Wales Pension Partnership Joint Governance Committee Q1 2023 review – 17 July 2023





Market Updates

Proposed Acquisition

As discussed since the last Joint Governance Committee on 29 March 2023;

Below is the update in relation to the progress of the sale of the Fund Solutions business (FS Business) and ongoing negotiations with the UK Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) to settle the FCA investigation against Link Fund Solutions Limited (LFSL).

Link Group announced on 20th April 2023 (Sydney time) that:

Link Group and LFSL have reached a conditional agreement for the sale of the FS Business, excluding its Luxembourg and Swiss entities, and excluding Woodford related liabilities, on a debt and cash free and normalised working capital adjustments basis, to the Waystone Group for an aggregate consideration value of between £110 million and £140 million (the Sale).

At the same time, Link Group and LFSL have reached a conditional agreement with the FCA to settle its investigation into LFSL in respect of LFSL's role as authorised corporate director (ACD) of the LF Woodford Equity Income Fund (now known as the LF Equity Income Fund) (WEIF), (the Settlement).

The Settlement is conditional on, amongst other things, completion of the Sale and the English High Court sanctioning a scheme of arrangement proposed under Part 26 of the Companies Act 2006 addressing WEIF related redress and claims against LFSL (Scheme), as outlined below. The FCA has confirmed its intention to support the Scheme and intends to support its approval by WEIF Investors.

As part of the Settlement, and conditional on the Scheme, Link Group has agreed to contribute to LFSL all of the available consideration to be received from the Waystone Group under the Sale, meaning Link Group would receive no net proceeds of the Sale. There is no further contribution required of Link Group'.

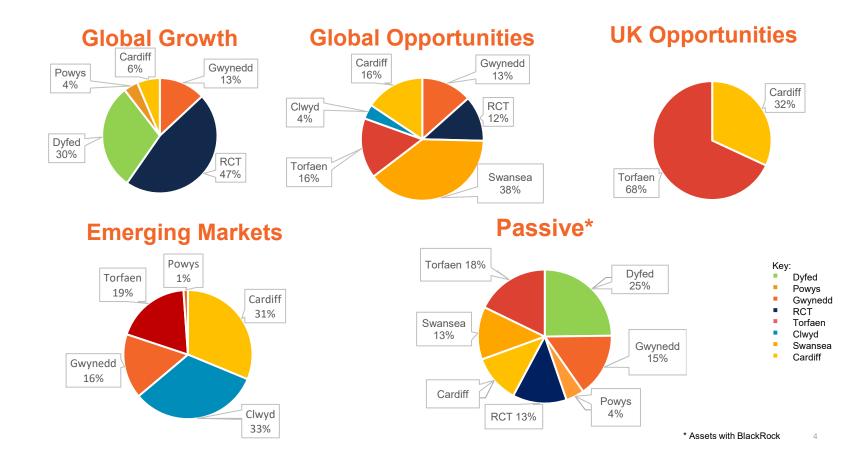
The Scheme will provide that the payment of amounts to WEIF Investors, in accordance with the Scheme, will be in return for a full and final release from WEIF Investors to LFSL and the wider Group.

The Sale is targeted to complete by October 2023 and is not contingent on the Scheme or the Settlement becoming unconditional.

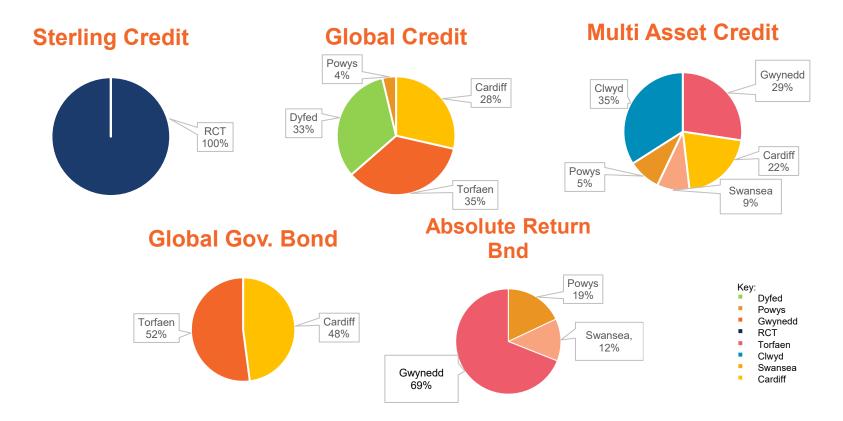
March 2023 LF Wales PP Fund Summary AUM

Fund	AUM	Inception date
Global Growth	£3,274,152,681	6 th Feb 2019
Global Opportunities	£3,269,124,129	14 th Feb 2019
UK Opportunities	£760,143,154	10 th Oct 2019
Emerging Markets	£354,601,402	20 th Oct 2021
Sterling Credit	£520,721,095	19 th Aug 2020
Global Credit	£693,664,784	21 st Aug 2020
Multi Asset Credit	£655,191,299	12 th Aug 2020
Global Government Bond	£481,416,739	20 th Aug 2020
Absolute Return Bond	£559,106,849	30 th Sept 2020
Total Active Investments	£10,568,122,134	
Total Passive Investments	£5,074,366,199	
Total Pooled Assets	£15,642,488,333 as at 31 March 2023	

March 2023 Fund Snapshot - Equities



March 2023 Fund Snapshot - Fixed Income



Sub-Funds Update

	Activity	Status	Commentary
Completed Fund Launches & Changes	N/a		N/a
Ongoing Fund Launches & Changes	Addition of Robeco to the Global Credit fund, removal of T Rowe Price	~	New Investment Manager 'Robeco' to be implemented June 2023
	Establishment of a Sustainable Equities Fund	~	Weekly Transition Calls ongoing with full working party and Legacy managers with launch date agreed for 20 June 2023
	Addition of New Investment Manager to the Global Growth Fund, as an addition to current Managers	~	Proposed addition new manager to be discussed at OWG. Paper to be shared with all investing Constituent Authorities with rationale behind the change



