# CG Asset Management

CG UK Index-Linked Bond Fund

January 2025



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## CG UK Index-Linked Bond Fund

Overview



## CG UK Index-Linked Bond Fund Overview

## **Investment Objective**



- To achieve long-term capital appreciation and income growth via long-only investment in UK government indexlinked bonds
- Simple low-cost approach, no gearing, no short selling
- The fund is actively managed, without reference to a benchmark

## **Fees and Structure**



- Size: £12m (launched in October 2023)
- Management Fee: 0.15% | Total Expense Ratio: 0.35%
- Daily priced Irish UCITS

## **Investor Profile**

## The fund has a broad range of investors who typically exhibit the following characteristics:

- A long-term investment horizon
- An aversion to significant short-term losses
- A desire to generate returns that outpace inflation over the long term
- A focus on GBP-denominated returns



<b>2001</b> Founded	Founded in 2001 by Peter Spiller, former Chief Investment Officer and Chief Strategist of Cazenove
<b>£2.9bn</b> AUM	£2.9bn in assets under management
<b>2</b> Strategies	Manages two strategies, absolute return and real return, across six funds
<b>12</b> Employees	Team of 12, based in London
<b>262x</b> Return	Low-cost offering, with fee reductions regularly reviewed
<b>2</b> Down Years	Capital Gearing Trust ("CGT") has returned 262x since 1982, with only two down years



What makes us different?	What does that mean for our clients?
The firm's founding principles	<ol> <li>The client comes first</li> <li>Don't be greedy</li> <li>Have fun</li> </ol>
	<ul> <li>In turn these principles mean that:</li> <li>We have and will close funds to protect investors</li> <li>We continuously strive to lower fees, even on closed funds</li> <li>We have low staff turnover</li> </ul>
Employee owned	



- Majority owned by an Employee Ownership Trust, which means we will remain independent
- All portfolio managers are significant shareholders in CGAM

## The right incentives

- A significant majority of our own capital is invested in our funds
- Our interests are directly aligned with those of our clients



# Overview Funds Summary

Strategy	Fund	ISIN	Launched	AUM <sup>6</sup>	Dealing Frequency	AMC Fee	TER
Absolute Return Long only investments in a portfolio of bonds, equities and commodities	Capital Gearing Trust	GB0001738615	1982 <sup>1</sup>	£930m	Listed	0.40% <sup>3</sup>	0.55%
	CG Absolute Return (EUR Hedged, USD Hedged available)	IE00BYQ69B30	2016	£810m	Daily	0.35%	0.47%
	Capital Gearing Portfolio (P,V shares)	IE00BG5Q6F12	2001	£240m	Daily	0.75%	0.87%
<b>Real Return</b> Long only investments in index linked bonds	CG Real Return Fund (GBP Hedged available)	IE0034304117	2004	£370m	Daily	0.30% / 0.20% <sup>4</sup>	0.41%
	CG Dollar Fund (GBP Hedged, EUR Hedged and USD Unhedged available)	IE00B41GP767	2009	£550m	Daily	0.25% / 0.15% <sup>5</sup>	0.37%
	CG UK Index-Linked Bond Fund	IE000ZSVG218	2023	£12m	Daily	0.15%	0.35%

<sup>1</sup> Peter Spiller began managing Capital Gearing Trust in 1982; <sup>2</sup> Capital Gearing Trust is an Investment Trust listed on the London Stock Exchange, all other funds are Open Ended UCITS listed on the Dublin Stock Exchange;<sup>3</sup> Tiered fee structure, marginal rate is 0.3% above £500m; <sup>4</sup> 0.3% below £500m, 0.2% above; <sup>5</sup> 0.25% below £1,000, 0.15% above; <sup>6</sup> As of 31 December 2024



## Overview CGAM Team



**Peter Spiller** Co - Chief Investment Officer



Hassan Raza, CFA Portfolio Manager

Investments



Alastair Laing CEO, Fund Manager



**Emma Moriarty** *Portfolio Manager* 



**Chris Clothier** Co - Chief Investment Officer



Jock Henderson Investment Analyst

#### **Investor Relations**



Sophia Sednaoui Head of Investor Relations



Katie Forbes Head of Investor Relations of CGT



**Chris Taylor** Chief Operations Officer



Amber Williams Head of Compliance



**Finn** *Chief Morale Officer* 

## Operations and Risk



Jason Barlow Senior Operations Manager



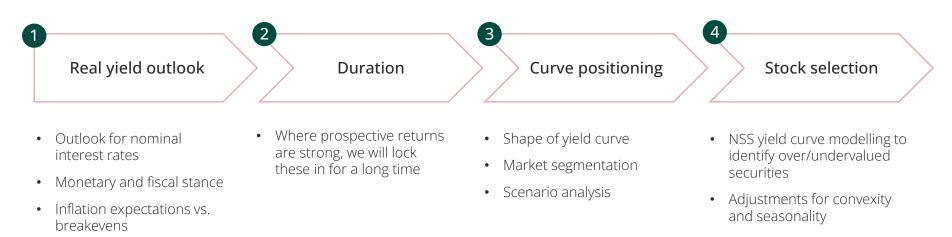
**Prath Ketheeswaran** *Operations Apprentice* 



