ANNEXE

Report to:	**Investment Monitoring and ESG Working Group**
Date:	16 October 2015
Reporting Officer:	Peter Morris, Executive Director of Pensions
Subject:	**STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES**
Report Summary:	The report advises Members that the Statement of Investment Principles (SIP) needs to be updated to reflect various changes in the management arrangements of the Fund. The report considers comments received on a draft SIP following a consultation period.
Recommendation(s):	That the Working Group support the adoption of the revised Statement of Investment Principles (as Appended to this Report, and further amended within the Report) by the Management Panel.
Links to Community Strategy:	The Pension Fund aims to facilitate low, stable contribution rates for employers, thus enabling a higher level of services to be delivered across the County.
Policy Implications:	None
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the Section 151 Officer)	Maintaining a low, stable employer contribution rate is dependent upon good absolute and relative performance from the Fund's investments. The SIP documents how GMPF addresses achieving this objective.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Solicitor to the Fund)	The Fund has a duty to review the SIP when necessary and to consult as appropriate on the content thereof. This report assists in fulfilling that duty. The proposed SIP reflects the current legal position and does not require any change to Fund policy.
Risk Management:	The SIP document has at its heart an in-depth consideration of risk faced by the Fund.
ACCESS TO INFORMATION:	**NON CONFIDENTIAL** This report does not contain information which warrants its consideration in the absence of the Press or members of the public.
Background Papers:	Any enquiries should be directed to: Lorraine Peart, Investments Officer, on 0161-301 7143 (email: Lorraine.Peart@gmpf.org.uk).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The current Statement of Investment Principles (SIP) was adopted by the Panel on 11 June 2010 and needs to be updated to reflect various changes in the management arrangements of the Fund since then.

1.2 An updated SIP was drafted, and is attached at **Appendix A**. The Fund is obliged to consult on the draft, and has done so by placing the draft on the Fund's website, with an alert in the 'News and Updates' section, and has supplemented this by directly alerting each employer to the consultation.

1.3 The consultation ran from Tuesday 11 August 2015 to Friday 4 September 2015.

2. CONSULTATION RESPONSES

2.1 The Fund was pleased to receive 406 responses to the consultation, which was an excellent response rate.

2.2 Of the 406 responses, 400 were the result of an organised petition based on an automated email template produced by Manchester Friends of the Earth (FoE). These 400 responses were either identical, or contained only very minor variations.

2.3 Manchester FoE also submitted a separate, more detailed consultation response, attached at **Appendix B**. Its response requested a change to the SIP and this request is considered at Section 3. Manchester FoE also requested that the Fund amend its policies to exclude investments in fossil fuel companies and to invest in a carbon reduction programme for Greater Manchester. **It is important to note that the SIP <u>records</u> Fund policy, it does not <u>set</u> Fund policy.** Divestment from fossil fuel companies, as a policy option, is considered elsewhere on this Agenda.

2.4 The main focus of the five other consultation responses was that the Fund reduce or divest its holdings in fossil fuel companies.

3. UPDATED SIP

3.1 After consulting with the Borough Solicitor, it is proposed to incorporate only one change to the draft version of the SIP on which the Fund consulted. The proposed change relates to paragraph 8.1 and reflects the wording requested by Manchester FoE. This proposed change is consistent with the legal position, and does not require any change to Fund policy.

3.3 The proposed revised wording for paragraph 8.1 is :

> *"The Fund holds a general policy of not interfering in the day to day investment decisions of its investment managers. However, the Fund may choose to actively invest in or disinvest from companies for social, ethical or environmental reasons, so long as that does not risk material financial detriment to the Fund."*

4. RECOMMENDATION

4.1 That the Working Group support the adoption of the revised Statement of Investment Principles (as Appended to this Report, and further amended within the Report) by the Management Panel.

APPENDIX A

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

TAMESIDE MBC

ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER PENSION FUND

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

1) Background

1.1 This Statement has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2009* as amended ("the Regulations"). The Regulations require administering authorities to prepare, publish, and when appropriate revise, a written statement recording the investment policy of the pension fund; they also stipulate certain key issues which must be covered in the Statement.

1.2 The terms of appointments of any external investment managers are required to include a provision that the investment manager must take account of, and shall not contravene, this Statement in undertaking its management role.

