



BALLIOL
COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

College Policy on Socially Responsible Investment

The College is committed to ensuring that it makes investment decisions responsibly and with integrity. To this end, the College will follow certain principles and practices to guide the investment decision-making process.

1. College Principles of Responsible Investment

- a. The College believes that by engaging in the broad set of extra-financial considerations - including environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues - the long-term financial performance of the portfolio as well as the alignment between the objectives of the College endowment and society at large can be improved.
- b. The College has long been associated with freedom of expression and social justice. Decisions taken in respect of the College endowment should respect and be consistent with this history.
- c. The College appreciates that as a high profile public institution, the responsibility to act and to be seen to act with integrity is of great importance.

2. College Practices in Managing the Endowment

- a. When investing directly in the securities of individual companies, then the College will screen investments on ethical grounds and, where the activities of a company are, on ethical grounds, inconsistent with the educational and/or research objectives of the College, then the Investment Committee may choose not to invest even though this may reduce returns.
- b. When investing through passive investment vehicles where investments are determined by the composition of financial markets (such as equity

trackers), then the College will seek out, where appropriate, passive investment strategies that positively select holdings on ethical grounds, unless the Investment Committee judges that so doing will have a negative impact on expected returns.

- c. When the endowment assets are invested in active funds, where investment decisions are delegated to a third party, then the selected asset managers will be periodically interviewed about their values and their approach to integrating ESG criteria into their investment process when exercising voting rights, to the extent they hold equity.
- d. The College will ensure that any investment advisers appointed to provide advice will understand and accept the ethical standards expected in management of the portfolio. Fund managers will be actively screened on the basis of their adherence with internationally accepted ethical standards, such as the UK Stewardship Code.

The College Investment Committee will annually review compliance with the above principles and practices to ensure that ethical standards are maintained.

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