

Registered number: 10251440

**SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

CONTENTS

Trustee and its Advisers	1
Trustee's Report	3
Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustee of the Spirit (Legacy) Pension Scheme.....	18
Fund Account.....	21
Statement of Net Assets (Available for Benefits).....	22
Notes to the Financial Statements.....	23
Independent Auditor's Statement about Contributions to the Trustee of Spirit (Legacy) Pension Scheme.....	41
Summary of Contributions	42
Actuarial Certificate.....	43
Appendix I – Implementation Statement (forming part of the Trustee's Report).....	44
Appendix II – Chair's Statement (forming part of the Trustee's Report)	54
Appendix III – Statement of Investment Principles.....	66

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE AND ITS ADVISERS YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Trustee	Spirit (Legacy) Pension Trustee Limited
Company Appointed Directors	John Freeman Nicholas Wilks
Member-Nominated Directors	Maria Gavin Robert McDonald Francis Patton
Independent Director	BESTrustees Limited PLC (represented by Iain Urquhart, Chairman)
Principal Employer	Spirit Pub Company (Services) Limited, a subsidiary of Greene King Limited Greene King is owned by CK Noble (UK) Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of CK Asset Holdings Limited
Secretary to the Trustee	Wendy Evershed Aon Solutions UK Limited
Actuary (DB Section)	Roger Moring, FIA Aon Solutions UK Limited
Administrator	Aon Solutions UK Limited
Independent Auditor	Crowe U.K. LLP
Banker	Bank of Scotland plc
Covenant Adviser	Darren Masters Mercer LLC
Investment Adviser (DB and DC Section)	Aon Investments Limited
Investment Managers (DB Section)	Adept Investment Management plc ('Adept') BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited ('BlackRock') Legal & General Investment Management Limited ('LGIM')
Investment Managers (DC Section)	Standard Life Assurance Limited ('Standard Life')
AVC Providers (DB Section)	Aviva plc ('Aviva') Standard Life Assurance Limited ('Standard Life') Utmost Life and Pensions Limited ('Utmost')
Annuity Provider (DB Section)	Scottish Widows Limited
Custodian	Bank of New York Mellon (International) Limited
Legal Advisers	Eversheds Sutherland (International) LLP Linklaters LLP

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE AND ITS ADVISERS YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Contact Details

Spirit (Legacy) Pension Scheme
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SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Introduction

The Trustee of Spirit (Legacy) Pension Scheme (the 'Scheme') is pleased to present the annual report together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Constitution and management

The Scheme is an occupational Hybrid pension scheme comprising of Defined Benefit ('DB') and Defined Contribution ('DC') sections. The Scheme is governed by a Trust Deed, as amended from time to time, and is administered by Aon Solutions UK Limited in accordance with the establishing document and Rules solely for the benefit of its members and other beneficiaries.

The Scheme came into existence on 9 July 2014 to facilitate the merger of the Spirit Group Pension Scheme ('SGPS') and the Spirit Group Retail Pension Plan ('SGRPP'). A merger deed was signed on 2 June 2015. The assets and liabilities were transferred to the Scheme following the merger. Communications were issued to all members explaining the changes.

The Spirit Group Retail Retirement Savings Plan (the 'Plan') merged with the Scheme on 30 September 2019 as per the Transfer and Amendment Deed. The assets and liabilities were transferred to the Scheme via a Deed of Novation signed on 30 September 2019.

The DB section is no longer open to new members and was closed to future accrual under SGPS and SGRPP on 5 April 2005. The DC section was closed to new members under SGPS on 31 May 2000 and SGRPP on 31 January 2004. Contributions in respect of active members in the DC section ceased on 4 December 2023. An alternative arrangement has been put in place and the members impacted by this change have been notified.

The Trustee and the Trustee Directors are shown on page 1.

Under the Trust Deed and Rules of the Scheme, Trustee and Trustee Directors are appointed and removed by Principal Employer, subject to the Member- Nominated arrangements.

In accordance with the Pensions Act 2004 at least one third of the total number of Trustee Directors must be nominated by Scheme members. The Member-Nominated Trustee Directors ('MNTD's') are elected from the membership.

A Trustee Director can choose to retire from office at any time. A Member-Nominated Trustee Director can only be removed with the agreement of all other Trustee Directors.

The Trustee Directors have appointed professional advisers and other organisations to support them in delivering the Scheme's objectives. These individuals and organisations are listed on pages 1 and 2. The Trustee Directors have written agreements in place with each of them.

Trustee meetings

The Trustee Board held eight meetings during the year to consider the business of the Scheme.

Scheme changes

There were no significant changes to the Scheme in the year.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Financial statements

The financial statements included in this annual report have been prepared and audited in accordance with the regulations made under Sections 41 (1) and (6) of the Pensions Act 1995.

Membership

Details of the membership changes of the Scheme in the year are as follows:

	Actives	Deferreds	Pensioners	Total
Members at the start of the year	38	3,329	3,070	6,437
Adjustments to members	-	(9)	16	7
New spouses and dependants	-	-	29	29
Retirements	(1)	(98)	99	-
Cessations	-	-	(2)	(2)
Deaths	-	(12)	(125)	(137)
Trivial commutations	-	(12)	(33)	(45)
Transfers out	-	(11)	-	(11)
Members at the end of the year	37	3,187	3,054	6,278

Pensioners include 460 (2022: 469) individuals receiving a pension upon the death of their spouse who was a member of the Scheme. Pensioners also include 10 (2022: 11) child dependants in receipt of a pension.

These membership figures do not include movements notified to the Administrator after the completion of the annual renewal.

These membership figures include 14 (2022: 14) members who have a separate DC record in addition to their DB record. The 14 members consists of 2 active members, 5 deferred members and 7 pensioner members.

The adjustments shown above are the result of retrospective updating of member records.

Pension increases

Pensions with an increase anniversary date of 1 November 2022 were increased in accordance with the Rules of the Scheme. Pensions in excess of Guaranteed Minimum Pensions ('GMP') were increased at 5.0% (minimum of 3% for the Ex-Allied Domecq pensioners), with the exception of a small number of pensions which do not increase in payment. Post-88 GMPs were increased at 3.0%, Pre-88 GMPs were not increased, in accordance with the Scheme Rules and statutory requirements.

Pensions with an increase anniversary date of 1 May 2023 were increased in accordance with the Rules of the Scheme. Pensions in excess of Guaranteed Minimum Pensions ('GMP') were increased at 5% (minimum of 3% for the Ex-Allied Domecq pensioners), with the exception of a small number of pensions which do not increase in payment. Post-88 GMPs were increased at 3%, Pre-88 GMPs were not increased, in accordance with the Scheme Rules and statutory requirements.

There were no discretionary pension increases in the year.

Deferred benefits are increased in line with legislation and the Scheme Rules.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Transfers

Cash equivalents paid during the year with respect to transfers have been calculated and verified in the manner prescribed by the Pension Schemes Act 1993 and do not include discretionary increases.

Members leaving service can normally transfer the value of their benefits under the Scheme to another scheme that they join or to an insurance contract or personal pension.

Transfers into the Scheme are allowed, however, this is restricted to active members transferring into the DC Section of the Scheme.

Contributions

Contributions were paid in accordance with the Schedule of Contributions certified by the Scheme Actuary on 25 July 2022 relating to the Spirit (Legacy) Pension Scheme members.

DB Section

The Employer has continued to contribute expense contributions of £80,179 per month from September 2020. It also contributed an additional expense contribution for the Pension Protection Fund ('PPF') levy recalculated each year to reflect the expected levy.

DC Section

Employer normal contributions:

Clerical and retail staff – 4% of basic pay/salary for employees under the age of 40 and 6% of basic pay/salary for employees aged 40 and over.

Middle managers and retail management team – 6% of basic pay/salary for employees under the age of 40 and 9% of basic pay/salary for employees aged 40 and over.

Executives – 13% of basic salary.

All active members pay Employee contributions under a salary sacrifice arrangement and are reflected as Employer contributions in the financial statements.

Employees who are active members of the Scheme and who are not 25-year members, pay 3% of basic pay/salary. Additional voluntary contributions are paid at rates selected by the employee, in accordance with the Trust Deed and Rules

GMP equalisation

On 26 October 2018, the High Court handed down a judgment involving the Lloyds Banking Group's defined benefit pension schemes. The judgment concluded the schemes should be amended to equalise pension benefits for men and women in relation to guaranteed minimum pension benefits. The issues determined by the judgment arise in relation to many other defined benefit pension schemes. The Trustee of the Scheme is working with its advisers to prepare to equalise pension benefits as required. Under the ruling schemes are required to backdate benefit adjustments in relation to GMP equalisation and provide interest on the backdated amounts. Based on an initial assessment of the potential backdated amounts and related interest the Trustee does not expect these to be material to the financial statements and have not included a liability in respect of these matters in these financial statements. They will be accounted for in the year they are determined.

SPiRiT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

GMP equalisation (continued)

There was a further High Court judgement in 2020 relating to the equalisation of GMP benefits. This judgement focused on the GMP treatment of historic transfers out of members, an issue which had not been addressed in the 2018 GMP ruling. Under the 2020 ruling, trustees are required to review historic transfers values paid from May 1990 to assess if any top up payment is required to the receiving scheme, to reflect the member's right to equalised GMP benefits. The Trustee of the Scheme is working with its advisers to prepare to review historic transfer values. Based on an initial assessment of the potential impact the Trustee does not expect this to be material to the financial statements.

The Trustee has included an approximate allowance in the Scheme's technical provisions to reflect the estimated overall impact of GMP equalisation on liabilities. This encompasses both the estimated cost of backdated adjustments and equalisation of past transfers out as described above, and also the impact on future benefit payments out of the Scheme. This allowance is less than 1% of the liabilities.

Going Concern

The Scheme's financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis. In making this assessment, the Trustee has assessed the ability of the Principal Employer to continue to meet its obligations to the Scheme and for the Scheme to meet its future obligations to pay member benefits as they fall due.

The Trustee has reviewed information available to them from the Principal Employer and their advisers and as a consequence, the Trustee believes the Scheme is well positioned to manage its risks successfully. In light of this the Trustee has a reasonable expectation that the Scheme will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the Trustee continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the Scheme's financial statements.

Report on Actuarial Liabilities

As required by Financial Reporting Standard 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland' (FRS 102), the financial statements do not include liabilities in respect of promised retirement benefits.

Under Section 222 of the Pensions Act 2004, every scheme is subject to the Statutory Funding Objective, which is to have sufficient and appropriate assets to cover its technical provisions. The technical provisions represent the present value of the benefits members are entitled to based on pensionable service to the valuation date. This is assessed using the assumptions agreed between the Trustee and the Employer and set out in the Statement of Funding Principles, which is available to Scheme members on request.

The most recent full actuarial valuation of the Scheme was carried out as at 30 June 2021. Additionally, an Annual Actuarial Report was produced as at 30 June 2022. These showed that on these dates:

	30 June 2021	30 June 2022
The value of the technical provisions was:	£537.5 million	£430.1 million
The Scheme's assets were valued at:	£560.0 million	£441.9 million
Surplus	£22.5 million	£11.8 million
Value of assets as a percentage of the technical provisions	104.2%	102.7%

The values of the assets and liabilities above include the value of insurance policies (annuities) held by the Scheme in the Trustee's name.

Actuarial valuations will normally be carried out every three years, with the next valuation of the Scheme due to take place no later than as at 30 June 2024.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Report on Actuarial Liabilities (continued)

The method and significant assumptions used were as follows:

Method – the actuarial method used in the calculation of the technical provisions is the Projected Unit Method.

Significant actuarial assumptions

The key assumptions are:

Basis item	Description
Investment return	Based on the Bank of England ('BoE') gilt yield curve plus an outperformance premium.
Outperformance premium	0.50% p.a.
Retail Price Inflation ('RPI')	Based on the BoE inflation curve.
Consumer Price Inflation ('CPI')	The difference between the long-term assumption for RPI and CPI inflation will vary over time to reflect the Scheme Actuary's views of long-term structural differences between the calculation of RPI and CPI inflation at the date subsequent calculations are carried out. As at 30 June 2021, this was RPI less 1.0% p.a. at each term prior to 2030, and RPI less 0.1% p.a. at each term thereafter.
Pension increases in payment: - GMP - Pension in excess of GMP	Statutory - RPI capped at 5% p.a. - RPI capped at 5% p.a., subject to a 3% p.a. minimum - Nil increases
Mortality post-retirement	In line with SAPS S3 heavy tables scaled to reflect the demographic profile and experience of the Scheme, with an allowance for improvements in line with CMI_2020 Core Projections with smoothing parameter of 7.0, initial adjustment factor of 0.50 and long-term annual rate of improvement in mortality rates of 1.5% p.a. for men and women.

Note: Liabilities in respect of the insurance policies with Scottish Widows are valued making approximate allowance for insurer pricing at the calculation date.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Investment matters

Management and custody of investments

As required by Section 35 of the Pensions Act 1995, the Trustee has prepared a Statement of Investment Principles ('SIP'). A copy of the SIP can be found on the Scheme's website at <https://pensioninformation.aon.com/spiritgroup> and is shown on pages 66 to 81.

The SIP notes that for the DB assets, the Scheme's actual asset allocation versus the target weight may deviate significantly from target due to factors such as market movements, investment views, governance constraints and implementation issues. The SIP does not have rebalancing ranges in place, and we are comfortable with the current asset allocation's deviation from the target given the nature of the Scheme's holdings.

Some of the Scheme's assets are invested in an insurance (annuity) policy with Scottish Widows Limited, which is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority.

The Trustee has delegated management of investments to the investment managers shown on page 1. These managers, who are regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority in the United Kingdom, manage the investments in line with the investment managers agreements which are designed to ensure that the objectives and policies captured in the SIP are followed.

The Trustee has limited influence over the underlying investments within pooled investment vehicles held by the Scheme; but review the managers' policies and statements of compliance in respect of rights attached to those investments, including active voting participation and consideration of social, ethical and environmental factors when making investment decisions.

The investment managers are paid fees for their services. The fees are calculated as a percentage of the market value of the part of the Scheme that they manage.

The Trustee has appointed The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Limited to provide custody services for its investments managed by BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited. The remaining assets are not held via a custodian.

For the DC Section, the fund managers appoint their own custodians to provide custody services for the investments they manage.

The Custodian is responsible for the safe keeping, monitoring and reconciliation of documentation relating to the ownership of listed investments. Investments are held in the name of the Custodian's nominee company, in line with common practice for pension scheme investments.

The Trustee has considered the nature, disposition, marketability, security and valuation of the Scheme's investments and believe them to be appropriate relative to the reasons for holding each class of investments.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Investment report

Investment strategy and principles

The Scheme is comprised of two sections – the Defined Benefit (DB) Section and the Defined Contribution (DC) Section. The Trustee is responsible for determining the Scheme's investment strategy for both sections.

In accordance with section 35 of the Pensions Act 1995, the Trustee has agreed a statement of investment principles ("SIP"). This was reviewed in September 2021 and subsequently reviewed in February 2022. A copy of the SIP is included in the Annual Report on pages 66 to 81.

For the DB Section, the Trustee's objectives for the investment strategy have been set with regard to the Scheme's Statutory Funding Objectives as set out in the Statement of Funding Principles. The Trustee's primary investment objectives are:

- Funding objective - to ensure that the Scheme's investments deliver sufficient return such that the Scheme attains and remains fully funded using assumptions that contain a margin for prudence;
- Stability objective - to have due regard to the likely level and volatility of required contributions when setting the Scheme's investment strategy; and
- Security objective - to ensure that the solvency position of the Scheme is expected to improve. The Trustee takes into account the strength of the employer's covenant when determining the expected improvement in the solvency position of the Scheme.

The Trustee is in the process of undertaking a wider investment strategy review to consider its long term objectives, the appropriateness of the current strategy and de-risking triggers (if deemed appropriate).

As at Scheme year end, the Trustee's investment strategy was to hold approximately:

- 75.0% matching assets, consisting of fixed interest gilts, index-linked gilts, interest rate swaps, inflation swaps, corporate bonds and liquid credit; and
- 25.0% growth assets, consisting of equities and property.

In addition, the Trustee may choose to invest in bulk annuity policies in order to reduce risk. Given the illiquid nature of these investments, the Trustee considers these separately to the investment strategy. The actual allocations will change over time due to market movements and cashflow. The Trustee regularly reviews the allocations.

The Trustee's key aim in respect of the Defined Contribution ("DC") Section is to provide a range of investments that are suitable for meeting members' long and short-term investment objectives.

The Trustee's overall investment objective is implemented using a range of investment options accessible to members through a Trustee appointed platform provider – Standard Life Assurance Limited ('Standard Life'). The platform provider has been appointed on an 'investment-only' mandate. Members have access to three Lifestyle Strategies and a range of freestyle funds. The range of funds was chosen by the Trustee after taking advice from its advisers.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Investment report (continued)

The Lifestyle Strategies are:

- Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy (Default for most members) - designed to be suitable for members who are considering income drawdown at retirement, while also recognising it will need to provide appropriately for those who do not know in what form they will be drawing their benefits.
- Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy (Default for a small number of members) - designed to be suitable for members who are considering taking their DC benefits as a cash lump sum at retirement.
- Annuity Targeting Lifestyle Strategy - designed to be suitable for members who are considering taking their using their DC funds to purchase an annuity at retirement.

