Sustainable Investment Policy

Bangor University aims to be an inspirational place to live, work and study, promoting the well-being of current and future generations, justice, integrity and sustainable growth in society. We are committed to ensuring that our funds are invested responsibly. This policy ensures that the University optimises its investment returns without compromising our commitment to sustainability and well-being of current and future generations.

Our objectives are:
- To maximise total return on investments (capital and income); contain risk to an acceptable level and maintain a portfolio of diversified investments reflecting the need to fund future developments
- To maintain the value of our funds, after taking account of inflation (as a minimum) over the long term
- To provide and income stream to the University and to the endowment funds

Our approach

We understand that our investment activities are of interest to our students and other stakeholders. In making investment decisions Bangor University is committed to do so responsibly and sustainably, recognising our environmental, social, cultural and governance responsibilities. UBS AG has been appointed as the University’s Portfolio managers and we have adopted their sustainable investment strategy, taking into account the Sustainable Development principle i.e. that “we must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.

We expect our manager to apply a combination of negative and positive screens to ensure that companies that may be harmful to society or the environment are excluded and to invest in businesses with responsible culture, practices and good governance. Bangor University does not invest in controversial businesses, such as:
- Weapons
- Alcohol
- Gambling
- Tobacco
- Adult Entertainment

Declaration on Fossil Fuel: Based on the screens applied, we do not have direct investments in fossil fuels in our current portfolio but this is reviewed annually and reported on. We do not, however, exclude the possibility of including companies involved in fossil fuels in our portfolio in the future, however such a company would only be included if it passed our manager’s sustainable screening process. We believe that this non-binary, thoughtful approach is appropriate, responsible and sustainable. In this way Bangor University contributes to a Globally Responsible Wales.

This Sustainable Investment Policy will be reviewed annually by the Investment Committee, endorsed by the Finance and Resources Committee, and reported to the University Council. It is also communicated to the wider University population and is publicly available on the University’s website.

Approved by: The Investment Committee

Signed by: The Chair of the Investment Committee and the Finance and Resources Committee

(Marc Jones)

Sustainable Investment Policy
Date of issue: 1st August 2018 Valid until: 31st July 2019