1.3 The Local Government Pension Scheme ("the Scheme") was established by statute to provide death and retirement benefits for all eligible employees. The Scheme is a contributory, defined benefit occupational pension scheme.

1.4 Tameside MBC ("the Council") became the administering authority of the Greater Manchester Pension Fund ("the Pension Fund" or "the Fund") in 1987 after the abolition of the Greater Manchester County Council in 1986. The Fund covers all ten district councils of Greater Manchester, the National Probation Service and numerous other smaller employers.

1.5 The Statement outlines the broad investment principles governing the investment policy of the Pension Fund. In preparing the Statement, the Council has consulted those persons it considered appropriate.

2) Organisation and Management Arrangements of the Fund

2.1 The investment powers of the Council under the Scheme are given in the Regulations. Amongst other matters, the Regulations require the Council to have regard to both the suitability and diversification of its investments and to take proper advice in making decisions regarding the investment matters of the Fund.

2.2 The Council has delegated all its functions as administering authority of the Pension Fund to the Pension Fund Management Panel ("the Management Panel" or "the Panel") which routinely meets on a quarterly basis and whose Terms of Reference are detailed in the Council's "Constitution". Amongst other matters, the Panel decides on the investment policy most suitable to meet the liabilities under the Scheme and has ultimate responsibility for the investment strategy.

2.3 The Management Panel has in turn appointed a Pension Fund Advisory Panel and external professional Advisors, and has dedicated internal Officers of the Fund to advise it on the exercise of its delegated powers. There are also a number of Working Groups which report quarterly to the Panel on specialist matters.

2.4 The Executive Director of Pensions exercises certain delegated powers as specified in the Constitution and provides the link between the Panel, the external professional Advisors and the Fund's investment managers. Each year a Fund "Business Plan" is submitted by the Executive Director of Pensions to the Management Panel for consideration.

2.5 A primary objective of the Council is to maintain a low and stable employer contribution rate. This is to be achieved by attempting to maximise the long-term investment return whilst not exceeding an acceptable degree of risk.

2.6 The assets of the Fund are separated into two distinct parts – a Main Fund and a Designated Fund. This separation has been made in order to reflect a major difference in liability profiles between most of the employers of the Fund and that of a small number of other employers of the Fund.

2.7 Having taken appropriate advice, the Management Panel has decided that a bespoke benchmark, which is biased towards equity is a suitable investment benchmark for the management of the Main Fund. Detail on the Main Fund's bespoke benchmark is included in the Fund's Annual Report and Accounts. This benchmark will be reviewed annually and when appropriate in response to significant changes in the investment environment. The Designated Fund has a bespoke benchmark which is heavily orientated towards UK index linked stock.

2.8 The Management Panel has delegated the management of the majority of the Main Fund's securities portfolio, and the management of the Main Fund's direct property portfolio, to regulated, external, professional investment managers whose activities are defined and constrained by detailed Investment Management Agreements. The remainder of the Main Fund (including private equity, infrastructure, local investments, elements of the Special Opportunities Portfolio and UK cash), together with the Designated Fund, is managed internally by Officers of the Fund. The 'Treasury Management' of all UK cash is undertaken by Officers of Tameside MBC.

2.9 The Main Fund is largely actively managed but has a significant element, which is passively managed on a pooled basis. Three of the appointed external securities managers have been given individual differing active multi-asset (ex property) discretionary benchmarks reflecting their perceived skills and the relative efficiency of markets. The fourth appointed external securities manager has a single broad equity market benchmark reflecting its specialist mandate. These individual benchmarks are detailed in the Investment Management Agreements and have been chosen so as to be consistent with the overall bespoke benchmark determined for the Main Fund.

2.10 Each of the Main Fund's external active securities managers has been set the target of achieving a rolling three year average performance which exceeds the average performance of their individual benchmark by at least 1% per annum. The Fund anticipates that in two years out of three the external active multi-asset securities managers' annual performance will be within 4½% of the annual performance of their individual benchmark. The equivalent range for the specialist securities manager is +/-7%.

2.11 The fees of two of the three external active securities managers consist of two elements: an ad-valorem base fee together with a performance element which is capped at a prudent level of outperformance. The fees of the third external active securities manager consists of a fixed base fee with no performance element. The fees of the Main Fund's external passive securities manager consists of an ad-valorem base fee with no performance element. The fees of the external property manager comprise of a combination of a fixed and ad-valorem base fee with no performance element.