The Trustee's objectives for the default strategies are as follows:

- Aim for significant long term real growth while members are further away from retirement.
- Manage down volatility in fund values as members near retirement.
- Target an end point portfolio that is appropriate and consistent with how members may take their benefits when they retire.

The Trustee's policy is to provide suitable information for members so that they can make appropriate investment decisions.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Investment report (continued)

Investment performance

The Trustee assesses the performance of the Scheme's investments individually, and overall.

The Trustee receives reports from their investment advisers on a quarterly basis, showing performance of individual funds and the overall Scheme against both benchmark and target. Investment managers present to the Trustee upon request, to report on compliance with their agreements and to be questioned on fund performance and outlook.

Performance of the Scheme's DB investments over the 12 month, 3 year and 5 year periods are summarised as follows:

	12 months ending 30 June 2023	3 years p.a. ending 30 June 2023	5 years p.a. ending 30 June 2023
Total Scheme (estimated)	-22.4%	-15.2%	-6.7%
Benchmark	-22.3%	-14.9%	-6.2%

Notes: Performance, net of fees, estimated by Aon.

Performance of the Scheme's DC funds over a 12 month, 3 year and 5 year periods are summarised as follows:

	12 months ending 30 June 2023	3 years p.a. ending 30 June 2023	5 years p.a. ending 30 June 2023
Standard Life Deposit and Treasury Pension Fund	3.0%	1.0%	0.8%
Benchmark	3.1%	1.2%	0.9%
SL Vanguard FTSE Developed World ex UK Equity Index Pension Fund	13.7%	11.4%	10.2%
Benchmark	13.7%	11.4%	10.5%
SL Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Pension Fund	8.3%	9.9%	3.0%
Benchmark	7.9%	10.0%	3.1%
SL Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index Pension Fund	-3.5%	0.9%	1.5%
Benchmark	-2.8%	1.4%	1.7%
SL Aberdeen Standard Absolute Return Global Bond Strategies Pension Fund	-2.1%	-2.8%	-0.9%
Benchmark	6.7%	4.4%	4.2%
SL Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index	-7.4%	-6.2%	-1.6%
Benchmark	-6.9%	-6.2%	-1.4%
SL Vanguard UK Inflation Linked Gilt Index Pension Fund	-17.7%	-13.3%	-4.7%
Benchmark	-17.6%	-13.2%	-4.6%

Performance, net of fees, provided by Standard Life. Some of these funds may not have been invested in over all periods. In these cases, performance has been shown for informational purposes.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Investment performance (continued)

The principal economic factors which have affected the benchmarks against which performance is compared, and implicitly the assets held, were as follows:

Headline asset performance of the DB section can be explained by the performance of the Liability Driven Investment (LDI) portfolio. LDI assets are designed to behave like pension scheme liabilities rather than to generate an absolute return. The bonds held in this portfolio have an inverse relationship with interest rates meaning that when interest rates rise significantly (as was the case during the Scheme Year) the asset value falls. However, the same relationship is also true for the value of the Scheme's liabilities which also fell significantly during the Scheme Year. As a result, the financial position of the Scheme remained stable over the course of the Scheme Year which is a positive result during a period of significant market volatility.

Narrative around the other asset classes that the Scheme is invested in, is below:

- The Scheme's global equity holdings benefitted from strong US equity returns (19.6% in local currency terms) over the year to 30 June 2023. Concerns in the banking sector in March 2023 following the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank were short-lived and technology stocks were boosted by optimism surrounding the development of artificial intelligence.
- Corporate bonds markets generally had a poor 12 months as the excess return available when compared to government bonds fell.
- Consistently rising interest rates (and hence the yields available on UK government bonds) over the year were heightened following the 'mini budget' of September 2022. The sharpness of the bond sell-off during this period caused some LDI positions to unwind. Pleasingly the Scheme's LDI holdings continued to perform as expected through the year, and the liquidity of our other investments meant we were easily able to support the LDI fund as required.
- Sterling generally outperformed the US dollar over the Scheme Year although it should be noted that a significant fall occurred during the gilt market volatility of September 2022.

The Trustee has considered the nature, disposition, marketability, security and valuation of the Scheme's investments and consider them to be appropriate relative to the reasons for holding each class of investment. More details about investments are given in the notes to the financial statements.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Engagement Policy Implementation Statement ('EPIS')

The Trustee has prepared an Engagement Policy Implementation Statement in accordance with legislation. This statement is shown at Appendix I.

Chair's Statement

The Chair's Statement, which forms part of the Trustee's Report is attached at Appendix II.

Employer related investments

The investments of the Scheme are invested in accordance with Section 40 of the Pensions Act 1995. Details of any Employer related investments are disclosed in note 22 to the financial statements.

SPiRiT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Further information

Further information about the Scheme is available, on request, to members, their spouses and other beneficiaries together with all recognised trade unions. In particular, the documents constituting the Scheme, the Rules and a copy of the latest actuarial report and the Trustee's SIP can be inspected.

Individual benefit statements are provided to active and deferred DC members annually and for deferred DB members on request. In addition to the information shown on these statements members can request details of the amount of their current transfer value and, if applicable, the current amount of any refund of contributions to which they would be entitled on leaving service. Such requests are available free of charge once a year.

If members have any queries concerning the Scheme or their own pension position, or wish to obtain further information, they should contact Aon Solutions UK Limited at the contact details on page 2 who will also be able to provide them with a further copy of the Scheme's booklet should they require one and answer any queries that they may have about entitlement to benefits.

Aon Solutions UK Limited processes the personal data as contained in this report and financial statements for the purpose of providing the Trustee with a report and financial statements on the operation of the Scheme. Aon Solutions UK Limited processes personal data in the context of providing pension scheme administration services on behalf of the Trustee, the data controller. Aon Solutions UK Limited, when operating in its capacity as a data processor who provides the members of the Scheme with pension scheme administration services on behalf of the Trustee, will comply with the applicable legislation including any data protection legislation and the instructions of the Trustee.

The Trustee or the Employer will ensure the data subjects of whom personal data is processed for the purposes of this report and financial statements are informed of the processing activities in accordance with the requirements of the applicable data protection legislation.

If any further information is required, this can be found at <https://pensioninformation.aon.com/spiritgroup>.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Other matters

Pension Tracing

The Scheme is registered with the Pension Tracing Service which maintains a list of up to date addresses of schemes to assist ex-members in tracing their rights if they have lost contact with the previous Employers' scheme. The address for the Pension Tracing Service is:

The Pension Tracing Service 9
Mail Handling Site A
Wolverhampton
WV98 1LU

0800 731 0193
<https://www.gov.uk/find-pension-contact-details>

The Pensions Regulator

The Pensions Regulator ('TPR') is the United Kingdom ('UK') regulator of work-based pension schemes.

TPR's role is to act to protect the interest of pension scheme members and to enforce the law as it applies to occupational pension schemes.

The regulations set out clearly the areas that TPR covers and the powers that are vested in it. For example, TPR can prohibit or disqualify trustees for acting unlawfully, and can impose fines on wrong doers.

TPR can be contacted at:

The Pensions Regulator
Telecom House
125-135 Preston Road
Brighton
BN1 6AF

0345 600 1011
customersupport@tpr.gov.uk
www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk

Registrar of Pension Schemes

The Trustee is required to provide certain information about the Scheme to the Registrar of Pension Schemes.

This has been forwarded to:

The Registrar of Pension Schemes
PO Box 1NN
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE99 1NN

0191 225 6316
communications@thepensionsregulator.gov.uk

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Other matters (continued)

The Pension Protection Fund

The Pension Protection Fund was established to provide compensation to members of eligible pension schemes when there is a qualifying insolvency event in relation to the Employer and where there are insufficient assets in the pension scheme to cover Pension Protection Fund levels of compensation.

The Pension Protection Fund can be contacted at:

PPF Member Services
Pension Protection Fund
PO Box 254
Wyndham
NR18 8DN

0330 123 2222
ppfmembers@ppf.co.uk
www.ppf.co.uk

Questions about pensions

If you have any questions about your pension, MoneyHelper, which is part of the Money and Pensions Service provides professional, independent, and impartial help with pensions for free. Services include independent information and general guidance on pension matters.

MoneyHelper can be contacted at:

Money and Pensions Service
120 Holborn
London
EC1N 2TD
0800 011 3797

www.moneyhelper.org.uk

Resolving difficulties/Internal Dispute Resolution

It is expected that most queries relating to benefits can be resolved with the Scheme's Administrator. In the event that a member's complaint cannot be resolved by the Administrator they may make a formal complaint using the Scheme's Internal Dispute Resolution ('IDR') procedure, details of which can be obtained from the Administrator or use the Pensions Ombudsman's informal Early Resolution Service.

The Government appointed Pensions Ombudsman can investigate complaints brought by members and beneficiaries against the Trustee or the Scheme's Administrator in relation to maladministration or disputes of fact of law. The Pensions Ombudsman can be contacted at:

The Pensions Ombudsman
10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4PU

0800 917 4487
helpline@pensions-ombudsman.org.uk
www.pensions-ombudsman.org.uk

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

TRUSTEE'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Statement of Trustee's Responsibilities

The financial statements, which are prepared in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) are the responsibility of the Trustee. Pension scheme regulations require, and the Trustee are responsible for ensuring, that those financial statements:

- show a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the Scheme during the Scheme year and of the amount and disposition at the end of the Scheme year of its assets and liabilities, other than liabilities to pay pensions and benefits after the end of the Scheme year; and
- contain the information specified in Regulation 3A of the Occupational Pension Schemes (Requirement to obtain Audited Accounts and a Statement from the Auditor) Regulations 1996, including making a statement whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework applicable to occupational pension schemes.

In discharging the above responsibilities, the Trustee is responsible for selecting suitable accounting policies, to be applied consistently, making any estimates and judgments on a prudent and reasonable basis, and for the preparation of the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Scheme will not be wound up.

The Trustee is also responsible for making available certain other information about the Scheme in the form of an Annual Report.

The Trustee also has a general responsibility for ensuring that adequate accounting records are kept and for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Scheme and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities, including the maintenance of an appropriate system of internal control.

The Trustee is responsible under pensions legislation for preparing, maintaining and from time to time reviewing and if necessary, revising a Schedule of Contributions showing the rates of contributions payable towards the Scheme by or on behalf of the Employer and the active members of the Scheme and the dates on or before which such contributions are to be paid. The Trustee is also responsible for keeping records in respect of contributions received in respect of any active member of the Scheme and for adopting risk-based processes to monitor whether contributions are made to the Scheme by the Employer in accordance with the Schedule of Contributions. Where breaches of the schedule occur, the Trustee is required by the Pensions Acts 1995 and 2004 to consider making reports to The Pensions Regulator and the members.

Approval

The Trustee's Report was approved by the Trustee and signed on its behalf by:

Trustee Director:

Trustee Director:

Date:

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEE OF SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Spirit (Legacy) Pension Scheme for the year ended 30 June 2023 which comprise the Fund Account, the Statement of Net Assets and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- show a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the Scheme during the year ended 30 June 2023, and of the amount and disposition at that date of its assets and liabilities, other than liabilities to pay pensions and benefits after the end of the year;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- contain the information specified in Regulation 3A of the Occupational Pension Schemes (Requirement to obtain Audited Accounts and a Statement from the Auditor) Regulations 1996, made under the Pensions Act 1995.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Scheme in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustee has not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Scheme's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEE OF SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Other information

The Trustee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Trustee

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustee's Responsibilities set out on page 17, the Trustee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustee is responsible for assessing the Scheme's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustee either intends to wind up the Scheme or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We set out below the key areas which, in our opinion the financial statements are susceptible to material misstatement by way of irregularities including fraud and the extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting these.

- i) Management override of controls. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals and reviewing accounting estimates for bias.
- ii) Misappropriation of investment assets owned by the Scheme. This is addressed by obtaining direct confirmation from the investment managers of investments held at the Statement of Net Assets date.
- iii) Non-receipt of contributions due to the Scheme from the Employer. This is addressed by testing contributions due are paid to the Scheme in accordance with the Schedule of Contributions agreed between the Employer and the Trustee.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEE OF SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

- iv) Payment of large transfers out to invalid schemes or members. This is addressed through testing that there is evidence the receiving scheme is valid, the member identity is verified and of the authorisation of the amount and approval of the payment of the transactions.
- v) Payment of large retirement lump sum benefits to invalid members. This is addressed through sample testing that there is evidence that the member's identity is verified and of the authorisation of the amount and approval of the payment of the transactions.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

These inherent limitations are particularly significant in the case of misstatement resulting from fraud as this may involve sophisticated schemes designed to avoid detection, including deliberate failure to record transactions, collusion or the provision of intentional misrepresentations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Scheme's Trustee, as a body, in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Occupational Pension Schemes (Requirement to obtain Audited Accounts and a Statement from the Auditor) Regulations 1996, made under the Pensions Act 1995. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Scheme's Trustee those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Scheme's Trustee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Crowe U.K. LLP
Statutory Auditor
Oldbury
Date:

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

FUND ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	DB £000	DC £000	2023 Total £000	DB £000	DC £000	2022 Total £000
Employer contributions	4	977	177	1,154	1,042	177	1,219
		<u>977</u>	<u>177</u>	<u>1,154</u>	<u>1,042</u>	<u>177</u>	<u>1,219</u>
Other income	5	-	-	-	9	-	9
		<u>977</u>	<u>177</u>	<u>1,154</u>	<u>1,051</u>	<u>177</u>	<u>1,228</u>
Benefits paid or payable	6	(14,890)	(529)	(15,419)	(14,329)	(640)	(14,969)
Payments to and on account of leavers	7	(1,611)	(503)	(2,114)	(2,461)	(569)	(3,030)
Administrative expenses	8	(2,831)	(1)	(2,832)	(2,565)	(2)	(2,567)
		<u>(19,332)</u>	<u>(1,033)</u>	<u>(20,365)</u>	<u>(19,355)</u>	<u>(1,211)</u>	<u>(20,566)</u>
Net (withdrawals) from dealing with members		<u>(18,355)</u>	<u>(856)</u>	<u>(19,211)</u>	<u>(18,304)</u>	<u>(1,034)</u>	<u>(19,338)</u>
Investment income	9	2,205	3	2,208	1,672	-	1,672
Change in market value of investments	10	(93,399)	1,023	(92,376)	(100,406)	(919)	(101,325)
Investment management expenses	11	(52)	-	(52)	(24)	-	(24)
Net returns on investments		<u>(91,246)</u>	<u>1,026</u>	<u>(90,220)</u>	<u>(98,758)</u>	<u>(919)</u>	<u>(99,677)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in the fund during the year		<u>(109,601)</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>(109,431)</u>	<u>(117,062)</u>	<u>(1,953)</u>	<u>(119,015)</u>
Transfers between sections		219	(219)	-	365	(365)	-
Net assets of the fund at 1 July		<u>442,161</u>	<u>18,127</u>	<u>460,288</u>	<u>558,858</u>	<u>20,445</u>	<u>579,303</u>
at 30 June		<u>332,779</u>	<u>18,078</u>	<u>350,857</u>	<u>442,161</u>	<u>18,127</u>	<u>460,288</u>

The notes on pages 23 to 40 form part of these financial statements.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS (AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS) AS AT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	DB £000	DC £000	2023 Total £000	DB £000	DC £000	2022 Total £000
Investment assets							
Pooled investment vehicles	13	233,721	17,927	251,648	310,745	18,230	328,975
Insurance policies	14	98,100	-	98,100	129,300	-	129,300
AVC investments	15	174	-	174	251	-	251
Cash account	16	1	-	1	1	-	1
Other investment balances	16	526	-	526	428	-	428
		<u>332,522</u>	<u>17,927</u>	<u>350,449</u>	<u>440,725</u>	<u>18,230</u>	<u>458,955</u>
Current assets	20	1,319	217	1,536	2,355	54	2,409
Current liabilities	21	(1,062)	(66)	(1,128)	(919)	(157)	(1,076)
Net assets available for benefits at 30 June		<u>332,779</u>	<u>18,078</u>	<u>350,857</u>	<u>442,161</u>	<u>18,127</u>	<u>460,288</u>

The financial statements summarise the transactions of the Scheme and deal with the net assets at the disposal of the Trustee. They do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits which fall due after the end of the Scheme year. The actuarial position of the Scheme, which does take account of such obligations, is dealt with in the Report on Actuarial Liabilities included in the Trustee's Report on pages 6 and 7. These financial statements and Actuarial Certificate should be read in conjunction with this report.

The notes on pages 23 to 40 form part of these financial statements.

These financial statements on pages 21 to 40 were approved by the Trustee and were signed on its behalf by:

Trustee Director:

Trustee Director:

Date:

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

1. Basis of preparation

The individual financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with in accordance with the Occupational Pension Schemes (Requirement to obtain Audited Accounts and a Statement from the Auditor) Regulations 1996, Financial Reporting Standard 102 ('FRS 102') – The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council and the guidance set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice ('SORP') (2018) - Financial Reports of Pension Schemes, published by the Pensions Research Accountants Group ('PRAG').

2. Identification of financial statements

Spirit (Legacy) Pension Scheme is a hybrid occupational pension scheme, comprising both a Defined Benefit ('DB') and Defined Contributions ('DC') Sections, established under trust under English Law.

