

Question to Wiltshire Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee from Sigurd Reimers

I understand that last year Wiltshire Council Pension Scheme invested 6.1% of its total investments directly or indirectly in companies that extract fossil fuels. As a member of Wiltshire pension scheme, and as a grandparent, I am concerned at the proven disastrous effects of the burning of fossil fuels on our climate. This is against the background of a stated Government commitment to an eventual switch from the use of coal power to renewables.

I am also concerned at the long-term financial safety of our pensions through the continued investment in fossil fuels, with the increasing risk of such assets becoming "frozen".

Despite the uncertainties involved in the current Government proposals for

- a) the pooling of Local Authority pensions schemes and
- b) restrictions on the powers of Local Authority Pensions schemes to apply their own ESG (Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance) principles to their investments,

what steps is Wiltshire Council Pension Scheme prepared to take to promote divestment from its fossil fuel investments, and for moving into investment in renewable energy?