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# Making an impact – delivering ESG outcomes in Real Estate

Sustainability Summit

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# About Aberdeen Standard Investments Total AuM €587.5 billion

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- · Highly diversified business by revenue, asset class, client and geography
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- Aberdeen Standard Investments is a brand of the investment businesses of Aberdeen
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Figures may appear not to add due to rounding. An exchange rate of £1:€1.1176 as at 30 June 2019 has been used. Source: Aberdeen Standard Investments, 30 June 2019 \* April 2019 subject to change





# ESG Investment Purpose and Philosophy Corporate purpose: Invest for a better future





#### Why Focus on Real Estate? A major source of the problem

Buildings are responsible for:

- 42% of energy consumption
- 35% of global greenhouse gas emissions
- 50% of raw material use
- 30% of water consumption
- 30 40% of solid waste generation

#### Just build better?

In EU countries, more than 50% of existing buildings were constructed prior to 1970

Current replacement rates mean that most of the buildings we'll have in 50 years' time have already been built

Source: The Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe, 2011. For illustrative purposes only



# Why the focus on Real Estate?

#### Tangibly impacted



Source: WSP Future Ready Programme, 2016. Forecasts are offered as opinion and are not reflective of potential performance, are not guaranteed and actual events or results may differ materially. For illustrative purposes only



#### Legislative drivers to tackle the causes - a tsunami of legislation



Source: EU 2020 Energy Roadmap



#### A pathway to zero emissions....?







Source: Carbon Real Estate Risk Monitor (CRREM) Pilot tool, 2019. For illustrative purposes only



#### External drivers

#### The rise of the GRESB Benchmark – a barometer for ESG performance



Investments

# Mapping Impact - Understanding client outcomes Every client will have a different potential ESG 'risk tolerance'

| ESC                    | G Investment Spectrum                                 |   |                         |   |
|------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|---|
| Does or may cause harm |   | Act to avoid harm   | Benefit to stakeholders | Contribution to solutions   |
|                        |   |   |                         | <b>Philanthropy –</b> Social and<br>environmental outcomes are the sole<br>driver |
| on investment          | <b>Traditional Investing</b> – Fina<br>the sole drive |   |                         |   |
|                        |   | <b>Responsible Investing –</b> Financial returns are the primary driver, with environmental, social and governance informing risk |                         |   |
| Seeking return         |   |   |                         | Impact Investing – Financial returns<br>and ESG outcomes are dual<br>objectives   |

Influenced by fund, asset, sector and geography

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Source: Impact Management Project 'ABC' framework, 2019

# Forces for Change

We have identified a range of key topics under four forces of change that shape our long-term approach, and which guide our prioritisation of ESG factors at the fund and asset level





#### ESG Impact Dial Driving the bespoke integration of material ESG factors into investment strategies





# Where is ESG in our process?

#### It is a component of all decision making







# ESG examples from our portfolio

#### Development projects, asset management and retro-fit opportunities



#### Sustainable retro-fit – Queen Street, Leicester

- · Improved roof and insulation provided to existing asset
- Opportunity taken to install solar array
- Rent includes energy, therefore any savings improve overall landlord position

#### Sustainable asset management programmes

- Building Management System (BMS) optimisation can generate 20% savings at no cost
- LED upgrade programme 70% energy savings with 4.5 year payback
- · Solar PV feasibility and roll-out

#### Electric vehicles – futureproofing our assets



- Forecast to be 36m EVs on UK roads by 2040, accounting for 55% of new car sales
- Overall electrification of transport will mean significant changes to built environmental and infrastructure
- Installing electrical infrastructure and charge points helps to future-proof assets and can generate income and footfall
- We are currently reviewing feasibility for charge points throughout the portfolio, focussing first on retail assets







#### ESG in action Exemplar projects from our portfolio

#### The worlds largest Passivhaus development

- All units built to Passivhaus standard, reducing running costs by 90% compared to Building Code.
- Wider measures include low carbon energy generation (solar and bio-pellets), grey water harvesting and excellent transport connectivity (EV, cycle)

#### The UK first Carbon Neutral Real Estate Fund?

- Seeking to achieve carbon neutrality, through innovative carbon budgeting.
- · Monitored and measured key carbon impacts (landlord, tenant and embodied carbon)
- · Annually assess carbon impacts and 'offset' negative carbon through low carbon technologies

#### The first Cradle to Cradle® inspired logistics building in the world

- · Award-winning flexible modular design building which future-proofs the asset for potential alternative uses
- · Designed for disassembly so that all components can be re-used retention of value
- · Designed to promote health and wellbeing natural light, planting, non-hazardous materials and paints

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#### Please see the links for related material

Dialling-up our integration of ESG into Real Estate

https://www.aberdeenstandard.com/docs?editionId=d5f669b8-312d-449f-9f83-e6bd58bebdee

Investing in a changing climate https://www.aberdeenstandard.com/docs?editionId=e1c72858-9841-47b7-94b4-a272388cc5c2



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