Ifor Williams Trailers Limited Retirement Benefits Plan ('the Scheme') – Implementation Statement 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

An Implementation Statement ('Statement') has been prepared in accordance with applicable legislation, taking into account guidance from The Pensions Regulator for the period from  $1^{st}$  April 2021 –  $31^{st}$  March 2022 ('the Scheme Year').

The Statement sets out how, and the extent to which, the Trustees' policy in relation to exercising voting rights has been followed during the year by describing the voting behaviour on behalf of the Trustees of the Scheme.

The Trustees have used Minerva Analytics ('Minerva') to obtain voting and investment engagement information (VEI) on the Scheme's behalf.

This Statement includes Minerva's report on key findings on behalf of the Trustees over the Scheme Year.

A summary of the key points is set out below.

#### LGIM

Minerva confirmed that the manager's voting policies and disclosures broadly comply with the ICGN Voting Guidelines Principles and good corporate governance practices. They were also able to confirm the manager's voting activity had followed the Trustees' policy. LGIM provided voting and engagement information which covered the period 01/04/21 to 31/03/22, however, the Scheme sold all holdings in the LGIM World Equity Index Fund (including GBP Hedged variant) in November and so, the data provided by LGIM is longer than the investment holding period for these two funds. LGIM provided summarised fund level engagement information, the Trustees will continue to encourage LGIM to provide detailed fund level information but acknowledge that the information provided was in line with its own policies.

#### **BNY Mellon**

The Trustees believe their voting and engagement policies were followed. However, the following points were noted:

- BNY Mellon disclosed they did not exercise their votes for ETF holdings in their Fund as they deemed that the resolutions were not sufficiently contentious and wanted to retain freedom to trade the securities. The Trustees believe this is reasonable to retain the ability to buy and sell the ETFs.
- Minerva noted the manager does not have a formal bond voting policy, which the Trustees believe is reasonable as the asset class is not expected to cast votes.

#### Vontobel

Vontobel stated that there was no voting information to report, however, information was provided on engagements. From this, Minerva was able to conclude that the manger had followed the Trustees' engagement policy.

It was determined that some of the Scheme's holdings covering asset classes such as LDI and corporate bonds had no voting or engagement information to report due to nature of the underlying holdings.

The Scheme holds AVCs and the Trustees have determined they will not be covered in this Statement on the grounds of materiality.



## **Spence & Partners Limited**

# Ifor Williams Trailers Limited Retirement Benefits Plan

Implementation Statement (IS): Voting & Engagement Information (VEI)

Reporting Period: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

7<sup>th</sup> September 2022

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### **1 SIP Disclosures**

This section sets out the policies in the Statement of Investment Principles ('SIP') in force at the Scheme year-end relating to the following:

- 1) Financially Material Considerations
- 2) Non-Financial Considerations
- 3) Investment Manager Arrangements

Stewardship - including the exercise of voting rights and engagement activities - is set out in the 'Voting and Engagement' section.

Source of Information: Ifor Williams Trailers Limited Retirement Benefits Plan Statement of Investment Principles, November 2021

### **1.1 Financially Material Considerations**

The Trustees have considered financially material factors such as environmental, social and governance ('ESG') issues as part of the investment process to determine a strategic asset allocation over the length of time during which the benefits are provided by the Scheme for members. They believe that financially material considerations (including climate change) are implicitly factored into the expected risk and return profile of the asset classes that they are investing in.

In endeavouring to invest in the best financial interests of the beneficiaries, the Trustees have elected to invest through pooled funds. The Trustees acknowledge that they cannot directly influence the environmental, social and governance policies and practices of the companies in which the pooled funds invest. However, the Trustees do expect their fund managers and investment adviser to take account of financially material considerations when carrying out their respective roles.

The Trustees accept that the Scheme's assets are subject to the investment manager's own policy on socially responsible investment. The Trustees will assess that this corresponds with their responsibilities to the beneficiaries of the Scheme with the help of their investment adviser.

An assessment of the ESG and responsible investment policies forms part of the manager selection process when appointing new managers and these policies are also reviewed regularly for existing managers with the help of the investment adviser. The Trustees will only invest with investment managers that are signatories for the United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment ('UN PRI') or other similarly recognised standards.

The Trustees will monitor financially material considerations through the following means:

- Obtain training where necessary on ESG considerations in order to understand fully how ESG factors including climate change could impact the Scheme and their investments;
- Use ESG ratings information provided by their investment adviser, to assess how the Scheme's investment managers take account of ESG issues; and
- Request that all of the Scheme's investment managers provide information about their ESG policies, and details of how they integrate ESG into their investment processes, via their investment adviser.

If the Trustees determine that financially material considerations have not been factored into the investment managers' process, they will take this into account on whether to select or retain an investment.

### **1.2 Non-Financial Considerations**

The Trustees have not considered non-financial matters in the in the selection, retention and realisation of investments.

### **1.3 Investment Manager Arrangements**

Incentives to align investment managers' investment strategies and decisions with the Trustees' policies

The Scheme invests in pooled funds and so the Trustees acknowledge the funds' investment strategies and decisions cannot be tailored to the Trustees' policies. However, the Trustees set their investment strategy and then select managers that best suits their strategy taking into account the fees being charged, which acts as the fund manager's incentive.

The Trustees use the fund objective/benchmark as a guide on whether their investment strategy is being followed and monitors this regularly.

Incentives for the investment managers to make decisions based on assessments about medium to long-term financial and non-financial performance of an issuer of debt or equity and to engage with issuers of debt or equity in order to improve their performance in the medium to long-term

The Trustees select managers based on a variety of factors including investment philosophy and process, which they believe should include assessing the long term financial and nonfinancial performance of the underlying company that they invest in.

The Trustees also consider the managers' voting and ESG policies and how they engage with the investee company as they believe that these factors can improve the medium to long-term performance of the investee companies.

The Trustees will monitor the managers' engagement and voting activity on an annual basis as they believe this can improve long term performance. The Trustees expect their managers to make every effort to engage with investee companies but acknowledge that their influence may be more limited in some asset classes, such as bonds, as they do not have voting rights.

The Trustees acknowledge that in the short term, these policies may not improve the returns they achieve, but do expect that investing in those companies with better financial and nonfinancial performance over the long term will lead to better returns for the Scheme. The Trustees believe that the annual fee paid to the fund managers incentivises them to do this.

