



## Responsible Investment Survey: Responses to Question 13.

The table below shows the responses from the Cumbria Pension Fund's Responsible Investment Survey to Question 13: Do you have any additional comments you would like to share regarding Cumbria Pension Fund's Responsible Investment policy?

No.	Response
1	Look after my future please
2	each investment should be made with the welfare of the planet and all it's
	inhabitant's best interests in mind, rather than being based on total financial gain.
3	I would like the best return for the investments and consider environmental and
	ethical considerations a lower issue than suitable returns. It took me a long time to
	achieve pension age and want a reasonable standard of living now, and not be
	responsible for politicians back mistakes who have a much better pension than I do.
4	Cumbria Pension Fund should always invest in the right sort of companies that
	respect people's rights but not these WOKE False Companies.
5	Completely agree we should be focused on securing the best possible returns for
	our hard-working members, not diminishing their contributions through seeking to
	achieve political goals regarding climate change and biodiversity. To abandon that
	fundamental principle would be a very dangerous principle and I would regard it as a
	misuse of the funds entrusted to the scheme.
6	Keep up the good work. Thank you for inviting me to be involved in survey. What a
	positive idea.
7	There is no point having more money in a society which is struggling to survive due
	to climate breakdown. We need to immediately divest from fossil fuels for any hope
	of a secure future.
8	I think that it is shameful that my pension fund is actively supporting the fossil fuel
	and animal agriculture industries. These are the very industries that are threatening
	our very existence. There will be no pensions on a dead planet, we are reaching or
	have already passed critical tipping points, and we need to learn to manage our
	lives to use no fossil fuels and to eat plant-based diet (which is also better for our
	health). We all are clear about the damage that burning fossil fuels is causing.
	Animal agriculture is contributing a fifth of carbon outputs and is almost entirely
	responsible for biodiversity loss. Why is CPF supporting these industries when it
	claims to be a climate leader and W&FC has declared climate emergency?
	Stranded assets are a real financial threat to the investments you hold. If
	investments are doing well now, then its a good time to sell them. Oil prices are
	extremely volatile, so I do not agree that it makes financial sense for a pension fund
	(which should be looking towards the long term, not the short term) to be investing
	in them. The pension fund should be about meeting it's obligations not about
	maximising returns at all costs. We are facing an existential threat, please do the
	right thing and clean up CPF with immediate effect. Engagement with these
	industries does not work, there is no evidence that it has worked over many years,





1	they have massive lobbying resources, and you need to see beyond their
	assurances and make the decision to divest as soon as possible. Speedy
	divestment is possible - as happened when Russia invaded Ukraine, it just needs
	the political will. Other LGPS have already done this, please follow their lead.
	Thank you very much for doing this survey, its so good to have an opportunity to
	express my concerns. follow their lead. Thank you very much for doing this
	survey, its so good to have an opportunity to express my concerns.
9	Keep investing in the coal industry. I want to see the mine at Whitehaven open for
	business.
10	A more simplified (e.g. 1 or 2 sides of A4) annual summary statement on policy /
	investments / performance might be helpful and more engaging. Not everyone
	wants to read the 76 page Annual Report and Accounts.
11	I think the pension is well managed and hope for its continuance.
12	Thank you for raising these important issues
13	30 years ago I sat on the Pension Board as a representative of Naldo/Unison. I
	submitted a paper advocating the Fund adopt a policy of ethical investment which
	was received skeptically and brought about no fundamental change. Now we are in
	a mess with climate change the Fund has woken up, perhaps. Otherwise we will not
	be here to enjoy our pensions. I found a fault in the survey. In the multiple choice
	lists "Do you strongly agree" to "Do you strongly disagree" If I touched the top one it
	lit up the star alongside. If I touched the second star below it lit up that star and the
	one above. If I touched the bottom star all the options above were lit up as well!!
14	Divest in fossil fuels immediately
14 15	Keep employee contributions as low as possible but put more thought into what
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	remains habitable in the future. I would be really proud if Cumbria pension fund
	could be an example to other funds about ethical and responsible investment.
18	Please divest from fossil fuels - they are a long term risk as they are likely to
	become stranded assets. Also, it's the responsible thing to do for the broader
	population and the planet
19	Many thanks for reviewing your investment policies and inviting the opportunity for
	consultation / comment
20	The first Q in the Investment policy section is difficult to square - You have put
	Fossil Fuels - in a different category to Climate Change but Climate Change is
	caused largely by the burning of fossil fuel so it should be in the same category. Big
	Oil Co' Boards such as BPs regularly dilute their sustainability policies according to
	what suits them best so its not OK to invest in them because you trust their claims
	that 'they will do better'
21	Fossil fuels while currently offering high returns in the short term threaten the
L	survival of our species. That makes them a bad long-term investment.
22	With current political, economical and environmental issues that we are facing in the
	UK and globally, ethical not only responsible investing must be taken into the
	account as these investments can fuel things that we will not benefit from in the
	long run - like wars, climate change and decreasing social securities. Even if in
	short run we gain more returns by investing in unethical or less responsible way, this
	will have worse impact in the future where irresponsible unethical investments
	contribute to wars, conflicts, environmental and socital degradation. These will impact
	us all negatively.
23	As a pension fund you should try to ring out every penny of investment return
	possible and not bother with this environmental nonsense. Focus on our pensions
	and keeping Council Tax lower please.
24	It's really important that we all use our investments to influence big business change
	- it's the only way to secure a sustainable future.
25	I think it's great to support investments that are in the interest of the environment
	and ethics - however, as long as the companies actually do and it's not just the
	usual pretence/ propaganda
26	Fossil fuel and nuclear investment should be removed from the pension fund
	portfolio as neither is environmentally sustainable in the short or long term
27	Ultimately the sole responsibility of Cumbria Pension Fund is to get the best returns
	for its members. It is not to advance ludicrous political and social justice agendas
	like ESG investing nor crazy, ruinous and anti-human policies such as the Net-Zero
	agenda. It is already becoming apparent that these agendas are financially
	disastrous and ultimately will have terrible consequences both for investments,
	investors and populations generally. These are agendas which non-accountable,
	arrogant and hubristic elites are trying to foist on populations across the globe no
	matter the consequences. These include the United Nations (Agenda 2030
	sustainable development goals) via its elite corporate apologist partner the World
	Economic Forum, as well as individual billionaires such as Larry Fink of Blackrock
	and Bill Gates via the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. If Cumbria Pension Fund
	were to adopt ESG and Net Zero policies it would be aligning itself with these





