HOLOPHANE RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEME

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

APRIL 2022

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1 INTRODUCTION

This Statement of Investment Principles (“the Statement”) has been prepared by the Trustees of the Holophane Retirement Benefit Scheme (“the Scheme”) in accordance with Section 35 of the Pensions Act 1995, as amended, and its attendant Regulations.

The Statement outlines the principles governing the investment policy of the Scheme and the activities undertaken by the Trustee to ensure the effective implementation of these principles.

In preparing the Statement, the Trustee has:

- Obtained and considered written advice from a suitably qualified individual, employed by their investment adviser, Mercer, whom they believe to have a degree of knowledge and experience that is appropriate for the management of their investments; and
- Consulted with the Sponsoring Employer, although they affirm that no aspect of their strategy is restricted by any requirement to obtain the consent of the Sponsoring Employer.

The advice and the consultation process considered the suitability of the Trustee’s investment policy for the Scheme.

The Trustee will review the Statement formally at least every three years to coincide with the triennial Actuarial Valuation or other actuarial advice relating to the statutory funding requirements. Furthermore, the Trustee will review the Statement without delay after any significant change in investment policy. Any changes made to the Statement will be based on written advice from a suitably qualified individual and will follow consultation with the Sponsoring Employer.

2 INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

The Trustees' primary investment objective for the Scheme is to achieve an overall rate of return that is sufficient to ensure that assets are available to meet all liabilities as and when they fall due.

The Trustees wish to ensure that they can meet their obligations to the beneficiaries both in the short and long term.

The Trustees recognise that the investment performance of the Scheme's assets will not usually have a direct impact on the members' benefits. The investments can have an indirect impact on the members' benefits if they alter the sponsoring employer's ability and/or willingness to continue to support the Scheme.

With that in mind, the Trustees have set specific investment objectives regarding the manner in which the primary objective of meeting their obligations to the members is to be achieved:

- To pay the Scheme benefits as they fall due and avoid any reduction in benefits if possible
- To achieve and maintain a funding level of 100% on the on-going funding basis
- To minimise risk in achieving and maintaining a 100% funding level on the on-going funding basis subject to acceptable affordability
- To pay due regard to the interests of the sponsoring employer in relation to the funding of the Scheme.

The Trustee has also received confirmation from the Scheme Actuary during the process of revising the investment strategy that their investment objectives and the resultant investment strategy are consistent with the actuarial valuation methodology and assumptions used in the Statutory Funding Objective.

3 INVESTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 TRUSTEE'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for setting the investment objectives and determining the strategy to achieve the objectives. They carry out their duties and fulfil their responsibilities as a single body.

The duties and responsibilities of the Trustee include, but are not limited to, the following tasks and activities:

- The regular approval of the content of the Statement
- The appointment and review of the Investment Manager and investment adviser
- The assessment and review of the performance of each investment manager
- The setting and review of the investment parameters within which the investment managers can operate
- The assessment of the risks assumed by the Scheme at total scheme level and manager by manager
- The approval and review of the asset allocation benchmark for the Scheme
- The compliance of the investment arrangements with the principles set out in the Statement

3.2 INVESTMENT ADVISER'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees have appointed Mercer as the independent investment adviser to the Scheme. Mercer provides advice as and when the Trustees require it, as well as raising any investment-related issues, of which it believes the Trustees should be aware. Matters on which Mercer expects to provide advice to the Trustees include the following:

- Participating with the Trustees in reviews of this Statement
- Setting of investment objectives
- Advising on investment strategy and asset allocation
- Recommending an appropriate investment structure
- Determine funds and investment managers that are suitable to meet the Trustees' objectives Monitoring the underlying investment managers to ensure their continuing appropriateness to the mandates
- Production of performance monitoring reports
- Advising on cashflow management (investment and withdrawal) policies (see Appendix 2)

The Trustees may seek advice from Mercer with regard to both strategic and tactical investment decisions (see Section 4 - Investment Strategy); however, they recognise that they retain responsibility for all such decisions, including those that concern investments and disinvestments relating to cashflows (see Appendix 2). Mercer may be proactive in advising the Trustees regarding tactical investment decisions; however, there is no responsibility placed on Mercer to be proactive in all circumstances.

