

Britvic Northern Ireland Pension Plan

Engagement Policy Implementation Statement for the year ending 31 December 2022

Introduction

The Trustee of the Britvic Northern Ireland Pension Plan (the 'Plan') has a fiduciary duty to consider its approach to the stewardship of the investments, to maximise financial returns for the benefit of members and beneficiaries over the long term. The Trustee can promote an investment's long-term success through monitoring, engagement and/or voting, either directly or through its investment manager.

This statement sets out how, and the extent to which, in the opinion of the Trustee, the policies (set out in the Statement of Investment Principles) on the exercise of rights (including voting rights) attaching to the investments, and engagement activities have been followed during the year ending 31 December 2022. This statement also describes the voting behaviour by, or on behalf of, the Trustee including the most significant votes cast during the year and whether a proxy voter has been used.

The Trustee, in conjunction with its investment consultant, appoints its investment manager to meet specific Plan policies. It expects that its investment manager makes decisions based on assessments about the financial and non-financial performance of underlying investments, and that they engage with issuers of debt or equity to improve their performance (and thereby the Plan's performance) over an appropriate time horizon.

The Trustee also expects its investment manager to take non-financial matters into account as long as the decision does not involve a risk of significant detriment to members' financial interests.

Stewardship - monitoring and engagement

The Trustee recognises that investment managers' ability to influence the companies in which they invest will depend on the nature of the investment.

The Trustee acknowledges that the concept of stewardship may be less applicable to some of its assets, particularly for short-term money market instruments, gilt and liability-driven investments. As such the Plan's investments in these asset classes are not covered by this engagement policy implementation statement.

The Trustee's policy is to delegate responsibility for the exercising of rights (including voting rights) attaching to investments to the investment manager and to encourage the manager to exercise those rights. The investment manager is expected to provide regular reports for the Trustee detailing its voting activity.

The Trustee's policy is to delegate responsibility for engaging and monitoring investee companies to the investment manager and expects the investment manager to use its discretion to maximise financial returns for members and others over the long term.

The Trustee reviews each investment manager prior to appointment and monitors them on an ongoing basis through the regular review of the manager's voting and engagement policies, its investment consultant's ESG rating, and a review of each manager's voting and engagement behaviour.

The Trustee has not set out its own stewardship priorities but follows that of the investment manager.

The Trustee will engage with its investment manager should it consider that manager's voting and engagement policy to be inadequate or if the voting and engagement undertaken is not aligned with the manager's own policies, or if the manager's policies diverge significantly from any stewardship policies identified by the Trustee from time to time. If the Trustee finds its manager's policies or behaviour unacceptable, it may agree an alternative mandate with the manager or decide to review or replace the manager.

As all of the investments are held in pooled vehicles, the Trustee does not envisage being directly involved with peer-to-peer engagement in investee companies.

Investment manager engagement policies

The Plan's investment manager is expected to have developed and publicly disclosed an engagement policy. This policy, amongst other things, provides the Trustee with information on how the investment manager engages in dialogue with the companies it invests in and how it exercises voting rights. It also provides details on the investment approach taken by the investment manager when considering relevant factors of the investee companies, such as strategy, financial and non-financial performance and risk, and applicable social, environmental and corporate governance aspects.

Links to the investment manager's engagement policy or suitable alternative is provided in the Appendix.

These policies are publicly available on the investment manager's website.

The latest available information provided by the investment manager (for mandates that contain public equities or bonds) is as follows:

Engagement		
	LGIM Diversified Fund	LGIM Active Corp Bond - Over 10 Yr
Period	01/01/2022 – 31/12/2022	01/01/2022 – 31/12/2022
Engagement definition	Purposeful, targeted communication with an entity (e.g. company, government, industry body, regulator) on particular matters of concern with the goal of encouraging change at an individual issuer and/or the goal of addressing a market-wide or system risk (such as climate). Regular communication to gain information as part of ongoing research should not be counted as engagement.	
Number of companies engaged with over the year	674	41
Number of engagements over the year	947	79

Exercising rights and responsibilities

The Trustee recognises that different investment managers should not be expected to exercise stewardship in an identical way, or to the same intensity.

The investment manager is expected to disclose annually a general description of its voting behaviour, an explanation of the most significant votes cast and report on the use of proxy voting advisers.

