

# BATLEYS LIMITED RETIREMENT BENEFITS SCHEME STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

SEPTEMBER 2023

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

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This Statement of Investment Principles ("the Statement") has been prepared by the Trustees of the Batleys Limited Retirement Benefits Scheme ("the Scheme") in accordance with Section 35 of the Pensions Act 1995, as amended, and its attendant Regulations.

The Statement outlines the principles governing the investment policy of the Scheme and the activities undertaken by the Trustees to ensure the effective implementation of these principles.

In preparing the Statement, the Trustees have:

- obtained and considered written advice from a suitably qualified individual, employed by their investment consultants, Mercer, whom they believe to have a degree of knowledge and experience that is appropriate for the management of their investments; and
- consulted with the Sponsoring Employer, although they affirm that no aspect of their strategy is restricted by any requirement to obtain the consent of the Sponsoring Employer.

The advice and the consultation process considered the suitability of the Trustees' investment policy for the Scheme.

The Trustees will review the Statement formally at least every three years to coincide with the triennial Actuarial Valuation or other actuarial advice relating to the statutory funding requirements. Furthermore, the Trustees will review the Statement without delay after any significant change in investment policy. Any changes made to the Statement will be based on written advice from a suitably qualified individual and will follow consultation with the Sponsoring Employer.



# 2 INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

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The Trustees' primary investment objective for the Scheme is to achieve an overall rate of return that is sufficient to ensure that assets are available to meet all liabilities as and when they fall due.

In doing so, the Trustees also aim to maximise returns at an acceptable level of risk taking into consideration the circumstances of the Scheme.

The Trustees have also received confirmation from the Scheme Actuary during the process of revising the investment strategy that their investment objectives and the resultant investment strategy are consistent with the actuarial valuation methodology and assumptions used in the Statutory Funding Objective.



# 3 INVESTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

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## TRUSTEES' DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for setting the investment objectives and determining the strategy to achieve the objectives.

They carry out their duties and fulfil their responsibilities as a single body, rather than establishing an investment sub-committee. Sub-committees may be formed from time to time to examine specific issues.

The duties and responsibilities of the Trustees include, but are not limited to, the following tasks and activities:

- The regular approval of the content of the Statement
- The appointment and review of the investment adviser
- The appointment and review of the investment platform provider
- The choice of appropriate funds to implement the agreed investment strategy
- The assessment and review of the performance of each investment manager
- The assessment of the risks assumed by the Scheme at total scheme level and investment managers
- The approval and review of the asset allocation benchmark for the Scheme
- The compliance of the investment arrangements with the principles set out in the Statement

### 3.2 INVESTMENT ADVISER'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees have appointed Mercer as the investment adviser to the Scheme. Mercer provides advice as and when the Trustees require it, as well as raising any investment-related issues, of which it believes the Trustees should be aware. Matters on which Mercer expects to provide advice to the Trustees include the following:

- Setting of investment objectives
- Determining investment strategy and asset allocation
- Determining an appropriate investment structure
- Monitoring the investment managers to ensure their continuing appropriateness to the mandates given
- Monitoring the Platform provider to ensure its continuing appropriateness for the Scheme
- Setting cashflow management (investment and withdrawal) and rebalancing policies (see Appendix 2)

The Trustees may seek advice from Mercer with regard to both strategic and tactical investment decisions (see Section 4 - Investment Strategy); however, they recognise that they retain responsibility for all such decisions, including those that concern investments and disinvestments relating to cashflows (see Appendix 2). Mercer may be proactive in advising the Trustees regarding tactical investment decisions; however, there is no responsibility placed on Mercer to be proactive in all circumstances.

The Trustees monitor the performance of the Scheme's investment managers against their benchmarks.

Mercer makes a fund based charge for the services it provides. This charge is specified in the contractual agreement between the Trustees and Mercer. Any additional services provided by Mercer will be remunerated primarily on a time-cost basis.

Mercer does not receive commission or any other payments in respect of the Scheme that might affect the impartiality of their advice.

The Trustees are satisfied that this is the most appropriate adviser remuneration structure for the Scheme.

Mercer is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA").