If the Trustees feel that the fund managers are not assessing financial and non-financial performance or adequately engaging with the companies they are investing in, they will use these factors in deciding whether to retain or terminate a manager.

How the method (and time horizon) of the evaluation of the investment managers' performance and the remuneration for asset management services are in line with the Trustees' policies

The Trustees review the performance of each fund quarterly on a net of fees basis compared to its objective.

The Trustees assess the performance of the funds, where possible, over at least a 3-5 year period when looking to select or terminate a manager, unless there are reasons other than performance that need to be considered.

The fund managers' remuneration is considered as part of the manager selection process and is also monitored regularly with the help of their investment adviser to ensure it is in line with the Trustees' policies.

How the Trustees monitor portfolio turnover costs incurred by the investment managers, and how they define and monitor targeted portfolio turnover or turnover range

The Trustees monitor the portfolio turnover costs on an annual basis.

The Trustees define target portfolio turnover as the average turnover of the portfolio expected in the type of strategy the manager has been appointed to manage. This is monitored on an annual basis.

The Trustees have delegated the responsibility of monitoring portfolio turnover costs and target portfolio turnover to their investment adviser and this is reported to the Trustees so they too can monitor this.

The duration of the arrangement with the investment managers

The Trustees plan to hold each of their investments for the long term but will keep this under review.

Changes in investment strategy or changes in the view of the fund managers can lead to the duration of the arrangement being shorter than expected.

## **2** Sourcing of Voting and Engagement Information

This section sets out the availability of the information Minerva initially requested from the Scheme's managers, to facilitate the preparation of this report:

Fund / Product Manager	Investment Fur	stment Fund/Product			rmation	Significant Votes	Engagement Information
BlackRock	Corporate Bond	d Up To 5 Years Index Fund		No Info to I	Report	No Info to Report	No Info to Report
BNY Mellon	Newton Global	Dynamic Bond Fund	lable	No Info to Report	Info Available		
	Dynamic Divers	Info Available		Info Available	Partial Info Available		
LGIM	LDI Matching C	ore Funds		No Info to Report		No Info to Report	No Info to Report
	World Equity In	Partial Info A	vailable	Info Available	Partial Info Available		
Vontobel	TwentyFour Str	Strategic Income Fund		No Info to Report		No Info to Report	Info Available
Informatio	n Available	Partial Information Available	No Informatio	on to Report No Info		rmation Provided	Awaiting Information

Table 2.1: Summary of Available Information



There was voting information disclosed for the Scheme's investments in the following funds:

- BNY Mellon Newton Global Dynamic Bond Fund
- LGIM Dynamic Diversified Fund
- LGIM World Equity Index Fund (including GBP hedged variant) (only info for period 01/04/21 31/03/22 available, as LGIM are not able to provide client reporting period-specific information)

Significant Votes	<ul> <li>There was 'Significant Vote' information disclosed for the Scheme's investments in the following funds:</li> <li>LGIM Dynamic Diversified Fund</li> <li>LGIM World Equity Index Fund (including GBP hedged variant)</li> </ul>
Engagemen Activity	<ul> <li>There was reportable engagement information available in relation to the following:</li> <li>BNY Mellon Newton Global Dynamic Bond Fund (detailed fund-level information)</li> <li>LGIM Dynamic Diversified Fund (summarised fund-level information)</li> <li>LGIM World Equity Index Fund (including GBP hedged variant) (summarised fund-level information)</li> <li>Vontobel TwentyFour Strategic Income Fund (detailed fund-level information)</li> </ul>

## **3 Voting and Engagement**

The Trustees are required to disclose the voting and engagement activity over the Scheme year. The Trustees have used Minerva Analytics ('Minerva') to obtain voting and investment engagement information (VEI) on the Scheme's behalf.

This statement provides a summary of the key information and summarises Minerva's findings on behalf of the Scheme over the Scheme's reporting year.

### 3.1 Voting and Engagement Policy and Funds

The Trustees' policy on Voting and Engagement from the Scheme's SIP is set out below:

The Trustees' policy on the exercise of rights attaching to investments, including voting rights, is that these rights should be exercised by the investment manager on the Trustees' behalf, having regard to the best financial interests of the beneficiaries.

The investment manager should engage with companies to take account of ESG factors in the exercise of such rights as the Trustees believe this will be beneficial to the financial interests of members over the long term. The Trustees will review the investment managers' voting policies, with the help of their investment adviser, and decide if they are appropriate.

The Trustees also expect the fund manager to engage with investee companies or other relevant persons on performance, strategy, capital structure, management of actual or potential conflicts of interest, risks, ESG issues concerning the Trustees' investments.

If the policies or level of engagement are not appropriate, the Trustees will engage with the investment manager, with the help of their investment adviser, to influence the investment manager's policy. If this fails, the Trustees will review the investments made with the investment manager.

The Trustees have taken into consideration the Financial Reporting Council's UK Stewardship Code and expect investment managers to adhere to this where appropriate for the investments that they manage.

The following table sets out:

- the funds and products in which the Scheme was invested during the Scheme's reporting period;
- the holding period for each fund or product; and
- whether each investment manager made use of a 'proxy voter', as defined by the Regulations:

Fund / Product Manager	Investment Fund/Product	Investment Made Via	Fund / Product Type	Period Start Date	Period End Date	'Proxy Voter' Used?
BlackRock	Corporate Bond Up To 5 Years Index Fund	Platform	DB Fund	01/04/21	31/03/22	N/A
BNY Mellon	Newton Global Dynamic Bond Fund	Platform	DB Fund	01/04/21	31/03/22	N/A
	Dynamic Diversified Fund	Platform	DB Fund	01/04/21	31/03/22	ISS
LGIM	LDI Matching Core Funds	Platform	DB Fund	01/04/21	31/03/22	N/A
	World Equity Index Fund (including GBP hedged variant)	Platform	DB Fund	01/04/21	16/11/21	ISS
Vontobel	TwentyFour Strategic Income Fund	Platform	DB Fund	01/04/21	31/03/22	N/A
	Proxy Voter Identified Proxy	Voter Not Confirmed	Not Applic	cable (N/A)		

#### Table 3.1: Scheme Investment/Product Information



As shown in the table above:

- Newton have confirmed that they do not use a 'Proxy Voter' for funds that hold fixed interest investments
- Minerva Says
- LGIM identified Institutional Shareholder Services ('ISS') as their 'Proxy Voter'
- The investments / products shown as grey shaded boxes have either no listed equity voting activity associated with them or the manager has stated that they have no formal voting policy in place, and so had no need for a proxy voter

# 4 Exercise of Voting Rights

The following tables show a comparison of each of the Scheme's relevant manager(s) voting activity versus the Trustees' policy (which in this instance is the manager's own policy).

