MULTI-ASSET RANGE

QUARTERLY COMMENTARY

Q2 2026

BNY | INVESTMENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At a glance

- **Markets:** The quarter was influenced significantly by developments in the Middle East, with the Iran conflict driving volatility in energy-related commodities and weighing on investor sentiment around global growth and inflation.
- **Performance:** BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Diversified Return Fund, Multi-Asset Income Fund, Multi-Asset Moderate Fund and Multi-Asset Growth Fund all outperformed their performance benchmarks; the BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Balanced Fund underperformed.
- **Drivers:** Technology-related stocks, particularly semiconductors, were the primary contributors to positive returns. Energy-related positions were a key detractor following the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz.

What worked

- Technology stocks – particularly semiconductor-related holdings – were the standout contributors. Applied Materials benefited significantly from increased capex expectations in the technology sector, upgrading its earnings guidance. Texas Instruments and TSMC also contributed positively.
- Within financials, individual bank holdings such as Barclays performed strongly in a supportive financial environment.
- Within the alternatives segment, exposure to renewable energy was additive. The holding in UK-listed investment trust Foresight Environmental Infrastructure performed well.

What held back returns

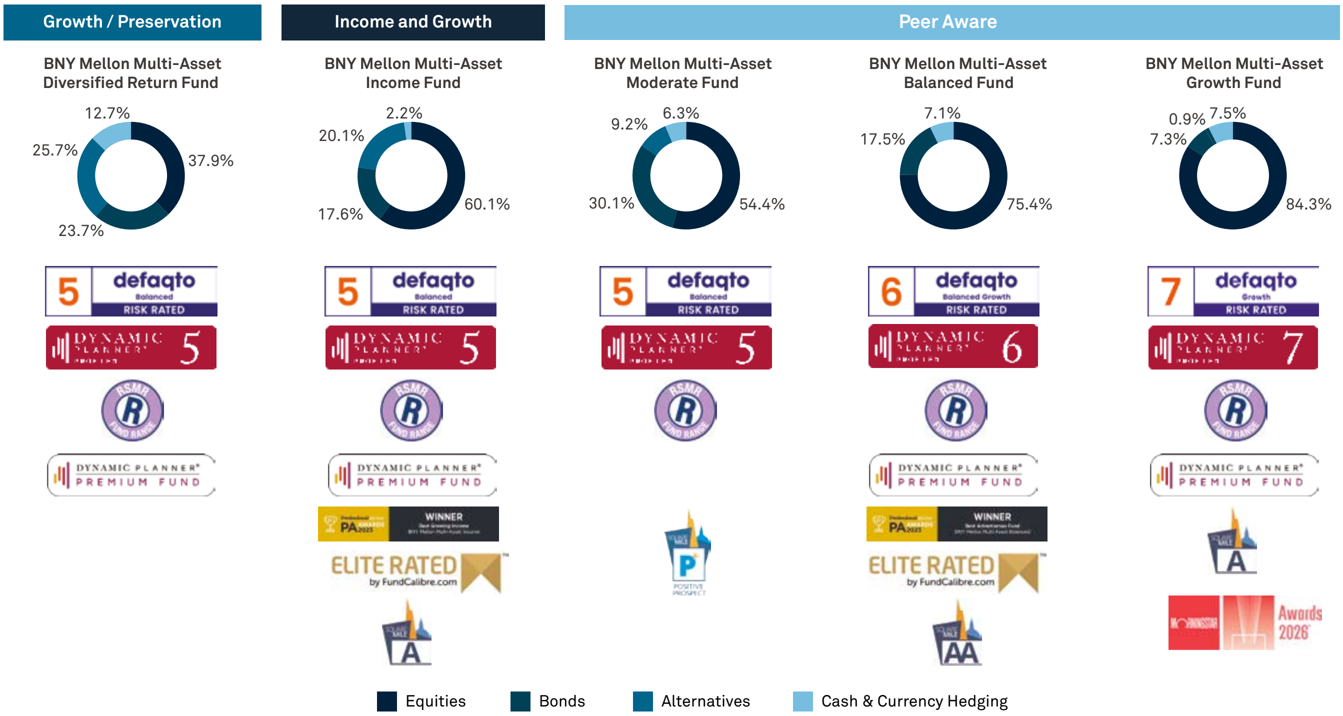
- Energy sector exposures were a key detractor from overall returns. Positions in ConocoPhillips and Shell fell back as the oil price declined following the announced reopening of the Strait of Hormuz.
- Within financials, overall stock selection detracted. Hong Kong-based life insurer AIA weakened after China's securities regulator introduced restrictions on cross-border securities trading through online brokerages.
- The funds' lower weighting to bonds than their respective benchmarks was mildly dilutive in a period when certain government bond markets rallied.

