

MEETINGS

In coming weeks and months, it's likely that any face-to-face meetings will be cancelled or postponed. We're doing this to protect staff – some of whom have elderly relatives – and our clients, some of whom fall into vulnerable groups.

To ensure you can continue to talk to us, we're committed to hosting meetings remotely. We can hold these by phone or, if you prefer, we'll be happy to arrange a video meeting.



AN IMPORTANT UPDATE FROM ADCOCK FINANCIAL

This week, the government has updated its advice in relation to the coronavirus pandemic. So, in line with many other individuals and businesses, we're taking some action.

Firstly, we'd like to reassure you that, where possible, our business will continue as normal. While there will clearly be some changes to our ways of working in the coming weeks and months, it's important to underline that we are here, and available, when you need us.

REMOTE WORKING

Thanks to our internal processes, all our staff are able to work remotely. Any office closure will have no effect on us answering your calls or acting on any instructions.

We're also available by email, so please get in touch using phone or email during this period.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT STOCK MARKET VOLATILITY

At this time, the value of your investments may be the least of your worries. However, while governments around the world take draconian steps to stem the spread of the coronavirus, one of the most immediate consequences of the virus outbreak has been the impact on global stock markets.

Between 1st January and 17th March 2020, the MSCI World Index – a weighted stock market index of 1,644 stocks from companies throughout the world - fell by around 28%. While you may be concerned about the short-term volatility of the markets, it's important to remain calm and focused on your goals.

Whenever you invest in equities, short-term volatility is something that you should expect and accept. Everything from the Budget to Donald Trump's social media updates can affect what happens to markets around the world, and so on any given day or week prices will fluctuate in the short term.



However, in the long-term – and that’s what the vast majority of us are investing for – markets tend to offer positive returns. The pandemic may last months or even into next year, but life and business activity will normalise and so will the markets over time.

Here’s the performance of the MSCI World Index in the year, three years, five years and ten years to the end of December 2019.

	1 Mo	3 Mo	1 Yr	YTD	ANNUALIZED			Since Dec 31, 1987
					3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	
MSCI World	3.03	8.68	28.40	28.40	13.20	9.36	10.08	8.08

Source: [MSCI](#)

During the decade to 31 December 2019, the annualised return was 10.08% per annum. That is despite the index recording a negative performance in 2011, 2015 and 2018.

In the longer term, MSCI report that the annualised return of their World Index between the end of 1987 and 2019 was 8.08%. That is despite a 40% fall during the global financial crisis in 2008.

If your long-term goals haven’t changed, it’s unlikely that your plans should. Your goals are likely to be the same as they were a week or a month ago. Our investment strategies are designed with the long term in mind, and this naturally considers periods of both positive and negative returns.

In addition, most clients hold a diversified portfolio and so the fall in the value of the FTSE 100 will typically not be the same as the fall in the value of your portfolio.

USEFUL RESOURCES

If you are concerned about the wider effects of coronavirus, you may find the following resources useful:

- [The government response to coronavirus](#)
- [NHS information about coronavirus](#)

GET IN TOUCH

In the coming weeks we’ll be keeping things as close to ‘business as usual’ as possible. So, if you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with us. Email info@adcockfinancial.co.uk or call 0208 080 0448.

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