#### 4.1: BNY Mellon's Approach to Voting

Asset manager	BNY Mellon (Newton)
Relevant Scheme Investment(s)	Global Dynamic Bond Fund
Key Points of Manager's Voting Policy	Newton have confirmed to us that they do not have a formal bond voting policy as such. Typically, bonds do not have the same kind of voting rights associated with them as listed equities. Any votes cast tend to be in relation to corporate actions that require a case-by-case approach to determine the votes to cast. The manager identified 3 holdings which, whilst having voting rights associated with them, were not voted for operational reasons.
Is Voting Activity	Yes
in Line with the Scheme's Policy?	By voting in the specific manner that they have in relation to corporate actions on investments, we believe that the manager is doing so in the best financial interests of the Scheme beneficiaries.

#### Table 4.2: LGIM's Approach to Voting

Asset manager	LGIM (Legal & General Investment Management)
Relevant Scheme Investment(s)	<ul> <li>Dynamic Diversified Fund</li> <li>World Equity Index Fund (including GBP hedged variant)</li> </ul>

LGIM's Corporate Governance and Responsible Investing Policy sets out what the manager considers to be corporate governance best practice. It explains their expectations with respect to topics they believe are essential for an efficient governance framework, and for building a sustainable business model. LGIM expects all companies to closely align with their principles, or to engage with them where circumstances prevent them from doing so.

LGIM's voting policy is built on the assessment of 5 key policy areas:

	#	Policy Area	Example of Topics Covered				
Kow points of	1	Company Board	Board Leadership, Board Independence, Board Diversity, Succession Planning and Board Evaluation				
Key points of manager's Equity Voting Policy	2	Audit, Risk & Internal Control	External Audit, Internal Audit and Whistleblowing				
	3	Remuneration	Fixed Remuneration, Incentive Arrangements and Service Contracts and Termination Payments				
	4	Shareholder & Bondholder Rights	Voting Rights and Share-class Structures, Shareholder Proposals and Political Donations				
	5	Sustainability	Material ESG Risks & Opportunities, Target Setting, Public Disclosure and Engagement				
	The manager disclosed on their <u>website</u> how they have voted on the companies in which they invest on a monthly basis, including the rationale for votes against management. The information provided is at firm, rather than fund or product, level.						
Is voting activity							
in line with the Scheme's policy?	Some examples of the manager's voting activity are provided in Section 7 – Significant Votes						



Newton have confirmed that they do not have a formal bond voting policy

• LGIM have clearly set out how they each approach their stewardship responsibilities for listed companies on behalf of their clients. In our view, the available information demonstrates clear and thoughtful approaches for each firm

Minerva Says From the available information, we believe that the managers' voting approaches are consistent with the Scheme's proxy voting expectations

### **5 Manager Voting Policy**

As the current approach of the Scheme is to use the voting policy of the external asset managers, it is important that these policies are independently reviewed to ensure that they match current good practice and the general stewardship expectations set by the Trustee. Well-managed companies that operate in a commercially, socially and environmentally responsible manner are expected to perform better over the longer term, as the Trustees believe that adopting such an approach will allow each company's management to identify, address and monitor the widest range of risks associated with their specific business.

Set out in the following table is Minerva's independent assessment of the Scheme's managers' voting policies, in the context of current good practice as represented by the ICGN Voting Guidelines, whilst also bearing the Trustees' stewardship expectations in mind. This has been done for each manager where they have identified voting activity on behalf of the Scheme.

We have assessed each manager's policy individually, looking at it from Minerva's perspective of seven 'Voting Policy Pillars' that are at the core of our proxy voting research process, and which we have developed over the last 25 years. In using this well-tried approach, the Scheme can be sure that their investment managers voting policies are being carefully considered against current good practice.

More information on our approach can be found in the separate Report Methodology document that accompanied this report.

#### **Table 5: Voting Policy Alignment**

	Manager Voting Policy Alignment with Current Good Practice										
Investment Manager	Audit & Reporting	Board	Capital	Corporate Actions	Remuneration	Shareholder Rights	Sustainability				
BNY Mellon (Newton)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A				
Comments				l bond voting policy. Ty e in relation to corpor							
LGIM	Aligned	Aligned	Aligned	Aligned	Aligned	Aligned	Aligned				
Comments	LGIM's voting policy and disclosures broadly comply with the ICGN Voting Guidelines Principles and good corporate governance practices.										

Manager's voting policy is aligned with this policy pillar of Good Practice

Manager's voting policy has some minor areas of divergence from Good Practice

Manager's voting policy is not aligned with this policy pillar of Good Practice

Manager's voting policy was not disclosed for analysis by Minerva



For the Scheme's managers that responded to our information requests by providing voting information:

- BNY Mellon (Newton) confirmed that they do not have a formal voting policy for bond investments
- LGIM's voting policy is, in our view, broadly in line with good practice, and is what we would expect to see from such a large asset steward

Minerva Says

## 6 Manager Voting Behaviour

The Trustees believe that responsible oversight of investee companies is a fundamental duty of good stewardship. As such, it expects the Scheme's managers to vote at the majority of investee company meetings every year, and to provide sufficient information as to allow for the independent assessment of their voting activity. The table below sets out the voting behaviour as disclosed by the each of the Scheme's managers:

