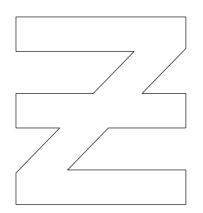
# Ellerston Australian Absolute Return Fund



### Monthly Newsletter, March 2023

#### **Investment Objective**

The Fund targets absolute returns with an annualised return objective of 5% above the RBA Cash Rate over rolling five year periods.

#### **Investment Strategy**

The Fund seeks to provide investors with a return profile that has a low correlation with traditional asset classes. The Fund aims to generate positive returns in all market environments by reducing the majority of market risk and focusing on capital preservation and alpha generation.

#### **Key Information**

Inception Date **	3 June 2013			
Portfolio Manager	Ashok Jacob			
Application Price	\$1.0252			
NAV Price	\$1.0226			
Redemption Price	\$1.0200			
Liquidity	Daily			
Gross Exposure	147.77%			
Net Exposure	39.27%			
Management Fee	1.20% p.a.			
Performance Fee	20%			
Buy/Sell Spread	0.25% on application 0.25% on redemption			

#### PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

Performance	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1Year	3 Years (p.a.)	5 Years (p.a.)	Since Inception (p.a.)**
Net^	1.53%	0.66%	-9.11%	-17.25%	7.79%	1.08%	5.17%
Benchmark*	0.30%	0.81%	1.51%	2.06%	0.78%	0.96%	1.47%
Alpha	1.23%	-0.15%	-10.62%	-19.31%	7.01%	0.12%	3.70%

<sup>^</sup> Net return figure is calculated after fees & expenses. Past performance is not a reliable indication of future performance

#### **PERFORMANCE**

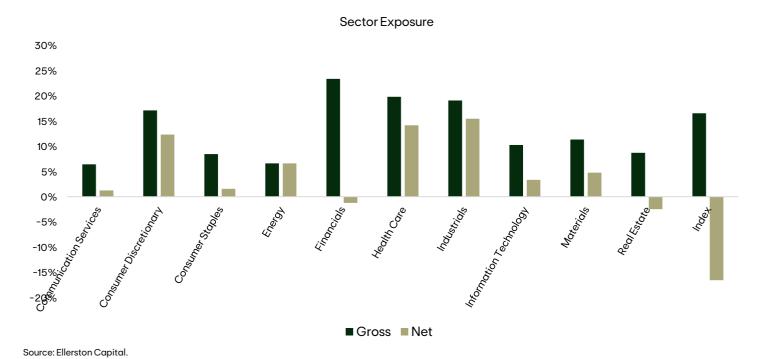
The Ellerston Absolute Return Fund delivered 1.53% in March 2023.

#### COMMENTARY

In March, two of our listed aged care providers Regis Healthcare (REG AU) and Estia Health (EHE AU) were significant out-performers versus the market. REG and EHE were up 24% and 27% for the month respectively, primarily running on the back of EHE receiving an Indicative Non-binding Proposal from Bain Capital at \$3.00 per share. This proposal represented a 28% premium to the previous closing price, or a 40% premium to the closing price two days prior to the proposal. The share price for REG also rallied on the back of the offer — a result of being the only other Australian listed aged care provider. We feel the outlook of these two companies has cleared up due to clarification around the outcomes of the Royal Commission into the Aged Care sector, specifically relating to care minutes and funding, as well as the impacts of COVID-19 dissipating. We continue to be significantly overweight the aged-care sector within our portfolio and anticipate an increase to occupancy and profitability in the coming periods. The \$3.00 per share implies an enterprise value (including RADs) of approximately \$270k per bed, which is broadly in line with the price at which now delisted Japara was acquired by Calvary in late 2021.

Tuas (TUA AU) is an owner/operator of a national 4G mobile network in Singapore. During March, the share price for TUA rose 17% on the back of their 1H23 result. One of the key drivers for TUA is its subscriber count, which came in well above market expectations. Higher subscriber numbers, coupled with meaningful operating leverage, saw EBITDA beating analyst estimates. Pleasingly, TUA announced that they are launching into the Singapore broadband market, which has been estimated at 1.5m households and has a TAM of \$\$600-700m. We feel this is a natural progression for TUA as it expands its product offering and is well positioned to take market share given its very competitive offering. TUA remains one of our core positions for the fund.

<sup>\*</sup> RBA Cash Rate

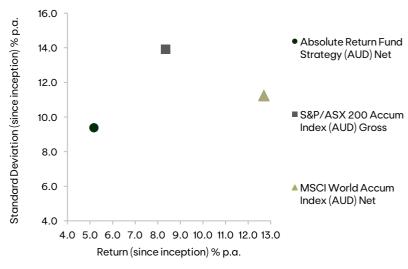


## Top 10 Holdings (Alphabetical, Long Only)

#### Capitol Health

- EQT Holdings
- Estia Health
- Generation Development Group
- Helloworld Travel
- IPH
- Kelsian Group
- Regis Healthcare
- SmartPay
- Strike Energy

### Strategy Performance & Volatility



Source: Ellerston Capital.

#### RG240 Fund Disclosure Benchmark - Periodic Reporting (monthly)

- Net Asset Value of the Fund and Redemption Price of Units
- Please refer to details on page one.
  - Any changes to key service providers including any change in related party status

There have been no changes to key service providers, including any change in related party status.

• Net returns after fees, costs and relevant taxes

Please refer to details on page one.

- Any material changes to the Fund's risk profile and strategy
- There have been no changes to the Fund's risk profile and strategy.
  - Any material changes related to the primary investment personnel responsible for managing the Fund

Please refer to details on page one; there have been no changes to the primary investment personnel responsible for managing the Fund

Contact Us

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Should investors have any questions or queries regarding the Fund, please contact our Investor Relations team on **02 9021 7701** or **info@ellerstoncapital.com** or visit us at **ellerstoncapital.com** 

All holding enquiries should be directed to our register, Automic Group on 1300 101 595 or ellerstonfunds@automicgroup.com.au

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