



Paris Alignment Forum

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## Welcome to the Paris Alignment Forum

The <u>Paris Alignment Forum</u> is up and running with over 100 members signing up in the first few weeks. In this, our first quarterly newsletter, we outline developments so far and upcoming events.

Pensions for Purpose established the Paris Alignment Forum to help pension funds on their journey towards Paris Alignment. Our aim is to bring together different stakeholders including pension funds, independent advisers, asset managers, consultants, lawyers, government representatives and climate experts, to facilitate an informed and helpful conversation on this important topic.

The increased interest in climate action has gained significant momentum among pension funds and other asset owners over the past 12 months. This has been spurred on by changing regulations and the government's desire to mandate TCFD-aligned disclosures across the economy by 2025. Yet many pension funds are struggling to work out the most effective way to change their investment strategies to move towards Paris-Aligned or net-zero goals without conflicting with their fiduciary responsibilities. At the same time, across the investment chain, all parties are setting goals (asset managers, companies) but we need to make sure that we are speaking in the same language and with the same universal aims to make this shift purposeful.

Our aim is to offer a quarterly cycle of discussions, ranging from forum-wide events to small group training sessions. Below are the scheduled events for the quarter to end June 2021, with a few more that are still in the pipeline.

## Program of events

**Tuesday 13 April 2021, 2.30pm – 4pm**Online Launch Event – P4P and the IIGCC

The IIGCC net zero framework for pension funds – a discussion

Pensions for Purpose is delighted to invite its Paris Alignment Forum members to the inaugural Pensions for Purpose Paris Alignment Forum member-only event at 2.30pm on 13 April 2021 and are very pleased to announce that Daisy Streatfeild of the IIGCC will be our keynote speaker.

To find out more, please click <u>here</u>. To sign up to attend this event, please click <u>here</u>. This event is open to all forum members.



# **Tuesday 11 May 2021, 2.30pm – 3.30pm**Online Afternoon Tea Discussion – P4P and the PLSA *Five-step climate action plan for pension funds*

This is the Paris Alignment Forum's first quarterly afternoon tea – a series of roundtable events for industry participants to share experiences. In this session

we will present a five-step climate action plan and we will be joined by Richard Butcher, Chair of the PLSA. Richard will present some of the key recommendations from the PLSA's recent report on climate change. This event is only open to asset owners and their advisers and has a maximum capacity of 15 delegates.

To find out more, please click <a href="here">here</a>. To attend this event, please e-mail <a href="mailto:alex.noble@pensionsforpurpose.com">alex.noble@pensionsforpurpose.com</a>.



## Monday 24 May 2021, 9.30am - 11 am

Online training event

Climate change basics for business and finance:

emissions and investment

This is our second training session for members of the forum. It is a repeat of our session on 26 April 2021 which was oversubscribed. The objective of the

session is to give delegates a basic understanding of climate science and how this is influencing investment thinking. It is suitable for pension trustees, officers and others who want to develop their understanding of the role of climate change in pension fund investing. Priority will be given to asset owners and their advisers, and this event has a maximum capacity of 15 delegates.

To find out more click <u>here</u>. To register to attend, please click <u>here</u>.



## Monday 14 June 2021, 2.30pm - 3.30pm

Asset owner forum

Introducing climate action into investment strategy

This is a Chatham House peer-to-peer discussion for pension funds and asset owners. We will share a case study from a pension fund that is developing its climate action policy and addressing questions such as TCFD disclosures and

setting measurable objectives. More details to follow.

#### Paris Alignment Forum Team and Membership update

We are delighted with the level of interest in the Paris Alignment forum; in just a few weeks we welcomed over 100 members including asset owners and pension funds, advisers and asset managers and our first training session has been over-subscribed. Demand for the forum has meant that we have grown and we are delighted to announce that Mike Rogers is joining the team. Mike is an independent consultant and has a 30 year career in pensions and investment most recently as interim CIO for a large pension fund and prior to that as an investment adviser.

If you have a colleague who is not yet a member of the forum and you would like them to sign up, they can apply for membership <u>here</u>. Membership of the forum is free of charge, however, we do offer sponsorship

opportunities for those wishing to take a more proactive role. If you would like to learn more about sponsorship, please contact <a href="mike.rogers@pensionsforpurpose.com">mike.rogers@pensionsforpurpose.com</a>

#### Paris Alignment Forum sponsor update: Invesco Asset Management

Invesco is delighted to sponsor the Paris Alignment Forum. Climate change is the greatest societal and financial risk that people across the globe face, and the Forum represents an important opportunity for pension schemes, consultants and asset managers to actively address climate change and seek to achieve net zero.

As one of the world's largest investment managers with over £978m assets under management (31.12.20), Invesco is well positioned to accelerate the transition and encourage change through active engagement with companies. For more than 30 years Invesco has been associated with responsible investing, and today delivers this through equity, fixed income, multi-asset, real estate and customised strategies.

Invesco supports the global Net Zero Asset Managers initiative and is committed to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions across our investment portfolios by 2050. Invesco has also committed to the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, Climate Action 100+, and other efforts, to help drive the transition to a low-carbon economy.

#### Investment risks

The value of investments and any income will fluctuate (this may partly be the result of exchange rate fluctuations) and investors may not get back the full amount invested.

#### Important information

Issued by Invesco Asset Management Limited, Perpetual Park, Perpetual Park Drive, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire RG9 1HH, UK. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

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This newsletter is an introduction to the Paris Alignment Forum which will be published quarterly. In future newsletters we will be providing updates and news on the Forum, legislative developments, summaries of previous events and updates on market developments. If you would like to unsubscribe from the newsletter, or wish to leave the forum, please contact mike.rogers@pensionsforpurpose.com.

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#### **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. Our aim is to empower pension funds to seek positive impact opportunities and mitigate negative impact risks.