Outlook

- The investment backdrop remains finely balanced. Global growth has been more resilient than expected, but sticky services inflation, tight labour markets and rising fiscal deficits suggest central banks may have limited scope for aggressive rate cuts.
- Equity markets continue to be supported by earnings growth, particularly in technology-related sectors. The rapid adoption of AI is driving an unusually large capex cycle across semiconductors, cloud infrastructure, data centres and power generation.
- Geopolitical tensions, trade policy, currency movements and the sustainability of fiscal deficits remain important risks. Equity valuations are above long-term averages, but potential productivity gains from AI and resilient corporate profitability may continue to provide support.
- The strategy remains focused on resilient assets with long-term growth potential.

"Technology stocks remained a standout area. Semiconductor holdings benefited from continued AI-related investment enthusiasm and strong demand for advanced memory chips."

MULTI-ASSET RANGE COMMENTARY Q1 2026



All funds rated by:

Source: BNY Investments Newton, 30 June 2026.

Ratings are for illustrative purposes only and should not be relied upon when making an investment decision. Ratings are correct as at 30 June 2026. Dynamic Planner Risk Ratings should not be used for making an investment decision and it does not constitute a recommendation or advice in the selection of a specific investment or class of investments. Source & Copyright for Morningstar Awards: Morningstar ratings © 2026 Morningstar. All Rights Reserved.

Scopic Multi-Asset DNA Reports are designed to provide intermediaries with detailed qualitative based analysis to help them when researching and recommending multi asset portfolios for different client segments.

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Performance highlights

	Q2 2026	1 year to 30 Jun 2026	3 years to 30 jun 2026 (annualised)	5 years to 30 Jun 2026 (annualised)
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Diversified Return Fund	**+5.63**	**+11.50**	**+8.61**	**+5.42**
1 Month £ LIBOR +3% to 30 Day SONIA +3%	+1.65	+6.97	+7.70	+6.47
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Income Fund	**+10.19**	**+19.02**	**+11.07**	**+7.82**
IMA Mixed Investment 40-85	+9.60	+17.38	+11.44	+5.85
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Balanced Fund	**+8.78**	**+15.63**	**+11.51**	**+8.73**
IMA Mixed Investment 40-85	+9.60	+17.38	+11.44	+5.85
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Moderate Fund	**+8.20**	**+14.09**	**–**	**–**
IMA Mixed Investment 20-60	+6.57	+12.45	–	–
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Growth Fund	**+12.66**	**+25.75**	**+13.82**	**+9.95**
IA Flexible	+10.44	+19.54	+12.33	+6.37

Source: Lipper. Fund performance calculated as total return, including reinvested income net of applicable UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures are in GBP terms.

For the **BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Balanced Fund**, **BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Moderate Fund** and **BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Growth Fund**, within equities, technology companies featured prominently among the leading contributors over the quarter. Increased capital expenditure (capex) in the technology sector led to expectations of higher spending on semiconductor capital equipment. The holding in US-listed capital equipment supplier Applied Materials benefited significantly from this trend, upgrading its earnings guidance. Other stocks the funds hold in the hardware area, such as Texas Instruments and TSMC, also benefited from expectations of higher capex in the technology sector. However, not holding companies such as Micron Technology detracted, as these stocks posted very significant price increases over the period.

In the financials sector, while individual bank holdings, such as Barclays, performed strongly in a supportive financial environment, overall stock selection detracted. Hong Kong-based life insurance group AIA weakened as China's securities regulator introduced restrictions on cross-border securities trading through online brokerages, raising concerns that AIA's substantial mainland Chinese visitor insurance business could be affected. However, we believe these concerns have been overplayed as the regulations are focusing on unlicensed brokers. Shares of US-listed derivatives marketplace CME Group fell on concerns about competition from new trading platforms and weaker-than-expected earnings.

