



## MLC Wholesale Horizon 3 Conservative Growth Portfolio

MLC0398AU Author: Chris Serpesedes Published: 29 Apr 2025

Data is provided by the manager at 30 Jun 2024, and currency in AUD, unless otherwise stated

Refer to glossary for definition of the rating

### Product Viewpoint

#### About this Product

Investment manager	MLC Asset Management Services Limited
Benchmark	Lonsec Strategic Multi-Asset (Traditional) 50% Growth Index
Product structure	Managed Fund
Product size	\$1.05b
Inception date	Jul 2001
Asset class	Multi-Asset
Sector	41-60% Growth Assets
Growth/defensive split	50/50
Peer group	Multi-Manager
Rated peers	14

#### Product Characteristics

Business Life Cycle	Mature
Product Wind-Up Risk	Low
Key Person Risk	Low
Tenure of Decision Makers	Medium
Complex (RG240)	No
Strategy Remaining Capacity	High
ESG Approach	Risk or Value
Peer Relative Fees and Costs	In line with Median

#### Annual Fees and Costs (% p.a.)

Management fees & costs	0.83
Performance fee costs	0.06
Net Transaction Costs	0.03
Buy/Sell Spread	0.10/0.10
<b>Annual fees and costs</b>	<b>0.92</b>

Source: FE fundinfo, PDS Date: 30/Sep/2024

### Product Opinion

The Fund has maintained its **'Recommended'** rating. This rating reflects the high regard and conviction in the experience and calibre of the broader investment team and their ability to execute the investment process. The continued consolidation of the heritage businesses provides depth of expertise across the investment process.

However, there remains an extensive breadth of heritage products with various objectives, although these continue to be aligned. Although there are processes in place, the utilisation of related party capabilities and perceived conflicts remains a watchpoint.

#### Lonsec Rating Model

Rating key: ●●● Above ●●● In-line ●●● Below

Factor	Peer Rating	YoY Score Change
Business	●●●	—
Team	●●●	—
Process	●●●	—
ESG	●●●	—
Product	●●●	—
Fees	●●●	—
Performance	●●●	—

#### Allocation Profile

Core		
Satellite		
	Low Complexity	High Complexity

#### Return Profile

Income		
Capital		
	Defensive	Growth

#### Strengths

- The Fund is managed by an experienced and well-led investment team.
- Robust and consistently applied investment process underpinning manager selection and portfolio construction functions.
- Breadth of investment resources and tools pertaining to manager research, asset allocation, performance analytics, governance and implementation teams.
- Integration of the broader investment team that has been progressing well to further enhance the Manager's investment capabilities.

#### Weaknesses

- Although there are processes in place, using a related party creates the potential for conflicts of interest, which remains a watchpoint.
- The complexity of managing an extensive breadth of heritage products with varying objectives, but this is being managed by the continued alignment of asset class building blocks and objectives.

### Key Facts

#### Key Objectives

Investment objective	Aims to outperform the Benchmark (before fees) over three-year periods.
Internal return objective	CPI + 2.25% (After Fees) Over five-year periods.
Internal risk objective	N/A
Non-financial objective	None

#### Rating History

02-Feb-2024	Recommended
20-Apr-2023	Recommended
18-Mar-2022	Recommended

#### Product Distribution Profile

Frequency	Quarterly
Last Missed Distribution	N/A
Number of Missed Distributions in the last 5 years	0
AMIT Election	Yes
TOFA Election	No

#### Target Market Determination

Produced by issuer	Yes
Provided to Lonsec	Yes

#### Performance Analysis - annualised after fees at 31/12/2024

	1 Year	Median	2 Year	Median	3 Year	Median	5 Year	Median
Performance (% p.a)	9.46	9.49	9.84	9.58	4.31	3.47	5.05	4.70
Standard deviation	2.95	4.18	4.62	5.19	6.02	6.32	7.00	7.18
Excess return (% p.a)	-1.77	-1.74	-0.84	-1.10	0.10	-0.73	-0.30	-0.65
Outperformance ratio (% p.a)	50.00	37.50	50.00	41.67	55.56	41.67	51.67	45.00
Worst drawdown (%)	-1.07	-1.77	-3.00	-3.63	-7.27	-7.34	-11.45	-11.42
Time to recovery (mths)	2	-	1	-	7	-	8	-
Sharpe ratio	1.69	1.19	1.23	1.01	0.19	0.04	0.44	0.36
Information ratio	-0.78	-1.19	-0.44	-0.97	0.05	-0.40	-0.15	-0.30
Tracking error (% p.a)	2.29	1.17	1.91	1.26	2.19	1.72	2.01	1.88

