



**Staffordshire**  
**Pension Fund**  
Local Government Pension Scheme

# Staffordshire Pension Fund Climate-Related Disclosures

Report prepared in alignment with the recommendations of the Taskforce on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)

March 2023

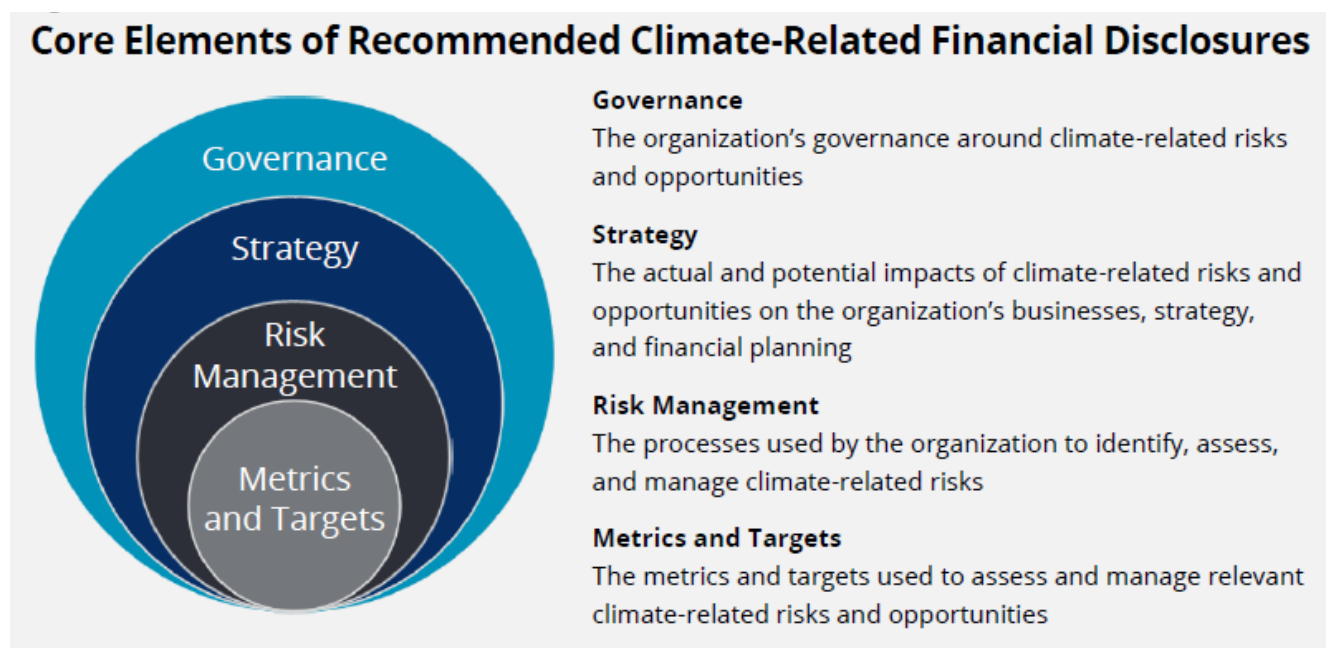


## Introduction to the TCFD

The Taskforce on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) was commissioned in 2015 by Mark Carney in his remit as Chair of the Financial Stability Board. In 2017 the TCFD released its recommendations for improved transparency by companies, asset managers, asset owners, banks, and insurance companies with respect to how climate-related risks and opportunities are being managed. Official supporters of the TCFD total 930 organisations representing a market capitalisation of over \$11 trillion. Disclosure that aligns with the TCFD recommendations currently represents best practice.

The recommendations are based on the financial materiality of climate change. The four elements of recommended disclosures (see Figure 1 below and Appendix 1) are designed to make TCFD-aligned disclosures comparable, but with sufficient flexibility to account for local circumstances. Examples of pension funds that have been early adopters of the TCFD recommendations include AP2, NEST, PGGM, RPMI Railpen, The Pensions Trust, and the Environment Agency Pension Fund.

**Figure 1: TCFD Disclosure Pillars**



Staffordshire Pension Fund ('the Fund') supports the TCFD recommendations as the optimal framework to describe and communicate the steps taken to manage climate-related risks and incorporate climate risk management into the investment process. As a Pension Fund, the Fund is a long-term investor with investments diversified across asset classes, regions, and sectors, making it a "universal owner". It is in the best interests of the Fund that the market can effectively price climate-related risks and that policy makers are able to address market failure. The Fund believes that TCFD-aligned disclosure from asset owners, asset managers, and corporates, is also in the best interest of our beneficiaries.

