

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

POLICY ON SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT

Leeds University Endowment Fund (the Fund) expects its investment managers, as part of their normal investment research and analysis process, to take account of social, environmental and ethical considerations in the selection, retention and realisation of investments. This is insofar as these matters are regarded as materially impacting on the current and future valuations of individual investments. Taking account of such considerations is seen as forming part of the investment managers' normal fiduciary duty.

Moreover, the Fund considers that companies' effective management of the risks associated with social, environmental and ethical matters can lead to long term financial benefits. As such, the Fund also believes that it has a commitment to ensuring that companies in which it invests adopt high ethical standards and responsible attitudes towards the environment. To this end, the Fund encourages its investment managers to raise issues with companies in which it invests, to raise standards in a way which is consistent with improvements in long term shareholder value.

Where appropriate, the Fund would expect the issues raised with companies to include the following:

Environment	The quality of their environmental management, policies and reporting, their efficient use of resources and any pollution convictions that they may have.
Overseas Operations	Their policies towards human rights, the nature of any operations in the third world and their observance of labour standards. Also their marketing techniques, supply chain management and the quality of internal controls.
Workplace	Their approaches to equal opportunities, training, health and safety and employee welfare.
Product/Service	The effect of the manufacture and sale of their products and services on public health and safety. The significance and benefits of any positive products and services.
Community	Their involvement and impact in local communities both in the UK and overseas, the extent and nature of charitable donations and the significance of any advertising complaints.
Political Activity	The extent to which they donate money and/or services to local, national and international political bodies. The extent of any lobbying activity and membership of lobby groups.

Approved by the University Council
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