Table 6: Manager Voting Behaviour

			No. of Meetings	No. of Resolutions									
Manager	Fur	nd	Eligible for Voting	Eligible for Voting	% Eligible Voted	% Voted in Favour	% of Voted Against	% Abstain					
	Newton Global Dynamic Bond F	und	3	22	0%	-	-	-					
	Comments:												
BNY Mellon	We had access to summarised voting records for the Global Dynamic Bond Fund. There were three possible votes on holdings for the Global Dynamic Bond Fund that the manager actively decided not to participate in (iShares IV plc - iShares China CNY Bond UCITS ETF, iShares II Public Limited Company - iShares J.P. Morgan \$ EM Bond UCITS ETF and Mitchells & Butlers Finance Plc). This decision was made as the custodian would have 'blocked' the underlying security which means if the manager wanted to trade the holding, it would have to be re-registered, therefore reducing their ability to freely trade. In the case of these votes, the resolutions were not sufficiently contentious to warrant voting against and nor was their support required.												
	Dynamic Diversified Fund		7,193	71,658	99.8%	80.2%	18.9%	0.9%					
	World Equity Index Fund (includ	ling GBP hedged variant)	3,079	36,675	99.8%	80.2%	19.0%	0.9%					
	Comments:												
LGIM	The manager provided a summarised voting record for the funds shown above for the period from 01/04/21 to 31/03/22. This only matched the specific investment holding period for the Dynamic Diversified Fund. From the summarised information provided, we can see that the manager has voted at almost all investee company meetings, which is in line with the Trustees'												
	expectations of the Scheme's investment managers.												
	Information Disclosed	ided	Information N	ot Provided	A	Awaiting Information							



From the limited voting information available, we believe that BNY Mellon and LGIM have followed the Scheme's requirements in relation to voting activity, as stated in the Scheme's SIP:

Minerva

Says

'The Trustees' policy on the exercise of rights attaching to investments, including voting rights, is that these rights should be exercised by the investment manager on the Trustees' behalf, having regard to the best financial interests of the beneficiaries.'

## 7 Significant Votes

Set out in the following section are 5 examples of the Scheme's manager(s) voting behaviour from the relevant fund(s) in which the Scheme was invested. A 'Significant Vote' relates to any resolution at a company that meets one of the following criteria:

- 1. identified by the manager themselves as being of significance;
- 2. contradicts local market best practice (e.g., the UK Corporate Governance Code in the UK);
- 3. is one proposed by shareholders that attracts at least 20% support from investors;
- 4. attracts over 10% dissenting votes from shareholders.

Where the manager has not provided sufficient data to identify 'Significant Votes' based on criteria 2-4 above, we have used manager-identified examples:

#### Table 7.1 LGIM's 'Significant Votes'

Manager	Fund	Company Name	Date of Vote	Summary of Resolution	For / Against / Abstain	Outcome of Vote	Why Significant?		
LGIM	Dynamic Diversified Fund	Barrick Gold Corporation	04/05/21	Resolution 1.2 Elect Director Gustavo A. Cisneros	Withhold	93.0% of shareholders supported the resolution	LGIM views gender diversity as a financially material issue for our clients, with implications for the assets we manage on their behalf.		
		Manager's Vote Rationale:							
		greater gende S&P500 and t	r balance, in 202 he S&P/TSX whe	20, LGIM increased its expectation ere there is less than 25% women of	s on gender diversity o on the board. In 2021, v	As part of our efforts to influence ou on the board by placing a vote against we expanded the scope of our vote p a minimum of 30% women on the bo	the largest 100 companies in the		
	Relevance to Manager's Stated Policy		Company BoardAudit, Risk and Internal ControlRemunerationShareholder and Bondholder RightsSustainability						
Minerva Sa	ays:	We beli	ieve this votin	g activity is consistent with the	e manager's stated p	policy, and so is also consistent w	vith the Scheme's approach.		

Manager	Fund	Company Name	Date of Vote	Summary of Resolution	For / Against / Abstain	Outcome of Vote		Why Significant?		
LGIM	Dynamic Diversified Fund	American Tower Corporation	26/05/21	Elect Director Pamela D.A. Reeve	Against	94.7% of shareholder supported the resolution		LGIM considers this vote to be significant as it is applied under the Climate Impact Pledge, our flagship engagement programme targeting some of the world's largest companies on their strategic management of climate change.		
		Manager's V	ote Rationale	:						
		The company	is deemed to no	t meet minimum standards with reg	ards to climate risk m	anagemer	nt and disclosure.			
Relevance to Stated Polic	o Manager's Y	Compa	ny Board	Audit, Risk and Internal Control	Remuneratio	on Shareholder and Bondholder Rights		Sustainability		
Minerva Sa	ays:	We believe this voting activity is consistent with the manager's stated Policy, and so is also consistent with the Scheme's approach								
Manager	Fund	Company Name	Date of Vote	Summary of Resolution	For / Against / Abstain	С	Outcome of Vote	Why Significant?		
	Dynamic	Union Pacific Corporation	13/05/21	Elect Director Lance M. Fritz	Against		f shareholders ed the resolution	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).		
LGIM	Diversified	Manager's Vote Rationale:								
	Fund	LGIM has a longstanding policy advocating for the separation of the roles of CEO and board chair. These two roles are substantially different skills and experiences. Since 2015 we have supported shareholder proposals seeking the appointment of independent board chairs, and voting against all combined board chair/CEO roles. Furthermore, we have published a guide for boards on the separation of the roles of (available on our website), and we have reinforced our position on leadership structures across our stewardship activities – e.g. via indiventiation of the roles.					d chairs, and since 2020 we are the roles of chair and CEO			
Relevance to Stated Polic	o Manager's Y	Compa	ny Board	Audit, Risk and Internal Control	Remuneratio	Remuneration Shareholder Bondholder		Sustainability		
Minerva Says:		We beli	ieve this votin	g activity is consistent with the	manager's stated p	oolicy, an	d so is also consistent w	ith the Scheme's approach.		