### 3.3 ARRANGEMENT WITH INVESTMENT MANAGERS

The Trustees are long-term investors and do not look to change the investment arrangements on a frequent basis.

The Trustees, after considering appropriate investment advice, have invested the assets of the Scheme through a Trustee Investment Policy (TIP) from Mobius Life Limited ("Mobius"), whose appointment foregoes the need for a Custodian

The Trustees will only invest in pooled investment vehicles through the Mobius Platform. The Trustees therefore accept that they cannot specify the risk profile and return targets of the managers, but pooled funds are chosen with the appropriate characteristics to align with the overall investment strategy.

Mobius Life Limited is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority ("PRA") and regulated by the FCA and the PRA.

The details of the funds invested in are set out in Appendix 3, together with the details of each manager's mandate.

In particular, the investment managers are responsible for all decisions concerning the selection and de-selection of the individual securities within the portfolios they manage.

In the case of multi-asset mandates, the investment managers are responsible for all decisions concerning the allocation to individual asset classes and changes in the allocations to individual asset classes.

The Mobius TIP facilitates investment into a range of funds managed by third party investment managers and the value of the Mobius TIP is directly linked to the change in value in the funds. All of the investment managers used by the Scheme are authorised and regulated by the FCA.

Both Mobius and the investment managers are remunerated by ad valorem charges based on the value of the assets that they manage on behalf of the Scheme. Discounts have been negotiated by Mobius and Mercer with the managers on their standard charges.

None of the investment managers in which the Scheme's assets are invested have performance based fees which could encourage the managers to make short term investment decisions to hit their profit targets.

The Trustees therefore consider that the method of remunerating fund managers is consistent with incentivising them to make decisions based on assessments of medium to long-term financial and non-financial performance of an issuer of debt or equity. By encouraging a medium to long-term view, they will in turn encourage the investment managers to engage with issuers of debt or equity in order to improve their performance in the medium to long-term.

The Trustees accept that they cannot influence the charging structure of the pooled funds in which the Scheme is invested, but are satisfied that the ad-valorem charges for the different funds are clear and are consistent with each fund's stated characteristics. The Trustees are therefore satisfied that this is the most appropriate basis for remunerating the investment managers and is consistent with the Trustees' policies as set out in this SIP.

Mobius is authorised and regulated by the FCA.

### 3.4 SUMMARY OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A summary of the responsibilities of all relevant parties, including the Scheme Actuary and the scheme administrators, so far as they relate to the Scheme's investments, is set out at Appendix 4.



# 4 INVESTMENT STRATEGY

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## SETTING INVESTMENT STRATEGY

The Trustees have determined their investment strategy after considering the Scheme's liability profile and requirements of the Statutory Funding Objective, their own appetite for risk, the views of the Sponsoring Employer on investment strategy, the Sponsoring Employer's appetite for risk, and the strength of the Sponsoring Employer's covenant. The Trustees have also received written advice from their Investment Adviser.

Taking all of these factors into consideration, The Trustees have determined that the benchmark asset allocation as set out in Appendix 1 is suitable for the Scheme.

In making this decision, the Trustees have been satisfied that this is consistent with their investment objectives and is supported by both the employer and the employer covenant.

In respect of the investment of contributions and any disinvestments to meet member benefit payments, the Trustees have decided on a structured approach to rebalance the assets in accordance with their overall strategy. This approach is set out in Appendix 2.

## 4.2 INVESTMENT DECISIONS

The Trustees distinguish between three types of investment decision: strategic, tactical and stock-level.

### **Strategic Investment Decisions**

These decisions are long-term in nature and are driven by an understanding of the objectives, needs and liabilities of the Scheme.

The Trustees take all such decisions themselves. They do so after receiving written advice from their investment adviser and consulting with the Sponsoring Employer. Examples of such decisions and of tasks relating to the implementation of these decisions include the following:

- Setting investment objectives
- Determining the split between the growth and the stabilising portfolios
- Determining the allocation to asset classes within the growth and stabilising portfolios
- Determining the Scheme benchmark
- Reviewing the investment objectives and strategic asset allocation

### **Tactical Investment Decisions**

These decisions are short-term and based on expectations of near-term market movements. Such decisions may involve deviating temporarily from the strategic asset allocation and may require the timing of entry into, or exit from, an investment market or asset class.

