

## **University of Sheffield Endowment Investment Policy - investing funds on a socially responsible basis**

The primary purpose of the investment of endowment funds is to optimise returns in order to generate sufficient revenue to meet the specific purposes for which the funding was given to the University.

The University is committed to investing its funds on a socially responsible basis. The University believes that to accord with its values when investing its funds, regard must be made to social, environmental, sustainability and governance issues.

In making investment decisions the University expects its Investment Managers to actively consider these factors. The University's Investment Managers, Sarasin & Partners, are responsible stewards of client capital and their investment approach is aligned with the values of the University. They aim to invest in a way that supports sustainable economic progress and protects the interests of future generations. For example (the below list is not exhaustive and further details are available at [www.sarasinandpartners.com](http://www.sarasinandpartners.com)), Sarasin & Partners:

- are an active member of (i) Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change, (ii) Climate Action 100+, (iii) Portfolio Decarbonisation Coalition and (iv) Transparency Pathway Initiative
- are an endorser of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation New Plastics Economy Global Commitment
- have made a public commitment to align their business with the Paris Climate Accord and to engage with investee companies to also align
- wrote letters to Chairs of companies in 2018 and 2019, asking them to explicitly align their strategies with the Paris Accord goals and lay out a pathway for decarbonisation
- integrate climate risks in a bottom up analysis of companies and invest in clean energy where there is a strong investment case
- challenge the UK's audit regulator on inadequate climate risk reporting
- screen real estate holdings through a sustainability matrix
- are a member of the Farm Animal Investment Risk and Return (FAIRR) which is promoting sustainable protein supply chains
- are founding signatories of the Workforce Disclosure Initiative
- monitor investee companies' and their supply chains for labour issues, including child labour and slavery, poor health and safety, poor levels of pay and benefits
- are a signatory to the UK and Japanese Stewardship Codes and are committed to fulfilling their ownership responsibilities on behalf of clients
- are committed to effective stewardship; in 2019 Natasha Landell-Mills, Head of Stewardship at Sarasin & Partners, won the ICGN Global Stewardship Champion Award