### ENGAGEMENT POLICY IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT

#### INTRODUCTION

This statement sets out how, and the extent to which, the Stewardship policy in the Statement of Investment Principles ('SIP') produced by the Trustee has been followed during the year to 5 April 2024. This statement has been produced in accordance with The Pension Protection Fund (Pensionable Service) and Occupational Pension Schemes (Investment and Disclosure) (Amendment and Modification) Regulations 2018, as amended, and the guidance published by the Pensions Regulator.

#### **Investment Objectives of the Plan**

The Trustee's primary investment objective is to ensure that it can meet its obligations to the beneficiaries of the Plan both in the short and long term. Further details on the Trustee's specific investment objectives can be found in the SIP.

#### **Investment Strategy**

During the course of the year, the Trustee did not make any changes to the Plan's investment strategy.

#### **Review of the SIP**

No changes to the SIP were made over the year and the Plan's SIP dated September 2020 remains in force.

# Assessment of how the Engagement Policies in the SIP have been followed for the year to 5 April 2024

The Trustee is satisfied that the Engagement Policies set out in the SIP have been followed and this Statement sets out further background.

#### Plan's Investment Structure

The Plan's main investment is a Trustee Investment Policy (TIP) with Mobius Life Limited (Mobius).

Mobius provides an investment platform and enables the Plan to invest in pooled funds managed by third party investment managers.

As such, the Trustee has no direct relationship with the Plan's underlying investment managers.

The Trustee has the responsibility of monitoring the pooled funds, in conjunction with advice received from its investment advisor, Atkin Pensions.

#### Policy on ESG, Stewardship and Climate Change

The Plan's SIP includes the Trustee's policy on Environmental, Social and Governance ('ESG') factors, stewardship and climate change, which also sets out the processes followed by the Trustee in relation to voting rights and stewardship.

The Trustee has considered financially material factors such as ESG issues as part of the investment process to determine a strategic asset allocation over the length of time during which the benefits are provided by the Plan for members. The Trustee believes that ESG factors are implicitly reflected in the expected risk and return profile of the asset classes the Plan is invested in and it is therefore in members' best interests to account for these factors within the investment process.

In endeavouring to invest in the best financial interests of the beneficiaries, the Trustee has elected to invest through pooled funds. The Trustee acknowledges that it cannot directly

influence the ESG policies and practices of the companies in which the pooled funds invest. However, the Trustee does expect the fund managers and investment consultant to take account of financially material considerations when carrying out their respective roles.

The Trustee accepts that the Plan's assets are subject to the pooled fund managers' own policies on responsible investment. The Trustee will assess that this corresponds with its responsibilities to the beneficiaries of the Plan with the help of the investment consultant.

An assessment of the ESG and responsible investment policies forms part of the manager selection process when appointing new managers.

The Trustee will only invest with investment managers that are signatories to the United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment ('UN PRI') or other similarly recognised standard.

The following sections set out how the Trustee's engagement and voting policies were followed and implemented during the year.

#### Engagement

#### Monitoring

- The Trustee considers how ESG, climate change and stewardship are integrated within investment processes in appointing new investment managers, implementing investment strategy decisions, and monitoring the existing investment managers.
- Managers will be expected to report on their own ESG policies as and when requested by the Trustee.
- The Plan's investment performance report is reviewed by the Trustee on a half yearly basis.
- The Trustee receives an annual ESG report from Mobius in relation to the pooled funds held by the Plan via the Mobius investment platform.

#### Stewardship

• The assets are invested in pooled funds through Mobius and are subject to the stewardship policies of those pooled funds.

#### **Voting Activity**

The Plan has no direct relationship with the pooled funds it is ultimately invested in, and therefore has no voting rights in relation to the Plan's investments and no direct ability to influence the managers of the pooled funds. The Trustee has therefore effectively delegated its voting rights to the managers of the funds the Plan's investments are ultimately invested in.

If the Trustee were to be specifically invited to vote on a matter relating to the corporate policy, it would exercise its right in accordance with what it believes to be the best interests of the majority of the Plan's members. However, the Trustee has not been asked to vote on any specific matters over the reporting period.

Nevertheless, this Statement sets out a summary of the key voting activity of the pooled funds for which voting is possible (i.e., all funds which include equity holdings) in which the Plan's assets are ultimately invested.

We note that best practice in developing a statement on voting and engagement activity is evolving and we will take on board industry activity in this area before the production of next year's statement. The tables below and on the following pages set out a summary of the key voting activity over the financial year. Further information is available on request.

