

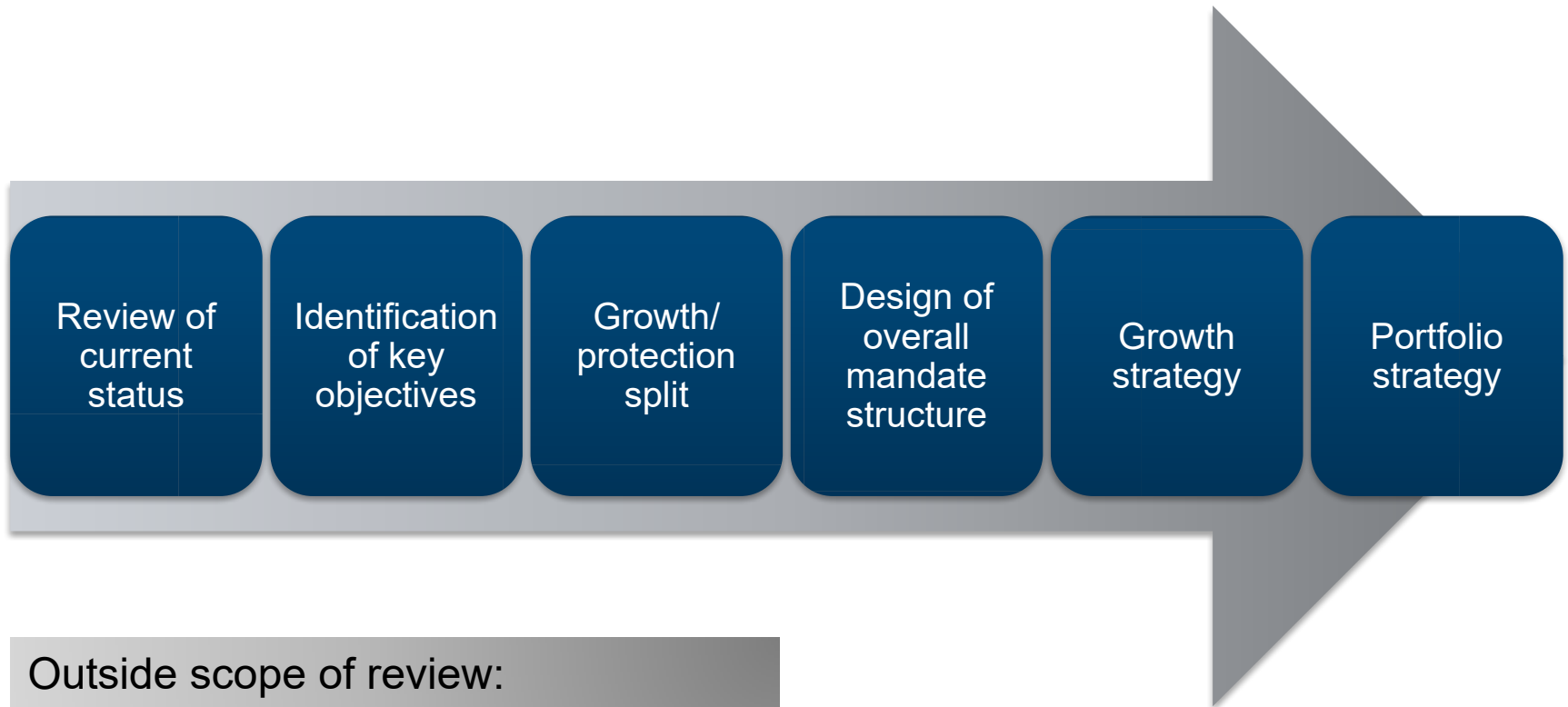
# London Borough of Bromley Pension Fund