	malevolent and totalitarian elites in promoting terrible policies, particularly impacting the investment in fossil fuels and related technologies which are going to be needed for decades to come as current 'renewable' technology is neither renewable, environmentally friendly or impact free and provides a disastrously poor energy return on investment (particularly wind and solar).
28	I think anything that helps to protect the environments essential
29	Safe and secure investing is paramount.
30	I think the influence the Fund can have on other organisations is probably limited.
	Also that there may be a conflict between responsible and ethical investment at
	times. However as the world is fundamentally in an environmental and moral crisis I'm on the side of ethical.
31	All I would like to say is that it is brilliant and I would recommend everyone to the
	Cumbria Pension fund
32	I think our pension fund needs protecting for us all, when we will need it one day.
33	I found question 1 irritating. I don't want to choose between the scientific reality of climate change, ethical issues, fairness about employers contributions and good governance. Firstly, nothing can be achieved without good governance. Secondly it like asking which do you need more transport, a cooker or a toilet, they all do different things and I find being asked to rank them disingenuous. Divesting from companies that cause climate change is not an ethical question it's an issue of scientific fact. Investing in companies with an environmental justice approach would be an ethical question. Personally I would support this. I want my pension invested in the future that I want. Investing in anything that harms my future, such as oil/gas is nonsensical.
34	Responsible investment is obviously key to decisions made and probably needs to be constantly reviewed and changed or negotiated with companies you work with. in the present politically dire situation in the uk a close has to be kept on greed and power which your negotiaters need to be aware of! The above survey covers many good points.
35	I think this survey, and support in reading it and understanding it, should be available to everyone.
36	Just concentrate on getting a decent pension for the people who have worked hard for you and stop messing about trying to save the planet. Some of us rely on our pensions for our daily existence.
37	Specifically the Pension fund should ensure that its investments do not directly nor indirectly invest where slavery or child labour is involved. Eg, sweatshops
00	food/clothes manufacture, food stuffs of Cocoa / coffee / banana production.
38	I just think it is all so woke
39	look at Energy4All, a local renewable energy company https://energy4all.co.uk/ Energy4All supports 30 community co-ops; 10 solar PV sites, 12 wind sites, 6 hydro
	sites, 1 biomass site and Energy Prospects. there are many similar companies
40	Do not forget that Sellafield and BAE Systems generate massive amounts of money which flows into this county. Responsible Investment of Cumbria Pension funds
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	should protect Cumbrian jobs by not excluding nuclear power and defence
	contractors from a funds portfolio.
41	Focus on administration of pension and not on a sop to wokism. This survey
	unnecessary
42	I don't understand why both responsible and ethical views cannot be taken into
	account and why your question at the beginning of the survey frames this as an
	either/or choice.
43	ESG is a good thing to consider but it shouldn't be sought at the detriment of the
	fund or without the same rigorous research and justification that other investments
	would be subject to. There are highly likely to be 'booms' and 'busts' (dips and
	troughs) in ESG markets and the Cumbria Pension Fund MUST be alert to this risk
	and carry out due diligence on any divergence of investment to the ESG market
	from a long-term and short-term fund insurance and security viewpoint. ESG is in
	vogue - beware of a crash in these funds when it isn't. Some consideration of
	ESG should be in the general decision-making process for all general investments
	by the Fund because climate change and nature do affect the future ability to earn
	from the natural capital of the earth's resources. Therefore general investments with
	an ESG policy are favourable and a small percentage of funds should also be
	looking towards supporting ESG specific funds /projects as a general insurance
	policy for society and the Fund and its members.
44	Continue with present policy
45	Very happy with the administration.
46	I accept that, particularly at a time of high cost of living and inadequate increases in
	incomes, whether earned or from pensions, it is important to maximise income for
	the fund. However, I don't feel that this should be at the expense of ethical or moral
	considerations - a difficult balance for the trustees to maintain. I'm glad that it's not
	my task to do this!
47	Good governance is fundamental for long term returns
48	If a company (in which the pension fund invests) carries out activities that are
	unethical then it is unacceptable for the pension fund to invest in that firm. By
	investing in that the firm the pension fund is complicit in the unethical and immoral
	activity. Would the pension fund knowingly invest in a firm that was known to use
	sweated labour? Paralell to this is to ask whether the pension fund would have
	invested in the slave trade on the basis that it gave excellent financial returns
49	Thanks for asking & listening to our views.
50	The Pension Fund should maintain focus on its existing responsibilities.
51	As a responsible Pension Fund, prior to any investment decision sufficient and
	correct due dilligence should be carried out to ensure the Pension Fund is investing
	in a company which is acting responsibly in regards to governance, climate change,
	environmental pollutants, nature preservation etc. This would then generate a Risk
	Rating Scorecard prior to any investment allowing the Pension Fund to be proactive
	rather than reactive. The potential companies looking to be invested in should be
	dedicating their time and resources into correcting their practices to be compliant I
	don't believe it is up to the Pension Fund to utilise their funds to help them correct