These decisions are the responsibility of the Trustees. However, where such decisions are made within a pooled fund, they are the responsibility of the investment manager of the fund.

### **Stock Selection Decisions**

All such decisions are the responsibility of the investment managers of the pooled funds in which the Scheme is invested.



## 4.3 TYPES OF INVESTMENTS TO BE HELD

The Trustees are permitted to invest across a wide range of asset classes.

All the funds in which the Scheme invests are pooled and unitised. The use of derivatives is permitted by the guidelines that apply to the pooled funds.

The Trustees recognise the benefits of diversification across growth asset classes, as well as within them, in reducing the risk that results from investing in any one particular market. The Trustees have therefore decided to invest in Diversified Growth Funds (DGFs), which are actively managed multi-asset funds. The managers of the DGFs invest in a wide range of assets and investment contracts in order to implement their market views.

Similarly, the Trustees have invested in a pooled Multi Asset Credit ("MAC") / Absolute Return Bond ("ARB") mandate, where the manager selects and manages allocations across a diversified spectrum of bond assets.

The Trustees note that the actuarial value of the Scheme's future benefits payments to members is sensitive to changes in long term interest rates and long term inflation expectations. The Trustees have decided to invest in Gilts, Index Linked Gilt and Liability Driven Investment ("LDI") funds which aim to respond in a similar way to changes in these factors and reduce the volatility of the Scheme's funding position. This is referred to as hedging.

Details relating to the pooled funds can be found in Appendix 3.

## 4.4 FINANCIALLY MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Trustees understand that they must consider all factors that have the ability to impact the financial performance of the Scheme's investments over the appropriate time horizon. This includes, but is not limited to, environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors.

The Trustees recognise that ESG factors, such as climate change, can influence the investment performance of the Scheme's portfolio and it is therefore in members' and the Scheme's best interests that these factors are taken into account within the investment process.

The Trustees further recognise that investing with a manager which approaches investments in a responsible way and takes account of ESG related risks may lead to better risk adjusted performance results as omitting these risks in investment analysis could skew the results and underestimate the level of overall risk being taken. The Trustees receive ESG scores provided by the Investment Consultant in relation to the funds in which the Scheme is invested and monitor how these develop over time. The Trustees will also review ESG considerations at future reviews of this Statement to make sure that future developments are included as appropriate within the Scheme's investment approach.

The Trustees are therefore satisfied that ESG factors are appropriately reflected in the overall investment approach.

The Scheme's assets are invested in pooled funds, and therefore the Trustees accept the fact that they have very limited ability to influence the ESG policies and practices of the companies in which its managers invest.

However, the ESG policies of the pooled fund managers will be taken into account in the selection of future funds and managers and will be a factor in the selection process.

## 4.5 NON-FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Trustees only consider factors that are expected to have a financial impact on the Scheme's investments. Non-financial considerations, such as ethical views, are not implemented in the current investment strategy.



## 4.6 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND VOTING POLICY

The Scheme is invested solely in pooled investment funds. The Trustees policy is to delegate responsibility for engaging with, monitoring investee companies and exercising voting rights to the pooled fund investment managers and also expects them to use their discretion to act in the long term financial interests of investors.

The Trustees note that the investment managers' corporate governance policies are available on request and on their respective websites.

Where the Trustees are specifically invited to vote on a matter relating to corporate policy, the Trustees will exercise their right in accordance with what they believe to be in the best interests of the majority of the Scheme's membership.

## 4.7 STEWARDSHIP

The Scheme is invested solely in pooled investment funds through the Mobius TIP and the Trustees therefore have no direct voting rights.

The Trustees' policy is therefore to invest with investment managers where responsible investment is embedded appropriately in their approach to investment; including monitoring and engaging with investee companies, and exercising voting rights appropriately.