## Investment strategy review

Marcus Whitehead FIA, Partner

9 February 2012

# Investment strategy review process

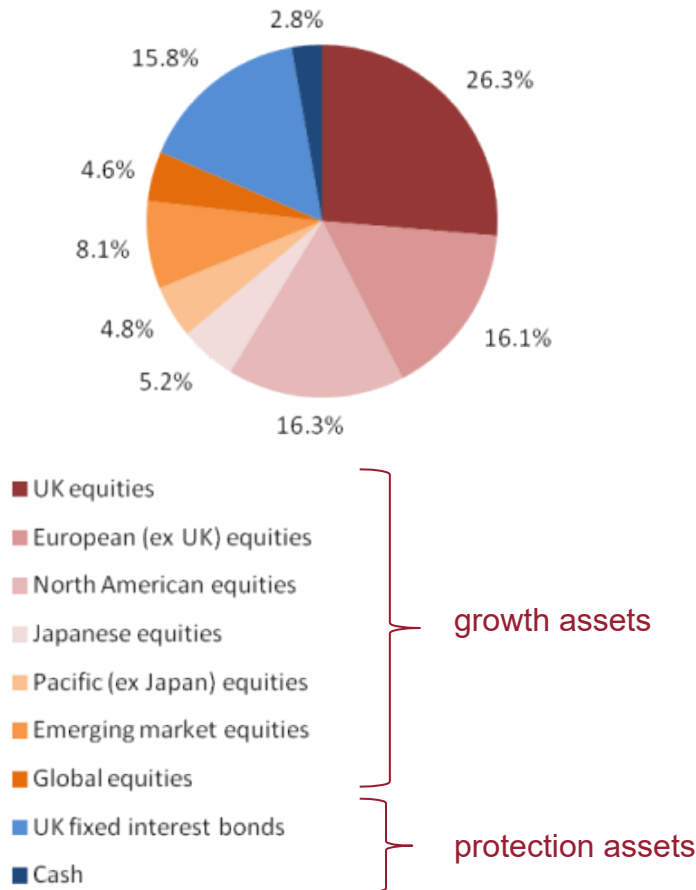


## Outside scope of review:

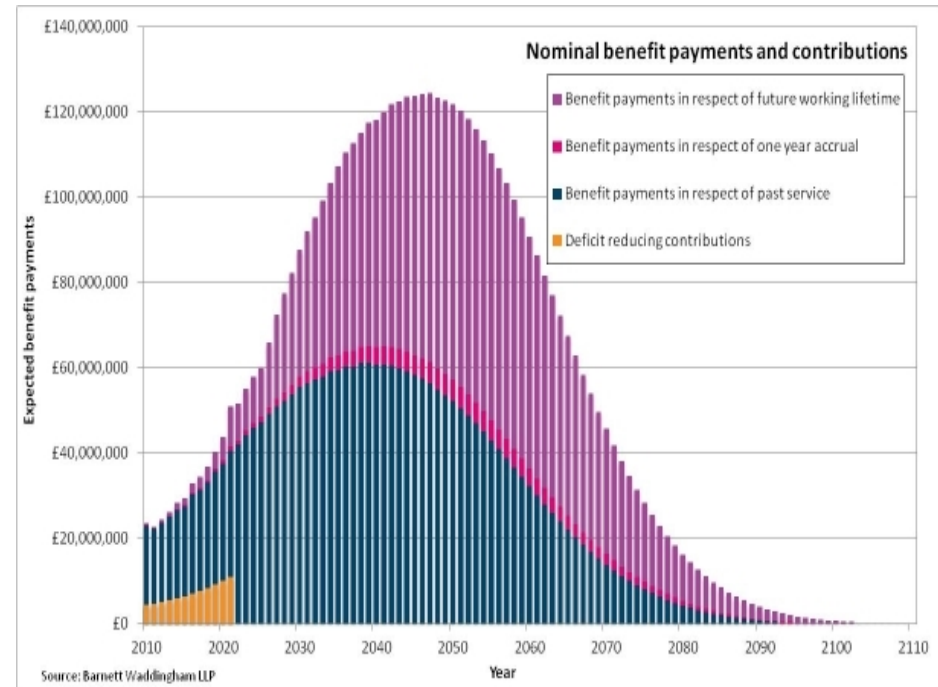
- Manager/fund selection
- Implementation considerations

# Current Fund position

## Asset allocation



## Liability profile



Source: Asset information as at 30.09.2011. Valuations sourced from Baillie Gifford and Fidelity. Liability cashflows provided by Barnett Waddingham Public Sector Consulting Team as at 31 March 2010.

# Fund objectives

- To ensure that sufficient resources are available to meet all liabilities as they fall due.
- To achieve this with as stable as possible employer contributions at the minimum level agreed by the Actuary.
- To maximise the returns from investments within reasonable risk parameters.