## About this report

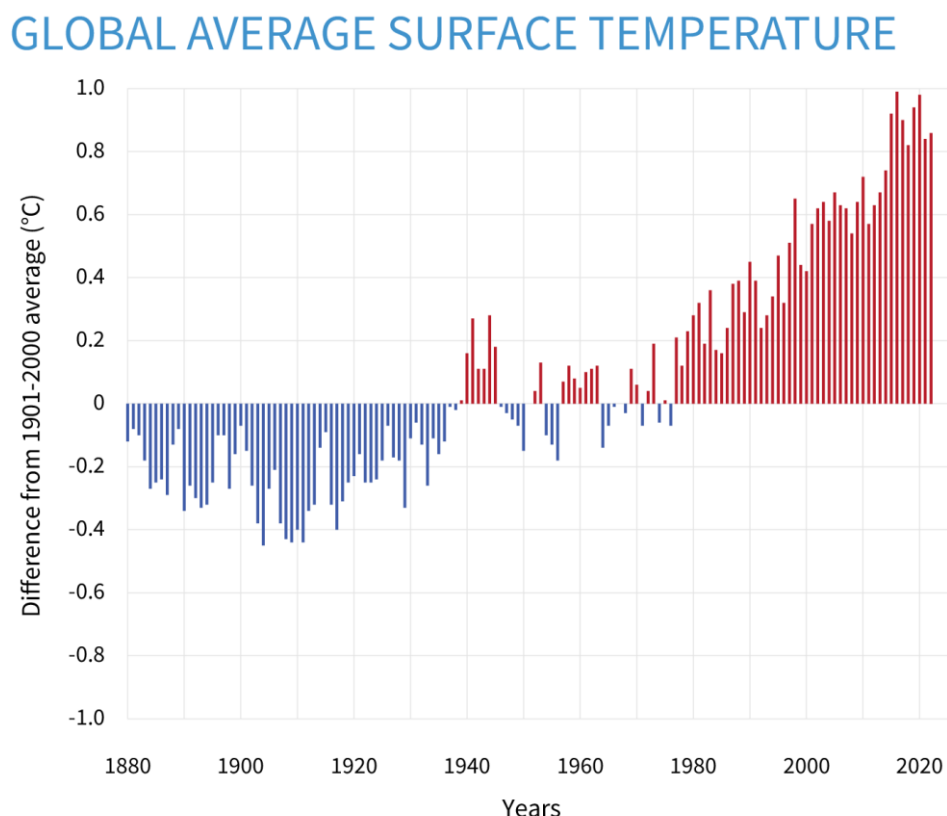
This report is the Fund's third Climate-Related Disclosures report and is published in conjunction with the Fund's Climate Change Strategy (CCS). Both documents draw from the findings of the Fund's Climate Risk Report in 2022, where an in-depth review of the Fund's climate risks under different climate change scenarios was undertaken by the Fund's pooling company, LGPS Central Ltd (LGPSC).

This report explains how the Fund manages climate-related risks and discloses the most recent Carbon Risk Metrics Analysis and Climate Scenario Analysis.

## Climate-related risks

Human activities are estimated to have caused approximately 1.0°C of global warming above pre-industrial levels. Most of this warming has occurred in the past 35 years, with the ten warmest years on record taking place since 2010. 2022 was the sixth warmest year on record according to the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) temperature data, the year also observed a global mean surface temperature which was 0.86°C higher than the 20th century average. The overwhelming scientific consensus is that the observed climatic changes are the result primarily of human activities including electricity and heat production, agriculture and land use change, industry, and transport.

**Figure 2: Global temperature difference from the 1880-2022 average<sup>1</sup>.**



<sup>1</sup> NOAA Climate.gov, Climate Change: Global Temperature. Published 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023, retrieved on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 from <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/climate-change-global-temperature>

In order to mitigate the worst economic impacts of climate change, there must be a large, swift, and globally co-ordinated policy response. The UN Emissions Gap Report<sup>2</sup> states implementation of current policy pledges will lead to temperatures rises of 2.4-2.6°C by the end of the century above preindustrial temperatures, falling significantly short of the 1.5°C Paris goal. This report finds that an urgent system wide transformation is required to limit greenhouse gasses to return to a 1.5°C pathway.

**Figure 3: Selected extracts from the Paris Agreement on climate change.**

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*Paris Agreement Article 2(1)a*

*Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change.*

*Paris Agreement Article 2(1)c*

*Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.*

*Paris Agreement Article 4(1)*

*In order to achieve the long-term temperature goal set out in Article 2, Parties aim to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, recognizing that peaking will take longer for developing country parties, and to undertake rapid reductions thereafter in accordance with best available science, so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century, on the basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.*

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**Source: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.**

Given its contribution to global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, the energy sector is expected to play a significant role in the long-term decarbonisation of the economy. Figure 4 demonstrates electricity generation by technology under the climate scenario which is used as a baseline assessment by Bloomberg NEF, and shows that there is expected to be a significant decrease in coal, oil and gas by 2050. It is important to recognise however that not only is the supply of energy expected to be a factor in global decarbonisation, but the demand for energy plays a

