

00:00:01:06 Instead of return risk. The main risk of investment is generally well known.

00:00:06:22 Investing for long term growth means investing in real assets,

00:00:10:13 which of course brings with it market volatility

00:00:13:15 and potentially losing value at any given point on those. Not so major.

00:00:18:06 The obvious, though, is secrets in inference own risk,

00:00:21:06 as the FCA and others have called it.

00:00:25:08 Well, what is this? It's effectively the when income is being taken.

00:00:30:06 The order returns are delivered in can significantly impact the future value of

00:00:35:00 the fund, even if the returns are identical, but delivered in a different order.

00:00:40:16 This might happen where units have been in cash to provide an income,

00:00:44:05 as potentially is the case for income drawdown or an investment bond paying income.

00:00:50:15 Let's look an example to prove the point here.

00:00:54:06 £275,000 is invested over six years and the returns from portfolio eight,

00:01:00:00 B and C are as follows. What you'll note from the table is that

00:01:04:00 the percentage returns of the three portfolios A, B and C are the same numbers,

00:01:08:07 albeit arranged differently. Here's the results.

00:01:11:16 If no income is taken, the colors of red, amber and green represent the worst,

00:01:16:09 medium and best result over a given period, as no income is being taken after six years.

00:01:22:06 The values are the same despite fluctuations over the six year period.

00:01:28:04 But when we introduced income taken, it's a different story.

00:01:32:10 The values continue to fluctuate, but the end result is vastly different.

00:01:37:07 Here's that same investment, but with 1500 pounds per month income. Well, why is this?

00:01:44:00 Let's look at portfolio B as an example.

00:01:46:21 This highlights the risk that with poor performance in the first three years,

00:01:50:15 losses by income being taken are effectively being crystallized

00:01:54:12 and others not recovered over the time period.

00:01:57:19 By contrast, portfolio IE has the best style

00:02:00:06 and therefore gains rather than losses have been crystallized.

00:02:02:18 So the number is much better. Portfolio C sits in the middle.

00:02:07:12 So what methods can an adviser adopt to counteract this risk?

00:02:10:21 Well, there are several strategies. Let's look at the first example.

00:02:15:13 It might be that an adviser used a cash fund to pay income in the short term.

00:02:19:16 Typically, these funds don't fall in value and so there is no sequence of return risk.

00:02:24:21 However, one problem here is that deposit rates are very low at the moment

00:02:29:05 and in some cases almost non-existent.

00:02:31:15 This means that though there is no fall in value for money earmarked for withdrawal,

00:02:34:21 sitting in cash, there is no growth income. Let's look at another example.

00:02:40:11 The second measured method here is one that has become known as the bucket approach.

00:02:44:15 The premise of this is that the fund is divided into

00:02:47:00 a series of buckets invested according to when the client may need the income.

00:02:52:04 So used in conjunction with the first method,

00:02:54:09 you may have cash in the short term bucket and then perhaps two

00:02:57:10 or three more buckets intended to provide income points in the future.

00:03:01:20 The general principle is that the longer and so income is needed to be drawn from

00:03:05:12 the individual bucket, the more aggressive and thus more potential growth there is.

00:03:10:13 This can work well, but still has a problem of low returns on the cash element.

00:03:14:19 And also, of course, there is no guarantee of the other buckets providing

00:03:18:18 the right performance for the earmarked time period.

00:03:22:09 Variation on this theme, though,

00:03:23:15 could be that a longer term bucket is promoted by income earlier than expected if

00:03:28:10 it has performed well. Let's look at another example.

00:03:33:04 Another method is taken natural income.

00:03:36:06 This involves bond, dividend or rental income generated by a portfolio becoming

00:03:41:01 the client's income. This enables the investor to avoid drawing

00:03:45:15 on their capital or selling fund units, thus avoiding sequencing risk.

00:03:51:00 However, this approach is also not without drawbacks.

00:03:53:18 Even if the yield is stable in percentage terms when applied to the capital value,

00:03:58:18 it is likely to fluctuate. This means that

00:04:01:03 the investor's income will fluctuate from year to year.

00:04:04:23 All your clients comfortable with a volatile income.

00:04:08:10 This might not work if, for example,

00:04:10:22 a retiree needing to budget around a particular income requirement.

00:04:14:20 This can often make this particular strategy unattractive in isolation for all but

00:04:19:11 the relatively wealthy. Of course,

00:04:22:03 the investor could top up their income by cashing in units.

00:04:25:11 Then you are back to the main problem that this is trying to be avoided having cash

00:04:29:15 units at the wrong time. Let's look at another example.

00:04:34:12 Final method is the one of a multi-asset smooth fund.

00:04:38:15 The fund can be invested in a wide range of different assets.

00:04:42:05 This in itself providing an element of consistency of return.

00:04:46:06 Smoothing mechanism is also applied to the fund,

00:04:48:17 meaning that the unit price is only adjusted if

00:04:51:03 the underlying value goes outside of set parameters.

00:04:55:06 Otherwise, the fund will grow by an expected growth rate,

00:04:58:08 which can also help to give investors an idea of their expected outcome.

00:05:02:22 Typically, these funds remove some of the day to day volatility that

00:05:06:10 an investor in real assets would normally expect to see.

00:05:10:01 These, however, also have drawbacks.

00:05:12:11 For example, the fund could perform poorly over time.

00:05:15:10 Or it may be that there is an adjustment to the value relatively soon after

00:05:19:23 the investment because of a market correction . Fun. One important.

00:05:24:17 Points mentioned is that none of these strategies are mutually exclusive.

00:05:28:10 It might be. The two or more are used for the same point in order to give them

00:05:34:01 the level of certainty they need and ensure that capacity for loss is not breached.