Source: Funding Strategy Statement



Funding strategy sets investment return targets

Changing profile of the LGPS

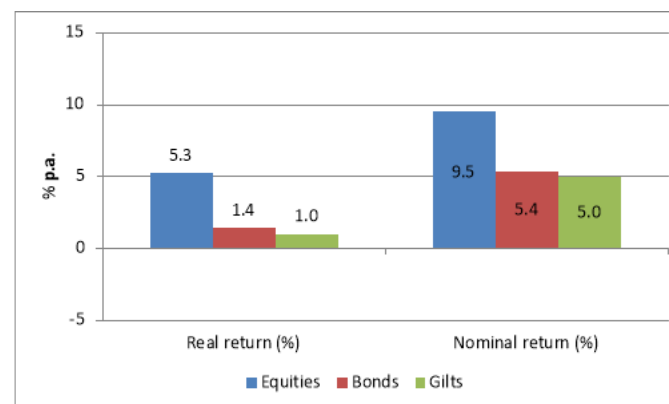
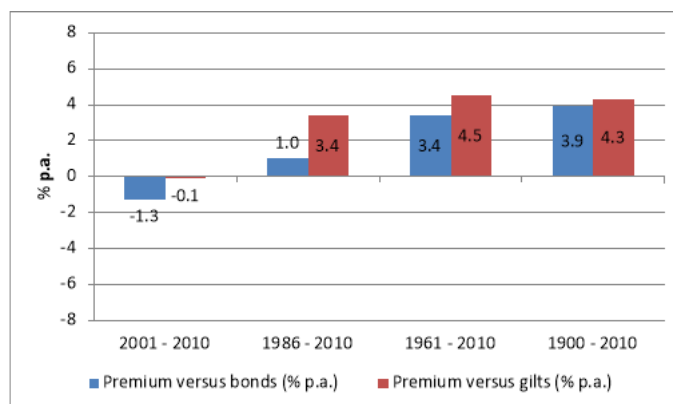
Long-term net investor

# Growth/protection split

- Actuary's investment assumptions

| Investment return assumption   | % per annum | Real % per annum |
|--------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Equities/absolute return funds | 7.5         | 4.0              |
| Gilts                          | 4.5         | 1.0              |
| Bonds                          | 5.6         | 2.1              |

- Are these returns achievable?



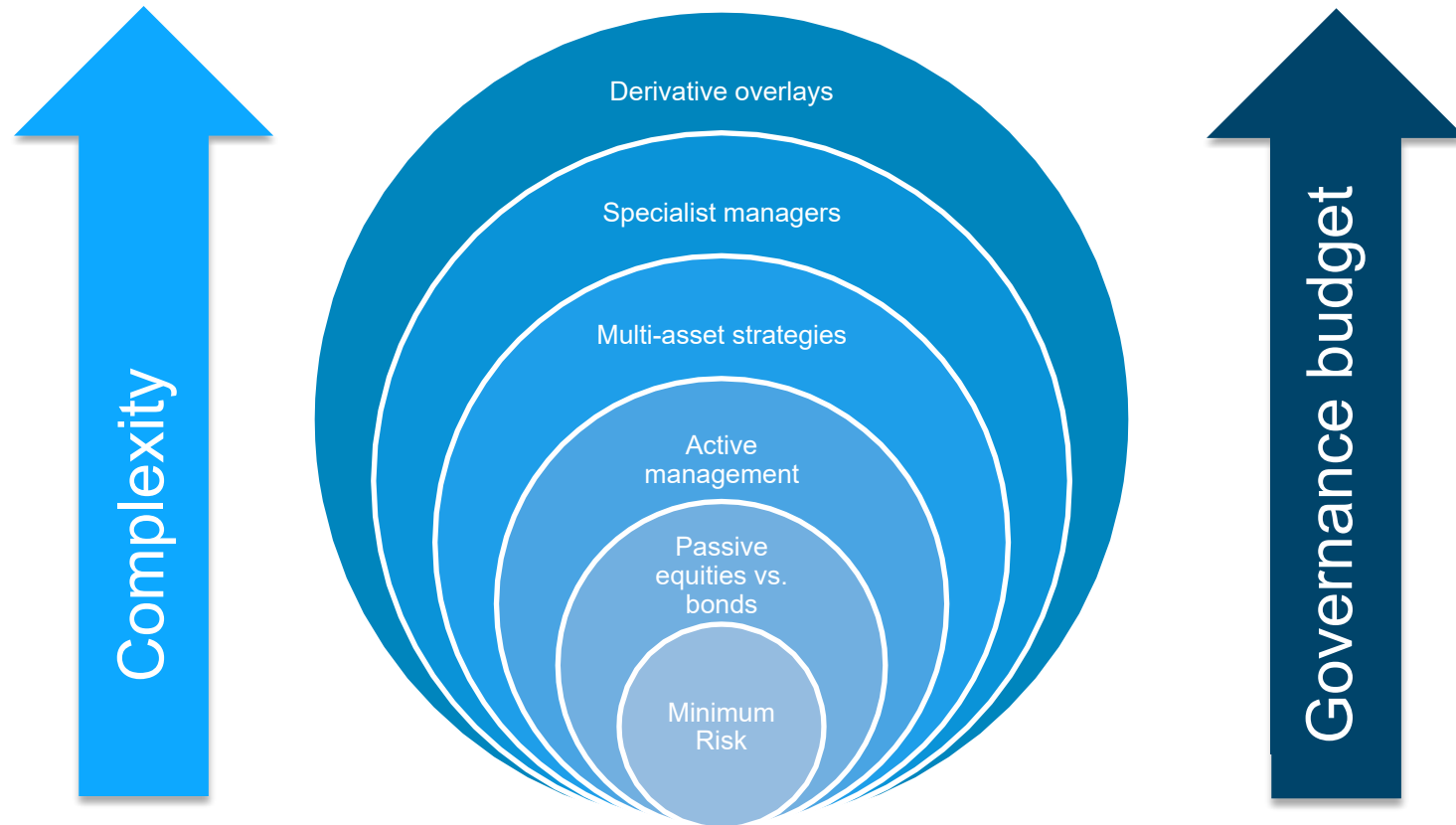
Source: Elroy Dimson, Paul Marsh and Mike Staunton, Credit Suisse Global Investment Returns Sourcebook 2011