Manager	Fund	Company Name	Date of Vote	Summary of Resolution	For / Against / Abstain	Outcome of Vote	Why Significant?					
		Realty Income Corporation	18/05/21	Elect Director Reginald H. Gilyard	Against	95.9% of shareholders supported the resolution	LGIM views gender diversity as a financially material issue for our clients, with implications for the assets we manage on their behalf.					
LGIM	Dynamic Diversified	Manager's V	Manager's Vote Rationale:									
	Fund	greater gende S&P500 and t	For 10 years, we have been using our position to engage with companies on this issue. As part of our efforts to influence our investee companies on having greater gender balance, in 2020, LGIM increased its expectations on gender diversity on the board by placing a vote against the largest 100 companies in the 5&P500 and the S&P/TSX where there is less than 25% women on the board. In 2021, we expanded the scope of our vote policy to include all companies in the 5&P 500 and the S&P/TSX. Our expectation is for all companies in this market to reach a minimum of 30% women on the board and at senior management level by 2023.									
Relevance to Stated Polic	o Manager's :y	Compa	ny Board	Audit, Risk and Internal Control	Remuneration Shareholder and Bondholder Rights		Sustainability					
Minerva Sa	ays:	We believe this voting activity is consistent with the manager's stated policy, and so is also consistent with the Scheme's approach.										
Manager	Fund	Company Name	Date of Vote	Summary of Resolution	For / Against / Abstain	Outcome of Vote	Why Significant?					
LGIM	Dynamic Diversified Fund	Informa Plc	03/06/21	Resolution 3, Re-elect Stephen Davidson as Director Resolution 5, Re-elect Mary McDowell as Director Resolution 7, Re-elect Helen Owers as Director Resolution 11, Approve Remuneration Report	Against Resolutions 3, 5, 7, and 11 (against management recommendation).	Resolution 3 53.4% of shareholders supported the resolution. Resolution 5 80% of shareholders supported the resolution. Resolution 7 78.1% of shareholders supported the resolution. Resolution 11 38.3% of shareholders supported the resolution.	We consider this vote to be significant as LGIM took the rare step of publicly pre-declaring it before the shareholder meeting. Publicly pre-declaring our vote intention is an important tool for our engagement activities. We decide to pre-declare our vote intention for a number of reasons, including as part of our escalation strategy, where we consider the vote to be contentious, or as part of a specific engagement programme.					
		Manager's Vote Rationale:										

		levels of dissent, wit received over 40% of with the company's in 2020 meeting. Howe weeks after the Deco plan (LTIP) awards w implementation of th Committee for the p persistent concerns,	The company's prior three Remuneration Policy votes – in 2018, June 2020, and at a General Meeting that was called in December 2020 – each received high evels of dissent, with 35% or more of votes cast against. At the December 2020 meeting, the Remuneration Policy and the Equity Revitalisation Plan (EVP) received over 40% of votes against. The EVP was structured to award the CEO restricted shares to a value of 600% of salary. LGIM has noted our concerns with the company's remuneration practices for many years. Due to continued dissatisfaction, we again voted against the proposed Policy at the December 2020 meeting. However, despite significant shareholder dissent at the 2018 and 2020 meetings, the company implemented the awards under the plan, a few weeks after the December meeting. Additionally, the Remuneration Committee has adjusted the performance conditions for the FY2018 long-term incentive plan (LTIP) awards while the plan is running, resulting in awards vesting where they would otherwise have lapsed. Due to consistent problems with the mplementation of the company's Remuneration Policy and the most recent events as described above, LGIM has voted against the Chair of the Remuneration Committee for the past three years. Given the company has implemented plans that received significant dissent from shareholders without addressing bersistent concerns, LGIM has taken the decision to escalate our vote further to all incumbent Remuneration Committee members, namely Stephen Davidson Remuneration Committee Chair), Mary McDowell and Helen Owers.										
Relevance to Manager's Stated Policy		Company Bo	ard	udit, Risk and Internal Control	Remuneration	Remuneration		Sustainability					
Minerva Sa	iys:	We believe this voting activity is consistent with the manager's stated policy, and so is also consistent with the Scheme's approach.											
Manager	Fund	Company Name	Date of Vote	Summary of Resolution	n For / Against / Abstain		outcome of Vote	Why Significant?					
LGIM	World Equity Index Fund	Berkshire Hathaway Inc.	01/05/21	Resolution 1.1 Elect Director Warren E. Buffett	Withhold		of shareholders red the resolution	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).					
LOIM	(GBP Currency	Manager's Vote R	ationale:										
	Hedged)	skills and experience voting against all con (available on our web	LGIM has a longstanding policy advocating for the separation of the roles of CEO and board chair. These two roles are substantially different, requiring distinct skills and experiences. Since 2015 we have supported shareholder proposals seeking the appointment of independent board chairs, and since 2020 we are voting against all combined board chair/CEO roles. Furthermore, we have published a guide for boards on the separation of the roles of chair and CEO (available on our website), and we have reinforced our position on leadership structures across our stewardship activities – e.g., via individual corporate engagements and director conferences.										
Relevance to Manager's Stated Policy		Company I	Board	Audit, Risk and Internal Control	Remuneratio	n Shareholder and Bondholder Rights		Sustainability					

Manager	Fund	Company Name	Date of Vote	Summary of Resolution	For / Against / Abstain	Outcome of Vote	Why Significant?	
LGIM	World Equity Index Fund (GBP Currency Hedged)	ExxonMobil	1.9 Manager Kenneth C F 1.12 Manager Darren W. W 4 Require Inc Chair		LGIM supported resolutions 1.1 to 1.4; we opposed resolutions 1.9 and 1.12; we supported resolution 4.	Results: 1.1: 98.4% of shareholders supported the resolution. 1.2: 96.7% of shareholders supported the resolution. 1.3: 95.3% of shareholders supported the resolution. 1.4: 97.8% of shareholders supported the resolution. 1.9: 93.2% of shareholders supported the resolution. 1.12: 93.4% of shareholders supported the resolution.	We consider this vote to be significant as LGIM took the rare step of publicly pre-declaring it before the shareholder meeting. Publicly pre-declaring our vote intention is an important tool for our engagement activities. We decide to pre-declare our vote intention for a number of reasons, including as part of our escalation strategy, where we consider the vote to be contentious, or as part of a specific engagement programme.	
		Manager's Vote R	ationale:					
		announced our oppor responsibility. As the company around car risks of the energy tr experience and skills needed constructive the company implem	sition to the re- e roles currently bon disclosure a ransition become of the proposed challenge at a ti nents an indepen	election of the company's chair/C remain combined, we therefore w and targets, but we remain concer e increasingly apparent. That is w d four candidates would, in our vie me of industry disruption. LGIM	EO as we believe the roted AGAINST resolu- ned with the strength hy we support activision w, make a positive co- voted FOR resolution	ilM's Climate Impact Pledge engag separation of roles provides a bett ution 1.9 at the 2021 AGM. LGIM of the Exxon's sustainability and o t investor Engine No. 1's proposals ontribution to board effectiveness s 1.1-1.4. As in 2020, we also supp the Board Affairs committee for fa	er balance of authority and acknowledges steps taken by the apital-allocation strategy, as the for board refreshment, as the and oversight, providing much- orted a resolution requesting that	
Relevance to Stated Policy		Company	Board	Audit, Risk and Internal Control	Remuneratio	n Shareholder and Bondholder Right	Sustainability	
Minerva Says:		We believe t	his voting activ	vity is consistent with the mai	nager's stated polic	cy, and so is also consistent wit	h the Scheme's approach.	

