

Owner:	Director of Finance and Performance
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Ethical Investment Policy and Procedures

1. SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to ensure that due consideration is given to social, environmental and corporate governance issues when investing the University's funds.

2. KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The Finance and Resources Committee is responsible for approving an Ethical Investment Policy.

3. LINKS TO OTHER BU DOCUMENTS

- 3.1 This policy and these procedures sit under the University's Treasury Management Policy
- 3.2 Please also refer to the Code of Ethical Fundraising and Donors Charter

Policy

4. Ethical Investment Policy

- 4.1 Bournemouth University routinely invests funds with third party organisations. Through the work of its fund managers, the University seeks to achieve maximum return from a set of investments that have been selected prudently. The Ethical Investment Policy is intended to be entirely consistent with the duty to secure maximum returns from the investment of charitable funds.
- 4.2 Although the University routinely invests in cash deposits, this policy has been implemented so that any future investment in companies will consider the principles set out in this policy.
- 4.3 Wherever possible and in accordance with Charity Commission guidelines, the University wishes to make such investments in ways that are consistent with the mission and values of the University and avoiding investment in particular businesses which might result in conflict with the charitable aims of the University.

4.4 When considering investment strategies, The Finance and Resources Committee will take into account the published guidance of the Charity Commission on ethical and socially responsible investment of charitable funds and the University's statement of Corporate Social Responsibility (see below).

“BU seeks to demonstrate and promote the highest standards of integrity in its research, enterprise and professional practice activities, acknowledging and acting on the ethical, social and environment issues that arise from these activities”

4.4 The University has identified the following areas in which it feels investment is inappropriate:

- Slavery
- Child labour
- Pornography and the sex industry

4.5 Extra consideration should also be given to investments in any of the following areas:

- Tobacco and related products
- Alcohol
- Armaments – particularly exporting
- Companies engaged in controversial environmental activities
- Gambling (whether international, national or local)
- Companies which are perceived to be engaged in any other controversial activities

4.6 This University will consider representation from members of the University community, including the Students' Union, regarding matters that the University should not invest, or should disinvest, in specific companies.

Procedures

5. Review of Ethical Investment Policy

5.1 In order to ensure compliance with this policy the University will consider the ethical implications alongside the commercial opportunities. The ultimate decision on investments has been delegated to the Finance and Resources Committee.

5.2 The University will monitor investments to ensure ethical standards are maintained.

5.3 As part of the Annual Treasury Report, the Finance and Resources Committee will receive an annual update on the Ethical Investment Policy.

This will include details of the following.

- Specific investment or divestment action taken on ethical grounds
- Any requests from staff, students or other stakeholders to review the policy itself.

- 5.4 The University Executive Team will be responsible for taking appropriate action to ensure that the policy is implemented effectively.
- 5.5 This policy will be presented for review by the Finance and Resources Committee every two years.