# Quarterly Investment Bulletin Foresters Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed Fund

#### **Fund objective**

The Foresters Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed Funds are professionally managed by Schroders with the aim to generate capital growth over the medium to long term by investing in a portfolio of UK and international company shares, global government and corporate bonds, and cash. No more than 60% of the portfolio is invested in stocks and shares. The fund has a medium-low risk profile.

#### Foresters Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed 1 Fund

Fund Size: £2,969.4m\* Launch Date: 1 January 2005

Gro	Growth to 31st March 2025 (Net of charges)				
	Q1	1yr	3yrs	5yrs	10yrs
1	-1.8%	3.5%	7.2%	27.6%	29.3%
1A	-1.7%	4.0%	8.9%	30.9%	35.9%

### Foresters Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed 2 Fund

Fund Size: £96.5m\* Launch Date: 1 January 2005

Grov	Growth to 31st March 2025 (Net of charges)						
	Q1	1yr	3yrs	5yrs	10yrs		
2	-1.5%	2.6%	5.3%	21.9%	26.6%		
2A	-1.4%	3.1%	6.9%	25.0%	33.1%		

#### **Fund yearly performance**

The table below shows the annual growth rate over the past 5 years.

Change in price of units over one year periods to end of March (Net of charges)					
Period	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed 1 Fund	3.5%	10.2%	-5.9%	2.4%	16.3%
Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed 1A Fund	4.0%	10.7%	-5.5%	2.9%	16.9%
Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed 2 Fund	2.6%	8.3%	-5.1%	1.6%	13.9%
Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed 2A Fund	3.1%	8.8%	-4.7%	2.1%	14.5%

#### **Cumulative Performance**

This shows the growth in unit prices of the Funds. Please refer to the important note below.



**Important Note:** Please remember that, with a unit-linked investment, the value of your investment may go down as well as up, and that past performance should not be seen as an indication of future performance.

The Foresters Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed 1 Funds are allocated to tax-efficient investments such as ISAs, while the Foresters Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed 2 Funds are allocated to taxable investments such as Savings & Investment Plans. Both funds follow an identical investment philosophy, although comparative performance can still be influenced by a number of factors. Most notably the Foresters Managed 1 Funds enjoy a tax-efficient way of investing and this is usually the key contributor to the differential in performance between the two fund types.

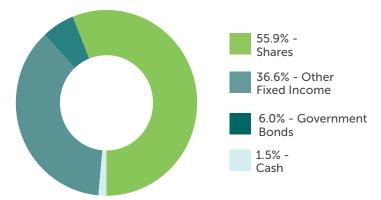
\* Fund sizes are net of charges and also include the 1A and 2A funds where funds are eligible for a reduced annual management charge for Plans invested for more than 10 years.





#### **Asset allocation (% of Fund)**

The chart below shows the latest mix of investments held within our Funds, highlighting a risk-controlled balanced approach.



#### Top 5 global share holdings (% of shares by region)

Of the listed shares that we currently hold, our top 5 regional holdings are as follows:

	Countries/Regions	% of Shares		
1	North America Equities	53.5%		
2	UK Equities	17.7%		
3	Emerging Markets Equities	11.0%		
4	Europe ex-UK Equities	10.7%		
5	Asia Pacific ex-Japan Equities	4.0%		

## **Schroders Quarterly Review**

#### **Market/ Economic Review**

- US shares fell in the first quarter with the information technology and consumer discretionary sectors posting the steepest declines. Chinese technology firm DeepSeek's latest artificial intelligence (AI) model caused investors to reassess US leadership in this area, while looming trade tariffs caused concern about the impact on US growth and consumer spending.
- By comparison, Eurozone shares posted strong gains in the first quarter. The financials sector advanced amid some robust earnings updates from banks. Hopes of increased investment by Germany in defence and infrastructure also helped lift shares.
- UK shares also rose over the quarter, with larger companies outperforming. However, UK small and mid-sized companies underperformed amid ongoing worries about the domestic economic outlook.
- Emerging market shares posted gains, supported by a weaker US dollar. China also continued to benefit from optimism regarding its AI capabilities and the stimulus measures announced by the government.
- Fixed income markets saw an increase in market uncertainty, especially in the US. This was driven by the current administration's policy agenda, as well as several key indicators showing signs of weakness in the economy, including a dip in consumer confidence and retail sales. This led to US government bonds outperforming other major bond markets, with yields falling in response to weaker activity data (prices move inversely to yields).

#### Outlook

The recent US trade tariffs announcement exceeded market expectations and raised effective US tariff rates to their highest level since the 1930s. This policy announcement worsens the near-term growth and inflation trade-off, increasing the risks to both economic activity and price stability in the short term. It also increases the probability of a US recession, a risk scenario we have been considering in recent months. We have adjusted our forecasts accordingly. This leads us to reduce our equity exposure, and we see value in government bonds as a hedge against the risk of recession for the first time in this cycle.

Going forward, the reaction of the rest of the world will be critical. The countries on the list will have to make their decision either to retaliate and escalate the trade war – or to contemplate reducing their trade imbalance with the US. How long this will take will also matter for the financial markets. Nevertheless, we continue to assess the consequences across economies, sectors and companies, because in the midst of every crisis lies opportunity.

#### **Schroders**

Schroders is a global investment manager with broad expertise across international public and private investment markets. With over 200 years of expertise and over 6,000 people based in 38 locations around the world, they use their professional expertise to make active investment choices to help customers achieve their long-term financial goals. Schroders' global assets under management were £778.7 billion at 31st December 2024.

#### **Approach to ESG**

ESG stands for Environmental, Social and Governance. The multi-asset team at Schroders recognise that ESG trends such as globalisation, changing political landscapes, ecosystem disruption, urbanisation and climate change may have a material impact on investments. At the heart of the team's investment philosophy is the belief that through analysis of ESG factors, better investment decisions can be made. Schroders utilise their comprehensive experience and expertise to integrate ESG analysis into their investment process on your behalf.

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