The address of the Scheme's principal office is Spirit Pub Company (Services) Limited, Westgate Brewery, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, United Kingdom, IP33 1QT.

3. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied to the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

Functional and presentational currency

The Scheme's functional and presentational currency is Pounds Sterling (GBP).

Contributions

Normal contributions, both from employees and Employer, are accounted for on an accruals basis in the period to which they relate.

Expense contributions made by the Employer to reimburse costs and levies are accounted for in accordance with the Schedule of Contributions.

Employee's contributions made under a salary sacrifice arrangement are accounted for on an accruals basis and are categorised as Employer's contributions.

Benefits paid or payable

Pensions in payment, including pensions funded by annuity contracts, are accounted for in the period to which they relate.

Benefits are accounted for in the period in which the member notifies the Trustee of their decision on the type and amount of the benefit to be taken, or if there is no member choice, on the date of retiring or leaving.

Where tax liabilities are settled on behalf of members, for example where the lifetime allowance or annual allowance is exceeded, the tax due is accounted for on the same basis as the benefit.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Payments to and on account of leavers

Individual transfers to other schemes are accounted for when member liability is discharged which is normally when the transfer amount is paid.

Administrative expenses

Administrative expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis, net of recoverable VAT.

Other income

Other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Investment income

Income from pooled investment vehicles is accounted for when declared by the fund manager.

Income from cash and short-term deposits is accounted for in these financial statements on an accruals basis.

Income arising from annuity policies held by the Trustee to fund benefits payable to the Scheme members is included as sales proceeds within the investment reconciliation table.

Change in market value of investments

The change in market value of investments during the year comprises all increases and decreases in the market value of investments held at any time during the year, including profits and losses realised on sales of investments and unrealised changes in market value. In the case of pooled investment vehicles which are accumulation funds, where income is reinvested within the fund without issue of further units, change in market value also includes such income.

Investment management expenses

Investment management fees and rebates are accounted for on an accruals basis, net of recoverable VAT.

Investment management fees for pooled investment vehicles are incorporated in the unit price and reflected in change in the market value of investments in the Fund Account.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Valuation of investment assets

Investments

Investment assets are included in the financial statements at fair value. The methods of determining fair value for the principal classes of investment are:

Pooled investment vehicles which are unquoted or not actively traded are stated at bid price or single price where there is no bid/offer spread as provided by the investment managers at the year end.

Insurance policies are valued by the Actuary at the amount of the present value related obligation, determined using the most recent Scheme Funding valuation assumptions updated for market conditions at the reporting date. Insurance policies bought to provide a member's benefits are included in the Statement of Net Assets (Available for Benefits) at their actuarial value as determined by the Actuary as at 30 June 2023.

AVC funds are included within the Statement of Net Assets (Available for Benefits) on the basis of fair values provided by the AVC provider at the year end.

With profits insurance policies held as AVC investments are reported at the policy value provided by the insurer based on cumulative reversionary bonuses declared and the current terminal bonus.

Critical accounting judgements and estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Key accounting estimates and assumptions

The Trustee makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. For the Scheme, the Trustee believes the only estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are related to the valuation of the Scheme investments and, in particular, those classified in Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. Explanation of the key assumptions underpinning the valuation of investments are included above and within the notes to the financial statements for Insurance policies.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

4. Contributions

	2023			2022		
	DB £000	DC £000	Total £000	DB £000	DC £000	Total £000
Employer						
Normal	-	177	177	-	177	177
PPF Levy	15	-	15	80	-	80
Expense	962	-	962	962	-	962
	977	177	1,154	1,042	177	1,219

Employer normal contributions include £55k (2022: £58k) contributions in respect of salary sacrifice arrangements made available to certain members by the Employer.

5. Other income

	2023			2022		
	DB £000	DC £000	Total £000	DB £000	DC £000	Total £000
Other income	-	-	-	9	-	9

In the prior year, other income includes a refund of monies in respect of the annuity purchased.

6. Benefits paid or payable

	2023			2022		
	DB £000	DC £000	Total £000	DB £000	DC £000	Total £000
Pensions	12,385	-	12,385	12,296	-	12,296
Commutations of pensions and lump sum retirement benefits	2,347	516	2,863	1,896	541	2,437
Lump sum death benefits	158	13	171	137	99	236
	14,890	529	15,419	14,329	640	14,969

7. Payments to and on account of leavers

	2023			2022		
	DB £000	DC £000	Total £000	DB £000	DC £000	Total £000
Individual transfers to other schemes	1,595	503	2,098	2,461	569	3,030
Refund to members leaving service	16	-	16	-	-	-
	1,611	503	2,114	2,461	569	3,030

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

8. Administrative expenses

	DB £000	DC £000	2023 Total £000	DB £000	DC £000	2022 Total £000
Administration and processing	864	-	864	645	-	645
Actuarial fees	724	-	724	1,019	-	1,019
Audit fees	14	-	14	26	-	26
Legal fees	335	-	335	65	-	65
Other professional fees	816	-	816	656	-	656
Scheme levies	31	-	31	109	-	109
Trustee fees and expenses	43	-	43	41	-	41
Sundry expenses	-	-	-	-	2	2
Bank charges	4	1	5	4	-	4
	<u>2,831</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2,832</u>	<u>2,565</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2,567</u>

Administration costs for the DC Section are included in the DB Section administrative expenses, other than bank charges and sundry expenses. Administration and processing expenses relate to day to day administration of the Scheme and ad hoc projects (for example projects relating to GMP equalisation and pensioner annuity policy).

The increase in the other professional fees during the year relates largely to investment advisory work in relation to the response to the 2022 gilt crisis and work related to the Trustee's long term strategy and additional Trustee meetings.

9. Investment income

	DB £000	DC £000	2023 Total £000	DB £000	DC £000	2022 Total £000
Income from pooled investment vehicles	2,172	-	2,172	1,668	-	1,668
Interest on cash deposits	33	3	36	4	-	4
	<u>2,205</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2,208</u>	<u>1,672</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,672</u>

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

10. Investments

	Opening value at 1 Jul 2022 £000	Purchases at cost £000	Sales Proceeds £000	Change in market value £000	Closing value at 30 Jun 2023 £000
DB Section					
Pooled investment vehicles	310,745	117,256	(124,547)	(69,733)	233,721
Insurance policies	129,300	-	(7,521)	(23,679)	98,100
AVC investments	251	-	(90)	13	174
	<u>440,296</u>	<u>117,256</u>	<u>(132,158)</u>	<u>(93,399)</u>	<u>331,995</u>
Cash	1				1
Other investment balances	428				526
Total DB net investments	<u>440,725</u>				<u>332,522</u>
DC Section					
Pooled investment vehicles	18,230	2,961	(4,287)	1,023	17,927
	<u>18,230</u>	<u>2,961</u>	<u>(4,287)</u>	<u>1,023</u>	<u>17,927</u>
Total net investments	<u>458,955</u>				<u>350,449</u>

During the year the following changes were made within the investment portfolio in order to maintain the liability hedge of the LDI portfolio during the gilts crisis in Autumn 2022.

Over September 2022, £44.0 million was transferred from the Blackrock Cash fund into the LDI portfolio. Over October 2022, £44.9 million was transferred from the Adept fund and £21.5 million was transferred from the LGIM equity funds, into the LDI portfolio.

An analysis of the DC Section investment assets is as follows:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Allocated to members	17,927	18,230
Not allocated to members	-	-
	<u>17,927</u>	<u>18,230</u>

DC section investments purchased by the Scheme are allocated to provide benefits to the individuals on whose behalf corresponding contributions were paid.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

10. Investments (continued)

Transaction costs

There are no direct transaction costs in the year nor in the previous year. Indirect costs are incurred through the bid-offer spread on pooled investment vehicles. It is not possible for the Trustee to quantify these indirect costs.

11. Investment management expenses

	DB £000	DC £000	2023 Total £000	DB £000	DC £000	2022 Total £000
Administration and management fees	52	-	52	4	-	4
Management fee rebates	-	-	-	20	-	20
	52	-	52	24	-	24

There are no fee rebates in this year as Russell Investments Limited was disinvested in prior year.

12. Taxation

The Scheme is a registered pension scheme in accordance with the Finance Act 2004. This means that the contributions paid by both the Employer and the members qualify for full tax relief, and is exempt from income tax and capital gains tax except for withholding tax on overseas investment income.

13. Pooled investment vehicles

	DB 2023 £000	DC 2023 £000	Total 2023 £000	DB 2022 £000	DC 2022 £000	Total 2022 £000
Bond funds	51,915	4,053	55,968	98,068	4,255	102,323
Cash and liquidity funds	4,666	3,494	8,160	49,358	3,301	52,659
Equity funds	41,248	10,380	51,628	58,841	10,674	69,515
LDI funds	135,892	-	135,892	104,478	-	104,478
	233,721	17,927	251,648	310,745	18,230	328,975

The legal nature of the Scheme's pooled arrangements is:

	DB 2023 £000	DC 2023 £000	Total 2023 £000	DB 2022 £000	DC 2022 £000	Total 2022 £000
Open ended investment company	51,915	-	51,915	98,068	-	98,068
UCITS	4,666	-	4,666	49,358	-	49,358
Unit linked insurance policies	41,248	17,927	59,175	58,841	18,230	77,071
Unit trusts	135,892	-	135,892	104,478	-	104,478
	233,721	17,927	251,648	310,745	18,230	328,975

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

13. Pooled investment vehicles (continued)

The Scheme is the sole investor in an LDI fund which is managed by BlackRock. The LDI fund is part of the matching portfolio and invests in various investment instruments to move in a similar way to the Scheme's liabilities for changes in interest rate and inflation expectations. A breakdown of the net assets £135,891 (2022: £104,478) at the year end is set out below:

	Expires within	Notional amounts £000	2023 £000 Assets	2023 £000 Liabilities	2022 £000 Assets	2022 £000 Liabilities
Bonds			188,813	-	240,794	-
Cash			9,624	(298)	25,752	-
Derivatives – interest rate swaps	1-13 years	84,956	-	(13,041)	-	(22,184)
Derivatives – inflation swaps	2-18 years	(42,424)	5,607	-	4,402	-
Repurchase agreements	0-1 years			(54,814)	-	(144,285)
			<u>204,044</u>	<u>(68,153)</u>	<u>270,947</u>	<u>(166,469)</u>

The notional amount represents the value of the interest rate and inflation exposure agreed within the swap contracts. The assets and liabilities figures represents the market value of the investment instruments at year end, with the sum of assets and liabilities included as the market value in the pooled investment vehicle table.

At the year end the Scheme had pledged collateral of £6,438k (2022: £26,387k) in respect of over-the-counter (OTC) swaps.

At the year end, the Scheme held repurchase agreements within its pooled investment vehicles using its Government Bonds as the underlying security. The Scheme retains the entitlement to receive income accruing on these securities and has a contractual agreement to repurchase the securities at a specified future date.

14. Insurance policies

	DB £000	DC £000	2023 Total £000	DB £000	DC £000	2022 Total £000
Insurance policies	98,100	-	98,100	129,300	-	129,300

The Trustee holds Insurance policies with Scottish Widows Limited which provides income to closely match a proportion of the Scheme's benefit payments.

In the prior year, the Trustee entered into a contract with Scottish Widows Limited to buy a second insurance policy which met c20% of the Scheme's liabilities.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

14. Insurance policies (continued)

Key Assumptions made during actuarial valuations

The valuations in respect of the annuity insurance policies have been estimated by rolling forward the following:

- (i) the full valuation carried out as at 30 June 2021 for the March 2018 buy-in policy held with Scottish Widows; and
- (ii) the 19 January 2022 valuation for the second buy-in policy held with Scottish Widows, which was calculated using assumptions consistent with the 30 June 2021 scheme funding assumptions, updated for market conditions at the effective date; and
- (iii) These valuations were rolled forward in line with interest rates, and adjusting to allow for net cash movements, expected deaths and changes in market conditions (including updated expectations of insurer pricing).

15. AVC investments

	DB £000	DC £000	2023 Total £000	DB £000	DC £000	2022 Total £000
Aviva	165	-	165	241	-	241
Standard Life	9	-	9	9	-	9
Utmost	-	-	-	1	-	1
	174	-	174	251	-	251

The Trustee holds assets which are separately invested from the main Scheme to secure additional benefits on a money purchase basis for those members electing to pay additional voluntary contributions. Members participating in this arrangement each receive an annual statement made up to 30 June each year confirming the amounts held to their account and movements during the year.

AVC investments can be further analysed as:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
With profits	165	241
Unit linked	9	10
	174	251

16. Cash and other investment balances

	DB £000	DC £000	2023 Total £000	DB £000	DC £000	2022 Total £000
Cash	1	-	1	1	-	1
Other investment balances	526	-	526	428	-	428
	527	-	527	429	-	429

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

17. Fair value of investments

FRS 102 requires for each class of financial instrument an analysis of the level in the following fair value hierarchy into which the fair value measurements are categorised as follows:

Level 1: The unadjusted quoted price in an active market for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date

Level 2: Inputs other than the quoted prices included within Level 1 which are observable (i.e., developed using market data) for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs are unobservable (i.e., for which market data is unavailable) for the asset or liability.

The Scheme's investment assets fall within the above hierarchy as follows:

DB Section	Level 1 £000	Level 2 £000	Level 3 £000	2023 Total £000
Investment assets				
Pooled investment vehicles	-	233,721	-	233,721
Insurance policies	-	-	98,100	98,100
AVC investments	-	174	-	174
Other investment balances	526	-	-	526
Cash	1	-	-	1
	<u>527</u>	<u>233,895</u>	<u>98,100</u>	<u>332,522</u>
DC Section				
Investment assets				
Pooled investment vehicles	-	17,927	-	17,927
	<u>-</u>	<u>17,927</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,927</u>
	<u>527</u>	<u>251,822</u>	<u>98,100</u>	<u>350,449</u>

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

17. Fair value of investments (continued)

DB Section	Level 1 £000	Level 2 £000	Level 3 £000	2022 Total £000
Investment assets				
Pooled investment vehicles	-	310,745	-	310,745
Insurance policies	-	-	129,300	129,300
AVC investments	-	251	-	251
Other investment balances	428	-	-	428
Cash	1	-	-	1
	<u>429</u>	<u>310,996</u>	<u>129,300</u>	<u>440,725</u>
DC Section				
Investment assets				
Pooled investment vehicles	-	18,230	-	18,230
	<u>-</u>	<u>18,230</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,230</u>
	<u>429</u>	<u>329,226</u>	<u>129,300</u>	<u>458,955</u>

Valuation techniques and assumptions in determining fair value are described in notes 3 and 14 insurance policies.

18. Investment risks

FRS 102 requires the disclosure of information in relation to certain investment risks.

Credit risk: this is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

Market risk: this comprises currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk.

Currency risk: this is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates.

Interest rate risk: this is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial asset will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates.

Other price risk: this is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial asset will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual financial instrument or its issuer, or factors affecting all similar financial instruments traded in the market.

The Trustee determines its investment strategy after taking advice from a professional investment adviser. The Scheme has exposure to these risks because of the investments it makes in following the investment strategy set out below. The Trustee manages investment risks, including credit risk and market risk, within agreed risk limits which are set taking into account the Scheme's strategic investment objectives. These investment objectives and risk limits are implemented through the investment management agreements in place with the Scheme's investment managers and monitored by the Trustee by regular reviews of the investment portfolio.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

18. Investment risks (continued)

The following table summarises the extent to which the various classes of investments are affected by financial risks:

Category	Credit Risk	Market risk			2023 £000	2022 £000
		Currency	Interest rate	Other price		
DB Section						
Pooled investment vehicles						
Direct	◐	○	○	◐	233,721	310,745
Indirect	◐	◐	◐	●		
Insurance policies	●	○	●	○	98,100	129,300
Total DB Investments					331,821	440,045

Category	Credit Risk	Market risk			2023 £000	2022 £000
		Currency	Interest rate	Other price		
DC Section						
Pooled investment vehicles						
Direct	◐	○	○	◐	17,927	18,230
Indirect	●	◐	◐	●		
Total DC Investments					17,927	18,230

In the above table, the risk noted affects the asset class [●] significantly, [◐] partially or [○] hardly/ not at all.

Further information on the Trustee's approach to risk management, credit and market risk is set out below.

Investment strategy

The investment objective is set out in the Investment strategy and principles section on page 9.

Credit risk

The Scheme is subject to credit risk through its investments in pooled investment vehicles. It is directly exposed to credit risk in relation to the security of the pooled investment vehicles themselves, and the fund manager. The Scheme is also indirectly exposed to credit risks arising on underlying holdings within the funds, most notably through underlying corporate bond holdings, money market holdings and derivate contracts.