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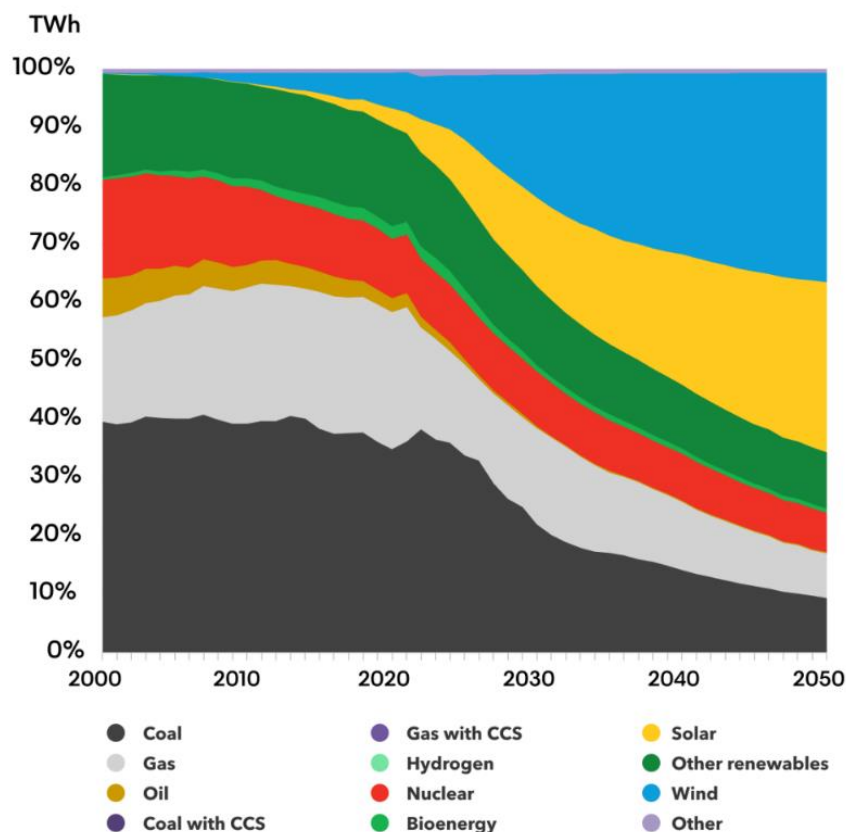
<sup>2</sup> UN Environment Programme, Emissions Gap Report 2022. Published 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022, retrieved 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023 from <https://www.unep.org/resources/emissions-gap-report-2022>

crucial role too. In addition, the behaviour of private and state-owned energy companies (not commonly invested in by UK pension funds) is as important as their publicly traded counterparts.

The issue faced by diversified investors (such as pension funds) is not limited to the oil & gas and power generation sectors, but also to downstream sectors. Investors focussing exclusively on primary energy suppliers could fail to identify material climate risks in other sectors. Research suggests that the oil & gas sector is not homogeneous with regards to climate risk; were climate policies to affect the oil price, those companies with assets lower down the cost curve are less likely to be financially compromised by those companies with higher-cost assets. Investors that assume each fossil fuel company bears an equal magnitude of climate-related risk could be led towards sub-optimal decision-making.

The Fund recognises that climate-related risks can be financially material, and that the due consideration of climate risk falls within the scope of the Fund’s fiduciary duty. Given the Fund’s long-dated liabilities and the timeframe in which climate risks could materialise, a holistic approach to risk management covering all sectors and all relevant asset classes is warranted.

**Figure 4: The Bloomberg New Energy Outlook global power generation mix. Source: Bloomberg NEF<sup>3</sup>.**



<sup>3</sup> Bloomberg NEF, New Energy Outlook 2022. Published January 2023, retrieved 24<sup>TH</sup> January 2023 from <https://about.bnef.com/new-energy-outlook/>

## **Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)**

The following sections describe how the Staffordshire Pension Fund demonstrates its alignment with the four recommended disclosures (also detailed in Appendix 1) based on the TCFD framework.

### **Governance**

<b>TCFD Recommended Disclosure</b>
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<b>a) Describe the board's oversight of climate-related risks and opportunities</b>
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Roles and responsibilities at the Fund are set out clearly in the Fund's Governance Policy Statement. Overall responsibility for managing the Fund lies with the full Council of Staffordshire County Council, which has delegated the management and administration of the Fund to the Staffordshire Pensions Committee and Pensions Panel.

The Pensions Committee is responsible for approving the Investment Strategy Statement (ISS) and CCS. The ISS includes a formal investment belief on climate change, recognising it as a factor that could materially impact financial markets. The CCS is premised on 10 beliefs about climate change, which consider the science behind climate change, the energy transition and climate stewardship.

