

Please address any replies to:

Columbia Threadneedle Investments

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columbiathreadneedle.com

24 May 2019

Dear Investor,

Important information: Closure of the Threadneedle Absolute Return Bond Fund – action required

As you are an investor in the Threadneedle Absolute Return Bond Fund ('the Fund'), we are informing you of our decision to close the Fund on 26 July 2019 ('the Effective Date').

Why is the Fund closing?

We constantly review our range of funds and are committed to offering investors the best possible opportunities. Following a recent review, we have decided to close the Fund due to its relatively small size (approximately £23 million as at 29 March 2019). The Fund's assets have fallen to a level which makes it economically unviable to manage and we consider that the Fund is unlikely to attract new investors. On this basis, we believe closure of the Fund is in the best interests of investors and we have received permission from the Financial Conduct Authority to take this action.

When will the Fund be closed?

Dealing in the Fund will be suspended from 12:01pm (UK time) on 23 July 2019 and the closure of the Fund will take place on the Effective Date.

What happens once the Fund has closed?

Once the Fund has closed, the proceeds of your investment will be sent to the registered shareholder at the address we have on our records.

What are my options?

You have the following options:

1. You can switch your investment free of charge into another Threadneedle fund(s) up until 12 noon (UK time) on 23 July 2019. Details of our funds can be found on our website columbiathreadneedle.com. Before you switch funds, it is important that you read the Key Investor Information Documents (KIID) for the fund(s) you wish to switch to. To switch to another Threadneedle fund(s), you can call us on the number provided overleaf, write to us at Columbia Threadneedle Investments, PO Box 10033, Chelmsford, Essex, CM99 2AL, United Kingdom or complete and return the Form of Direction in the enclosed pre-paid envelope by 12 noon (UK time) on 23 July 2019.
2. You can sell your investment before the Fund is suspended. To sell your shares, please call us on the number provided overleaf, write to us at Columbia Threadneedle Investments, PO Box 10033, Chelmsford, Essex, CM99 2AL, United Kingdom or complete and return the Form of Direction in the enclosed pre-paid envelope by 12 noon (UK time) on 23 July 2019. Providing we receive your instruction by 12 noon (UK time) on 23 July 2019, your proceeds will follow around five business days later.
3. You can take no action. The fund will be suspended on the afternoon of 23 July and will be wound up. Once this process has concluded all remaining shareholders will be paid out. This process is likely to take approximately one month.

Please note, in order to switch your shares before the Fund is suspended, we must receive your instruction via phone or mail before 12 noon (UK time) on 23 July 2019. Any instructions received after this time will not be accepted, and we will redeem your holdings and send you the proceeds instead.

If you are unclear about which option to choose, please speak to a financial adviser. If we do not receive your instruction by 12 noon (UK time) on 23 July 2019, we will cash in your investment on the Effective Date and send the proceeds to you as soon as possible after the end of the termination process (**we expect this to take approximately one month**).

I hold the Fund in an ISA. What options do I have?

If you want to keep your investment in an ISA, you have the following options:

1. Switch your investment free of charge into another Threadneedle fund(s) by calling the below number or writing to us at Columbia Threadneedle Investments, PO Box 10033, Chelmsford, Essex, CM99 2AL, United Kingdom before 12 noon (UK time) on 23 July 2019.
2. Transfer your ISA investment to another ISA manager. To do so you will need to complete an ISA transfer form and send it to your new ISA manager, who will then contact us to complete the transfer. Please note that ISA transfers can take around 30 days to complete, so you need to ensure you allow enough time for your ISA manager to complete the transfer.

Are there any tax implications?

There may be tax implications depending on your individual circumstances. We are unable to provide tax advice and we therefore suggest that you seek advice from your tax adviser about any potential tax implications before you take any action.

What do I need to do?

Please let us know what action you would like to take by 12 noon (UK time) on 23 July 2019. If you decide to take no action, your shares will be redeemed and the proceeds sent to you.

Further information

To find out more, please visit columbiathreadneedle.com/changes

If you are unclear about the contents of this letter, or have any further questions, please contact us. For UK investors please call us on 0800 953 0134*. For investors outside the UK, please call +352 46 40 10 7020*. Our team is available from 8:00am to 6:00pm, Monday to Friday (UK time).

If you are unsure about your investment you should speak to a financial adviser. If you are based in the UK, you can find one in your area by visiting www.unbiased.co.uk – please note we do not endorse the advisers on the site.

Yours sincerely,



Gary Collins
Head of Distribution EMEA & Latin America
Columbia Threadneedle Investments

*Calls may be recorded.

FORM OF DIRECTION

To: Threadneedle Investment Services Limited, as Authorised Corporate Director of Threadneedle Specialist Investment Funds ICVC

	First holder	Second holder
I/We		
(Name)
Address

Account number

Please indicate your choice by ticking the box.

[] **Option 1:** Accept the switch offer as described in the letter to investors in the Threadneedle Absolute Return Bond Fund dated 24 May 2019 and authorise Threadneedle Investment Services Limited to switch my/our existing holdings in the Fund (and any future regular savers installments into the Fund) to:

<i>Fund Name</i>	<i>ISIN</i>	<i><u>% Split</u></i>
.....
.....
.....
	Total	100%

Please insert the full name of the chosen fund(s) and the % split.

By signing this form below, I/We declare that I/We have received the Key Investor Information Document for the Fund/s we have nominated above to invest in.

OR

[] **Option 2:** Wish to sell my/our holding in Threadneedle Absolute Return Bond Fund prior to the closure.

I/We understand that:

- i. Where this form is received before 12 noon UK time on a business day, the prices used will be those calculated by reference to the valuation of the relevant funds at 12 noon UK time on that business day.
- ii. Where this form is received after 12 noon UK time on a business day, the prices used will be those calculated by reference to the valuation of the relevant funds at 12 noon UK time on the next business day.

Note: Please ensure that any additional identification information requested is provided along with this Form of Direction in the pre-paid envelope.

	Signature	Print Name
First holder
Second holder

Notes:

1. In the case of joint accounts, please ensure that all required signatories sign this form.
2. Please return this form to Threadneedle Investment Services Limited, Client Services, PO Box 10033, Chelmsford, CM99 2AL in the enclosed pre-paid envelope provided.
3. Please note that dealings in Threadneedle Absolute Return Bond Fund will cease on 24 July 2019. To take advantage of the switch offer or to redeem prior to the closure, this form of direction must be received by 12 noon UK time on 23 July 2019 at the latest, so the switch or redemption can be made before dealings cease.
4. There may be potential tax implications depending on which course of action you wish to pursue. We would therefore recommend that you seek advice from your professional adviser about your potential liability to tax before proceeding.
5. In the case of a corporate body this form must be signed by an authorised signatory.