2.12 The Designated Fund is passively managed on a segregated basis.

2.13 The investment returns of the Main Fund, its underlying component portfolios and the Designated Fund are calculated quarterly by an external, third party professional performance measurement company appointed directly by the Council.

2.14 The Management Panel monitors the performance of the appointed external investments managers at each of its quarterly meetings. The performance of the specialist portfolios managed internally by Officers of the Fund is monitored annually by the Panel.

3) The Types of Investments to be Held

3.1 The Regulations require the Council to have regard to the suitability of investments and define the types of investments which the Fund is permitted to hold. The Fund operates with the lower limits on investments as defined by Regulation 14(2), except for "contributions to partnerships" and "any single insurance contract" where it has resolved to work to limits of 10% and 35% respectively under regulation 14(3). The former decision was taken in order to facilitate the Fund implementing its strategic allocation to private equity, infrastructure, property and other investments where pooled vehicles offer the preferred access. The latter decision was taken as a contingency arrangement, so that the Fund would be able to act quickly and have the option of effecting any restructuring of investment management arrangements via an approach involving the external passive securities manager. Both decisions comply with the Regulations and will remain in place until revoked.

3.2 In addition to the Regulations, the Council has decided to further restrict the types of investment which the appointed external securities managers may hold and to restrict the type and extent of investment activity which they are permitted to undertake. These further detailed restrictions are extensive and are documented in a Schedule to each of the Investment Management Agreements.

3.3 Fund assets currently include a UK and overseas spread of equity, fixed interest bonds (including those issued by Governments, companies and other entities), index linked bonds, private equity, infrastructure and property. The Main Fund's external active multi-asset securities managers are permitted limited use of certain derivatives. The Fund supplements its investment income by participating in a Commission Recapture program.

4) The Balance between different Types of Investments

4.1 The Regulations require the Council to have regard to the diversification of its investments.

4.2 The overall bespoke benchmark of the Main Fund comprises a mix of different assets (broadly 75% real assets and 25% monetary assets) which is sufficient to provide adequate diversification for the Main Fund. The Fund's Annual Report and Accounts contains more detail on the overall Main Fund benchmark.

4.3 The strategic balance of investments takes account of the risk/return characteristics of each asset class and in particular the potential for enhanced long term returns from equity and the higher level of short term volatility associated with that asset class. In this context, risk in relation to any asset class is considered 'in the round' rather than being analysed into the specific components of risk (eg liquidity, foreign exchange, interest rate sensitivity etc). Allowance is also made for the benefits of diversification across the asset class mix within the Main Fund. The overall bespoke benchmark provides a reasonable long-term balance appropriate to the liabilities relevant to the Main Fund and its funding position.

4.4 For the Main Fund, tactical asset allocation is delegated to the appointed external multi-asset securities managers who must operate within asset class and country restrictions which are documented in a Schedule to the Investment Management Agreements.

4.5 The bespoke benchmark of the Designated Fund has also been specifically chosen in the context of the relevant liabilities and funding position.

5) Risk : Measurement and Management

5.1 The Management Panel recognises that risk is inherent in any investment activity. The overall approach is to seek to reduce risk to a minimum where it is possible to do so without compromising returns (eg in operational matters), and to limit risk to prudently acceptable levels otherwise (eg in investment matters).

5.2 Operational risk is minimised by :

- Having custody of the Fund's financial assets provided by a regulated, external, third party, professional custodian appointed directly by the Council with control and liability issues thoroughly addressed in a Global Custody Agreement;
- Having the deeds of direct property investments held securely by the Fund's Legal Section;

- Documenting control and liability issues relating to the relationships with the appointed external investment managers in the Investment Management Agreements;
- Having an external, third party, accounting provider independently maintain complete accounting records relating to the investment activity of the appointed external securities managers and to the entitlements (eg income) arising from the Fund's securities portfolios;
- Officers of the Council's Internal Audit and of the Fund's Investments Group receiving reports on and reviewing the internal operating procedures of the appointed external custodian, securities managers and accounting provider; and
- Subjecting internal investment management activity to close Internal Audit scrutiny.