CG UK Index-Linked Bond Fund



## The CG UK Index-Linked Bond Fund's positioning is decided via a top-down process



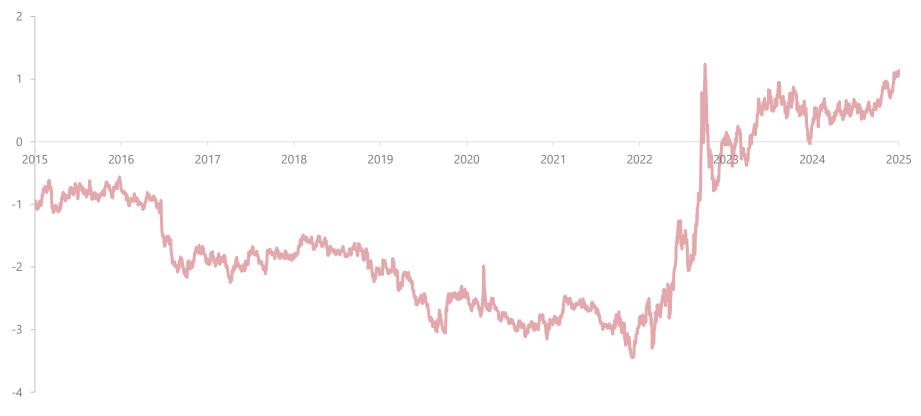
• Forward rates

cgam



## Index-linked gilts have gone from being uninvestable to good value

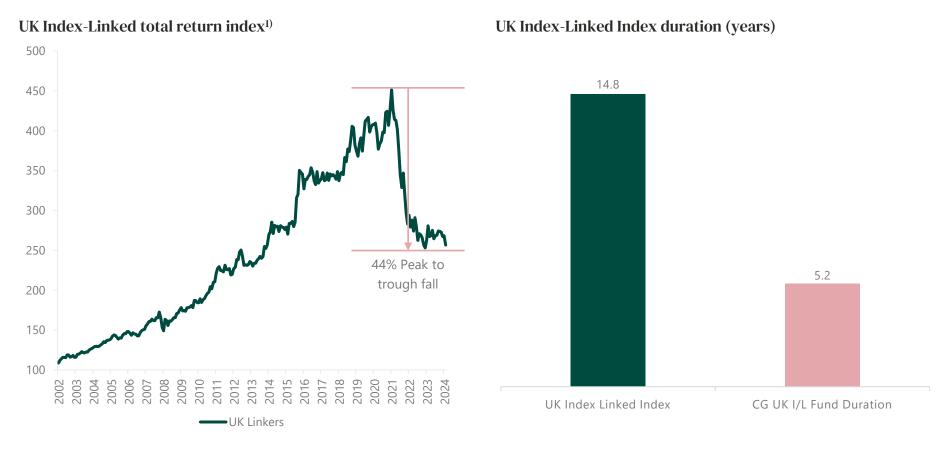
UK 10 Year Real Yield (%)



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.



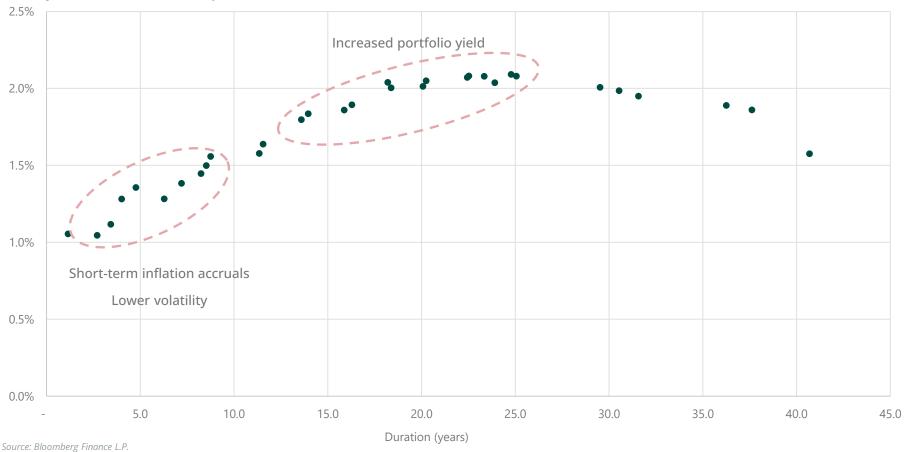
# The long duration of the index has created large drawdowns which are inappropriate for private investors. The CG fund is a much shorter duration alternative



1. UK Index-Linked Index refers to Bloomberg UK Govt Inflation-Linked All Maturities Total Return Index Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.