The Pensions Committee and the Pensions Panel each meet quarterly. The Pensions Panel receives quarterly engagement and voting reports from its stewardship providers, LGPSC, the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF) and external investment managers, as regular items on the meeting agenda. Reports from the Fund's investment adviser, which include advice on responsible investment, are also received regularly

The Local Pensions Board has an oversight role in ensuring the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Fund, including securing compliance with LGPS Regulations and any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the scheme.

<b>TCFD Recommended Disclosure</b>
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<b>b) Describe management's role in assessing and managing climate-related risks and opportunities.</b>
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The Assistant Director for Treasury and Pensions has primary day-to-day responsibility for the way in which climate-related investment risks are currently managed and where appropriate, LGPSC, assists in assessing and managing

climate-related risks. As detailed in the CCS, the Fund leverages partnerships and initiatives, including the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC), to identify and manage climate risk. The Assistant Director for Treasury and Pensions and the Fund’s Senior Officers are accountable to the Pensions Committee for delivery of the CCS.

As a predominantly externally managed fund, the implementation of much of the management of climate-related risk is delegated to a range of appointed investment managers. These external investment managers are monitored on a regular basis by the Pensions Panel.

## Strategy

<b>TCFD Recommended Disclosure</b>
<b>a) Describe the climate-related risks and opportunities the organisation has identified over the short, medium and long term.</b>

As a diversified asset owner, the range of climate-related risks and opportunities are varied and constantly evolving. A subset of risk factors is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1: Example Short, Medium & Long-Term Risks**

	<b>Short &amp; Medium Term</b>	<b>Long Term</b>
<b>Risks</b>	Carbon prices Technological change Policy tightening Consumer preferences	Resource scarcity Extreme weather events Sea level rise
<b>Asset class</b>	Listed equities Growth assets Energy-intensive industry Oil-dependent sovereign issuers Carbon-intensive corporate issuers	Infrastructure Property Agriculture Commodities Insurance

Short-term risks include stock price movements resulting from increased regulation to address climate change. Medium-term risks include policy and technology leading to changes in consumer behaviour and therefore purchasing decisions – the uptake in electric vehicles is an example of this. Long-term risks include physical damages to real assets and resource availability. Examples would include increased sea level rises for coastal infrastructure assets or supply chain impacts for companies because of severe weather events.

<b>TCFD Recommended Disclosure</b>
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<b>b) Describe the impact of climate-related risks and opportunities on the organisation's business, strategy, and financial planning.</b>
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Although the Fund is diversified across asset classes, regions, and sectors, it is recognised that climate risk is systemic and is unlikely to be eliminated through diversification alone.

The Fund's CCS sets out the Fund's approach to managing the impact of climate-related risks. The main management techniques within the Fund's investment strategy are below:

1. Integrate climate change considerations into the complete investment process through the selection, due diligence, monitoring, and stewardship of assets, either directly or through the Fund's appointed investment managers, with the aim of decarbonising the entire investment portfolio.
2. Access the best possible climate change data available, to be able to assess climate risks and opportunities and facilitate informed decision making.
3. Work collaboratively with other investors and organisations to improve the quality, relevance and availability of climate-related data and encourage alignment with the 2015 Paris Agreement.

As most of the Fund's investments are managed externally, responsible investment and climate change considerations form part of the selection and appointment process and are regularly discussed with investment managers on an ongoing basis.