	this. Administration and providing information to members of the Pension Fund is
	also an area which I believe would benefit from further audits to ensure staff are
	fulfilling the responsibilities of their role and providing a high quality service.
52	Hopefully the right decisions will be made
53	I disagree with diversity in all it's forms. It is purely a means of discrimination against
	white men in particular and do not want my contributions to influence board Room
	behaviours that do this. We are making a terrible mistake as a country and creating
	enormous damage to young boys and men.
54	Thank you for writing about this
55	Your one and only job is to get the very best returns possible to make fund
	members comfortable in retirement. If it's legal and it makes above average returns -
	invest in it. It is not your job to use our retirement funds to salve your social and
	political consciences.
56	Thanks for all you do.
57	Obviously any co-operation with other Fund Holders should only be followed if the
01	ethical and moral basis for those funds mirror those of the CPF's RIP.
58	I just trust the fund to handle my pension fund in a responsible manner
59	It is very hard for old men to have realistic opinions on this subject. It is important
39	however to maintain the pension fund in good order for future generations of LG
	Officers
	I think having a fund that invests in clean, green and ethical companies is
	achievable without compromising return on investment. Green technologies are a
	huge and expanding market, whereas fossil fuel investment needs to stop and will
	die out. We should be able to protect our nature and climate without compromising
	our pension fund with the right skills and expertise
60	Maintain the maximum payouts.
61	Please do not invest in fossil fuels
62	I was once told by an investment manager to split my investments so that 1/7th is in
	high risk, 2/7ths in medium risk and 4/7ths in low risk funds. The value of these
	"pots" to be reviewed at least 6-monthly.
63	Keep up the excellent work
64	It's encouraging to see that Cumbria Pension Fund is keen to take an active role in
	responsible investing.
65	I think that the Cumbria Pension Fund should continue to have a diverse investment
	structure and not rely too much on tourism
66	It is you responsibility to get the best return on investments for you customers. They
	can decide where their money goes! You shouldn't invest in schemes you know are
	going to return less just so you can virtue signal
67	Keep investing in companies with a good return.
68	So far I believe it is being managed well. I'm in receipt of my late husband's
	pension.
69	Slavish adherence to 'Net Zero' objectives will bankrupt countries and organizations.
	There is no 'climate emergency'. Windpower fails to operate if no wind and solar
	does not function at night. Fossil fuels will be required for the forseeable future and
	4000 Hot randition at hight. I 00011 facility will be required for the forse-eable fature and





	any long term responsible investment strategy will acknowledge this and place investments accordingly. The ESG agenda represents a dangerous attempt at top down stalinist globalism. Investment strategies need to reflect the real life requirements of the fund contributors and not the fantasy wish lists of the United Nations, the World Economic Forum or COP28.
70	It is not just energy and climate change that should inform investment policy.  Armaments manufacture should be considered as unethical, and minerals metals producers should be scrutinised.
71	Its through the vast investment power than you and other pensions schemes have to positively influence change in large corporations and support new companies in making a brighter future for our children
72	As with the form of many of the questions, the use here of the word "responsible" left it difficult to depart from current cautious policies without appearing to be "irresponsible". My view is that you should be proactively prioritising climate change-related measures and social impact in making investment decisions. With manifold crises upon us, I do not believe much confidence can be had in any long term forecasts, especially those related to those sectors which are adversely affected by and/or seeking to feed off these crises, e.g. fossil fuel, resource extraction, arms development and manufacture, exploitative production. In these circumstances you should be doing the right thing to help redirect the economy onto a sustainable and just path. That trumps everything, otherwise we're all sunk.
73	Cumbria County Council is in the lowest 15% of councils for climate mitigation steps. Everything Cumbria Pension Fund can do to improve that situation should be taken
74	Protect the pensioners
75	I think the importance, and indeed urgency of reducing carbon emissions and stopping trashing the planet matters so much more than profit soon we won't have anywhere to spend the money! Wake up!
76	Divest from all fossil fuel industries and animal agriculture industry. the terminology should be climate emergency rather than climate change
77	People will always require the best return possible on their pensions
78	Thank you for consulting members.
79	Thank you for your commitment to responsible investment
80	The pension fund should be actively moving away from animal agriculture, given the widespread biodiversity, environmental, pollution and animal abuse issues for which it is directly culpable.
81	Info not accept the thinking that climate change is a result of the West and pollution. It cannot be cured by man and certainly not by batteries or moving wholesale production to China. Current scientific thinking puts CO 2 behind warming, not the other way round. I e the world warms and then CO2 increases.
82	I think we collectively need to take bold steps to ensure disinvestment in fossil fuels and invest in biodiversity and greener firms. Shareholder engagement is very limited in effectiveness-affecting the bottom line is likely to be more effective.
83	i would the employer to pay more towards the pension fund





84	I don't know enough about the balanced decisions that have to be made when
	making enormous investments, but I'm reassured that the Fund appears to be
	taking their responsibilities very seriously
85	maximum return should be the priority - as the money invested belong to members
	not the scheme- it is not the schemes place to judge companies - it is its place to get
	maximum profit for its members
86	I think it is important not to be involved in politics when investing. Also to not be
	swayed by lobby groups.
87	Yes. I do not believe that making profits from energy generation is sustainable as it
	is a national resource. Energy production is essential to life, so any profits
	generated from energy should be reinvested in infrastructure to benefit consumers
	not profit from them.
88	Stop bothering with woke nonsense.
89	I believe the best possible return should be the aim, while avoiding unnecessary
	risk. If this can be achieved through green investments, then so be it, but not at the
	cost of benefits to the members, long term.
90	Invest for a sustainable future
91	The fund should consider investment returns that can be obtained from China,
	Russia and the countries within the B.R.I.C.S, and without political prejudice.
92	Please stick to maximising returns on our investment rather than trying to get
	involved in politics and other distractions. Stay in your lane.
93	Glad to take part in such surveys
94	The Fund has an important but difficult balance to achieve in delivering sufficient
	returns to meet current and future pension liabilities while attempting to maintain or
	reduce the cost to the Scheme employers, particularly the Principal Employers.
95	'Green money' is one of the primary ways that we can influence and direct future
	policy and investments in our shared future, far beyond individual payouts on
	pensions. You have such capacity to create real change with the value of the
	investments that you hold, and I find it intensely frustrating that you choose to do
	this in a very limited way, focussing on finance and numbers only, not our shared
	future. It is ludicrous, almost insanity, to ignore the potential consequences of
	climate change for those of us who are a long way from taking our pensions. The
	costs of mitigating against climate change in future years are far greater than trying
	to deal with it now. You seem to be taking a view that your members' interests are
	far more important than the future of the whole planet - but the money that you offer
	in the future will be worth far less if we have to spend inordinate amounts in
	combating the effects of uncontrolled climate change, individually and collectively.
	You note that you think you have 'influence' where you keep investments in
	companies that are energy producing. Can you really demonstrate how you have
	used this influence to persuade those companies you have invested in, to make
	positive climate action? Speaking of influence is worthless unless you can
	demonstrate changes you have been involved in. Your current preferred
	approach is greenwashing, nothing more. Your current approach demonstrates





