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Royal London European Sustainable Credit Fund

Quarterly Investment Report

31 March 2026



Quarterly Report

The fund as at 31 March 2026

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Royal London European Sustainable Credit Fund. The report has been produced by Royal London Asset Management. The report starts with a summary dashboard showing key information about the fund. A glossary is located at the end of the report covering the description of some of the more technical terms used within the report. All data is as at the report date unless otherwise stated.

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The fund

Fund performance objective and benchmark

The Fund's investment objective is to outperform the ICE BofAML Euro Corporate & Pfandbrief Total Return EUR Index (the "Benchmark") by 0.50% per annum over rolling three year periods (gross of fees) by investing in bonds that are deemed to make a positive contribution to society. Investments in the Fund will adhere to the Investment Manager's Ethical and Sustainable Investment Policy, as detailed further below and in the "RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT" section of the Prospectus. Investors should note that the Benchmark is being used by the Fund for performance comparison purposes only and the Fund does not intend to track the Benchmark. For further information on the Fund's index, please refer to the Prospectus.

Fund value

	Total €m
31 March 2026	126.36

Fund analytics

	Fund	Benchmark
Fund launch date	29 July 2021	
Fund base currency	EUR	
Benchmark	ICE BofA Euro Corporate & Pfandbrief Index (Total Return, EUR)	
Duration (years)	4.71	4.52
Redemption yield (FX adjusted) (%)	4.05	
Number of holdings	244	4,916
Number of issuers	146	1,041

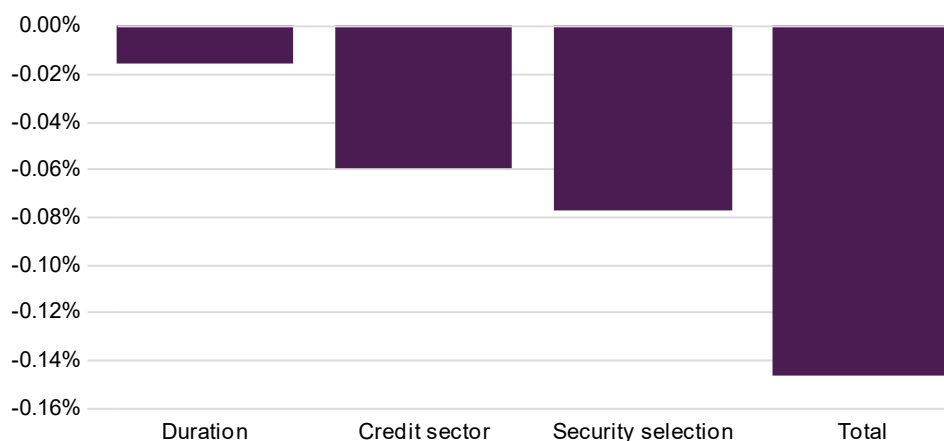
Performance and activity

Performance

	Fund (%)	Benchmark (%)	Relative (%)
Quarter	(1.06)	(0.92)	(0.14)
1 Year	2.36	1.86	0.50
3 Years (p.a.)	5.02	4.24	0.77
Since inception (p.a.)	(0.08)	(0.57)	0.48

Past performance is not a guarantee or reliable indicator of future returns. The impact of fees or other charges, including tax, where applicable, can be material on the performance of your investment. The impact of fees reduces your investment. Please refer to the Glossary for the basis of calculation and impact of fees. Performance and since inception date based on Z Acc EUR. Source: Royal London Asset Management; Gross performance; Since inception date of the share class is 29 July 2021.

Attribution over the quarter



Performance commentary

The fund saw negative returns over the quarter, also underperforming the index (Z Acc EUR). The fund modestly outperformed through January and February, this was reversed in March. The nature of the market volatility, with a sharp sell-off in government bond yields and wider credit spreads, meant that starting March with a long credit stance was going to hurt returns.

Our exposure to subordinated financials was a notable negative for returns due to the general risk-off nature of the sell-off in March with holdings such as NatWest, ABN Amro and BNP Paribas underperforming the market. We have no concerns over the quality of these holdings, and believe that the yield premium these offer continues to compensate us for the risk taken. Insurance holdings, which tend to be longer maturity in nature, also hurt performance.

