A bright September for Irish Pension Funds

Irish pension funds returned 2.5% on average during September. Merrion Investment Managers topped the league table with a gain of 3.6%, while Friends First/BMO lagged the peer group with a return of 1.7%.

However, losses in the previous two months mean that managed funds gained just 1.3% over the third quarter, on average.
Merrion Investment Managers turned in the best quarterly performance with a gain of 2.1%, while Davy Asset Management delivered the worst, with a gain of 0.4%. The first nine months of 2017 have seen pension funds gain a respectable 4.3% on average. This figure masks a range of performances, however, as returns for the year to date ranged from 6.5% (Standard Life Investments) to 2.4% (Davy Asset Management). Over the past twelve months the average fund return was 9.5%. Zurich Life top the table over the past year with a return of 12.2%, while Davy Asset Management produced the lowest return at 6.9%.
The average managed fund return has been a healthy 8.1% per annum over the past three years. The five-year average return is a robust 10.7% per annum. Irish group pension managed fund returns over the past ten years have been 4.6% per annum on average.

Active managed fund returns (%) 30 September, 2017

	1 month	3 months	9 months	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	15 years	20 years
Davy Asset Management	1.9	0.4	2.4	6.9	8.1	10.4	3.7	6.6	5.1
Friends First/BMO	1.7	1.3	4.7	9.2	7.2	10.1	3.5	6.4	5.2
Merrion Investment Managers	3.6	2.1	3.1	8.6	6.9	10.3	4.6	6.9	6.8
New Ireland	3.0	1.1	4.1	11.0	7.5	9.8	4.0	5.9	5.8
Setanta Asset Management	2.7	1.3	3.8	8.9	10.3	12.3	6.3	7.9	6.3
Standard Life Investments	2.0	1.4	6.5	9.5	7.6	10.9	5.3	7.8	6.0
Zurich Life	2.5	1.5	5.2	12.2	9.1	11.3	4.9	7.9	6.2
Average	***2.5***	***1.3***	***4.3***	***9.5***	***8.1***	***10.7***	***4.6***	***7.1***	***5.9***

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