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Standard Life launches 85% protected* fund

The Standard Life Barclays Multi-Asset Protected 85 Fund has been launched in response to customer demand for a lower risk fund with some form of investment protection.*

“For investors, it fills a gap on our offering between deposits and other investment funds,” said Brendan Barr, head of marketing with Standard Life.

“The fund is designed to protect against the unit price falling below a certain level. This protection level is set at 85% of the highest ever unit price recorded.

Standard Life now offers 38 Synergy funds which range from cash, bonds, Global Absolute Return Strategies Fund (GARS), property to higher risk equity funds.

“One of the major attractions of the new fund for customers is its liquidity and flexibility ,” said Barr. “The fund is priced daily allowing investors to buy or sell units and switch freely between any of our comprehensive range of investment options.”

Fund description

The fund aims to:

1. Achieve long-term capital growth through investment in a range of asset classes.
2. Achieve a level of investment protection by investing in a fund that benefits from protection of 85% of the highest ever recorded unit price*.

Investment mix

The fund invests 100% in an externally managed fund – the Multi-Asset Protected 85 Fund. This fund’s return is linked to the performance of a multi-asset index and a cash component**. The multiasset index is designed to be diverse across a number of sectors and asset classes including equities, fixed-income, commodities, emerging markets and property related securities. The fund does not provide full capital protection, rather it is designed to provide 85% protection of the highest ever recorded unit price. The following is the investment mix as at 1 February 2010.

- Cash 33.8%
- UK equities 21.8%
- Bonds 20.5%
- US equities 11.6%
- Commodities 3.8%
- Property 3.3%
- Far East equities 3.0%
- European equities 1.6%
- Emerging Market equities 0.6%
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Source: Barclays Capital

Minimum investment amounts

The minimum lump sum on the Synergy Investment Bond, Approved Retirement Fund and Approved Minimum Retirement fund is €10,000. For pension investors, the minimum regular premium is €175 per month.

More about the 85% price protection

The fund is designed to protect against the unit price falling below a certain level. As the unit price increases, the protected price also increases. *This protection level is set at 85% of the highest ever unit price.* For example, if at the fund launch, the unit price is 100, the protected price is 85.

	Unit Price	Protected Price
If the unit price rises to	125	106
If the unit price falls to	110	106
If the unit price rises again	150	128

Note: The unit prices shown are illustrations only.

Notes for editors

*The price protection offered by the Multi-Asset Protected 85 Fund (the externally managed fund) is not guaranteed and is provided by Barclays Bank PLC. In certain circumstances the protection could be reduced or even removed.

** Cash means EONIA index. The EONIA index means, the Euro Overnight Index Average calculated as the weighted average of all overnight unsecured lending transactions in the interbank market, initiated within the euro area by the contributing panel banks.

Priced on a daily basis, so you can switch between investment options

A 1.95% annual management charge, which is included in the unit price. Other transaction costs will also apply in addition to this management charge.

A significantly negative market development can result in the fund consisting almost exclusively of cash. Should this arise, investors should speak to their financial adviser to discuss whether or not this is now the appropriate investment choice for them.

Asset	Index
Cash	EONIA Index
UK Equities	FTSE ++ 100 Total Return Index FTSE ++250 Total Return Index
Bonds	Barclays UK Gilt All Maturities Net TR Index
US Equities	S&P 500 Net Total Return Index S&P US 400 Midcap TR Index
Commodities	Goldman Sachs Commodity Total Return Index
Property	Cohen & Steers Realty Majors Portfolio Index EPRA Europe Net Return Index
Far East Equities	MSCI Daily TR Net Japan USD Index _{SM} MSCI Daily TR Net Pacific Free Ex Japan USD Index _{SM}
European Equities	DJ EURO STOXX 50 Return Index EUR DJ EURO STOXX Mid Return Index EUR
Emerging Market Equities	MSCI Daily TR Net EM USD Index _{SM}

The table above shows the asset types and the indices the externally managed fund may invest in.

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More about Barclays

The Standard Life Barclays Multi-Asset Protected 85 Fund invests 100% in an externally managed fund, the Multi-Asset Protected 85 Fund, managed by Barclays Capital Fund Solutions, the asset management business of Barclays Capital, the Investment Banking division of Barclays Bank PLC". Barclays has a balance sheet of over £1.37 trillion and is rated AA- by Standard & Poor's and Aa3 by Moody's. With over 300 years of history and expertise in banking, Barclays operates in over 50 countries and employs approximately 144,000 people. Barclays moves, lends, invests and protects money for over 49 million customers and clients worldwide. Source: Barclays Bank PLC at February 2010. Barclays Bank Plc does not sponsor, endorse sell or promote the Synergy products.

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