

Richard Giles joins Pensions for Purpose as Senior Director to spearhead the growing movement among UK pension schemes looking to make investments that benefit people and planet as well as profit

2 October 2023, LONDON: Pensions for Purpose, the fast-growing independent membership organisation helping pension funds invest for impact, is delighted to announce the appointment of Richard Giles as Senior Director. Richard will use his experience in the pension sector to accelerate the growing use of impact investments, as well as delivering the risk-adjusted returns pension schemes require, impact investments impact on society in a positive way.

Richard currently serves as an Advisory Group Member at Pensions for Purpose, where he guides the management team along with others from across the industry. In his new role, Richard will focus on bringing together pension scheme trustees, advisers and fund managers to build knowledge and understanding of the growing movement towards including impact considerations alongside risk and return.

With a rich background in UK pensions, Richard Giles is exceptionally well-suited for his new role at Pensions for Purpose. His appointment arrives at a critical juncture for the organisation, which aims to accelerate the number of pension funds and advisers who are part of the growing global movement towards impact investing.

Richard has a wide-range of experience working for some of the largest pension schemes in the UK which includes running the Teachers' Pension Scheme and as Strategic Partnership Director for TPT Retirement Solutions. His career also includes an 11-year stint at PwC, where he was a Partner and Head of Pension Advisory services in the North and over 17 years at Mercer.

Richard holds a number of Trustee and Non-Executive Director positions. He is a member of the Board of Trustees at United Utilities, where he also serves as Chair of the Investment Committee and the Vice Chairman of the Board of the Scottish Teachers Pension Scheme.

Charlotte O'Leary, CEO for Pensions for Purpose said: "We are thrilled to welcome Richard to our team, a testament to the growing appeal of our mission and services. His expertise will be invaluable as we navigate an increasingly complex landscape of sustainable and impact investing and I am delighted Pensions for Purpose continues to be able to attract such high calibre individuals as Richard."

Richard Giles, Senior Director for Pensions for Purpose, remarked: "I'm excited to join Pensions for Purpose at this crucial time. The world is changing quickly and it's important for UK pension schemes to reflect on this. I believe there is a path to a just transition, improving the world we live in. UK pension schemes can play a big part in this. However, it has to be right for each scheme and their members. My aim is to collaborate with like-minded pension scheme trustees, advisers and fund managers to accelerate the adoption of impact investments that are the right choice for schemes. I look forward to driving change alongside Charlotte and Karen and the excellent team at Pension for Purpose."

Pensions for Purpose now have an established membership network of 350 organisations, including pension funds, consultants and asset managers, with 1,200 individuals represented within its forums. The majority of firms within its membership are globally recognised brands.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About Pensions for Purpose:

Pensions for Purpose exists as a bridge between asset managers, pension funds and their professional advisers, to encourage the flow of capital towards impact investment. It is a membership-driven organisation that provides training, learning, education and a forum for discussion and collaboration on impact investment as well as an independent voice to influence and challenge the broader investment community so the entire society benefits through increased impact investment.

Impact investments are investments that align with the environment and society. Pensions for Purpose seeks to empower pension funds through our online member platform, from which we deliver training, afternoon teas and events, member forums, and a unique knowledge centre.

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