## **Engagement Policy Implementation Statement ("EPIS")**

### Patheon UK Pension Plan

### Plan Year End – 31 March 2023

The purpose of the EPIS is for us, the Trustee of the Patheon UK Pension Plan (the "Plan"), to explain what we have done during the year ending 31 March 2023 to achieve certain policies and objectives set out in the Statement of Investment Principles ("SIP"). It includes:

- 1. How our policies in the SIP about asset stewardship (including both voting and engagement activity) in relation to the Plan's investments have been followed during the year; and
- 2. How we have exercised our voting rights or how these rights have been exercised on our behalf, including the use of any proxy voting advisory services, and the 'most significant' votes cast over the reporting year.

### Our conclusion

Based on the activity we have undertaken during the year, we believe that the policies set out in the SIP have been implemented effectively.

We delegate the management of the Plan's assets to our fiduciary manager Aon Investments Limited ("AIL"). Based on the information we have been provided with, we are comfortable with the management and the monitoring of ESG integration and stewardship of the underlying managers that has been carried out on our behalf. We believe the activities completed by our fiduciary manager to review the underlying managers' voting and engagement policies and activities align with our stewardship expectations.

We have also reviewed the stewardship activities of the material underlying investment managers appointed by AIL. In our view, most of the Plan's material investment managers were able to disclose good evidence of voting and engagement activity, and the activities completed by our managers align with our stewardship expectations. We also believe that our voting rights have been implemented effectively on our behalf.

## How voting and engagement policies have been followed

The Plan is invested entirely in pooled funds, and so the responsibility for voting and engagement is delegated to the Plan's investment managers, which is in line with our policy. We reviewed the stewardship activity of the material investment managers carried out over the Plan year and in our view, most of the investment managers were able to disclose good evidence of voting and engagement activity. More information on the stewardship activity carried out by the Plan's investment managers can be found in the following sections of this report.

Over the reporting year, we monitored the performance of the Plan's investments on a quarterly basis. We received in depth portfolio updates from our investment adviser, AIL, at quarterly Trustee meetings, covering investment performance, portfolio positioning and topical updates, including ESG-related updates. In particular, we received quarterly Environment Social Governance ("ESG") ratings from AIL for the funds the Plan is invested in where available.

Each year, we review the annual Stewardship Report provided by our fiduciary manager, AlL. This sets out detailed voting and engagement commentary for each underlying investment manager within the fiduciary investment portfolio and, alongside this EPIS, allows us to assess the actions taken by the AlL-appointed investment managers over the year to ensure they align with our own policies for the Plan and help us to achieve them.

The Plan's stewardship policies can be found in the SIP, which is available here:

https://corporate.thermofisher.com/content/tfcorpsite/us/en/index/corporate-social-responsibility/corporate-governance.html

Within the reporting year, the Trustee has not made any changes to the stewardship policies in the SIP.

## Our Engagement Action Plan

Based on the work we have done for the EPIS, we have decided to take the following steps over the next 12 months:

- While Legal & General Investment Management ("LGIM") provided comprehensive lists of their fund-level engagements, which we find encouraging, these examples did not give as much detail as required by the best-practice industry standard Investment Consulting Sustainability Working Group ("ICSWG") engagement reporting guide. Our fiduciary manager will continue to engage with LGIM to encourage improvements in its reporting.
- We will invite our fiduciary manager to a meeting to get a better understanding of how it is monitoring voting practices and engaging with underlying managers on our behalf, and how these help us fulfil our stewardship policies.
- 3. We will undertake an annual review of the AIL stewardship report and evaluate how the underlying investment managers' stewardship policies align with those of the Trustee.
- 4. Where appropriate, we will look for opportunities to develop ESG monitoring of the underlying investment managers.

### What is stewardship?

Stewardship is investors using their influence over current or potential investees/issuers, policy makers, service providers and other stakeholders to create long-term value for clients and beneficiaries leading to sustainable benefits for the economy, the environment and society.

This includes prioritising which ESG issues to focus on, engaging with investees/issuers, and exercising voting rights.

Differing ownership structures means stewardship practices often differ between asset classes.

