### Investment Update

# The LCP Monthly Brief – July 2024



#### Equities

Global equity markets rose by 1.3% (in local currency terms) in July, while Eurozone markets rose by 0.6% over the month.

US equities gained in July as the earnings season continued. A weaker than expected US Consumer Price Index (CPI) report, combined with weak US labour market data increased investor expectations that the Federal Reserve (Fed) will soon begin cutting interest rates.

Eurozone equities lagged in their performance due to a disappointing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) report, indicating a slight slowdown in economic growth over the summer. Additionally, uncertainties surrounding the French election likely contributed to the weaker performance.

#### **Bonds**

Eurozone annual rate of inflation rose slightly to 2.6% in July, in line with expectations. The ECB kept interest rates on hold at their July meeting and commented on a possible cut in September as 'wide open'.

Bond yields fluctuated in July with long-dated core Eurozone bond prices rising by 3.2% over the month with the yield on the AAA Eurozone 15+ Year Index finishing the month at 2.6% p.a. Prices rose 4.1% on the Euro Broad Sovereign 10+ Year Index, with its yield falling to 3.2% by the end of July.

#### **Annuity Prices**

Annuity prices increased over July as a result of falling core bond yields. All annuity rates are 5 year guarantee and single life.

#### **Sample DB Scheme**

The funding level of our sample DB scheme remained stable at 106% as its assets weighed more than its liabilities (calculated using a Funding Standard proxy) over July.

#### **Sample DC Schemes**

Our High Risk, Medium Risk and Pension Purchase DC strategies posted positive returns over the month.

All returns are in € terms	Jul' 24	3 Months	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
	%	%	%	%	% pa	% pa	% pa
Equities							
FTSE World	0.8	7.2	15.9	20.7	10.3	12.9	12.1
FTSE World (€ Hedged)	1.3	7.6	14.8	19.0	8.0	12.3	10.5
FTSE Eurozone	0.6	1.2	9.5	11.1	6.5	8.9	10.5
FTSE World ex Eurozone	0.8	7.7	16.5	21.6	10.7	13.3	12.5
FTSE North America	0.5	8.5	18.4	24.0	12.0	15.3	15.0
FTSE Emerging Markets	-0.2	3.7	11.5	10.0	2.4	5.0	5.8
Bonds							
Euro Sovereign AAA (15+ yr)	3.2	4.2	-3.1	3.7	-13.4	-7.8	-0.1
Euro Broad Sovereign (10+ yr)	4.1	3.1	-0.9	6.0	-10.7	-5.4	0.9
Euro Inflation Linked	1.8	-0.7	-1.6	-1.0	-6.2	-2.6	-0.3
Euro Corporate (5+ yr)	2.4	3.2	1.9	8.4	-4.4	-1.9	1.2
Other							
Commodities	-3.5	-4.0	7.2	0.2	10.8	7.6	-2.9
Fund of Hedge Funds	0.6	1.5	7.6	11.0	5.3	6.2	4.3
€/\$	0.9	1.2	-2.1	-1.8	-3.1	-0.6	-2.1
€/£	-0.6	-1.4	-2.9	-1.6	-0.5	-1.6	0.6

Bond Index Yields	Jun' 24 %	Jul' 24 %	Change %
iBoxx Euro Sovereign AAA (15+ yr)	2.73	2.56	-0.17
iBoxx Euro Broad Sovereign (10+ yr)	3.50	3.24	-0.26
iBoxx Euro Corporates (5+ yr)	3.85	3.57	-0.29

	Cost of a	Change in annuity prices						
	€10k Pension	Jul-24 %	3 months %	YTD %	1 year %	3 year %	5 year %	10 Year %
Annuity cost - 65 year old; no increases	€185k	1.8%	3.0%	-1.4%	3.6%	-29.2%	-27.4%	-11.1%
Annuity cost - 65 year old; 2% increases	€235k	2.1%	3.4%	-1.6%	4.1%	-32.4%	-30.5%	-12.5%
Annuity cost - 65 year old; CPI max 4%	€262k	2.2%	3.6%	-1.6%	4.2%	-31.4%	-31.4%	-12.9%

Sample Pension Schemes	Jul-24	3 Months	Year to Date	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years
	%	%	%	%	% pa	% pa
DB Schemes						
Assets	1.7	5.2	6.3	11.7	-0.8	2.9
Liabilities	1.3	2.4	2.0	6.1	-0.5	1.4
Change in Funding Level	0.4	2.8	4.3	5.3	-0.3	1.5
DC Schemes						
High Risk Strategy	0.6	4.9	10.6	14.5	5.7	7.7
Medium Risk Strategy	1.4	4.8	6.7	11.6	0.3	3.5
Pension Purchase Strategy	2.5	3.4	-1.7	3.7	-9.8	-5.6

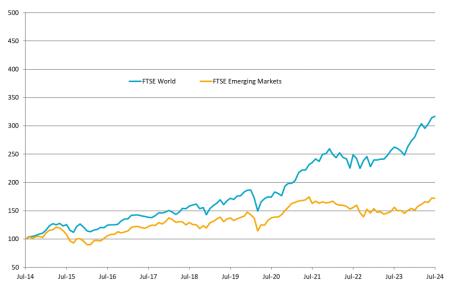
Sources: LCP, Bloomberg, Reuters, MarketWatch, FT, Markit, Irish Life and iBoxx

## Investment Update

## The LCP Monthly Brief – July 2024



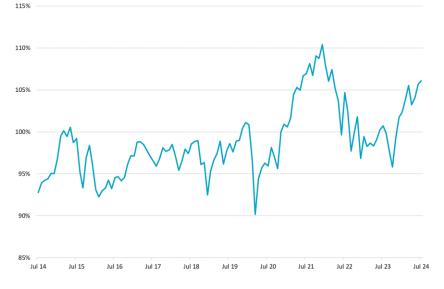
### Equity Market Performance



### Historical Bond Yields



Sample DB Funding Level Progression (MFS Proxy Basis)



#### Sample DC Scheme Performance



### Investment Update

### LCP Investment Resources Available





LCP Ireland Master Trust Survey 2024





### Investment Uncut

#### LCP'S PODCAST ABOUT INVESTING

Our hosts are joined by guests each week as they get beyond the jargon to try and bring sense to the world of investing and bring clarity to your investment decisions.

listen and subscribe  $\rightarrow$ 

LEAR

Share now

Twitter

SEAR

### LCP Investment Uncut Podcast

EVENTS Raising the bar Insights from our 2022 Responsible Investment survey

#### 9 February 2022 11:00AM

Watch our on-demand webinar where our experts discuss the findings of our 2022 Responsible Investment survey.

Our sixth survey report is our largest yet, featuring responses from nearly 150 investment managers including all major institutional investment managers in the UK.

LCP RI Survey

This generic note should not be relied upon for detailed advice or taken as an authoritative statement of the law. If you would like any assistance or further information on the contents of this generic note, please contact the partner who normally advises you.

All rights to this document are reserved to Lane Clark & Peacock Ireland Limited ("LCP"). This document may be reproduced in whole or in part, provided prominent acknowledgement of the source is given.

We accept no liability to anyone to whom this document has been provided (with or without our consent). Lane Clark & Peacock Ireland Limited is registered in Ireland with registered number 337796 at Office 2, Grand Canal Wharf, South Dock Road, Dublin 4.