Information on the investment managers' approach to responsible investment, voting and engagement with the investee companies is available at the following websites:

Columbia Threadneedle:

<https://www.columbiathreadneedle.co.uk/en/inst/about-us/responsible-investment/>

Payden

<https://www.payden.com/ESG.aspx>

Ninety One

<https://ninetyone.com/en/united-kingdom/sustainability>

LGIM:

<https://www.lgim.com/uk/en/responsible-investing/>

Mercer's semi-annual reporting to the Trustees includes Mercer's ESG score for the funds in which the Scheme is invested. The ESG score incorporates an assessment of engagement and voting as part of the process.

Receipt of this score on a semi-annual basis enables the Trustees to monitor that these scores remain appropriate in the context of the fund mandates.

Taking all the above into consideration, the Trustees are satisfied that stewardship and responsible investment is embedded appropriately in the investment managers' approaches to investing. If the Trustees are specifically invited to vote on a matter relating to corporate policy, they would exercise their right in accordance with what they believe to be the best interests of the majority of the Scheme's membership.



# 5 RISK

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The Trustees are aware, and seek to take account of a number of risks in relation to the Scheme's investments, including the following:

Under the Pensions Act 2004, the Trustees are required to state their policy regarding the ways in which risks are to be measured and managed. These are set out below.

## **Solvency Risk and Mismatching Risk**

- These are measured through a qualitative and quantitative assessment of the expected development of the assets relative to the liabilities.
- These are managed by setting a scheme-specific strategic asset allocation with an appropriate level of risk.

## **Manager Risk**

- This is assessed as the expected deviation of the prospective risk and return, as set out in the managers' objectives, relative to the investment policy.
- It is measured by monitoring the actual deviation of returns relative to the objective and factors supporting the managers' investment process.
- It is managed through the diversification of the Scheme's assets across a range of funds with different investment styles, by monitoring and advice from the investment adviser where there have been significant changes to the managers' capabilities, and by using the Mobius platform, which enables quick and efficient replacement of managers if appropriate.

## **Liquidity Risk**

- This is monitored according to the level of cashflows required by the Scheme over a specified period.
- It is managed by holding an appropriate amount of readily realisable investments. The Scheme's assets are invested in pooled funds which are readily realisable.

## **Political Risk**

- This is measured by the level of concentration in any one market leading to the risk of adverse influence on investment values arising from political intervention.
- It is managed by regular reviews of the investments and through investing in funds which give a wide degree of diversification.

## **Corporate Governance Risk**

- This is assessed by reviewing the Scheme's investment managers' policies regarding corporate governance.
- It is managed by delegating the exercise of voting rights to the managers, who exercise this right in accordance with their published corporate governance policies. Summaries of these policies are provided to the Trustees from time to time and take into account the financial interests of the shareholders, which should ultimately be to the Scheme's advantage.

## **Sponsor Risk**

- This is assessed as the level of ability and degree of willingness of the sponsor to support the continuation of the Scheme and to make good any current or future deficit.
- It is managed by assessing the interaction between the Scheme and the sponsor's business, as measured by a number of factors, including the creditworthiness of the sponsor and the size of the pension liability relative to the sponsor. Regular updates on employer covenant are provided to the Trustees by senior staff of the sponsor.



## **Legislative Risk**

- This is the risk that legislative changes will require action from the Trustees so as to comply with any such changes in legislation.
- The Trustees acknowledge that this risk is unavoidable but will seek to address any required changes so as to comply with changes in legislation.

## **Credit Risk**

- This is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.
- The Scheme invests in pooled investment vehicles and is therefore directly exposed to credit risk in relation to the instruments it holds in the pooled investment vehicles and is indirectly exposed to credit risks arising on the financial instruments held by the pooled investment vehicles.
- The Scheme's holdings in pooled investment vehicles are unrated. Direct credit risk arising from pooled investment vehicles is mitigated by the underlying assets of the pooled arrangements being ring-fenced from the pooled manager, the regulatory environments in which the pooled managers operate and diversification of investments amongst a number of pooled arrangements.
- Indirect credit risk arises in relation to underlying bond investments held in the pooled funds. This risk is mitigated by investing in funds with diversified portfolios.

