

Warwickshire Pension Fund

AGM 2023 – Responsible Investment Update

Philip Pearson, Partner

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Warwickshire Pension Fund - Responsible Investment Policy

"The Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee recognises that **Environmental, Social and Governance** considerations pose a financially **material risk** as well as an **opportunity** to the Fund and have the potential to significantly affect long-term investment outcomes"

"The Committee considers Responsible Investment to have two key components:"



ESG Integration Considering the financial impact of ESG factors in investment decision-making

Effective stewardship

acting as responsible and active investors, through pro-active engagement with portfolio companies

"The Committee expects all the Fund's **investment managers to embed ESG factors** into their investment decision-making processes and stewardship activities, with a focus on long-term sustainable returns."



Which ESG factors?

Environmental factors	Social factors	Governance factors
Climate Change Waste/water management Resource scarcity Biodiversity Pollution Energy efficiency	Diversity of thought Customer satisfaction Community relations Health & Safety Employee wellbeing Social inclusion through labour management Data protection	Board Structure Accounting & Audit Executive remuneration Bribery & corruption Shareholder rights Transparency Political contributions
Sources of	f riskcan have a fina	ncial impact
Increased input costs	Brand value	Well managed company more successfu
Higher environmental taxes	Company reputation	Cost/risk controls
	Productivity	Stable share price

Key climate risks

Physical risks

- Direct effects from the climate itself.
- E.g. in short-term, damage to property and business disruption due to extreme weather events.
- E.g. in long-term, changing rainfall patterns affecting agricultural yield and local workforce availability.

Transition risks

- Risks associated with the transition to a low carbon economy.
- Could materially reduce value of, or income generated by, assets.
- E.g. "stranded assets" where a company/sector is unable to extract value from an asset due to restrictions on its activities leading to a collapse in its value.

Liability risks

- Where third parties have suffered damage or losses and seek compensation.
- E.g. lawsuits filed against oil companies for historical failure to acknowledge climate risks to its business.

Climate Opportunities



Climate objectives and strategy

Targets and metrics



- Provisional goal is to achieve Net Zero moderately ahead (5 years) of the economies in which the Fund invests, but not later than the prevailing global target date (currently 2050)
- Provisional objective is to reduce emissions intensity in 2030 by 35% (relative to 2021 baseline)
- Further work underway to assess the implications of these objectives and to develop a plan for achieving them
- Range of climate metrics defined and work underway to apply them across the portfolio

Strategy and policy



- Transparency monitoring and reporting
- Capital reallocation strategic asset allocation, mandate specification, portfolio company
- Stewardship/engagement with investment managers and portfolio companies
- Policies on Responsible Investment, Climate Change and related issues such as engagement vs divestment – ongoing review of Fund's and investment managers' policies

Climate change – two key tradeoffs

Climate risks Reduce current emissions Credible decarbonisation pathway



Actions undertaken

Transparency	 Second carbon footprint report published – as at March 2022, covering nearly all listed assets Working to extend scope to cover private markets and Scope 3 emissions Climate change integrated into manager reporting
Capital reallocation	 £50m commitment to BTC Infrastructure Series 2b – invests in assets critical to decarbonisation eg energy transition, digital revolution £120m commitment to lower emissions versions of existing strategies Approach to climate change is a key criteria in evaluation of new managers engaged during the year - BTC, LGIM, IFM, Barings and ICG Considering investment in BTC Climate Opportunities Fund II
Stewardship	 Effective stewardship key to achieving Net Zero Regular engagement with investment managers on climate change Engagement by managers with portfolio companies, eg BTC conducted 1,860 engagements and voted on more than 13,000 resolutions on a range of ESG issues during 2022-23



Thank you

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