<b>TCFD Recommended Disclosure</b>
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<b>c) Describe the resilience of the organisation's strategy, taking into consideration different climate-related scenarios, including a 2°C or lower scenario.</b>
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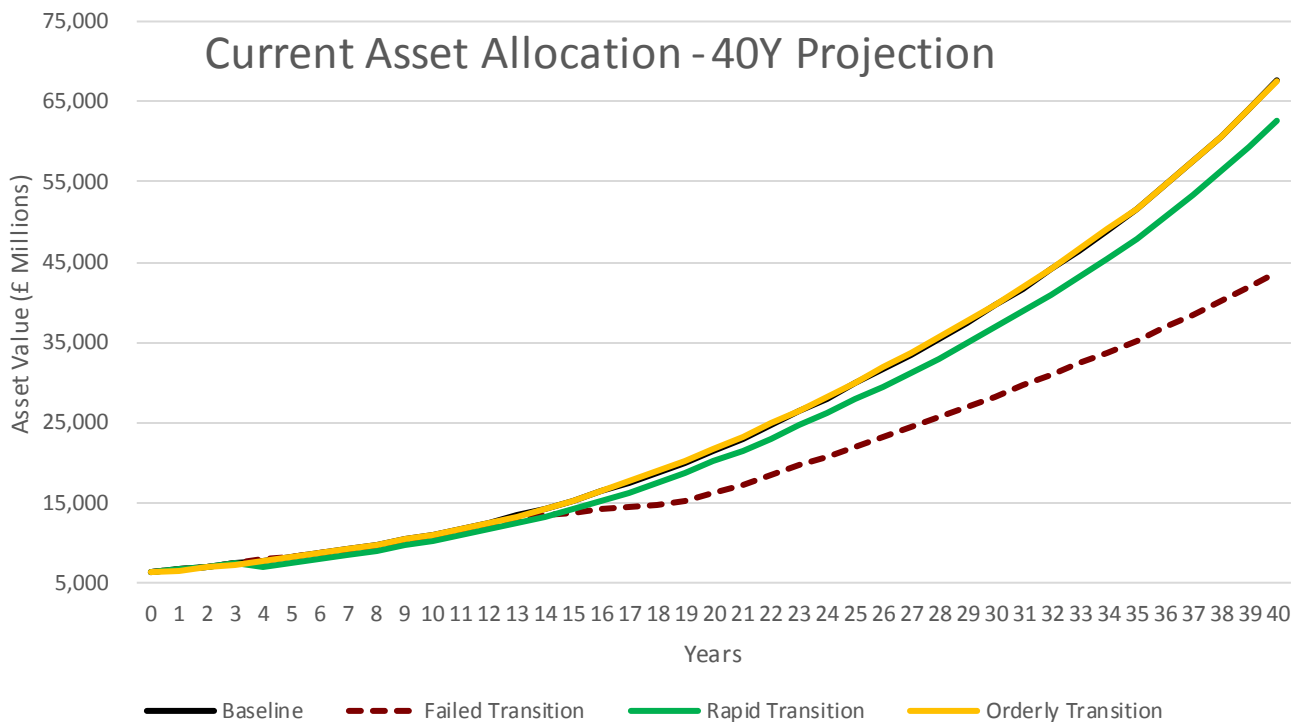
In 2022, the Fund engaged the expertise of an external contractor, Mercer LLC, to understand the extent to which the Fund's risk and return characteristics may be affected by a set of plausible climate scenarios. This included an estimation of the annual climate-related impact on returns (at both the total fund and asset-class level). All asset classes were included in this analysis and the climate scenarios considered were a rapid transition, orderly transition, and failed transition. This analysis is carried out every 2 to 3 years and the results of the 2022 analysis are provided below.

The scenarios are defined according to the change since pre-industrial times in mean global surface temperatures. A rapid transition scenario leads to a 1.5°C temperature increase by 2100 and is characterised by sudden divestments on a



global scale in 2025 to align society to the Paris Agreement goals. An early and smooth transition is represented by a 1.6°C temperature increase by 2100, with the markets pricing-in dynamics occur gradually over four years. A failed transition is represented by a temperature increase of 4.3°C by 2100, with severe physical and extreme weather events and the markets pricing in these risks.

**Graph 1: Cumulative Return Projections by Climate Change Scenario.<sup>4</sup>**



The analysis shows that over medium to long-term, a successful transition is imperative for the Fund as its asset allocation fare better under rapid and orderly transition scenarios versus the failed transition. Over the long term for nearly all investors, a successful transition leads to enhanced projected returns when compared to scenarios associated with higher temperature outcomes, due to lower physical damages.

Translating Climate Scenario Analysis into an investment strategy is a challenge because there is a wide range of plausible climate scenarios; the probability of any

<sup>4</sup> Extract above from Mercer Limited’s (Mercer) report “Climate Change Scenario Analysis” dated January 2023 prepared for and issued to LGPS Central Limited for the sole purpose of undertaking climate change scenario analysis for Shropshire Pension Fund. Other third parties may not rely on this information without Mercer’s prior written permission. The findings and opinions expressed are the intellectual property of Mercer and are not intended to convey any guarantees as to the future performance of the investment strategy. Information contained herein has been obtained from a range of third party sources. Mercer makes no representations or warranties as to the accuracy of the information and is not responsible for the data supplied by any third party.

given scenario is hard to determine, and the best performing sectors and asset classes in an orderly scenario tend to be the worst performers in a failed scenario, and vice versa. Despite the challenges, the Fund believes in seeking out the best available climate-related research to make its portfolio as robust as possible.

## Risk Management

<b>TCFD Recommended Disclosure</b>
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<b>a) Describe the organisation's process for identifying and assessing climate-related risks.</b>
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The Fund seeks to identify and assess climate-related risks at the total fund level and at an individual asset level. The Fund's Climate Risk Reports include a combination of both top-down and bottom-up analysis. The Fund recognises that the tools and techniques for assessing climate-related risks in investment portfolios are an imperfect but evolving discipline. The Fund aims to use the best available information to assess climate-related threats to investment performance.

As far as possible, climate risks are assessed in units of investment return to enable them to be compared to other investment risk factors (see 'Carbon footprint/weighted average carbon intensity (WACI)' explanation in the Glossary for further detail).

