

Councillor Donna Sutton – South Yorkshire Pension Authority

Spokesperson

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Councillor Taiba Yasseen
Elected Member

Via email: taiba.yasseen@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Yasseen

Question at Council – 14th January 2026

Thank you for your supplementary question raised at the Council meeting on 14th January. I have set out your question and my response below.

Could SYPA commit to publishing, on an annual basis, a summary of its engagement with LAPFF, a breakdown of how SYPA voted on the forums alerts, and explicit information on whether the pensions fund has diverged its decision making from the forum in terms of escalation of recommendations?

Firstly, apologies for the delay in responding. The SYPA Investment Team has been engaging with our pool manager, Border to Coast, on this topic to understand what could be provided. Border to Coast is responsible for voting and engagement activity on SYPA's behalf.

We will be able to provide a summary of how Border to Coast voted relative to LAPFF. As the majority of Border to Coast's votes are aligned with LAPFF's, it is likely that we will report this on an exception's basis – highlighting the differences and providing supporting narrative on why there was a difference of opinion. We propose to include this within our quarterly Responsible Investment reporting to the Authority, rather than on an annual basis.

With regards to reporting on escalation – the nature of engagement is long-term and involves multiples stages, many of which could be classed as escalation to varying degrees. Hence the accompanying narrative to any engagement is really the key factor. Our quarterly Responsible Investment reports therefore aim to provide summaries and case studies of engagement activity, including where escalation has taken place.

We would note that certain voting topics can be subjective in nature - and we wouldn't necessarily see it as a red flag when Border to Coast's and LAPFF's thinking occasionally diverges. We appreciate that this is a point of interest though.

I'd also be very happy to have a conversation on any of this if that would be useful.

Yours sincerely

D Sutton

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