## **Market Risk**

- This is the risk the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises of the following three types of risk

## **Currency Risk**

- This is the risk that occurs when the price of one currency moves relative to another (reference) currency. In the context of a UK pension scheme, the scheme may be invested in overseas stocks or assets, which are either directly or indirectly linked to a currency other than Sterling. There is a risk that the price of that overseas currency will move in such a way that it devalues relative to Sterling, thus negatively impacting the overall investment returns.
- For the DGF and absolute return bond funds the Trustees acknowledge that currency risk is delegated to the investment managers, where the manager is responsible for the decision of whether or not to hedge, if the fund has exposure to overseas currency.

## **Interest rate risk**

- This is the risk that an investment's value will change due to a change in the level of interest rates. This affects debt instruments more directly than growth instruments.
- The Trustees recognise that the Scheme's liabilities are exposed to a significant level of interest rate risk movement and for this reason it is desirable for the Scheme's assets to be exposed to a similar level of interest rate risk. The Trustees manage the Scheme's interest rate risk by considering the net risk when taking account of how the liabilities are valued.
- The Trustees have invested into gilts, index linked gilts and LDI funds, which provide a significant level of protection against movements in interest rates.

## **Other Price risk**

- This is the risk that principally arises in relation to the return seeking portfolio, which invests in diversified growth funds.
- The Trustees recognise that the use of a diversified growth fund enables the scheme to manage its exposure to price risk by investing in a diverse portfolio across various markets.



## ESG Risk

- This is the risk that Environmental, Social or Corporate Governance concerns, including climate change, have a financially material impact on the return of the Scheme's assets.
- The Trustees manage this risk by investing in well-respected investment managers where ESG principles are an established part of the investment decision making process and by regularly reviewing the ESG scoring of the investment consultant's scoring of the Scheme's managers.



# 6 MONITORING OF INVESTMENT ADVISER AND MANAGERS

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## INVESTMENT ADVISER

The Trustees continually assess and review the performance of their adviser in a qualitative way. In doing so, the Trustees will consider the objectives they set for their investment adviser in the document entitled "Strategic Objectives for Investment Consultancy Services" which was signed by the Trustees in February 2023.

## 6.2 INVESTMENT MANAGERS

The Trustees receive semi-annual monitoring reports on the performance of the investment managers from Mercer, which present performance information over 3 months, 1 year and 3 years. The reports show the absolute performance, performance against the manager's stated target performance (over the relevant time period) on a net of fees basis. They also provide returns of market indices so that these can be used to help inform the assessment of the managers' performance.

The reporting reviews the performance of the Scheme's assets in aggregate against the Scheme's strategic benchmark.

In conjunction with advice and information from their investment adviser, the Trustees have the role of replacing the investment managers where appropriate. It takes a long-term view when assessing whether to replace the investment managers and such decisions would not be made based solely on short-term performance concerns. Instead, changes would be driven by a significant downgrade of the investment manager by Mercer's Manager Research Team. This in turn would be due to a significant reduction in Mercer's confidence that the investment manager will be able to perform in line with their fund's mandate over the long term.

Changes will also be made to the managers if there is a strategic change to the overall strategy and therefore the Scheme no longer requires exposure to that asset class or manager.

## 6.3 PORTFOLIO TURNOVER COSTS

The Trustees do not currently monitor portfolio turnover costs for the funds in which the Scheme is invested, although notes that the performance monitoring reports which it receives is net of all charges, including such costs. Portfolio turnover costs means the costs incurred as a result of the buying, selling, lending or borrowing of investments.

The Trustees are also aware of the requirement to define and monitor targeted portfolio turnover and turnover range.

Given that the Scheme invests in a range of pooled funds, many of which invest across a wide range of asset classes, the Trustees do not have an overall portfolio turnover target for the Scheme.



# 7 ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS (AVCS)

The Scheme provides a facility for members to pay for Additional Voluntary Contributions (“AVCs”) to enhance their benefits at retirement. Members are offered a range of funds in which to invest their AVCs.

AVC's are invested in a unitised With Profit Fund with Scottish Widows PLC.

# 8 BEST PRACTICE

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The Trustees are aware the Pensions Regulator guidance 'Investment Guidance for Defined Benefit Pension Schemes, released in March 2017.

The Trustees receive investment advice which ensures that the principles contained within this guidance are applied to the Scheme as far as it is relevant to the Scheme's circumstances.