5.3 Investment risk is constrained by :

- Diversifying across investment managers;
- Diversifying across types of investment;
- Restricting external appointed investment manager activity as documented in a Schedule to or in relevant Clauses of the Investment Management Agreements;
- Selecting appropriate investment benchmarks in order to control the risk that the assets will not be sufficient to meet the liabilities whilst also having a strong likelihood of achieving a good return;
- Taking appropriate internal and external professional advice on the investment activity of both the externally managed securities portfolios and of the internally managed portfolios;
- Quarterly, formal, Management Panel monitoring of asset allocation against the investment benchmarks and asset class restrictions; and
- Quarterly, formal, Management Panel monitoring of investment manager and overall Fund activity and performance.

5.4 Some risks lend themselves to being measured (eg using such concepts as 'Active Risk' and such techniques as 'Asset Liability Modelling') and where this is the case, the Fund employs the relevant approach to measurement. The Fund reviews new approaches to measurement as these continue to be developed.

6) The Expected Return on Investments

6.1 There is a broad expectation that in the longer term the return on equity will be greater than on other assets.

6.2 The overall Main Fund return is expected to be broadly in line with the overall bespoke benchmark. Over the last twenty years this benchmark has averaged a return which is comfortably ahead of both price and earnings inflation over the same period. However over any shorter period, such as one or five years, actual Main Fund returns may vary significantly from the benchmark and indeed benchmark returns may vary significantly from their long-term averages.

6.3 Over the long term appropriate to the liabilities of the Scheme it is expected that the investment returns of both the Main Fund and the Designated Fund will be at least in line with the assumptions underlying the actuarial valuations.

7) The Realisation of Investments

7.1 General investment principles require that issues of liquidity and marketability be considered in making any investment decision. Pension payments are expected to exceed employer and employee contributions by around £200m per year over the coming three years. During this period, investment income, outwith that which is automatically reinvested within pooled vehicles, is anticipated to generate around £300m per year of receipts to the Fund. Thus it is not expected that there will be any material need to realise investments in the near future other than to seek higher returns.

7.2 The vast majority of the Pension Fund's assets are readily marketable. However some investments, such as property, and more so private market assets, are less easy to realise in a timely manner. Such relative illiquidity is not considered to have any significant adverse consequences for the Fund. However, over the coming couple of years, Officers of the Fund will be investigating options for dealing with the deteriorating cash-flow position of the Fund.

7.3 The Council informs the appointed external investment managers of any projected need to withdraw funds in order to enable the investment managers to plan an orderly realisation of assets when this proves necessary.

8) Socially Responsible Investment

8.1 The Fund holds a general policy of not interfering in the day to day investment decisions of its investment managers and does not actively invest in nor permanently disinvest from companies solely or largely for social or ethical or environmental reasons.

8.2 As a responsible investor, the Fund wishes to promote corporate social responsibility, good practice and improved company performance amongst all companies in which it invests. On environmental issues, the Fund wishes to promote and encourage compliance with its own "UK Environmental Investment Code". The Fund's appointed external securities managers are encouraged to operate a policy of constructive shareholder engagement with companies.

8.3 The Fund endeavours to be a socially responsible investor wherever possible but does so within the duties placed upon it under statute and under general trust law principles to manage the Scheme in the best financial interests of the Scheme members and beneficiaries.

8.4 From time to time the Fund will pursue certain specific issues direct with investee companies, either individually or, more usually, collectively with other institutional investors via its membership of the 'Local Authority Pension Fund Forum', its membership of the 'Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change', as a signatory to the 'UN Principles for Responsible Investment' or by means of other ad-hoc groupings.

9) The Exercise of Investment Rights

9.1 The exercise of rights which are not voting rights (eg dividend entitlements, rights issues etc) are delegated by the Council to the investment managers of the Pension Fund as part of their normal investment responsibilities.

9.2 The Fund wishes to exercise the voting rights attaching to its investments to promote and support good corporate governance principles.

9.3 The Fund requires the appointed external active securities managers to vote on behalf of the Fund at every opportunity in the UK and when reasonably practicable and commercially prudent overseas.

9.4 In casting the Fund's votes in the UK, the appointed external active securities managers are mandated to implement the Fund's bespoke "UK Voting Guidelines". Any overseas votes exercised must be cast in line with the spirit of the Guidelines.

9.5 The appointed external passive securities manager votes in respect of the Fund at every opportunity in the UK and in respect of companies in the vast majority of overseas markets except where practicalities are a significant obstacle.

