University of Glasgow

Policy on Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) - July 2021

The University Court is committed to socially responsible investment. It does so through setting policy and via its Investment Advisory Committee (IAC) and its fund managers. IAC will require managers who undertake active investment on its behalf to properly consider Environmental Social and Governance (ESG) issues in their investment decisions.

IAC will also require all managers to monitor the activities of companies with regard to ESG and to have a policy of engaging with companies on these issues to encourage positive changes.

When a fund manager does not adequately follow this line, the University will consider changing the manager at an appropriate point in time. When considering which managers to appoint for a mandate the University will use that managers approach to ESG as one of the key criteria in its decision making.

The University will continue to instruct its fund managers not to invest in the tobacco industry because of the harm smoking causes. Fund managers are also required to abide by the University's policy regarding investments in the oil and gas sectors which commits the University to progressively divest from companies producing fossil fuels by 2024. Fund managers are also required to take divest from companies which seriously breach of international treaties to which the UK is a signatory.

The University has also become a member of the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change and Climate Action 100. It will work with these groups to support positive change in companies.

Fund managers are required to supply copies of their voting records in relation to companies they invest in.

Groups from within the University may make representations in respect of an investment or investments held by the University, where those groups have concerns. Representations should be made in writing to the University Secretary. Such representations will be considered on the following basis:

- 1. The key criteria against which specific cases would be considered would be (a) whether the issue raised was wholly contrary to the University's value systems either as reflected in the Mission Statement or the Strategic Plan; or (b) whether it raised wider issues of social, environmental and humanitarian concern.
- 2. Representations should be related to industries or specific companies whose activities or values appear on the basis of clear evidence to be so far removed from the University's core values as to give grounds for serious concern.
- 3. Cases would be considered by a Court group in the first instance. The group would comprise two lay members of Court, a Senate Assessor, an SRC representative from Court, the Director of Finance and the University Secretary. The group would take into account the current extent of the fund managers' engagement with the industry or company with respect to the concerns raised.
- 4. The group might recommend to the Court that it should disinvest in the company. The Investment Advisory Committee would be requested to make the financial consequences of such a decision clear to the group during the course of its deliberations.

Reports on the implementation of this policy will be submitted annually to the Finance Committee, which includes student representation (President of the Students Representative Council). In addition, the University will publish annually on its website a list of companies and other funds in which investments are held.