Elsewhere, among industrials, the holding in UK defence and aerospace group BAE Systems, which had performed well over the previous quarter, weakened amid a broader European defence derating. The shares were also affected by ongoing uncertainty around UK military spending plans thanks to a delay in the publication of the government's defence investment programme. At the end of June, the government announced an additional £15 billion of military spending, though the associated rally was insufficient to offset a disappointing quarter.

The funds' lower weighting to bonds than their respective benchmarks was additive.

Turning to the **BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Diversified Return Fund and the BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Income Fund**, equities were the best-performing segment of both portfolios over the quarter, with alternatives making a smaller positive contribution.

Within the equity portfolios, positioning in technology stocks was the main factor that contributed to positive total returns over the quarter. Increased capex in the technology sector led to expectations of higher spending on semiconductor capital equipment. The holding in US-listed capital equipment supplier Applied Materials benefited significantly from this trend, upgrading its earnings guidance. Other stocks the Fund holds in the hardware area, such as Samsung Electronics and TSMC, also benefited from expectations of higher capex in the technology sector.

Energy sector exposures were a key detractor from overall returns. Notable here were positions in ConocoPhillips and Shell, which fell back as the oil price declined following the announced reopening of the Strait of Hormuz.

Among financials, US-listed derivatives marketplace CME Group, despite reporting strong trading volumes, detracted due to concerns about competition from new trading platforms and an announcement that the company's CEO would be standing down next year. The holding in Brazilian stock exchange operator B3 also detracted. Factors weighing on B3 included foreign investors withdrawing money from Brazil amid political concerns ahead of a general election later this year and a dampening in expectations for interest-rate cuts.

By contrast, Barclays was a key contributor as UK-listed banks continued to outperform the broader market. With UK interest rates having stayed higher for longer than had been anticipated at the start of the year, net interest margins remain elevated for UK banks. Higher returns on tangible equity have also underpinned UK banking stocks.

Within the alternatives segment, exposure to renewable energy was additive. The holding in UK-listed investment trust Foresight Environmental Infrastructure performed well. It continues to generate strong cash flows and reported a 12th successive annual dividend increase.

Our investment strategy will continue to prioritise assets that demonstrate resilience in the prevailing conditions and offer prospects for durable, long-term growth.

> "Technology stocks remained a standout area. Semiconductor holdings benefited from continued AI-related investment enthusiasm and strong demand for advanced memory chips."

PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT A GUIDE TO FUTURE PERFORMANCE.

THE VALUE OF INVESTMENTS AND THE INCOME RECEIVED CAN FALL AS WELL AS RISE AND INVESTORS MAY NOT GET BACK THE ORIGINAL AMOUNT INVESTED.

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Balanced Fund

Investment objective

The Fund aims to achieve a balance between income and capital growth over the long term 5 years or more).

Performance Benchmark

The Fund will measure its performance against the UK Investment Association Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares NR Sector average as a comparator benchmark (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of funds with levels of equity and bond exposure similar to those of the Fund.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies as disclosed in the Prospectus.

Performance – 12 month returns (%)

	Jun 2021 – Jun 2022	Jun 2022 – Jun 2023	Jun 2023 – Jun 2024	Jun 2024 – Jun 2025	Jun 2025 – Jun 2026
Fund	1.07	8.41	12.94	6.21	15.63
Performance Benchmark	-7.08	3.30	11.77	5.53	17.36

Calendar Performance (%)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Fund	17.37	-4.23	9.43	10.80	12.52
Performance Benchmark	11.24	-10.00	8.02	8.90	11.77

Source: Lipper as at 30 June 2026. Fund performance Institutional Shares W (Accumulation) calculated as a total return, including reinvested income net of applicable UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures in GBP terms.

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Diversified Return Fund

Investment objective

To achieve long-term capital growth over a period of at least 5 years from a portfolio diversified across a range of assets. The Fund is managed to seek a return in excess of cash SONIA 30 (day compounded) +3% per annum over five years before fees. In doing so, it aims to achieve a positive return on a rolling three year basis (meaning a period of three years, no matter which day you start on). However, a positive return is not guaranteed and a capital loss may occur.