**Lonsec Peer Group:** Multi-Asset - 41-60% Growth Assets - Multi-Manager

**Product Benchmark:** Lonsec Strategic Multi-Asset (Traditional) 50% Growth Index

**Cash Benchmark:** Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index AUD

**Time to recovery:** NR - Not recovered, dash - No drawdown during period

### Latest Product Information

(as provided by the manager & sourced from third party data vendors. This data may differ from the data provided to Lonsec at the time of rating)

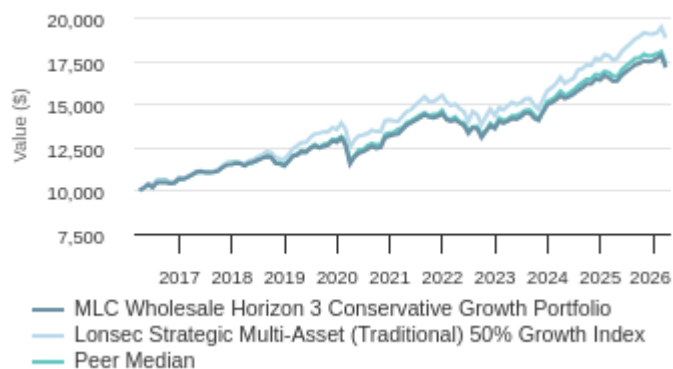
#### Returns after fees (as at 31/03/26)

	3mth	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr
Total return	-2.22	4.93	6.91	4.81	5.51
Income return	0.30	5.61	5.04	5.07	4.71
Growth return	-2.52	-0.69	1.87	-0.26	0.80
Lonsec benchmark	-1.11	7.37	8.14	5.66	6.52
Excess return	-1.11	-2.44	-1.23	-0.86	-1.01

**Benchmark Used:** Lonsec Strategic Multi-Asset (Traditional) 50% Growth Index

Source: FE fundinfo

#### Growth of \$10,000 Over 10 Years

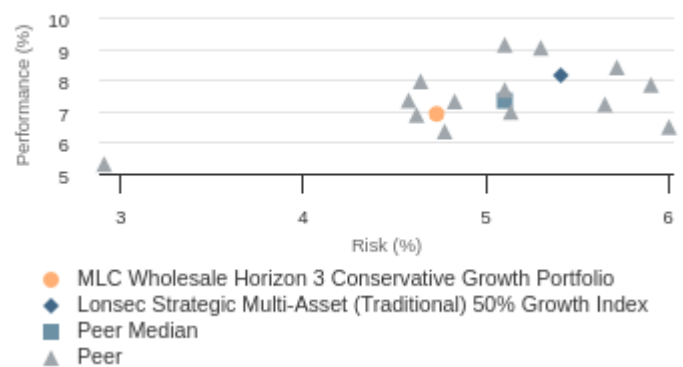


#### Annual Fees and Costs (% p.a.) (as at 30/09/2025)

Management fees & costs	0.84
Performance fee costs	0.04
Net Transaction Costs	0.07
Buy/Sell Spread	0.10/0.10
<b>Annual fees and costs</b>	<b>0.95</b>

Source: FE fundinfo

#### 3 Year Risk and Return



#### Asset Allocation (%) (as at 28/02/2026)

Australian Equities	16.67
International Equities	21.88
Unlisted Property	6.39
Australian Fixed Interest	7.26
Global Fixed Interest	27.18
Alternative Assets	16.99
Cash	3.63
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: FE fundinfo

## Lonsec RECOMMENDS THIS DOCUMENT BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PRODUCT REVIEW.

### General

**Excess return:** Return in excess of the benchmark return.

**Information ratio:** Relative reward for relative risk taken (Excess Returns / Tracking Error).

**Sharpe ratio:** Excess return earned for additional volatility experienced when holding riskier assets versus risk-free asset.