A summary of exposures to credit risk is given in the following table, the notes below which explain how this risk is managed and mitigated for the different classes:

DB Section

Category	2023 £000	2022 £000
Pooled investment vehicles	233,721	310,745
Bond funds (direct and indirect risk)	51,915	98,068
Liability Driven Investment funds (direct and indirect risk)	135,892	104,478
Other funds (direct and indirect risk)	45,914	108,199
Insurance policies	98,100	129,300
Total	331,821	440,045

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

18. Investment risks (continued)

DC Section

Category	2023 £000	2022 £000
Pooled investment vehicles	17,927	18,230
Bond funds (direct and indirect risk)	4,053	4,256
Other funds (direct and indirect risk)	13,874	13,974
Total	17,927	18,230

Direct credit risk arising from pooled investment vehicles is mitigated by the underlying assets of the pooled arrangements being ring-fenced from the pooled manager, the regulatory environments in which the pooled managers operate and diversification of investments amongst a number of pooled arrangements. The Trustee carries out due diligence checks on the appointment of new pooled investment managers, receive ongoing monitoring of those pooled managers from the Scheme's investment consultant, and on an ongoing basis monitor changes to the operating environment of the pooled managers.

Indirect credit risk arises in relation to underlying investments held primarily in the bond pooled investment vehicle. This risk is mitigated by only investing in funds which hold at least investment grade credit rated investments.

The information about exposures to and mitigation of credit risk above applied at both the current and previous year end.

For the DC Section, access to the Standard Life investment only platform is achieved via the Trustee holding a unit-linked insurance policy with Standard Life, which invests in insured funds. The policy is classed as a long-term insurance contract. Investments are managed in line with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) rules that apply to unit-linked insurance policies.

The DC Section of the Scheme therefore has direct credit risk in relation to its policy with Standard Life.

The Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) covers business conducted by firms authorised by the FCA and applies when a firm is unable or likely to be unable to pay claims arising against it. It is the Trustee's understanding that if Standard Life became insolvent, it would be eligible to make a claim on the FSCS in respect of all assets invested through the insurance policy issued by Standard Life.

Standard Life will, in turn, invest in the funds of external fund managers. The underlying funds in which Standard Life invests are through a reinsurance arrangement with Vanguard and Abrdn.

The DC Section of the Scheme is therefore also subject to indirect credit risk arising from the underlying funds managed by Vanguard and Abrdn, and from the individual securities held in the funds. Member level risk exposures will be dependent on the funds invested in by members.

Vanguard and Abrdn are regulated by the FCA and maintain separate funds for their policy holders. The Trustee's investment advisors have regular contact with Vanguard and Abrdn and notify the Trustee when an event arises which may impact members' investments.

The information about exposures to and mitigation of credit risk above applied at both the current and previous year end.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

18. Investment risks (continued)

Interest rate risk

The Scheme is subject to interest rate risk because of the Scheme's investments in bonds, liability driven investment and cash through pooled investment vehicles. The Scheme is also exposed to interest rate risk through the insurance policies, which had a value of £98.1 million as at 30 June 2023. As at Scheme year end, the Trustee set a benchmark for total investment in bonds and liability driven investment of 75.0% of Scheme assets. Typically, should interest rates rise, while the value of the bond portfolio will fall, so will the value of the liabilities, and vice versa. This helps the Scheme to be better matched to the interest rate exposures of the payments that the Scheme needs to make to beneficiaries.

DB Section

Category	2023 £000	2022 £000
Pooled investment vehicles	192,473	251,904
Bond funds (indirect risk)	51,915	98,068
Liability Driven Investment funds (indirect risk)	135,892	104,478
Diversified growth funds (indirect risk)	-	-
Cash funds (direct and indirect risk)	4,666	49,358
Insurance policies	98,100	129,300
Total	290,573	381,204

The DC section of the Scheme is subject to interest rate risk because some of the investments are held in Bonds (Absolute Return, Corporate and Government) and Cash through pooled vehicles.

DC Section

Category	2023 £000	2022 £000
Pooled investment vehicles	7,547	7,557
Bond funds (indirect risk)	4,053	4,256
Cash funds (indirect risk)	3,494	3,301
Total	7,547	7,557

Currency risk

The Scheme is subject to currency risk because some of the Scheme's investments are held in overseas markets through pooled investment vehicles (indirect exposure). The Trustee has no set benchmark exposure.

DB Section	Indirect Exposure	
	2023 £000	2022 £000
US Dollars (USD)	13,243	20,520
Euros (EUR)	1,891	2,761
Japanese Yen	1,343	2,208
Other currencies	2,237	3,742
Total	18,714	29,231

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

18. Investment risks (continued)

Currency risk (continued)

DC Section	Indirect Exposure	
	2023 £000	2022 £000
US Dollars (USD)	6,291	6,123
Euros (EUR)	881	764
Japanese Yen	626	572
Other currencies	2,627	3,365
Total	10,425	10,824

Other price risk

Other price risk arises principally in relation to the Scheme's return seeking portfolio which includes pooled holdings in equities. As at Scheme year end, the Scheme's DB Section had set a target asset allocation of 25.0% of investments being held in return seeking investments. Additionally, the DC Section invests a majority of its assets in global equities. The Scheme manages this exposure to overall price movements by appointing suitable funds as to create a diverse portfolio of investments across markets.

Additionally, before each appointment, the Scheme receives advice from the Scheme's investment consultant on the suitability and risks to the Scheme of both the asset class and fund manager being appointed. Ongoing, the Trustee takes advice from the investment consultant as to the continuing suitability of the asset classes and managers in which the Scheme invests.

Inflation Risk

The Scheme's assets are subject to inflation risk because some of the Scheme's assets are held in inflation-linked bonds, via pooled funds. However, for the Scheme's DB Section, the inflation exposure of the Scheme's assets hedges part of the corresponding risks associated with the Scheme's liabilities. The net effect will be to reduce the volatility of the Scheme's funding level, and so the Trustee believes that it is appropriate to have exposures to these risks in this manner.

For the DC Section, the schemes investments in inflation linked bonds have been designed to provide diversification as well as inflation protection for members as they approach retirement.

19. Concentration of investments

The following investments, account for more than 5% of the net assets of the Scheme:

DB Section	2023	%	2022	%
	Value £000		Value £000	
BlackRock Sole Investor LDI Fund	135,891	37	104,478	22
Scottish Widows insurance policy 2022	72,300	21	95,300	21
Adept Strategy 29 Fund GBP Dist 9 Class	51,915	14	98,068	20
Scottish Widows insurance policy 2018	25,800	7	34,000	7
L&G HBAB - Devd Bal Factor EqIdxFdGBPHgd	21,675	6	28,168	6
L&G HBAA - Devd Balanced Factor Eq Idx Fd	19,572	5	30,673	6
BlackRock GBP Liquidity Fund	-	-	49,358	10

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

19. Concentration of investments (continued)

BlackRock GBP Liquidity Fund was less than 5% of the Scheme's net assets as at 30 June 2023, hence the investment fund has not been disclosed for the current year.

DC Section

There are no DC section investments in excess of 5% of the net assets of the Scheme.

20. Current assets

	DB	DC	2023	DB	DC	2022
	£000	£000	Total	£000	£000	Total
			£000			£000
Prepayments	292	-	292	-	-	-
Employer contributions due	-	14	14	-	14	14
Cash balances	1,027	201	1,228	2,355	38	2,393
Inter section debtor	-	2	2	-	2	2
	1,319	217	1,536	2,355	54	2,409

All contributions due to the Scheme were received in accordance with the Schedule of Contributions and Payment Schedule.

Included in the DC section bank balance is £1,821 (2022: £2,225) which is not allocated to members. All other DC Section assets are allocated to members.

21. Current liabilities

	DB	DC	2023	DB	DC	2022
	£000	£000	Total	£000	£000	Total
			£000			£000
Accrued expenses	793	-	793	649	-	649
Accrued benefits	185	66	251	207	157	364
HM Revenue & Customs	82	-	82	61	-	61
Inter section creditor	2	-	2	2	-	2
	1,062	66	1,128	919	157	1,076

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

22. Employer related investments

There were no direct Employer related investments during the year or at the year end.

The Trustee recognises that indirect investment in the employer's parent company is possible through holdings in pooled investment vehicles. Based on information provided by the investment managers, it was unlikely that there was any indirect exposure to the parent company. Given the fund of fund nature of some of the Scheme's investment it has not been possible to obtain information of this granularity however it is reasonable to assume that any exposure is unlikely and were there to be any it would be negligible given the nature of the funds.

The Trustee believes that any indirect exposure to shares in the Employer sponsor group were less than 5% of the Scheme assets at any time during the year and at year end.

- Standard Life Vanguard FTSE Developed World ex UK Equity Fund had an exposure of 0.02% to CK Asset Holdings as at 30 June 2023.
- There was a total exposure of 0.07% to CK Asset Holdings Ltd through the LGIM equity funds.

23. Related Party Transactions

Related party transactions and balances comprise:

Key management personnel

Contributions received into the Scheme and any benefits paid in respect of the Trustee Directors who are members of the Scheme have been made in accordance with the Trust Deed and Rules.

Expenses incurred by Trustee Directors are reimbursed by the Scheme. The total Trustee expenses for the year to 30 June 2023 were £0.5k (2022: £Nil). Fees were paid during the year to the Independent Trustee, BESTrustees Limited in the amount of £43k (2022: £41k) by the Scheme. At the year end a creditor balance of £Nil (2022: £10k) is due to be paid.

The membership status of the Trustee Directors at the year end is as below:

John Freeman – non-member (2022: non-member)
Maria Gavin - pensioner member (2022: deferred member)
Robert McDonald – pensioner member (2022: pensioner member)
Francis Patton – deferred member (2022: deferred member)
Nicholas Wilks - deferred member (2022: deferred member)

BESTrustees Limited is an independent Trustee, whose representative is not a member of the Scheme.

Employer and other related parties

The Principal Employer is considered a related party. All transactions involved with this entity relate to remittance of monthly contributions required under the Rules of the Scheme and reimbursed fees and expenses.

24. Contingent assets and liabilities

In the opinion of the Trustee, the Scheme had no contingent assets and liabilities as at 30 June 2023 (2022: £Nil).

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

25. GMP equalisation

As explained on pages 5 and 6 of the Trustee's report, on 26 October 2018, the High Court handed down a judgment involving the Lloyds Banking Group's defined benefit pension schemes. The judgment concluded the schemes should be amended to equalise pension benefits for men and women in relation to guaranteed minimum pension benefits. The issues determined by the judgment arise in relation to many other defined benefit pension schemes. The Trustee of the Scheme is working with its advisers to prepare to equalise pension benefits as required. Under the ruling schemes are required to backdate benefit adjustments in relation to GMP equalisation and provide interest on the backdated amounts. Based on an initial assessment of the potential backdated amounts and related interest the Trustee does not expect these to be material to the financial statements and have not included a liability in respect of these matters in these financial statements. They will be accounted for in the year they are determined.

There was a further High Court judgement in 2020 relating to the equalisation of GMP benefits. This judgement focused on the GMP treatment of historic transfers out of members, an issue which had not been addressed in the 2018 GMP ruling. Under the 2020 ruling, trustees are required to review historic transfers values paid from May 1990 to assess if any top up payment is required to the receiving scheme, to reflect the member's right to equalised GMP benefits. The Trustee of the Scheme is working with its advisers to prepare to review historic transfer values. Based on an initial assessment of the potential impact the Trustee does not expect this to be material to the financial statements.

The Trustee has included an approximate allowance in the Scheme's technical provisions to reflect the estimated overall impact of GMP equalisation on liabilities. This encompasses both the estimated cost of backdated adjustments and equalisation of past transfers out as described above, and also the impact on future benefit payments out of the Scheme. This allowance is less than 1% of the liabilities.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S STATEMENT ABOUT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TRUSTEE OF SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

Statement about contributions payable under the Schedule of Contributions

We have examined the Summary of Contributions payable to the Spirit (Legacy) Pension Scheme, for the Scheme year ended 30 June 2023 which is set out in the Trustee's report on page 42.

In our opinion contributions for the Scheme year ended 30 June 2023 as reported in the Summary of Contributions and payable under the Schedules of Contributions have in all material respects been paid at least in accordance with the Schedules of Contributions certified by the Scheme Actuary on 9 May 2019 and 25 July 2022.

Scope of work on Statement about Contributions

Our examination involves obtaining evidence sufficient to give reasonable assurance that contributions reported in the attached Summary of Contributions have in all material respects been paid at least in accordance with the Schedule of contributions. This includes an examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts of contributions payable to the Scheme and the timing of those payments under the Schedule of Contributions.

Respective responsibilities of Trustee and the auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustee's Responsibilities, the Scheme's Trustee is responsible for preparing, and from time to time reviewing and if necessary revising, a Schedule of Contributions and for monitoring whether contributions are made to the Scheme by the Employer in accordance with the Schedule of Contributions.

It is our responsibility to provide a Statement about Contributions paid under the Schedule of Contributions and to report our opinion to you.

Use of our statement

This statement is made solely to the Scheme's Trustee, as a body, in accordance with The Occupational Pension Schemes (Requirement to obtain Audited Accounts and a Statement from the Auditor) Regulations 1996 made under the Pensions Act 1995. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Scheme's Trustee those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's statement about contributions and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Scheme's Trustee as a body, for our work, for this statement, or for the opinion we have formed.

Crowe U.K. LLP
Statutory Auditor
Oldbury

Date:

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

During the year ended 30 June 2023 the contributions payable to the Scheme were as follows:

	DB Employer £000	DB Employees £000	DB Total £000	DC Employer £000	DC Employees £000	DC Total £000
Contributions payable under the Schedules of Contributions and as reported by the Scheme auditor						
Normal	-	-	-	177	-	177
PPF levy	15	-	15	-	-	-
Expense	962	-	962	-	-	-
Total contributions reported in the financial statements	977	-	977	177	-	177

The Summary of Contributions was approved by the Trustee and signed on its behalf:

Trustee Director:

Trustee Director:

Date:

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

ACTUARIAL CERTIFICATE

Certification of schedule of contributions

Spirit (Legacy) Pension Scheme

Adequacy of rates of contributions

1. I certify that, in my opinion, the rates of contributions shown in this schedule of contributions are such that the statutory funding objective can be expected to continue to be met for the period for which the schedule is to be in force.

Adherence to statement of funding principles

2. I hereby certify that, in my opinion, this schedule of contributions is consistent with the Statement of Funding Principles dated 25 July 2022.

The certification of the adequacy of the rates of contributions for the purpose of securing that the statutory funding objective can be expected to be met is not a certification of their adequacy for the purpose of securing the scheme's liabilities by the purchase of annuities, if the scheme were to be wound up.

Signature

DocuSigned by:

D0E9F070CA7484B4

Date Jul 25, 2022

Name Roger Moring FIA

Qualification

Fellow of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries

Address Verulam Point
Station Way
St Albans
Hertfordshire
AL1 5HE

Name of employer Aon Solutions UK Limited

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX I – IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

The Implementation Statement ('IS') has been prepared by the Trustee and covers the DB and DC Sections of the Scheme covering the Scheme year from 1st July 2022 to 30th June 2023.

1. A summary of any review and changes made to the SIP over the year;
2. How our policies in the SIP have been followed during the year; and
3. How we have exercised our voting rights or how these rights have been exercised on our behalf, including the use of any proxy voting advisory services

Changes to the SIP during the year

The Trustee has a SIP that covers both the DB and DC Sections of the Scheme. The Trustee undertakes a review of the SIPs at least triennially or after any significant change in investment strategy.

The Scheme’s latest SIP can be found here:

<https://pensioninformation.aon.com/spiritgroup/fileviewer.aspx?FileID=12921&FileName=SLPS%20SIP%20February%202022.pdf>

How the policies in the SIP have been followed

In the table below we set out what we have done during the year to meet the policies in the SIP. Further details of the Trustee’s policies can be found in the SIP.

Joint DB and DC Policies

Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") considerations	<p>During the year, the Trustee received Quarterly Investment Reports (QIRs) which included Aon's rating of the Scheme's investments. The monitoring included underlying ratings of sub-categories, such as ESG, which the Trustee reviewed and considered. Where appropriate, the Trustee would question the managers on their ESG practices and, if necessary, change the investment arrangements.</p> <p>The Trustee is comfortable that the ESG policies and objectives have been met over the year.</p>
Stewardship	<p>The Trustee expects the Scheme’s investment managers to, where appropriate, engage with investee companies and to exercise voting rights in relation to the Scheme's assets.</p> <p>Via Aon, the Trustee maintains an active dialogue with the Scheme's investment managers and regularly reviews the continuing suitability of their appointment. This review includes consideration of stewardship matters and the managers' exercise of voting rights. The Trustee is supported in this review by Aon.</p> <p>Details of the managers' stewardship activities over the year are provided at the end of this statement, including information on their voting behaviour, significant votes cast and the use of the services of a proxy voter.</p>
Members views	<p>In line with its policy, over the year, the Trustee has not explicitly taken into account the views of Scheme members and beneficiaries in relation to ethical considerations, social and environmental impact, or present and future quality of life matters.</p> <p>That said, the Trustee is mindful of developments in this area and review this position as appropriate. Where a member does make a decision to share their views with the Trustee, the Trustee will note and discuss and minute any subsequent course of action.</p>

Implementation Statement (continued)

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX I – IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Arrangements with asset managers

The Trustee is supported by Aon in the monitoring the activity of its investments. As noted, the Trustee receives QIRs, which include Aon’s ratings of the investments.

Aon is responsible for researching, rating and monitoring asset managers across all asset classes. This includes some aspects on the manager’s alignment with Trustee policies generally; for example, whether the manager is expected to achieve the performance objective and a review of their approach to ESG issues.