Performance Benchmark

The Fund will measure its performance before fees over a rolling 5-year basis against the Sterling Overnight Index Average (SONIA). compounded over 30 days, plus 3% per year as a target benchmark (the "Benchmark"). SONIA is the average interest rate banks pay to borrow pounds sterling overnight and is used as a proxy for the return on cash deposits. The 30-day rate is calculated by compounding the daily SONIA rates throughout the previous 30-day period. The Fund will use the Benchmark as a target for the Fund's performance to match or exceed because it is representative of sterling cash and the Fund's investment objective is to seek a return in excess of sterling cash +3% per annum. The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies as disclosed in the Prospectus.

Effective 1 October 2021, the Fund's benchmark changed from 1-month GBP LIBOR +3% per annum to the Sterling Overnight Index Average (SONIA) (30-day compounded) +3% per annum. All benchmark past performance prior to this date is that of 1-month GBP LIBOR +3% per annum.

The Fund can invest more than 35% of net assets in different transferable securities and money market instruments issued or guaranteed by the UK or an EEA State, its local authorities, a third country or public international bodies of which the UK or one or more EEA States are members.

Performance – 12 month returns (%)

	Jun 2021 – Jun 2022	Jun 2022 – Jun 2023	Jun 2023 – Jun 2024	Jun 2024 – Jun 2025	Jun 2025 – Jun 2026
Fund	-0.94	2.57	8.06	6.35	11.50
Performance Benchmark	0.30	2.98	5.30	4.85	3.97

Calendar Performance (%)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Fund	7.04	-1.41	2.82	4.48	13.77
Performance Benchmark	3.05	4.26	7.68	8.23	7.35

Source: Lipper as at 30 June 2026. Fund performance Institutional Shares W (Accumulation) calculated as a total return, including reinvested income net of applicable UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures in GBP terms.

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Growth Fund

Investment objective

The Fund aims to achieve capital growth and income over the long term (5 years or more).

Performance Benchmark

The Fund will measure its performance against the UK Investment Association Flexible Investment NR Sector average as a comparator benchmark (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of funds with the same flexibility, in terms of equity and bond exposure, as the Fund. The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies as disclosed in the Prospectus.

Performance – 12 month returns (%)

	Jun 2021 – Jun 2022	Jun 2022 – Jun 2023	Jun 2023 – Jun 2024	Jun 2024 – Jun 2025	Jun 2025 – Jun 2026
Fund	1.61	7.26	10.85	5.82	25.75
Performance Benchmark	-7.59	3.92	12.57	5.38	19.51

Calendar Performance (%)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Fund	19.55	-3.00	5.72	9.71	18.07
Performance Benchmark	12.27	-9.74	7.86	9.82	12.97

Source: Lipper as at 30 June 2026. Fund performance Institutional Shares W (Accumulation) calculated as a total return, including reinvested income net of applicable UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures in GBP terms.

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Income Fund

Investment objective

The Fund aims to achieve income together with the potential for capital growth over the long term (5 years or more).

Performance Benchmark

The Fund is actively managed without benchmark-related constraints. The Fund will measure its performance against the UK Investment Association's Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares NR Sector Average as a comparator benchmark (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of funds with levels of equity and bond exposure similar to those of the Fund. The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has absolute discretion to invest outside the Benchmark subject to the investment objective and policies disclosed in the Prospectus. While the Fund's holdings may include constituents of the Benchmark, the selection of investments and their weightings in the portfolio are not influenced by the Benchmark. The investment strategy does not restrict the extent to which the Investment Manager may deviate from the Benchmark. Yield Comparator: The Sub-Fund uses a composite index, comprising 60% MSCI AC World Index and 40% ICE Bank of America Global Broad Market GBP Hedged Index, as a point of reference (comparator) against which the ACD invites Shareholders to compare the Sub-Fund's yield. The ACD considers the composite index to be an appropriate comparator because the yield of this comparator is a broad representation of the yield's available on equities and bonds globally.