**Standard deviation:** Volatility of monthly Absolute Returns.

**Stewardship Policies:** the strength of a manager's proxy voting and engagement policies with respect to ESG.

**Time to recovery:** The number of months taken to recover the Worst Drawdown.

**Total return:** 'Top line' actual return, after fees.

**Tracking error:** Volatility of monthly Excess Returns against the benchmark (the Standard Deviation of monthly Excess Returns).

**Worst drawdown:** The worst cumulative loss ('peak to trough') experienced over the period assessed.

### Lonsec Group Disclaimers

Issued by Lonsec Research Pty Ltd ABN 11 151 658 561 AFSL 421 445 (Lonsec, we/our) a subsidiary of Lonsec Holdings Pty Ltd (ABN 41 151 235 406) and (Lonsec Group). Generation Development Group Limited (ABN 90 087 334 370) is the parent company of Lonsec Group. This document is not a prospectus, any other form of disclosure document or product disclosure statement within the meaning of the Corporations Act 2001. Any advice contained in this document is General Advice only and has been prepared without taking into account investors' objectives, financial situation or needs. Prior to acting upon any information contained in this document, investors must do their own investigation and analysis of the appropriateness of the information or seek independent financial and/or tax advice, having regard to their objectives, financial situation and needs. Investors must consider reading any relevant Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) or offer document to assess the appropriateness of this advice in light of their own objectives before making a decision to obtain a financial product. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. © 2026 Lonsec Research. All rights reserved. You may not reproduce, transmit, disseminate, sell or publish this information without our written consent.

Except for any liability which cannot be excluded, no representation, warranty or undertaking, express or implied is made and no responsibility or liability is accepted by Lonsec Research, its directors, officers, employees and agents for any error or inaccuracy, misstatement or omission from this document or any loss or damage suffered by the recipient or any other person as a consequence of relying upon it.

Lonsec Research makes no representation, warranty or undertaking in relation to the accuracy, reasonableness or completeness of the information presented in this document which is compiled from information from public and third-party sources. We assume no obligation to update this document after publication. Lonsec Research provides this document for the exclusive use by the recipient to whom it is provided and should not be used or relied upon by any other person unless express permission is obtained from us. Additional fees and charges may apply. Please verify from the offer documents for the relevant financial product. In line with industry practice, returns may be estimated. To access verified returns please refer to the product issuer. This document may also contain third party material that is subject to copyright.

To the extent that copyright subsists with a third party, it remains with the original owner and permission may be required to reuse the material.

This document is not suitable for distribution to a retail investor. The product rated in this publication may have related financial products or be associated with other financial products and platforms. Our rating applies to the financial product outlined in this publication. You should seek professional advice before you make an investment decision on related or associated financial products and platforms. You should be aware that the mandate, fees, underlying investments, the issuers of the related and associated financial products and platforms may be different from the financial product specified in this publication.

### Disclosures

Lonsec Research does not hold the financial product(s) referred to in this document. The financial product issuer and/or Lonsec Research Representatives (and/or their associates) may from time to time have holdings in the financial product referred to in this document or in Generation Development Group (ABN 90 087 334 370). For the purposes of this report Lonsec Research considers such holdings not to be sufficiently material to compromise the rating or advice. Lonsec Research manages any potential conflict by implementing a comprehensive ratings process, information barriers and monitoring program. Lonsec Research receives a fee from the financial product issuer(s) for researching the financial product(s), using objective criteria. Lonsec Research's rating(s) outcome is not linked to the fee. Lonsec Research and its associates do not receive any other compensation or material benefits from product issuers or third parties in connection with the report. Lonsec Research's research process relies upon the participation of the financial product issuer(s). Should the financial product issuer(s) no longer participate in our research process, we reserve the right to withdraw the document at any time and discontinue future coverage. This is a summary of the research report, you can access the full research report via Lonsec Research. For information about our associations and/or relationships with the financial product issuers and General Development Group, please refer to our Conflicts of Interest Statement accessible [here](#).

## Ratings

'**Highly Recommended**' rating indicates that Lonsec has very strong conviction the product can meet its investment objectives.

'**Recommended**' rating indicates that Lonsec has strong conviction the product can meet its investment objectives.

'**Investment Grade**' rating indicates that Lonsec has conviction the product can meet its investment objectives.

