

GMPF's Responsible Investment Partners and Collaborations

2 Degrees Investing Initiative

This climate scenario analysis provides a forward looking assessment of how GMPF's corporate bond and equity holdings compare to a 2°C transition scenario. It helps GMPF to better understand the potential for misallocation of capital and financial risk under a 2°C transition and where GMPF's holdings stand in those industries which are deemed to be the most important in relation to climate change.

Web link: <https://2degrees-investing.org/resource/pacta/>

30% Club

The 30% Club is a group taking action to increase gender diversity on boards and senior management teams with the aim of achieving a minimum of 30% female representation on FTSE 100 boards. GMPF is a signatory to this campaign and is working alongside other signatories to engage with companies on the target list.

Web link: <https://30percentclub.org/>

CDP

GMPF is a member of the CDP (formerly Carbon Disclosure Project). Each year, the CDP supports companies, cities, states and regions to measure and manage their risks and opportunities on climate change, water security and deforestation. Investors can use the annual disclosures as a basis for engagement with companies.

Web link: <https://www.cdp.net/en>

Climate Action 100+

GMPF is a signatory of the Climate Action 100+ initiative. The aim of this group is to work with companies to ensure that they are minimising and disclosing the risks and maximising the opportunities presented by climate change. The organisation has a list of focus companies that they are working through and use the backing of the signatories as leverage.

Web link: <http://www.climateaction100.org/>

Global Mining & Tailings Safety Initiative

GMPF has been involved in and backed this initiative. Spearheaded by the Church of England Pensions Board and the Swedish Council of Ethics of the AP Pension Funds the initiative aims to tackle the problem of tailings dam safety. PIRC, in its capacity as research and engagement partner to LAPFF, requested a stakeholder engagement component to the initiative, to which the organisers readily agreed. This engagement has highlighted significant discrepancies between company accounts of these disasters and community experiences, prompting important questions for investors regarding the investment propositions of the companies involved.

Web link: <https://www.churchofengland.org/investor-mining-tailings-safety-initiative>

Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change

GMPF is a member of IIGCC whose aim is to mobilise capital for the low carbon transition and to ensure resilience to the impacts of a changing climate by collaborating with business, policy makers and investors. Officers from GMPF attend seminars and keep up to date with collaborations and initiatives of IIGCC.

Web link: <https://www.iigcc.org/>

Investing in a Just Transition Initiative

GMPF supports the Investing in a Just Transition Initiative which focuses on delivering a transition to a low-carbon economy while supporting an inclusive economy with a particular focus on workers and communities across the UK. GMPF understands this needs to be done in a sustainable way that safeguards against communities being left behind during this transition.

Web link: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/investing-in-a-just-transition-global-project/>

Local Authority Pension Fund Forum

GMPF is a member of LAPFF. Most engagement activity is undertaken through the forum and representatives of GMPF take part in company engagements. LAPFF is a collaborative shareholder engagement group of Local Authority pension funds. Given the long-term nature of the members they can look beyond the short term to ensure a positive impact is made through engagement activity.

Web link: <http://www.lapfforum.org/>

Make My Money Matter

GMPF via Northern LGPS is a partner to this initiative. NLGPS' collaboration with MMMM is part of the pool's ambition to invest 100% of assets in line with the Paris Agreement on climate change, and help members understand the importance of knowing where their pensions are invested.

Web Link: <https://makemymoneymatter.co.uk/>

Principles for Responsible Investment

GMPF is a signatory of the UN backed PRI. The principles were developed by investors for investors and in implementing them, signatories contribute to develop a more sustainable global financial system. Institutional investors have a duty to act in the best interest of their beneficiaries and ESG issues can affect these responsibilities. The principles align investors with broader objectives of society and their fiduciary duties.

Web link: <https://www.unpri.org/>

PIRC

GMPF appointed PIRC Ltd as its responsible investment adviser, to assist in the development and implementation of its RI policy. PIRC Ltd is an independent corporate governance and shareholder advisory consultancy providing proxy research services to institutional investors on governance and ESG issues.

Web link: <http://www.pirc.co.uk/>

Say on Climate

GMPF has given its support via its membership in the Northern LGPS to the Say on Climate initiative. The initiative's aim is for companies to disclose emissions with a comprehensive plan to manage those emissions and to have a shareholder vote on the plan at the AGM.

Web link: <https://www.sayonclimate.org/>

Transition Pathway Initiative

The Transition Pathway Initiative is a global, asset-owner led initiative which assesses companies' preparedness for the transition to a low carbon economy. The assessments provide a rating for each company that can be used to target engagements to specific issues relating to climate change.

Web Link: <https://www.transitionpathwayinitiative.org/>

Trucost

GMPF uses this external organisation to measure its carbon footprint for the actively managed corporate bond and equity holdings. Trucost's backward looking method uses the information from the companies' most recent reports, and third-party sources, to measure the level of GHG emissions of the company over the last year. As such, GMPF's carbon footprint is a measure of its emissions over the last year. This gives GMPF the ability to measure itself against a benchmark and take a view on where to focus efforts for engagement.

Web link: <https://www.trucost.com/>

UK Stewardship Code

GMPF takes its responsibilities as a shareholder seriously. Stewardship is seen as part of the responsibilities of share ownership, and therefore an integral part of the investment strategy. GMPF supports the aims and objectives of the Stewardship Code and is a signatory of the code.

Web link: <https://www.frc.org.uk/investors/uk-stewardship-code>

Valuing Water Finance Initiative

GMPF via Northern LGPS is a signatory to this initiative. The initiative is a new global investor-led effort to engage companies with a high water footprint to value and act on water as a financial risk and drive the necessary large-scale change to better protect water systems.

Web link: <https://www.ceres.org/water/valuing-water-finance-initiative>

Workforce Disclosure Initiative

The Workforce Disclosure Initiative is an organisation that focuses on company disclosure and transparency on how they manage workers with the aim of improving the quality of jobs in multinational companies' operations and supply chains. GMPF is a member and actively promotes the creation of decent work and quality jobs as part of its approach to employment standards and human capital management.

Web link: <https://shareaction.org/wdi/>