For the DB arrangements, the investment sub-committee (ISC) aims to meet with each manager annually to receive an update on the investments performance, market outlook and positioning, ESG policies and how ESG is incorporated into the investment decision making process.

The Trustee is comfortable the investment strategy and decisions of the asset managers are aligned with the Trustee’s policies and that its policies in this area have been adhered to over the year.

Costs, transparency and the monitoring of performance and remuneration

For the DB arrangements, the Trustee gathers cost information on its investments annually, to provide a consolidated summary of all the investment costs incurred. The cost report includes a breakdown of the costs into their various component parts, including the costs of buying and selling assets (transaction costs) incurred by the underlying managers.

During the year, Aon monitored portfolio turnover among the investment managers and had no concerns about it. Additionally, the QIRs provided to the Trustee during the year consider the performance of the investment managers after costs and management fees costs; no concerns were identified during the year.

For the DC arrangements, the Trustee provides cost information on its investments annually within the Chair’s Statement in the Trustee Report & Accounts. The Trustee reviewed the data which included both explicit and implicit costs and charges. Aon also reviewed the member borne costs and none appeared to be unreasonable in their view.

DB Specific Policies

Investment Risks

During the year, the Trustee received QIRs from Aon, monitoring the valuation of all investments held, the funding level, the performance the Scheme, performance of the investments against their respective benchmarks. The QIRs included details of any significant issues with the investments that may impact their ability to meet the performance targets.

The Trustee is comfortable this policy has been met over the year.

Flight Plan

During the year, the Trustee received QIRs from Aon, monitoring the Scheme’s funding level against the flight plan triggers. If a funding level trigger is achieved , a corresponding increase in the matching component allocation would be proposed at the meeting, or as soon as is reasonably practical thereafter.

The Trustee continues to monitor the Scheme’s funding level on a quarterly basis and is currently working to agree a revised Flight Plan as a result the previous trigger framework has been suspended. The Trustee expects this revised plan to have been implemented by the next year end, although recognises that it is a material piece of work which will require consultation with the sponsor.

Implementation Statement (continued)

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX I – IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

DC Specific Policies

For members who do not wish to take an active role in managing their investment choices, three Lifestyle strategies are available as low-involvement options targeting Income Drawdown, Annuity or Cash at retirement. The primary default strategy for members is the Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy. A small number of members use the Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy as a default arrangement

The default strategies manage risk automatically by moving from higher to lower risk funds as members approach their selected retirement age.

In addition to the three Lifestyle strategies, the Trustee makes available to members a range of self-select funds which provide members with a diversified range of investment options covering the main asset classes, ranging from low to high risk / return options.

The Investment Strategy

With the help of Aon, the Trustee completed the triennial investment strategy review of the DC section in 2022. This was agreed by the Trustee at the 10 March 2022 and, based on the review the Trustee agreed to change the Cash and Income Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategies by removing the investments in emerging markets due to concerns about geopolitical risks. This change was implemented in May 2023.

The next investment strategy review is due to take place by March 2025.in

Based on the advice the Trustee received as part of the most recent strategy review and subsequent updates from Aon during the year, the Trustee is comfortable that the Scheme provides a suitable range of investments and that, following the implementation of the agreed changes, the default strategies are aligned with the Trustee's objectives and are expected to meet the needs of members.

Risks

Based on advice and updates provided by Aon, The Trustee is comfortable that the agreed investment strategy appropriately manages the various key risks associated with DC investments.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX I – IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Implementation Statement (continued)

Our fund of fund manager’s engagement activity – Total Scheme level

We invest some of the Scheme's assets in Aon Diversified Liquid Credit Strategy. This is a fund of funds arrangement, where Aon selects the underlying investment managers on our behalf.

We delegate monitoring of ESG integration and stewardship of the underlying managers to Aon. We have reviewed Aon’s latest annual Stewardship Report and we believe it shows that Aon is using its resources to effectively influence positive outcomes in the funds in which it invests.

Over the year, Aon held several engagement meetings with many of the underlying managers in its strategies. Aon discussed ESG integration, stewardship, climate, biodiversity and modern slavery with the investment managers. Aon provided feedback to the managers after these meetings with the aim of improving the standard of ESG integration across its portfolios.

Over the year, Aon engaged with the industry through white papers, working groups, webinars and network events, as well as responding to multiple consultations.

In 2021, Aon committed to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, with a 50% reduction by 2030 for its fully delegated clients’ portfolios and defined contribution default strategies (relative to baseline year of 2019).

Aon also successfully renewed its signatory status to the 2020 UK Stewardship Code.

Our managers’ voting activity

Good asset stewardship means being aware and active on voting issues, corporate actions and other responsibilities tied to owning a company’s stock. We believe that good stewardship is in the members’ best interests to promote best practice and encourage investee companies to access opportunities, manage risk appropriately, and protect shareholders’ interests. Understanding and monitoring the stewardship that investment managers practice in relation to the Scheme’s investments is an important factor in deciding whether a manager remains the right choice for the Scheme.

Voting rights are attached to listed equity shares, including equities held in multi-asset funds. We expect the Scheme’s equity-owning investment managers to responsibly exercise their voting rights.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX I – IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Implementation Statement (continued)

Voting statistics

The table below shows the voting statistics for each of the Scheme’s material funds with voting rights for the year to 30 June 2023.

	Number of resolutions eligible to vote on	% of resolutions voted	% of votes against management	% of votes abstained from
LGIM - Developed Balanced Factor Equity Funds	11,596	99.9%	20.7%	0.1%
Standard Life Investments - Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index Pension Fund	26,510	98.0%	7.0%	2.0%
Standard Life Investments - SL Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Pension Fund	10,387	99.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Standard Life Investments - SL Vanguard FTSE Developed World ex UK Pension Fund	27,467	98.0%	4.0%	0.0%

Source: Managers

Use of proxy voting advisers

Many investment managers use proxy voting advisers to help them fulfil their stewardship duties. Proxy voting advisers provide recommendations to institutional investors on how to vote at shareholder meetings on issues such as climate change, executive pay and board composition. They can also provide voting execution, research, record keeping and other services.

Responsible investors will dedicate time and resources towards making their own informed decisions, rather than solely relying on their adviser’s recommendations.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX I – IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Implementation Statement (continued)

Use of proxy voting advisers (continued)

The table below describes how the Scheme’s managers use proxy voting advisers.

	Description of use of proxy voting advisers (in the managers’ own words)
LGIM	LGIM’s Investment Stewardship team uses Institutional Shareholder Services (“ISS”) ProxyExchange’ electronic voting platform to electronically vote clients’ shares. All voting decisions are made by LGIM and we do not outsource any part of the strategic decisions. To ensure our proxy provider votes in accordance with our position on ESG, we have put in place a custom voting policy with specific voting instructions.
Standard Life	Vanguard Investment Stewardship team votes on behalf of Vanguard’s internally managed equity holdings. Vanguard casts proxy votes via dedicated voting providers. We consult a wide variety of third-party research providers and our own internal proprietary databases. We then analyze the various issues and ballot measures in conjunction with our Proxy Voting Guidelines and other relevant data to reach our own independent decisions. The Investment Stewardship team uses a variety of research from well-known providers, such as ISS, Glass Lewis, and Equilar, as well as a number of smaller research providers. We do not rely on recommendations from proxy advisors for our voting decisions. We believe it is valuable to understand all sides of an issue before casting a vote on behalf of a Vanguard fund. As such, proxy advisors can be a useful data aggregator which serves as one of the many inputs that Vanguard’s Investment Stewardship team uses to reach independent voting decisions on each funds’ behalf.

Source: Managers

Significant voting examples

To illustrate the voting activity being carried out on our behalf, we asked the Scheme’s investment managers to provide a selection of what they consider to be the most significant votes in relation to the Scheme’s funds. A sample of these significant votes can be found in the appendix.

Our managers’ engagement activity

Engagement is when an investor communicates with current (or potential) investee companies (or issuers) to improve their ESG practices, sustainability outcomes or public disclosure. Good engagement identifies relevant ESG issues, sets objectives, tracks results, maps escalation strategies and incorporates findings into investment decision-making.

The table below shows some of the engagement activity carried out by the Scheme’s material managers. The managers have provided information for the most recent calendar year available. Some of the information provided is at a firm-level i.e. is not necessarily specific to the funds invested in by the Scheme.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX I – IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Implementation Statement (continued)

Our managers’ engagement activity (continued)

Funds	Number of engagements		Themes engaged on at a fund-level
	Fund specific	Firm Level	
LGIM - Developed Balanced Factor Equity Index Fund	306	1,224	Environment - Climate change Social - Human capital management (e.g. inclusion & diversity, employee terms, safety), Public health Governance - Board effectiveness - Diversity, Remuneration, Strategy/purpose and others.
Schroders (held within the Aon Diversified Liquid Credit Fund) International Selection Fund (“ISF”) Securitised Credit Fund	Not provided	>2,800	Environment – Climate change Social – Human capital management (e.g. inclusion & diversity, employee terms, safety), Human and labour rights (e.g. supply chain rights, community relations)
Barings (held within the Aon Diversified Liquid Credit Fund) Short Dated Credit	476	760	Environment – Climate change, Natural resource use/impact (e.g. water, biodiversity) Social – Public health Governance – Board effectiveness - Diversity Strategy, Financial and Reporting – Reporting (e.g. audit, accounting, sustainability reporting), Strategy/purpose
Standard Life Investments - Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index Pension Fund			Not provided
Standard Life Investments - Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index Pension Fund			Not provided
Standard Life Investments - Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Pension Fund			Not provided
Standard Life Investments - Vanguard FTSE Developed World ex UK Pension Fund			Not provided

Source: Managers. Schroders did not provide fund level themes; themes provided are at a firm-level.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX I – IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Implementation Statement (continued)

Data limitations

At the time of writing, the following managers did not provide all the information we requested:

- Schroders did not provide number of engagements at funds level.
- Vanguard did not provide fund level engagement examples for all the funds and significant voting example on its Emerging Markets Stock Index Pension Fund.

This report does not include commentary on the Scheme’s investments in gilts or cash because of the limited materiality of stewardship to these asset classes.

Appendix – Significant Voting Examples

In the table below is a significant vote example provided by the Scheme’s managers. We consider a significant vote to be one which the manager considers significant. Managers use a wide variety of criteria to determine what they consider a significant vote, some of which are outlined in the examples below.

LGIM - Developed Balanced Factor Equity Index Fund	Company name	Wells Fargo & Company
	Date of vote	25 April 2023
	Approximate size of fund's/mandate's holding as at the date of the vote (as % of portfolio)	0.3
	Summary of the resolution	Report on Climate Transition Plan Describing Efforts to Align Financing Activities with GHG Targets
	How you voted	For (Against Management Recommendation)
	Where you voted against management, did you communicate your intent to the company ahead of the vote?	LGIM pre-declared its vote intention for this meeting on the LGIM Blog. As part of this process, a communication was set to the company ahead of the meeting.
	Rationale for the voting decision	We generally support resolutions that seek additional disclosures on how they aim to manage their financing activities in line with their published targets. We believe detailed information on how a company intends to achieve the 2030 targets they have set and published to the market (the ‘how’ rather than the ‘what’, including activities and timelines) can further focus the board’s attention on the steps and timeframe involved and provides assurance to stakeholders. The onus remains on the board to determine the activities and policies required to fulfil their own ambitions, rather than investors imposing restrictions on the company.
	Outcome of the vote	30.8% (Fail)

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX I – IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Implementation Statement (continued)

Appendix – Significant Voting Examples (continued)

	Implications of the outcome eg were there any lessons learned and what likely future steps will you take in response to the outcome?	LGIM will continue to engage with the company and monitor progress.
	On which criteria have you assessed this vote to be "most significant"?	Pre-declaration and Thematic – Climate: LGIM consider this vote to be significant as we pre-declared our intention to support. We continue to consider that decarbonisation of the banking sector and its clients is key to ensuring that the goals of the Paris Agreement are met.
Standard Life Investments - Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Pension Fund	Company name	BP plc
	Date of vote	27 April 2023
	Approximate size of fund's/mandate's holding as at the date of the vote (as % of portfolio)	Not provided
	Summary of the resolution	Approve Shareholder Resolution on Climate Change Targets
	How you voted	Against
	Where you voted against management, did you communicate your intent to the company ahead of the vote?	Not provided
	Rationale for the voting decision	Determined the proposal addressed material risk(s) and company had taken sufficient actions and/or had related actions pending to address the proponent request.
	Outcome of the vote	Fail
	Implications of the outcome eg were there any lessons learned and what likely future steps will you take in response to the outcome?	Not provided
	On which criteria have you assessed this vote to be "most significant"?	Not provided

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX I – IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Implementation Statement (continued)

Appendix – Significant Voting Examples (continued)

Standard Life Investments - Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Pension Fund	Company name	Berkshire Hathaway Inc.
	Date of vote	6 May 2023
	Approximate size of fund's/mandate's holding as at the date of the vote (as % of portfolio)	Not provided
	Summary of the resolution	Report on Physical and Transitional Climate-Related Risks and Opportunities
	How you voted	For
	Where you voted against management, did you communicate your intent to the company ahead of the vote?	Not provided
	Rationale for the voting decision	Determined the proposal addressed material risk(s), a gap in oversight or disclosure, and supported long-term investment returns. Proposal not determined to be overly prescriptive.
	Outcome of the vote	Fail
	Implications of the outcome eg were there any lessons learned and what likely future steps will you take in response to the outcome?	Not provided
	On which criteria have you assessed this vote to be "most significant"?	Not provided

Source: Managers

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX II – CHAIR’S STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Annual statement regarding governance of the AVCs and DC Section of the Spirit Legacy Pension Scheme ('the Scheme')

The Occupational Pension Schemes (Scheme Administration) Regulations 1996 ('the Administration Regulations') require the Trustee to prepare an annual statement regarding governance which must be included in the annual Trustee's report and accounts. The governance requirements apply to all Defined Contribution (DC) pension arrangements and aim to help members achieve a good outcome from their pension savings.

This statement issued by the Trustee covers the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 and is signed on behalf of the Trustee by the Chair. It covers the Scheme's DC section and member's Additional Voluntary Contribution (AVC) funds.

This statement covers governance and charge disclosures in relation to the following:

1. The default arrangements
2. Net investment returns
3. Member borne charges and transaction costs
 - i. Default arrangements
 - ii. Self-select funds
 - iii. Additional Voluntary Contributions
 - iv. Illustrations of the cumulative effect of these costs and charges
4. Processing of core financial transactions
5. Assessment of value for members
6. Trustee's knowledge and understanding

During the period covered by this statement, the Trustee has continued to consider the possible impact on the Scheme of the Covid-19 pandemic and, since early 2022, the ongoing Russia / Ukraine conflict.

1. The Default Arrangements

The Scheme is used as a Qualifying Scheme for auto-enrolment purposes. The Trustee is responsible for the Scheme's investment governance which includes setting and monitoring the investment strategy for the Scheme's default arrangements. The default arrangements for members are the Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy and the Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy.

The Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy is primarily provided for members who join the Scheme and do not choose an investment option for their contributions. The Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy also contains a small number of members' funds that are close to retirement where no active decision has been taken to invest in that option, therefore it is also considered a "default" arrangement for the purposes of legislation.

Details of the objectives and the Trustee's policies regarding the default arrangements can be found in a document called the Statement of Investment Principles (SIP). The latest SIP for the Scheme is attached to this statement and included in the Trustee Report and Accounts. The objective of the default arrangements (and the alternative Annuity Targeting Lifestyle Strategy) is to automatically move members from higher return, higher risk investments to lower risk, lower return investments as they near their retirement age. This is done with the aim of providing growth to members while they are further from retirement while helping to protect fund values as members get closer to retirement and investing in a mix of assets broadly appropriate to how members in each strategy may take their benefits when they retire.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX II – CHAIR’S STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Chair’s Statement (continued)

Investment strategy review

The default arrangement was not formally reviewed during the period covered by this statement.

The last review was completed on 10 March 2022. The review considered suitability of the default arrangement and other fund options with reference to the membership demographics and how members access their benefits, as well as industry data and wider trends. This assessment was made by considering the current membership profile and member outcomes adequacy modelling was completed. As a result of the review, the Trustee agreed to change the lifestyle strategies (including the default arrangements) by removing the allocation to emerging market equities given there was investment in Russia, which the Trustee did not support following the Russia/Ukraine conflict. This change is expected to improve the risk adjusted returns of the lifestyle strategies and was completed on 2 May 2023.

The Trustee undertakes a formal review of the default arrangement every 3 years. The next formal review is due to take place by 10 March 2025.

Performance Monitoring

The Trustee also reviews the performance of the funds underlying the default arrangements against their aims and objectives on a quarterly basis.

The Trustee reviews that took place in the year concluded that the funds were performing broadly as expected.

2. Net investment returns

The Trustee is required to report on net investment returns for each default arrangement and for each non-default fund which Scheme members were invested in during the scheme year. Net investment return refers to the returns on funds minus all member-borne transaction costs and charges. The net investment returns to 30 June 2023 are shown in the tables below and have been prepared having regard to statutory guidance. It is important to note that past performance is not a guarantee of future performance.