The Trustees meet with their investment adviser on a regular basis, monitoring developments both in relation to the Scheme's circumstances and in relation to evolving guidance, and will revise the Scheme's investment approach if considered appropriate.

# 9 COMPLIANCE

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The Scheme's Statement of Investment Principles is available to members on request and online.

A copy of the Scheme's current Statement plus Appendices is also supplied to the Sponsoring Employer, the Scheme's auditors and the Scheme Actuary.

This Statement of Investment Principles, taken as a whole with the Appendices, supersedes all others and was approved by the Trustees.

**Approved by the Trustees on 29 September 2023.**



# APPENDIX 1: ASSET ALLOCATION BENCHMARK

The Scheme's initial strategic asset allocation benchmark is set out below.

Asset Class	Strategic Allocation (%)
<b>Growth Assets</b>	<b>30</b>
Diversified Growth Funds	20
Global Equity Funds	10
<b>Stabilising Assets</b>	<b>70</b>
Multi Asset Credit	7.5
Absolute Return Bond Fund	7.5
Liability Driven Investments*	5
Index Linked Gilts*	15
Gilts*	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

NB: There are no guideline ranges as the actual asset allocation percentages will change as investment market conditions change. The Trustees, along with their advisor, will assess the allocations on an ongoing basis and make adjustments as, and when, they see fit based on the strategic allocations set out above and the magnitude of any deviations from above.

\*The assets are designed to hedge the valued placed on the liabilities. Hence, like the liabilities, their values will float as interest and expected inflation rates change.

Appendix 2 outlines the policy for cashflow and rebalancing.

Appendix 3 provides information about the funds in which the assets are invested.



# APPENDIX 2: CASHFLOW AND REBALANCING POLICY

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## ***Cashflow Policy***

Investments or disinvestments should be applied as follows:

- Dis/investments up to the value of £100k are applied pro-rate across all the funds (DGF, MAC, ARB, Index Linked Gilts and Gilts), except the LDI fund.
- Dis/investments between £100k and £250k will be invested into (disinvested from) the fund which is most underweight (overweight) relative to the strategic benchmark.
- Specific consideration would be given to ad hoc dis/investments of over £250k.

The Trustees will review the cashflow policy from time to time to ensure that it remains appropriate taking into account changes in the Scheme's cashflow requirements.

## ***Rebalancing Policy***

There is no automatic rebalancing of the assets back to the Scheme's central benchmark asset allocation (set out in Appendix 1). Instead the Trustees will use the reporting provided by Mercer to determine if any funds have moved significantly away from the strategic asset allocation, and if so consider the circumstances for this and whether it would be appropriate to take action.

The Trustees note that the LDI fund will move significantly in value in response to changing liability values and that buying or selling the LDI fund would change the level of liability hedging. The LDI funds have therefore been excluded from the rebalancing process.

For avoidance of doubt, this Statement will not be revised purely in relation to a change in cashflow or rebalancing policy.

## ***LDI Recapitalisation***

The Trustees note that the LDI manager may require additional assets (or may release assets) from time to time in order to support the operation of the LDI fund. The Trustees have put in place a policy regarding this recapitalisation/release procedure with Mobius Life.



# APPENDIX 3: INVESTMENT MANAGER INFORMATION

The tables below show the details of the mandate(s) with each manager.

## GROWTH ASSETS

Manager / Fund	Benchmark	Objective	Dealing Frequency	SORP / IFRS Class
<b>Diversified Growth</b>				
<b>Columbia Threadneedle Multi-Asset</b>	Bank of England Base Rate	To outperform the UK Base Rate by at least 3.5% (net of Fees) over a 5 to 7 year-cycle.	Daily	(b) / 2
<b>Global Equities</b>				
<b>LGIM World Developed Equity Index</b>	FTSE Developed World Index	To perform in line with FTSE Developed World Index	Daily	(b) / 2