# The shape of the yield curve is driven in part by non-fundamental factors which creates opportunities for active management



## CPI-adjusted UK index-linked yield curve

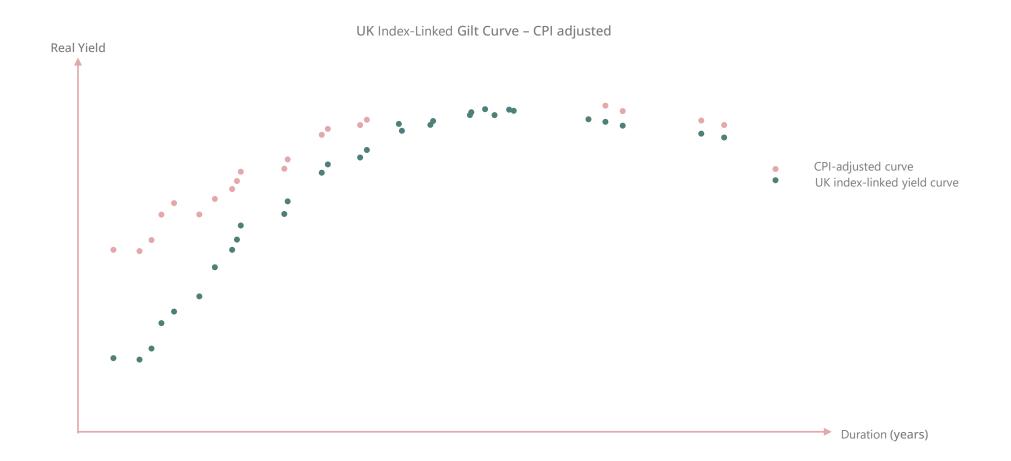


We use a Nelson Siegel Svensson formula to identify individual under and overpriced bonds

$$\mathbf{y} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \frac{\left(1 - e^{\left(-\frac{\mu}{\tau_1}\right)}\right)}{\frac{\mu}{\tau_1}} + \beta_2 \left(\frac{\left(1 - e^{\left(-\frac{\mu}{\tau_1}\right)}\right)}{\frac{\mu}{\tau_1}} - e^{\left(-\frac{\mu}{\tau_1}\right)}\right) + \beta_3 \left(\frac{\left(1 - e^{\left(-\frac{\mu}{\tau_2}\right)}\right)}{\frac{\mu}{\tau_2}} - e^{\left(-\frac{\mu}{\tau_2}\right)}\right)$$



## We then adjust our expected yields for the RPI / CPI wedge





## CG UK Index-Linked Bond Fund

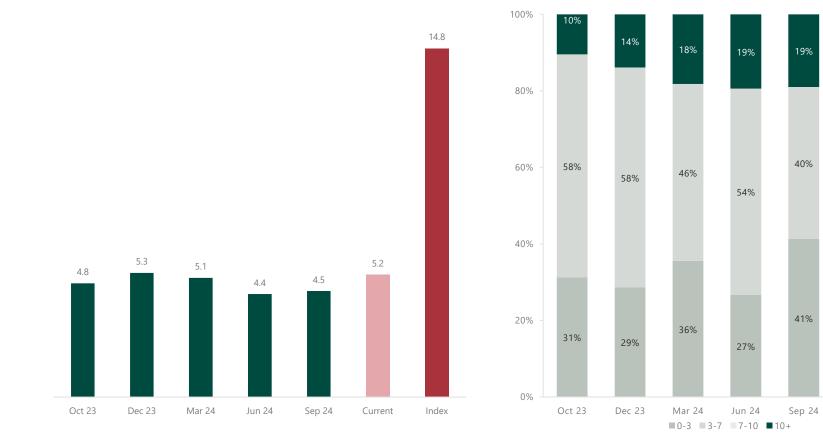
**Positioning and Returns** 



#### CG UK Index-Linked Bond Fund

# The CG UK Index-Linked Bond Fund has duration shorter than the index and its holdings are weighted to the front end of the UK index-linked curve

**Portfolio Duration (Years)** 



#### Portfolio Curve Positioning - By Maturity Bucket (Years)

24%

31%

44%

Current

62%

13%

15%

9%

Index

Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P., Northern Trust



## CG UK Index-Linked Bond Fund Our holdings of UK linkers have dramatically outperformed the index in recent years

### CG Performance - UK Linker Holdings



Source: Bloomberg LP, Northern Trust.



