



# Growth UK & Europe Fund

Monthly Update as at 29 February 2024

## PORTFOLIO MANAGER(S)



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\*Guy Thornewill and Toby Woods are responsible for research and analysis

## FUND COMMENTARY

The Growth UK and Europe Fund returned -0.3% during the month, bringing it to a 12-month return of 4.6%.

The fund was roughly flat during the month, along with the European market. While US stocks have been propelled by mega-cap technology companies embracing the AI revolution, Europe has less direct exposure. Nevertheless, with many companies reporting end-of-year earnings, it is apparent that businesses are generally faring well and that Europe is avoiding a significant downturn despite the higher interest rate environment.

The best performer during the period was CTS Eventim, the largest ticketing company in Europe. We believe that live entertainment is relatively resilient as the price point is at a level where consumers consider it affordable (look at the recent Taylor Swift tour). This is despite ticket price inflation, which is another reason we like the stock, as it acts as a decent inflation hedge. The company released full-year figures ahead of expectations, triggering the stock to appreciate 18% during the month. Other outperformers were Do&Co., an airline catering business that's taking market share in the US; Munters, a supplier of cooling equipment to data centres; and BioGaia, a producer of probiotic medicine, which announced a special dividend.

On the negative side, Bytes fell 15% because of the sudden resignation of its CEO. The company confirmed, however, that current trading is robust. It is the largest reseller of Microsoft in the UK, giving us exposure to the AI trend. We reduced our position slightly but have remained invested for now. Finally, we added one position to the fund; Lectra is a French provider of software and hardware to the fashion industry.

## CUMULATIVE FUND PERFORMANCE

If you had invested \$100,000 at inception, the graph below shows what it would be worth today.



● Growth UK & Europe Fund

## FUND DETAILS

Recommended minimum investment period	5 years
Objective	Capital growth over a period exceeding five years.
Description	Invests predominantly in listed UK & European smaller companies.
Inception date	November 2016
Standard withdrawal period	10 working days
Risk indicator	<p>Potentially Lower Returns</p> <p>1 2 3 4 <b>5</b> 6 7</p> <p>Potentially Higher Returns</p> <p>Lower Risk Higher Risk</p>

For more information on our funds, please visit [www.piefunds.co.nz/Investor-Documents](http://www.piefunds.co.nz/Investor-Documents)



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## PERFORMANCE

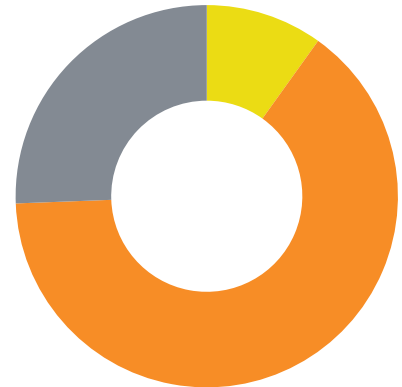
	1 month	1 yr	3 yrs (p.a.)	5 yrs (p.a.)	7 yrs (p.a.)	Annualised since inception
<b>Growth UK &amp; Europe Fund</b>	-0.3%	4.6%	0.6%	8.1%	7.7%	8.1%
<b>MARKET INDEX<sup>1</sup></b>	0.4%	3.7%	2.6%	6.5%	7.8%	8.3%

Returns after fees but before individual PIR tax applied

1. S&P Europe Small Cap Gross Total Return Index (75% hedged to NZD).

## INVESTMENT MIX

<span style="color: yellow;">●</span> Cash (including Derivatives)	9.9%
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> European Equities	64.5%
<span style="color: grey;">●</span> UK Equities	25.6%



Asset allocation is rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent; therefore, the aggregate may not equal 100%.

## TOP FIVE EQUITY HOLDINGS

Discoverie Group PLC
Do & Co AG
ID Logistics SAS
Nexus AG
Sdiptech AB (publ)

Holdings are listed in alphabetical order.

### UNIT PRICE

# \$1.76

### ANNUALISED RETURN SINCE INCEPTION

# 8.1% p.a.

after fees and before tax

### FUND STATUS

CLOSED

OPEN



## Pie Funds

Information is current as at 29 February 2024. Pie Funds Management Limited is the manager of the funds in the Pie Funds Management Scheme. Any advice is given by Pie Funds Management Limited and is general only. Our advice relates only to the specific financial products mentioned and does not account for personal circumstances or financial goals. Please see a financial adviser for tailored advice. You may have to pay product or other fees, like brokerage, if you act on any advice. As manager of the Pie Funds Management Scheme investment funds, we receive fees determined by your balance and we benefit financially if you invest in our products. We manage this conflict of interest via an internal compliance framework designed to help us meet our duties to you. For information about how we can help you, our duties and complaint process and how disputes can be resolved, or to see our product disclosure statement, please visit [www.piefunds.co.nz](http://www.piefunds.co.nz). Please let us know if you would like a hard copy of this disclosure information. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. Returns can be negative as well as positive and returns over different periods may vary.