REPORT TO: SUPERANNUATION INVESTMENT SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY

AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 3 JUNE 2013

REPORT ON: SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT - SIX MONTHLY REPORT

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

**REPORT NO: 260-2013** 

### 1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report reviews the progress by the Fund Managers regarding the positive engagement Policy on Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance approved by the Sub-Committee on 17 November 2008.

### 2 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Sub-Committee is asked to note the information contained within this report with regard to the activities of the Fund Managers during the six month period ended 31 March 2013.

### 3 BACKGROUND

On 17 November 2008 the Sub-Committee approved a revised Policy on Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance. This policy recognises the overriding fiduciary duties but encourages the managers to engage with companies. They are requested to summarise this engagement activity quarterly. The key areas continue to be Employee Care, Human Rights, Sustainability and the Environment.

# 4 ALLIANCE BERNSTEIN

Alliance Bernstein's latest activity is shown at Appendix 1.

# 5 **BAILLIE GIFFORD**

A summary of recent engagement activity is shown at Appendix 2. This shows the wide range of topics covered and the diversity of companies approached.

# 6 **FIDELITY**

Appendix 3 shows various examples of issues Fidelity have considered in the last quarter.

## 7 OVERALL CONCLUSION

The managers have continued to develop their strategy in this area and link more closely with the long-term effect on share value.

The fund is still committed to following the United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment.

### 8 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

The Fund's policy on Socially Responsible Investment requires its investment managers to engage with companies on Sustainability and the Environment and Employee Care and Human Rights.

# 9 **CONSULTATIONS**

The Chief Executive and the Head of Democratic and Legal Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

### 10 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

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DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

27 MAY 2013