

The Church Commissioners for England, a leading responsible investor with £10.1bn Assets Under Management and signatory to the UK Stewardship Code, announces advances made in impact investing as part of its broader focus on three guiding pillars of work: Respect for the Planet, Respect for People and Corporate Governance.

The Church Commissioners, which today published its second annual <u>Stewardship Report</u>, celebrates a successful 2021, having furthered engagement and implementation of restrictions and added impact investing to its toolkit, to bring about real change. This includes making investments which have positive social and environmental outcomes, encouraging portfolio companies to follow suit, and to measure overall impact.

Bess Joffe, head of Responsible Investment for the Church Commissioners for England, said:

"We want to lead the field in creating a fairer society for all and commit to use all our influence and engagement capabilities to help the world transition to net zero while supporting innovation and future jobs for generations to come.

"We are humbled to help steward this endowment in a responsible and ethical way. We will continue to strive to deliver the best returns possible to enable our distributions to the Church, which support mission and ministry across the country."

In 2021, the Church Commissioners for England won the 'Impactful Leader' category at the IPE Awards for the second consecutive year.

The Church Commissioners continue to anticipate seismic changes on the horizon, such as digital and AI transformation, net zero transition, among other transformative events – with a view that as a society we must not leave anyone behind, especially those who are already among the less fortunate.

A full copy of the Church Commissioners 2021 Stewardship Report can be found, here.

Our responsible investment policy:

Respect for People

We are committed to addressing the unjust structures of society. Diversity and Inclusion, Artificial Intelligence, Human Rights and supporting a Just Transition for all, especially among the less fortunate, remain areas we are trying to champion.

Respect for the Planet

We are committed to making a positive difference when responding to the climate emergency. In addition to reducing emissions within our portfolio, we want to see the decarbonisation of the real economy.

Impact Investing

Our overall goal for impact investment is to expand the risk-return frontier to become the risk-return-impact frontier. The Church Commissioners can better serve their beneficiaries and society if the real-world outcomes of investments are embedded into the investment process.

Corporate Governance

We believe that good governance is at the heart of successful business and investment.

Source URL: https://www.churchofengland.org/media/press-releases/church-commissioners-england-marks-its-portfolios-positive-impact