## STABILISING ASSETS

Manager / Fund	Benchmark	Objective	Dealing Frequency	SORP / IFRS Class
<b>Liability Driven Investments</b>				
<b>BMO</b> Nominal Dynamic	The benchmark is set by BMO to match the liabilities of a typical pension scheme	To provide liability hedging by offering interest rate protection which replicates the liability profile of a typical UK defined benefit pension scheme	Daily	(b) / 2
<b>Multi Asset Credit</b>				
<b>Ninety One</b> Global Total Return Credit	3 month SONIA + 4% over a full credit cycle	To outperform the benchmark by up to 2% over a full credit cycle.	Daily	(b) / 2
<b>Absolute Return Bond</b>				
<b>Payden</b> Absolute Return Bond	SONIA GBP 1 Month	To outperform the benchmark by 3.0% p.a. gross of fees over rolling three year periods	Daily	(b) / 2
<b>Index Linked Gilts</b>				
<b>L&amp;G</b> All Stocks Index Linked	FTSE Actuaries UK I-L Gilts All Stocks Index	Track the performance of the FTSE Actuaries UK Index Linked Gilts All Stocks Index within +/-0.25% p.a. for two years out of three.	Daily	(b) / 2
<b>Gilts</b>				
<b>L&amp;G</b> AF - Over 15 Year Gilts Index	FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts Over 15 Years Index	Track the performance of the FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts Over 15 Years Index to within +/-0.25% p.a. for two years out of three.	Daily	(b) / 2
<b>L&amp;G</b> All Stocks	FTSE Actuaries UK Conv Gilts All Stocks Idx	Track the performance of the FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts Over 15 Years Index to within +/-0.25% p.a. for two years out of three.	Daily	(b) / 2

The Scheme's assets are hosted on an investment platform provided by Mobius Life Limited, which provides access to the investment funds.



# APPENDIX 4: RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES

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## TRUSTEES

The Trustees' responsibilities include the following:

- Reviewing at least triennially, and more frequently if necessary, the content of this Statement in consultation with the Investment Adviser and modifying it if deemed appropriate
- Reviewing the investment strategy following the results of each actuarial review, in consultation with the Investment Adviser and Scheme Actuary
- Appointing the investment manager(s), platform provider and custodian (if required)
- Assessing the quality of the performance and processes of the investment manager(s) by means of regular reviews of investment returns and other relevant information, in consultation with the Investment Adviser
- Consulting with the sponsoring employer regarding any proposed amendments to this Statement
- Monitoring compliance of the investment arrangements with this Statement on a continuing basis

## INVESTMENT ADVISER

The Investment Adviser's responsibilities include the following:

- Participating with the Trustees in reviews of this Statement of Investment Principles
- Production of performance monitoring reports
- Advising the Trustees, at their request, on the following matters:
  - Through consultation with the Scheme Actuary, how any changes within the Scheme's benefits, membership, and funding position may affect the manner in which the assets should be invested
  - How any significant changes in the investment managers' organisation could affect the interests of the Scheme
  - How any changes in the investment environment could present either opportunities or problems for the Scheme
- Undertaking project work, as requested, including:
  - Reviews of asset allocation policy
  - Research into and reviews of the investment managers
- Advising on the selection of new managers and/or custodians
- Informing the Trustees of any significant changes or concerns in relation to the Platform provider's suitability for the Scheme
- Advising the Trustees on an appropriate overall cashflow and rebalancing process
- Providing advice in relation to specific cashflows and rebalancing as appropriate

## PLATFORM PROVIDER

The platform provider's responsibilities include the following:

- Ensure contributions are invested/disinvested in accordance with instructions, and that switches are processed accordingly
- Ensure instructions are in accordance with the Authorised Signatory Lists
- Informing the Trustees of any changes in the internal performance objectives and guidelines of any pooled fund used by the Scheme as and when they occur



## SCHEME ACTUARY

The Scheme Actuary's responsibilities include the following:

- Liaising with the Investment Adviser regarding the suitability of the Scheme's investment strategy given the financial characteristics of the Scheme
- Assessing the funding position of the Scheme and advising on the appropriate response to any shortfall
- Performing the triennial (or more frequent, as required) valuations and advising on the appropriate contribution levels

## ADMINISTRATOR

The Administrator's responsibilities include the following:

- Ensuring there is sufficient cash available to meet benefit payments as and when they fall due
- Paying benefits and making transfer payments
- Investing contributions not required to meet benefit payments with the investment managers according to the Trustees' instructions.