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	be contributing in away way to these markets. I also don't think we should be
	making investments that are in any way related to china at this current time. Finally,
	I was a little confused about the option to prioritise maintaining or reducing employer
	contributions. I would absolutely prioritise maintaining employer contributions, I
	wouldn't however prioritise reducing employer contributions, but I may have
	misunderstood the statement.
113	Climate change is the most important challenge of our time, and we have to take all
113	action to disinvest in fossil fuel activities - immediately
114	I have a local authority pension, West Yorkshire. My answers to your survey would
114	be the same if I was responding to them. Look, science tells us the chances of
	human survival are in the balance so to me it is madness to not divest. I also do
	not see why CPF do not divest, when the percentage investment in fossil fuels is
	such a small percentage of the total investment. In that case, why make a big deal of it? However I suspect that like almost all other pension funds and banks you will
	continue intill the bitter end, probably until you are ordered to stop, not by your own
	decision. If you do not stop you will be condemed by future generations. The
	current situation is already bleak in many developing countries, most of whom have
	not caused this problem. Our future in the west is also obvious to many of us. I just
	hope the someone in the investment sector will have the guts to be the first to
	change, please.
115	It's important to ensure there is a balance between ensuring the portfolio is invested
110	appropriately to get the best returns for its members ensuring financial viability and
	responsible and ethical investing.
116	Should not invest in the arms and armaments industry in any form no what the
110	econicla benefits may be.
117	should ensure any company invested in meets minimum standards around modern
	slavery, pay, workers protection etc and not invest in any company that has
	detrimental impact on communities & welfare of employees
118	Responsible investment includes the need to have balanced investment does not
	place a disproportionate ampunt in individuals sectors or investments.
119	you have done very well in the past and I have every faith in it for the future. Thank
	you for your good work and you are going in the right direction.
	While I believe share ownership can influence company policy I would hope that you
	would get out of fossil fuels asap. I have done this with my own investments and
	replaced with renewables and suffered no economic detriment. Cop28 shows that
	climate policy has been co-opted and undermined by oil States and companies and
	they cannot be bargained with
120	I hope that the pension fund will rule out investments in companies linked to fossil
	fuel extraction, and put funds into renewable energy and creating decent green jobs,
	as well as the care/social profit economy.
121	I feel we are at a stage where the fight to avoid the worst effects of climate change
	has to be humanity's top priority.
122	I would treat investment in carbon based fuels as a risky investment for the long
	term from an ESG angle.





Responsible investment is a long term project - it should therefore look to the state of investing and society in the medium to long term. Net Zero and reducing impact on species and nature are both long term ambitions that need finance and support now. Without reducing our negative environmental impact we will have nothing left 124 Should not invest in any coal, oil or petroleum companies. 125 Keep up the good work! 126 The fund, including individual councillors and the overall council, should prioritise the interests of members and employers. 127 By not supporting companies that contribute to climate change I.e. oil and gas, will mean that they should start investing their millions in developing sustainable energy. Time is running out and these companies should be forced to think more about climate and the planet than the profits they can make 128 In spite of the efforts of the fossil fuel industry to promote the continued use of these fuels they will be phased out because public are becoming aware of the impact on the environment. Therefore it makes sense to divest from such investments because they are not a reliable long term prospect. 129 It is important to be responsible with pension funds with a long view as to how they increase in value. This should be balanced carefully alongside Climate Change investments. Green energy is now the norm and should be seen by investors as such, it is no longer the 'new kid on the block'. Profits are already being enjoyed by Green Energy firms, so let's join in. Investment into Green Energy means that everyone will benefit, young and old alike. The generations coming up are the ones who will really save the planet, we need to give them hope and pave the way for 130 Divestment from fossil fuels as quickly as possible is the top priority 131 The fact that you're sending out this survey alone is very reassuring. Keep up the good work. Beware of potential stranded assets. 132 133 There is no evidence that remaining as shareholders in fossil fuel companies that continue to damage the environment, in order to influence through engagement on the inside, has any impact on how these companies operate. By remaining as shareholders, we merely legitimise their damaging operations. Divesting from fossil fuel companies sends a clear signal that fossil fuels are the past, not the future, and frees funds up to invest in green alternatives such as renewable energy. 134 Investment in green infrastructure should carefully consider social and environmental risks through out the supply chain, for example, batteries are associated with child labour, environmental degradation, and difficulty at the point of recycling/disposal. Investing in such technologies because they are "green" would not necessarily represent a positive step if wider contextual factors are not considered. 135 security for those no longer investing in the pension due to leaving the employment I believe the CPF is not taking the risk of "stranded assets" seriously enough. Continuing to invest in fossil fuels is not only morally irresponsible but also





	financially irresponsible. These "assets" will tumble in value as more and more
	people and organisations divest and recognise that they must be left in the ground
	to increase the likelihood of a viable, liveable future.
136	Please invest responsibly, i.e. ensure the security of the fund value whilst also
	striking a balance with 'doing the right thing' with regards humanity and the
	environment.
137	Investments should reflect the social and environmental aspirations of local
	authorities (not just how central government drives compromises). It reflects longer
	term potential realities
138	The fund should not invest in anything that directly or indirectly supports repressive
	regimes such as the state of Israel or Saudi Arabia, etc.
139	I would like you to disinvest in organisations that make or sell military hardware. I
	would like you to disinvest in fossil fuel companies.
140	It's good to be invited to give an opinion, and the survey was excellent with all
	elements clearly explained - thank you
141	Stay away from wind farms. Eyesores and an environmental misnomer
142	keep up the good work
143	Do invest in green energy.
144	I appreciate being asked about these things
145	Think that responsible investment policies open us opportunities for new industries
	and greater investment returns.
146	The Fund should concentrate on it's primary purpose which is to maximise returns
	for its members. The Fund should not get involved in following today's latest trendy
	fad which could be completely different tomorrow.
147	Support diversity in the board
148	I understand that the Government is asking Pension Funds to invest in particular
	ways to support the economy, I think your assessments of which companies are
	likely to prove profitable should be made independent of Government views.
149	Just to say thank you to the people who are taking the time to do all this work. Big
	finance is beyond me!
150	Green energies etc must give comparable returns to hydrocarbons etc, taking the
	moral high ground should not be financially detrimental to the funds ability to
	accumulate wealth for its members
151	Thank you for asking. I look forward to hearing the results.
152	It was impossible for me and quite possibly many other respondents, to give an
	informed answer to several of these questions because no independent background
	information was supplied. I would have liked for example to have been provided with
	information on what currently constitutes best practice in responsible pension fund
	investing in the UK and beyond.
153	Invest in companies that will provide the energy of the future not fossil fuel based, it
4 - :	is only when we pass the tipping point of investment will we see an end to oil.
154	The question on Infrastructure was far from clear. This states that the Cumbria
	Pension funds are involved in owning and operating energy production and
	distribution companies. It then goes on to talk about the proportion invested in green