The Trustee has been provided with details of what the investment manager considers to be the most significant votes. The Trustee has not influenced the manager's definitions of significant votes but has reviewed these and is satisfied that they are all reasonable and appropriate.

The Trustee has selected the three votes affecting the largest asset holdings for inclusion in this statement. The Trustee did not communicate with the manager in advance about the votes it considered to be the most significant.

The investment manager publishes online the overall voting records of the firm on a regular basis.

The investment manager uses proxy advisers for the purposes of providing research, advice or voting recommendations that relate to the exercise of voting rights.

The Trustee does not carry out a detailed review of the votes cast by or on behalf of their investment manager but rely on the requirement for their investment managers to provide a high-level analysis of their voting behaviour.

The Trustee considers the proportion of votes cast, and the proportion of votes against management to be an important (but not the only) consideration of investor behaviour.

The latest available information provided by the investment manager (for mandates that contain public equities) is as follows:

Voting behaviour	
	LGIM Diversified
Period	01/01/2022 – 31/12/2022
Number of meetings eligible to vote at	9,567

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Number of resolutions eligible to vote on	98,795
Proportion of votes cast	99.8%
Proportion of votes for management	77.4%
Proportion of votes against management	21.9%
Proportion of resolutions abstained from voting on	0.7%

Trustee assessment

The Trustee has considered the environmental, social and governance rating for each fund/investment manager provided by the investment consultant, which includes consideration of voting and/or engagement activities. This also includes those funds that do not hold listed equities.

The Trustee has reviewed the investment managers' policies relating to engagement and voting and how they have been implemented and have found them to be acceptable at the current time.

The Trustee recognises that engagement and voting policies, practices and reporting, will continue to evolve over time and are supportive of their investment managers being signatories to the United Nations' Principles for Responsible Investment and the Financial Reporting Council's UK Stewardship Code 2020.

Appendix

Links to the engagement policies for the investment manager can be found here:

Investment manager	Engagement policy
Legal & General Investment Management	https://www.lgim.com/landq-assets/lgim/document-library/capabilities/lgim-engagement-policy.pdf

Information on the most significant votes for each of the funds containing equities is shown below.

LGIM Diversified Fund	Vote 1	Vote 2	Vote 3
Company name	Prologis, Inc.	Apple Inc.	Union Pacific Corporation
Date of Vote	04/05/2022	04/03/2022	12/05/2022
Approximate size of fund's holding as at the date of the vote (as % of portfolio)	0.4	0.4	0.4
Summary of the resolution	Resolution 1a - Elect Director Hamid R. Moghadam	Resolution 9 - Report on Civil Rights Audit	Resolution 1e - Elect Director Lance M. Fritz
How the fund manager voted	Against	For	Against
Where the fund manager voted against management, did they communicate their intent to the company ahead of the vote	LGIM publicly communicates its vote instructions on LGIM's website with the rationale for all votes against management. It is their policy not to engage with their investee companies in the three weeks prior to an AGM as their engagement is not limited to shareholder meeting topics.		
Rationale for the voting decision	Joint Chair/CEO: A vote against is applied as LGIM expects companies to separate the roles of Chair and CEO due to	Diversity: A vote in favour is applied as LGIM supports proposals related to diversity and inclusion policies as they	Joint Chair/CEO: A vote against is applied as LGIM expects companies not to recombine the roles of Board Chair and CEO

	<p>risk management and oversight. Independence: A vote against is applied as LGIM expects a board to be regularly refreshed in order to maintain an appropriate mix of independence, relevant skills, experience, tenure, and background.</p>	<p>consider these issues to be a material risk to companies.</p>	<p>without prior shareholder approval.</p>
Outcome of the vote	92.9%	53.6%	91.7%
Implications of the outcome	<p>LGIM will continue to engage with our investee companies, publicly advocate our position on this issue and monitor company and market-level progress.</p>		
Criteria on which the vote is assessed to be "most significant"	<p>LGIM considers this vote to be significant as it is in application of an escalation of their vote policy on the topic of the combination of the board chair and CEO (escalation of engagement by vote). LGIM has a longstanding policy advocating for the separation of the roles of CEO and board chair. These two roles are substantially different, requiring distinct skills and experiences. Since 2015 they have supported shareholder proposals seeking the appointment of independent board chairs, and since 2020 they have voted</p>	<p>LGIM views gender diversity as a financially material issue for their clients, with implications for the assets they manage on their behalf.</p>	<p>LGIM considers this vote to be significant as it is in application of an escalation of our vote policy on the topic of the combination of the board chair and CEO (escalation of engagement by vote). LGIM has a longstanding policy advocating for the separation of the roles of CEO and board chair. These two roles are substantially different, requiring distinct skills and experiences. Since 2015 they have supported shareholder proposals seeking the appointment of independent board chairs, and since 2020 they have voted</p>

against all combined board chair/CEO roles.

