

Pensions for Purpose Investment Beliefs Workshop



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This two-hour virtual workshop from the Pensions for Purpose team covers:

- A review the Spectrum of Capital
- Introducing the UNPRI's seven steps for asset owners
- The investment thesis for the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Prioritise 3 to 5 SDGs that are likely to have the biggest investment impact (see preparation)
- Share and discuss other LGPS funds' responsible/sustainable investment beliefs (see preparation)
- Agree your Pension Fund's responsible investment beliefs
- Discuss different ways in which these beliefs and your SDG priorities might be reflected in your investment strategy, referring to the Spectrum of Capital
- Consider next steps

Preparation for the workshop:

We politely request that all attendees prepare for the workshop in advance by reviewing:

- The slides on "The Sustainable Development Goals" – we would ask you to come prepared to say which three SDG's do you think have the strongest investment cases for being prioritised by the pension fund. The emphasis is on the investment case, not just which ones are most laudable.
- Sample investment beliefs statements from other LGPS funds. We would ask you to read these in advance, and to pick out ones that you like and ones that you dislike, and why.

Logistics:

The session runs for two hours with a short refreshment break in the middle. The workshop is run using Zoom and we ask delegates to join ten minutes beforehand to check for any technical issues and to introduce themselves to the Pensions for Purpose team of two.

We share slides on screen and make use of Zoom's polling facility during the workshop, to gauge sentiment on the SDGs.

Delegates:

At previous sessions, these workshops have been attended by some or all of the following:

- Committee members
- Officers
- Councillor with responsibility for the Council's climate action agenda
- Consultant/advisers
- Staff/union representative

These are closed workshops, rather than public meetings. However, it is possible to record the session, if desired, so that you can share with specific groups after the event. Please let us know if you wish to do this.

Participation:

Where there are a large number of participants, we usually encourage delegates, who are not the committee members themselves, to make use of the use of the chat facility to express views or ask questions. One of our facilitators then either reflects their views or brings them into the discussion at the appropriate time.

Outcome:

The workshop allows officers and advisers to draft a formal set of responsible investment beliefs which can be approved at a subsequent committee meeting. The preliminary discussion on how to implement the beliefs, held at the end of the workshop, allows the consultant to analyse the investment strategy in the light of these beliefs, and to prepare recommendations on any changes for consideration at a future committee meeting.

Cost:

The discounted LGPS rate for this virtual workshop is £1,250 plus VAT. This covers preparation time and delivery of the workshop from two Pensions for Purpose staff, including the founder of Pensions for Purpose, Karen Shackleton.

Pensions for Purpose team:

This workshop is delivered by one of our experienced team. Biographies are shown below.

Charlotte Tyrwhitt-Drake:

Charlotte has over 14 years of professional experience in asset management, starting in fund analysis and progressing through to business development. Charlotte has worked for some very well-known institutions, including Jupiter, Pictet and Cambridge Associates. Her most recent roles have been as a director of business development focused on building advisory and fiduciary relationships with pension schemes. Through her roles, Charlotte has built a knowledge and passion for responsible and sustainable investing. She has demonstrated this in co-authoring a paper with the Society for Pension Professionals on Social Impact Investing and speaking on topics such as fee and service transparency at PLSA and Transparency Taskforce events. As well as working for Pensions for Purpose, Charlotte runs her own consulting business Impact Challenger Ltd which focuses on identifying the key parties in the impact investment chain and creating solutions to help capital flow more efficiently through the chain. Outside of work Charlotte is a volunteer with Redstart (a charity working to educate children on savings and investments), a singer in a band and is also finishing a self-build.

Karen Shackleton:

Karen has worked in the finance sector for over 30 years. She provides independent investment advice, through MJ Hudson Allenbridge, to the London Boroughs of Islington, Camden and Hounslow, and Warwickshire County Council pension funds. In 2017, she set up Pensions for Purpose, a collaborative information-sharing platform which aims to raise awareness of responsible, sustainable and impact investment amongst pension funds. She is non-executive Chair of Resonance Ltd, an impact manager investing in real estate social impact opportunities, and Deputy Chair of the Strategic Investment Board for the Ministry of Justice. Karen also sits on the Advisory Council for the Impact Investing Institute, which aims to accelerate the growth and improve the effectiveness of the impact investing market.

For more information please email:

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