	energy production. I have a strong feeling that this is 'Greenwashing', and suspect that the proportion invested in fossil fuels is by far the greater part. The single most important thing that any investor can do for our future is to divest itself of income from fossil fuels
155	I do not want one penny of my pension contributions to be invested in fossil fuel companies. I would rather the money was invested in renewable energy schemes, even if this ultimately means less returns on my pension.
156	There won't be a pension fund to protect if climate change carries on at the rate it's going.
157	It should be open and transparent in all its dealings and respond to its members in a timely manner.
158	Just don't let central govt asset strip my pension
159	Surveys like this are a positive step , acting on the results and feedback on them also very important
160	I hold strong views that the CPF should make environmentally sound investments for the long term benefit of its employees and residents and the rest of the world!
161	Why would the Fund accept the onerous task of engaging with fossil fuel, weaponry and tobacco companies? I don't want to be a shareholder in those companies.
162	It is good to see the issues being taken seriously.
163	Divestment away from fossil fuel companies should be a top priority as these will be stranded assets in a few years.
164	Divestment from fossil fuel investments should be a top priority. Other local government pension schemes have done this so there is no reason it can't be done. I am extremely disappointed that although I am a member of the Cumbria LGPS, I have not had direct communication about this consultation. It was shared with me by a friend who is not in the scheme!
165	The pension fund needs to operate to fulfill its purpose and provide the best returns for its members within the recognised lawful framework. Political, minority views and trends should not have any bearing especially if this is at detriment to any members.
166	My main concern is "who determines what is ethical, responsible etc. The pension scheme must guard against being politicised.
167	Whilst I generally support the shift towards ethical and green investment, this should not be at the detriment of existing members. Countries such as the US and China are the biggest polluters in the world and still remain ambivalent to climate change. More needs to be done to educate and influence them.
168	It is in everyone's interest that pension investment moves forward with climate change.
169	Investment decisions should by and large be made in the interests of scheme members, not normally for other reasons.
170	I am very pleassed to see that the policy is being reviewed and hope there will be disinvestment from fossil fuel as soon as possible





171	Climate change, the environment, flora and fauna need immediate action and working to mediate the effects of climate change is vital for all nations. Likewise the
	human right to fair work and pay should be in the reach of everyone.
172	It should look at divesting from anything supporting or based in Israeli businesses
	based in the occupied Palestinian Territories as they are illegal- therefore unethical.
173	How funds are invested is one of the most effective ways in which an individual or
	organisation can contribute to either alleviating or further exacerbating the climate
	and ecological crises. This responsibility must be taken.
174	Net zero is not possible and misleading. It's a tick box exercise and not what I want
	my pension involved with.
175	The costs involved in retiring into a heated world might significantly affect the real
	value of a recipient's pension. Therefore it is the responsibility of Pension Fund
	investors to do whatever they can to help deliver a world which is capable of
	sustaining retirees!
176	Regarding types of investment by the pension Fund:- there should be no investment
	in tobacco, or armaments.
177	I think it would be advantageous to take a view whereby the Fund looked at returns
	needed to meet its investment objectives, rather than maximising returns for short
	term profit. It is important that the Fund considers crucial long term issues such
	climate change and biodiversity loss and works to mitigate these. And also that it
	considers the financial risk of investing in fossil fuels with the increasing risk of
	stranded assets as the climate emergency worsens and risk of regulation and action on climate change increases.
178	Providing investments are within the law I believe that your sole purpose is to
170	maximum your return on investments. Climate change et al are irrelevant. On
	receiving my pension I can choose to support that or other causes.
179	I am extremely concerned about the future of my 4 grandchildren and about people
	in the global South now. I do not believe we should be investing in Drax as it burns
	trees. We should not be investing in any FFs as they will soon be Stranded Assets
180	Net zero is impossible, going green is not the answer. Population control is the only
	way to save the planet. Africa and the third world are the biggest polluters on the
	planet, go there look for yourselves. This country is probably the cleanest there is,
	without oil more likley we will all starve or freeze to death Job done then.
181	I strongly disagree with funds being invested in nuclear energy. Also, would not wish
	for investment in any religious faith or charity except Salvation Army, who provide
	shelter for the homeless.
182	The principal responsibility should always be towards the pension holders.
183	I would have liked more statements regarding Cumbria's pension fund's relationship
	with companies that support the arms trade and a commitment that Cumbria will not
	invest in such companies such as BAE systems and those that support the
40.1	manufacturing and procurement within the Arms Trade.
184	Fiscal policy and careful management should be the overall objective. Protect the
	funds and avoid topical temporary subjects. Do no harm.





185	It is critical the fund investment focuses on generating revenue to meet the needs of
100	its members. This has to be the key priority!
186	Put pressure on central gov to legislate for better and improved pension rights for young workers
187	Maximise return whilst safeguarding assets and avoid politicising investment
	decisions
188	The responsible investment of pension funds should prioritise financial returns in
	investments and companies complying with international labour and environmental
	law. Ethics are not regulated and subjective, therefore not a good measure of
	investment risk or future performance.
189	The job of a pension fund is to maximise the benefits to its members, not to become
	involved in 'green' politics. What you are really saying is, "Would you take a cut in
	your pension payments at a time when the cost of fuel and food is rocketing?" I
	suggest you ask the same question, but regarding wages, to your employees.
190	Supportive of ethical investment where possible, providing this doesn't have a
	negative impact on returns.
191	Between my two appointments which qualified me to be in the Cumbria Pension
	Fund I was a founding trustee of the Ethical Investment Research and Information
	Service which was a pioneer in this whole field. So I am pleased to see one of my
	own pension funds taking this matter seriously.
192	Keeping things local is a big benefit. Hopefully what is being done locally will help
	us all.
193	Secure financial returns must be balanced with responsible investment policy
	WITHIN an ethical framework which precludes supporting production of arms and
	exploitation of labour.
194	The fund should concentrate on getting the best returns for members and stop
	getting sucked in to other distractions. The concern is to obtain the best results .
195	You should stop new investments in companies that are developing fossil fuels and
	withdraw all such investments at the earliest opportunity.
196	In the current economic climate, investing in ethical or environmental assets is likely
	to draw attention to the fund and it may be wise to consider the responsible
	approach is not necessarily in markets which may be more volatile.
197	I'm happy as long as things remain on an even keel as they have done throughout
	my membership thus far.
198	The engagement influence of BCPP is negligible- it tried to influence BP at this
	year's AGM but failed to prevent the energy giant doing a u-turn on its 2030 green
	targets. BCPP manages less than 1% of BP shares- it is not in a position to have
	meaningful influence. The same applies for its Shell engagement. Why support
	these ill-fated and destructive companies?
199	I feel strongly that investment should be made to enhance the world, not detract
	from it. This includes not investing in weaponry, intensive animal agriculture and
	fossil fuels, to name a few.
200	The pension fund should show a responsible attitude to all environmental issues.