The net returns for the Lifestyle Strategy Funds shown in tables (i), (ii) and (iii) below are based on a member having a Target Retirement Age of 65. The statutory guidance states net investment returns for lifestyle strategies must be shown for members aged 25, 45 and 55 at the start of the Scheme year. The Scheme’s lifestyle strategies start de-risking from 10 years before retirement (from age 55 where the Target Retirement Age is 65), therefore the net returns for the lifestyle strategies and all self-select funds are the same at age 25, 45 and 55 for the 1 year or 5 year periods. We have shown net investment returns at age 55 and under as well as age 60 and 65 (to show returns achieved for members closer to retirement).

(i) Default arrangement – Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

Age	Net return (% p.a.)	
	1 year	5 years
55 and under	11.5	8.7
60	1.0	2.8
65	(1.5)	1.5

Source: Standard Life and Aon calculations

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX II – CHAIR’S STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Chair’s Statement (continued)

(ii) Additional default arrangement – Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

Age	Net return (% p.a.)	
	1 year	5 years
55 and under	11.5	8.7
60	1.0	2.8
65	3.0	0.8

Source: Standard Life and Aon calculations

(iii) Self-select– Annuity Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

Age	Net return (% p.a.)	
	1 year	5 years
55 and under	11.5	8.7
60	1.0	2.8
65	(12.5)	(3.4)

Source: Standard Life and Aon calculations

(iv) Self-select investment funds

Fund name	Net returns (% p.a.)	
	1 year	5 years
SL Vanguard FTSE Developed World ex UK Pension Fund ^{1,2,3}	13.7	10.2
SL Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Pension Fund ¹²³	8.3	3.0
SL Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index Pension Fund ¹²³⁴	(3.5)	1.5
SL Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index Pension Fund ¹²³	(7.4)	(1.6)
SL Vanguard UK Inflation Linked Gilt Index Pension Fund ¹²³	(17.7)	(4.7)
SL SLI Absolute Return Global Bond Strategies Pension Fund ¹²³	(2.1)	(0.9)
Standard Life Deposit and Treasury Fund ²³	3.0	0.8

Source: Standard Life

1 Funds also used in the Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

2 Funds also used in the Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

3 Funds also used in the Annuity Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

4 Fund removed from all lifestyle strategies on 2 May 2023

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX II – CHAIR’S STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Chair’s Statement (continued)

(v) Additional Voluntary Contributions

The Scheme also holds legacy AVC funds in which some members of the defined benefit section of the Scheme are invested (although they are no longer available for members to select).

Fund name	Net returns (% p.a.)	
	1 year	5 years
Aviva		
Long Gilt Fund	(26.0)	(8.7)
Global Equity Fund	9.6	6.3
UK Equity Fund	8.1	2.6
My Future Focus Consolidation Fund	(1.2)	1.5
Mixed Invest (40-85% Shares) Fund	2.9	2.3
With-Profit Fund	(0.4)	2.9
Standard Life		
Standard Life Stock Exchange Pension Fund	6.9	4.5
Standard Life Money Market Pension Fund	1.9	0.0

Source: Aviva & Standard Life

3. Member Borne Charges and Transaction costs

The Trustee has set out the costs and charges that are incurred by members, rather than the employer, over the Scheme year in respect of each investment fund available to members. These comprise the Total Expense Ratio and transaction costs.

The Total Expense Ratio is an explicit charge and represents the costs associated with operating and managing an investment fund. Transaction costs are not explicit and are incurred when the fund managers buy and sell assets within the investment funds.

The fund managers calculate transaction costs on a quarterly basis at fund-level not scheme-level and the Trustee requested details of transaction costs for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 from the Scheme's providers.

The charges and transaction costs have been supplied by Standard Life and Aviva. Where transaction costs have been provided as a negative cost, a floor of zero has been set by the Trustee so as not to potentially understate investment management costs.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX II – CHAIR’S STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Chair’s Statement (continued)

(i) Default arrangements

Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

The actual costs that a member paid over the year depends on their term to retirement. The TER ranged from 0.13% p.a. to 0.22% p.a. Transaction costs ranged between 0.0143% p.a. and 0.0167% p.a.

The actual costs based on term to retirement during the year are shown in the table below:

Years to retirement	10+	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
TER % p.a.	0.13	0.14	0.16	0.18	0.19	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.22	0.22
Transaction costs % p.a.	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Total costs % p.a.	0.15	0.16	0.18	0.20	0.21	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.24	0.23

Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

The actual costs that a member paid over the year depends on their term to retirement. The TER ranged from 0.13% p.a. to 0.21% p.a. Transaction costs ranged between 0% p.a. and 0.0167% p.a.

The actual costs based on term to retirement during the year are shown in the table below:

Years to retirement	10+	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
TER % p.a.	0.13	0.14	0.16	0.18	0.19	0.21	0.20	0.19	0.18	0.17	0.16
Transaction costs % p.a.	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Total costs % p.a.	0.15	0.16	0.18	0.20	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.20	0.19	0.17	0.16

The charges paid by members invested in either of the above arrangements are within the 0.75% p.a. charge cap for schemes that are used for auto enrolling their employees.

(ii) Self-select – Annuity Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

In addition to the Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy and the Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy shown above, members also have the option to invest in the Annuity Targeting Lifestyle Strategy.

The actual costs that a member paid over the year depends on their term to retirement. The TER ranged from 0.12% p.a. to 0.21% p.a. Transaction costs ranged between 0.0075% p.a. and 0.0167% p.a.

The actual costs based on term to retirement during the year are shown in the table below:

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX II – CHAIR’S STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Chair’s Statement (continued)

Years to retirement	10+	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
TER % p.a.	0.13	0.14	0.16	0.18	0.19	0.21	0.19	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.12
Transaction costs % p.a.	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Total costs % p.a.	0.15	0.16	0.18	0.20	0.21	0.23	0.20	0.18	0.17	0.15	0.13

(iii) Self-select investment funds

In addition to the lifestyle strategies shown above, members also have the option to invest in seven self-select funds.

The TERs and transaction costs for each of the individual funds available to members are shown in the following table:

Self-select Fund name	TER % p.a.	Transaction Costs % p.a.	Total Costs % p.a.
SL Vanguard FTSE Developed World ex UK Pension Fund ^{1,2,3}	0.11	0.01	0.12
SL Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Pension Fund ¹²³	0.11	0.04	0.15
SL Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index Pension Fund ¹²³⁴	0.26	0.05	0.31
SL Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index Pension Fund ¹²³	0.11	0.02	0.13
SL Vanguard UK Inflation Linked Gilt Index Pension Fund ¹²³	0.11	0.01	0.12
SL SLI Absolute Return Global Bond Strategies Pension Fund ¹²³	0.52	0.01	0.53
Standard Life Deposit and Treasury Fund ²³	0.16	0.00	0.16

1 Funds also used in the Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

2 Funds also used in the Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

3 Funds also used in the Annuity Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

4 Fund removed from all lifestyle strategies on 2 May 2023

(iv) Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVCs)

The costs and charges for the AVC funds are shown in the table below.

	TER % p.a.	Transaction Costs % p.a.	Total Costs % p.a.
Aviva			
Long Gilt Fund	0.60	0.08	0.68
Global Equity Fund	0.60	0.04	0.64
UK Equity Fund	0.60	0.07	0.67
My Future Focus Consolidation Fund ¹	0.60	0.07	0.67
Mixed Invest (40-85% Shares) Fund	0.60	0.05	0.65
With-Profit Fund	0.60	0.07	0.67
Standard Life			
Standard Life Stock Exchange Pension Fund	1.02	0.00	1.02
Standard Life Money Market Pension Fund	1.01	0.00	1.01

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX II – CHAIR’S STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Chair’s Statement (continued)

(v) Illustrations of the cumulative effect of costs and charges

From 6 April 2018 the Occupational Pension Schemes (Administration and Disclosure) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 introduced new requirements relating to the disclosure and publication of the level of costs by the trustees and managers of a relevant scheme. These changes are intended to improve transparency on costs.

In order to help members understand the impact that costs and charges can have on their retirement savings, the Trustee has provided three illustrations of their cumulative effect on the value of typical scheme members' savings over the period to their retirement.

The illustrations have been prepared having regard to statutory guidance, selecting suitable representative members and are based on a number of assumptions about the future which are set out below.

Members should be aware that such assumptions may not hold true, so the illustrations do not promise what could happen in the future and fund values are not guaranteed. Furthermore, because the illustrations are based on typical members of the Scheme, they are not a substitute for the individual and personalised illustrations which are provided to members in their annual Benefit Statements.

Each illustration is shown as a table. As the projected retirement savings are dependent on investment returns as well as the level of costs and charges, comparison figures with other investments have been included in the tables. For comparison purposes, the projected retirement savings if the typical member were invested in the FTSE Developed World ex UK Pension Fund (which has the lowest charge level) and the Absolute Return Global Bond Strategies Pension Fund (which has the highest charge level) are shown in the tables.

All projected fund values are shown in today's terms so do not need to be reduced further for the effect of future expected inflation.

Illustration A: is based on an existing active Scheme member who has 24 years to go until their retirement at age 65. The member has a current salary of £34,600 p.a. and a starting fund value of £50,900.

Age	Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy (default)			FTSE Developed World ex UK Pension Fund			SL SLI Absolute Return Global Bond Strategies Pension Fund		
	Before charges £	After charges £	Effect of charges £	Before charges £	After charges £	Effect of charges £	Before charges £	After charges £	Effect of charges £
41	50,900	50,900	0	50,900	50,900	0	50,900	50,900	0
45	77,160	76,860	300	77,050	76,750	300	70,360	68,870	1,490
50	116,260	115,310	950	115,900	114,960	940	96,100	92,010	4,090
55	163,710	161,720	1,990	162,950	160,990	1,960	123,510	115,920	7,590
60	212,750	208,860	3,890	219,920	216,420	3,500	152,710	140,630	12,080
65	252,330	245,320	7,010	288,910	283,170	5,740	183,810	166,160	17,650

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX II – CHAIR’S STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Chair’s Statement (continued)

Illustration B: is based on an existing deferred Scheme member who has 12 years to go until their retirement at age 65. The member is not contributing and has a starting fund value of £19,700.

Age	Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy (default)			FTSE UK All Share Index Pension Fund			Absolute Return Global Bond Strategies Fund		
	Before charges £	After charges £	Effect of charges £	Before charges £	After charges £	Effect of charges £	Before charges £	After charges £	Effect of charges £
53	19,700	19,700	0	19,700	19,700	0	19,700	19,700	0
55	21,290	21,240	50	21,270	21,220	50	20,200	19,960	240
60	24,810	24,560	250	25,750	25,560	190	21,520	20,630	890
65	26,930	26,350	580	31,190	30,780	410	22,920	21,310	1,610

Illustration C: is based on an existing deferred Scheme member who has 12 years to go until their retirement at age 65 and is invested in the Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy. The member is not contributing and has a starting fund value of £19,700.

Age	Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy (default)		
	Before charges £	After charges £	Effect of charges £
53	19,700	19,700	0
55	21,290	21,240	50
60	24,810	24,560	250
65	25,960	25,440	520

Members are encouraged to consider both the level of costs and charges and the expected return on investments (i.e. the risk profile of the strategy) when making investment decisions.

Assumptions and data for illustrations:

The following assumptions have been made for the purposes of the above illustrations:

- Annual salary growth and inflation are assumed to be 2.5% per annum
- The starting fund values and future contributions used in the projections are representative of the average for the Scheme.
- For the active member illustrations, allowance has been made for a total future contribution rate of 12% p.a. payable until retirement at age 65
- The projected annual returns on assets (gross of costs and charges) are:

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX II – CHAIR’S STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Chair’s Statement (continued)

Fund		Return (% p.a.)
SL Vanguard FTSE Developed World ex UK Pension Fund	Used in the Drawdown and Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategies	6.5
SL Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Pension Fund		7.0
SL Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index Pension Fund		2.5
SL Vanguard UK Inflation Linked Gilt Index Pension Fund		0.8
SL SLI Absolute Return Global Bond Strategies Pension Fund		3.8
Standard Life Deposit and Treasury Fund	Used in the Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy	2.0

- *The projections assume the lifestyle strategies are rebalanced annually across the different underlying funds associated with a members' term to retirement*
- *Statutory guidance states that the transaction costs should be based on an average of the previous 5 years' transaction costs or, where data is available for fewer than 5 years, an average of transactions costs over the years for which data is available. We have 4 years' worth of transaction costs data available so an average has been taken over this period.*

4. Processing of Core Financial Transactions

Core financial transactions include the investment of contributions, transfer of member funds into and out of the Scheme, transfers between different investments within the Scheme and payments to and in respect of members/beneficiaries. The bulk of the core financial transactions are undertaken on behalf of the Trustee by the Scheme administrator, Aon, while the Company is responsible for ensuring that contributions are paid to the Scheme promptly. The timing of such payments is monitored by the Trustee from quarterly administration reports submitted by Aon.

In order to determine how well the administration is performing, the Trustee has service level agreements (SLAs) in place with Aon. These SLAs detail a number of key administration processes to be performed and the target timescale within which each of these processes needs to be completed. There are SLAs in place for all core financial transactions. Under the current SLA, Aon aims to accurately complete all financial transactions within 5 working days except for the investment of contributions which is within 3 working days of reconciliation of the amounts with the Company, and it aims to achieve these at least 89% of the time. These SLAs were achieved over the period covered by this Statement.

The Trustee periodically reviews the key processes adopted by the administrator and their output in order to minimise the risks of inaccurate or late payment of core financial transactions. Key processes include:

- A full member and Scheme reconciliation being undertaken annually as part of the annual preparation of the Trustee Report & Accounts.
- Provision of quarterly administration reports – enabling the Trustee to check core financial transactions and review processes relative to any member complaints made.
- Monthly contribution checks and daily reconciliation of the Trustee's bank account.
- Checks for all investment and banking transactions prior to processing.
- Straight-through processing where possible, therefore avoiding the need for manual intervention and, in turn, significantly reducing the risk of error.
- Annual data reviews.
- Documentation and operation in line with quality assurance policies and procedures.
- Operation in line with the business continuity plan and confirmation that the administrator has prioritised core financial transactions during this period.

SPiRiT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX II – CHAIR’S STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Chair’s Statement (continued)

Controls around administration and the processing of transactions are being documented in the Scheme risk register so that they will be subject to regular review. The Scheme audit also reviews a sample of calculations carried out during the Scheme year.

The Trustee is satisfied that, over the period:

- The administrator was operating appropriate procedures, checks and controls and operating within the agreed SLA.
- There have been no material administration errors in relation to processing core financial transactions.
- All core financial transactions have been processed promptly and accurately during the Scheme year.

5. Assessment of Value for Members

There is no legal definition of "good value" or the process of determining this for scheme members. Therefore, working in conjunction with its advisers, Aon, the Trustee has developed a cost-benefit analysis framework in order to make an assessment as to whether members receive good value from the Scheme relative to the costs and charges they pay.

Costs

The costs have been identified as TERs and transaction costs and are set out in section 3 of this statement. Benchmarking relative to other pension arrangements or industry best practice guidelines has been undertaken.

Based on the profile of the Scheme's DC/AVC arrangements, we believe that the explicit charges are generally competitive when compared to current market rates on a like-for-like basis.

Benefits

The Trustee has considered the benefits of membership under the following four categories:

Scheme governance

The Scheme is governed by an experienced group of Trustee Directors including a professional, independent Chair. The Board regularly reviews information about the performance of Scheme investments and the DC members and decisions being made, amongst other information. This helps the Trustee to determine an appropriate strategy to support members and make improvements.

Investments

The Scheme provides members with an appropriate range of lifestyle and self-select fund options. The investment strategy and performance are regularly monitored and reviewed by the Trustee. The investment funds available have been designed, following advice from the Trustee’s investment advisers, Aon, with the specific needs of members in mind.

Administration

The Trustee regularly monitors the Scheme administration and, over the period, found that the necessary administration standards were being achieved.

Member support

The Scheme provides members with regular, clear communications regarding the choices open to them, as well as annual benefit statements and 'at retirement' communications. The Trustee will continue to review and improve as necessary.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX II – CHAIR’S STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Chair’s Statement (continued)

Assessment

The Trustee's assessment concluded that the charges and transaction costs borne by Scheme members represents good value for members relative to the benefits of Scheme membership.

6. Trustee's Knowledge and Understanding

The comments in this section relate to the Scheme as a whole and not solely the DC section.

The Trustee has processes and procedures in place to meet the Pension Regulator's Trustee Knowledge and Understanding requirements (as set out in their Code of Practice No 7); some of which are identified below:

- A structured training programme for newly appointed Trustee Directors including completion of the Pension Regulator's Trustees toolkit, which is an online learning programme.
- Assessing training needs and identifying gaps in knowledge through regular self-assessments.
- Undergoing regular training for the year, this included investment strategy training, training on pensioner buy-ins and training on possible end games.
- Maintaining training logs for each individual Trustee Director which supports the above.
- The Trustee has engaged with its professional advisers regularly throughout the year to ensure that it exercises its functions properly and take professional advice where needed. In exercising its functions this has required knowledge of key scheme documents such as the Trust Deed & Rules, Trustee Report & Accounts and Statement of Investment Principles. A few of the areas that support this statement are set out below:
 - Preparation for the production of an Implementation statement.
 - Arrange preparation and audit of the annual Trustee's Report and Accounts.
 - The law relating to pensions and trusts through updating the risk register.
 - Review of quarterly administration reports to monitor service delivery against agreed service levels standards and assessing the member experience.
 - Reviewing investment reports to assess fund performance against benchmarks, and funds against overall Scheme aim and objectives, as set out in the statement of Investment Principles.
 - Maintaining a regime for proper governance - reviewing and updating the Trustee's governance framework for the DC Section of the Scheme.
 - Implementing the investment strategy changes following completion of the investment strategy review in March 2022.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX II – CHAIR’S STATEMENT (forming part of the Trustee’s Report)

Chair’s Statement (continued)

The Trustee held 8 meetings across the Scheme year.