Effective 1 August 2025, the Fund's benchmark changed from 60% MSCI AC World NR Index and 40% ICE Bank of America Global Broad Market GBP Hedged Index to the Investment Association's Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares NR sector average. Benchmark performance shown for all time periods is that of the Investment Association's Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares NR sector average.

Performance – 12 month returns (%)

	Jun 2021 – Jun 2022	Jun 2022 – Jun 2023	Jun 2023 – Jun 2024	Jun 2024 – Jun 2025	Jun 2025 – Jun 2026
Fund	2.95	3.31	7.56	7.05	19.02
Performance Benchmark	-7.08	3.30	11.77	5.53	17.36

Calendar Performance (%)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Fund	11.53	0.63	3.30	4.54	14.99
Performance Benchmark	11.24	-10.00	8.02	8.90	11.77

Source: Lipper as at 30 June 2026. Fund performance Institutional Shares W (Accumulation) calculated as a total return, including reinvested income net of applicable UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures in GBP terms.

BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Moderate Fund

Investment objective

To achieve capital growth and income over the long term (5 years or more).

Performance Benchmark

The Fund will measure its performance against the UK Investment Association's Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares NR Sector average, as a comparator benchmark (the "Benchmark"). The Fund will use the Benchmark as an appropriate comparator because it includes a broad representation of funds with levels of equity and bond exposure similar to those of the Fund.

The Fund is actively managed, which means the Investment Manager has discretion over the selection of investments, subject to the investment objective and policies as disclosed in the Prospectus.

	Jun 2021 – Jun 2022	Jun 2022 – Jun 2023	Jun 2023 – Jun 2024	Jun 2024 – Jun 2025	Jun 2025 – Jun 2026
Fund	–	–	–	6.65	14.09
Performance Benchmark	-7.23	1.17	9.49	5.77	12.45

Calendar Performance (%)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Fund	–	–	–	6.68	12.07
Performance Benchmark	7.59	-9.79	6.89	6.18	10.18

Source: Lipper as at 30 June 2026. Fund performance Institutional Shares W (Accumulation) calculated as a total return, including reinvested income net of applicable UK tax and charges, based on net asset value. All figures in GBP terms.

The Fund can invest more than 35% of net assets in different transferable securities and money market instruments issued or guaranteed by the UK or an EEA State, its local authorities, a third country or public international bodies of which the UK or one or more EEA States are members.

Key investment risks

OBJECTIVE/PERFORMANCE RISK: There is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its objectives.

PERFORMANCE AIM RISK: The performance aim is not a guarantee, may not be achieved and a capital loss may occur. Funds which have a higher performance aim generally take more risk to achieve this and so have a greater potential for returns to vary significantly.

CURRENCY RISK: This Fund invests in international markets which means it is exposed to changes in currency rates which could affect the value of the Fund.

EMERGING MARKETS RISK: Emerging Markets have additional risks due to less-developed market practices.

SHARE CLASS CURRENCY RISK: Where a share class is denominated in a different currency from the base currency of the Fund, changes in the exchange rate between the share class currency and the base currency may affect the value of your investment.

CHANGES IN INTEREST RATES & INFLATION RISK: Investments in bonds/money market securities are affected by interest rates and inflation trends which may negatively affect the value of the Fund.

CREDIT RATINGS AND UNRATED SECURITIES RISK: Bonds with a low credit rating or unrated bonds have a greater risk of default. These investments may negatively affect the value of the Fund.

CREDIT RISK: The issuer of a security held by the Fund may not pay income or repay capital to the Fund when due.

INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE COMPANIES RISK: The value of investments in Infrastructure Companies may be negatively impacted by changes in the regulatory, economic or political environment in which they operate.

CHARGES TO CAPITAL: The Fund takes its charges from the capital of the Fund. Investors should be aware that this has the effect of lowering the capital value of your investment and limiting the potential for future capital growth. On redemption, you may not receive back the full amount you initially invested.

HIGH YIELD COMPANIES RISK: Companies with high-dividend rates are at a greater risk of not being able to meet these payments and are more sensitive to interest rate risk.

A complete description of risk factors is set out in the Prospectus in the section entitled “Risk Factors”.