The Church Commissioners, a charitable body established in 1947, has a strategic focus to support the Church of England’s mission and ministry, particularly in areas of need and opportunity, in perpetuity. We do this through the effective, sustainable management of the Church of England’s endowment fund, some £10.1bn at current prices as of December 2021.

We are a unique investment body, with two duties. We must create long-term financial returns to fund some mission activities through our churches, cathedrals, and dioceses. And we must make sure that the way we invest, and what we invest in, brings benefits to the wider world in a way that consistently shows positive outcomes in its contributions to the common good. In this way our assets can work hardest to change things for the better, as we seek to make the Church’s teachings and values real in all our work.

The Church Commissioners have always attached great importance to investing in a way that is consistent with Christian values. Together with the Church of England Pensions Board and CBF Church of England Funds, we sponsor the Church’s Ethical Investment Advisory Group (EIAG) to ensure that we receive expert, independent advice on ethical investment matters. In 2010 we signed the UN-backed Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), committing us to incorporating ESG issues into our investment analysis and decision-making process.

We are delighted to have had our work recognised within the industry. The Commissioners were awarded A+ for Responsible Investment Strategy and Governance in our 2017 PRI assessment report, and the Financial Reporting Council rated our Stewardship Code Statement ‘Tier 1’. The Asset Owner Disclosure Project gave the Commissioners their highest rating for climate risk management, AAA, placing us in the top 12 asset owners globally out of 500 rated. The Commissioners won the Portfolio Institutional Award for Best Implementation of Responsible Investment and the Investment and Pensions Europe ESG and Climate Related Risk Management awards in 2016.

As well as PRI we are also part active through the Church Investors Group, Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change, and UK Sustainable Investment and Finance.

Recent Responsible Investment Media Releases
Bishop of Manchester responds to Guardian report

18/08/2022
The Church of England logo.

The Church Commissioners for England become an ally of the Taskforce on Inequality-related

17/08/2022

Church of England Pensions Board response to the ISSB consultation

29/07/2022

Source URL: https://www.churchofengland.org/about/leadership-and-governance/church-commissioners-england/how-we-invest/responsible-investment-1