

#### Australian Leaders Fund AGM October 2017

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#### **ALF Performance Review**

- ALF has fallen short of the target returns in FY'2017.
  - NTA return has been flat (excluding dividend)
- Comparisons with the share market are unhelpful as the fund is fully hedged
  - > Insurance has a considerable cost- we don't participate in a rising market
- ALF's strategy will protect shareholders when this bull market ends
  - A key objective of the fund
- Lower returns leaves less retained profits to payout dividends
- The manager has invested in building depth and experience of team.

# ALF Performance Summary – Key Objectives

Objective 1: Absolute Returns in excess of the All Ordinaries Accumulation Index

	1 Year	2 Years (pa)	5 Years (pa)	Since Inception (pa)
Long Portfolio	19.1%	18.8%	18.2%	-
Short Portfolio	15.1%	6.2%	4.8%	-
ALF	2.0%	6.5%	12.3%	13.0%
All Ords Accum	13.1%	7.4%	11.6%	8.8%
Excess	-11.1%	-0.9%	0.7%	4.2%
Avg Net Exposure	-3.0%	-7.0%	18.0%	-
Fund Beta	-0.06	-0.04	0.05	0.69

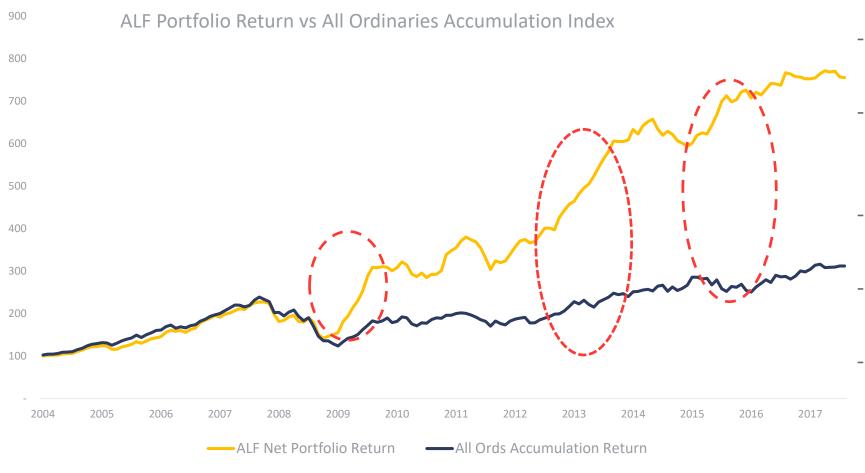
ALF Portfolio Performance as at 30 June 2017

- Stock selection has been strong in the long portfolio
- Shorts have detracted from returns in recent months —a tough markets for short sellers
- With a fully hedged portfolio we get no uplift from the share market



# ALF Performance Review – Key Objectives

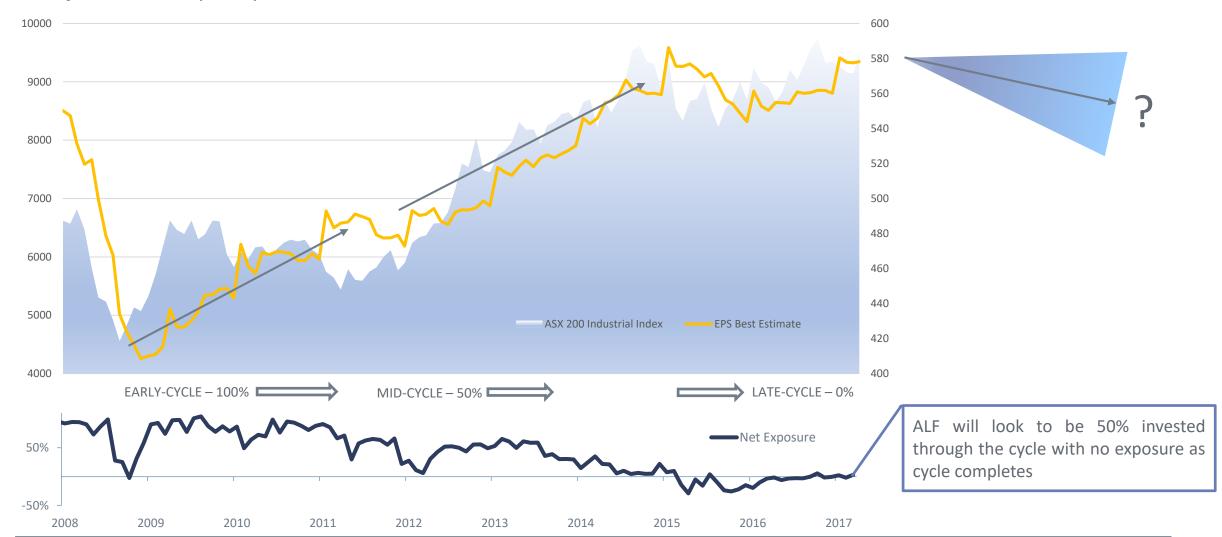
Objective 1: Absolute Returns in excess of the All Ordinaries Accumulation Index