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## CG UK Index-Linked Bond Fund Breakdown of holdings

Largest Bond Holdings		Credit ratings		Characteristics	
UK I/L 0.125% 22/03/26	28.6%	AAA	0%	Number of bonds	13
UK I/L 0.125% 10/08/28	17.7%	AA	100%	Yield to maturity (real)	0.8%
UK I/L 0.125% 22/03/29	13.7%	А	0%	Average maturity	5.4 Yrs
UK I/L 1.25% 22/11/27	13.6%	BBB	0%	Average coupon (real)	0.5%
UKTI 2.00% 26/01/35	9.5%	BB and below	0%	Composite rating	AA

Source: CGAM, Northern Trust



## Why index-linked?

The role of index-linked bonds in a multi-asset portfolio



## Index-linked bonds are a fundamental component of a diversified portfolio

## Inflation as greatest risk to investor wealth

Against which equities are only a partial hedge

## Significant risk of inflation persistence

The historical record does not support a swift return to the target

## Historic outperformance vs nominal bonds

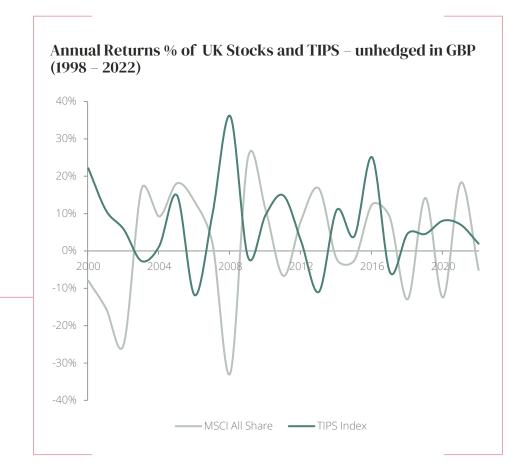
Such outperformance is likely to persist into the future

## Negative correlation with risk assets

Index linked have historically proven to be a good hedge against a portfolio of risk assets

## Protection against financial repression

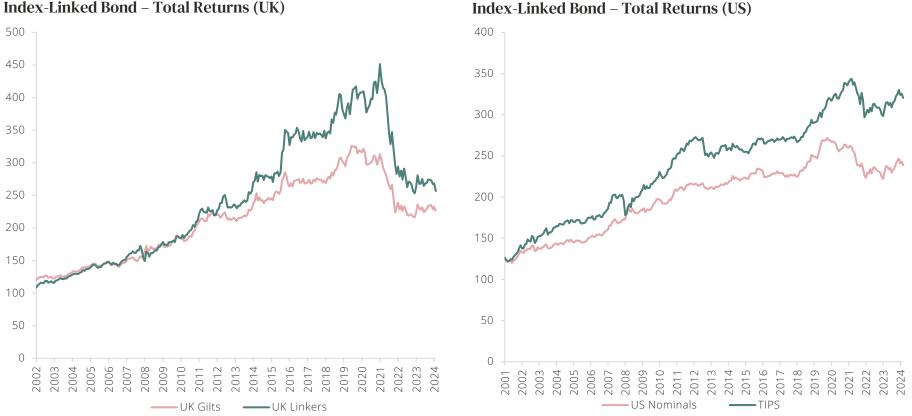
Only asset that we believe is likely to deliver protection





#### Why index-linked?

## Index-linked bonds have outperformed nominal bonds since the turn of the century. Why? Because the market systematically underestimates realised inflation



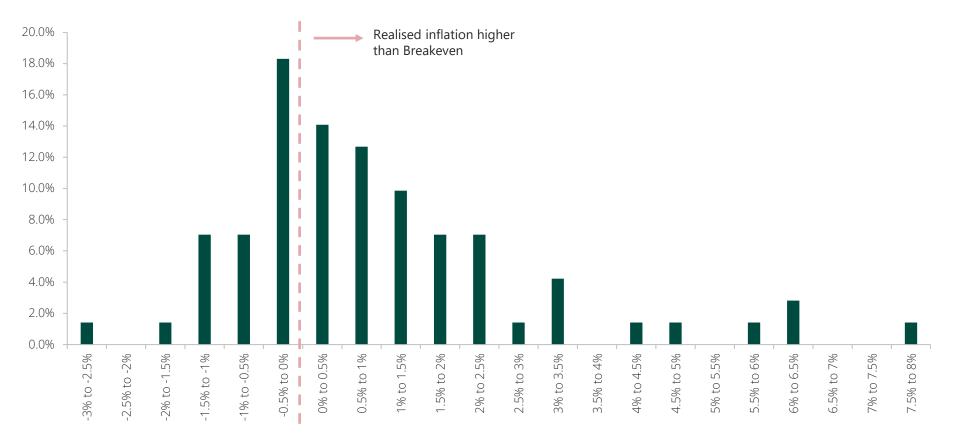
Index-Linked Bond – Total Returns (UK)

Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.



## *Why index-linked?* A key reason is that markets routinely underestimate inflation – by an average of 1% since 2004

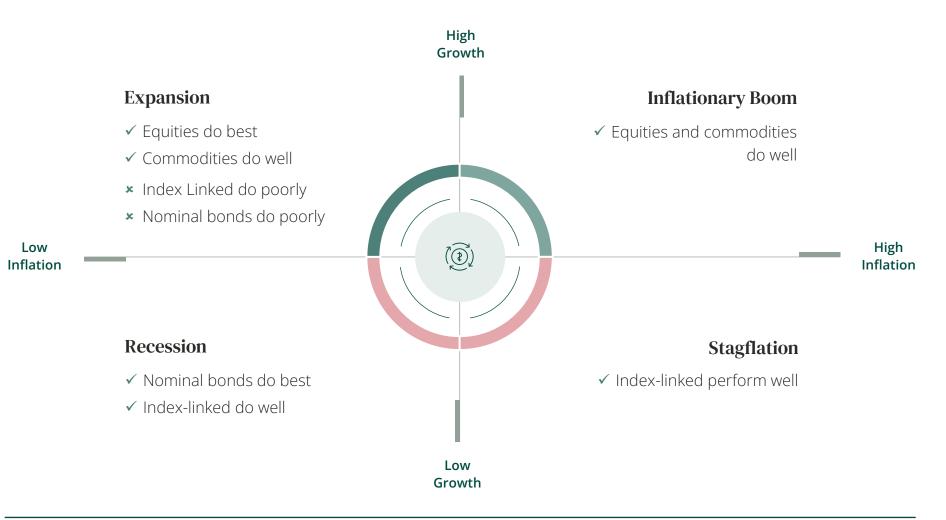
## Difference between 2Y Breakeven and subsequent realised inflation (% annualised)





### Why index-linked?

## Index-linked bonds perform well in scenarios where equities do not, and are the most reliable portfolio protector against stagflation





## CG UK Index-Linked Bond Fund

**Investment Approach** 



## The principles underpinning our investment approach

## Be honest

No greenwashing, no PR-led initiatives, no jargon. We believe in an accurate presentation of our activities not a marketing campaign.

## One firm, one rule

Our standards apply to all the funds we advise. We do not have ethical and by implication unethical funds.

### Ethics, not mathematics

There is no formula that can be applied in a uniform way to every situation. We emphasise judgement over simplistic third party ESG scoring systems.

## Don't disinvest, engage

When investors have the influence to effect change, it is most valuable to encourage positive transition rather than engage in blanket disinvestment.

## Targeted

As a small firm, we must focus our efforts where they will have the most influence, rather than taking a generalist approach.

### Governance

Investors have multiple direct mechanisms to influence governance, so we primarily focus on governance even when the ultimate objective consists of other priorities.

## Integration, not separation

The entire team is collectively responsible for stewardship activities, with the ultimate responsibility lying with the chief executive. We do not have a standalone responsible investment team.

## Act, with humility

Every action results in both intended and unintended consequences. Reflect deeply on the risk that good intentions can lead to unintended negative outcomes.



## **Direct Government Securities**

A majority of the assets held by the funds are invested in direct holdings of securities issues by governments including bonds, bills and cash.

When investing, we consider indices compiled by a range of NGOs and require sovereigns, at a minimum, to achieve strong rankings in at least four out of five of these criteria. In addition to using third party indices, we also overlay our own subjective assessments which typically leads to material additional exclusions.

## **ESG Criteria Applied**

Index	Criteria
World Bank governance effectiveness index	Top quartile
World press freedom index	Good or satisfactory
Global freedom score	Free rating
UN human development index	Very high human development rank
Net zero by 2025 statement	Statement of intent by 2050 or earlier

## **Resultant Investable Universe**

United Kingdom	Japan
United States	Canada
Germany	Australia
Sweden	New Zealand
Denmark	



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