- **80%:20% growth:protection allocation remains appropriate....**
- **.... but consider the separation into explicit growth and protection mandates**

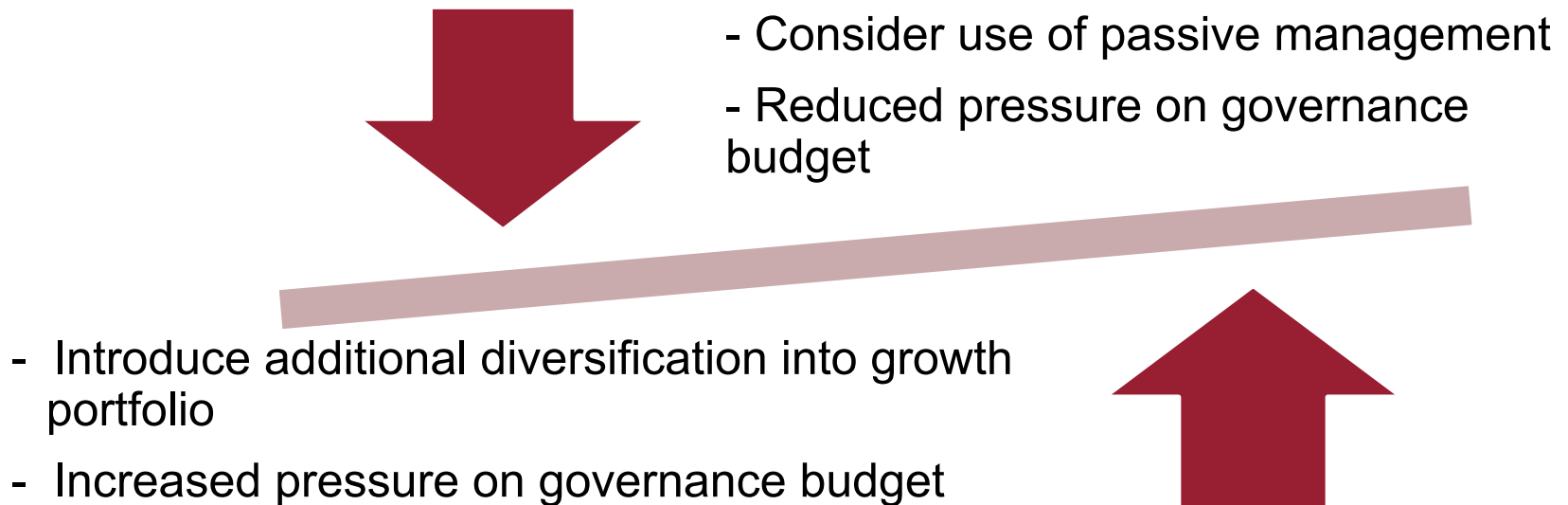
Design of  
overall  
mandate  
structure