The Trustees monitor the performance of the Scheme's investment managers against their benchmarks. Mercer will provide performance-monitoring reports to aid the Trustees in this process..

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Mercer makes a fund based charge. This charge covers the serviceof Mercer as specified within tthe Implemented Investment Consultancy Services Agreement ("ICA").

Any additional services provided by Mercer will be remunerated primarily on a time-cost basis.

In particular, Mercer does not receive commission or any other payments in respect of the Scheme that might affect the impartiality of their advice, any discounts negotiated Mercer/Mobius Life (the platform provider) with the underlying managers and these discounts are passed on in full to the Scheme.

The Trustees are satisfied that this is the most appropriate adviser remuneration structure for the Scheme.

Mercer is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (“FCA”).

3.3 INVESTMENT MANAGERS’ DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are long term investors and do not look to change investment arrangements on a frequent basis.

Investment managers are appointed based on their capabilities and, therefore, their perceived likelihood of achieving the expected return and risk characteristics required for the asset class being selected. The Trustees look to their investment advisor for their forward-looking assessment of a manager’s ability to deliver to targets over a full market cycle. This view will be based on the investment advisor’s assessment of the manager’s idea generation, portfolio construction, implementation and business management in relation to the particular fund that the Scheme invests in.

Where the assets of the Scheme are invested in multi-client pooled funds, the Trustees accept that they cannot specify the risk profile and/or return targets of the fund, however such pooled funds are chosen having considered the Scheme’s requirements in order to align with the overall investment strategy and the Trustees’ objectives

The underlying investment managers are responsible for all decisions concerning the selection and de-selection of the individual securities within the portfolios they manage.

In the case of multi-asset mandates, the underlying investment managers are responsible for all decisions concerning the allocation to individual asset classes and changes in the allocations to individual asset classes.

The underlying investment managers are remunerated by ad valorem charges based on the value of the assets that they manage on behalf of the Scheme. Therefore, none of the underlying managers in which the Scheme’s assets are invested have performance based fees which could encourage the manager to make short term investment decisions to hit their profit targets.

The Trustees therefore consider that the method of remunerating fund managers is consistent with incentivising them to make decisions based on assessments of medium to long-term financial and non-financial performance of an issuer of debt or equity. By encouraging a medium to long-term view, it will in turn encourage the investment managers to engage with issuers of debt or equity in order to improve their performance in the medium to long-term.

The Trustees accept that they cannot influence the charging structure of the pooled funds in which the Scheme is invested, but are satisfied that the ad-valorem charges for the different underlying funds are clear and are consistent with each fund’s stated characteristics. The Trustees are therefore satisfied that this the most appropriate basis for remunerating the underlying investment managers and is consistent with the Trustees’ policies as set out in this SIP.

The Trustee believes that this is the most appropriate basis for remunerating managers.

4 INVESTMENT STRATEGY

4.1 SETTING INVESTMENT STRATEGY

The Trustees have determined their investment strategy after considering the Scheme's liability profile and requirements of the Statutory Funding Objective, their own appetite for risk, the views of the Sponsoring Employer on investment strategy, the Sponsoring Employer's appetite for risk, and the strength of the Sponsoring Employer's covenant. The Trustees have also received written advice from their investment adviser.

The basis of the Trustees' strategy is to divide the Scheme's assets between a "growth" portfolio, comprising assets such as UK & emerging market equities, multi assets credit ("MAC"), absolute return bonds funds ("ARBF") and diversified growth funds ("DGF"), a "quasi-growth" portfolio consisting of equity-linked liability driven investments ("LDI") and a "stabilising" portfolio, comprising assets such as real and nominal LDI. The growth-stabilising allocation is set with regard to the overall required return objective of the Scheme's assets, which is determined by the funding objective and current funding level. In addition, the Scheme's requirement for liquidity will also be considered when setting the strategic asset allocation. Thus, the Trustees regard the basic distribution of the assets to be appropriate for the Scheme's objectives and liability profile.

The Trustees will consult with the Employer before further investment strategy de-risking is to take place.

