

PENSIONS AND LIFETIME SAVINGS ASSOCIATION STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR THE STEWARDSHIP CODE

The Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association strongly supports the Stewardship Code.

Pension funds, through the Association, made a material contribution to the formulation of the Code, as well as the ISC Principles which preceded it and have an important role in encouraging its adoption by the asset management industry.

We believe that the Code has the potential to enhance the quality of engagement between institutional investors and companies and the efficient exercise of governance responsibilities, thus helping to improve long-term returns to shareholders. The Stewardship statements provided by asset managers also provide a useful insight into their differing approaches to stewardship, to the benefit of pension funds who wish to incorporate stewardship criteria into their asset manager selection process.

Over 60 pension funds are current signatories of the Stewardship Code and the Association is supportive of those that wish to sign in future. We survey our membership each year to better understand pension funds' approach to stewardship and <u>publish the findings on our website</u>. Similarly, asset manager signatories to the code are welcome to complete a PLSA '<u>Stewardship Disclosure Framework</u>', which we also publish on our site where our members can use to gain an insight into the stewardship policies of prospective managers.

ABOUT THE PENSIONS AND LIFETIME SAVINGS ASSOCIATION

We're the Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association, the national association with a ninety-year history of helping pension professionals run better pension schemes. With the support of over 1,300 pension schemes and over 400 supporting businesses, we are the voice for pensions and lifetime savings in Westminster, Whitehall and Brussels.

Our purpose is simple: to help everyone to achieve a better income in retirement. We work to get more money into retirement savings, to get more value out of those savings and to build the confidence and understanding of savers.