## A LOOK AT THE BUILDING BLOCKS

# Importance of the governance budget



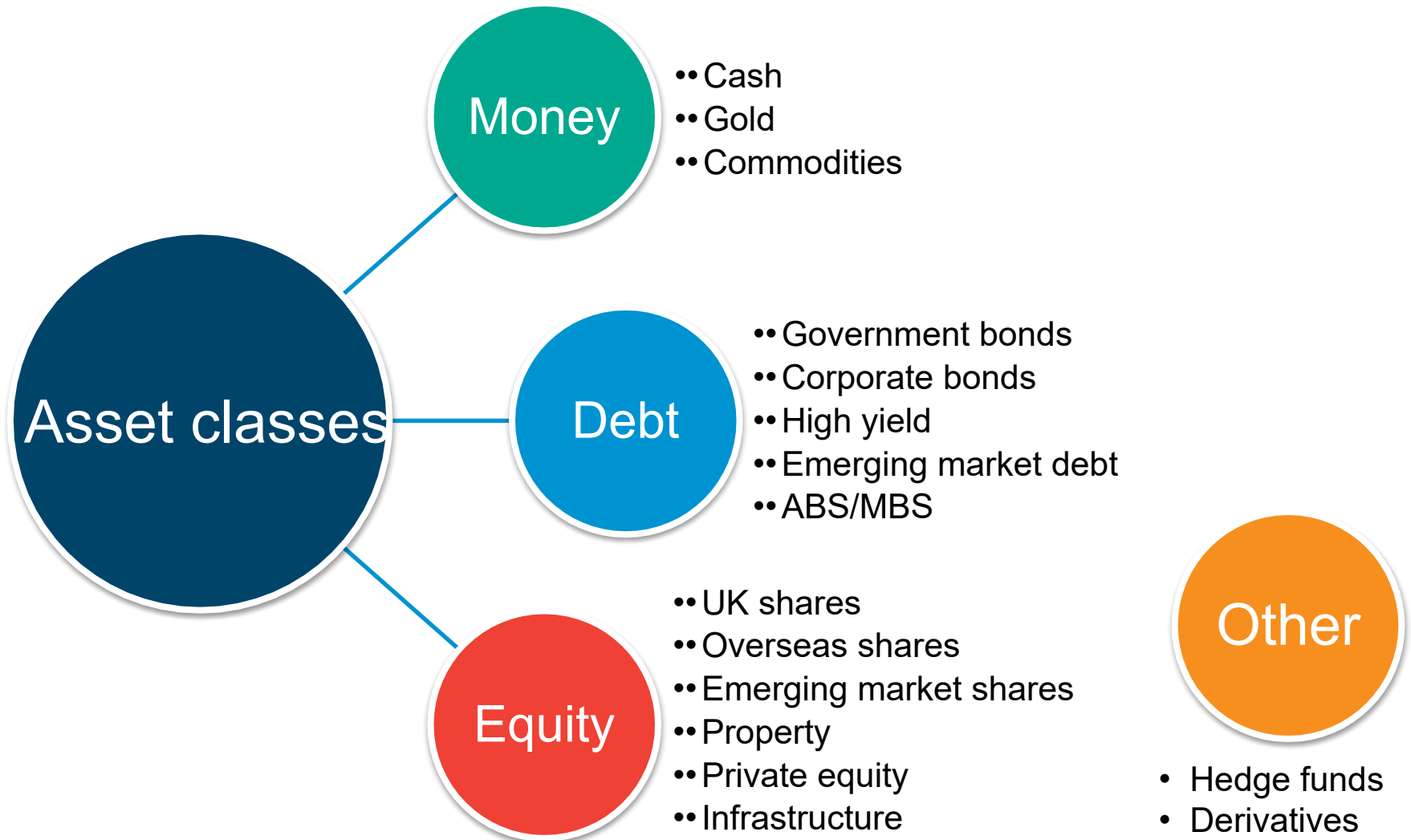
# Governance budget in operation



Passive core/ active satellite structure



# Asset classes

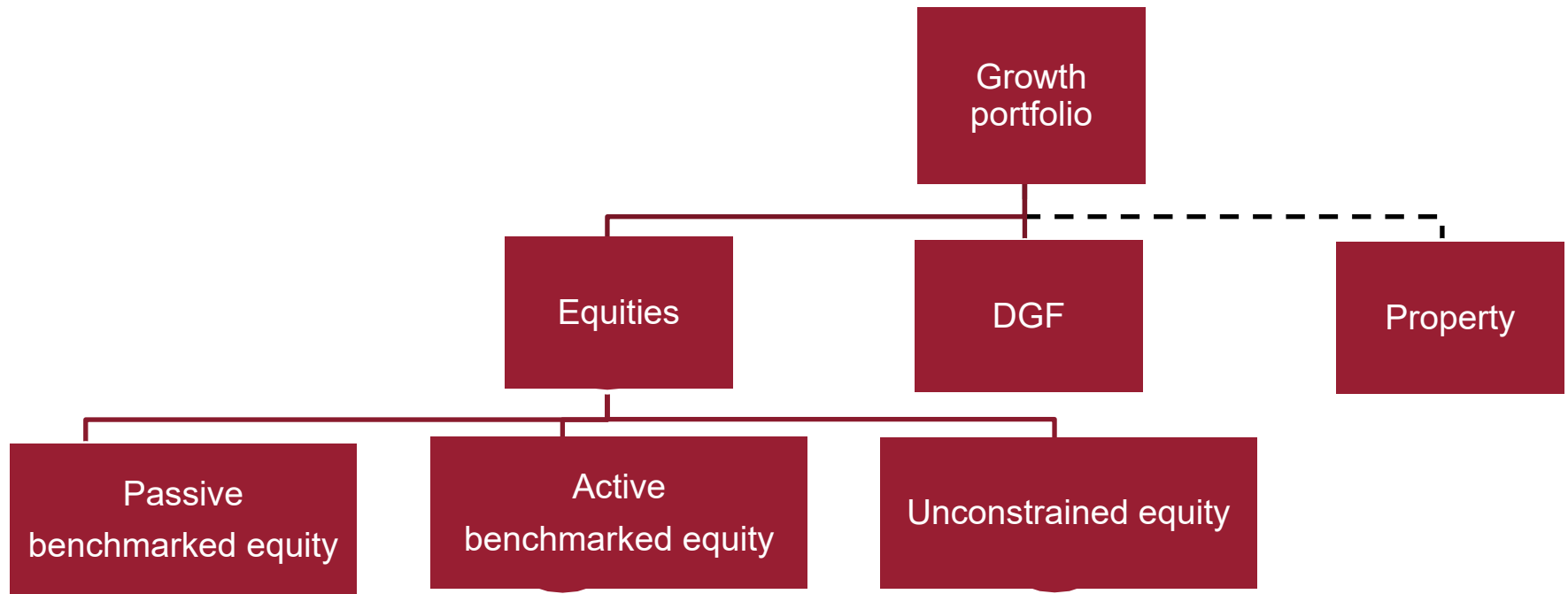




Growth  
strategy

## **CHOOSING RETURN-SEEKING ASSETS**

# Possible growth portfolio strategies



# Traditional investing vs DGF investing

## Traditional investing

Performance objective relates to a benchmark

Managers rarely deviate materially from benchmark

| Asset class         | Example benchmark (%) | Example ranges (%) |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| UK equities         | 30                    | 25 - 35            |
| US equities         | 10                    | 8 - 12             |
| European equities   | 10                    | 8 - 12             |
| Japan/Asia equities | 10                    | 8 - 12             |
| Bonds               | 40                    | 35 - 45            |
| Cash                | 0                     | 0 - 5              |

