

29 February 2024

## Life Fund

## CM Schroder Corporate Bond

### Fund Aim

To achieve an optimum level of interest (or yield) with the lowest possible level of risk by investing in bonds and other fixed interest securities, primarily those issued by UK companies and the British Government.

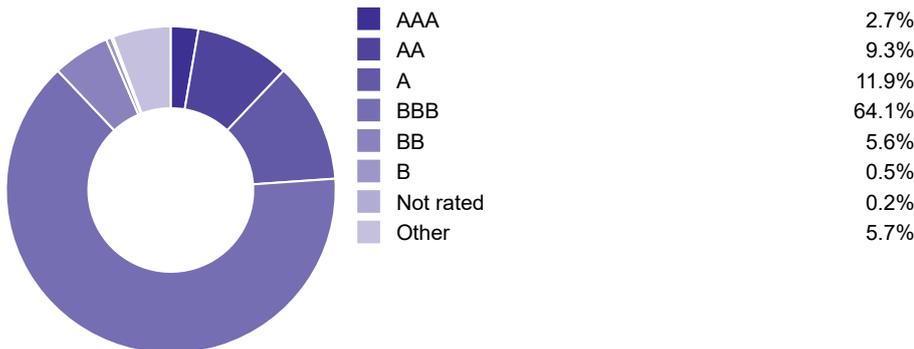
### 'ESG Metrics'

This document is provided for the purpose of information only. This factsheet is intended for individuals who are familiar with investment terminology. Please contact your financial adviser if you need an explanation of the terms used. This material should not be relied upon as sufficient information to support an investment decision. The portfolio data on this factsheet is updated on a quarterly basis.

### Asset Allocation (as at 31/01/2024)



### Credit Rating Breakdown (as at 31/01/2024)



The composition of asset mix and asset allocation may change at any time and exclude cash unless otherwise stated

### Information Statement

The name of the fund being invested in changed from Schroder Corporate Bond Fund to Schroder Sterling Corporate Bond Fund in October 2017. No other changes to the fund were made at this time, and we will continue to refer to the CM Schroder Corporate Bond Fund in our literature. Clerical Medical produce Environmental, Social and Governance themed fund metrics. Selected data can be found using the ESG metric link.

### Basic Fund Information

Fund Launch Date	04/08/2003
Fund Size	£5.8m
Sector	ABI Sterling Corporate Bond
ISIN	GB0033418368
MEX ID	CMSCL
SEDOL	3341836
Manager Name	Julien Houdain, Daniel Pearson
Manager Since	01/04/2021, 01/04/2021

### Top Ten Holdings

(as at 31/01/2024)

TREASURY 3.7500 22/10/2053 REGS	4.0%
INTERMEDIATE CAPITAL GRO 1.6250 17/02/2027 REGS	2.6%
BERKELEY GROUP PLC 2.5000 11/08/2031 SERIES CORP	2.0%
INTERCONTINENTAL HOTELS 3.3750 08/10/2028 SERIES EMTN REGS	1.7%
MBANK SA 0.9660 21/09/2027 SERIES EMTN	1.6%
CROMWELL EREIT LU FINCO 2.1250 19/11/2025 SERIES EMTN	1.5%
INFORMA PLC 3.1250 05/07/2026 SERIES EMTN	1.3%
INCHCAPE PLC 6.5000 09/06/2028 SERIES CORP	1.3%
LA MONDIALE SAM 4.8000 18/01/2048 SERIES CORP	1.2%
SIRIUS REAL ESTATE LTD 1.1250 22/06/2026 SERIES CORP	1.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18.4%</b>

## Past Performance



CM Schroder Corporate Bond

ABI Sterling Corporate Bond

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Investment value and income from it may fall as well as rise, as a result of market and currency movements. You may not get back the amount originally invested.

## Discrete Performance

	31/12/2022 - 31/12/2023	31/12/2021 - 31/12/2022	31/12/2020 - 31/12/2021	31/12/2019 - 31/12/2020	31/12/2018 - 31/12/2019
CM Schroder Corporate Bond	9.1%	-17.5%	0.7%	10.9%	10.8%
ABI Sterling Corporate Bond	7.8%	-16.2%	-2.4%	5.9%	7.2%

Information is shown as unavailable if prior to the launch of fund.

## Cumulative Performance

	31/01/2024 - 29/02/2024	30/11/2023 - 29/02/2024	28/02/2023 - 29/02/2024	28/02/2021 - 29/02/2024	28/02/2019 - 29/02/2024
CM Schroder Corporate Bond	-0.7%	2.4%	5.3%	-9.1%	7.5%
ABI Sterling Corporate Bond	-0.7%	2.1%	4.3%	-11.0%	-3.3%
Quartile	2	1	1	2	1

Source: FE fundinfo as at 29/02/2024

Performance figures are in £ Sterling on a single pricing basis, with income (where applicable) reinvested net of UK tax and net of total annual fund charges. These figures do not include any initial charge or other product charge(s) that may be applicable.

## Quarterly Fund Manager Review

The fund returned 8.8% in the three months to 31 December 2023. The benchmark index returned 7.8% in the same period. The final quarter of the year was a very positive one for fixed income markets, marking their best quarterly performance in over two decades, according to the Bloomberg Global Aggregate indices. The major driver of this performance was a perceived shift in monetary policy direction, from a "higher-for-longer" stance to prospective rate cuts. Government bond yields fell sharply, and credit markets rallied, outperforming government bonds. The US Federal Reserve (Fed) kept rates unchanged throughout the quarter, with a much clearer shift to a more dovish tone in December accelerating the market rally. Other major central banks held steady rates, although they appeared more cautious about inflation. The European Central Bank (ECB) made progress in its plan to unwind some of its Pandemic Emergency Purchase Programme support, while highlighting concerns about domestic inflation. Meanwhile, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee remained divided on further tightening. The latest inflation release surprised to the downside which extended the gilt market rally. Elsewhere, the Bank of Japan's decision to make only minor adjustments to its yield curve control policy fell short of market expectations. As markets priced in easing conditions, government bond yields fell across the board. The US 10-year Treasury yield fell from 4.57% at the end of Q3 to 3.87% at the end of Q4. The UK 10-year gilt yield fell from 4.44% to 3.54%, while the German 10-year Bund yield ended the quarter 0.81% lower at 2.03%. Despite a slowing growth outlook, the corporate bond market staged an impressive rally on hopes that a deep recession could be averted as financial conditions eased. High yield markets outperformed investment grade in both the US and Europe, with a tightening of spreads also marking significant outperformance over government bonds. Meanwhile, quarterly returns in US and European investment grade credit markets have not been better since Q3 2009. The rally was broad-based across all sectors, with securitised credit, covered bonds, and quasi-government bonds all performing strongly over the quarter.

**Julien Houdain, Daniel Pearson 31/12/2023**

The views, opinions and forecasts expressed in this document are those of the fund management house. Investment markets and conditions can change rapidly and as such the views expressed should not be taken as statements of fact, nor should reliance be placed on these views when making investment decisions.

## Fund Rating Information

Overall Morningstar Rating -

Morningstar Medalist Rating -

FE fundinfo Crown Rating ★★★★★

The FE fundinfo Crown Rating relates to this fund. However, the Morningstar ratings are based on the underlying fund. These are supplied by the respective independent ratings agencies and are the latest available at the time this factsheet was issued. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.

## Other Information

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For further information contact your local sales office or phone Customer Services on 0345 030 6243 (Life and Pensions) 0345 300 2244 (OEIC). Details are also available at [www.clericalmedical.co.uk](http://www.clericalmedical.co.uk)

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