As Fund investments are predominantly externally managed, the identification and assessment of climate-related risks is also the responsibility of individual external investment managers appointed by the Fund. Existing external investment managers are monitored on a regular basis.

Engagement activity is conducted with investee companies through selected stewardship partners including LGPSC, EOS at Federated Hermes, and LAPFF, in addition to that carried out by external investment managers. Based on the most recent Climate Risk Report received, the Fund has updated its Climate Stewardship Plan to ensure that engagement resources are focused on the most relevant investments in terms of climate risk.

<b>TCFD Recommended Disclosure</b>
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<b>b) Describe the organisation's process for managing climate-related risks.</b>
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The Fund manages climate risk in different ways according to the nature, duration, magnitude, and time horizon of the risk itself. As set out in the Fund's CCS, the main management techniques are integrating climate change considerations, accessing the best possible climate change data available, and working collaboratively with other investors.

Engagement and shareholder voting are important aspects of the Fund’s approach to managing climate risk. The Fund expects all investee companies to manage material risks, including climate change, and believes that climate risk management can be meaningfully improved through focussed stewardship activities by investors.

The Fund supports the engagement objectives of the Climate Action 100+ (CA100+) initiative, which aims to ensure that companies adopt the appropriate governance structures to effectively manage climate risk; decarbonise in line with the Paris Agreement and disclose effectively using the TCFD recommendations. In September 2020, CA100+ introduced a benchmark framework which identifies ten key indicators of success for business alignment with a net zero carbon emissions future and goals of the Paris Agreement.

Either through its own membership or indirectly through LGPSC, the Fund has several engagement partners that engage investee companies on climate risk.

**Table 2: The Fund’s Stewardship Partners**

Organisation	Remit
	<p>The Fund is a 1/8<sup>th</sup> owner of LGPS Central Limited</p> <p>Climate change is one of LGPSC’s stewardship themes, with quarterly progress reporting available on the website.</p> <p>The Responsible Investment Team at LGPSC engages with companies on the Fund’s behalf, including via the Climate Action 100+ initiative.</p>
	<p>EOS at Federated Hermes is appointed by LGPSC to expand the scope of the engagement programme, especially to reach non-UK companies.</p>
	<p>The Fund is a long-standing member of the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF). LAPFF conducts engagements with companies on behalf of local authority pension funds.</p>

The instruction of shareholder voting opportunities is an important part of climate stewardship. The Fund delegates responsibility for voting to LGPSC or the Fund’s directly appointed external investment managers. For Fund assets managed by LGPSC, votes are cast in accordance with LGPSC’s Voting Principles, to which the Fund contributes during the annual review process. LGPSC’s Voting Principles incorporate climate change, for example by voting against companies that do not meet certain thresholds in the Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI) scoring system. LGPSC has also co-filed shareholder resolutions that relate to climate change. For Fund assets managed by appointed external investment managers, votes will be

cast in line with their own voting and responsible investment policies and in-line with industry best practice as set out in accepted governance codes.

The results of engagement and voting activities by all the Fund’s external investment managers are reported to the Fund and reviewed quarterly by the Pensions Panel through a specific Responsible Investment and Engagement Report. LGPSC’s activities are reported in Quarterly Stewardship Updates, which are available on the LGPSC website.

Based on the Climate Risk Reports received, the Fund has also developed a Climate Stewardship Plan which, alongside the widescale engagement activity undertaken by LGPSC, EOS at Federated Hermes, and LAPFF, includes targeted engagement with ten investee companies of particular significance to the Fund’s portfolio. The Fund believes that all companies should align their business activities with the Paris Agreement on climate change.

**Table 3: Companies included in the Climate Stewardship Plan**

<b>Company</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Country</b>
British Petroleum (BP)	Energy	UK
CRH plc	Materials	Ireland
Glencore	Mining	UK
Holcim	Cement	Switzerland
Linde	Chemicals	Ireland
NextEra Energy	Utilities	USA
Rio Tinto	Mining	Australia
Royal Dutch Shell	Energy	Netherlands
The Southern Company	Energy	USA
RWE <sup>5</sup>	Energy	Germany

<b>TCFD Recommended Disclosure</b>
<b>c) Describe how processes for identifying, assessing, and managing climate-related risks are integrated into the organisation’s overall risk management.</b>

Both ‘mainstream’ risks and climate-related risks are discussed by the Pensions Committee and Pensions Panel. The Fund recognises the “failure to follow responsible investment principles” as a key risk in the Funding Strategy Statement (FSS), and while specific macro-economic risks are not usually included in isolation, the Fund has included climate risk in its Risk Register.

<sup>5</sup> Added to the table as a proposed addition to the Climate Stewardship Plan in the 2023 Climate Risk Report.

Climate risk is further managed through the Fund's CCS and Climate Stewardship Plan.