201	This is a must in this day and age. For example my now workplace pension uses
	Liontrust Sustainable Investing. It would be good for a fund to match these sort of
	ethics.
202	Keep the \$rolling in!
203	The fund, whist considering the ecological effect of investments, must strive to
	maximise returns. Proper governance of the organisations in which the fund invests
	is a worthy goal as is energy/oil, gas extraction being performed to high ecological
	standards. Provided investment is made in companies that are operating legally,
	then the trustees are fulfilling their role.
204	I would like Cumbria Pension Fund to specifically divest from fossil fuels and
	developments negatively impacting on wildlife - we are living in a climate & wildlife
	emergency and everything we do should be driven by that.
205	It is important that the fund works towards the benefit of all social areas globally
206	The whole idea of a pension is to make money for the pensioners who have
	invested which should be the main focus of activity especially with inflation at the
	moment
207	Thank you for seeking Members views.
208	Good to see this is being considered and views taken on board
209	should not be influenced by current trends on rapidly changing social media but on
	sound advice of older and long standing tradional fund managers advised by
	longstanding research research analysts
210	Concentrate on good returns and good corporate management In responsible
	companies rather than climate, change, diversity and ethical investments.
211	Some of the questions seem to indicate a presumption of a zero sum game e.g. that
	'responsible' and 'ethical' investing is a binary choice, whereas in reality choices are
	likely to be more nuanced, e.g. companies working towards the UN sustainable
	development goals with independent verification of progress. I think divestment
	rather than engagement is now the way forward as the oil majors have shown
	themselves to be untrustworthy and immune to engagement e.g. Shell has
	backtracked on its net zero goals and BP has diluted its goals. Their investment in
	renewables is a very small percentage of their overall investment budget for fossil
	fuels. The Church of England Commissioners made the right decision to divest for
	these reasons. The questionairre also seems to assume returns on ethical
	investment would be lower. There is now evidence to show careful investment in
	ESG stocks can produce good and possibly better returns than traditional stocks,
	thereby helping to meet the CPF's fiduciary duty's. Fossil fuel stocks etc may
	become stranded assets as climate change progresses.
212	I believe we're at a point where if we don't do something significant in terms of
	climate change and reaching net zero, and in improving biodiversity - my retirement,
	still decades away, will be a poor one regardless of pension income. Plus, on the
	issues of tobacco, gambling and weaponry - if you consider the wider impacts on
	costs to the public sector from the associated impacts of those industries, both
	worldwide but also on the public sector within this country (health, public health, social care, including asylum seeker and refugee support) does your maximising
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	return policy take into account the money spent elsewhere cleaning up in the
242	aftermath of those damaging industries?
213	Keep ip the good work
214	thanks for the opportunity to engage
215	The pension scheme should seek to get growth anyway it can as the pension fund it there to get its members the highest value of pension, the pension scheme should not be putting social values ahead of its members pension value. You are there to get the schemes members the most pension at the end of the day, personally I think the pension scheme is not run to the best it could be - this is evident in the values of expected pension.
216	You should be investing in the best returns for your members and stay out of political policies
217	Thank you and keep up the good work!
218	My view is that unless we all invest in activities which have an immediate significant impact on climate change and restoring biodiversity, many of us are unlikely to be needing our pension funds in 20 years time. I have been a farmer all my life and I am categorially certain that climate change is already significantly harming our ability to grow food crops throughout the UK. The situation is even more precarious in the countries further south, from which we buy most of our food. If we let climate change continue at the present rate, I fear we will be rationing food supplies in this country in a couple of decades - perhaps sooner. I completely agree with the UN International Panel on Climate Change that we have no time to waste. Every one of us needs to put pressure on commerce to cease or reduce CO2 and other emissions.
219	I don't believe in Climate change and do nit think it should dictate our investment strategy.
220	Time to leave investment in fossil fuels behind - first for climate change but second
	because so riskytheir "assets" will be revealed as worthless liabilities in future.
221	I'm quite happy with the way the fund is being handled
222	Members should be consulted on whether the Pension Fund should be investing states that commit war crimes, genocide or other human rights abuses or practice forms of apartheid.
223	Despite reading the linked reports, there seemed little evidence of direct action or consideration being given by our local fund - instead I felt that much of the fund's responsibility in this area seemed to be evidenced through the activities of other umbrella bodies. Hopefully this is simply a flaw in the reporting of the fund's discharge of its responsibilities and not evidence of a failing in its duties?
224	Ensure you act responsibly!
225	Returns are the priority not ethics
226	Would not want any investments that have anything to do with making or supplying arms to anyone.
227	Glad you are seeking to invest responsibly, but concerned ESG compliance has run ahead of common sense in last few years. It seems to be an industry in itself now. Not good.