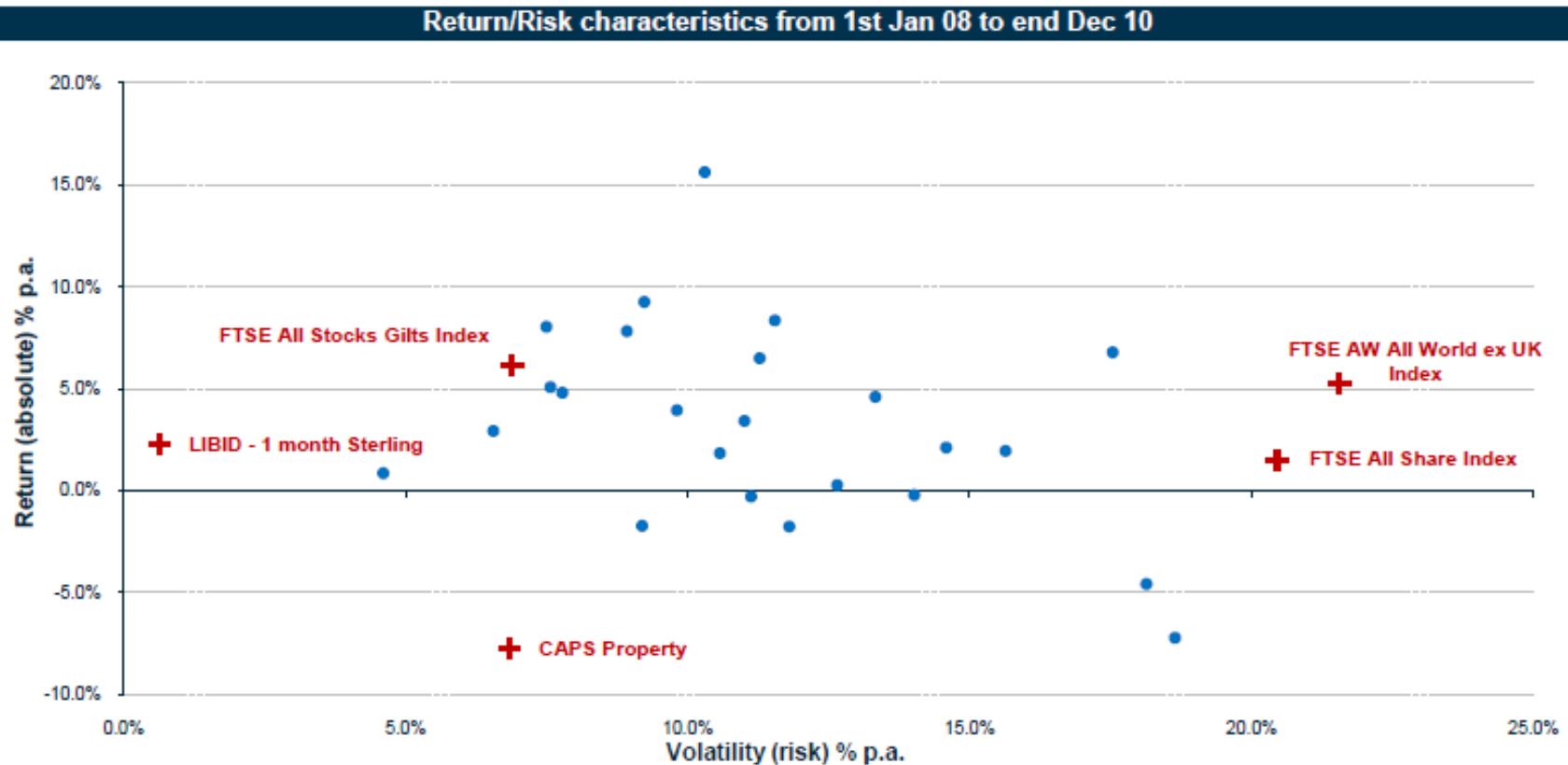
## DGF investing

Performance objective is independent of benchmark

Managers have freedom to invest in a diverse portfolio of assets

| Asset class        | Example ranges (%) |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Equities           | 0 - 75             |
| Bonds              | 0 - 75             |
| Alternative assets | 0 - 20             |
| Cash               | 0 - 100            |