'**Approved**' rating indicates that Lonsec believes the product can meet its investment objectives.

'**Not -Approved**' rating indicates that Lonsec does not believe the product can meet its investment objectives.

'**Closed / Wind Up**' status is applied when the product has been closed.

'**Fund Watch**' status is applied when a rating is under review due to the occurrence of a significant event relating to the product.

The '**Redeem**' rating indicates Lonsec no longer has sufficient conviction that the product can meet its investment objectives.

The '**Screened Out**' rating indicates Lonsec was unable to attain sufficient conviction that the product can meet its investment objectives.

'**Discontinued Review**' status is applied where a product issuer withdraws the product from the review process prior to completion, for any reason other than the product being closed or unavailable to investors.

The '**Ceased Coverage**' status is applied when a rated product is withdrawn from the research process by the product issuer.

## Lonsec Research FSG

### Financial Services Guide

This Financial Services Guide (FSG) has been prepared and issued by Lonsec Research Pty Ltd ABN 11 151 658 561 (Lonsec Research, we, us, our), holder of Australian Financial Services Licence (AFSL) No. 421445, to assist you in determining whether to use our financial services and products. This is an important document, and you should read it carefully. The contents of this FSG are general information only and does not take into account your personal needs or objectives. Lonsec Research provides no warranty as to the suitability of the services of this FSG for any particular person.

#### 1.1 What is a Financial Services Guide?

This FSG's purpose is to provide you with important information regarding services offered by Lonsec Research. You should read this FSG prior to using our services. This document was prepared to inform you about:

- who we are and our contact details;
- the financial services we provide;
- the remuneration that may be paid to us and other persons in relation to the financial services we provide;
- how we deal with conflicts of interest; and
- how we deal with complaints

#### 1.2 About Lonsec Research and its related parties

ASX listed Generation Development Group Limited (ABN 90 087 334 370) is the parent company of Lonsec Holdings Pty Ltd (ABN 41 151 235 406) (Lonsec Holdings). Lonsec Research is a wholly owned subsidiary of Lonsec Holdings Pty Ltd (ABN 41 151 235 406) (Lonsec Holdings) and provides in-depth, investigative investment research across a broad range of listed and unlisted investments.

Other subsidiaries of Lonsec Holdings include SuperRatings Pty Ltd (ABN 95 100 192 283), Implemented Portfolios Pty Limited (ABN 36 141 881 147) and Lonsec Investment Solutions Pty Ltd (ABN 95 608 837 583). All employees of the Lonsec group entities, including Lonsec Research, are employed by Lonsec Fiscal Pty Ltd (ABN 94 151 658 534).

#### Contact Details

Lonsec Research Pty Ltd  
Level 39, 25 Martin Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

Tel: 1300 826 395

Email: [info@lonsec.com.au](mailto:info@lonsec.com.au)

[www.lonsec.com.au](http://www.lonsec.com.au)

#### 1.3 What kind of financial services can Lonsec Research provide?

Lonsec Research is authorised under its Australian Financial Services Licence to provide general financial product advice to retail and wholesale clients on the following types of financial products:

- securities
- deposit and payment products limited to basic product products
- derivatives
- interests in managed investment schemes including investor directed portfolio services
- superannuation
- retirement savings accounts
- foreign exchange products
- life products including:
  - investment life insurance products as well as any products issued by a Registered Life Insurance Company that are backed by one or more of its statutory funds; and
  - life risk insurance products as well as any products issued by a Registered Life Insurance Company that are backed by one or more of its statutory funds;

Lonsec Research is also authorised to deal in a financial product by arranging for another person to apply for, acquire, vary, or dispose the above types of products for or by retail and wholesale clients.

#### 1.4 Provision of general advice

Any advice that Lonsec Research provides is of a general nature and does not take into account your personal financial situation, objectives or needs. You should, before acting on the information, consider its appropriateness having regard to your own financial objectives, situation and needs and if appropriate, obtain personal financial advice on the matter from a financial adviser. Before making a decision regarding any financial product, you should obtain and consider a copy of the relevant Product Disclosure Statement or offer document from the financial product issuer.

