

How your investments are protected at Omnis



Ensuring your investments are safe and secure is a priority for regulators and Omnis – and stringent processes and structures are in place to protect them.

The UK financial services industry is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). Omnis Investments, the investment funds it offers, and its delegated third parties are all subject to FCA's regulations designed to protect investors' interests.

Who are Omnis Investments?

Omnis is one of the UK's largest asset managers, with more than £10 billion under management (as at June 2022). Omnis' investment funds are available exclusively to the clients of The Openwork Partnership network.

The journey of your investments

What happens when we receive your money to invest?



*The investment management firms appointed by Omnis do not hold the assets of the funds. If one of the investment managers we work with files for administration, Omnis would as quickly as possible select a suitable alternative manager and transfer investment responsibilities across to the newly appointed manager.

How are we regulated?

Omnis is authorised and regulated by the UK's financial regulator, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). The FCA's rules apply to the activities and conduct of Omnis and include requirements to maintain appropriate levels of capital and liquid assets. These rules also require Omnis to carefully consider the business and financial risks that it faces and to put in place controls to mitigate these risks.

UK UCITS firms such as Omnis are required to have a minimum number of independent directors. Together with the other Board members, they are required to ensure that the interests of fund investors are considered and protected **at all times**.

Our investment funds are UK UCITS schemes. They are effectively approved by the FCA and must meet set standards and regulations before they can be offered to individual investors.

What does UCITS stand for?

Undertakings for the Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS) is a regulatory framework that allows collective investment schemes (such as mutual funds) to be offered freely to retail investors in the UK and across the EEA.

Among other things, the UCITS regulations set out the standards that funds must meet in terms of the investments that they can make, how they must operate and how the assets of fund investors must be protected.

A fundamental element of the UCITS structure is that the assets belonging to a fund (and therefore fund investors) **are entirely separated from those of the fund provider and are independently controlled by a regulated Depositary**. Depositaries are required to be highly capitalised and tend to be the trustee companies of large international banks. The Depositary appoints a specialist custodian firm.

The Depositary for the Omnis funds is State Street Trustees Limited and the custodian is State Street Bank Trust Company. State Street is one of the world's largest banks. Custody assets are ring-fenced (segregated) from those of the bank and should therefore be protected in the event that State Street files for administration.

www.omnisinvestments.com

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Further information about the regulatory framework and investor protection in the United Kingdom is available from the Financial Conduct Authority and The Financial Services Compensation Scheme web-sites.

The Omnis Managed Investments ICVC and the Omnis Portfolio Investments ICVC are authorised Investment Companies with Variable Capital. The authorised corporate director of the Omnis Managed Investments ICVC and the Omnis Portfolio Investments ICVC is Omnis Investments Limited (Registered Address: Washington House, Lydiard Fields, Swindon SN5 8UB) which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS)

Although the regulatory framework that surrounds Omnis, its service providers and its products is designed to protect investors, like all other UK regulated firms, we also contribute to and are covered by the FSCS.

The FSCS is an independent body set up by the Government and funded by the financial services industry. As the 'fund of last resort' for customers of authorised financial services firms, it can pay you compensation if a firm fails and cannot meet any valid claims against it.

This means that there are various layers of protection in place to protect your assets:

- All Omnis funds are protected under the UK UCITS funds structure.
- Omnis must pay client money to the Depositary (State Street) as quickly as possible, and usually within 24 hours.
- Any money not paid within 24 hours, will be held in a segregated and protected client bank account, currently with NatWest.
- In the event one of our investment managers fails, Omnis will switch investment responsibilities to an alternative manager as soon as possible – there will no action required by you and your assets will not be at risk.
- In the unlikely event that Omnis fails, the FSCS will also be available to step in if required over and above the various layers of protection detailed above and the maximum amount of compensation payable to you is £85,000.

Find out more

If you have any questions about the safety of your investments with us then please speak to your financial adviser.