

Purpose:	To provide the link between the procedural framework of the Murdoch University <i>Investment Strategy and Policy Statement</i> , and the Murdoch Values that sustain our activities		
Audience:	Staff, Students, Public		
Contact Officer:	Associate Director Financial Services	Phone:	See Campus Directory

Printed copies are for reference only. Please refer to the electronic copy in Policy and Procedure Manager™ [the electronic policy management system (EPMS)] to ensure you are referring to the latest version.

1. Purpose

Our University is a place where we seek to create positive change and to contribute to solving world challenges.

Responsible investment is an approach to investing which considers the impact of environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors in investment decisions with the intention to generate sustainable, long-term returns.

The purpose of the Responsible Investment Charter ("Charter") is to provide the link between the procedural framework of the University *Investment Strategy and Policy* (ISP), and the Murdoch Values that sustain our activities.

2. Scope

All staff of the University and anyone acting for or on behalf of the University in investment-related activities are required to abide by the Charter.

The Charter covers the decisions over:

- the University's endowment fund;
- the University's cash investments;
- any other University investment including: fixed interest securities; property; listed and unlisted Australian and international equities; and alternative investments that may include but are not limited to private equity; currency; unlisted property; direct infrastructure; hedge funds and commodities; and
- any investments within the University wholly owned subsidiaries.

3. Investment Purpose

The University has a responsibility to manage its investment funds prudently as a means to secure the current and future financial requirements of the institution with respect to learning and teaching and research. Accordingly, we will always manage our investments to preserve capital and to generate an acceptable rate of return for an acceptable level of risk.

In managing our investments, we comply with applicable Federal and State laws and any other statute, regulation or law applicable to universities.

4. Investment Managers and Advisers

The University prefers an indirect investment approach where our funds are pooled together with other investors within managed funds utilising the third party expertise of professional advisers and managers. Our expectation is that recommendations from our investment managers and advisers are consistent with this Charter.

5. Murdoch University's Approach to Responsible Investment

Murdoch University has identified the United Nations supported Principles for Responsible Investment (UN-PRI¹) as a framework suitably aligned with our own Values to help incorporate ESG factors into our investment decision-making and ownership practices. Accordingly, the University requires the following:

- any managed fund or fund manager utilised by the University should be a UN-PRI signatory.
- if not a UN-PRI signatory the managed fund or fund manager should have equivalent policies in place and capability to report annually against these principles to the University.
- any new direct investments held by the University will be assessed against the principles prior to the investment being undertaken.

6. Reporting

The University is committed to:

- report the University's total investment exposure to the Carbon Underground 200² on a half-yearly basis to the Resources Committee.
- report the University's total investment exposure to Australian resources (materials and energy) on a half-yearly basis to the Resources Committee.
- report annually on progress implementing the Charter.

7. Responsibility

The Senate has endorsed the Charter.

The Resources Committee has oversight of the implementation of the Charter.

The Chief Financial Officer has delegated authority in relation to the day-to-day management of the Charter.

The Chief Financial Officer may employ external consultants specifically to assist in the monitoring and implementation of the Charter.

8. Review

The Charter must always remain relevant and connected to the Murdoch Values. The Resources Committee should therefore review and update the Charter as necessary, however, as a minimum a review is required no less than every three years.

Definitions:

The definition of these terms appears in the "Dictionary of Terms". Please refer to the "Dictionary of Terms" in Policy and Procedure Manager™ to ensure you are referring to the latest version.

There are no key terms.

Related Documents:

[Investment Strategy and Policy](#)

References:

1. The six principles of UN-PRI are available at <https://www.unpri.org/about/the-six-principles>.
2. Carbon Underground 200 is a list of the top 100 coal and top 100 oil and gas companies globally ranked by the potential carbon emissions content of their reported reserves.

Approval and Implementation:

Approval Authority:	Senate
Responsible Officer(s):	Chief Financial Officer

Revision History:

Version	Date Approved	Effective Date (if later than 'Date Approved')	Next Review Date	Resolution No. (if applicable)
Approved by Senate	06/09/2017		06/09/2020	S/26/2017
Recommended by RC to Senate	16/06/2017			RC/05/2017