228	Thank you for consulting
229	Focus should be on maximising returns
230	I think a 'Responsible' policy is a step in the right direction but its not a level of commitment you'd expect from an authority that has declared a climate emergency. There is an opportunity to LEAD here and influence others by walking away from the irresponsible investments instead of pretending there is an opportunity to dissuade anyone from acting differently. Its akin to saying we'll support some slave traders because we might manage to steer them towards something else in the long term. The people history have tended to favour so far are those that take a definitive stance and bold action, not sit on the fence disguised as taking responsibility.
231	My husband's pension portfolio is invested ethically. Whilst it hasn't seen as much growth, it has performed well and as such our initially dubious FA uses our portfolio as a standard for ethical investors. I value Cumbria stance.
232	Thank you for asking for our opinion.
233	Really encouraged to see this we must move away from investing in fossil fuels
234	These are very worthwhile objectives, on the basis that retiree payments are not prejudiced by any overzealous investment in any risky environmental areas.
235	I would like to see investment in projects that have a long term equipment that does not need replacement of equipment after so many years use eg solar panels invest in newer technology that you dont need to replace.
236	As a member of Cumbria Pesion Scheme, I would prefer an ethical investment policy that would avoid or disinvest from investments in fossil fuel exploration and extraction, weapons manufacture, and investments in companies operating in, or constructing, illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank.
237	It's good to be involved in such important matters
238	The primary purpose of the fund should be the financial stability of the fund
239	I think that I pay my taxes (I still work) for the Government to do the heavy lifting on eco investment rather than expecting the pension funds to do this so the position of the pension fund is reasonable at present. The government is keen to manipulate pension funds to invest in start ups etc. My belief is that a lot of these startups are a chimera, having had family who have worked for some of them. They seem to me to have a thin business case and hopeful thinking. I rely on this pension fund to deliver for me and that is my priority, in that way I can make my green contribution because I will have enough money to do so. I believe that government rhetoric on investing in startups etc. must be taken in the context of a total failure to deliver on literally anything at all.
240	Given the currents position on lack of investment in Public Services, the U turns on climate change and green energy the fund should ensurer maximising return for its customers rather than trying to satisfy commitment to climate, energy, and other policies, that may sifgnificantly impact return on investment for its customers
241	Divest from fossil fuels please, there's no future unless we do!
242	I am glad you are asking us about this.
243	Question regarding prioritising green energy infrastructure - this is very important but it really depends on what other types/purposes of infrastructure would be





	avoided as a result - things are developing/changing all the time, so infrastructure
	investments should be assessed based on the comparable benefits to
	society/climate etc. You explain the 'difference' between 'ethical' and 'responsible'
	investment - there is NO difference - the two things are entirely connected. We
	really have to consider impacts on climate/ wellbeing with every decision - without a
	liveable planet, nobody will be enjoying their retirement. I appreciate the opportunity
	to feedback, and urge you to make some brave decisions - we have to take arisk
	and just do the absolute right thing. Good luck!
244	Consider those that are retiring and instead of spending time thinking about
	investment policies, make sure that you actually pay pensions in a timely manner. I
	had to wait 3 months to receive mine which at this time could have put me in
	surverevhardship!
245	I believe the pension should be run for the maximum gains for the individual pension
	holder.
246	Lack of affordable housing in Cumbria is a massive issue. Would investment in
	affordable homes be possible as part of the fund?
247	If the fund was in surpless after smothing out would the fund managers share the
	benefits with both members and the employer. Investing in cumbria energy systems
	would keep growth within the scheme employment areas could this be an invesent
	option
248	You job is to get a good rate of return for your members, not healing the world!
249	Yes, I do not want activist and ill informed Cllrs preaching their agenda or making
	decisions which may adversely affect return on pensions investment.
250	I would like to see more information about exactly what the Pension Fund is
	invested in because I think removal / reductions in fossil fuel investment should be a
	key priority.
251	I agree that investing in renewables is correct but it has to be considered within
	wider portfolio balance as there are many industries in the past that have been
	significant but rarely made profit e.g. car makers over the years.
252	I am glad you are consulting members and raising these issues.
253	Isn't this just liberal claptrap and the main thing is to sustain and protect the
	investments that staff have made?
254	Divest from fossil fuels now, please. Do the right thing. Imagine explaining to your
	grandchildren why you didn't when you had the chance.
255	It is important for the fund to follow a mainstream agenda and not pander to
	extreamists. For example, a balanced investment portfolio would actively invest in
	new energy sources, but would not walk away from coal, gas and oil as they are
	also part of the future of a low carbon economy.
256	KISS - you'll be familiar with the acronym! It is the simple purpose of the Fund to
	provide secure pensions. Whilst there are obvious investment no-go areas e.g
	narcotics or pornography, it is NOT the expectation of the membership that the
	board/trustees indulge themselves in virtue signalling or leaping on to whatever are
	the prevailing bien pensant woke bandwagons! Thank You.





257	I think that you are doing a great job. I know nothing about investing. I have total
	confidence in Cumbria Pension fund.
258	I think that by investing in Carbon industries, although they currently give good
	returns, that there is a real risk of stranded assets, ie not good for a long term
	pension scheme
259	If action is not taken on climate change - then there will be little point in having a
	pension at all for me in circa 25 years as the planet will be inhabitable. We have
	collective power and responsibility to use these funds ethically and responsibly. Its
	shouldn't be a either/or question. Thank you.
260	People invest in a pension in order to live more comfortably in their retirement.
	They can exercise their own discretion on all aspects of their personal income in
	pursuit of green, sustainable, community benefits. The pension fund should always
	prioritise the benefits for pensioners and align their policy on other issues if
004	appropriate and viable.
261	No thanks for letting me take part in the survey.
262	I have confidence in the pension fund to allow me to enjoy my retirement
263	Accept climate change, as naturally occurring. Do not accept carbon production is a
	factor. Object strongly with lithium battery production and any energy production/
	storage dependant upon it. Object to plastics in single use. Object to reliance on
004	China for manufactured goods.
264	The climate emergency and the need to address this through eveery avenue
	including disinvestment should be explored. This is a similar situation to when
	pension funds invested in tobacco companies despite the adverse effect smoking
	had on the health of pension fund members. Perhaps this is an instance of learning
	from the past and acting ethically. There was a large profit to be made from slavery(
	then legal) in the past but the profits did not justify the investment in those companies
265	I'm delighted to be offered the chance to make my views known via this survey
266	I do not want investment in unethical companies eg weapons, exploitative practice
267	Opinions change as years go by. Younger pension holders may see environment
201	more important than others. Regular surveys should give you an indication of
	changing attitudes.
268	It should also be ethical as well as responsible. Should not be invested in any form
200	of fossil fuels, or anything contributing to any form of product or service related to
	fossil fuels. The same applies to deforestation. This is far more important than
	higher returns as such organisations will not change their ways until their bottom
	line, profits, are affected by people not giving them money. Short-term thinking is
	affecting our long term future in negative ways and damage is going to be
	irreversible.
269	There will be no- one to draw a pension if climate change continues. These funds
-	should never be invested in fossil fuels or organisations that harm the environment.
270	I worked in Local Government for nearly 40 yrs and would like to think that any
	, ,