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Information on the most significant engagement case studies LGIM participated in during the year ending 31 December 2022 is shown below.

Name of entity engaged with	ExxonMobil	BP Plc	J Sainsbury Plc
Topic	Environment: Climate change (Climate Impact Pledge)	Environment: Climate change (Climate Impact Pledge)	Social: Income inequality - living wage (diversity, equity, and inclusion)
Rationale	As one of the world's largest public oil and gas companies in the world, LGIM believe that Exxon Mobil's climate policies, actions, disclosures and net zero transition plans have the potential for significant influence across the industry as a whole, and particularly in the US. At LGIM, they believe that company engagement is a crucial part of transitioning to a net zero economy by 2050. Under LGIM's Climate Impact Pledge, they publish their minimum expectations for companies in 20 climate-critical sectors. LGIM select roughly 100 companies for 'in-depth' engagement -	As one of the largest integrated oil and gas producers in the world, BP has a significant role to play in the global transition to net zero, hence LGIM's focus on this company for in-depth engagements. As members of the CA100+ LGIM commit to engaging with a certain number of companies on their focus list and on account of LGIM's strong relationship with BP, they lead the CA100+ engagements with them. At LGIM, they believe that company engagement is a crucial part of transitioning to a net zero economy by 2050. Under LGIM's Climate Impact Pledge, they publish their minimum expectations for	Ensuring companies take account of the 'employee voice' and that they are treating employees fairly in terms of pay and diversity and inclusion is an important aspect of our stewardship activities. As the cost of living ratchets up in the wake of the pandemic and amid soaring inflation in many parts of the world, LGIM's work on income inequality and their expectations of companies regarding the living wage have acquired a new level of urgency. LGIM's expectations of companies: i) As a responsible investor, LGIM advocates that all companies should ensure that they are paying their employees a living

these companies are influential in their sectors, but in LGIM's view are not yet leaders on sustainability; by virtue of their influence, their improvements would be likely to have a knock-on effect on other companies within the sector, and in supply chains. LGIM's in-depth engagement is focused on helping companies meet these minimum expectations and understanding the hurdles they must overcome. For in-depth engagement companies, those which continue to lag our minimum expectations may be subject to voting sanctions and/ or divestment (from LGIM funds which apply the Climate Impact Pledge exclusions).

UN SDG 13: Climate action

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UN SDG 13: Climate action

wage and that this requirement should also be extended to all firms with whom they do business across their supply chains.

ii) LGIM expect the company board to challenge decisions to pay employees less than the living wage.

iii) LGIM ask the remuneration committee, when considering remuneration for executive directors, to consider the remuneration policy adopted for all employees.

iv) In the midst of the pandemic, LGIM went a step further by tightening their criteria of bonus payments to executives at companies where COVID-19 had resulted in mass employee lay-offs and the company had claimed financial assistance (such as participating in government-supported furlough schemes) in order to remain a going concern.

With over 600 supermarkets, more than 800 convenience stores, and nearly 190,000 employees,

			<p>Sainsbury's is one of the largest supermarkets in the UK. Although Sainsbury's is currently paying higher wages than many other listed supermarkets, the company has been selected because it is more likely than many of its peers to be able to meet the requirements to become living-wage accredited. UN SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth</p>
<p>What the investment manager has done</p>	<p>LGIM have been engaging with Exxon Mobil since 2016 and they have participated willingly in LGIM's discussions and meetings. Under our Climate Impact Pledge, LGIM identified a number of initial areas for concerns, namely: lack of Scope 3 emissions disclosures (embedded in sold products); lack of integration or a comprehensive net zero commitment; lack of ambition in operational reductions targets and; lack of disclosure of climate lobbying activities. LGIM's regular engagements with Exxon Mobil have focused on their</p>	<p>LGIM have been engaging with BP on climate change or a number of years, during the course of which LGIM have seen many actions taken regarding climate change mitigation.</p> <p>BP has made a series of announcements detailing their expansion into clean energy. These include projects to develop solar energy in the US, partnerships with Volkswagen (on fast electric vehicle charging) and Qantas Airways (on reducing emissions in aviation), and winning bids to develop major offshore wind projects in the UK and US.</p>	<p>Sainsbury's has recently come under scrutiny for not paying a real living wage. LGIM engaged initially with the company's (then) CEO in 2016 about this issue and by 2021, Sainsbury's was paying a real living wage to all employees, except those in outer London. LGIM joined forces with ShareAction to try to encourage the company to change its policy for outer London workers. As these engagements failed to deliver change, LGIM then joined ShareAction in filing a shareholder resolution in Q1 2022, asking the company</p>