While performance was behind for the quarter, the long-term track record for the fund remains good. Underpinning this has been a strong and repeatable process and long-term focus that allows us to identify bonds that look good value. Even during the recent sell-off, took advantage of weakness in favoured issuers to add to exposure. This was not a wholesale increase in risk budget, but equally we feel that market weakness like that seen in March provides opportunities to improve future performance by picking up bonds with strong fundamentals and attractive income.

All issuers within our sustainable holdings offer a net benefit to society through either their products/services or their operations. As well as reducing risk, we seek out opportunities that are under-researched e.g., bonds that do not fall into mainstream indices or benchmarks and/or are unrated by ratings agencies. Importantly, the sustainable credit proposition provides access to critical sectors that most investors can't access via equity markets. Key themes in the funds include social housing, social & environmental infrastructure, community funding (regulated banks and building societies focused on SME and retail lending), financial inclusion & resilience (such as insurers offering products which protect individuals and businesses from unexpected events) and the energy transition. On sustainability grounds, we have no exposure to bonds of oil & gas companies or extractive industries. We are also underweight in the general industrial and consumer goods sectors (the latter partly due to not holding tobacco or alcohol-related bonds), and to a lesser extent in consumer services.

Performance and activity

Top 10 holdings

	Weighting (%)
HANNOVER RUECK SE 1.375 30 Jun 2042	2.14
NATWEST GROUP PLC 5.763 28 Feb 2034	1.41
ALLIANZ SE 2.121 08 Jul 2050	1.33
AKELIUS RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY FINAN 1 17 Jan 2028	1.33
BUNZL FINANCE PLC 3.375 09 Apr 2032	1.32
ABN AMRO BANK NV 5.5 21 Sep 2033	1.31
AXA SA 5.5 11 Jul 2043	1.30
GEWOBAG WOHNUNGSBAU AG BERLIN 0.125 24 Jun 2027	1.27
LLOYDS BANKING GROUP PLC 4.375 05 Apr 2034	1.25
SKANDINAVISKA ENSKILDA BANKEN AB 5 17 Aug 2033	1.16
Total	13.82

Fund activity

We continued to invest in bonds that meet both our demanding financial and sustainable criteria, and which fit into the sustainable themes that we think will endure and offer long-term solutions to the challenges that the world faces. We also aim to construct the fund to ensure that it yields more than the benchmark index. We believe that this positioning will be beneficial in the medium term, given the current valuation of credit markets and attractive opportunities we see.

New issue activity is typically high in the first quarter of the year, with this one no exception, despite the pace of overall issuance falling sharply in March in both euro and sterling markets. We continued to find attractive opportunities across the market – both in established, larger sectors such as financials, and newer areas that add diversification in terms of sector and underlying currency. US dollar markets were still very active in March, recording the fourth highest monthly total of all time.

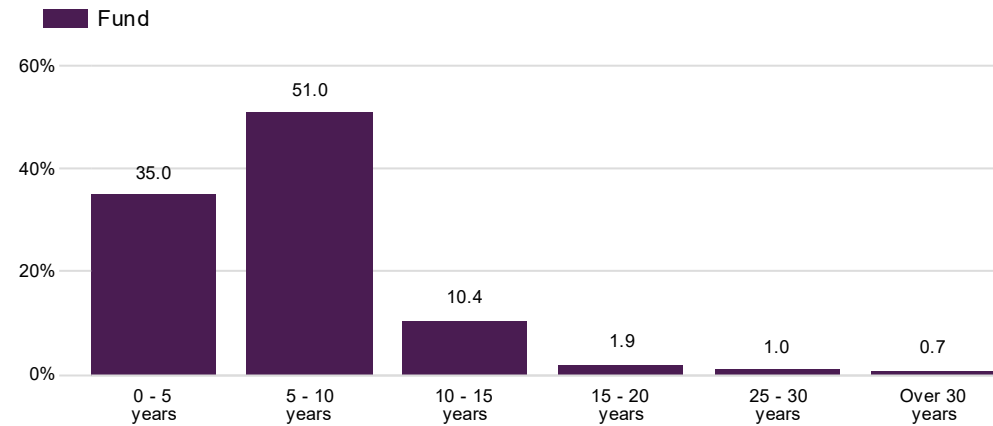
Financials remain a key part of the fund: these are the largest single sector in corporate indices and our credit portfolios have a long-standing high level of exposure to the sector as we believed that credit spreads looked attractive for the risk taken. We focused more on senior issues during the quarter, reflecting more volatile markets, yet still achieved higher yield premia than market average. Examples over the quarter included BBVA, KBC, Commerzbank and Mizuho.

