

# PORTFOLIO UPDATE

## HNW Australian Equity Portfolio

### Monthly Report March 2026

- March was a very volatile month dominated by Trump's ever-changing announcements on Iran, with markets falling on his plans to "blow up desalination plants in Iran if no deal reached" or "obliterate Iranian oil and energy sites if it refuses a deal to end the war". Conversely, we saw sharp albeit temporary rallies over the month when Trump announced that the "US was in serious discussions with the Iranian regime to end military operations" and that "Iran had sent the US a 'present' that was oil and gas-related".
- The **HNW Australian Equity Portfolio** fell by -2.61%, outperforming the benchmark return of -7.15%, with the Portfolio proving quite defensive in a tough month where there were few places to hide outside of energy and insurance.
- March was another solid month for income for our investors, with six positions held by the Portfolio paying dividends. Atlas is looking forward to the banks' reporting season in May, which may shift the market's attention away from macroeconomic fears overseas and back to actual company earnings and dividends.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	12m rolling	Incept annual
HNW Australian Equity Portfolio	2.0%	4.3%	1.4%	2.7%	1.5%	-2.7%	0.9%	-1.0%	1.2%	0.4%	2.7%	-2.6%	11.1%	7.9%
ASX 200 TR	3.6%	4.2%	1.4%	2.4%	3.1%	-0.8%	0.4%	-2.7%	1.3%	1.8%	4.1%	-7.1%	11.7%	8.6%
Active return	-1.6%	0.1%	0.0%	0.4%	-1.6%	-1.9%	0.5%	1.7%	-0.1%	-1.4%	-1.5%	4.5%	-0.5%	-0.7%

#### Portfolio Objective

The objective is to build a portfolio of high-quality companies that will provide returns to a client in increased value and/or dividends over time.

#### Portfolio Details

Index	S&P ASX 200 Total Return
Number of Stocks	15 - 30
Asset Allocation	100% Equity
Inception Date	30 <sup>th</sup> November 2022
Security Target	Within 5% of S&P ASX 200 weights
Sector Target	Within 10% of S&P GICS sector weights

#### Performance Update

Over the month, the news was dominated by macroeconomic events in the Middle East and the US military operation in Iran. These events saw oil prices rise by 51% to US\$118/bl, with natural gas, thermal coal, and refining spreads rising alongside. Over the month, the market saw temporary rallies following announcements by the US President, which later reversed when they proved not to be factually correct.

There was little stock-specific news in March, following the February reporting season. In March, the Reserve Bank increased the cash rate by 0.25% to 4.1%, marking the second rate increase this year.

#### Top Ten Active Positions as of March 2026

##### Positive

Mineral Resources

ANZ

Transurban

Ampol

Whitehaven Coal

##### Negative

BHP

NAB

Rio Tinto

Telstra

CBA

#### Estimated portfolio metrics for FY26

	ASX 200	HNW AE
PE (x) fwd.	17.6	15.7
Dividend yield (net)	3.5%	4.8%
Est Franking	67%	82%
<b>Grossed Up Yield</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>
Number of stocks	200	23
Avg mcap \$B	11	69
Beta (3mth rolling)	1.0	0.97

Source: Bloomberg & UBS

# PORTFOLIO UPDATE

## HNW Australian Equity Portfolio

March 2026

### Portfolio Performance

In March, the **HNW Australian Equity Portfolio** fell by -2.6%, outperforming the benchmark. Overall, Atlas was pleased with the Portfolio's performance during a very volatile month, with its defensive characteristics being a highlight.

Over the month, positions in Woodside (+24%), Ampol (+20%), Whitehaven (+19%), and Suncorp (+10%) added value. All these companies will benefit from higher energy prices and higher inflation.

On the negative side of the ledger, Amcor (-17%), Sonic Healthcare (-11%), and Mineral Resources (-12%) detracted value.

It was frustrating to see Amcor down (-17%) for the month after providing a solid quarterly result in February. Over the month, the price of resin, a major input cost for packaging, increased following the oil price shock. This is unlikely to impact Amcor's profits, as it has long-term contracts with customers that pass on increases in raw material costs.

### What does a higher energy cost mean?

Higher energy costs will impact every sector of the economy, including mining, agriculture, and transport, and will likely lead to stickier, higher inflation. Higher energy costs will likely lead to less consumer discretionary spending and business investment, as both hold off on discretionary spending decisions.

The Portfolio currently includes companies with contracts that shield them from inflation and focuses on owning lowly geared companies that will see minimal impact from rising interest rates.

### Performance Calculation Methodology

The following conventions have been adopted for calculating performance:

- Transaction expenses of 10bp are applied to Portfolio buy and sells. Transaction expenses are capitalised into the cost base. Rebalancing transactions incur transaction expenses.
- Cash-flow from dividends is credited on the ex-date rather than the pay date. Franking is not considered which is consistent with the calculation methodology of the benchmark. Cash-flow from dividends is assumed to be reinvested in issuer stock at the closing price on the ex-date.
- The Portfolio can participate in entitlement-based capital raisings, however, cannot participate in institutional raisings. The Portfolio must fund the required amount by the sale of the equivalent amount of equity. In the event of a subsequent scale-back the Portfolio will also record the pro-rata amount of script issued.
- Performance does not include consideration of taxation including capital gains tax.

HNW Guided Portfolios are managed by HNW Planning's Investment Committee which receives guidance from several expert asset consultants. Changes to the Guided Portfolios are put forward by HNW Planning [AFSL 225216] as its advice to you. Whilst HNW Planning is supported by external consultants in its advice to clients, HNW Planning, is responsible for the appropriateness of advice to clients, and its implementation and execution. Neither HNW nor its expert asset consultants guarantee returns, investment performance or the money you invest.

### Portfolio Trading

No significant trading over the month.

### Sector Exposure March 2026

GICS Sector	ASX 200	AEP	ACTIVE
Consumer Discretionary	8.6%	11.2%	2.6%
Consumer Staples	3.3%	0.0%	-3.3%
Energy	3.3%	7.6%	4.3%
Banks	27.3%	32.4%	5.0%
Diversified Fins	6.0%	12.0%	6.0%
Health Care	7.0%	10.8%	3.8%
Industrials	5.5%	1.3%	-3.7%
Materials	22.9%	14.4%	-8.5%
IT	2.3%	0.0%	-2.3%
Telecommunication Services	2.4%	0.0%	-2.4%
Listed Property	6.5%	0.0%	-6.5%
Utilities	3.6%	8.9%	5.3%

- Performance numbers are presented on an unaudited basis