	Votes cast		
Fund	Votes in total	Votes against management endorsement	Abstentions
LGIM	72,082	13,422	345
Global Equity (70:30) Index Fund	,	,	
LGIM	98,900	22,780	217
Dynamic Diversified Fund	00,000	22,700	217
LGIM	39,267	7,714	443
Global Emerging Markets Equity Index Fund	00,207		
Fidelity	838	64	17
Emerging Markets Equity Fund	000		
UBS	72	0	0
Multi-Asset Income Fund	12		

## ENGAGEMENT POLICY IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

		Most significant votes	
Fund	Proxy voter used?	(description)	
	·	Significant vote examples	
LGIM Global Equity (70:30) Index Fund	LGIM's Investment Stewardship team uses Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc. (ISS) 'ProxyExchange' electronic voting platform to electronically vote clients' shares. All voting decisions are made by LGIM and they do not outsource any part of the strategic decisions. To ensure their proxy provider votes in accordance with their position on ESG, LGIM have put in place a custom voting policy with specific voting instructions.	Company: Shell Plc Date: 23/05/2023 Resolution: Approve the Shell Energy Transition Progress Vote: Against Rationale: Climate change: A vote against is applied, though not without reservations. We acknowledge the substantial progress made by the company in meeting its 2021 climate commitments and welcome the company's leadership in pursuing low carbon products. However, we remain concerned by the lack of disclosure surrounding future oil and gas production plans and targets associated with the upstream and downstream operations; both of these are key areas to demonstrate alignment with the 1.5C trajectory. LGIM considers this vote significant as it is an escalation of our climate-related engagement activity and our public call for high quality and credible transition plans to be subject to a shareholder vote. Significance: Thematic - Climate: LGIM is publicly supportive of so called "Say on Climate" votes. We expect transition plans put forward by companies to be both ambitious and credibly aligned to a 1.5C scenario. Given the high-profile of such votes, LGIM deem such votes to be significant, particularly when LGIM votes against the transition plan. Outcome: 80% (Pass)	
<b>LGIM</b> Dynamic Diversified Fund	instructions. As above	Company: Microsoft Corporation Date: 12/07/2023 Resolution: - Elect Director Satya Nadella Vote: Against Rationale: Joint Chair/CEO: A vote against is applied as LGIM expects companies to separate the roles of Chair and CEO due to risk management and oversight concerns. Significance: Thematic - Board Leadership: 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. Outcome: N/A	
LGIM Global Emerging Markets Equity Index Fund	As above	Company: Ping An Insurance (Group) Co. of China Ltd. Date: 05/12/2023 Resolution: Approve Report of the Board of Directors. Vote: Against Rational: Climate Impact Pledge: A vote against is applied as the company is deemed to not meet minimum standards with regard to climate risk management. Significance: Thematic - Climate: LGIM considers this vote to be significant as it is applied under the Climate Impact Pledge, our flagship engagement programme targeting companies in climate-critical sectors. Outcome: 98.7% (Pass)	

## ENGAGEMENT POLICY IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Fidelity	Fidelity use the services	Company: Techtronic Industries Co., Ltd.
Emerging Markets Equity Fund	of Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS) for the physical exercise of voting rights and for supporting voting research. Fidelity's Sustainable Investing Team is responsible for the oversight, decision- making and application of Fidelity's policies on voting. All votes are subject to the authority of the Global Head of Stewardship and Sustainable Investing and the Sustainable Investing Operating Committee (SIOC).	<ul> <li>Date: 12/05/2023</li> <li>Resolution: Elect Horst Julius Pudwill as Director</li> <li>Vote: Against</li> <li>Rational: Fidelity International voted against the re-election of one of the directors due to board diversity concerns. The company's board composition did not meet our minimum standard on gender diversity. We generally expect at least 30% female representation at the board level in developed markets. Under our new voting guidelines, our general approach is to vote against an appropriate board member on this basis. In this instance, we voted against the chair of the nomination committee. We also voted against the director due to committee independence concerns. Specifically, both the audit and nomination committee was not fully independent and included an executive director. In our view, the candidate should be held accountable for maintaining a sufficient level of board independence. We voted with management on all other proposals.</li> <li>Significance: Materiality of position, Significant level of dissent.</li> <li>Outcome: Pass (21.1% voted against)</li> </ul>
UBS Multi Asset Income Fund	UBS AM retain the services of Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS) for the physical exercise of voting rights and for supporting voting research. UBS retain full discretion when determining how to vote at shareholder meetings.	No voting information provided.