

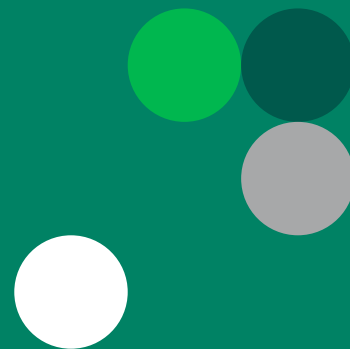


abrdn Portfolio Solutions Ltd (aPSL) – Stewardship Principles

Published September 2024

abrdn.com

Stewardship Principles



Introduction

The United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) defines stewardship, also known as 'active ownership', as: "the use of influence by institutional investors to maximise overall long-term value, including the value of common economic, social and environmental assets, on which returns and clients' and beneficiaries' interests depend".

The Financial Reporting Council's UK Stewardship Code (2020) sets out 12 principles for asset owners and asset managers. The FRC recognises that not all parts of the Code will be relevant to all institutional investors and that smaller institutions may judge some of the principles and guidance to be disproportionate. While abrln plc has been a signatory of The Code since 2021, aPSL does not

formally commit to the Code. aPSL invests exclusively in collective investment schemes (CIS). This means that our investments are held indirectly through units in a fund, as opposed to shares or bonds of a company. This limits our ability to engage directly with a company or vote on corporate issues. Principles for Asset Owners and Asset Managers 9-11 require signatories to engage with companies, either individually or collectively, and to escalate stewardship activities where necessary. This is not possible for a Managed Portfolio Service Provider such as aPSL. However, as outlined below, aPSL does take stewardship seriously and complies in many material respects with the principles set out in the FRC Code.



aPSL Stewardship Principles

With this in mind, aPSL outlines below how it adheres to the main principles and purpose of the Stewardship Code. We regularly review our arrangements and where there are any material changes to our approach we will update this information accordingly.

aPSL Stewardship Principles:

1. Our purpose, investment beliefs, strategy, and culture enable stewardship that seeks to create long term value for clients including, where appropriate and depending on the proposition and underlying investments, sustainability-related investment goals, including goals on benefits for the community, economy, environment and society.
2. Our governance, resources and incentives support stewardship.
3. We manage conflicts of interest to put the best interests of our clients first.
4. We identify and respond to market-wide and systemic risks to help promote a well-functioning financial system.
5. We regularly review our policies, and oversee our activities which are aligned to our policies, to assess the effectiveness of those activities.
6. We take account of stewardship in our investment process, including environmental, social, governance and climate change criteria, to fulfil our responsibilities.
7. We monitor and hold to account managers and/or service providers.
8. We actively exercise our rights and responsibilities when we can.
9. We assess and monitor fund managers' own engagement and voting policies, processes, and records, where these are available to us.



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