date with where, how and why your money is invested. Log into [investcentre.co.uk/client](https://investcentre.co.uk/client) for regular updates on how we invest your wealth.

AJ Bell Investcentre is available only through your financial adviser.



Please contact your adviser for more information or to ask questions about the AJ Bell Responsible Growth Fund.



Past performance is not indicative of future performance. The value of investments may go down as well as up and the income generated by investments is not guaranteed and may fluctuate. You may receive back less than the amount that you invested.

Where practical the Responsible Fund invests in products tracking MSCI Socially Responsible Investing (SRI) indexes for equity exposure. These indexes exclude companies with certain controversial business involvements and also utilise MSCI's Environmental Social Governance (ESG) ratings and ESG Controversy assessments. For further details please see MSCI's latest SRI Indexes Methodology document. You can find more details of the MSCI SRI methodology here: [msci.com/msci-sri-indexes](https://msci.com/msci-sri-indexes)

This brochure provides general information about the AJ Bell Responsible Growth Fund. It should not be read or construed as investment advice.

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