Source: UN PRI

## Our fiduciary manager's engagement activity

We delegate the management of the Plan's assets to our fiduciary manager, AlL. AlL manages the Plan's assets in a range of funds which can include multi-asset, multi-manager and liability matching funds. AlL selects the underlying investment managers on our behalf.

We delegate monitoring of ESG integration and stewardship of the underlying managers to AIL. We have reviewed AIL's latest annual Stewardship Report and we believe it shows that AIL is using its resources to effectively influence positive outcomes in the funds in which it invests.

Over the year, AIL held several engagement meetings with many of the underlying managers in its strategies. AIL discussed ESG integration, stewardship, climate, biodiversity and modern slavery with the investment managers. AIL provided feedback to the managers after these meetings with the aim of improving the standard of ESG integration across its portfolios.

Over the year, AIL engaged with the industry through white papers, working groups, webinars and network events, as well as responding to multiple consultations.

In 2021, AIL committed to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, with a 50% reduction by 2030 for its fully delegated clients' portfolios and defined contribution default strategies (relative to baseline year of 2019).

AlL also successfully renewed its signatory status to the 2020 UK Stewardship Code.

# What is fiduciary management?

Fiduciary management is the delegation of some, or all, of the day-to-day investment decisions and implementation to a fiduciary manager. But the trustees still retain responsibility for setting the high-level investment strategy.

In fiduciary management arrangements, the trustees will often delegate monitoring ESG integration and asset stewardship to its fiduciary manager.

## Our managers' voting activity

Good asset stewardship means being aware and active on voting issues, corporate actions and other responsibilities tied to owning a company's stock. We believe that good stewardship is in the members' best interests to promote best practice and encourage investee companies to access opportunities, manage risk appropriately, and protect shareholders' interests. Understanding and monitoring the stewardship that investment managers practice in relation to the Plan's investments is an important factor in deciding whether a manager remains the right choice for the Plan.

Voting rights are attached to listed equity shares, including equities held in multi-asset funds. We expect the Plan's equity-owning investment managers to responsibly exercise their voting rights.

## Why is voting important?

Voting is an essential tool for listed equity investors to communicate their views to a company and input into key business decisions. Resolutions proposed by shareholders increasingly relate to social and environmental issues

#### Source: UN PRI

### Voting statistics

The table below shows the voting statistics for the Plan's material fund with voting rights for the year to 31 March 2023.

	Number of resolutions eligible to vote on	% of resolutions voted	% of votes against management	% of votes abstained from
<b>LGIM Multi Factor Fund</b>	11,712	99.8%	20.2%	0.1%

Source: Manager

### Use of proxy voting advisers

Many investment managers use proxy voting advisers to help them fulfil their stewardship duties. Proxy voting advisers provide recommendations to institutional investors on how to vote at shareholder meetings on issues such as climate change, executive pay and board composition. They can also provide voting execution, research, record keeping and other services.

Responsible investors will dedicate time and resources towards making their own informed decisions, rather than solely relying on their adviser's recommendations.

The table below describes how the Plan's manager uses proxy voting advisers.

## Why use a proxy voting adviser?

Outsourcing voting activities to proxy advisers enables managers that invest in thousands of companies to participate in many more votes than they would without their support.

	Description of use of proxy voting adviser (in manager's own words)
LGIM	LGIM's Investment Stewardship team uses Institutional Shareholder Services' (ISS)  'ProxyExchange' electronic voting platform to electronically vote clients' shares. All voting decisions are made by LGIM and we do not outsource any part of the strategic decisions. To ensure our proxy provider votes in accordance with our position on ESG, we have put in place a custom voting policy with specific voting instructions.

Source: Managers

### Significant voting examples

To illustrate the voting activity being carried out on our behalf, we asked the Plan's investment manager to provide a selection of what they consider to be the most significant votes in relation to the fund in which the Plan invests. A sample of these significant votes can be found in the appendix to this statement.

## Our managers' engagement activity

Engagement is when an investor communicates with current (or potential) investee companies (or issuers) to improve their ESG practices, sustainability outcomes or public disclosure. Good engagement identifies relevant ESG issues, sets objectives, tracks results, maps escalation strategies and incorporates findings into investment decision-making.

The table below shows some of the engagement activity carried out by the Plan's most material managers. The managers have provided information for the most recent calendar year available. Some of the information provided is at a firm-level i.e. is not necessarily specific to the fund invested in by the Plan.

