

RATINGS AND AWARDS

FE is one of the world's leading providers of investment fund data and analysis and is a dominant supplier of fund data in the UK. Professional investors rely on FE for accurate information on all aspects of fund performance. We believe that when researching funds, both fund performance and a manager's historical performance should be taken into account to get a more rounded and unbiased view on the potential of that fund. We are the only ratings organisation that focuses on both aspects.

FE Crown Fund Ratings



Our Crown Fund Ratings are a quantitative measure and cover all the 200,000+ funds that FE collects worldwide. They are based on historical performance relative to an appropriate, targeted benchmark, chosen by FE.

FE Crown Fund Ratings enable investors to distinguish between funds that are strongly outperforming their benchmark and those that are not. The top 10% of funds will be awarded five FE Crowns, the next 15% receiving four Crowns and each of the remaining three quartiles will be given three, two and one Crown respectively

Rebalanced half yearly in February and August, the ratings take into account three key measurements to derive a fund's performance: alpha, volatility and consistently strong performance. FE Crown Fund Ratings are frequently used by professional advisers to screen for the best performing funds in a sector and at a factsheet level are used as part of an adviser's paper trail to show thorough and rigorous research has been undertaken.

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FE Alpha Manager Ratings



Formerly the Trustnet Alpha Manager Ratings, these rate the performance of a fund manager over their career regardless of the number of funds they have managed or number of places worked. They are designed to distinguish fund managers who have consistently performed well over the longer term. The robust methodology is comprised of three key components:

- risk-adjusted alpha (with track record length bias)
- consistent out-performance of a composite benchmark representing the manager's peer group over time
- out/under performance, consistency in rising and falling markets

Reviewed annually, only those within the top 10% of all listed managers of unit trusts and OEICs from January 2000 are then awarded the FE Alpha Manager status, ensuring only the elite receive this accolade.

Distribution

The ability to combine FE Crown Fund and Alpha Manager Ratings allows a much better assessment of worthwhile, well run investments for asset managers, professional advisers and investors alike – now, and in a post retail distribution review world.

To ensure we aid all types of investor, our ratings are available on the following platforms:

FE Analytics, FE Trustnet, Interactive Investor, Aegon Investment Hub, Aviva Wrap Platform, AXA Fund Hub, Nucleus Fund Screener, Skandia, Standard Life and Zurich Fund Centres.

**A second
opinion from the
Adviser Fund
Index**



The Adviser Fund Index (AFI) is made up of the recommended portfolios of a panel of leading UK financial advisers. Based entirely on the funds actually recommended to clients, the AFI Aggressive, Balanced and Cautious portfolios carry real-life credibility, providing insight into the benefits of holding top quality funds.

Advisers and investors alike can look for funds recommended by this influential panel for reassurance or new ideas in fund selection.

The recommended portfolios are rebalanced and published half yearly in February and August.

The AFI represents recommended quality.

FE Group Awards



FE Group Awards recognise investment management groups that possess an advantage in particular asset classes. Groups are awarded an Outstanding or Highly Commended accolade based on the cumulative FE Crown Fund Ratings of their funds over the past three years.

Groups with quantitative scores that are a significant distance above their peers will achieve an Outstanding award. In many asset classes there is an obvious front runner, followed by a chasing pack that are not in the same league as the leader but are clearly better than all other managers; these groups will be awarded a Highly Commended.

If the gap between top manager/s and the next in line is not significant, then the top manager/s are declared Outstanding. Then if a second group of managers has put a clear distance between themselves and their remaining peers they are Highly Commended. Where there are no discernible leaders in a particular field, we will not award any groups as Outstanding or Highly Commended.

FE Group Awards have been assigned for the following asset classes: UK equities, international developed equities, international emerging market equities, UK fixed interest, international fixed interest, commodities, property, and alternatives.

These awards are announced annually in August