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FUNDS UNDER MANAGEMENT

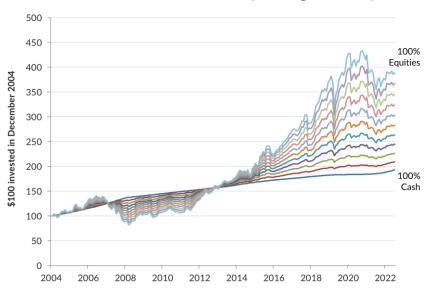
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AROUND 300 CLIENTS WHO ARE:

PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS
CHARITABLE TRUSTS
FAITH BASED

## Council is a long-term/intergenerational owner/investor

Equities impact: Growth portfolios deliver high returns but with more volatility along the way



- Any investment portfolio balances low return/risk (volatility) assets, e.g. cash, bonds, vs. higher returning but higher volatility assets, e.g. shares
- As a long-term investor Council has the capacity to invest in higher volatility (i.e. more bumps along the way) but higher returning assets over the long-term

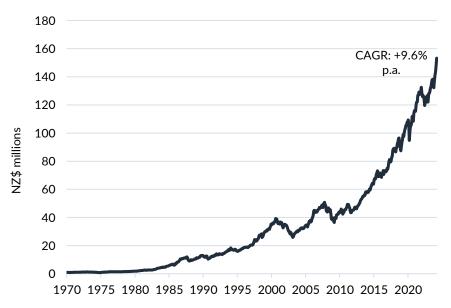
## Council has the benefit of being a long-term/intergenerational investor

#### Growth benchmark portfolio

Asset Class Benchmark Indices	Growth Benchmark Weights
Cash S&P/NZX 90-Day Bank Bill Index	3%
NZ Fixed Interest S&P/NZX NZ Government Bond Index	7%
Global Fixed Interest Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Total Return Index Hedged NZD	10%
NZ Equities S&P/NZX 50 Gross Index	15%
Australian Equities S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index (NZD)	15%
Global Equities MSCI ACWI NTR Index (NZD)	50%

## Growth portfolio: long-term returns

#### Growth benchmark performance



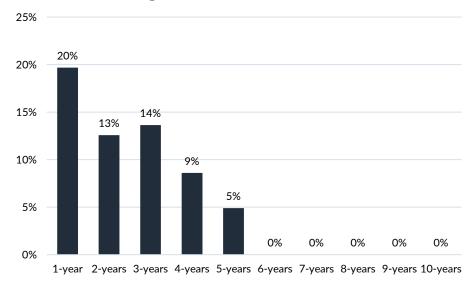
- Growth benchmark performance+9.6% p.a. since 1970
- Excludes any benefit from active management or private market investments, e.g. private equity

#### Examples of long-term funds:

- NZ Super Fund has delivered +9.8%
   p.a. over nearly 21 years, since 2003
   (vs. benchmark +8.3%)
- ACC +9.3% p.a. over 32 years, since 1992 (vs. benchmark +8.1%)

## Market volatility is less important in the long-term

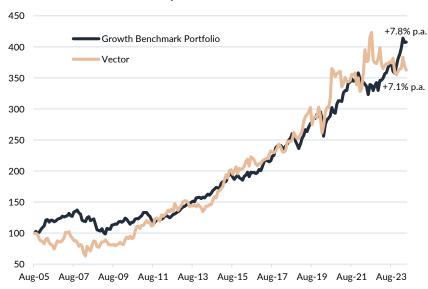
# Growth benchmark portfolio – historical occurrence of negative returns



Although a diversified investment portfolio comes with risk (volatile returns) in the short-term, the risk of losses reduces as your time horizon expands

## Comparison to Vector: Growth portfolio has delivered better returns ...

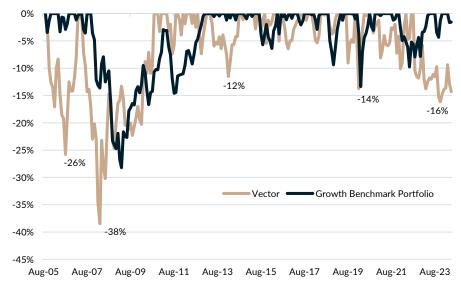
#### Growth benchmark performance vs. Vector



- Vector listed in August 2005
- Annual return of +7.1% p.a. vs. growth benchmark +7.8% p.a.
- Vector has benefited from asset sales which have enabled it to both meet its capital requirements and maintain a dividend. Divestments:
  - 2008: Wellington Electricity, proceeds \$785 million
  - 2015: Gas transmission and non-Auckland gas distribution networks, \$953 million
  - 2023: 50% of Vector Metering, \$1.7 billion

## Comparison to Vector: ... with less risk / volatility

### Drawdowns vs. previous peak



Source: Refinitiv, Forsyth Barr analysis

"Diversification is the only free lunch" in investing. Diversification is a time-honoured way to manage risk."

- Harry Markowitz, economist
- Vector's share price has been nearly 2x more volatile than the growth portfolio benchmark, despite it being a "defensive" company
- Volatility has been caused by factors such as high debt levels and Commerce Commission regulatory decisions
- Aurora would likely be similarly volatile if listed

## In summary: History suggests ...

Diversified investment portfolio vs. Aurora

- Higher expected returns and income
- Reduced / diversified investment risk (not having all your eggs in one basket) = less volatility
- Lower debt / financial risk
- Liquid portfolio

Importance of governance

 Important governance rules and structures are put in place to ensure (i) the funds are preserved for the long-term benefit of ratepayers, and (ii) investment decisions align with the Council's overall mission and strategy