Manager	Fund	Company Name	Date of Vote	Summary of Resolution	For / Against / Abstain	Outcome of Vote	Why Significant?				
LGIM	World Equity Index Fund (GBP Currency Hedged)	Wells Fargo & Company	27/04/21	Resolution 7 Report on Racial Equity Audit	LGIM voted for the resolution (management recommendation: against).	12.9% of shareholders supported the resolution.	LGIM views diversity as a financially material issue for our clients, with implications for the assets we manage on their behalf.				
		Manager's Vote Rationale:									
		Diversity: A vote in favour is applied as LGIM supports proposals related to diversity and inclusion policies as we consider these issues to be a material risk to companies.									
Relevance to Manager's Stated Policy		Company Board		Audit, Risk and Internal Control	Remuneratio	n Shareholder and Bondholder Right	Sustainahility				
Minerva Says:		We believe this voting activity is consistent with the manager's stated policy, and so is also consistent with the Scheme's approach.									
Manager	Fund	Company Name	Date of Vote	Summary of Resolution	For / Against / Abstain	Outcome of Vote	Why Significant?				
LGIM	World Equity Index Fund (GBP Currency Hedged)	Informa Pic	03/06/21	Resolution 3, Re-elect Stephen Davidson as Director Resolution 5, Re-elect Mary McDowell as Director Resolution 7, Re-elect Helen Owers as Director Resolution 11, Approve Remuneration Report	Against Resolutions 3, 5, 7, and 11 (against management recommendation).	Resolution 3 53.4% of shareholders supported the resolution Resolution 5 80% of shareholders supported the resolution Resolution 7 78.1% of shareholders supported the resolution Resolution 11 38.3% of shareholders supported the	We consider this vote to be significant as LGIM took the rare step of publicly pre-declaring it before the shareholder meeting. Publicly pre-declaring our vote intention is an important tool for our engagement activities. We decide to pre-declare our vote intention for a number of reasons, including as part of our escalation strategy, where we consider the vote to be contentious, or as part of a				
						resolution	specific engagement programme.				

	The company's prior three Remuneration Policy votes – in 2018, June 2020, and at a General Meeting that was called in December 2020 – each received high levels of dissent, with 35% or more of votes cast against. At the December 2020 meeting, the Remuneration Policy and the Equity Revitalisation Plan (EVP) received over 40% of votes against. The EVP was structured to award the CEO restricted shares to a value of 600% of salary. LGIM has noted our concerns with the company's remuneration practices for many years. Due to continued dissatisfaction, we again voted against the proposed Policy at the December 2020 meeting. However, despite significant shareholder dissent at the 2018 and 2020 meetings, the company implemented the awards under the plan, a few weeks after the December meeting. Additionally, the Remuneration Committee has adjusted the performance conditions for the FY2018 long-term incentive plan (LTIP) awards while the plan is running, resulting in awards vesting where they would otherwise have lapsed. Due to consistent problems with the implementation of the company's Remuneration Policy and the most recent events as described above, LGIM has voted against the Chair of the Remuneration Committee for the past three years. Given the company has implemented plans that received significant dissent from shareholders without addressing persistent concerns, LGIM has taken the decision to escalate our vote further to all incumbent Remuneration Committee members, namely Stephen Davidson (Remuneration Committee Chair), Mary McDowell and Helen Owers.											
Relevance to Manager's Stated Policy		Company	Board	Audit, Risk and Internal Control	Remuneratio	n	Shareholder and Bondholder Rights	Sustainability				
Minerva Sa	iys:	We believe this voting activity is consistent with the manager's stated policy, and so is also consistent with the Scheme's approach.										
Manager	Fund	Company Name	Date of Vote	Summary of Resolution	For / Against / Abstain	O	utcome of Vote	Why Significant?				
	World Equity Index Fund	DISCO Corp.	Corp. 26/06/21 Resolution 2. Sekiya, Kazu		LGIM voted against the resolution (management recommendation: for).	87.7% of shareholders supported the resolution.		LGIM views gender diversity as a financially material issue for our clients, with implications for the assets we manage on their behalf.				
LGIM	(GBP Currency	Manager's Vote R	ationale:			-						
	Hedged)	greater gender balar would be voting agai	For 10 years, we have been using our position to engage with companies on this issue. As part of our efforts to influence our investee companies on having greater gender balance and following a campaign on gender diversity in Japan in 2019, we decided to escalate our voting policy. In 2020, we announced we would be voting against all companies in the large-cap TOPIX 100 index that do not have at least one woman on their board. In 2021, we expanded the scope of our policy to vote against TOPIX Mid 400 companies that do not have at least one woman on the board.									
Relevance to Stated Policy		Company	Board	Audit, Risk and Internal Control	Remuneratio	n	Shareholder and Bondholder Rights	Sustainability				
Minerva Sa	iys:	We believe t	his voting activ	vity is consistent with the ma	anager's stated polic	y, and so	is also consistent with	, n the Scheme's approach.				



LGIM's reported 'Significant Vote' information appears to be consistent with their stated voting policy, and so is consistent with the Trustees' expectations of the Scheme's investment managers

Minerva

Says

### 8 Manager Engagement Information

The Trustees have set the following expectations in the Scheme's SIP in relation to investment managers' engagement activity:

The investment manager should engage with companies to take account of ESG factors in the exercise of such rights as the Trustees believe this will be beneficial to the financial interests of members over the long term. The Trustees will review the investment managers' voting policies, with the help of their investment adviser, and decide if they are appropriate.

The Trustees also expect the fund manager to engage with investee companies or other relevant persons on performance, strategy, capital structure, management of actual or potential conflicts of interest, risks, ESG issues concerning the Trustees' investments.

If the policies or level of engagement are not appropriate, the Trustees will engage with the investment manager, with the help of their investment adviser, to influence the investment manager's policy. If this fails, the Trustees will review the investments made with the investment manager.