The Trustee board is currently made up of six Trustee Directors with diverse skill sets. The Chair of the Trustee is an independent professional trustee and there are two other Company appointed Trustee Directors and three member nominated Trustee Directors. The composition of the Trustee board aims to demonstrate diversification of skills and breadth and depth of pension knowledge. New Trustee Directors receive comprehensive introductory training which they are required to supplement with the Pensions Regulator's Trustee Toolkit (within 6 months of appointment).

The Trustee Directors consider that they meet the Pension Regulator's Trustee Knowledge and Understanding requirements and are confident that their combined knowledge and understanding, together with the support of their advisers, enables them to properly exercise their functions as the Trustee of the Scheme.

The Trustee publishes this statement on a publicly accessible website (<https://pensioninformation.aon.com/spiritgroup>) and confirms the location to members in their annual benefits statements.

Signed on behalf of the Trustee of the Spirit (Legacy) Pension Scheme.

Signature _____

Name: Iain Urquhart, Chair of Trustee

Date _____

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

February 2022

Scheme Investment Objective

For the Defined Benefit Section, the Trustee aims to invest the assets of the Scheme prudently to ensure that the benefits promised to members are provided. In setting investment strategy, the Trustee first considered the lowest risk asset allocation that it could adopt in relation to the Scheme's liabilities. The asset allocation strategy it has selected is designed to achieve a higher return than the lowest risk strategy, while maintaining a prudent approach to meeting the Scheme's liabilities.

For the Defined Contribution Section, the Trustee's key aim is to provide a range of investments that are suitable for meeting members' long and short-term investment objectives, in order for the investing of the assets to be done in a prudent manner. It has taken into account members' circumstances, in particular the range of members' attitudes to risk and term to retirement.

STRATEGY

The Scheme has both a Defined Benefit Section and a Defined Contribution section.

Defined Benefit Section

In the Defined Benefit Section, the current planned asset allocation strategy is set out in the table below.

The Trustee has also adopted a flightplan, which is designed to reduce investment risk and protect the funding level as it improves. Following the breach of a trigger the Scheme's asset allocation will change in order to achieve these objectives. Further details of this strategy can be found within the 'Flightplan Parameters' section of this report.

In order to secure the benefits that are promised to members, the Trustee will consider whether opportunities to enter into buy-in arrangements with an insurance company are appropriate.

Following consultation with the Company, the Trustee agreed to reduce investment risk and the Trustee entered into a buy-in policy with Scottish Widows during March 2018. This policy remains an asset of the Scheme and, at inception, was valued at c. £50m.

In January 2022, following similar consultation with the Company, the Trustee agreed to further reduce investment risk and entered into a second buy-in policy with Scottish Widows. This policy remains an asset of the Scheme and, at inception, was valued at c. £110m.

As the buy-in policies held by the Trustee are illiquid assets which will be held until the windup of the Scheme, these have been excluded from the target asset allocation strategy outlined below.

The current target asset allocation strategy chosen to meet the objective above is set out in the table below. The Trustee will monitor the actual asset allocation versus the target weight set out in the table below. The Trustee acknowledges that due to factors such as market movements, investment views, governance constraints and implementation issues the Scheme's strategic asset allocation may deviate significantly from the target. The Trustee does however monitor this regularly.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

Asset Class	SLPS (%)
Growth Assets	25.0
Global Equities	15.0
Property	10.0
Credit Assets	25.0
Credit	25.0
Matching Assets	50.0
Liability Driven Investment and Cash	50.0

This strategy was set on advice from the Trustee's investment adviser and following consultation with the sponsoring employer. The strategy has been set on the assumption that growth assets such as equities would outperform gilts over the longer term and assumes that active fund management can be expected to add value. However, the Trustee recognises the potential volatility in equity returns, particularly relative to the Scheme's liabilities, and the risk that the fund managers do not achieve the targets set.

In combination with the Trustee's corporate bond holdings, the Liability Driven Investment portfolio is also designed to protect the Scheme's self-sufficiency funding level against adverse movements in interest rates and inflation expectations of the Scheme's uninsured liabilities.

In choosing the Defined Benefit Section's planned asset allocation strategy, it is the Trustee's policy to consider:

- A full range of asset classes.
- The risks and rewards of a range of alternative asset allocation strategies.
- The suitability of each asset class.
- The need for appropriate diversification.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

Defined Contribution Section

The overall investment objective in respect of the Defined Contribution Section is implemented using the range of investment options set out in **Table 1**. Details of the Trustee's aims and objectives for the default investment strategies and other investment options are provided below.

Default Strategies – For members invested through Standard Life and who were contributing to the Scheme in November 2019, the default strategy is the Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy. For members invested through Standard Life and who had ceased contributing to the Scheme by November 2019, the default strategy is the Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy.

The Trustee has also determined that the Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy should be used as the default strategy for members currently invested through Prudential and Utmost Life & Pensions.

The Trustee's objectives for the default strategies are as follows:

- Aim for significant long-term real growth while members are further away from retirement.
- Manage down volatility in fund values as members near retirement.
- Target an end point portfolio that is appropriate and consistent with how members may take their benefits when they retire.

The objectives of the fund managers in respect of the underlying funds used within the default strategies are set out in **Table 1**, which also details the kinds of investments held and the balance between them.

Other investment policies relating to the default strategies are set out in the sections below.

Following analysis of the membership, the objectives and policies the Trustee has adopted for the default strategies are expected to meet the needs of members by providing the following:

- The opportunity to increase the value of their benefits with investment growth.
- An investment which manages risk in an appropriate and considered way.
- A portfolio commensurate with how members may take their benefits when they retire.

Other Investment Options – It is the Trustee's policy to provide suitable information for members so that they can make the appropriate investment decisions. The range of funds was chosen by the Trustee after taking advice from its investment adviser. In choosing the Scheme's investment options, it is the Trustee's policy to consider:

- A full range of asset classes.
- The suitability of the possible styles of investment management.
- The suitability of each asset class.
- The need for appropriate diversification.

The overall balance of assets held within the Defined Contribution Section will depend on the choices made by members for the investment of their pension accounts.

The Trustee expects the long-term return on the investment options that invest predominantly in equities to exceed price inflation and general salary growth. The long-term returns on the bond and cash options are expected to be lower than the options which are predominantly equities. However, bond funds are expected to broadly match the price of annuities. Cash funds are expected to be stable in terms of nominal capital values.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

Environmental, Social and Governance considerations

In setting the Scheme's Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution investment strategies, the Trustee's primary concern is to act in the best financial interests of the Scheme and its beneficiaries, seeking the best return that is consistent with a prudent and appropriate level of risk. The Trustee believes that incorporating appropriate consideration of environmental, social and governance factors including climate change can lead to better returns and lower risk, and therefore the Trustee believes these factors should be understood and evaluated. The Trustee considers these issues by taking advice from its investment adviser when setting the Scheme's asset allocation, when selecting managers and when monitoring their performance.

Stewardship – Voting and Engagement

The Trustee recognises the importance of its role as a steward of capital and the need to encourage high standards of governance and promotion of corporate responsibility in the underlying companies and assets in which the Scheme invests, as this ultimately creates long-term financial value for the Scheme and its beneficiaries.

As part of their delegated responsibilities, the Trustee expects the Scheme's investment managers to:

- Where appropriate, engage with investee companies with the aim to protect and enhance the value of assets; and
- exercise the Trustee's voting rights in relation to the Scheme's assets.

The Trustee regularly reviews the continuing suitability of the appointed managers and takes advice from its investment adviser with regard to any changes. This advice includes consideration of broader stewardship matters and the exercise of voting rights by the appointed managers. If an incumbent manager is found to be falling short of the standards the Trustee has set out in its policy, the Trustee undertakes to engage with the manager, either verbally or in writing, to understand the rationale and seek a more sustainable position but may look to replace the manager. The Trustee may engage on matters concerning an issuer of debt or equity, including their performance, strategy, risks, social and environmental impact, corporate governance, the capital structure, and management of actual or potential conflicts of interest.

The Trustee reviews the stewardship activities of its asset managers on an annual basis, covering both engagement and voting actions.

Members' Views and Non-Financial Factors

In setting and implementing the Scheme's Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution investment strategies the Trustee does not explicitly take into account the views of Scheme members and beneficiaries in relation to ethical considerations, social and environmental impact, or present and future quality of life matters (defined as "non-financial factors"¹).

¹ The Pension Protection Fund (Pensionable Service) and Occupational Pension Schemes (Investment and Disclosure) (Amendment and Modification) Regulations 2018.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

RISK

Defined Benefit Section

The Trustee maintains a 'Statement of Funding Principles' which specifies that the funding objective is to have sufficient assets so as to make provision for 100% of the Scheme's liabilities as determined by an actuarial calculation.

The Trustee recognises that the key risk to the Scheme is that it has insufficient assets to make provisions for 100% of its liabilities ("funding risk"). The Trustee has identified a number of risks which have the potential to cause a deterioration in the Scheme's funding level and therefore contribute to funding risk. These are as follows:

- The risk of a significant difference in the sensitivity of asset and liability values to changes in financial and demographic factors ("mismatching risk"). The Trustee and its advisers considered this mismatching risk when setting the investment strategy.
- The risk of a shortfall of liquid assets relative to the Scheme's immediate liabilities ("cash flow risk"). The Trustee and its advisers will manage the Scheme's cash flows, taking into account the timing of future payments, in order to minimise the probability that this occurs.
- The failure by the fund managers to achieve the rate of investment return assumed by the Trustee ("manager risk"). This risk is considered by the Trustee and its advisers both upon the initial appointment of the fund managers and on an ongoing basis thereafter.
- The failure to spread investment risk ("risk of lack of diversification"). The Trustee and its advisers considered this risk when setting the Scheme's investment strategy.
- The possibility of failure of the Scheme's sponsoring employer[s] ("covenant risk"). The Trustee and its advisers considered this risk when setting investment strategy and consulted with the sponsoring employer as to the suitability of the proposed strategy.
- The risk of fraud, poor advice or acts of negligence ("operational risk"). The Trustee has sought to minimise such risk by ensuring that all advisers and third-party service providers are suitably qualified and experienced, and that suitable liability and compensation clauses are included in all contracts for professional services received.
- The risk of a default by a bulk annuity provider (buy-in insurer) ("insurer default/credit risk"). The Trustee and its advisers considered the strength of the insurer before entering into the policy, whilst considering the wider regulatory framework within which they are required to operate.

Due to the complex and interrelated nature of these risks, the Trustee considers the majority of these risks in a qualitative rather than quantitative manner as part of each formal investment strategy review (normally triennially). Some of these risks may also be modelled explicitly during the course of such reviews. In particular, the mismatching risk was modelled explicitly as part of the most recent investment strategy review.

Having set an investment objective which relates directly to the Scheme's liabilities and implemented it using a range of fund managers, the Trustee's policy is to monitor, where possible, these risks quarterly. The Trustee receives quarterly reports showing:

- Actual funding level versus the Scheme's specific funding objective.
- Performance versus the Scheme's investment objective.
- Performance of individual fund managers versus their respective targets.
- Any significant issues with the fund managers that may impact their ability to meet the performance targets set by the Trustee.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

Defined Contribution Section

The Trustee has taken into consideration on behalf of the members the following aspects of risk:

1. The risk that low investment returns over members' working lives secures an inadequate retirement outcome.
2. The risk that unfavourable market movements in the years just prior to retirement lead to a substantial reduction in a member's account and hence in retirement outcome.
3. The risk of the chosen investment manager underperforming.
4. The risk that investment specific risks such as credit risk and market risk have an adverse impact on returns.

The first two risks identified above are managed by providing members with a choice of funds they can use to meet their requirements.

In addition, the default strategies are designed to be appropriate for a typical member with a predictable retirement date. The default strategies manage risk automatically by moving from higher to lower risk funds as members approach their selected retirement age.

To manage the third risk identified above, the Trustee regularly reviews the performance of the funds offered, as well as offering a range of index tracking funds to minimise the risk of underperformance.

The Trustee measures and manages investment specific risks, including market and credit risk, on a regular basis. All investments are subject to specific price risks that arise from factors peculiar to that asset class or individual investment, in addition to credit risk, currency risk and interest rate risk.

Before making any change to the default strategies or other investment options, the Trustee takes advice from its investment consultant. The decision as to whether to invest in a particular security is delegated to the investment managers of the underlying funds used.

The purpose of accepting these risks is to ensure that the default investment strategies offer members access to a suitably diversified portfolio, in terms of the type of risk taken over a member's lifecycle and the sources of expected future returns. In addition, members are able to construct a portfolio to meet their specific risk and return requirements using funds from the available range.

Within the default investment strategies, these risks are managed by ensuring that there is an appropriate balance between different asset classes at each stage of a member's working lifetime and that it is suitably diversified within each asset class. In addition, the Trustee takes advice from its investment consultant as to the continuing suitability of the default investment strategy, the available fund range, and underlying managers used.

Due to the complex and interrelated nature of all these risks, the Trustee generally considers them in a qualitative rather than quantitative manner as part of an ongoing review process. However, some aspects of the risks may be modelled more explicitly. In particular, the Trustee periodically commissions analysis of various demographic variables of the Scheme's members to ensure the default strategies and other investment options are sufficient to meet members' needs.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

FLIGHTPLAN PARAMETERS

The aim of a formal flightplan for the Scheme is to create a more structured method of implementing the long-term move from "growth" to "matching" assets, as and when the Scheme's funding level improves.

The Trustee has agreed to monitor the flightplan against the Scheme's funding level, measured on a self-sufficiency basis. This is a measure of the Scheme's funding level which would permit it to be run independent of the Sponsoring Employer.

The Trustee has also adopted a flightplan which is designed to reduce investment risk and protect the funding level as it improves. The flightplan does not serve to re-risk the Scheme if the funding level deteriorates, falling below a previous trigger level.

Triggers are monitored by the Trustee at a minimum on a quarterly basis (during regular Trustee meetings) and if a funding level trigger is breached a corresponding increase in the matching component allocation would be proposed at the meeting, or as soon as is reasonably practical thereafter.

The target allocations exclude the buy-in policies due to the illiquid nature of the assets, with the target allocations for the flightplan shown below.

Self-sufficiency funding level	95% (current)	100% (under review)	105% (under review)
Growth Assets	25.0	22.2	16.7
Global equities	15.0	5.6	-
Property	10.0	-	-
Diversified Growth Fund	-	16.7	16.7
Credit Assets	25.0	33.3	33.3
Credit	25.0	33.3	33.3
Matching Assets	50.0	44.4	50.0
LDI (assets, inc cash)	50.0	44.4	50.0

The Scheme has recently breached the 95% trigger. The Trustee is in the process of agreeing future flightplan triggers to reflect market conditions and recent changes to the investment strategy.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

IMPLEMENTATION

Aon has been selected as the investment adviser to the Trustee. Aon provides the Trustee with any training that it requests in order to ensure directors have sufficient knowledge and experience to take decisions themselves and to monitor those it delegates. Aon is paid on a either a fixed fee or time cost basis, dependent upon the nature of the work undertaken by Aon. This structure has been chosen to ensure that cost-effective, independent advice is received.

Arrangements with asset managers

The Trustee regularly monitors the Scheme's investments to consider the extent to which the investment strategy and decisions of the asset managers are aligned with the Trustee's policies. This includes monitoring the extent to which asset managers:

- make decisions based on assessments about medium- to long-term financial performance of an issuer of debt or equity; and
- engage with issuers of debt or equity in order to improve their performance in the medium- to long-term.

The Trustee is supported in this monitoring activity by its investment consultant.

The Trustee shares the policies, as set out in this SIP, with the Scheme's asset managers, and requests that the asset managers review and confirm whether their approach is in alignment with the Trustee's policies.

Before appointment of a new asset manager, the Trustee reviews the governing documentation associated with the investment and will consider the extent to which it aligns with the Trustee's policies.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

The Trustee believes that having appropriate governing documentation, setting clear expectations to the asset managers by other means (where necessary), and regular monitoring of asset managers' performance and investment strategy, is in most cases sufficient to incentivise the asset managers to make decisions that align with the Trustee's policies and are based on assessments of medium- and long-term financial and non-financial performance.

There is typically no set duration for arrangements with asset managers, although the continued appointment for all asset managers will be reviewed periodically, and at least every three years.

Costs, transparency and the monitoring of performance and remuneration

The Trustee is aware of the importance of monitoring its asset managers' total costs and the impact these costs can have on the overall value of the Scheme's assets. The Trustee recognises that in addition to annual management charges, there are a number of other costs incurred by its asset managers that can increase the overall cost incurred by its investments.