The Trustees have established a benchmark allocation to each asset class within each strategic asset allocation, which is set out in Appendix 1.

In respect of the investment of contributions and any disinvestments to meet member benefit payments, the Trustees have decided on a structured approach to rebalance the assets in accordance with their overall strategy. This approach is set out in Appendix 2.

4.2 INVESTMENT DECISIONS

The Trustees distinguish between three types of investment decision: strategic, tactical and stock-level.

Strategic Investment Decisions

These decisions are long-term in nature and are driven by an understanding of the objectives, needs and liabilities of the Scheme.

The Trustees take all such decisions themselves. They do so after receiving written advice from their investment adviser and consulting with the Sponsoring Employer. Examples of such decisions and of tasks relating to the implementation of these decisions include the following:

- Setting investment objectives
- Determining the split between the growth and the stabilising portfolios
- Determining the allocation to asset classes within the growth and stabilising portfolios
- Determining the Scheme benchmark
- Reviewing the investment objectives and strategic asset allocation

Tactical Investment Decisions

These decisions are short-term and based on expectations of near-term market movements. Such decisions may involve deviating temporarily from the strategic asset allocation and may require the timing of entry into, or exit from, an investment market or asset class.

These decisions are the responsibility of the Trustees. However, where such decisions are made within a pooled fund, they are the responsibility of the investment manager of the fund.

Stock Selection Decisions

All such decisions are the responsibility of the investment managers of the pooled funds in which the Scheme is invested.

4.3 TYPES OF INVESTMENTS TO BE HELD

The Trustees are permitted to invest across a wide range of asset classes, including, but not limited to, the following:

- UK and overseas equities
- UK and overseas government bonds, fixed and inflation-linked
- UK and overseas corporate bonds
- Convertible bonds
- Property
- Commodities
- Hedge Funds
- Private equity
- High yield bonds
- Emerging market debt
- Diversified growth
- Liability Driven Investment ("LDI") products
- Cash

All the funds in which the Scheme invests are pooled and unitised. The use of derivatives is permitted by the guidelines that apply to the pooled funds. Details relating to the pooled funds can be found in Appendix 3.

The Trustees recognise the benefits of diversification across growth asset classes, as well as within them, in reducing the risk that results from investing in any one particular market. The Trustees have therefore decided to invest in Diversified Growth Funds (DGFs), which are actively managed multi-asset funds. The managers of the DGFs invest in a wide range of assets and investment contracts in order to implement their market views.

The Trustees note that the actuarial value of the Scheme's future benefits payments to members is sensitive to changes in long term interest rates and long term inflation expectations. The Trustees have decided to invest in Liability Driven Investment ("LDI") funds which aim to respond in a similar way to changes in these factors and reduce the volatility of the Scheme's funding position. This is referred to as hedging.

4.4 FINANCIALLY MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

In setting the investment strategy, the Trustees have prioritised assets which provide protection against movements in the Scheme's liability value and also assets which provide diversification across a wide range of investment markets and considers the financially significant benefits of these factors to be paramount.

The Trustees understand that they must aim to consider all factors that have the ability to impact the financial performance of the Scheme's investments over the appropriate time horizon. This includes, but is not limited to, environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors.

The Trustees recognise that ESG factors, such as climate change, can influence the investment performance of the Scheme's portfolio and it is therefore in members' and the Scheme's best interests that these factors are taken into account within the investment process.

As noted earlier, the Scheme's assets are invested in pooled funds. The Trustees accept the fact that they have very limited ability to influence the ESG policies and practices of the companies in which their managers invest. The Trustees will therefore rely on the policies and judgement of their investment managers.

Whilst certain investment decisions have been delegated to IM as the investment manager, the Trustees recognise that their views on the financial materiality of environmental, social, and corporate governance factors on risk and return are retained as a Trustee decision. If the Trustees wish to adopt a specific approach to incorporating these factors in the future then a conversation with IM will be required in order to ensure effective implementation.

The Trustees consider how ESG, climate change and stewarding are integrated within IM's investment processes and those of the underlying managers on a periodic basis.

4.5 NON-FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Trustees only consider factors that are expected to have a financial impact on the Scheme's investments. The Trustees do not explicitly take into account non-financial matters in the selection, retention and realisation of investments.