AT1 bonds are deeply subordinated and are designed to absorb losses should a bank have difficulties – with RT1 bonds similarly attractive when issued by insurers. Our exposure to these bonds is limited to those institutions where our credit analysis shows a strong capital position and business model, as well as offering an attractive yield to reflect the risks of the instrument. With risk-off sentiment affecting these bonds more, we took advantage to add bonds at attractive levels in the secondary markets, examples including ABN Amro and BNP Paribas.

Other new issue activity included the real estate sector, notably Akelius Residential and Hemso Fastighets. Akelius owns and manages metropolitan apartments in a number of European cities, while Hemso is a largely publicly owned Swedish organisation that owns properties for public use – such as nursing homes, education and healthcare – in Sweden, Germany and Finland.

Fund breakdown

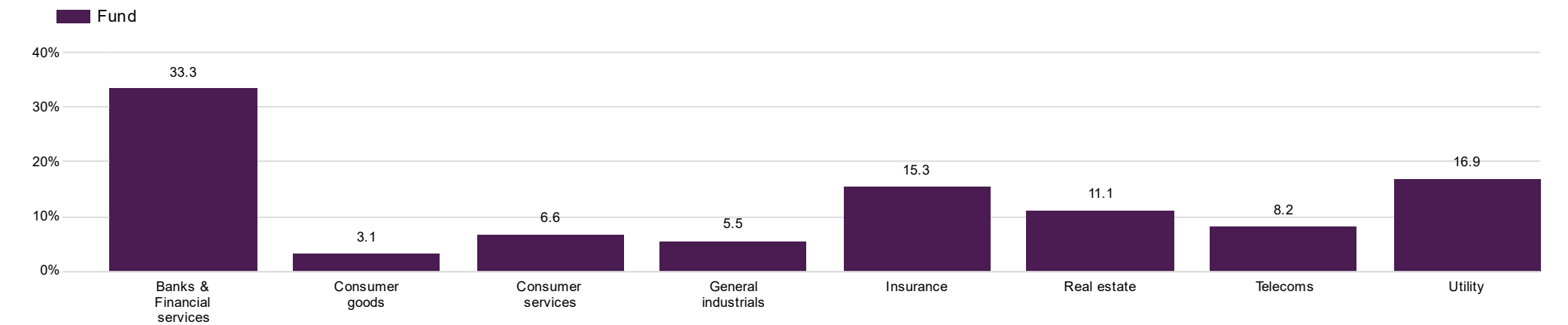
Maturity profile



Credit ratings



Sector breakdown















Characteristics and climate

Sustainable investment rationale

The Fund focuses on the sustainability of the products and services of the companies it invests in, as well as their standards of environmental, social, governance ("ESG") management, alongside financial analysis. The investment approach is fundamentally based on positive screening; identifying companies that are making a positive contribution towards a cleaner, healthier, safer and more inclusive society, through assessing both what a company does and how it does it, and through active engagement to encourage continual improvement. The fund will not invest in companies that undertake business activities deemed to be detrimental to society and that breach our Do No Significant Harm principle. Further details of the Funds Sustainable Investment process can be found in the ethical and sustainable investment policy at www.rlam.com/uk/individual-investors/policies-and-regulatory/

Fund exclusions

Exclusion criteria that make sure a fund does not invest into a specific service or product. Royal London Asset Management has a controversial weapons exclusion across all investments.

 Adult entertainment	✓	 High environmental impact	✓
 Alcohol	✓	 Human rights issues	✓
 Animal welfare	✓	 Nuclear power	✓
 Armaments	✓	 Nuclear weapons	✓
 Fossil fuels	✓	 Tobacco	✓
 Gambling	✓	 UNGC / OECD violators	✓

Climate metrics

	Fund	Benchmark	Difference (%)
Financed emissions (tCO2e)	3,267	n/a	n/a
Financed emissions coverage	96.17%	n/a	n/a
Carbon footprint (tCO2e/\$M invested)	22.56	45.47	(50.38)
Carbon footprint coverage	96.17%	96.07%	0.11
Weighted average carbon intensity (tCO2e/\$M sales)	64.68	86.65	(25.35)
Weighted average carbon intensity coverage	97.70%	97.68%	0.02

All climate metrics presented above are for Scope 1-2 emissions. Unless specified in the objective, the data is for information only and should not be taken to mean they are being managed to/controlled.