<p>minimum expectations under the Climate Impact Pledge. The improvements made have not so far been sufficient in our opinion, which has resulted in escalations. The first escalation was to vote against the re-election of the Chair, from 2019, in line with our Climate Impact Pledge sanctions. Subsequently, in the absence of further improvements, LGIM placed Exxon Mobil on our Climate Impact Pledge divestment list (for applicable LGIM funds) in 2021, as LGIM considered the steps taken by the company so far to be insufficient for a firm of its scale and stature. Nevertheless, LGIM's engagement with the company continues. In terms of further voting activity, in 2022 LGIM supported two climate-related shareholder resolutions (i.e. voted against management recommendation) at Exxon's AGM, reflecting LGIM's continued wish for the company to take sufficient action on climate change in line with their minimum</p>	<p>LGIM's recommendation for the oil and gas industry is to primarily focus on reducing its own emissions (and production) in line with global climate targets before considering any potential diversification into clean energy. BP has also announced that it would be reducing its oil and gas output by 40% over the next decade, with a view to reaching net-zero emissions by 2050. LGIM met with BP several times during 2022. In BP's 2022 AGM, LGIM were pleased to be able to support management's 'Net Zero – from ambition to action' report (Resolution 3). Having strengthened its ambition to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 and to halve operational emissions by 2030, BP has also expanded its scope 3 targets, committed to a substantial decline in oil and gas production, and announced an increase in capital expenditure to low-carbon growth segments. Levels of director typically engaged with include the chair, the CEO,</p>	<p>to becoming a living wage accredited employer.</p> <p>This escalation succeeded insofar as, in April 2022, Sainsbury's moved all its London-based employees (inner and outer) to the real living wage. LGIM welcomed this development as it demonstrates Sainsbury's values as a responsible employer. However, the shareholder resolution was not withdrawn and remained on the 2022 AGM agenda because, despite this expansion of the real living wage to more employees, there are still some who are excluded. This group comprises contracted cleaners and security guards, who fulfil essential functions in helping the business to operate safely. Levels of individual typically engaged with include the Chair, the CEO, and head of investor relations.</p>
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	<p>expectations. Levels of individual typically engaged with include lead independent director, investor relations, director and CFO.</p>	<p>head of sustainability, and investor relations.</p>	
<p>Outcomes and next steps</p>	<p>Since 2021, LGIM have seen notable improvements from Exxon Mobil regarding LGIM's key engagement requests, including disclosure of Scope 3 emissions, a 'net zero by 2050' commitment (for Scopes 1 and 2 emissions), the setting of interim operational emissions reduction targets, and improved disclosure of lobbying activities. However, there are still key areas where LGIM require further improvements, including inclusion of Scope 3 emissions in their targets, and improving the level of ambition regarding interim targets. LGIM are also seeking further transparency on their lobbying activities.</p> <p>The company remains on LGIM's divestment list (for relevant funds), but LGIM's engagement with them continues.</p>	<p>LGIM will continue engaging with BP on climate change, strategy and related governance topics. Following the company's decision to revise their oil production targets, LGIM met with the company several times in early 2023 to discuss their concerns.</p>	<p>Since filing the shareholder resolution, Sainsbury's has made three further pay increases to its directly employed workers, harmonising inner and outer London pay and is now paying the real living wage to its employees, as well as extending free food to workers well into 2023. LGIM welcome these actions which demonstrate the value the board places on its workforce. LGIM have asked the board to collaborate with other key industry stakeholders to bring about a living wage for contracted staff.</p>