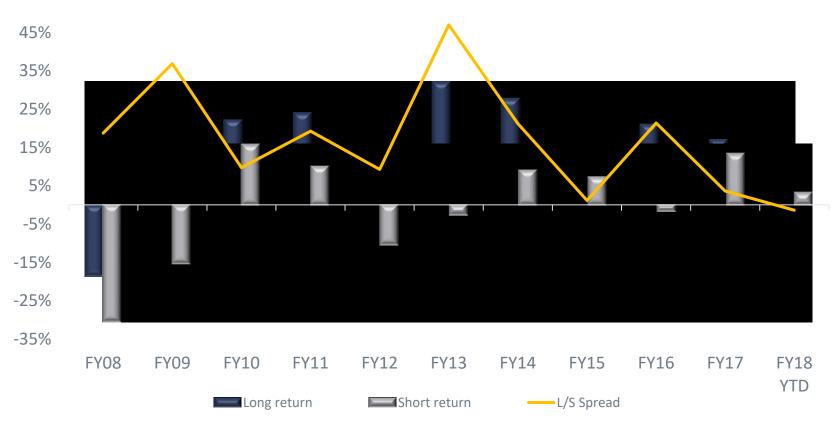
- ALF's performance has rarely been a straight line
- Periods of strong performance generally followed by periods of consolidation
- Returns have a low correlation with the share market
- ALF underperformed in FY17 after outperforming by 9% in FY16
- The Fund has beaten its benchmark by 4% pa. since inception

# ALF Performance Summary – Key Objectives

Objective 2: Capital preservation when risks are elevated



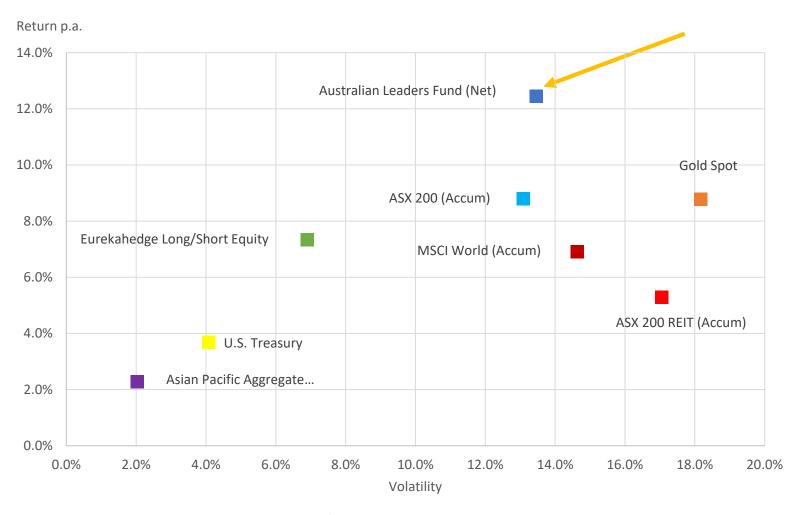
## Cost of Portfolio Insurance in a Rising Market



- Watermark has consistently added value through creating a positive spread. Outperformance of Longs Vs Shorts
- Returns have varied through the cycle.
- When fully hedged like this, the value of the fund should only fall if the manager is unable to create a positive spread. (before costs)

