Investment Update

The LCP Monthly Brief – April 2019



Equities

Global equity markets rose in April, up 3.7% (in € terms).

Markets continued to move ahead after a very strong Q1, with better-than-expected economic data released during April for the Eurozone, U.S, U.K. and especially China reassuring investors. Q1 GDP growth for China was 6.4%, ahead of expectations, as the stimulus measures introduced last year appear to be working. This should be good news for European exporters.

Corporate earnings were strong, although expectations had been lowered somewhat. Large market names like JP Morgan, Microsoft, Amazon, Facebook and Walt Disney all performed strongly. The U.S./China trade talks continued in both Washington and Beijing with a potential end in sight, although there still remains thorny issues like intellectual property and data transfer to be resolved.

Bonds

Longer-dated eurozone bond prices fell 1.4% in April, with the yield on the AAA Eurozone 15+ Year Index rising to 0.53% by month-end. The Euro Broad Sovereign 10+ Year Index fell by 0.2% with its yield rising to 1.40%.

Eurozone AAA bond yields rose mid-month following the higher-than-expected Chinese GDP data which should be a positive for the Eurozone economy, and then again at month-end following the release of stronger growth and inflation data in the Eurozone.

Sample DB Scheme

The funding level of our sample DB scheme rose to 99.0%, as its assets rose and its liabilities (calculated using a MFS proxy) fell over the month.

Sample DC Schemes

Two of our sample DC Strategies rose in April as most asset classes were higher over the month, but the Pension Purchase Strategy fell due to its large holding of longer-dated AAA eurozone government bonds.

All returns are in € terms	Apr '19	3 Months	Year to	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
	%	%	Date %	%	% pa	% pa	% pa
Equities							
FTSE World	3.7	10.2	18.4	14.0	12.7	12.2	13.7
FTSE World (€ Hedged)	3.7	8.6	16.4	7.7	12.8	9.5	12.2
FTSE Eurozone	5.2	10.7	17.7	1.2	9.4	6.7	9.4
FTSE World ex Eurozone	3.6	10.1	18.4	15.6	13.1	12.9	14.3
FTSE North America	4.2	12.0	20.8	21.8	15.4	15.8	16.7
FTSE Emerging Markets	2.5	6.9	15.3	5.3	12.2	9.4	9.8
Bonds							
Euro Sovereign AAA (15+ yr)	-1.4	1.9	4.2	11.2	3.5	7.6	7.7
Euro Broad Sovereign (10+ yr)	-0.2	2.8	5.0	4.7	2.8	6.5	7.0
Euro Sovereign Inflation Linked	0.1	1.9	3.0	-2.2	0.2	1.8	2.3
Euro Corporate (5+ yr)	1.0	4.3	6.2	4.8	3.3	4.0	7.2
Other							
Commodities	2.8	8.5	18.2	-5.1	3.8	-12.3	-3.0
Fund of Hedge Funds	0.0	2.2	4.0	0.2	3.6	2.3	5.2
€/\$	0.0	-2.0	-2.2	-7.1	-0.7	-4.2	-1.6
€/£	0.0	-1.5	-4.3	-2.0	3.2	0.9	-0.4

Bond Index Yields	31 Mar '19	30 Apr '19	Change (b.p.)
iBoxx Euro Sovereign AAA (15+ yr)	0.45	0.53	0.08
iBoxx Euro Broad Sovereign (10+ yr)	1.37	1.40	0.03
iBoxx Euro Corporates (5+ yr)	1.32	1.21	-0.11

Sample Pension Schemes	Apr '19 %	3 Months	Year to Date %	1 Year %	3 Years % pa	5 Years % pa
DB Schemes						
Assets	1.2	5.6	10.3	11.5	7.6	9.1
Liabilities	-0.3	1.8	3.1	8.8	5.5	7.2
Change in Funding Level	1.5	3.7	7.0	2.5	2.0	1.7
DC Schemes						
High Risk Strategy	2.2	6.4	11.4	8.2	7.1	7.3
Medium Risk Strategy	1.2	5.3	9.6	9.8	6.7	7.9
Pension Purchase Strategy	-1.1	1.4	3.2	8.3	2.7	5.7

Sources: LCP, Bloomberg, Reuters, MarketWatch, Markit and iBoxx

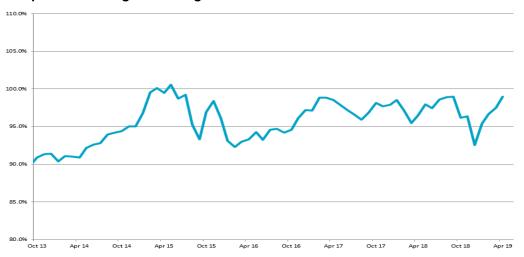
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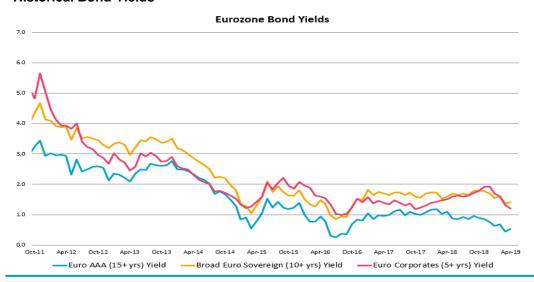
Equity Market Performance



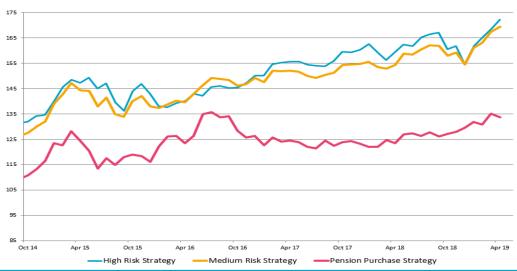
Sample DB Funding Level Progression



Historical Bond Yields



Sample DC Scheme Performance



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