Implied temperature rise

	Fund (%)	Benchmark (%)	Difference (%)
Implied temperature rise (ITR) coverage	87.10	92.77	(6.12)
% of portfolio below 2°C ITR	64.86	53.32	21.64
% of portfolio below 1.5°C ITR	38.66	20.72	86.58

SBTi net - zero

	Fund (%)	Benchmark (%)	Difference (%)
SBTi Net-Zero committed	13.63	17.37	(21.49)
SBTi Near-Term committed	9.02	4.34	108.00
SBTi Near-Term targets set	24.28	31.43	(22.74)

Fund Engagement

Engagement definition

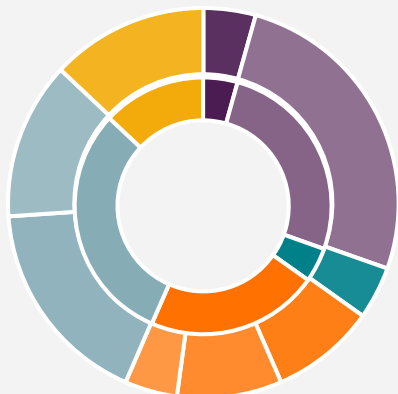
Engagement is active dialogue with investee companies (or other entities). There are two types: engagement for information, which is dialogue as part of investment research or ongoing monitoring, without specific objectives for change, and engagement for change, which is purposeful dialogue to influence positive change, with defined objectives and demonstrable outcomes.

Engagements

Engagement activity	Fund 3 months	Fund 12 months
Number of entities engaged	15	35
Number of engagements	21	95

This is an estimate. Some engagements at the issuer level may not have been attributed to the specific bond held in the fund, resulting in a lower number of engagement activities.

Total engagements by theme and topic



Biodiversity	1	Technology, Innovation & Society	3
Climate	6	Technology & Society	3
Climate - Transition Risk	6		
Environment	1		
Governance	5		
Corporate Governance	2		
Strategy	2		
Board	1		
Social & Financial Inclusion	7		
Labour & Human Rights	4		
Just transition	3		

Engagement focus

Firm-wide engagement activity is centred around six themes which we have identified in consultation with our clients. These are: climate change; nature and biodiversity; health; governance and corporate culture; social and financial inclusion; innovation, technology and society. Portfolio level engagements are not thematic and are focussed on issues specific to managing the portfolio and meeting the investment objective.

Engagement data represents all engagements undertaken at both firm and portfolio level across Royal London Asset Management, and may not be limited to those undertaken solely for the purpose of managing the fund.

The numbers of engagements and themes/topics discussed may differ where a single engagement covers multiple themes/topics.

Fund Engagement

Engagement outcomes

HSBC Holdings PLC – Just Transition

Purpose:

We engaged HSBC Holdings PLC, a UK-listed bank, to understand how it integrates social considerations into its climate transition strategy, including impacts on workers, communities, and regional economies.

Outcome:

HSBC now formally acknowledges the importance of a just transition and has taken initial steps to embed it into its strategy, such as updating internal governance and including social factors in its sector and regional engagement frameworks. While no single 'best-in-class' mechanism has emerged, the bank's development of inclusive product design and regional support for small and medium sized businesses demonstrates clear progress. Further work is needed to ensure these commitments are consistently applied across its financing activities.

Lloyds Banking Group PLC – Just Transition

Purpose:

Lloyds Banking Group PLC, a UK-listed bank, was engaged to explore how it is considering social risks, such as community resilience and customer inclusivity, as it transitions to a low-carbon economy.

Outcome:

Lloyds has begun integrating just transition principles into its climate strategy, highlighted through early implementation of region- and sector-focused lending criteria that reflect social and customer considerations. Through its lending to Community Development Financial Institutions, Lloyds demonstrates core just transition principles, fairness, inclusion and place-based support, within its community lending activity. Through our engagement, Lloyds has demonstrated meaningful improvements in product design and regional support initiatives. It acknowledges the need to further align these efforts across all financing activities.

NatWest Group PLC – Just Transition

Purpose:

NatWest Group PLC, a UK-listed bank, was engaged to explore how it considers the broader social impact, on workers and regions, when providing finance to clients through its transition strategy.