4.6. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, VOTING POLICY & STEWARDSHIP

The Scheme soley invests in pooled funds. The Trustee's policy is to delegate responsibility for engaging with, monitoring investee companies and exercising voting rights to the Scheme's investment managers. The Trustees expect the investment managers to use their discretion to act in the long-term financial interests of investors and exercise these rights in accordance with their respective published corporate governance policies and current best practice, including the UK Corporate Governance Code and UK Stewardship Code.

The Trustee notes that the investment managers' corporate governance policies are available on request and on their respective websites.

Where the Trustees are specifically invited to vote on a matter relating to corporate policy, the Trustees will exercise their right in accordance with what they believe to be the best interests of the majority of the Scheme's membership.

5 RISK

Under the Pensions Act 2004, the Trustees are required to state their policy regarding the ways in which risks are to be measured and managed. These are set out below.

Solvency Risk and Mismatching Risk

- These are measured through a qualitative and quantitative assessment of the expected development of the assets relative to the liabilities.
- These are managed by setting a scheme-specific strategic asset allocation with an appropriate level of risk.

Manager Risk

- This is assessed as the expected deviation of the prospective risk and return, as set out in the managers' objectives, relative to the investment policy.
- It is measured by monitoring the actual deviation of returns relative to the objective and factors supporting the managers' investment process

Liquidity Risk

- This is monitored according to the level of cashflows required by the Scheme over a specified period.
- It is managed by holding an appropriate amount of readily realisable investments. The Scheme's assets are invested in pooled funds which are readily realisable.

Political Risk

- This is measured by the level of concentration in any one market leading to the risk of adverse influence on investment values arising from political intervention.
- It is managed by regular reviews of the investments and through investing in funds which give a wide degree of diversification.

Environmental Risk

- This risk that improper, or inadequate, consideration of environmental factors could lead to adverse investment performance and / or reputational damage to the Scheme.
- The day to day management of environmental risk is the responsibility of the companies in which the Scheme's underlying managers have invested. Given the Trustees are invested in pooled funds the Trustees will rely on the investment manager to ensure that these companies have sufficient procedures and processes in place in order to mitigate this risk as far as is reasonably possible.

Social Risk

- This is the risk that social factors are not properly considered within the investment decision making process. Social risks can arise both within and external to a company, e.g. internal factors could include workplace health & safety whilst external factors may include a company's impact on the area surrounding their place of business.
- The day to day management of social risk is also the responsibility of the companies in which the Scheme's underlying managers invest. It is the responsibility of the investment manager to ensure that these companies have sufficient procedures and processes in place in order to mitigate these risks as far as is reasonably possible.

Corporate Governance Risk

- This is assessed by reviewing the Scheme's investment managers' policies regarding corporate governance.
- It is managed by delegating the exercise of voting rights to the managers, who exercise this right in accordance with their published corporate governance policies. Summaries of these policies are provided to the Trustees from time to time and take into account the financial interests of the shareholders, which should ultimately be to the Scheme's advantage.

Sponsor Risk

- This is assessed as the level of ability and degree of willingness of the sponsor to support the continuation of the Scheme and to make good any current or future deficit.
- It is managed by assessing the interaction between the Scheme and the sponsor's business, as measured by a number of factors, including the creditworthiness of the sponsor and the size of the pension liability relative to the sponsor. Regular updates on employer covenant are provided to the Trustees by senior staff of the sponsor.

Legislative Risk

- This is the risk that legislative changes will require action from the Trustees so as to comply with any such changes in legislation.
- The Trustees acknowledge that this risk is unavoidable but will seek to address any required changes so as to comply with changes in legislation.

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.
- The Trustees acknowledge that the assessment of credit risk on individual debt instruments is delegated to the investment manager. The Trustees will however ensure that they are comfortable with the amount of risk that the Scheme's investment manager takes.