The Trustees believe that an important part of responsible oversight is for the Scheme's investment managers to engage with the senior management of investee companies on any perceived risks or shortcomings – both financial and non-financial – relating to the operation of the business, with a specific focus on ESG factors. As such, they expect the Scheme's managers to engage with investee companies where they have identified any such issues. The following table(s) summarises the engagement activity of the manager(s):

Manager	Engagement Information Available?	Level of Available Information	Info Covers Scheme's Reporting Period?	Comments
BNY Mellon (Newton)	YES	FUND	YES	The manager provided detailed fund level engagement information covering the Scheme's reporting period
LGIM	YES	FUND	YES	The manager provided <i>summarised fund level engagement information</i> for the period from 01/04/21 to 31/03/22, rather than for the Scheme's individual investment holding periods
Vontobel	YES	FUND	YES	The manager provided detailed fund level engagement information covering the Scheme's reporting period

#### Table 8.1: Summary of Engagement Information Provided

<b>BNY Mellon</b>							Breakdown of Engagement Topics Covered			
Fu	nd	Period Start	Period End	No. of Engagements	Environmental	Environmental Social (		Other	Resolved	Open
Newton Global Dynam	ic Bond Fund	01/04/21	31/03/22	54	44.4%	37.0%	18.5%	-	52.5%	48.5%
Aspect of Engagement Activity	Details									
Key Points of the Manager's Engagement Policy	<ul> <li>Social: Business relations / Suppl</li> </ul>	risdictions in v og to say with the managem investors are of discussion of E t also involves aterial ESG issu value. Engagen academics or of <u>recent 'Respo</u> Biodiversity ethics / Cybe ly chain	which they in regards the r ent of compar- understood an SG issues that ad hoc engage les. Engageme hent may inclu- other specialis onsible Invest / Carbon mar ersecurity / H	vest. Accordingly nanager's engage nies in which we m ad aligned. Our eng t present material ement with compo int can also encour ide dialogue or col ts, who can provid tment and Stewa nagement / Clima ealth and safety , Board leadership	y, Newton's 'Respon ement approach: ake potential or curr gagement with comp risks or opportunitie anies on ESG issues. rage an improvemen lective engagement le valuable insight in	nsible Invest rent investme pany manager s. Through enga it or change in with other inv to an ESG issi manager ider ement syste anagement /	ment Policies an ents are invaluable ment covers the tr gement, we aim to the behaviour of vestors, industry b ue or a company's ntified the follow ms / Pollution / P Product access /	d Principles' re e to ensure that ading performa o achieve a bet a company wh odies, non-gov activities.' ring key engag Product life cyo	eport from F the requirem ance of the co ter understan ich in turn ca ernmental ement theme cle / Water bility / Stake	ebruary ents of mpany ding of n protect es: holder

	An example of a reported engagement for the Global Dynamic Bond Fund is:
Comparison of the Manager's Engagement Activity vs the Trustees' Policy	29/09/21 - Nationwide Building Society – Engagement on an Environmental Issue 'We attended a specific ESG presentation from senior management on the company's 'greening' of UK homes. While the plan is highly ambitious and a real differentiator from other UK banks, we challenged the lender on whether it can increase the EPC (Energy Performance Certificate) levels of its mortgage book without cutting off lending to less 'green' housing. The bank was confident that it could improve the average EPC ratings through new lending and by supporting existing customers who seek to improve the energy efficiency of their homes.' Engagement Outcome: The manager stated that the engagement was 'Resolved'
Is Engagement Activity in Line with the Trustees' policy?	The engagement activity is consistent with the manager's stated engagement policy, and so is also consistent with the Scheme's approach.

LGIM						Breakdown of Engagement Topics Covered				Outcomes	
F	Fund			No. of Engagements	Environmental	nvironmental Social		Other	Resolved	Open	
Dynamic Diversified Fund		01/04/21	31/03/22	922	34.3%	22.3%	33.5%	9.9%	Not Stated	Not Stated	
World Equity Index Fund (including GBP hedged variant)		01/04/21	31/03/22	872	74.0%	8.6%	17.4%	0.0%	Not Stated	Not Stated	
Aspect of Engagement Activity											
Engagement Activity       Octands         Key Points of the Manager's       LGIM's Investment Stewardship team focuses on client outcomes and broader societal and environmental impacts in its engagements with companies, taking the following six step approach: <ul> <li>Identify the most material ESG issues</li> <li>Formulate a strategy</li> <li>Enhance the power of engagement (e.g., through public statements)</li> <li>Collaborate with other stakeholders and policymakers</li> </ul>											

	<ul> <li>Vote</li> <li>Report to shareholders</li> </ul> From LGIM's most recent <u>Active Ownership Report</u> the manager has identified the following as their top 5 engagement topics: <ol> <li>Climate Change</li> <li>Remuneration</li> <li>Diversity (Gender and Ethnicity)</li> <li>Board Composition</li> <li>Strategy</li> </ol>
Comparison of the Manager's Engagement Activity vs the Scheme's Policy	The manager did not provide details of any specific engagements undertaken during the Scheme's reporting period for either the Scheme's investee funds, or at firm level. We turned to the web to see if we could locate any information relating to any engagements undertaken by LGIM in 2021. We located an 'Active Ownership Report' for 2020, which was published on their website. This report contained some examples of engagement activity undertaken by LGIM at firm level, but as it was published In March 2021 it related to engagement activity undertaken in calendar year 2020. We then located quarterly 'ESG Impact Reports' on the LGIM website. However, these reports do not provide much information on specific engagement activity, either at fund or firm level. We did locate the following engagement information for one holding - Cardinal Health - albeit that is was provided in relation to LGIM filing a Shareholder Resolution (i.e. in voting terms): May 2021 - Cardinal Health - Governance-themed Engagement on the Company's Lobbying Practices 'In May 2021, LGIM America co-filed a shareholder resolution, together with investor colleagues within The Investors for Opioid Accountability (IOPA), asking the company to publish annually an in-depth report disclosing its direct and indirect lobbying engagements with the company, the board agreed to expand its Political Contributions and Activities Report'). Following engagements with the company, whe board agreed to expand its Political Contributions and Activities Report and indirect lobbying expenses exceeding US\$25,000; payments to trade associations and other organisations (including to those that draft and support model legislation); and the approach the company will take when a trade association of which it is a member takes a position which differs from the company's corporate position. Following the engagement LGIM, together with the other co-filing investors, withdrew the shareholder proposal. This is a concret example of using a shareholder proposal as an engagement tool

Is Engagement Activity in Line with the Scheme's Policy?