## Metrics and Targets

### TCFD Recommended Disclosure

**a) Disclose the metrics used by the organisation to assess climate-related risks and opportunities in line with its strategy and risk management process.**

The Fund receives annual reports from LGPS Central Limited which set out the carbon risk metrics for its listed equities and fixed income portfolios. The poor availability of data in unlisted asset classes prevents a more complete analysis currently.

The carbon risk metrics analysis includes:

- portfolio carbon footprints<sup>6</sup>
- financed emissions of the portfolio<sup>7</sup>
- weight of portfolios invested in companies with fossil fuel reserves.
- weight of portfolios invested in companies with thermal coal reserves.
- weight of portfolios invested in companies whose products and services include clean technology.
- weight of the portfolio invested in companies that have set net zero targets.
- metrics assessing the management of climate risk by portfolio companies.

Carbon risk metrics aid the Fund in assessing the potential climate-related risks to which the Fund is exposed, and identify areas for further risk management, including company engagement and fund manager monitoring. The Fund additionally monitors stewardship data.

In considering its carbon risk metrics, the Fund remains aware of the limitations of the available metrics and the underlying datasets. There are certain data gaps caused by companies failing to report GHG data, or by companies reporting unreliable GHG data. In such cases the GHG data must be estimated, and different suppliers of GHG datasets might have different methodologies for making such estimations, leading to potentially different values for the same company or portfolio of companies. The results should, therefore, be treated with some degree of caution. Despite the potential pitfalls, the Fund has resolved to integrate the consideration of carbon risk metrics within the Fund's overall framework of risk management, whilst remaining conscious that the results are primarily useful in enabling the Fund to reach broad conclusions, to enable risk management measures to be prioritised and to enable a broad direction of travel and progress to be assessed.

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<sup>6</sup> Following TCFD guidance we use weighted average portfolio carbon footprints.

<sup>7</sup> Calculated by multiplying the attribution factor by a company's emissions, giving a figure of the absolute tons of CO2 for which an investor is responsible.

## TCFD Recommended Disclosure

**b) Disclose Scope 1, Scope 2, and if appropriate, Scope 3 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and the related risks. TCFD Guidance:** *Asset owners should provide the weighted average carbon intensity, where data is available or can be reasonably estimated, for each fund or investment strategy.*

In line with the TCFD guidance and following receipt of a Climate Risk Report from LGPSC the following table provides the carbon footprint of the Fund's equity portfolio as at 30 September 2022<sup>8</sup>:

**Table 4: Carbon risk metrics for the equity portfolio at 30 September 2022<sup>9</sup>**

	Fund	Benchmark	Difference (absolute/relative)
<b>Financed Emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)</b>	246,242	-	-
<b>Portfolio Carbon Footprint (Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI) tCO<sub>2</sub>e/\$m revenue)</b>	122.72	152.56	-29.84 WACI / -19.56%
<b>Weight in fossil fuel reserves (%)</b>	6.24%	7.52%	-1.28% / -17.04%
<b>Weight in thermal coal reserves (%)</b>	1.72%	2.36%	-0.63% / 26.92%
<b>Weight in clean tech (%)</b>	34.10%	36.83%	-2.73% / -7.42%

The Fund's total equity portfolio is 19.56% more carbon efficient than the blended benchmark. The total equity portfolio has a lower exposure to both fossil fuel reserves and thermal coal reserves in comparison to the benchmark, but also a slightly lower exposure to clean technology.

Whilst the Fund's carbon risk metrics results show the Fund generally 'outperforms' its benchmarks, the Fund is proactively exploring ways to further embed climate risk

<sup>8</sup> Analysis undertaken on the listed equities portfolios with holdings data as of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022. The information in Table 4 was provided to the Fund in a report authored by LGPS Central Limited. In LGPS Central Limited's report, the Total Equities portfolio comprises of eight underlying portfolios weighted according to their size in GBP. Three underlying portfolios managed by LGIM, two managed by LGPS Central, and JP Morgan, Longview Partners and Impax all managed one underlying portfolio each.

<sup>9</sup> Certain information ©2022 MSCI ESG Research LLC. Reproduced by permission.

management in its investment decision making. The Fund expects to update its carbon risk metrics data on an annual basis.

**TCFD Recommended Disclosure**

**c) Describe the targets used by the organisation to manage climate-related risks and opportunities and performance against targets.**

To ensure that the Fund remains on track to achieve its long-term net zero climate objective in 2050, a series of interim climate related targets for 2030 have also been set within the CCS. The Fund’s targets are measured against a baseline of data as at 31 March 2020, as reported in the Fund’s 2021 TCFD Report.

A progress update against the Fund’s targets as of 30 September 2022 is provided below.