Market Risk

- This is the risk the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises of the following three types of risk:

Currency Risk

- This is the risk that occurs when the price of one currency moves relative to another (reference) currency. In the context of a UK pension scheme, the scheme may be invested in overseas stocks or assets, which are either directly or indirectly linked to a currency other than Sterling. There is a risk that the price of that overseas currency will move in such a way that devalues that currency relative to Sterling, thus negatively impacting the overall investment return.
- For currency hedged funds, the Trustees acknowledge that currency risk related to overseas investments is hedged appropriately by the underlying investment managers.
- For funds where the currency risk is separately managed by the manager, the Trustees acknowledge that currency risk is delegated to the underlying investment managers where the manager is responsible for the decision of whether or not to hedge.

Interest Rate Risk

- This is the risk that an investment's value will change due to a change in the level of interest rates. This affects debt instruments more directly than growth instruments.
- The Trustees acknowledge that the interest rate risk related to individual debt instruments, and particularly liability driven investment (LDI) instruments, is managed by the underlying investment managers through a combination of strategies, such as diversification, duration and yield curve management, and hedging via swaps, particularly where LDI is involved.

Other Price Risk

- This is the risk that principally arises in relation to the return seeking portfolio, which invests in equities, equities in pooled funds, equity futures, hedge funds, private equity and property.
- The Trustees acknowledge that a scheme can manage its exposure to price risk by investing in a diverse portfolio across various markets.

6 MONITORING OF INVESTMENT ADVISER AND MANAGERS

6.1 INVESTMENT ADVISER

The Trustee continually assess and review the performance of their adviser in a qualitative way.

6.2 INVESTMENT MANAGERS

The Trustees receive quarterly monitoring reports on the performance of the underlying investment managers from Mercer on a quarterly basis, which presents performance information over 3 months, 1 year and 3 years. The reports show the absolute performance, performance against each fund's benchmark and its stated target performance (over the relevant time period) on a net of fees basis. It also provides returns of market indices so that these can also be used to help inform the assessment of the underlying managers' performance. The reporting reviews the performance of the Scheme's assets in aggregate against the Scheme's strategic benchmark and also the development of the Scheme's assets relative to its liabilities.

When considering replacing managers, a long-term perspective is adopted, and such decisions would not be made based solely on short-term performance concerns. Instead, changes would be driven by a significant downgrade of the investment manager by the Mercer Manager Research Team. This in turn would be due to a significant reduction in Mercer's confidence that the investment manager will be able to perform in line with their fund's mandate over the long term.

Changes will be made to the underlying managers if there is a strategic change to the overall strategy that no longer requires exposure to that asset class or manager.

6.3 PORTFOLIO TURNOVER COSTS

Portfolio turnover costs means the costs incurred as a result of the buying, selling, lending or borrowing of investments.

The Trustees do not currently monitor portfolio turnover costs for the funds in which the Scheme is invested, although note that the performance monitoring which they receives is net of all charges, including such costs.

The Trustees are also aware of the requirement to define and monitor targeted portfolio turnover and turnover range.

Given that the Scheme invests in a range of pooled funds, many of which invest across a wide range of asset classes, the Trustees do not have an overall portfolio turnover target for the Scheme.

The Trustees are working with Mercer to determine the most appropriate way to obtain and monitor the information required in relation to the pooled funds in which the Scheme is invested and will include further information about this when next updating the SIP.

7 ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS (AVCS)

The Trustees hold assets invested separately from the main Scheme in the form of individual investments on a Money Purchase basis for those members who elected to pay Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVCs).

The AVC investments are held as pooled investment vehicles by Scottish Widows Fund and Life Assurance Society as either with-profits or unit-linked funds.

The Trustees believe that the AVC arrangements are suitable for the Scheme’s members.

8 CODE OF BEST PRACTICE

The Trustees note that in March 2017, the Pensions Regulator released ‘Investment Guidance for Defined Benefit Pension Schemes’.

The Trustees have received training in relation to this guidance and are satisfied that the investment approach adopted by the Scheme is consistent with the guidance so far as it is appropriate to the Scheme’s circumstances.

The Trustees meet with their investment adviser on a regular basis, monitoring developments both in relation to the Scheme’s circumstances and in relation to evolving guidance, and will revise the Scheme’s investment approach if considered appropriate.

9 COMPLIANCE

The Scheme's Statement of Investment Principles and annual report and accounts are available to members on request.