Completed or already in place On target; Delay Expected; . Not Applicable

Initiatives

Business as Usual + Key Changes			
	Activity	Status	Commentary
Management Information	Move to Quarterly Reporting cycle with changes to information captured	\checkmark	Working with internal Teams to move from monthly to quarterly with updates to information provided
Class action reporting	Rolled out class action reporting to the Host on quarterly basis	~	We have continued to provide the Class Action reporting to the Host Authority

Status key:

Completed or already in place

On target;

Delay Expected;

Not Applicable

Market Updates

	Activity	Status	Commentary
Russia / Ukraine	Impact to ACS sub-funds holding Russian companies	~	LFSL continue to monitor the situation and will advise Constituent Authorities of any developments. Our Fair Value Pricing Committee regularly discuss and assets are still priced accordingly.
LDI	Liability Driven Investments & market volatility	~	No LDI investments in the WPP sub-funds.



Completed or already in place

On target;

Delay Expected;

Not Applicable

LFS Corporate Update & Engagement

Key Q1 and future WPP Engagement

Link attendance at OWG/JGC meetings in period:

- OWG 7 February 2023
- WPP JGC 29 March 2023

Link attendance at OWG/JGC meetings in <u>next quarter</u>:

- OWG 23 May 2023
- WPP JGC 19 July 2023

Link - Pension Committee attendance in period:

- RCT Panel Meeting 23 March 2023
- RCT Pension Committee meeting 27 March 2023
- Gwynedd Pension Committee meeting 27 March 2023
- Dyfed Pension Committee meeting 28 March 2023

Link - Pension Committee attendance in next quarter :

Clwyd – Pension committee 23 June 2023

Other meetings in period

- Host Authority update occurs bi-weekly
- Working group occurs bi-weekly
- WPP briefing / training session (First session)

Other meetings in next quarter

- Host Authority update occurs bi-weekly
- Working group occurs bi-weekly
- Pension Board Chairs Engagement Meeting 25 April 2023

LFS Engagement Protocol – Business as Usual

Strategic Relationship Review	Frequency	Objective
	 Bi-annual 	 Ensure strategic alignment between Host Authority and Link
 WPP Attendees Chris Moore Anthony Parnell Two Section 151 / Deputy Section 151 or 	officers	 Link Attendees Karl Midl, Managing Director Richard Thornton, Head of Relationship Management, Asset Owners James Zealander, Senior Relationship Manager
JGC Engagement	Frequency	Objective
	 Quarterly 	 Engage with JGC on pertinent matters and strategic deliverables
WPP AttendeesJoint Governance Committee (JGC)		 Link Attendees Karl Midl, Managing Director / Adam Tookey, Head of Product – as required Richard Thornton, Head of Relationship Management, Asset Owners James Zealander, Senior Relationship Manager Russell Investments
OWG Engagement	Frequency	Objective
	 Every 2 Months 	 Identify and deliver on opportunities to improve and expand the relationship Provide update on open projects or issues Monthly KPI Review (Data supplied monthly)
WPP Attendees		Link Attendees
 Officers Working Group (OWG) 		 James Zealander, Senior Relationship Manager Richard Thornton, Head of Relationship Management, Asset Owners Alistair Coyle/Heidi Robinson, Relationship Managers (as required) Ad-hoc Link attendance from functional departments: Tax, Compliance, Product, etc. Russell Investments

Link Engagement Protocol continued...

Host Authority Update	Frequency	Objective
	 Bi-Weekly 	 Regular Host Authority – LFS to discuss deliverables and business updates
WPP AttendeesAnthony ParnellTracey Williams		 Richard Thornton, Head of Relationship Management, Asset Owners James Zealander, Senior Relationship Manager Alistair Coyle/Heidi Robinson, Relationship Managers (as required) Clair Baguley, Client Service Manager (as required)
WPP Working Group	Frequency	Objective
	 Bi-Weekly 	 Regular project call to discuss progress of deliverables
WPP AttendeesOfficers Working Group (OWG)Hymans		 Link Client Team Northern Trust Russell Investments Other consultants (e.g. bFinance)
Annual Shareholder Day	Frequency	Objective
	 Annual 	 Open day for presentations on strategy and performance (with IM)
 Open to all involved parties 		 Link Client Team Northern Trust Russell Investments and other Investment Managers (e.g. Global Growth Managers) Other consultants as required (e.g. bFinance)
Pension Fund Committees		Objective
	 Annual 	 General update on the ACS and planned initiatives
 Individual Pension Fund Commit 	tee meetings	 James Zealander, Senior Relationship Manager Alistair Coyle/Heidi Robinson, Relationship Managers (as required) Richard Thornton, Head of Relationship Management, Asset Owners Russell Investments

Relationship Managers

Name: James Zealander Role: Senior Relationship Manager Number:+44 (0)20 7954 9727 Email: James.Zealander@linkgroup.co.uk Heidi Robinson Relationship Manager +44 (0) 7843 804917 Heidi.Robinson@linkgroup.co.uk

Head of Client Relations

Name: Richard Thornton Role: Head of Relationship Management – Asset Owners Number: +44 (0)20 7954 9806 Email: Richard.Thornton@linkgroup.co.uk

Executive Contact

Name: Karl Midl Role: CEO & Managing Director Number: +44 (0)7951 266225 Email: <u>karl.midl@linkgroup.co.uk</u>

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