**Table 5: 2030 Climate Change Strategy targets - September 2022 update**

<b>2030 Climate Target</b>	<b>September 2022 level</b>	<b>Change from March 2020 (absolute/relative)</b>
Reduce the Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI) of the Fund by 50-60% by 2030.	122.72 WACI	-53.79 WACI / -30.47%
Reduce the proportion of the Fund invested in Fossil Fuels reserves to less than 4% by 2030.	6.24%	-0.15% / -2.42%
Reduce the proportion of the Fund invested in thermal coal to below 1% by 2030.	1.72%	-0.89% / -34.08%
Increase the proportion of investments where carbon metrics are reported to over 95% by 2030*.	70.79%	1.59% / 2.30%

\*Where climate data is captured, calculated, and provided by the investee companies/manager, rather than estimated by the fund/data provider.

## **Appendix 1**

### **TCFD Recommendations for Asset Owners (source: TCFD)**

#### **Governance**

Recommended Disclosure (a) Describe the board's oversight of climate-related risks and opportunities.

Recommended Disclosure (b) Describe management's role in assessing and managing climate-related risks and opportunities.

#### **Strategy**

Recommended Disclosure (a) Describe the climate-related risks and opportunities the organisation has identified over the short, medium, and long term.

Recommended Disclosure (b) Describe the impact of climate-related risks and opportunities on the organisation's businesses, strategy, and financial planning.

Recommended Disclosure (c) Describe the resilience of the organisation's strategy, taking into consideration different climate-related scenarios, including a 2°C or lower scenario.

#### **Risk Management**

Recommended Disclosure (a) Describe the organisation's processes for identifying and assessing climate-related risks.

Recommended Disclosure (b) Describe the organisation's processes for managing climate-related risks.

Recommended Disclosure (c) Describe how processes for identifying, assessing, and managing climate-related risks are integrated into the organisation's overall risk management.

#### **Metrics and Targets**

Recommended Disclosure (a) Disclose the metrics used by the organisation to assess climate-related risks and opportunities in line with its strategy and risk management process.

Recommended Disclosure (b) Disclose Scope 1, Scope 2, and, if appropriate, Scope 3 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and the related risks.

Recommended Disclosure (c) Describe the targets used by the organisation to manage climate-related risks and opportunities and performance against targets.



## Appendix 2: Glossary

**Clean technology/ weight in clean technology:** the weight of a portfolio invested in companies whose products and services include clean technology. Products and services eligible for inclusion include alternative energy, energy efficiency, green building, pollution prevention, and sustainable water.

**Coal reserves/ portfolio exposure to thermal coal reserves:** the weight of a portfolio invested in companies that own thermal coal reserves.

**Engagement:** dialogue with a company concerning aspects of its strategy, governance, policies, and practices. Engagement includes escalation activity where concerns are not addressed within a reasonable time frame.

**Fossil fuel reserves/ portfolio exposure to fossil fuel reserves:** the weight of a portfolio invested in companies that own fossil fuel reserves.

**Financed emissions:** The absolute tons of CO<sub>2</sub> for which an investor is responsible. Calculated by multiplying, the ratio of investment in a company versus its total value, by the company's total emissions.

**Physical risk/ climate physical risk:** the financial risks and opportunities associated with the anticipated increase in frequency and severity of extreme weather events and other phenomena, including storms, flooding, sea level rise and changing seasonal extremities.

**Carbon footprint/weighted average carbon intensity (WACI):** A proxy for a portfolio's exposure to potential climate-related risks. It is calculated by the addition of each portfolio companies carbon intensity (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/USDm revenue), weighted by its size (%) in a portfolio.

**Scope 1 greenhouse gas emissions:** Direct emissions from an owner or sources controlled by the owner, including on-campus combustion of fossil fuels and mobile combustion of fossil fuels by institution-controlled vehicles.

**Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions:** Indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy.

**Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions:** Indirect emissions that are not controlled by the institution but occur because of that institution's activities. Examples include commuting, waste disposal and embodied emissions from extraction.

**Stewardship:** the promotion of the long-term success of companies in such a way that the ultimate providers of capital also prosper, using techniques including engagement and voting.

**Transition risk/ climate transition risk:** the financial risks and opportunities associated with the anticipated transition to a lower carbon economy. This can include technological progress, shifts in subsidies and taxes, and changes to consumer preferences or market sentiment.

**Voting:** the act of casting the votes bestowed upon an investor, usually in virtue of the investor's ownership of ordinary shares in publicly listed companies.

### **Appendix 3: Important Information**

Extract above from Mercer Limited's (Mercer) report "Climate Change Scenario Analysis" dated January 2023 prepared for and issued to LGPS Central Limited for the sole purpose of undertaking climate change scenario analysis for Staffordshire Pension Fund. Other third parties may not rely on this information without Mercer's prior written permission. The findings and opinions expressed are the intellectual property of Mercer and are not intended to convey any guarantees as to the future performance of the investment strategy. Information contained herein has been obtained from a range of third-party sources. Mercer makes no representations or warranties as to the accuracy of the information and is not responsible for the data supplied by any third party.

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