Equally weighted long and short portfolio returns for ALF – DOES NOT REPRESENT ACTUAL FUND RETURN

## Alternative strategies like ALF are a separate asset class



- With an average net exposure through the cycle of 50%, ALF behaves differently to equities and other asset classes
- ALF offers an 'equity-like' exposure with an ability to hedge equity market risk
- ALF has outperformed hedge funds globally

Bloomberg asset class index returns since Jan 2004 for: ASA51, ASA5PROP, NDDUWI, GOLDS Comdty, EHFI252, LUATTRUU, LAPCTRIU Indices. ALF in Jan 2004. ALF portfolio return is net of all fees.

## Where do dividends come from when ALF is fully hedged?

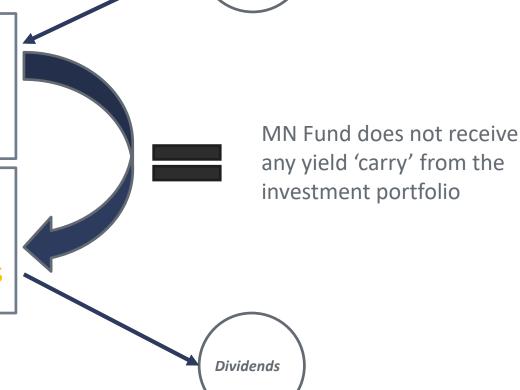
Dividends are paid from capital profit <u>along</u>, the fund does not get the benefit of a rising share market or from dividends received on long portfolio.

#### Long Portfolio

Receive dividends from long positions

#### **Short Portfolio**

Pay dividends to beneficial owners of shorts



**Dividends** 

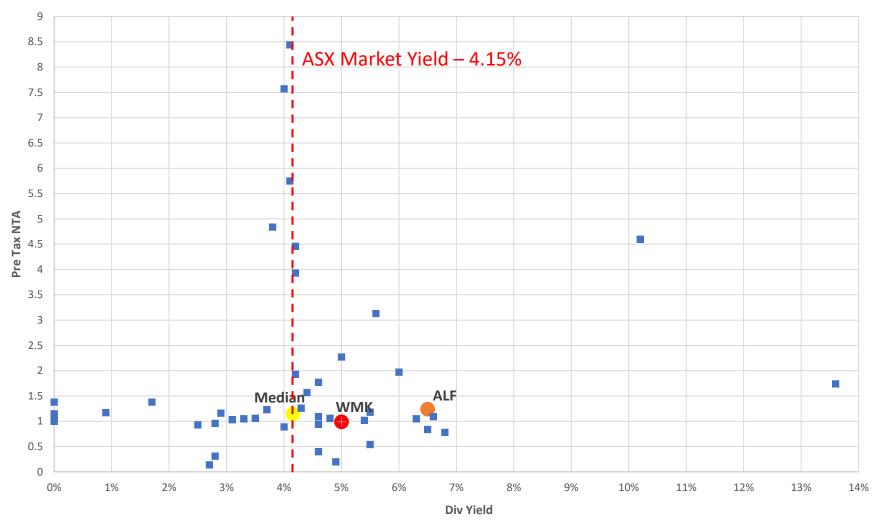
## Where do dividends come from when ALF is fully hedged?

Long Only Manager	Target	Predictability
Dividends Received (long)	4% pa	High
Dividends Paid (short)	0	High
Capital Gain (market)	4%	Low
Interest Income	0%	Medium
Capital Gain (outperformance of Q1 mgr)	3%	Low
Total	11%	Low
Less Tax	3%	
Profit (to fund dividend)	8%	Low

ALF (When Hedged)	Target	Predictability
Dividends Received (long)	4%	High
Dividends Paid (short)	(4)%	High
Capital Gain (market)	0%	High
Interest Income	1.5%	High
Capital Gain (outperformance)	8-10%	Low
Total	11.5%	Low
Less Tax	3%	
Profit (to fund dividend)	8.5%	Low

For Illustrative purposes only.

# Dividend yields / NTA in the Australian LIC peer group



Source: Independent Investment Research. Data as at 31 August 2017. Based on fully paid ordinary shares available for trade. Pre tax-NTA includes tax paid on realised gains