9.6 In casting votes in respect of the Fund in the UK, the appointed external passive securities manager normally implements its own 'Voting Policy'. However the passive securities manager will vote in respect of the Fund according to the Fund's instructions on a case by case basis should the Fund so require.

10) Stocklending

10.1 The Fund itself has participated in a prudently structured Stocklending program via its Custodian since March 2003. However, the Fund suspended its Stocklending program between September 2008 and May 2011 in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis.

10.2 The Fund does not lend UK and US Equities and does not take Cash as collateral. The maximum volumes of stock "on loan" are set at a lower level than the Regulations permit. All loans must be pre-collateralised and be subject to recall upon demand.

10.3 Certain pooled vehicles within which the Fund invests may undertake an amount of Stocklending on behalf of the pooled vehicle investors. Where this occurs, the extent of the activity is disclosed by the pooled vehicle. The Fund considers this aspect of the pooled vehicle when making investment decisions.

11) Compliance with the guidance given by the Secretary of State (Six CIPFA/Myners Principles)

11.1 The Appendix hereto states the extent to which the Fund complies with the guidance given by the Secretary of State and the six principles of investment practice set out in the CIPFA document : "Investment Decision Making and Disclosure in the Local Government Pensions Scheme : A Guide to the Application of the Myners Principles" (2009).

11.2 The Appendix also gives reasons for not complying where the Fund does not do so.

Version 2.1

Adopted by the Pension Fund Management Panel for Tameside MBC as administering authority of the Greater Manchester Pension Fund : 2 October, 2015

SJT/PFIG
August, 2015

The Secretary of State guidance (Six CIPFA/Myners Principles for Investment Decision Making and Disclosure in the LGPS)

PRINCIPLE	COMPLIANCE
Effective Decision Making	**The Fund considers that it is compliant with this principle.** See Section 2) [in particular 2.1 - 2.4]. The Management Panel has decided against a focused 'investment subcommittee' approach to investment decision-making in favour of maintaining the Fund's long-standing inclusive approach. The training needs of Panel members are periodically considered by the Panel and suitable training arrangements are made. The Fund is developing its approach to the CIPFA skills and knowledge framework for members of the Management Panel and to the adoption of training plans.
Clear Objectives	**The Fund considers that it is compliant with this principle.** See Sections 2) [in particular 2.5 - 2.12], 3), 4) and 5). The Management Panel is developing a performance measurement framework to measure the overall performance of its advisors.
Risk and Liabilities	**The Fund considers that it is compliant with this principle.** See Sections 2) [in particular 2.7], 3), 4) and 5). The Management Panel has an active risk management programme in place. The key risks and the measures to control them are detailed in the Fund's Funding Strategy Statement. The Fund is considering how to further develop its approach to assessing overall risk, mitigating unrewarded risk wherever possible, and identifying any residual risk.
Performance Assessment	**The Fund considers that it is not fully compliant with this principle.** See Sections 2) [in particular 2.10, 2.13, and 2.14] and 5.4. The Management Panel currently undertakes informal assessment of its own decisions and the advice of the advisors to, and officers of, the Fund and is developing its approach to formal assessment in these areas.
Responsible Ownership	**The Fund considers that it is not fully compliant with this principle.** See Sections 8) and 9). Each appointed external securities manager reports on its policy and activity in this area to the Fund's specialist "Investment Monitoring and ESG Working Group" on an annual basis. The Fund is developing its approach to measuring the effectiveness of its strategy. The Fund is a member of the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF) which promotes the investment interests of local authority pension funds and seeks to maximise their influence as shareholders while promoting corporate social responsibility and high standards of corporate governance among the companies in which they invest. The Fund has adopted a Statement of Compliance with the Financial Reporting Council's UK Stewardship Code (the successor to the Institutional Shareholders Committee's Code on the Responsibilities of Institutional Investors), as have the Fund's external securities managers. The Fund is a signatory to the UN Principles for Responsible Investment.

Transparency and Reporting	**The Fund considers that it is fully compliant with this principle.** See Sections 2), 4) and, in particular, 6). The Fund's Statement of Investment Principles, Funding Strategy Statement, Core Belief Statement and Governance Compliance Statement are published on the Fund's website together with a full list of the Fund's holdings at year end. The results of monitoring the Fund's investment managers are contained in the Fund's Annual Report and Accounts which is also published on the website. The availability of all five documents is publicised widely amongst scheme members.