	and its reginients. Languagists there is always a degree of risk in investing but
	and its recipients. I appreciate there is always a degree of risk in investing but
274	hopefully not causing on great concerns to the fund.
271 272	If I could swap out to a properly green and ethical pension I would  Consistent and sustainable financial return should be the top priority, although I
212	would prioritise environmentally friendly investments where they meet that top
	priority. Remember that ESG and DEI are both politically based ideologies not
	supported by everyone. DEI in particular is derived directly from Marxist ideology
	and will slowly destroy all meritocratic decision making. I would strongly oppose making any investments based on DEI principles.
273	It can be difficult to answer some of these questions without detail. For instance
213	over what timespan is "continual engagement". In my view non-ethical is not
	acceptable. It may mean greater returns but the ethical cost is too much I don't
	want to be associated with such things. How much effort is put into finding good
274	returns in an ethical arena?
274	I want the fund to maximise the income for the fund. No other decisions should be
075	considered which jeopardise this goal.
275	I support divestment from fossil fuel industry
276	ESG investing is a scam and will not work. Neither will invest in the whole Net Zero
	charade which again is a futile, fraudulent and pointless project. Increasingly people
	are awakening to the malevolence of the Net Zero agenda and will turn against it.
	Cumbria Pension Fund's sole responsibility is to make the maximum return for its
	members and investing in areas such as fossil fuels is entirely moral and
077	appropriate, given the massive benefits these have given humanity.
277	I fail to see how 'diversity' in the board room could possibly be something that
	actually matters, other than to tick boxes. Oh yes, we have an Asian, we have
	women, we have disabled people. These things should not matter in the least. I find
	it is an absolutely counterintuitive approach to anything other than to combat
	potential calls of racism, sexism, ableism etc. What should matter the most is if the
	person/business entity can do the job or offers the best results. Period. It is actively
	(insert 'ism buzzword) to give favourable treatment simply to tick a diversity box and
070	I find that it is highly offensive to have even been considered an important subject.
278	The primary role is provide pension for members. Where these coincide with
	appropriate and proper ethical, environmental and inclusivity policies. This should
	be followed. However the prime existence of the fund should always be its mantra.
279	To encourage wider ethical investment the Pension Fund should communicate
	widely to encourage other fund holders to follow their lead .
280	It would be good to see the fund support investment in Cumbria infrastructure
	projects and businesses.
281	What is the point of the survey. My only interest is in achieving a pension and
	predictable income.
282	investments should where possible be focused in the localities where investors (us)
	live.
283	Take care with any decisions made peoples future are at stake





284	I'm very very glad that the issue of ethical investments are finally being recognised and my views are being listened to. I want to invest in a better future for my children and all life on earth, and not just the short term gains of an unethical pension pot. Many thanks for this opportunity.
285	To invest and provide and not to get involved in woke events
286	A priority should be to divest from fossil fuels.fossil fuel companies have had time to hear about changing and have not. Please divest. I will look at changing my pension otherwise.
287	I would like to see more investment firms have a green option to stop investing in environmentally damaging companies.
288	It is my belief that the pension fund should be just that. I strongly believe that the pension fund should be concerned about generating income and that this should be the motivating factor.
289	The fund should seek to maximise returns from low risk investments. Its primary role should be to maximise returns by whatever legitimate means rather than following trends
290	I am very glad to see this being given attention.
291	Good luck - it's a very complicated area and like a good deal in life it involves getting the balance right!
292	It's not just the here and now which is important but the future for the generation that follows us.
293	It seems a very sensible policy
294	There is a caveat re ESG in so far as many companies claim to have ESG policies but many do not stand scrutiny. Beware also of 'Greenwashing' which is also common.
295	I believe the pension fund should seek the greatest returns, diversifying to account for risk, and only choose ethical investments where returns are comparable.
296	I agree that engagement with companies that aren't behaving responsibly should be the starting point, but there should be clear criteria given as to the level and pace of improvement needed and a firm(ly stated) commitment to divest if these criteria aren't met quickly. Thank you for consulting us on this.
297	I think times have changes and you have to take a view on climte change etc. I think your survey is far to wordy and the bit where you have to rank things isn't the easiest to use.
298	What use is a pension payment if we have lost our biodiveristy, wrecked our climate, polluted our farm land? Without urgent action NOW, the ensuing political and social chaos will dwarf the economic, population migration, war and climate impacts we are already experiencing.
299	Thank you for the opportunity to comment upon your invest policies and framework.
300	I trust there will be feedback on the conclusion of the survey.
301	I am pleased that as a small stake holder I have a say in the Funds decision maker,
	however I firmly believe that Windfarms are NOT the way to go. The emission pollution during construction clearly is far too high.
302	Keep up with the responsible administration of the fund





303	Given the current situation in relation to the Genocidal Attack by the Apartheid
	State of Israel on the remaining predominantly Arab populated land in what was
	Palestine no investments should be made into Companies that are profiting from 75
	years of ethnic cleansing. If any exist then they should be terminated as soon as
	possible.
304	I would like to see fossil fuels divestment as part of the responsible investment
	strategy for environmental and financial (stranded assets) reasons.
305	The key word is in the titleResonsible.
306	Seek best possible return on investments
307	as long as it is properly managed and maintained, I,m very happy.
308	The fund should concentrate on maximising returns and controlling investment risk.
	Ethical issues are for elected National governments not local government.
309	I am happy to agree with most of the above but feel the security of the members
	pensions are of paramount importance.
310	I want my pension fund to focus its efforts on providing a pension service rather than
	trying to change the world.
311	Responsibility should be to members pensions only. Leave ESG to those who can
	afford it.
312	Can't stand the way companies including pension funds are allowing woke people to
	dictate what should be done
313	Engagement does not work with oil and gas sector.