RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT POLICY

OUR PURPOSE IS TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE FOR OUR CLIENTS. TO ACHIEVE THIS WE WORK TO SUPPORT STABLE AND RESILIENT SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS AND EFFICIENT, WELL-MANAGED FINANCIAL MARKETS. THESE, IN TURN, WILL HELP US TO ACHIEVE OUR CLIENTS’ TARGETED INVESTMENT OUTCOMES.

We believe integrating environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues into our investment processes, and in our dialogue with issuers and other stakeholders, supports better investment decisions and can have the potential to help our clients achieve their desired outcomes.

We aim to deliver on our commitments and our beliefs by:

1. Putting responsibility at the heart of how we do business
   Aligning our business objectives and personal incentives to the broad goals of clients is imperative for our business. We do this by aiming to provide investment solutions that deliver quality and excellence, by managing financial and non-financial risks and opportunities, and through operating to high ethical and professional standards.

   Responsible investment is central to our investment activities, to our culture, to our relationship with clients and to how we seek to interact with counterparties and regulators.

2. Integrating ESG issues into our investment processes
   ESG issues, such as a changing climate, demographic change and corporate governance, are important drivers of investment value, over the short and long term. We believe that taking account of these issues in our investment research and decision-making is essential to effectively identify and manage the risks that could harm clients’ investments and the opportunities that may arise from these issues.

3. Acting as effective stewards of companies and other entities
   The integration of ESG factors requires holding companies and other entities to account to understand how they manage their wider impact and their stakeholder interests. In turn, good stewardship can create investment opportunities and reduce investment risk.

   We therefore engage as bondholders, counterparties and shareholders with management and other entities to discuss issues such as strategy, deployment of capital, performance, remuneration, risk management and ESG factors. We also recognise the responsibilities we have to our clients as shareholders; we vote with an objective to create long-term sustainable value in the companies in which we invest on their behalf.

4. Supporting efforts that seek to improve the operation, resilience and stability of financial markets
   We recognise that public policy and regulation are key influences on corporate practice, the financial system and the wider economy.

   We support efforts to develop and implement policy measures that look to manage and mitigate the systemic risks to society and to the environment.

5. Collaborating with others on ESG issues
   Many of the most pressing ESG issues we face require a collective response from the investment community and from wider society. We therefore work with our clients, other investors, governments, companies and civil society organisations to build knowledge and awareness, to share expertise and to create a common voice on these issues when engaging with stakeholders in relations to our clients’ investments. By doing so we can effectively and efficiently provoke change and support building a sustainable environment.

6. Exercising transparency and disclosing our activities
   We believe we should be held accountable for the actions that we take and for the outcomes that we achieve.

   Each year we report on our approach to responsible investment. The report includes discussions on our actions and their impact to reflect on our successes and failures, to highlight the lessons we have learned and to set out our priorities for action.

   The responsible investment policy has been revised for 2020 and is approved and endorsed annually by Insight’s CEO.

Key terms in this document are defined in our ESG and responsible investment glossary, available here.
ESG factors may be identified, analysed and/or integrated using approaches that are quantitative, qualitative or subjective. The application of Insight’s ESG research ratings, due diligence and engagement activity will vary by asset/sub-asset class as will the applicability and prioritisation of ESG factors to investment portfolios, because of the nature of the specific securities and industry ESG practices that may apply in the context of a specific investable universe. As a result, experience will vary depending on the investment strategy selected and client defined ESG criteria applied.

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