Outcome:

NatWest formally recognises the need for a just transition approach in its climate planning and has taken initial steps to reflect social aspects in lending and client engagement strategies. In particular, its Human Rights Report, an early version of which RLAM provided feedback on, demonstrates how financial institutions can align climate strategy with human rights principles. The bank illustrated improvements such as regional analysis and product design aligned with just transition goals. We will monitor how these considerations are scaled.

Fund Engagement

Engagement outcomes

RELX PLC – Sustainable and Ethical AI

Purpose:

RELX PLC, an information and analytics company, was engaged to discuss its approach to ethical and sustainable AI, with a particular focus on governance, customer due diligence for sensitive use cases (including government contracts), safeguards against misuse, and emerging environmental impacts of AI. The engagement sought to understand how responsible AI principles are operationalised across the business, how human rights risks are assessed, and how oversight is exercised at senior and board level, in line with our expectations on responsible and ethical AI.

Outcome:

The engagement provided greater insight into RELX's responsible AI governance, including a combination of senior-level oversight and distributed operational responsibility across teams, as well as ongoing updates to its responsible AI principles. The company described training, due diligence processes, and technical safeguards, and outlined emerging work on human rights impact assessments and AI-related emissions accounting. However, concerns remain around customer due diligence outcomes, measures to ensure products are not misused, and public disclosure of how AI-related risks are managed in practice. We will continue engagement to seek clearer evidence of how these risks are identified, mitigated and overseen, and to encourage alignment with evolving best practice on responsible AI governance, human rights due diligence, and sustainable AI.

Unilever – Nature

Purpose:

Unilever PLC, a consumer goods company, shared information on how it identifies and manages nature- and climate-related risks across its operations and supply chains. The information focused on areas where nature impacts are most material, including regenerative agriculture, deforestation-free sourcing and water stewardship.

Outcome:

Unilever outlined how its sustainability commitments are being translated into action through programmes focused on landscape protection, regenerative agriculture and water stewardship. The company described progress in scaling regenerative farming practices and using basin-level water risk assessments to inform sourcing and product innovation, including the development of water-efficient products. It also acknowledged that measuring and reporting outcomes remains an evolving area, with more robust data expected over the coming years. We will endeavour to continue engagement to monitor progress, encourage clearer disclosure on outcomes and methodologies, and assess how nature-related risks are reflected in longer-term planning.

Market commentary

Market overview

The first quarter of 2026 was dominated by a sudden regime shift as geopolitics moved to the centre of the macro picture. Escalating tensions in the Gulf region came to a head in late February with the US-Israel offensive against Iran. The escalation added an additional layer of uncertainty and triggered concerns over oil and gas supplies, energy prices and near-term inflation risks. Brent crude hit more than 105 US dollars per barrel at the end of March as supply through the Strait of Hormuz was restricted and gas prices also surged, leading to a quickly deteriorating risk sentiment.

In the US, the spike in oil prices was a headwind, but the economy's energy sensitivity proved lower than in past shocks and the US benefits from being a major producer, helping US equities show relative resilience even as the quarter ended weakly. Investors also had to digest policy uncertainty after legal constraints changed the scope for tariffs announced in April 2025 and new tariff proposals reintroduced volatility, complicating the outlook for inflation and limiting the Federal Reserve's room to cut rates. Markets weighed the risk of a prolonged energy shock elevating recession likelihood later in 2026, even if the base case remained for a modest growth hit and higher near-term inflation.

As a net importer and more exposed to gas prices, the eurozone faced a tougher growth-inflation trade-off, even as incoming data still pointed to modest expansion and easing headline inflation. The ECB kept its policy unchanged with the deposit rate at 2%, but the broader oil and gas price shock pushed markets to reassess the path of European rates.

In the UK, the macro backdrop was similarly shaped by the energy price shock, but equities proved comparatively more defensive than some global peers, echoing patterns seen in prior commodity-driven events. In sterling credit, spreads that had tightened through 2025 began to widen in early 2026, with concerns over US private credit having a greater influence than Iran developments, while higher underlying gilt yields further lifted all-in yields.

Government bond markets bore the brunt of the repricing. Front end yields jumped, and curves reset higher as investors moved from expecting rate cuts to pricing fewer cuts, or even hikes, with higher energy costs seen as an inflationary impulse that central banks could not ignore. Moves in short-dated yields were especially pronounced as markets tried to map the oil shock into policy reaction functions, while longer dated yields also swung as markets attempted to price the risks of any or all of higher inflation, lower growth and even potentially larger government borrowing.

