

## **Free Spirit Fund celebrates its third anniversary with top decile performance**

[Free Spirit Fund](#) managed by [Sanford DeLand](#) Asset Management (SDL), home to the Buffettology Fund, has celebrated its third anniversary with strong performance; ranking 10<sup>th</sup> out of the 243 funds in the IA UK All Companies Sector over the same three year period.

Andrew Vaughan was appointed as Fund Manager of Free Spirit Fund in July 2019. He has worked closely with SDL Chief Investment Officer, Keith Ashworth-Lord, on ideas for both Buffettology and Free Spirit Funds, since he joined SDL in his former role as Investment Research Analyst. The Fund has returned 11.57% since July.

Free Spirit follows the investment philosophy of Business Perspective Investing and aims to maximise returns from investment in UK equities with an unconstrained approach, but with the flexibility to buy smaller companies due to its nimble size. This is a key differentiator between Free Spirit and the flagship [Buffettology Fund](#), managed by Keith Ashworth-Lord, which tends to focus on the mid- to larger-cap end of the market.

*All figures correct as at 10 January 2020, FE Fundinfo*

**Andrew Vaughan, Manager of Free Spirit Fund commented;** *“We are pleased to mark this third anniversary with strong performance. The IA UK All Companies sector is widely acknowledged as the most competitive segment of the funds market, so to be in the top decile is a great achievement.”*

**Keith Ashworth-Lord, CIO of SDL added;** *“Andrew has had a long track record of selecting successful business perspective investments and has been contributing his research ideas to the Free Spirit portfolio from soon after its inception in 2017. For example, his research led to the decision to invest in Relx and SSP.”*

**Alex Brotherston, CEO of SDL commented;** *“It’s been a great start to the year for the SDL Funds, with the flagship Buffettology Fund ranking 2<sup>nd</sup> and Free Spirit 10<sup>th</sup> in the IA UK All Companies sector over three years. We aim to continue the year in a similar style and produce competitive returns for our investors.”*

**Past performance is not a guide to future performance; the value of an investment and income from it can go down as well as up. Your capital is at risk.**

## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

### **Sanford DeLand Asset Management**

Sanford DeLand Asset Management (SDL) was established in March 2010 and manages the UK Buffettology Fund and the Free Spirit Fund. Unlike many asset management firms, much of the share capital of SDL is owned by the directors of the business.

### **Andrew Vaughan, Fund Manager, Free Spirit Fund**

Andrew joined Sanford DeLand in 2017 as Investment Research Analyst and was appointed lead manager of the CFP SDL Free Spirit Fund in July 2019. Andrew has over 20 years' investment research experience, with a long track record of selecting successful business perspective investments.

### **Keith Ashworth-Lord, Chief Investment Officer**

Keith is Founder and CIO of SDL and Fund Manager of the SDL UK Buffettology Fund. Keith is a career professional with over 35 years' equity capital markets experience in investment analysis, fund management and corporate finance.

### **Alex Brotherston, Chief Executive Officer**

Alex is CEO of SDL and previously spent 15 years at Rensburg Fund Management, latterly as joint CEO. When the firm was acquired by Franklin Templeton in 2011 Alex took over as Director of the UK Retail Sales team.

**SDL is an Appointed Representative of Castlefield Investment Partners LLP (CIP), which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.**

### **Press Office**

**Zoe Powell**

e: [zpowell@sharecomms.co.uk](mailto:zpowell@sharecomms.co.uk)

dd: 020 7071 3932

m: 07866 639014

**Sarah Plevnik**

e: [splevnik@sharecomms.co.uk](mailto:splevnik@sharecomms.co.uk)

dd: 020 7074 3571

m: 07789 725585