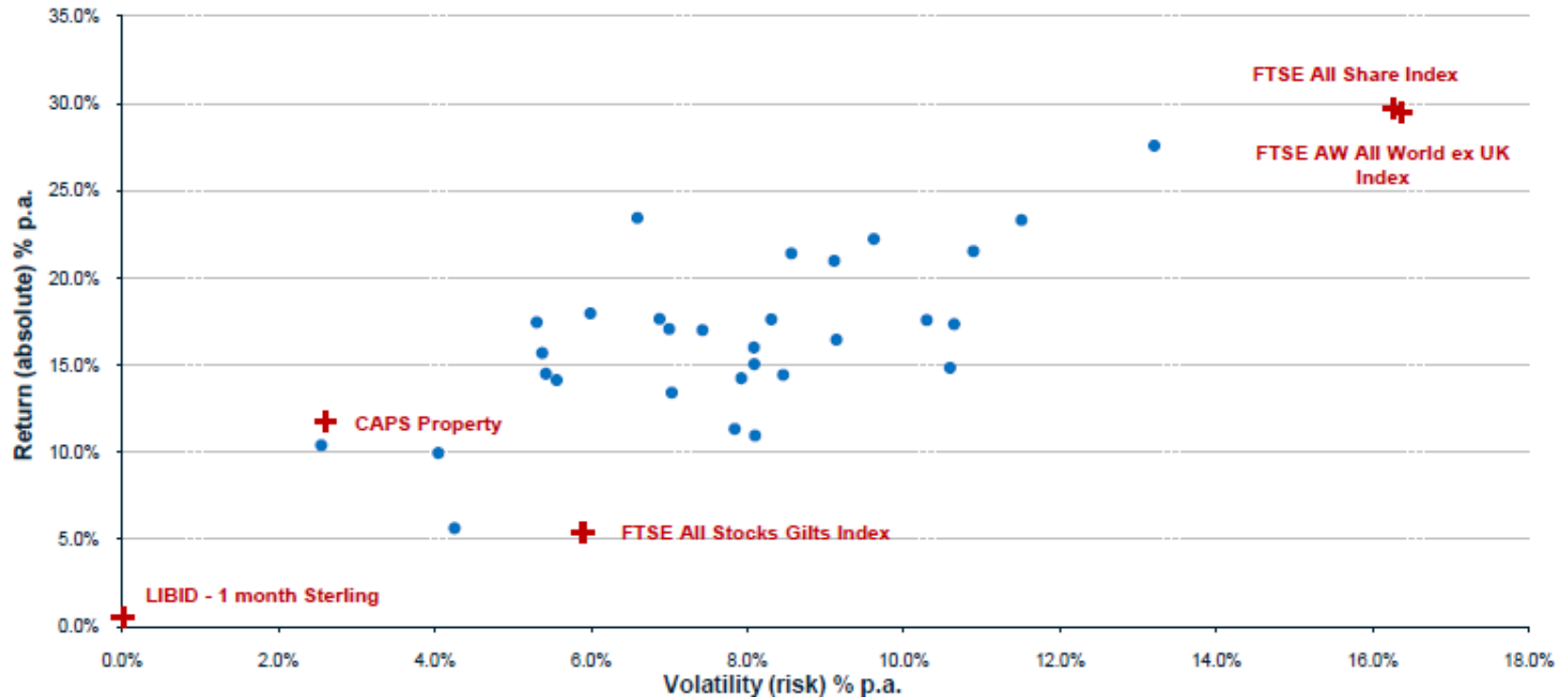
# DGF: Risk vs return



Source: Barnett Waddingham

# DGF: Bull market

Return/Risk characteristics from 1st Jul 09 to end Dec 10



Source: Barnett Waddingham



## **MATCHING THE FUND'S LIABILITIES**

# Protection portfolio recommendations

- Fund liabilities are entirely inflation-linked.....
- .....but the Fund's bond assets are entirely fixed interest.

Maintain equal weighting to government and corporate debt

Switch fixed interest gilts into index-linked gilts

- To introduce inflation protection into the Fund

Consider passive index-linked gilt exposure

- Limited size of index-linked gilt market



# Investment strategy proposals

| Proposal                    |  | Section reference |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------|
| <b>Equity:bond split</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Maintain a strategy structured around an investment of <b>80%</b> in growth type assets (i.e. equities) and <b>20%</b> in protection type assets (i.e. bonds).</li> <li>– However, consider the separation of the current multi-asset briefs into <b>explicit growth and protection mandates</b>.</li> </ul>  | 5                 |
| <b>Management structure</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Consider adopting a core/satellite management structure, including an assessment of the <b>merits of active versus passive management</b> and the extent to which single mandates could be added to the investment strategy having regard for the resulting governance implications.</li> </ul>   | 6                 |
| <b>Growth portfolio</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Whilst we believe the Fund’s current equity portfolio is suitably diversified, we would favour the use of an <b>unconstrained global equity</b> mandate, where the manager would be given the freedom to invest in different equity regions on a tactical basis rather than being constrained to benchmark allocations.</li> <li>– No separate strategic allocation to <b>emerging market or frontier market equities</b> to be considered given exposure within the above mandates.</li> </ul> | 7.1               |
|                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Adding complexity to the investment strategy as noted above leads us to believe that, whilst the introduction of <b>property</b> to the investment strategy is not unreasonable, there are other demands on the governance budget that should take precedence at the current time.</li> </ul>   | 7.2               |
|                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– An active approach to <b>commodity</b> investing is preferred, although no separate strategic allocation to commodities is proposed for the Fund at this time. Instead, consider exposure to commodities through a diversified growth fund.</li> </ul>  | 7.3               |
|                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Introduce diversification away from the equity market within the growth portfolio via the use of a <b>diversified growth mandate</b>.</li> </ul>  | 7.4               |
| <b>Protection portfolio</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Maintain an <b>equal weighting to government and corporate bonds</b> within the protection portfolio.</li> <li>– Replace the fixed interest gilts exposure with <b>index-linked gilts</b> thus introducing an element of inflation protection into the Fund.</li> </ul>   | 8                 |

# Proposed mandate allocation

## All allocations as a % of total Fund assets

|                       | 80% growth   | 20% protection               |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------------|
| <b>Core: 40%</b>      | 30%  | 10%                          |
|                       | - passive global equities  | - passive index-linked gilts |
| <b>Satellite: 60%</b> | 50%  | 10%                          |
|                       | - 40% allocated between an unconstrained equity mandate and the Fund's existing mandates | - active corporate bonds     |
|                       | - 10% diversified growth   |                              |