UK 10-year gilt yields shot up to 4.92%, up from 4.48% at the end of December and surpassing their highest levels seen last year (4.89% in January 2025). In the US, 10-year treasury yields rose to 4.31% in March from 4.14% at the end of December. The German 10-year bund yield was 2.98% at the end of the first quarter, rising from 2.82% three months prior.

Global investment grade credit markets saw negative returns over the quarter. Credit spreads were moderately wider over the quarter – reflecting the negative impact of higher energy prices on global growth – although the rise in underlying government bond yields was the main driver of negative returns. Credit markets generally outperformed, reflecting the shorter duration that broad government bond indices as well as the higher income on the asset class that helps offset any weakness. US dollar, euro and sterling markets all saw negative returns, with US market less affected than euro and sterling.

Outlook

The ongoing global macro environment remained unsettled in the first quarter. Geopolitical risks, fiscal uncertainty and divergence in global monetary policy drove volatility in both nominal and real yields. More specifically the recent escalation in tensions around Iran, adds an additional layer of uncertainty to the inflation and growth outlook. While the immediate market focus tends to be on energy prices and near-term inflation risks, history suggests that prolonged geopolitical shocks are ultimately negative for global growth as higher input costs, tighter financial conditions and weaker confidence begin to bite. In this scenario, inflation may prove stickier than central banks would like, even as growth momentum fades.

Global credit markets modestly outperformed government bonds during the first quarter, helped by shorter duration and the higher income. Spreads remain relatively tight compared to the past two decades, but as we pointed out at the start of the year, when looking at a company level, defaults are low, company balance sheets are generally healthy, and investors continue to look for yield. At a fundamental level, we still believe that credit spreads over-compensate investors for default risk, and that the all-in yield on credit remains attractive. Furthermore, we continue to find attractive investment opportunities, partly through the new issue market but also by focusing on exploiting market inefficiencies. By focusing on bottom-up analysis, we continue to build overall portfolios that we believe offer attractive risk / return profiles with above-market yields.

While near-term absolute performance is likely to be heavily influenced by movements in the yields of underlying government bond markets, we believe that continued emphasis on diversification, as well as our focus on income, will continue to support returns as has been the case through the present environment of volatile yields.

Further Information

Please click on the links below for further information:



Find out more

In an uncertain geopolitical and economic environment, we recognise the importance of keeping our clients updated on our current investment thinking.

Articles, videos, podcasts and webinars giving the latest views of our investment experts can be found in the Our Views section of www.rlam.com, including regular updates from our Fixed Income, Global Equity, Sustainable and Multi Asset teams.

Disclaimers

Important information

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Notice for UK Investors

The Fund is recognised in the UK under the Overseas Fund Regime (OFR) but is not a UK authorised fund and is not authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). It is therefore not subject to the same regulatory oversight as UK authorised Funds and is not required to adhere to the UK sustainable investment labelling disclosure requirements. Most of the protections provided by the UK regulatory system, and the compensation under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme, will not be available. Investors are strongly encouraged to seek independent financial advice before making any investment decisions.

The Fund is a sub-fund of Royal London Asset Management Funds plc, an open-ended investment company with variable capital (ICVC), with segregated liability between sub-funds.

Incorporated with limited liability under the laws of Ireland and authorised by the Central Bank of Ireland as a UCITS Fund. It is a recognised scheme under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

The Management Company is FundRock Management Company SA, Registered office: Airport Center Building, 5 Heienhaff, L-1736 Senningerberg, Luxembourg and is authorised and regulated by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (CSSF).

The Investment Manager is Royal London Asset Management Limited.

The Prospectus and Key Investor Information Document (KIID) are available in English via the relevant Fund Information page on www.rlam.com. A summary of investor rights is also available in English, and can be accessed at www.rlam.com/uk/policies-and-regulatory

RLAM may terminate the arrangements made for marketing of the fund pursuant to Article 93a of Directive 2009/65/EC.

For more information on the Fund or the risks of investing, please refer to the Prospectus or Key Investor Information Document (KIID), available via the relevant Fund Information page on www.rlam.com.