Whilst we believe that the manager's engagement approach is consistent with the Scheme's approach, we believe that the manager should be able to report more in the way of engagement activity, and also to be able to provide specific examples of engagements at fund level.

Vontobel						Breakdown of Engagement Topics Covered				
F	und	Period Start	Period End	No. of Engagements	Environmental	Social	Governance Other		Resolved	Open
TwentyFour Strategic	c Income	01/04/21	31/03/22	9	44.4%	22.2%	33.3%	-	Not stated	Not stated
Aspect of Engagement Activity	Details									
Key Points of the Manager's Engagement Policy	TwentyFour have made activity: 'The decision to engage w bondholder value in the h TwentyFour's investmen risk to a company's finan issues or the outcome of professionals and are full TwentyFour engages wit and pose questions on op TwentyFour's investmen As a fixed income compa	vith the manag ong-term, spec t professionals cial performar a given propos ly integrated ir h the company perational, stra t professionals	ement of an in cifically the va may engage v nce. The Firm k al will have or nto its investm management tegic, and oth communicate	nvestee company lue of its clients' ir with company man believes that its in bondholder value ent process. t through periodic er management is e internally on the	is primarily based or nvestments. nagement on a varie vestment profession e. As such, all of the l meetings, visits, and sues. status of engagemen	n what Twenty ty of issues, ir als are in the Firm's engage I telephone co	/Four investment ocluding ESG matt best position to ev ment activities are	professionals be ers that present valuate the pote e the responsibi irm investment	elieve will mo a potential i ntial impact lity of investi	aximise material that ESG ment

	While TwentyFour have not explicitly defined their engagement priorities in their policy, they have stated in their latest <u>UK Stewardship Code</u> submission (under Principle 9) engagements undertaken at firm level, along with associated reasons that prompted the engagement.
	An example of a reported engagement undertaken for the Strategic Income Fund is:
	31/03/22 – Barclays Bank – Social and Governance-themed Engagement on Executive Remuneration & Russian Exposure
Comparison of the Manager's Engagement Activity vs the Scheme's Policy	'After hearing that former CEO Jes Staley was still being compensated after stepping down to contest allegations about his relationship with Jeffrey Epstein, we reached out to enquire on the details of this compensation. Additionally, we requested information on the action taken on Russian sanctions and ongoing Russian business. Barclays confirmed that the compensation was in line with their process as set out, and also that there were clawback and malus terms on this compensation if future revelations emerged. It later emerged that Barclays suspended £22million worth of shares while he remains the subject of a regulatory investigation.
	Barclays direct exposure to Russia and Ukraine is limited. They exited Russia as part of the disposal of non-core businesses in 2014-17, and do not have any physical business operations in Russia or Ukraine. They also do not hold any related undertakings (subsidiaries, joint ventures, associates and significant other interests) in both countries. On trading exposure, as with any clients, Barclays will exercise appropriate care and diligence if onboarding Russian entities and clients. They continue to operate according to parameters set out by regulators and international law, including the UK and other applicable sanctions regimes. Worth noting that Barclays does not have a commodities franchise, so the impact on us there is likely to also be limited.'
Is Engagement Activity in Line with the Scheme's Policy?	The engagement activity seems aligned with the manager's stated engagement approach, and so is also consistent with the Scheme's approach.



• As can be seen from the previous tables, the managers' reported engagement approaches appears to be consistent with the Scheme's expectations of them in this stewardship area

Minerva Says However, we remain disappointed that LGIM continue to struggle in terms of reporting engagement activity at client fund investment level. Whilst there have been improvements in the reporting of summarised statistics of engagement activity, there remains work to be done to provide details of specific engagements at the investee fund level

## **9** Conclusion

### 9.1 Assessment of Compliance

In this report, Minerva has undertaken an independent review of the Scheme's external asset managers' voting and engagement activity. The main objective of the review is for Minerva to be in a position to say that the activities undertaken on the Scheme's behalf by its agents are aligned with its own policies.

Set out in the following table is Minerva's assessment of each manager's compliance with the Scheme's approach:

Table 9: Summary Assessment of Compliance

			anager's Repor v the Scheme's I				
Fund / Product Manager	Investment Fund/Product	For Voting Activity	Significant Votes Identified	Engagement Activity	Use of a 'Proxy Voter?'	UK Stewardship Code 2020 Signatory?	Overall Assessment
BlackRock	Corporate Bond Up To 5 Years Index Fund	N.I.R.	N.I.R.	N.I.R.	N/A	YES	N.I.R.
BNY Mellon	Newton Global Dynamic Bond Fund	YES	N.I.R.	YES	N/A	YES	COMPLIANT
	Dynamic Diversified Fund	YES	YES	YES	ISS		COMPLIANT
LGIM	LDI Matching Core Funds	N.I.R.	N.I.R.	N.I.R.	N/A	YES	N.I.R.
	World Equity Index Fund (including GBP hedged variant)	YES	YES	YES	ISS		COMPLIANT
Vontobel	TwentyFour Strategic Income Fund	N.I.R.	N.I.R.	YES	N/A	YES	COMPLIANT
Full Information	Available Partial Information Available (P.I.A) No Information	to Report (N.	I.R.) No Inf	ormation Prov	vided (N.I.P)	Not Appl	icable (N/A)



#### **Overall Assessment:**

We believe that the Scheme's managers have broadly complied with the Scheme's Voting and Engagement requirements of them.

<u>Notes</u>

Minerva Says

1) The preceding table shows that Minerva has been able to determine that:

- From the Voting and 'Significant Vote' information we received from BNY Mellon (Newton) and LGIM, their voting approaches are in step with the Scheme's expectations
- Having reviewed the available engagement information for the Scheme's managers, their overall engagement approaches also seem in step with the Scheme's expectations
- 2) All of the Scheme's investment managers are signatories to the UK Stewardship Code 2020

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Minerva helps investors and other stakeholders to overcome data disclosure complexity with robust, objective research and voting policy tools. Users can quickly and easily identify departures from good practice based on their own individual preferences, local market requirements or apply a universal good practice standard across all markets.

For more information, please email hello@minerva.info or call + 44 (0)1376 503500

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