END OF APPENDIX (XX/XX/15)

APPENDIX B

Response to consultation on GMPF Statement of Investment Principles

1. Consideration of social, ethical and environmental impacts

We believe that the Statement of Investment Principles should be updated to include the principle that the Fund will actively consider social, ethical and environmental impacts when choosing what to invest in, following the precedent set by the decision to exclude direct holdings of tobacco companies last year.

In the report to the GMPF Advisory Panel meeting in September 2014 from the Executive Director of Pensions on Investment Restrictions [1], Nigel Giffin QC concluded that:

"...the precise choice of investments may be influenced by wider social, ethical or environmental considerations, so long as that does not risk material financial detriment to the fund."

As a result, the GMPF Advisory Panel made the following recommendations [2], which were adopted by the GMPF Management Panel in September 2014:

(i) That the investment restrictions on the Fund's investment managers be amended to exclude the direct holding of investments in tobacco companies; and

(ii) That the Fund's Statement of Investment Principles be amended to reflect this change.

The draft Statement of Investment Principles does not appear to have been amended as per point (ii) above.

We therefore suggest that paragraph 8.1 of the Statement of Investment Principles be updated to read:

"The Fund holds a general policy of not interfering in the day to day investment decisions of its investment managers. However, the Fund may choose to actively invest in or permanently disinvest from companies for social, ethical or environmental reasons, so long as that does not risk material financial detriment to the Fund."