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Risks and Warnings

Investment risk

The value of investments and any income from them may go down as well as up and is not guaranteed. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

Credit risk

Should the issuer of a fixed income security become unable to make income or capital payments, or their rating is downgraded, the value of that investment will fall. Fixed income securities that have a lower credit rating can pay a higher level of income and have an increased risk of default.

Exchange rate risk

Investing in assets denominated in a currency other than the base currency of the Fund means the value of the investment can be affected by changes in exchange rates.

Interest rate risk

Fixed interest securities are particularly affected by trends in interest rates and inflation. If interest rates go up, the value of capital may fall, and vice versa. Inflation will also decrease the real value of capital.

Liquidity risk

In difficult market conditions the value of certain fund investments may be difficult to value and harder to sell, or sell at a fair price, resulting in unpredictable falls in the value of your holding.

Responsible investment risk

The Fund can only invest in holdings that demonstrate compliance with certain sustainable indicators or ESG characteristics. This reduces the number securities in which the Fund can invest and there may as a result be occasions where it forgoes more strongly performing investment opportunities, potentially underperforming non-sustainable funds.

Performance to 31 March 2026

Cumulative (%)

Annualised (%)

	3 Month	6 Month	1 Year	3 Years	Since Inception	3 Years (p.a.)	Since Inception (p.a.)
Fund (gross)	(1.06)	(0.67)	2.36	15.84	(0.38)	5.02	(0.08)
Fund (net)	(1.14)	(0.83)	2.04	14.73	(1.86)	4.68	(0.40)

Year on year performance (%)

	31/03/2025 - 31/03/2026	31/03/2024 - 31/03/2025	31/03/2023 - 31/03/2024	31/03/2022 - 31/03/2023	31/03/2021 - 31/03/2022
Fund (gross)	2.36	4.45	8.34	(7.87)	-
Fund (net)	2.04	4.11	8.00	(8.16)	-

Past performance is not a guarantee or reliable indicator of future returns. The impact of fees or other charges, including tax, where applicable, can be material on the performance of your investment. The impact of fees reduces your investment.

Source: RLAM as at 31 March 2026. All figures are mid-price to mid-price for the Royal London European Sustainable Credit Fund Z Acc EUR share class. Since inception date 29 July 2021.

Glossary

Asset allocation

Breakdown of the assets by asset classes. Based on RLAM asset classification scheme.

Attribution

Attribution is shown for the most recent quarter. Attribution figures are based on close of business returns for both the fund and the index whereas performance figures are based on midday returns for the fund and close of business for the index. Therefore the performance will not include market moves between midday when the fund is priced, and close of business when the index is calculated. This may result in a different figure being shown for the quarterly performance vs attribution data.

Bonds

Securities that represent an obligation to repay a debt, with interest. Investment grade bonds are high quality bonds that are viewed as being highly likely to make all scheduled payments of interest and principal. Low quality bonds carry higher risk but also typically pay higher rates of interest. Corporate bonds are those issued by companies to raise finance.

Carbon footprint

Exposure to high emitters in the portfolio, expressed in tCO₂e/\$M invested. Financed emissions are divided by the portfolio value, the same approach for listed companies and private issuers is applied in this metric.

Credit ratings

Credit ratings are based on RLAM composite ratings which uses a hierarchy of S&P, Moody's and then the Fitch rating.

Currency hedged share classes

Currency Hedged Share Classes aim to provide investors with a return highly correlated to the return of the base currency share class by minimising the impact of exchange rate fluctuations between the base currency of the Fund and the investor's chosen currency. Derivatives are typically used to hedge the relevant share classes.

Derivatives

A financial instrument whose price is dependent upon or derived from one or more underlying asset.

Duration

Measure of sensitivity of a Fixed Income instrument to changes in interest rates, indicating the potential impact of interest rate fluctuations on the value of the investment.

ESG Integration

The consideration of environmental, social and governance (ESG) risk as part of the investment process. ESG integration does not mean the fund is trying to achieve a particular positive ESG outcome. Please check prospectus documentation for details on specific fund-level objectives.

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Efficient Portfolio Management (EPM) techniques

The Fund may engage in EPM techniques including holdings of derivative instruments. The use of these instruments may expose the Fund to volatile investment returns and increase the volatility of the net asset value of the Fund. EPM techniques may involve the Fund entering into transactions with counterparties where there may be a risk of counterparty default. The Fund's ability to use EPM strategies may be limited by market conditions, regulatory limits and tax considerations.