Funds	Number of engagements		Themes engaged on at a fund-level*	
	Fund specific	Firm level		
			Environment - Climate change	
	279	1,224	Social - Human capital management (e.g. inclusion & diversity, employee terms, safety), Inequality, Public health	
LGIM Multi Factor Fund			Governance - Board effectiveness - Diversity, Board effectiveness - Other, Leadership - Chair/CEO, Remuneration	
			Strategy, Financial and Reporting - Strategy/purpose, ESG Scores, and others.	
Schroders plc – International Selection Fund ("ISF") Securitised Credit Fund	Not provided	>2,800	Environment - Climate change, Natural resource use/impact (e.g. water, biodiversity), Pollution, Waste	
			Social - Conduct, culture and ethics (e.g. tax, anti-bribery, lobbying), Human and labour rights (e.g. supply chain rights, community relations), Human capital management, Public health	
			Governance - Board effectiveness – Diversity/Independence or Oversight/Other, Leadership - Chair/CEO, Remuneration, Shareholder rights	
			Strategy, Financial and Reporting - Capital allocation, Reporting (e.g. audit, accounting, sustainability reporting), Financial performance, Strategy/purpose, Risk management (e.g. operational risks, cyber/information security, product risks)	
	476	760	Environment - Climate change, Natural resource use/impact, Pollution, Waste	
Barings Active Short Duration Fund			Social - Conduct, culture and ethics, Human and labour rights, Human capital management, Public health, Inequality	
			Governance - Board effectiveness - Diversity, Remuneration	
			Strategy, Financial and Reporting - Reporting, Strategy/purpose, Risk management	

Source: Managers. \*Schroders did not provide fund level themes; themes provided are at a firm-level:

### **Data limitations**

At the time of writing, the following managers did not provide all the information we requested:

- LGIM has provided comprehensive engagement information, but this was not in line with the ICSWG best-practice industry standard guide, as a result the examples of engagement at a fund level lacked detail.
- Schroders did not provide fund level engagement data due to the nature of the asset class (securitised debt) but did provide an ESG engagement deck explaining their approach for securitized products and asset-based finance. Given the nature of the investments within the fund managed by Schroders, the Trustee, supported by AIL, is of the view that this does not require further engagement.

This report does not include commentary specific to certain asset classes such as securitised debt, liability driven investments, cash or assets accessed via derivatives (such as synthetic credit), due to the limited materiality of stewardship to these asset classes.

Further this report does not include the additional voluntary contributions ("AVCs") due to the relatively small proportion of the Plan's assets that are held as AVCs.

## Appendix – Significant Voting Examples

In the table below is a significant vote example provided by the Plan's relevant manager. We consider a significant vote to be one which the investment manager considers significant. Investment managers use a wide variety of criteria to determine what they consider a significant vote, an example of which is outlined in the example below

LGIM Multi Factor Fund	Company name	Eli Lilly and Company
	Date of vote	02-May-2022
	Approximate size of fund's/mandate's holding as at the date of the vote (as % of portfolio)	0.9%
	Summary of the resolution	Resolution 7 - Require Independent Board Chair
	How you voted	LGIM voted in favour of the shareholder resolution (management recommendation: against).
	Where you voted against management, did you communicate your intent to the company ahead of the vote?	LGIM publicly communicates its vote instructions on its website with the rationale for all votes against management. It is our policy not to engage with our investee companies in the three weeks prior to an Annual General Meeting (AGM) as our engagement is not limited to shareholder meeting topics.
	Rationale for the voting decision	Shareholder Resolution - Joint Chair/CEO: A vote in favour is applied as LGIM expects companies to establish the role of independent Board Chair.
	Outcome of the vote	Fail
	Implications of the outcome eg were there any lessons learned and what likely future steps will you take in response to the outcome?	LGIM will continue to engage with our investee companies, publicly advocate our position on this issue and monitor company and market-level progress.
	On which criteria have you assessed this vote to be "most significant"?	LGIM considers this vote to be significant as it is in application of an escalation of our vote policy on the topic of the combination of the board chair and CEO (escalation of engagement by vote).
Cauras: Managar		<u> </u>

Source: Manager