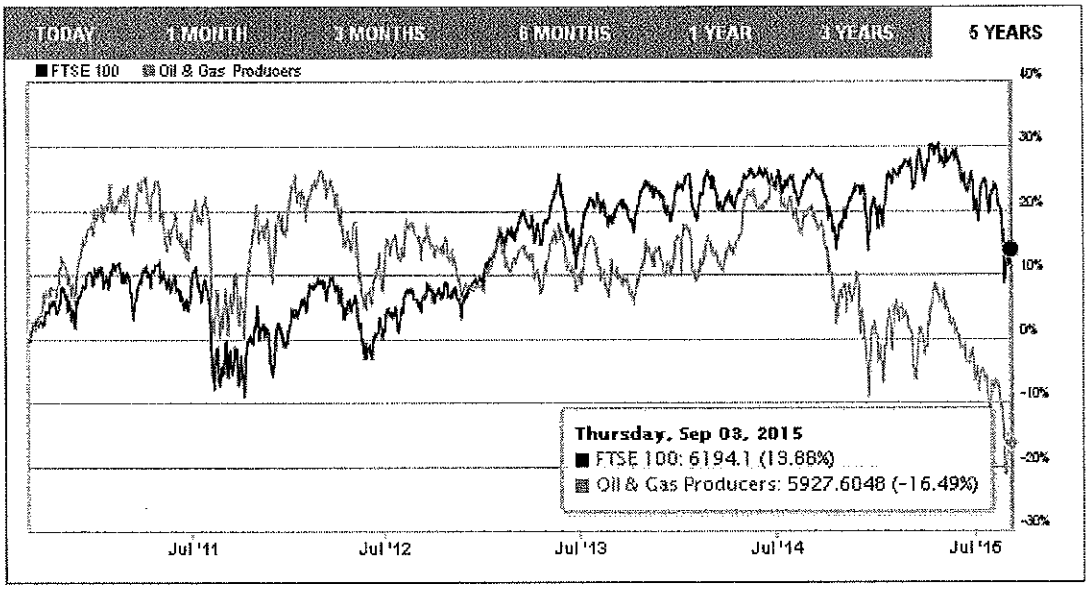
2. Exclusion of fossil fuel holdings

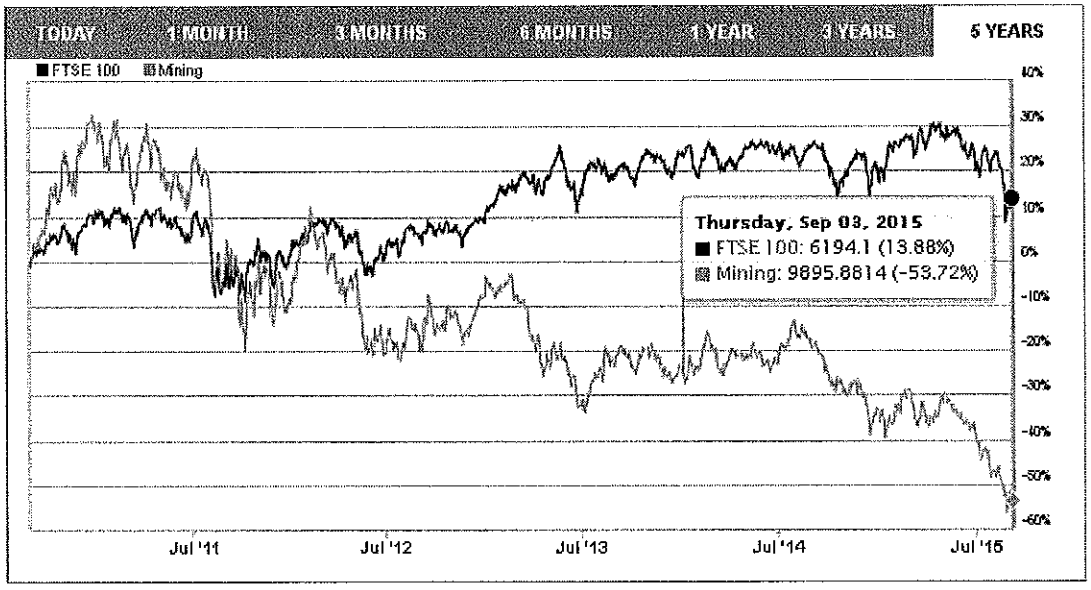
Following on from the decision to exclude the direct holding of tobacco companies last year, we would also like to call on the GMPF to put this principle into practice in relation to its holdings in fossil fuel companies.

A growing number of major investors, including the Rockefeller Brothers Trust, the Norwegian Sovereign Wealth Fund and the British Medical Association, have made the decision to divest from companies involved in the extraction of coal, oil and gas because of both the financial risks and the social, ethical and environmental impacts of their activities. [3]

According to a study by University College London, a third of all oil reserves, half of gas reserves and over 80% of current coal reserves need to remain in the ground to avoid catastrophic climate change. [4] Consequently, there have been growing concerns about the long-term financial risks of fossil fuel investments, a 'carbon bubble' that risks taxpayers being forced to bail out public pensions in the future. [5]

Not only that, fossil fuel companies have underperformed against the FTSE 100 over one, three and five year timeframes. For example, over the last five years, the FTSE 100 has increased by almost 14%, while over the same period oil & gas producers have fallen by over 16% and the mining sector has fallen by over 50%. [6]





Charts showing the relative performance of oil & gas producers (top) and mining companies against the FTSE 100 over a 5 year timeframe

Of course, as well as financial risk, investments in fossil fuel companies also pose serious social, ethical and environmental risks. Carbon dioxide released by the combustion of coal, oil and gas is the biggest driver of climate change, which the WHO estimates is already causing over 150,000 deaths annually [7] and is predicted to lead to the extinction of one in six of the world's species. [8]

Indeed, the 2015 UCL-Lancet Commission on Health and Climate Change concluded that "the effects of climate change threaten to undermine the last half-century of gains in development and global health" and that "future projections represent an unacceptably high and potentially catastrophic risk to human health." [9]

So not only are fossil fuel companies increasingly risky investments, the products they sell are seriously undermining the future health and wellbeing of pension scheme members and the wider community in Greater Manchester.

We therefore call on the GMPF to amend the investment restrictions on the Fund's investment managers to exclude the direct holding of investments in fossil fuel companies.

Positive investment

As well as divesting from the drivers of climate change, we believe that the GMPF can play a vital role in financing the solutions to climate change, such as renewables and energy efficiency.

We would also argue that the GMPF could provide even greater returns to its pension scheme members, their families and local communities by investing a greater proportion of its funds in Greater Manchester, creating jobs and boosting the local economy.

We therefore call on the GMPF to work the Greater Manchester Low Carbon Hub to develop an investment programme that will deliver the carbon reductions needed to meet the targets in the Greater Manchester Climate Change Strategy.

Manchester Friends of the Earth
September 2015

References:

1. http://www.gmpf.org.uk/documents/panels/2014/12092014/investment_restrictions.pdf
2. http://www.gmpf.org.uk/documents/panels/2014/11122014/item3a.pdf
3. http://gofossilfree.org/commitments/
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7. http://www.who.int/heli/risks/climate/climatechange/en/
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