The Trustee collects annual cost transparency reports covering all of its investments and ask that the investment managers provide this data in line with the appropriate Cost Transparency Initiative ("CTI") template for each asset class. This allows the Trustee to understand exactly what it is paying its investment managers.

The Trustee will only appoint investment managers who offer full cost transparency. This will be reviewed before the appointment of any new managers and includes the existing managers held by the Scheme.

The Trustee accepts that transaction costs will be incurred to drive investment returns and that the level of these costs varies across asset classes and by manager style within an asset class. In both cases, a high level of transaction costs is acceptable as long as it is consistent with the asset class characteristics, manager's style, and historic trends. Where the Trustee's monitoring identifies a lack of consistency the mandate will be reviewed.

Targeted portfolio turnover is defined as the expected frequency with which each underlying investment managers' fund holdings change over a year. The Scheme's investment consultant monitors this on behalf of the Trustee as part of the manager monitoring it provides to the Trustee, and flags to the Trustee where there are concerns.

The Trustee undertakes analysis of the Scheme's costs and performance, on at least a triennial basis, by receiving benchmarking analysis comparing the Scheme's specific costs and performance of the underlying managers relative to those of the wider market. This is in line with the Trustee's policies on reviewing the kinds and balance of investments to be held. The benchmarking analysis can be used to assess the value for money received from the Scheme's assets on a regular basis and challenge the Scheme's investment managers where appropriate. The Trustee will review the investment managers relative to its objectives to ensure that the net of fees performance has met its requirements. The Trustee is open to managers implementing performance related fees if these are suitable for the Scheme and are aligned with the objectives of the Scheme.

For the Defined Benefits Section the following pooled funds are used:

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

Growth Assets

Multi Factor Equity – LGIM Developed Balanced Factor Equity Index

This is passively-managed with the objective to achieve index returns in line with the SciBeta Developed Low-Carbon & ESG High-Factor-Intensity Multi-Beta (vol, val, mom, pro/inv) Maximum Deconcentration Index. The Trustee targets an equal split between the currency unhedged and sterling hedged funds.

Credit Assets

Diversified Liquid Credit – Adept

This credit fund invests in diverse, high-quality and low risk credit assets and targets a net return of SONIA + 1.5% p.a. over a market cycle.

Matching Assets

Liability Driven Investment – BlackRock

The Trustee is the sole investor in a bespoke pooled fund that has an objective to match the movement of a portion of the Scheme's liabilities for changes in interest rates and inflation, therefore providing interest rate and inflation protection.

BlackRock – ICS Institutional Sterling Liquidity Fund

This is a cash fund that provides a low-risk investment and the objective is to perform in line with 7 Day Sterling LIBID.

Bulk annuity policies

Scottish Widows

The Trustee holds two bulk annuity policies which insurers the Scheme's pensioner liabilities. This Trustee entered into the first policy in March 2018 and, at inception, was valued at c. £50m. This Trustee entered into the second policy in January 2022 and, at inception, was valued at c. £110m.

The Trustee has delegated all day-to-day decisions about the investments that fall within each mandate to the relevant fund manager through a written contract. When choosing investments, the Trustee and the fund managers (to the extent delegated) are required to have regard to the criteria for investment set out in the Occupational Pension Schemes (Investment) Regulations 2005 (regulation 4).

SPiRiT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

Defined Contribution Section

The Trustee has made available various investment options for members. These fall into two categories:

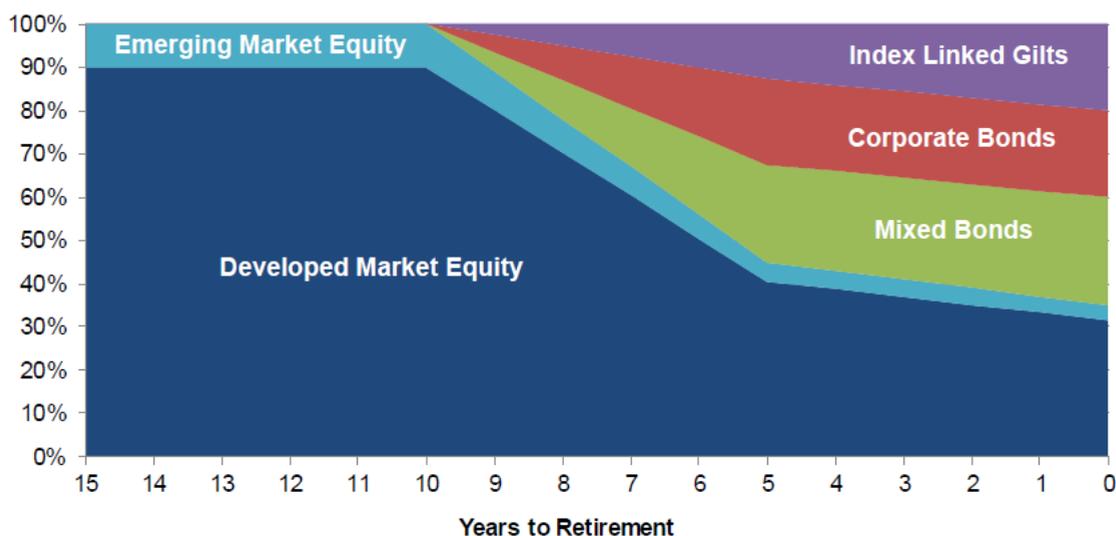
- Lifestyle – with this option, the member's account is invested according to a fixed investment pattern, based on the number of years to the member's retirement date.
- Freestyle – with this option, the member has the freedom to choose how their account is invested from the funds provided; what funds to invest in; and how much to invest in each fund.

Lifestyle Strategies

The Trustee offers three lifestyle strategies for members to choose from. These strategies are:

- Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy (Default for active members)
- Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy (Default for deferred members)
- Annuity Targeting Lifestyle Strategy

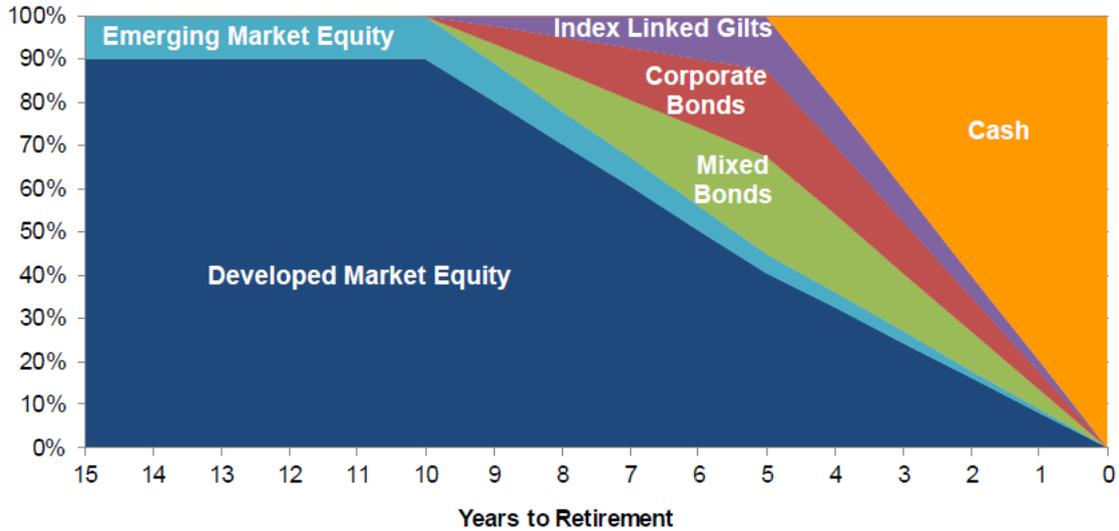
The Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy is the default strategy for those who were contributing to the Scheme in November 2019 and for members currently invested through Prudential. It is designed to be suitable for members who are considering income drawdown at retirement (i.e. those members who plan to withdraw money as a regular or series of one-off amounts, leaving the rest invested), while also recognising it will need to provide appropriately for those who do not know in what form they will be drawing their benefits. A chart setting out the asset allocation of the Drawdown Targeting Lifestyle Strategy is shown below:



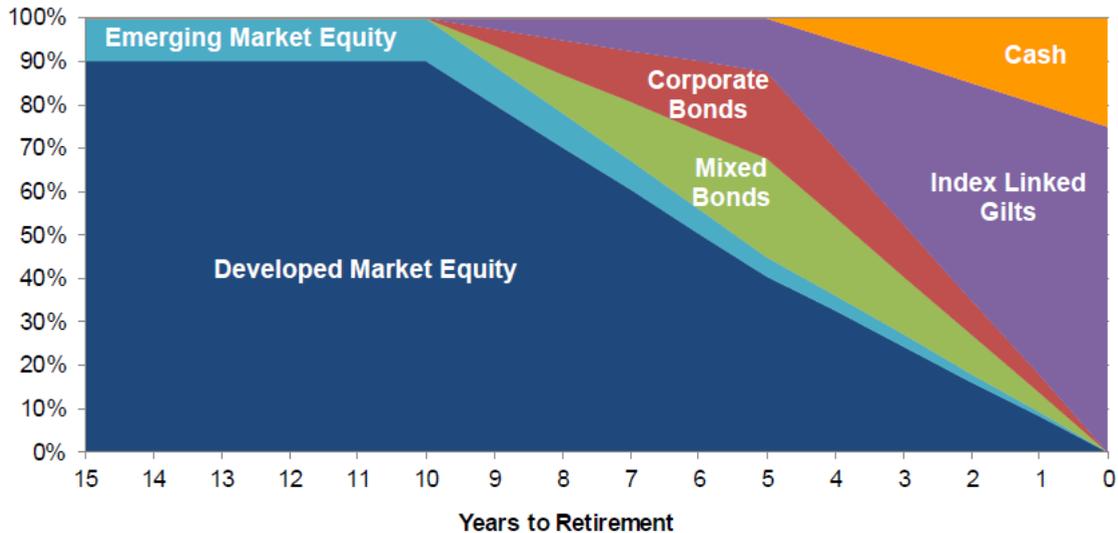
The Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy is the default strategy for members invested through Standard Life and who had ceased contributing to the Scheme by November 2019. It is designed to be suitable for members who are considering taking their DC benefits as a cash lump sum at retirement. A chart setting out the asset allocation of the Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy is shown below:

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES



Members can opt to invest in the Annuity Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy. It is designed to be suitable for members who are considering using their DC funds to purchase an annuity at retirement. A chart setting out the asset allocation of the Cash Targeting Lifestyle Strategy is shown below:



Freestyle Options

The table below provides details of the funds that are used in the lifestyle strategy (shown in bold) and are available on a standalone basis for members who wish to make their own investment choices.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

Table 1 - Fund Details

<i>Asset Class</i>	<i>Passive/ Active</i>	<i>Fund</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>	<i>Objective</i>
UK Equity	Passive	SL Vanguard FTSE UK All Share Index Pension Fund	FTSE All-Share Total Return GBP index	To track the benchmark
Global Equity	Passive	SL Vanguard FTSE Developed World ex UK Pension Fund	FTSE Developed ex-U.K. Index	To track the benchmark
Emerging Markets Equity	Passive	SL Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index Pension Fund	MSCI Emerging Markets Total Return (net) GBP index	To track the benchmark
Corporate Bonds	Passive	SL Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index Pension Fund	Bloomberg Barclays GBP Non-Government Float Adjusted Bond Total Return GBP index	To track the benchmark
Index Linked Gilts	Passive	SL Vanguard UK Inflation Linked Gilt Index Pension Fund	Bloomberg Barclays U.K. Government Inflation-Linked Bond Float Adjusted Total Return GBP index	To track the benchmark
Mixed Bonds	Active	SL SLI Absolute Return Global Bond Strategies Pension Fund	3 month LIBOR	To achieve 3 month LIBOR + 3% pa
Cash	Active	Standard Life Deposit and Treasury Pension Fund	SONIA	To outperform the benchmark
Fixed Interest Gilts	Passive	SL Vanguard UK Long Duration Gilt Index Pension Fund	Bloomberg Barclays U.K. Government 15+ Years Float Adjusted Total Return GBP index	To track the benchmark

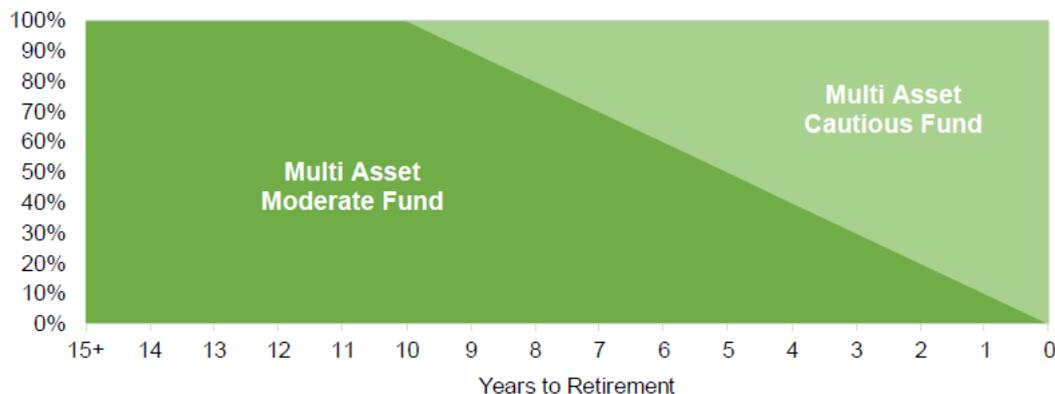
Members invested through Prudential are currently invested in the following funds:

- Prudential Long-Term Bond Fund with a benchmark of 50% FTSE Actuaries UK Conventional Gilts Over 15 Years Index and 50% iBoxx Sterling Over 15 Years Non-Gilts Index and objective to track its benchmark.
- Prudential With Profits Fund which has an objective to achieve competitive long-term returns.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

Members invested through Utmost Life & Pensions are currently invested in the Investing By Age Strategy which is a lifestyle strategy invested as follows:



The investment objective of the Multi Asset Moderate Fund is to provide capital growth in the long term by investing in a combination of asset classes including equities, fixed income, property and cash, with the potential for moderate to high levels of price fluctuations.

The investment objective of the Multi Asset Cautious Fund is to provide capital growth in the long term by investing in a combination of asset classes including equities, fixed income and cash, with the potential for low to moderate levels of price fluctuations.

Further considerations

The Trustee expects the fund managers to manage the assets delegated to them under the terms of their respective contracts and to give effect to the principles in this statement so far as is reasonably practicable.

BlackRock, Russell, Aviva, Invesco, Vanguard and Standard Life are responsible for appointing a custodian for the pooled funds in which the Scheme's funds are invested. The custodian provides safekeeping for all the funds' assets and performs the administrative duties attached, such as the collection of interest and dividends and dealing with corporate actions. The Trustee has also appointed BNY Mellon in order to hold the pooled funds managed by BlackRock.

The Trustee will review this SIP at least every three years and immediately following any significant change in investment policy or breach of funding level trigger. The Trustee will take investment advice and consult with the sponsoring employer over any changes to the SIP.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

GOVERNANCE

The Trustee is responsible for the investment of the Scheme's assets. The Trustee takes some decisions itself and delegates others. When deciding which decisions to take itself and which to delegate, the Trustee has taken into account whether it has the appropriate training and expert advice in order to make an informed decision. The Trustee has established the following decision-making structure:

<p>Trustee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets structures and processes for carrying out its role • Selects and monitors planned asset allocation strategy for Defined Benefits Section • Selects and monitors type and range of units on offer in Defined Contribution Section • Appoints Investment Committee • Selects direct investments (see below) • Considers recommendations from the Investment Committee 	<p>Investment Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes recommendations to the Trustee on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – selection of investment advisers and fund managers – structure for implementing investment strategy • Monitors investment advisers and fund managers • Monitors direct investments • Makes ongoing decisions relevant to the operational principles of the Scheme's Defined Benefits Section's investment strategy
<p>Investment Adviser</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advises on all aspects of the investment of the Scheme's assets, including implementation • Advises on this statement • Provides required training 	<p>Fund Managers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operate within the terms of this statement and their written contracts • Select individual investments with regard to their suitability and diversification • Advise the Trustee on suitability of the indices in their benchmark • Provide pooled funds for the Defined Contribution Section

The Pensions Act 1995 distinguishes between investments where the management is delegated to a fund manager with a written contract and those where a product is purchased directly, e.g. the purchase of an insurance policy or units in a pooled vehicle. The latter are known as **direct investments**.

The Trustee's policy is to review its direct investments and to obtain written advice about them at regular intervals (normally annually). These include vehicles available for members' AVCs and the Defined Contribution Section pooled funds. When deciding whether or not to make any new direct investments the Trustee will obtain written advice and consider whether future decisions about those investments should be delegated to the fund managers.

SPIRIT (LEGACY) PENSION SCHEME

APPENDIX III – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

The written advice will consider the issues set out in the Occupational Pension Schemes (Investment) Regulations 2005 and the principles contained in this statement. The regulations require all investments to be considered by the Trustee (or, to the extent delegated, by the fund managers) against the following criteria:

- The best interests of the members and beneficiaries
- Security
- Quality
- Liquidity
- Profitability
- Nature and duration of liabilities
- Tradability on regulated markets
- Diversification
- Use of derivatives

The Trustee's investment adviser has the knowledge and experience required under the Pensions Act 1995.