

Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution Pension Fund Implementation Statement Year Ending 31 March 2024

Glossary

Investment Adviser	First Actuarial LLP
Scheme	Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution Pension Fund
Scheme Year	1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024
SIP	Statement of Investment Principles
UNPRI	United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment

Introduction

This Implementation Statement reports on the extent to which, over the Scheme Year, the Trustee has followed their policy relating to the exercise of rights (including voting rights) attaching to the Scheme's investments.

In preparing this statement, the Trustee has considered guidance from the Department for Work & Pensions which was updated on 17 June 2022.

Relevant Investments

During the Scheme Year, the Scheme did not invest any funds which had an allocation to equities. As such the Investment Manager does not have an entitlement to vote so there were no voting records for the Trustee to analyse.

The Trustee's Policy Relating to the Exercise of Rights

Summary of the Policy

The Trustee's policy in relation to the exercise of rights (including voting rights) attaching to the investments is set out in the SIP. The SIP was updated during the Scheme year to reflect changes made to the Scheme's investment strategy, but wording relating to the exercise of rights was not revised. A summary of this wording is as follows:

- The Trustee believes that good stewardship can help create, and preserve, value for companies and markets as a whole and the Trustee wishes to encourage best practice in terms of stewardship.
- The Trustee invests in pooled investment vehicles and therefore accepts that ongoing engagement with the underlying companies (including the exercise of voting rights) will be determined by the investment manager's own policies on such matters.

- When selecting a pooled fund, the Trustee considers, amongst other things, the investment manager's policy in relation to the exercise of the rights (including voting rights) attaching to the investments held within the pooled fund.
- When considering the ongoing suitability of an investment manager, the Trustee (in conjunction with its Investment Adviser) will take account of any particular characteristics of that manager's engagement policy that are deemed to be financially material.
- The Trustee will normally select investment managers who are signatories to the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI).
- If it is identified that a fund's investment manager is not engaging with companies the Trustee may look to replace that fund. However, in the first instance, the Trustee would normally expect its Investment Adviser to raise the Trustee's concerns with the investment manager.

Has the Policy Been Followed During the Scheme Year?

The Trustee's opinion is that its policy relating to the exercise of rights (including voting rights) attaching to the investments has been followed during the Scheme Year. In reaching this conclusion, the following points were taken into consideration:

- There has been no change to the Trustee's belief regarding the importance of good stewardship.
- The Scheme's assets remained invested in pooled funds over the period.
- The Trustee did not select any new funds during the period.
- The investment manager used by the Scheme is a UNPRI signatory.
- The Scheme did not hold any relevant investments at the Scheme Year end.

Conclusion

None of the assets that the Scheme invested in during the Scheme Year had voting rights attached and therefore no assessment has been undertaken.

Signed: Date:

Signed on behalf of the Trustee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution Pension Fund