Environmental, social and governance

A list of predefined criteria that determines how a company operates in terms of sustainability and overall corporate governance.

Exclusions

Explicitly prohibits investing in a particular company, sector, business activity, country or region.

Financed emissions

The emissions from activities in the real economy that are financed through lending and investment portfolios, expressed in tCO₂e. Emissions are attributed to a portfolio based on the portion of the company's value the portfolio holds, and using different accounting values for public and private corporates. We provide financed emissions for scope 1 and 2 emissions.

Fund analytics

All figures exclude cash. Credit bonds include non-sterling bonds and CDs where held within the fund or benchmark. This is applicable to the following sections: fund Asset Allocation, Duration, Yield curve, Sector breakdown, Financial holdings, Credit ratings.

Glossary

Fund restrictions definitions

Alcohol: Companies which have involvement in brewing, distillation or sale of alcoholic drinks.

Animal Welfare: Companies that conduct animal testing (other than for purposes of human or animal health and/or where it is required by law or regulation).

Adult Entertainment: Companies which own or produce adult entertainment services, or engage in the distribution or sale of adult entertainment services.

Armaments: Companies who manufacture armaments or nuclear weapons or associated products.

Controversial Weapons: Weapons which have an indiscriminate and disproportional impact on civilians or weapons that are illegal and prohibited by international conventions and treaties.

Fossil Fuels: Companies involved in the exploration, extraction or refining of oil, or gas, or coal, plus any activity relating to thermal coal.

Gambling: Companies who promote irresponsible gambling which includes betting shops, casinos or amusement arcades.

High Environmental Impact: Companies which have a high environmental impact, and which have 'no evidence' of appropriate environmental management systems.

Human Rights Risks: Companies with a strategic presence operating in countries of concern and which have 'no evidence' of policies or systems to manage human rights risks.

Nuclear Power: Companies who generate energy from Nuclear Power.

Nuclear Weapons: Companies that manufacture, nuclear; or are involved in the production of intended-use parts, whole weapons systems, or exclusive delivery platforms.

Fund restrictions definitions

Tobacco: Companies which are growing, processing or selling tobacco products.

Implied temperature rise (ITR)

ITR aims to measure the global warming outcome from the emissions trajectory of a company, if the whole economy followed the same trajectory.

Number of holdings

Total number of unique holdings of the Fund excluding cash, currency and derivatives.

Number of issuers

Number of unique issuers of all assets held by the Fund, excluding cash, currency and derivatives.

Performance

Both the Fund and Index performance are based on close of business prices.

Pricing

The Fund's price may swing to bid or offer to protect existing investors from the costs associated with buying or selling the fund's underlying assets when other investors are entering or leaving the fund. Performance is based on this pricing.

Promotes environmental or social factors

An ESG Fund promotes, among other characteristics, environmental or social characteristics, or a combination of those characteristics, provided that the companies in which the investments are made follow good governance practices.

Redemption yield

The weighted average rate of discount at which the future obligations of interest and capital payments of each of the fund's holdings excluding cash, in each case calculated to the point in time at which each is expected to redeem, equates to its current price, gross of relevant fund management costs and gross of tax. For funds that are sold in various hedged currency share classes, yield is adjusted to reflect the impact of FX hedging and excludes the impact of cash.

SBTi

The Science-Based Targets initiative is a consortium of organisations that set up the definition and promotion of science-based target setting.

Sector breakdown

Breakdown of the fixed income assets, excluding derivatives and cash by RLAM's internal industry sector classification scheme. Figures are subject to rounding.

Sustainable fund objective

A product that has sustainable investment or a reduction in carbon emissions as its objective.

Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI)

In line with our bespoke and targeted approach to credit analysis, we have developed an in-house carbon data tool that addresses coverage and mapping issues with third party systems. The development of this tool has been a critical element of RLAM's ESG integration into our credit process, addressing coverage and mapping issues with third party systems. This enhanced coverage is reflected in the WACI figures provided in this report, with all other metrics instead being based on data from MSCI.

Glossary

Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI)

Portfolio's exposure to carbon-intensive companies, expressed in tCO₂e / \$M revenue. Scope 1 and scope 2 GHG emissions are divided by companies revenues, then multiplied based on portfolio weights (the current value of the investment relative to the current portfolio value). The WACI is calculated as a weighted average sum of the holdings with carbon intensity coverage.