#### 1.5 How Lonsec Research is paid

Lonsec Research receives fees from Fund Managers and/or financial product issuers for researching their financial product(s) using comprehensive and objective criteria. Lonsec receives subscriptions fees for providing research content to subscribers including financial advisers, fund managers and financial product issuers. Lonsec Research's fees are not linked to the financial rating outcome of a particular financial product.

## Lonsec Research FSG (continued)

Lonsec Research fees are determined by private agreement with its clients depending on a number of criteria including the number of financial advisors who access Lonsec Research publications, the range of publications accessed and the complexity of a specific research assignment. Due to the specific nature of its charges, disclosure of Lonsec Research fees may not be ascertainable when you receive this FSG, but you are able to request this information in writing before a financial service is provided to you. The fees received by Lonsec Research do not have an effect on the inclusion (or otherwise) of a financial product in portfolios managed by Lonsec Investment Solutions; or in approved product lists as a result of Lonsec Investment Solutions consulting activities. We do not have any direct employees as all employees are contracted, for employment purposes, with Lonsec Fiscal, a subsidiary of Lonsec Holdings. All employees of Lonsec are paid a salary and may receive a discretionary bonus which is not guaranteed. Sales employees may have a sales commission plan, relevant for sales to Wholesale clients, as offered by Lonsec Research from time to time at its discretion.

### 1.6 How do we manage our compensation arrangements?

Lonsec Research has Professional Indemnity insurance arrangements in place to compensate clients for loss or damage because of breaches of any relevant legislative obligations by Lonsec Research or its representatives which satisfy section 912B of the Corporations Act 2001.

### 1.7 What should you do if you have a complaint?

Lonsec Research's internal complaints handling process is designed to ensure that your concerns are treated seriously, addressed promptly and fairly. A complaint may be lodged either verbally or in writing and will be dealt with in strict confidence. If you have a complaint relating to Lonsec Research's products, services, its employees, the complaint should be addressed to:

#### Complaints Manager

Level 39, 25 Martin Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

Tel: 1300 826 395

Email: [complaints@lonsec.com.au](mailto:complaints@lonsec.com.au)

An individual may request further information about Lonsec Research's internal complaints handling procedure at any time. If an individual is not satisfied with the outcome of their complaint or has not received a response within 30 days from Lonsec Research, the individual can complain to the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA). AFCA provides an independent dispute resolution service and can be contacted on:

Online: [www.afca.org.au](http://www.afca.org.au)

Email: [info@afca.org.au](mailto:info@afca.org.au)

Phone: 1800 931 678

#### Mail:

Australian Financial Complaints Authority  
GPO Box 3  
Melbourne, Victoria, 3001.

### 1.8 Conflicts of Interest

Lonsec Research is aware of the inherent potential conflicts of interest associated with the provision of ratings and how we are remunerated for our services.

There are a comprehensive set of policies, and procedures in place at Lonsec Holdings that apply to its subsidiaries including Lonsec Research. Information barriers (both permanent and temporary) consistent with our regulatory obligations under Regulatory Guide 79 are in place to manage either perceived or actual conflicts of interest. Employees of Lonsec also have to abide by Personal Trading and Gifts and Entertainment requirements and are trained on these requirements from time to time.

Lonsec Research review and rate products for Fund and Equity Managers who may from time to time have holdings within Generation Development Group Limited. Lonsec Research manages any potential conflict by disclosing to investors who access the research for these products and by implementing a comprehensive ratings process, information barriers and monitoring program. For further information on how Lonsec manages its conflicts refer to our Conflicts of Interest Statement accessible here <https://www.lonsec.com.au/lonsec-group-conflicts-of-interest-statement/>. For more information refer to Lonsec Research Ratings Methodology available on our platform iRate or by contacting us on 1300 826 395.

Lonsec Holdings has appointed Australian Retirement Trust Pty Ltd ABN 88 010 720 840, AFSL 228975 as the provider of default superannuation services to its Group employees. Lonsec Holdings appointment of Australian Retirement Trust is not an endorsement of, or opinion on, the Fund.

Australian Retirement Trust is a subscriber to our services and pays a fee to us for this subscription service. Australian Retirement Trust rating and report is issued by an analyst who is aware of Australian Retirement Trust's appointment as default superannuation fund provider but who does not have a personal investment in the fund.

This FSG was prepared on 1 August 2024.