A copy of the Scheme's current Statement plus Appendices is also supplied to the Sponsoring Employer, the Scheme's investment managers, the Scheme's auditors and the Scheme Actuary , as well as being available on the Sponsoring Employer's website.

This Statement of Investment Principles, taken as a whole with the Appendices, supersedes all others and was approved by the Trustee on ....

Signed on behalf of the Trustee by	**..**	**..**
On	**..**	**..**
Full Name	**..**	**..**
Position	**..**	**..**

Appendix 1

The Scheme's strategic asset allocation benchmark is set out below:

Asset Class	Strategic Allocation
Growth Assets	**75.0%**
Global Equities	8.0%
Emerging Market Equities	6.0%
Diversified Growth Fund	34.0%
Multi Asset Credit - Balanced	8.5%
Equity-Linked Nominal LDI	10.0%
Absolute Return Bonds	8.5%
Stabilising Assets	**25.0%**
BMO Nominal Dynamic LDI Fund	11.0%
BMO Real Dynamic LDI Fund	14.0%
Total	**100.0%**

The policy for rebalancing and investment / disinvestment of cashflows is set out in Appendix 2. Appendix 3 provides information about the funds in which the assets are invested.

Appendix 2

Where possible, cash outflows will be met from cash balances held by the Scheme and from income from the Scheme's investments in order to minimise transaction costs.

Investments or disinvestments should be applied in such a way as to bring the actual asset allocation back towards the Scheme's central benchmark asset allocation, as set out in Appendix 1 and as altered by Appendix 2. The allocation to equity linked LDI, real LDI and nominal LDI should be exempted wherever possible, as these funds provide a strategic risk management benefit to the portfolio.

The Trustee will review the cashflow policy from time to time to ensure that it remains appropriate taking into account changes in the Scheme's cashflow requirements.

For avoidance of doubt, this Statement will not be revised purely in relation to a change in cashflow policy.

Appendix 3

The tables below show the details of the mandate(s) with each manager.

GROWTH ASSETS

Manager / Fund	Benchmark	Objective	Dealing Frequency	SORP / IFRS Class
Global Equities				
LGIM World Equity Index Fund – GBP Hedged	FTSE World Index	To track the performance of the FTSE World Index (less withholding tax where applicable) to within +/-0.5% p.a. for two years out of three.	Daily	(b) / 2
Emerging Markets Equities				
JP Morgan Emerging Markets Opportunities	J.P. Morgan Government Bond Index-Emerging Markets Global Diversified (Total Return Gross)	To outperform the J.P. Morgan Government Bond Index-Emerging Markets Global Diversified (Total Return Gross).	Daily	(b) / 2
Diversified Growth				
Baillie Gifford Diversified Growth	Bank of England Base Rate	To outperform the benchmark by 3.5% p.a. net of fees over rolling five year periods	Daily	(b) / 2
Pictet Multi Asset Portfolio	UK SONIA	To outperform the benchmark by 4% p.a. net of fees over rolling three to five year periods	Daily	(b) / 2
Multi Asset Credit ("MAC")				
Payden Absolute Return Bond Fund	UK SONIA	To outperform by 2%-3% p.a. over a three year rolling period (gross)	Daily	2

Ninety One Global Total Return Credit Fund	Overnight SONIA	To outperform the benchmark by +4% p.a. over a three year rolling period (gross).	Daily	(b) / 2

STABILISING ASSETS

Manager / Fund	Benchmark	Objective	Dealing Frequency	SORP / IFRS Class
Liability Driven Investments				
BMO Real Dynamic LDI	The liability profile of a typical UK DB pension scheme	To provide hedging by offering interest rate and inflation protection which replicates the liability profile of a typical UK DB pension scheme	Weekly	(b) / 2
BMO Nominal Dynamic LDI	The liability profile of a typical UK DB pension scheme	To provide hedging by offering interest rate protection which replicates the liability profile of a typical UK DB pension scheme	Weekly	(b) / 2

The assets for the underlying managers are hosted on an investment platform provided by Mobius Life Limited.

For avoidance of doubt, this SIP will not be updated solely in response to a replacement of one of the underlying investment managers.